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VESIT Connect



NEWSLETTER
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VESIT shines at Drona - IRIS 2017

-by Anisha Kaul

VESIT proved its mettle in the field of higher education yet again, with its wonderful show in the pan-India Managerial Competition - Drona. The competition (a part of their management fest, IRIS), was held in IIM-Indore from 10th to 12th November, 2017.

The first round included an online test to check the aptitude of students all around the country. Many students from VESIT participated and quite a few made it to the second round where 250 from the country were shortlisted to send in a video of themselves. The video demanded the students to introduce themselves and solve a problem statement in a time limit of just a minute and a half. Finally, just 5 students – Anirudh Roy (D12), Omkar Nerurkar (D9), Chinmay Mahale (D7), Abhishek Kalgutkar (D7) and Priyanka (D12) made it to the top 50 who went to IIM Indore for the Campus rounds.

The campus rounds, at Indore, started on the 10th of November at 9:00 with a lamp lighting ceremony. What followed was a rigorous program to hone students in each and every way possible. Guest lectures were held on all three days on topics like Microfinance (Kishor Kharat, CEO of Indian Bank), marketing, finance (about the 2008 Market meltdown) which gave students, all from various engineering and non-engineering backgrounds an insight into the world of a managerial graduate. Various team building and conflict management exercises were also performed in the form of small games or workshops which gave a fun spin to otherwise dull-seeming activities.

The last day included a mock personal interview and a group discussion by professors of IIM, who after a grueling session gave some important pointers to all the students about how they should present themselves in an interview and build their resume.

Throughout the whole program the students were being evaluated by their peers and professors and volunteers at IIM-I and 5 students were selected for the final round. Anirudh Roy, from our college made it to the top 5. The final round, albeit a tough one was rather interesting. It required all the 5 students to assume the roles of the CEOs of the current top 5 companies- Facebook, Microsoft, Tesla, Amazon and Tata. The audience would question them about their respective companies and they would have to answer from the CEO perspective. Anirudh, had a podium finish, stood 3rd in the entire competition. Talking about his experience, Chinmay says, “Drona is a melting pot of the brightest minds in the country. Understanding what it takes to really sweat out your grey cells, to overcome your inner fears and train your mental faculties. That is all what Drona is about. It was a lovely experience and I’d do it all over again.”

We congratulate all the students who made it to the final round and made VESIT proud.



In order from left to right - Abhishek Kalgutkar, Anirudh Roy, Omkar Nerurkar and Chinmay Mahale.

Solving Industrial Issues through Deep Blue

-by Gayatri Belapurkar

In yet another one of its feats, the students of VESIT have showcased their talent and made themselves proud. An event called Deep Blue took place in mid October, wherein the students had to provide a solution to one of the 6 problem statements put up by the Mastek team on their website. All the problem statements were related to the real life industrial issues faced by NGOs, thus making them even more meaningful and inspiring.

The entire competition consisted of 3 stages. The first level of the competition required the students to submit abstracts, proposing their approach to a possible solution. Around 250 teams initially registered for the competition. Based on the abstracts, 100 teams were selected. In second level of the competition, the selected students were called and their understanding of the problems and the difficulty in solution was checked. 65 teams were finalized.

These 65 teams were provided with a mentor each and were given 3 months for the completion of their projects. The final submission is scheduled by the end of January 2018.

Deep blue has undoubtedly handed the students a massive opportunity to learn and a chance for them to contribute to the NGOs and do their part for the society.



The team of Deep Blue at the auditorium



The selected participants and their mentors.



Some of the winners with their goodies

VESITians meet Manohar Parrikar

-by Ujala Jha



Mr. Manohar Parrikar at the E-Cell event at VJTI

E-Cell VJTI organized an interactive session with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Mr Manohar Parrikar. He has also served as Defence Minister of India under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and has shaped India's Military from Surgical Strike to OROP Policy. His dedication for our country and his constant efforts towards guiding the youth by his enchanting sessions is truly worth appreciation.

Organized on 12th November, E-Cell VJTI had invited the students of VESIT in association with E-Cell VESIT who made sure that students don't miss this precious opportunity to interact with him. A total of 40 students from VESIT register with E-cell VESIT to participate in this event. E-cell made the necessary arrangement to ensure that students don't miss this golden opportunity.

During the course of the event, Mr Manohar Parrikar enthralled the students with his knowledge and constructive thoughts. Being an engineer himself, he could relate to the crowd very well. The whole talk was spiced up with his wit and intelligence. Throughout his talk, he stressed how the Indian youth play a very important role in shaping the future of our country. His speech motivated the youth to strive for the best and to never lose hope in life.

The event was followed by a question and answer session where Mr Manohar Parrikar gave amazing and satisfying replies to all questions put forward to him. Indeed, an idol of all the citizens of India Mr Manohar Parrikar won the hearts of everyone present by his simplicity and humble nature. He bid adieu the students by wishing students the luck for their future endeavours.

VESIT Voice

-by Padmaja Kolle

With exam season going on, VESITians were at the peak of work load, but lets not forget the exciting events happened in the month of November.

November consisted of two major Inter-collegiate events namely, Deep Blue - conducted by Mastek and the pan-India Managerial Competition Drona - conducted at IIM Indore. Both of these events led to a great exposure among students and enlightened others for greater participation.

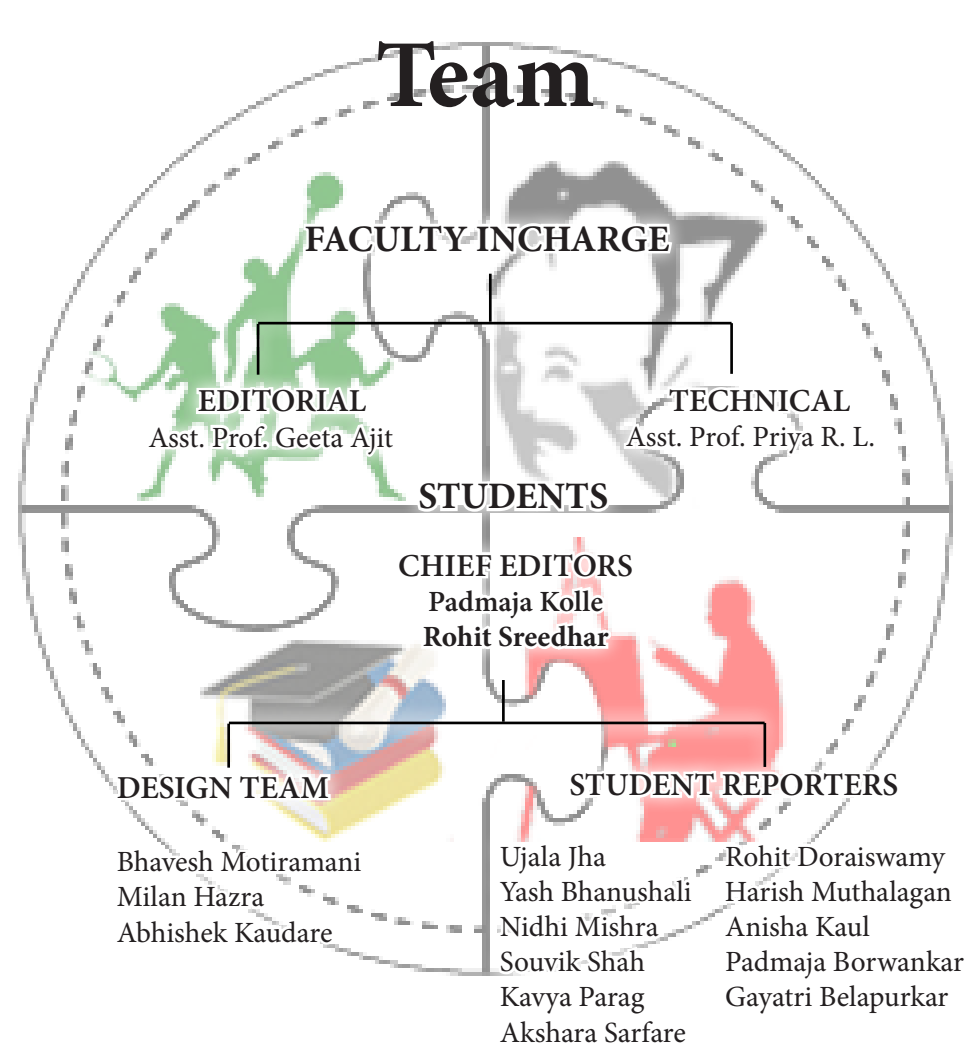
40 students from VESIT attended the E-Cell event at VJTI. There, they had the wonderful poortunity to meet Mr. Manohar Parrikar, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Mr Manohar Parrikar. He has also served as Defence Minister of India under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and has shaped India's Military from Surgical Strike to OROP Policy.

Who can forget Children's day in the month of November? We bring to you the history of Pandit jawaharlal Nehru, along with thoughts which will make you reminisce about your childhood.

Finally, we have Mrs. Bhavana Iyer, an alumna of VESIT batch 1995, share her thoughts about life in VESIT and the real world. She is currently working as software engineer at BARC, designing and deploying the safety critical softwares for the environment sensitive systems there.

Here's wishing everyone, good luck for the exams!

The 'VESIT CONNECT'



Of merry - go - rounds and merry - making

-by Aadi Fernandes and Atique Kudchi

Does the date 14th November ring any bells? Of houses and run away? Yes! The day is celebrated nationally as Children's day. It marks the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the First Prime Minister of India. He used to love children and was often lovingly called Chacha Nehru or Chachaji. This day is widely celebrated in schools and colleges by organizing singing, dancing, and sports events for the entertainment of children. It indeed is a day worth celebrating and paying our respects to Chacha Nehru. Chachaji was born on the 14th of November, 1889 at Allahabad. Initially, Children's Day was celebrated on the 20th of November worldwide as per the United Nations. But, after the death of Chachaji, a unanimous vote was taken to keep it on his birthday in India, calling it 'Bal Diwas', in the national language.

Chachaji not only loved children from his heart but also wanted them to have the best educational facilities as he believed, rightly so, that education is empowerment. A lot of credit goes to him for making the efforts because of which the most prominent educational institutes like the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) exist in India. He even initiated the establishment of the Indian Institutes of



Remembering Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, this Children's day

Management (IIM).He was not only an excellent politician and freedom fighter, but also enabled this country to stand up on its two feet by itself by educating its youth, thus leaving behind an unforgettable legacy. We (should) pay tributes to him on this day also by distributing study material and equipment among orphanages and less privileged schools and to Children's NGOs.

Chachaji's family was that of immigrant Kashmiri Pandits and he was the eldest of four children to Motilal Nehru, a lawyer and Swarup Rani, a housewife. He had homeschooling for 16 years of age in English, Sanskrit and Hindi.1905 saw him go to Harrow in England for further education. He spent three years in Cambridge to get an Honours Degree in Natural Sciences. He qualified to become a Barrister after two years of higher studies in London. Jawaharlal Nehru married Kamla Kaul in 1916, and their daughter Indira Priyadarshini was born the following year. He didn't pursue law for much time as Mahatma Gandhi's fearless fight against the British attracted him highly. His love for his country was so strong that he was detained and jailed several times over the course of his fight. His daughter, Indira, went on to become a Prime Minister, too!

But the most important purpose of this day is to remind parents to educate their children and have them inculcate good moral and ethical values. They need to be sensitized about the current immoral happenings around the world and how they are supposed to tackle it effectively, in order to have a better future for mankind. As Chacha Nehru rightly said, "The children of today will make the India of tomorrow. The way we bring them up will determine the future of our country."

MUSINGS AND EXPRESSIONS

Trophy

*The first time I set my eyes on it
I knew it felt like pure love
Like angels had brought it down
For me from heaven above*

*"We'll give it to our best employee"
My boss told me on the first day
That trophy glittering in gold
"Could I hold it, if I may?"*

*Day after day, month after month
I gave my best, you could say
"The one who's work is spick and span,
Had forgotten his own wife's birthday"*

*Bill took his family for a tour
Am I the only one working here?
Missed my daughter's recital
I'll tell her later, "I'm sorry dear"*

*The trophy now stands in the shelf proud.
Truth be told, all that glitters is not gold.
Looking back and seeing what I lost
I finally got it, but at what cost?*

- by Sai Sirisha (D12C)



- by Viraj Sapte (D1A)



- by Harsh Chavan (D3)



- by Harsh Chavan (D3)

STUDENT SPEAK

Corruption and Ideal system

Intrinsic human nature is undoubtedly the cause of corruption in the system. The only way to counter corruption is to introduce technology in the system. Humans have power of free analysis which can be potentially used in corrupt ways. On other side, computers can analyse but we can easily put limits to it. One may have a standpoint that it is foolish to think of making a system with no humans, for the welfare of humans.

We should understand that individuals cannot be completely isolated from the governmental system but their rights can be put to a definite limit. Neither can corruption be removed. Corruption is unsought but indispensable part of the system. We cannot eliminate it but can surely reduce it. Only way to do the same is to technologize it. Speaking of technology, we should be conscious of the fact that a system cannot be fully technologized. Even if we introduce 100% technology to system, we would be under constant threat of cyber criminals. Reducing corruption to an infinitesimal amount can make it possible to make an ideal system.

An ideal system can be defined in lay man's terms as a system which is successful in satisfying every citizen. It is insurmountable to make such a system because we have diverse demands some of which are in a total opposition of each other. Moreover it is possible to satisfy a poor person but it would be a pipe dream to satisfy a greedy one. Corruption happens at every level of the society deteriorating the very soul of the nation. From slums to the ministry no place is spared. Corruption has a very peculiar behaviour that it intensifies when the power is given to individuals.

There are very remote chances that a very large group of people make corrupt decisions which most of the times is because of the fear of massive opposition. On the other side, individuals have a greater probability of doing so. If we delve in the behaviour of this demon, we become conscious of the fact that corruption can find its origins from craving of total power or retaining of power.

- by Amogh Gajare (D1A)

VESIT Diaries

- by Ujala Jha

Mrs. Bhuvana Aiyer, an alumna of VESIT batch 1995, Department of Instrumentation Engineering is currently working as software engineer at the prestigious organization of BARC, designing and deploying the safety critical softwares for the environment sensitive systems there. As tough as her work, are her thoughts which stand strong with the ideologies of giving staunch and consistent efforts to solve any kind of challenges in life. Presented below are excerpts from an exclusive interview with Mrs Bhuvana where she shares her views over different parameters of engineering and life with us.

1. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT.

I joined VESIT in the year 1991, so it's really been a very long time since then. College life at VESIT was more like going back to school. But we really felt safe, especially entering degree college after the twelfth standard. What I remember the most is the huge grounds, the corner benches or shed in the quadrangle where we would complete our assignments after copying the best assignments, the steps on the center court where we would sit and chat and the canteen with samosa paavs. Engineering drawing and mechanics were the subjects we dreaded the most in our first year. But VESIT had the best teachers who explained it all so simple! VESIT has always had awesome teaching staff, huge libraries, and labs that are well maintained and "spotlessly" clean.

2. Share a glimpse of your personal life.

My personal space includes my spouse, my 7-year-old daughter, my parents, 2 sisters and all the extended families. I enjoy sketching, watching good movies, going for long walks, reading fiction and spending time with my family. I passed out of VESIT in 1995 after completing Instrumentation engineering, then worked for 2 years at TCE-Worli and then joined BARC in the year 1997.

3. How important, according to you, are interpersonal skills at the professional level? Do academics and interpersonal skills go hand in hand?

Academics and interpersonal skills do go hand in hand. However, the emphasis for each of these aspects would vary. At the beginning of your career, just after college, it is typically important to have good academics to pursue your dream job. There would be a degree of presentation skills that would be required to be able to convey your thoughts clearly during your interviews. As you progress in your career, Interpersonal skills begin to take more importance be it - networking with your professional colleagues and friends, presenting your ideas to your seniors, discussing with clients, encouraging your subordinates, managing a multicultural group of people, giving an interview



Mrs. Bhuvana Aiyer

It is important to have clarity in your thought and your speech. It is important to speak in simple words and put your ideas without any ambiguity. Both knowledge and power of expression go hand in hand. A person with knowledge but without the power to express or a person with good language skills but insufficient knowledge will be incomplete. Once your career progresses, what matters more than academics is how fast you learn the job at your workplace, how eager you are to enhance your knowledge, your ability to deliver the output, how well you connect with your peers and your superiors. All these will help you tremendously.

4. Is it necessary to have a full proof plan for your career from the beginning itself?

Nowadays with abundant useful information available, students are well aware of their choices when they enter colleges, (hope u all have watched 3 Idiots!). It is difficult to have a “foolproof” plan from the beginning. At times it is difficult to truly identify your field of interest till one actually goes out to work. But still one must decide whether to further specialize in a technical field or in management, finance, to take up a job first and later plan to take up a course or just continue with a career. It is important to plan, maybe in the third year where one has more clarity on the specific areas of interest in the chosen discipline. Nowadays there is the option of startups too. When you start planning in advance you realize that there are a lot of things to be considered. It is very important to have a plan “A” and a plan “B”, in case A does not work.

Later, as your career progresses, one may have to re-plan with changes and new opportunities. Having a plan helps you monitor your progress towards your goal and change it if required. Planning always helps whether in college or later in your career or even your life

5. Tell us about your professional life.

Well, I am currently employed at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in the Control and Instrumentation division. At BARC one has to first undergo a one-year training course in nuclear engineering and various other related topics before starting to work in their various disciplines. Our team designs software for safety critical control systems. The software engineering for safety-critical systems follows very stringent safety standards and quality process for the nuclear industry. It involves a systematic approach right from identifying the software requirements, developing the software design, extensive testing of the software, installation of the product, it's testing at site and maintenance thereafter. The design of safety systems must follow the safety guides and satisfy the regulatory authorities before an operation. The challenges faced are many, but the end result is always very satisfying.

6. Today the world is advancing at it all time best pace, can you throw some light on some activities students can do from the beginning which will help them get an edge.

As said before,

- 1) Plan in advance what one would like to pursue after the degree and work towards it.
- 2) A course in software engineering as software is used extensively with technology.
- 3) Be abreast with the new developments in your field of interest.
- 4) In addition, it is also important to participate in various activities that will help you acquire a multi-faceted personality.
- 5) Network and interact with people working in different areas to understand the various career options.

Nowadays with disruptive technologies being the norm, one has to learn continuously, re-skill if required and be dynamic to the changes that can occur and move ahead.

7. Tell us how important is it for an engineer /engineering student to have a life beyond technology? (Importance of hobbies in one's life).

It is essential for every individual to have a life beyond your work/college.

Hobbies are very important to awaken the creative side of every person. By hobbies, I do not mean social media.

Cultivate at least one extra passion like music, any instrument, arts, a sport or any group activity etc. Later when one gets busy with work and other responsibilities always remember to invest some time for yourself alone where you do something that you enjoy the most. Even if you get a job you love doing, have a hobby that will rejuvenate you and make you feel satisfied. And when one is happy, you will definitely excel in your workplace. This I realized much later. Developing a life beyond technology gives you all round satisfaction.

8. Any message for the new generation at VESIT!?

This is a tough one. I like this one from Steve Jobs-Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.

All the best.