



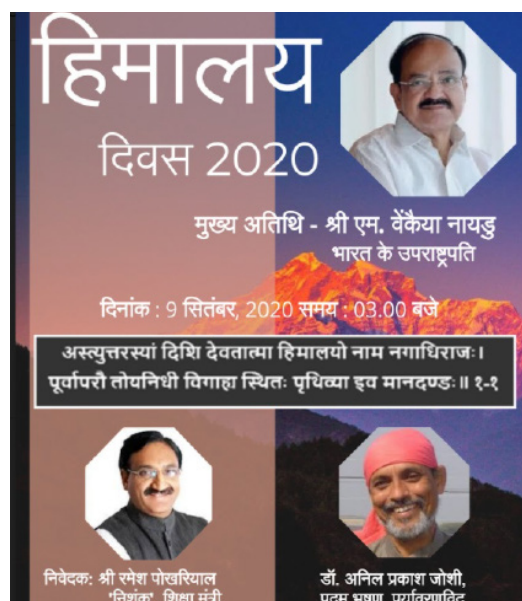
Since 1962

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Celebration of Himalayan Day

-Maitrayi Dandekar



Himalayan - Divas 2020

On 9th September 2020 the celebration of the 11th Himalayan Divas took place to spread the message that solutions for sustainable development and ecological stability for the Himalayas must be as unique as the Himalayan ecosystem itself. The chief guest of the event was our Honourable Vice President of India - **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu**. This initiative has been organized under the guidance of our Honourable Minister of Education - **Shri Ramesh Pokrihyal Ji (Nishank)** and **Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi**, Padma Bhusan awardee, Environmentalist. This year Himalayan day focused upon "The Himalaya and Nature".

Instru-International Talk Series

-Gaurav Govilkar

The second week of September brought in technical comprehension for the students as the Department of Instrumentation Engineering, in association with the VESIT IQAC & VESIT IIC, organized a cosmopolitan webinar series titled- **Instru-International Talk Series**. The week-long event hosted several distinguished VESIT Alumni of the Instrumentation Department from all around the world. The online talk series was a technical gratis that opened a substantial amount of career possibilities within and outside the Instrumentation domain.

Under the guidance of **Dr. Mr. P.P. Vaidya**, Head, Department of Instrumentation Engineering and **Mrs. Sangeetha Prasanna Ram**, Deputy Head, the talk series was hosted on the online platform- Cisco Webex from September 7, 2020, to September 12, 2020.

DAY 1

The first session titled, '**How to get a job in Machine Learning**', had **Mr. Tanvir Shaikh** (Batch of 2013), Lead Data Scientist, Finance Department, Genentech/Roche as the speaker. The session began at 9.00 am with Mr. Shaikh being introduced by the host Prithvi Shetty (D18). He narrated how he originally came from a simple background and how VESIT shaped him to be the person that he is today. In his presentation, he explained how challenging it was to make a shift from core Instrumentation career to Data Analysis. He disclosed how he was average in the programming subjects in the initial years of his engineering but developed a good aptitude for programming by the final year.

He touched upon the skill sets that are required to make a successful switch in one's career from core engineering to Data Analysis/ Machine Learning. The session saw a lot of interaction between the speaker and the participants as questions and answers bounced to and fro.



Day 1: How to get a job in Machine Learning by Mr. Tanvir Shaikh

DAY 2

The second session focused on the most sought after topic that runs the 'Silicon Valley'. The guest speaker **Mr. Avinash Somnathan** (Batch of 2015) who works for the world's most eminent Silicon chip producer, Samsung Electronics as a GPU Physical Design Engineer, gave a detailed insight into the topic '**Introduction to Silicon Design Process from Thought to Chip**'.

Mr. Somnathan explained the process of how a simple silicon microchip is designed and what it takes to bring the designed chip to reality, using a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation. He also gave a detailed description of CPU architecture for a simple 5 stage pipelined processor.

In a candid conversation with the students, he revealed how he spent most of his time in Lab 107 and how it had become his home. Saying that, he advised students to perform their lab experiments thoughtfully and to try '**experimenting with the experiments**'. Before concluding, he thanked his teachers, as well as the non-teaching staff at VESIT for making his college days memorable and productive.



Day 2: Introduction to Silicon Design Process from Thought to Chip by Mr. Avinash Somnathan

DAY 3

Session 1 (9 am - 10am)

The third session of the webinar series was an insightful session for the students who wished to make their mark into the sales and marketing industry. The speaker for the day was **Mr. Pranit Kotgire** (Batch of 2018), Sales Engineer, Crystal International Technology. He gave a sagacious presentation on the topic '**Sales & Marketing in the Field of Instrumentation**'.

He began with his personal journey and the skills that he imbibed to make a successful job profile in the sales domain of the Instrumentation industry. He also gave insights into the job opportunities offered in this field. He shared his experiences on how



**Vivekanand Education Society's
Institute Of Technology**
DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION

Presents

**"SALES & MARKETING IN THE
FIELD OF INSTRUMENTATION"**

Would talk to
students from my
personal journey to
the skills required
for sales jobs in
instrumentation
field and job
opportunities.

**Instru-International
Talk Series**

Speaker

MR. PRANIT KOTGIRE
Sales Engineer
Crystal International Technology.

9th September 2020
Wednesday
09:00-10:00AM





Vivekanand Education Society's Institute Of Technology

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION

Presents

Instru-International Talk Series

**"DISCUSSION OR CHAT WITH
A DEPARTMENT ALUMNUS"**

Tips and tricks for
campus placement,
higher studies,
professional growth
and overall holistic
development. Rich
knowledge of
speaker on core
instrumentation
activities and current
job as solution
architect for ABB.



MR. GANESH R. RAPELLI
R&D Product Manager
ABB Ability Innovation Center.

9th September 2020
Wednesday
02:30-03:30PM



Vellore Education Society's Institute Of Technology

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION

Presents

Instru-International Talk Series

**"AUGMENTED REALITY AND
MOBILE SOLUTION FOR
FIELD OPERATORS"**

Talk would focus on
AFP or Augmented
field procedures,
an innovative "ABB
Ability" based Digital
Solution that is devised
for improving safety,
reducing unscheduled
downtime and
increasing operational
efficiency.



Speaker

Mr.(Dr) Zied M. Ouertani
Vice President
Chemicals and Refining
Global Head of Technology,
ABB.

10th September 2020
Thursday
02:30-03:30PM



Vivekanand Education Society's Institute Of Technology

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION

Presents

Instru-International Talk Series

Speaker

Mr. SRIRAM VISHWANATHAN
Software Engineer
Robotics & Digital Solutions,
Verb Surgical.

11th September 2020
Friday
09:00-10:00AM

"ENGINEER YOUR CAREER"

I will talk about technical areas of knowledge that will be crucial in your pursuit of a successful career in the immediate and long term. I will also talk about some of the mistakes I made that you can avoid.



The poster features a dark blue background with a large white triangle on the left side. At the top left, there is a logo of the Vivekanand Education Society's Institute of Technology, which includes a stylized 'V' and 'I' inside a square frame. The text 'Vivekanand Education Society's Institute Of Technology' is written in white, with 'DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION' below it in a smaller font. The word 'Presents' is written in a large, orange, sans-serif font. Below it, the title 'Instru-International Talk Series' is written in white, with 'Instru-International' on one line and 'Talk Series' on the next. A white box on the left contains the text '"FROM INSTRUMENTATION TO BIOMEDICAL"' in bold, followed by a paragraph: 'A brief discussion on job prospects, research, opportunities and challenges when considering a career in Biomedical Engineering, being an Instrumentation Engineer.' Below this text is a circular inset photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a black top, smiling. To the right of the photo, the word 'Speaker' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, the speaker's name 'Ms. RADHIKA MUJUMDAR' is written in bold, followed by her title 'Biomedical Research Engineer'. At the bottom right, the date and time '12th September 2020 Saturday 09:00-10:00AM' are listed in white.

Vivekanand Education Society's
Institute Of Technology
DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUMENTATION

Presents

**"FROM INSTRUMENTATION TO
BIOMEDICAL"**

A brief discussion
on job prospects,
research, opportunities
and challenges
when considering a
career in Biomedical
Engineering, being
an Instrumentation
Engineer.

**Instru-International
Talk Series**

Speaker

Ms. RADHIKA MUJUMDAR
Biomedical Research Engineer

12th September 2020
Saturday
09:00-10:00AM

Name	Class
Harsh Suvarna	D18
Tanmay Pandit	D18
Suhas Kamat	D18
Aditya Ganesh	D18
Aditi Zhankar	D13
Abhijeet Gaonkar	D13
Shweta Gadhve	D13
Atharva Patil	D13

Student Council Elections 2020-21

-Shivani Shenai and Vedant Sawant

For the students of VESIT, the show must always go on, even amidst the queer and unprecedented pandemic. The Student Council has never failed to bring forth the most spectacular events. Its advent into various activities, leads to one of the most heartfelt memories that would forever be etched into the memories of each and every student involved. These are the days that one would recall and celebrate the most, once they step out of college to start a new chapter in their life. To continue to deliver this emotion and to adopt the new normal, the Student Council was elected online via the use of google forms.

It was held on the 16th of September, 2020, as per the established procedure. The in-class council elections were conducted in the first two weeks of the month. Representatives from each class were

elected by the students from SE, TE, BE, and MCA. It was followed by the student council elections, wherein the elected Cultural, Sports, Music, and SoRT in-charges from each class, eventually voted for the candidates contesting for those positions. The MCA second year students vote for the post of President in a contest among the elected Class Representatives of the same.

The voting pattern and the structure of the Council were in accordance with last year's tradition. Here, each Student Body Council comprises of three positions, viz. Secretary, Junior Deputy Secretary and Senior Deputy Secretary. The elected class in-charges contest for these positions. Second Year candidates contest for the post of Junior Deputy and whereas the third-year candidates are eligible for the Secretary and the Senior Deputy po-

sitions. The MCA second year candidates are eligible for the post of Senior Deputy Secretary (MCA) whereas the fourth year and MCA second year CR candidates contest for the highly coveted post of General Secretary and President respectively.

The official voting session was held via an online meeting attended by the class council members, who then cast their votes via a Google Form. Nilesh Talreja (D17A) emerged victorious in the elections and was elected as the General Secretary, while Tania Mahata (MCA2A) was elected as President for this academic year. Following is the list of selected candidates for the Student Council of 2020-21. Congratulations to all the elected members.

President: Tania Mahata (MCA2A)
General Secretary: Nilesh Talreja (D17A)

Council	Secretaries
Cultural	Himesh Shadiza (D14A)
Music	Sahil Salian (D14B)
Sports	Archita Malgaonkar (D11B)
SoRT	Ayushi Pamnani (D14A)



Nilesh Talreja (D17A), General Secretary and Tania Mahata (MCA2A), President for the A.Y 2020-21



Cultural Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Surabhi Byju (D6), Tanvi Shetty (D12B), Tejas Gala (D7C), Krunal Rane (MCA2B), Prerak Moolchandani (D7A), Himesh Shadiza (D14A), Khushi Makhijani (D12C), Harshita Kukreja (D14A), Sudhanshu Mishra (D11A), Abhiram Phadnis (D6), Sahana Shetty (D10A)

Senior Deputy Cultural Secretary	Junior Deputy Cultural Secretary
Krunal Rane (MCA2B)	Prerak Moolchandani (D7A)
Sudhanshu Mishra (D11A)	Abhiram Phadnis (D6)
Harshita Kukreja (D14A)	Sahana Shetty (D10A)
Tanvi Shetty (D12B)	Surabhi Byju (D6)
Khushi Makhijani (D12C)	Tejas Gala (D7C)



Music Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Ahona Chattopadhyay (D9B), Aarushi Sharma (D10B), Neeraj Patil (D11B), Pratiksha Bhat (D11B), Manasi Pisal (MCA2A), Sahil Salian (D14B), Raghuttam Parvatikar (D10B), Orijeet Mukherjee (D7A), Madhav Bhutada (D7C), Praneel Rastogi (D12C)

Senior Deputy SoRT Secretary	Junior Deputy SoRT Secretary
Arbaaz Ali (MCA2A)	Venkatesh Reddy (D10A)
Parth Kharkar (D11B)	Akshay Jain (D9B)
Rashmi Manwani (D12A)	Rakshita Danee (D10A)
Tanish Sahijwani (D12C)	Gunjan Sureka (D9A)
Dimple Nachnani (D12C)	Manasvi Patwa (D7C)

Senior Deputy Music Secretary	Junior Deputy Music Secretary
Manasi Pisal (MCA2A)	Raghuttam Parvatikar (D10B)
Neeraj Patil (D11B)	Orijeet Mukherjee (D7A)
Pratiksha Bhat (D11B)	Aarushi Sharma (D10B)
Praneel Rastogi (D12C)	Ahona Chattopadhyay (D9B)
	Madhav Bhutada (D7C)



SoRT Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Dimple Nachnani (D12C), Gunjan Sureka (D9A), Manasvi Patwa (D7C), Rakshita Danee (D10A), Ayushi Pamnani (D14A), Venkatesh Reddy (D10A), Parth Kharkar (D11B), Akshay Jain (D9B), Arbaaz Ali (MCA2A), Tanish Sahijwani (D12C), Rashmi Manwani (D12A)



Sports Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Prathamesh Parab (D11B), Archita Malgaonkar (D11B), Manju Paryani (D15), Aaryan Raina (D15), Adarsh Sawant (MCA2B), Gargi Khanvilkar (D9A), Chinmay Waykole (D12C), Aaditya Moykhede (D10A), Rajat Singh (D10B), Bhavika Chattani (D7C), Janhavi Mhatre (D10A)

Senior Deputy Sports Secretary	Junior Deputy Sports Secretary
Adarsh Sawant (MCA2B)	Aaditya Moykhede (D10A)
Prathamesh Parab (D11B)	Rajat Singh (D10B)
Manju Paryani (D15)	Janhavi Mhatre (D10A)
Aaryan Raina (D15)	Gargi Khanvilkar (D9A)
Chinmay Waykole (D12C)	Bhavika Chattani (D7C)

VESIT Voice

-Atharva Gupte

In the month of September, it's safe to say that the new normal can now be called the old normal. Right from the most awaited council formations to talk series we saw how the new normal has now turned into a blessing in disguise with the challenges, resources and learnings that we couldn't have tackled otherwise.

A webinar was organized by AICTE on the account of Himalayan Day to spread awareness about the ecological conditions in the Himalayan region. Instrumentation Department hosted an International Talk Series where some of the most distinguished alumni spoke about career possibilities within and outside the Instrumentation domain. September also saw the most anticipated event, the student council elections with a virtual twist. Energy Literacy Drive was conducted to teach students about the construction and operation of solar panels for the household.

With the rising awareness of mental health, VESLARC conducted a workshop on Joyful Living for all the TE and BE students. VESIT also celebrated Sadhbhawana Diwas with the theme to promote Rajiv Gandhi's message of 'Sadhbhawana' among students. As online events sped up, societies and student circles like DSC, ISA, ISTE, VPC and VESLit formed their respective councils for the academic year of 2020-21.

The college has gone virtual with classroom codes, video call links and assignment deadlines, so we spoke to teachers at VESIT about their experience of conducting online lectures, their views on missing the personal camaraderie with students and how they overcame the challenges faced in the entire virtual setting. While we sit for online lectures from the comfort of our homes, some people are working throughout the day to make sure the teachers and students have a comfortable experience coming back to college and that is VESIT's Cleaning Staff. We speak heart to heart with some of the oldest cleaning staff and experience the college through their eyes.

The Musings and Expressions section are full of some fantastic poems, artwork, and photographs created and curated by our very own creative students. In the VESIT Diaries, we talk to **Ms. Neha Menon** from the Batch of 2018. She did her Masters in Computer Application from VESIT and is currently a Data Engineer at General Mills. Read on to find out about her journey.

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Sneha Karthik

Switch to Efficient Energy, Today!

-Sreevidya Iyer

VESIT Renaissance Cell in association with VESIT - IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) and VESIT - IIC (Institution Innovation Council) organized the **Energy Literacy Drive** in association with the **Energy Swaraj foundation**. It was a free course comprising of 15 videos and a short quiz aimed at educating students above 14 years of age about the advantages and construction of solar systems for households.

Solar Systems are used to harness solar energy with the help of solar panels, battery, charge controller and load connection to power electrical appliances. The switch to renewable energy is the need of the hour in order to reverse the effects of climate change which is wreaking havoc on the world. The Energy Swaraj Foundation is working to create necessary energy literacy, developing skills, providing technical assistance, enabling en-

trepreneurship, establishing supply chains, and in all creating an ecosystem wherein Energy Swaraj or Energy by Locals for Locals can be established not only in India but throughout the world.

Energy literacy, energy conservation, local energy generation, energy efficiency, energy discipline, energy independence will soon be the various dimensions of the Energy Swaraj Movement. Through this awareness, people themselves can undertake the required action for climate change mitigation. The Movement sets to bring a philosophical understanding and practical acceptance in society, at large, for the adoption of the solar solutions in a disciplined manner for fulfilling 100% energy needs.

The world faces Energy Paradox, wherein more energy is required to ensure fast-paced economic growth, while rampant use of fossil fuel



**Energy Literacy Drive -
By Energy Swaraj Foundation**



Course : Learn to Design a Solar System

Organised by

VESIT Renaissance Cell (VRC)

in Association with

VESIT Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) and IQAC

Use following link for enrollment in the Energy Literacy Drive

https://energyswaraj.org/take-quiz.php?organization_id=organization_1699

Note : There are 15 small videos in the course and then a quiz on it to get certificate (for VESIT it is free). Last date for this course completion is 15th Sep 2020. Any student above the age of 14 years can take up this course.

The poster for Energy Literacy Drive

energy is causing catastrophic climate change due to ever-increasing carbon emissions. This paradox looks like a nearly impossible puzzle to solve. Energy Swaraj Foundation has taken a great initiative to encourage students to learn about solar energy and implement an everlasting change for energy conservation through small lifestyle changes.

A Journey to Joyful Living

-Kaushal Jagasia

Ever since the world went into lockdown due to the pandemic, there have been plenty of conversations on one particular topic - *Mental Well-being*. A state where, an individual realizes his or her abilities, can cope with the normal stress of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.

Consistent with this theme, **Vivekanand Education Society's Leadership Academy and Research Centre** (VESLARC) conducted a session on *Joyful Living* for all T.E and B.E students. The session held on 17th and 18th September 2020 was spearheaded by **Mrs. Piya Mukherjee**, Found-

er and Director of VESLARC and **Mrs. Anushka Punjabi**, Executive Manager of VESLARC.

The objective of this webinar was three-pronged:

- 1) To help students understand that they are not their emotions, this sounds like a truism but emotions can often overwhelm the mind!
- 2) To help them use healthy coping strategies in the short-term and
- 3) To empower them with great habits and attitudes, for long-term *mental immunity*.

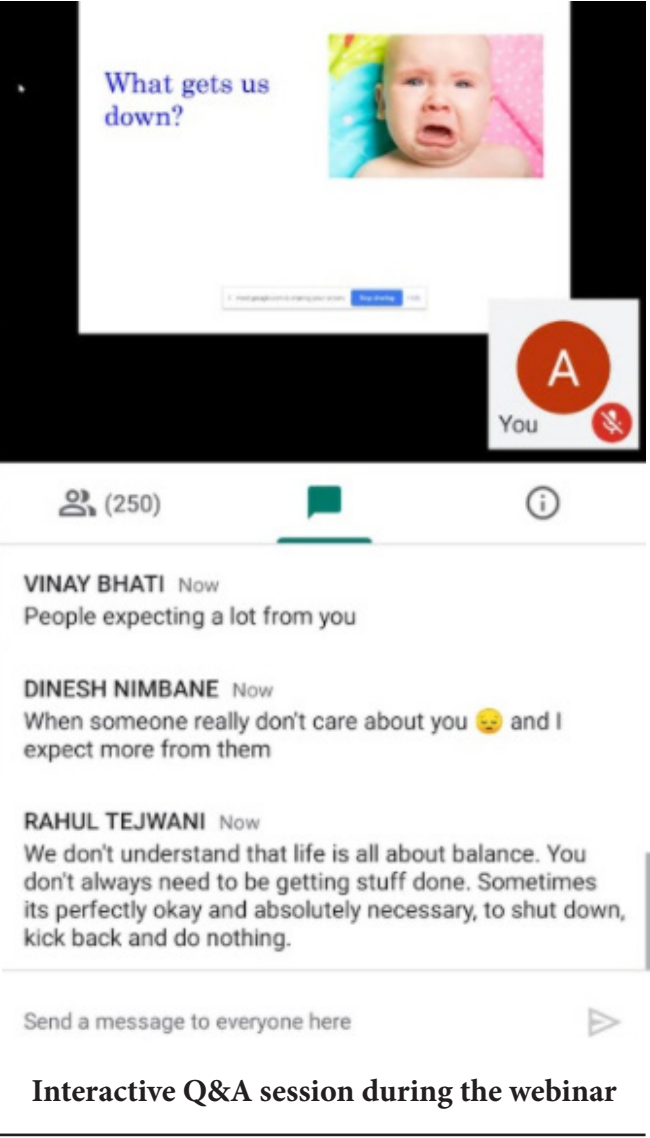
The webinar offered a buffet table of inputs to students which were based on each student's liking,

inclinations, and needs. The students were encouraged to apply the methods which they found to be the most relevant and useful.

The importance of this webinar is showcased as we are trained from our childhood to gather data about the world and to use that for our lives and careers. Yet, we are seldom trained to know our mind and emotions or our thoughts and feelings. Given that our subjective inner worlds are the tools which we use during every minute of our waking hour, should we not be investing some time, to understand ourselves better? In the absence of such inputs, it becomes easy to allow disappointments,

mistakes and failures to colour our self-perception which in turn lead to a downward spiral of wild thoughts and behaviour. Hence, a webinar of this sort was crucially important for the students.

Throughout the webinar, the coordinators reminded the students about the importance of cultivating good habits. All of us need to follow good habits, and we need to first reflect and figure out which one habit can help “pull” other good habits. This can be done by making a plan for small yet consistent steps towards transformation. They shared some valuable insights and motivated the students to get back on track when their plans got “derailed” and also to keep feeding the mind with



Mrs. Piya Mukherjee (Founder and Director of VESLARC) discussing importance of mental health

inspiring “mind-food” so that it becomes easier to create new neural networks for good habits. It’s actually simple and needs only determination to discard old labels and ask: How do I want my day/my life to be?

Dhanshri Agrawal (D14B) recalled, “The teachers combined scientific research with practical ideas to help the students get a step closer to the aim of *Joyful Living*. The entire duration of the seminar radiated positive energy and was a wholesome environment of learning and growing. It was surreal to see everyone opening up about their insecurities. It’s not easy to do that and we all learned a lot.”

When asked regarding her experience conducting this webinar **Mrs. Piya Mukherjee** exclaimed, “We were thrilled and delighted to find that the students of VESIT were really enthusiastic during the course of this webinar. They actively participated in the session using the chat box and are also very emotionally mature. The discipline of these students is also commendable as they maintained decorum during the hour-long webinar with a total of 250 participants! It takes courage and honesty to open up in such a large group, when it

comes to a discussion on mental-emotional health. Our students are truly our pride and our inputs are invaluable to them.”

In conclusion, the coordinators of VESLARC added, “The greatest problem that today’s students are facing is that of uncertainty especially on the professional front. Studies, exams, internships and placements, all of these have become uncertain. At the same time, students also have to grapple with diverse personal issues related to their homes and families. It is indeed a challenging time! Yet, the strongest skill that students possess is flexibility - to learn, unlearn and relearn skills. They also show resilience to bounce back from disappointment and use creativity to start afresh. Both can be enhanced through conscious and mindful self-training. As the months and years go by, these two skills will emerge as the most crucial life-skills for students, and indeed, for everybody. Hence, VESLARC is privileged to share inputs on these, for our students.”

In these testing times it’s truly important to take care of ourselves, both physically and mentally. This seminar on Joyful Living surely has been a ray of sunshine for many students.

Councils

VESIT PhotoCircle

-Arnaab Saha

With the new academic year setting off at a full pace after an uncertain and delayed start due to the recent conditions of 2020, the formations of the Councils in our college are surely a welcome event and have made day-to-day college to the one we were used to for years now.

VESIT PhotoCircle was one of the first to this flow of new council formations. VESIT PhotoCircle or commonly addressed as VPC were always a bunch of exceptionally talented folks and were a blessing for every other Council and Societies in our college, as each one of them depended on VPC to document their events successfully and efficiently. With the slogan of ‘**We are the FlashGuns of VESIT**’, they always made sure every event in our college were captured for posterity and each had more than enough scene that have been captured. We at VESITConnect too, often find ourselves reliant on VPC for the pictures of certain events, and

to maintain these standards, they certainly did have a high pedestal to keep in mind as they when in to elect a new Council.

For the same, elections for the new Head was conducted on the 27th of August, 2020 with Naren Khatwani (D17B) and Aditya Bhoir (D16B) contesting for the post. Naren Khatwani was the successful candidate and elected as the Head of VPC as he received the majority votes from the existing members. With the Final year students passing out, to fill the new vacancies in the Council, Recruitment Interviews were carried out. These interviews stretched between the 5th and 6th of September, 2020. For these interviews, a whooping 34 new applicants were interviewed. The results were published on the 10th of September, 2020.

After the interviews and elections, VPC now prides itself of having thirty one members across the SE, TE, BE, and MCA of our College. These members, headed by Naren Khatwani are:



The VPC team for A.Y. 2020-21



VPC BE Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Gaurav Parwani (D20), Sahil Rajpal (D17A), Shraddha Shinde (D19A), Viraj Sapte (D16A), Sahil Talreja (D17C), Naren Khatwani (Head) (D17B), Tejas Doke (D19A), Aditya Bhoir (D16B), Jai Mulani (D19A), Jim Cheriyan (D16A)

BE Members	Class
Naren Khatwani (Head)	D17B
Aditya Bhoir	D16B
Viraj Sapte	D16A
Sahil Rajpal	D17A
Sahil Talreja	D17C
Gaurav Parwani	D20
Shraddha Shinde	D19A
Jai Mulani	D20
Tejas Doke	D19A
Jim Cheriyan	D16A



VPC TE Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Chirag Kapoor (D14B), Gaurav Jagwani (D14B), Muskaan Sharma (D12A), Ritika Raj (D14B), Omkar Rao (D13), Shubham Chaudhari (D11A), Vedhas Kudtarkar (D11B), Vishal Tulsani (D15), Sahil Kochar (D12C), Kedar Deshpande (D11B), Rohit Ambesh (D14B), Saurav Telge (D12A)

TE Members	Class
Chirag Kapoor	D14B
Gaurav Jagwani	D14B
Muskaan Sharma	D12A
Ritika Raj	D14B
Omkar Rao	D13
Shubham Chaudhari	D11A
Vedhas Kudtarkar	D11B
Vishal Tulsani	D15
Sahil Kochar	D12C
Kedar Deshpande	D11B
Rohit Ambesh	D14B
Saurav Telge	D12A



VPC SE & MCA Council: L to R, Top-Bottom: Tejas Mahajan (D7A), Shivam Singh (D10B), Sushil Saindane (MCA3A), Suraj Singh (MCA3B), Siddhesh Tambe (MCA3B), Abhishek Rane (D6), Paritosh Borkar (D9B), Advait Kulhada (D9A), Vrushank Dhande (D6)

SE Members	Class
Abhishek Rane	D6
Advait Kulhada	D9A
Paritosh Borkar	D9B
Shivam Singh	D10B
Tejas Mahajan	D7A
Vrushank Dhande	D6
MCA Members	Class
Sushil Saindane	MCA3A
Siddhesh Tambe	MCA3B
Suraj Singh	MCA3B

SadBhavana with Words and Art

-Mifir Pamnani

On 20th August, every year, “*Sadbhavana Diwas*” is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of India’s youngest and one of the most dynamic Prime Ministers of all time - **Mr. Rajiv. Gandhi**. At the age of 40, with a landslide majority in the Parliament, he and his administration took vigorous measures to reform the government bureaucracy and liberalize the country’s economy. This day is observed to encourage national integration, peace, affection, and communal harmony among the Indian people of all religions. ‘*Sadbhavana*’ translates to goodwill and bonafide and further conveys the message of national harmony. To further the notion aforementioned, the faculties and students of Vivekananda Education Society’s Institute of Technology celebrated the 76th Birth Anniversary of the former Prime Minister by taking a pledge to work for integrity, prosperity and unity of our country.

Being the youngest Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi dreamt of a modern and developed India. He advocated for communal harmony and economic liberty. Following his vision, all the students and faculties at VESIT enthusiastically par-

ticipated and took an oath to work for the good will and harmony of our country heeding to the secular roots of this country and adhere to all religions, caste, cultures and creed.

This year, two major events were conducted to honour this auspicious occasion. An essay writing competition and a poster making competition were announced a week prior to the “*Sadbhavana Diwas*” to promote Mr. Rajiv Gandhi’s message through words and illustrations. All the participants sent in their exclusive entries within the week’s time and a spectrum of thought provoking perspectives was observed on a whole.

Accordingly, on 20th August, a ceremony was conducted to celebrate the memory of the former Prime Minister. The ceremony began with the oration of “*Sadbhavana Diwas Pledge*” mentioned below with **Dr. Sushil Dhuldhhar** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Science) taking the lead.

Pledge: “*I take this solemn pledge that I will work for the emotional oneness and harmony of all the people of India regardless of caste, region, religion, or language. I further pledge that I shall resolve all differ-*



Hrutika Pakhale (D8): 1st Prize in Poster-Making

ences among us through dialogue and constitutional means without resorting to violence.”

After a brief interaction and dialogue amidst the participants and organizing committee, the results for the competitions held were announced. The Judge for both the events was **Ms. Ramya Trimulshetty** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Science).

After a very close match, the winners declared were as follows:

Poster Making:

1st Place - **Hrutika Pakhale (D8)**

2nd Place - **Isha Chavan (D9A)**

Essay Writing:

1st Place - **Sumit Jadhav (D9A)**

2nd Place - **Isha Chavan (D9A)**

Overall, the ceremony cited the significance of *Sadhbhavana Diwas* and further amplified patriotism and national integration amongst young minds. The event concluded on a keynote takeaway asking every student to act as responsible citizens of this country toiling in harmony for a better tomorrow.

Learning Together with EBSB

-Tanya Dubey

The idea of a sustained and structured cultural connection between denizens of different regions was mooted by our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas** held on 31st October 2015, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. In line with the vision of our Prime Minister, an **EBSB Cell** was formed, under which, the Department of Higher Education, **MHRD**, and the **AICTE** had partnered institutes from two different states to work in unison towards this vision country.

So far, VESIT has successfully organized two events and actively participated in many others under the '*Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat*' program. The month of September witnessed two engaging events under the EBSB program.

Essay Writing Competition by DY Patil, Pune

DY Patil College of Engineering, Pimpri, Pune conducted their first event under the EBSB program from 4th September 2020 to 10th September 2020. They organized an essay writing competition. The topic for the competition was 'Impacts of COVID 19 on Humans and Environment'. The idea behind organizing this competition was to promote the thoughts of the youth of the nation. They intended students to pen down their thoughts and expressions for the current COVID 19 situation. This essay writing competition was promoted in VESIT through the literature circle of the college. Interested students had to attach their work in the provided google form. The participants were provided with a certificate.

A Cultural Connect by IMI, Bhubaneswar

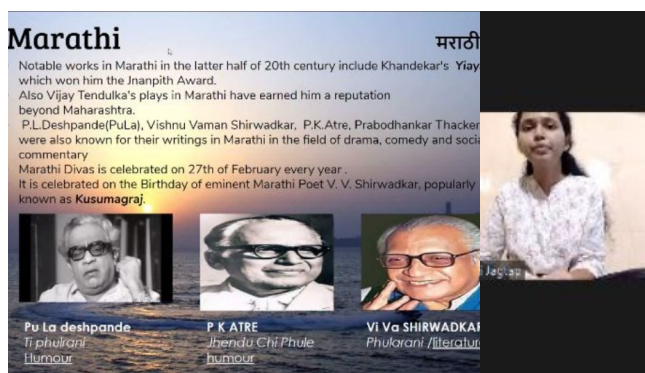
International Management Institute, Bhubaneswar hosted their second event under the EBSB program on Saturday, the 19th of September 2020. The topic for the event was 'Language and Cuisine'. The idea behind organizing this event was to bring about a cultural exchange between the states of Maharashtra and Odisha. They planned to execute the idea through presentations and a crossword quiz.

The event was hosted on zoom. The zoom meeting had around 118 participants which included students and faculty members from the states of Maharashtra and Odisha.



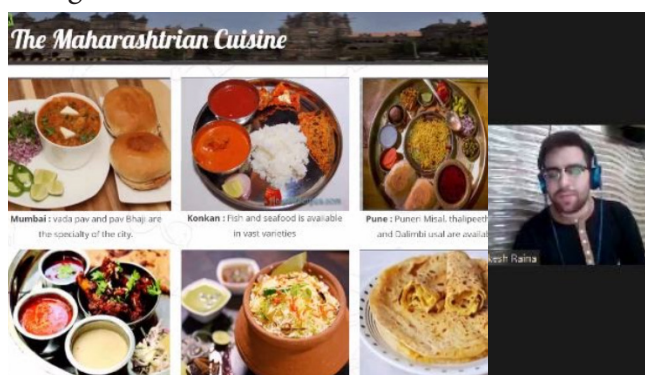
Student Coordinators of the event: L-R, Top-Bottom: Sivanta Beera (D17B), Tanya Dubey (D9B), Yash Bhise (D9B)

The event was commenced by introductions of the two states. **Prof. Supriti Mishra** from IMI, Bhubaneswar spoke about the language and cuisine of Odisha. **Dr. Geeta Ajit**, Coordinator of the EBSB, VESIT gave an insight into the language and cuisine of Maharashtra. The introduction was followed by an Odia song "Vande Utkala Janani" by Subhashree Debata, a first-year student of IMI, Bhubaneswar.



Srushti Jagtap (D9B) discussing the language aspect of Maharashtra

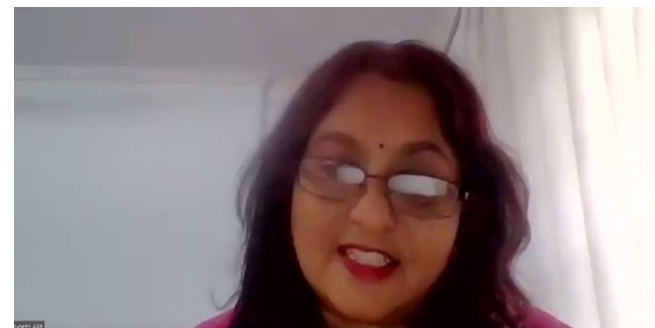
The Odia song was followed by presentations by the students of IMI and VESIT. Navendu Behera and Satwika Nayak were the representatives from IMI. Srushti Jagtap (D9B) and Hemkesh Raina (D15) were the representatives from VESIT. Students from IMI began with the presentations and gave an informative presentation on the language and cuisine of Odisha. Following them were Srushti and Hemkesh who gave an insightful presentation on the language and cuisine of Maharashtra. Srushti began with the presentation and spoke about the language aspect of Maharashtra. She mentioned some prominent poets and authors of Maharashtra. She also threw light on some steps taken by Maharashtra to preserve its literature. Hemkesh continued with the cuisine part of the presentation. He mentioned numerous mouth-watering delicacies of the state.



Hemkesh Raina (D15) discussing the cuisine of Maharashtra

"I am thankful to the EBSB team for giving me the opportunity of participating in this event. While working on the presentation, I discovered so much more about my state of Maharashtra. Also, while preparing for the crossword puzzle, I learned so many unique things about Odisha. Overall, it was a great experience, and I enjoyed the two-hour event. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the teachers, participants, the organizing committee, and my partner Hemkesh for all the hard work and zeal", said Srushti Jagtap (D9B).

The presentations were followed by a crossword quiz by VESIT. Sivanta Beera (D17A), Tanya



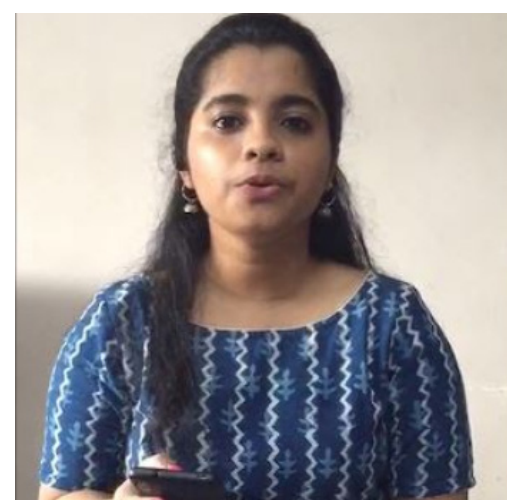
Dr. Geeta Ajit, Assistant professor in H & S Department, giving the introductory remarks

Dubey (D9B), and Yash Bhise (D9B) were the student coordinators of the EBSB team from VESIT. Risa Samanta (D9B) and Sartha Tambe (D17A) contributed greatly to making an intriguing crossword. There were two crossword puzzles, one for each team. The crossword for team IMI consisted of questions related to the language and cuisine of Maharashtra while the one for team VESIT consisted of questions related to the language and cuisine of Odisha. Both the teams were provided with some study material the day before the event.

The marking scheme for the quiz was such that four points would be awarded for each correct answer. The participants had an option to prompt a letter in case they were unable to answer the question in one go. Two-letter prompts were allowed for each answer. However, the points would reduce with each prompted letter. Therefore, three points were awarded for each correct answer after one letter prompt and two points after two-letter prompts. There was a negative marking of -1 for each incorrect attempt.

Yash Bhise was the quiz master for the day. He presented the crossword to the participants, read out the questions to them, and filled in the crossword as the participants would spell out the answer. Sivanta was the scorekeeper. Team IMI performed extremely well with a score of 50/50 points. Team VESIT gave a tough competition with a score of 39 points.

The crossword puzzle was followed by a melodious Marathi song by Neeraj Patil (D11B) and Sanika Indulkar (D11A). They performed "Jeev Rangla" from the Marathi movie Jogwa. The event was concluded with a Vote of Thanks from IMI to all the students and faculty members who contributed to making the event a successful one.



Sanika Indulkar (D11A) performing the marathi song 'Jeev Rangla'

VESLit Back in Action with the New Team

-Tanya Dubey

The VESLit council for the new academic year was formed on 8th September 2020. Though the process had begun on 27th August 2020. It began with the interviews for the senior council. The candidates for the senior council were interviewed by **Dr. Pooja Kundu** (Assistant Professor, Humanities and Science Department), **Dr. Sushil Duldhar** (Assistant Professor, Humanities and Science Department) and Aditya Rao (VESLit Head for the academic year 2019-20).

The interview was scheduled for 29th August from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. There were 12 candidates for different posts in the council. Each candidate was allotted 5 minutes for their interview. These candidates were being interviewed for

the position of VESLit Head, Deputy Head and the heads and deputy heads of the 4 divisions of VESLit.

Considering the current pandemic situation, all the council members of the 2019-20 batch were allowed to stay for the 2020-21 batch of VESLit. Therefore, unlike previous years, the entire second year council became a part of VESLit in their third year as well.

Mails were sent out for the recruitment of the junior council on 27th August 2020. Interested candidates had to fill the google form attached in the mail. They were also required to submit a resume and a cover letter. The interviews for the junior council were scheduled for 5th September

from 1:30 pm onwards. The interviews for the junior council were conducted by the newly formed senior council. A WhatsApp group was formed where all the interested candidates were added. The order for the interviews, link for the Google meet and all necessary instructions were shared in that group. The candidates were required to present themselves in formals for the interview.

Dr. Pooja Kundu, Dr. Sushil Duldhar and Aditya Rao were also present for the interviews of the junior council along with the senior council members. Out of the 19 applicants, 10 candidates were selected. The results were announced on 7th September around 6:00 pm.



L to R: Aditya Dubey (D10A), Tanya Dubey (D9B), Atharva Gadkari (D13), Adith Nair (D19B), Salonee Velonde (D12B), Sneha Kartik (D7C)

Debate Division	
Position	Members
Head	Adith Nair (D19B)
Deputy Head	Atharva Gadkari (D13)
Senior Member	Salonee Velonde (D12B)
Junior Member	Tanya Dubey (D9B)
Junior Member	Aditya Dubey (D10A)
Junior Member	Sneha Kartik (D7C)



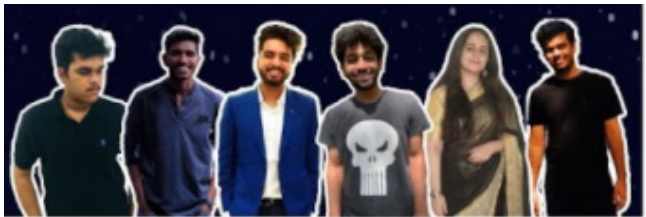
L to R: Kaushal Jagasia (D7C), Mihir Pamnani (D7C), Shlok Jagushte (D11B), Arnab Saha (D14B), Paridhi Harpalani (D12C), Aishwarya K. (D7A)

MUN Division	
Position	Members
Head	Shlok Jagushte (D11B)
Deputy Head	Arnab Saha (D14B)
Senior Member	Paridhi Harpalani (D12C)
Junior Member	Aishwarya K. (D7A)
Junior Member	Kaushal Jagasia (D7C)
Junior Member	Mihir Pamnani (D7C)

VESLit Head: CV Ananya (D19A)
VESLit Deputy Head: Avinash Tripathy (D14B)



CV Ananya (VESLit Head) (D19A) & Avinash Tripathy (VESLit Deputy Head) (D14B)



L to R: Krishik Rao (D9B), Manoj Aiyappan (D12B), Pranav Bindra (D19B), Namrata Tolani (D12A), Arnav Bagchi (D12C),

Quiz Division	
Position	Members
Head	Pranav Bindra (D19B)
Deputy Head	Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C)
Senior Member	Namrata Tolani (D12A)
Senior Member	Manoj Aiyappan (D12B)
Senior Member	Arnav Bagchi (D12C)
Junior Member	Krishik Rao (D9B)



L to R: Prithvi Kumar (D7A), Tarun Mishra (D7C), Aditya Bhoir (D11B), Varun Pillai (D11B), Aditya Bedekar (D6)

Film Division	
Position	Members
Head	Aditya Bhoir (D11B)
Deputy Head	Varun Pillai (D11B)
Junior Member	Tarun Mishra (D7C)
Junior Member	Prithvi Kumar (D7A)
Junior Member	Aditya Bedekar (D6)



The VESLit Council for the Academic Year 2020-21

Welcoming VESIT's Developer Student Club!

-Anushka Kulkarni

The year 2020 has been one of the most challenging years for everyone in this generation. Despite challenges and obstacles, the world has shown remarkable strength, especially the Gen-Z, and the knowledge institutions showed outstanding resilience. All the councils in our college are planning and working on incredible things in full swing and every council/club/circle is coming up with really creative things, that it makes one wonder if there is anything that can stop us from coming 'together'.

If that was not impressive enough, VESIT has a new club starting this year! VESIT is starting with its very own **Developer Student Club** (DSC). Developer Student Club is a program presented by Google Developers through the **Codecell** under the **CMPN department**. DSCs are university-based community groups for students interested in Google developer technologies. Students from all undergraduate or graduate programs with an interest in growing as a developer are welcome. By joining a DSC, students grow their knowledge in a peer-to-peer learning environment and build solutions for local businesses and their community.

Google selects students from across the globe to be DSC Lead and start a club at their Campus. Developer Student Club Leads are passionate leaders at their universities who are dedicated to helping their peers learn and connect. These Leads should have a good foundational knowledge of

software development concepts. In a DSC there is a Student Lead, a core team and a faculty advisor. For our college, the DSC lead is Aditya Shrivastava (D17C), and Faculty Advisor for the DSC is **Dr. Nupur Giri**, Head, Department of Computer Engineering. This club is supported by Codecell (Tinker's from Computer Department VESIT). Google collaborates with DSC Leads once a year who are pursuing an undergraduate or graduate university degree and supports them as they start and grow their on-campus community.

DSC conducts workshop and events on the following google developer technologies:

- Android
- AR / VR
- Assistants / Action on Google
- Firebase
- Flutter
- Google Cloud Platform
- ML / AI
- UI / UX
- Web

Apart from these there are also going to be events like :

- Tech Talks
- Demo Day
- Solution challenge
- Hackathons
- Bootcamps
- Bootcamps
- Study Jams
- Coding contests
- Explore ML

Developer Student Clubs are a great place:

- To get in touch with the developers across the nation, or even worldwide thereby increases student connectivity.
- To gain knowledge about current advancements and innovations.
- The student gets a chance to present himself on a larger platform and put forward his/her in-



Aditya Shrivastava (D17C) welcoming in an introductory video

novative ideas.

- Helps in Resume building as the DSCs are well known across the globe and their impact has been impressive so far.

Says DSC student lead Aditya Shrivastava(D17C), "This is VESIT- DSC's first year and I am very glad to have the opportunity to Lead the club. There are a lot of things that need to be done before starting a new club and I am very fortunate to be able to contribute to this initiative in the most meaningful manner. We have a lot of exciting events and workshops planned. There is one thing that I want to make clear to everyone that these events are for everyone! We want this Club to be an inclusive and welcoming place for everyone irrespective of their background or degree. Every event is free of cost, i.e. no fees applicable, the only thing you will need to invest in your interest and willingness to learn and collaborate. Events will range from beginner to expert in terms of difficulty levels. We will make sure, little to no prerequisites are there to be a part of events. So, whoever is interested can readily join and will be eligible for most of the events. This is a place for learning from each other and nothing is more exciting than that. I encourage everyone to partake in this and I am hoping everyone will have a truly enjoyable learning experience."



DSC VESIT Logo

Societies

ISTE Council

New year, new beginnings and new Councils. Every year our technical councils recruit new students to manage and extend their council, and not to forget conduct amazing technical and non-technical events throughout the year. The **ISTE Council** for the academic year 2020-21 was started by the formation of the Senior Council which primarily has BEs, followed by the Junior Council.

In the first round, the candidates had to submit their Statement of Purpose (SoPs). The SoPs were filtered by the Faculty in charge of ISTE, **Dr. Shashwati Majumder**, (Assistant Professor of Humanities & Applied Sciences Department) and **Dr. Asawari Dudwadkar**, (Assistant Professor of Electronics Department), followed by the second round. The second round was the interview round which was conducted on 1st August 2020. The candidates were interviewed by the previous Senior Council on their commitment and dedication to the council and their technical knowledge. After a thrilling round of interviews, ISTE declared the Se-

-Bhavesh Lohana



BE Council for the Academic Year 2020-21

nior Council for 2020-21.

After the BEs, TEs had to submit their SoPs for the first round which again followed the same procedure as the BEs. The interviews for TEs were conducted on 13th September 2020, over Google meet from 3 pm onwards. The current BE council interviewed a total of 28 candidates. Numerous questions were asked to assess the suitability of the candidate for the position. Candidates were assessed on conversational skills, problem-solving skills, and ability to think quickly. After screening and contemplating, 20 candidates were chosen for the Junior Council.

Post	BE Members
Chairperson	Prithvi Amin (D20)
CEO	Sparsh Prabhakar (D20)
Senior Treasurer	Saurav Jeswani (D20)
COO	Siddhant Pai (D16B)
CTO	Anshul Chaudhary (D20)
Senior Graphics Officer	Kaushik Janmanchi (MCA3B)
Senior Technical Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Shubham Darekar (D20)Abhishek Shukla (MCA3M)Rishabh Sah (D17A)
Senior Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Muskan Chelwani (D19A)Kautuki Nirgun (D19A)Yamini Agrawal (MCA3B)
Senior Operations Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Divya Kawana (D20)Atharva Deshmukh (D17A)Jagruati Sawalkar (D18)



TE Council for the Academic Year 2020-21

Post	SE Members
Managing secretary	Roshan Dadlani (D12A)
Operations secretary	Shruti Mishra (D12C)
Executive secretary	Shreyas Khadapkar (D15)
Junior Treasurer	Jatin Chhabria (D12C)
Junior Technical Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Devdatta Khoche (D15)Aditya Kotkar (D15)Srajan Shetty (D15)Akash Maurya (D15)Amit Chhabria (D12C)Vrithik Nathani (D14)
Junior Operations Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Roshnee Matlani (D12A)Sanket Chaudhary (D12C)Hritik Patil (D11B)Puneet Meghrajani (D12A)Nitin Sahu (MCA2A)
Junior Public Relations Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Divya Raisinghani (D12A)Shubhra Jena (D15)Sakshee Sawant (D12B)
Junior Graphics Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hemkesh Raina (D15)Kritik Taktewale (D15)

ISA Council

As the students acclimate to the new environment of the virtual classrooms for this new yet unusual year, the technical societies of VESIT are all set to recruit some new blood and build up their council. The focus of these technical societies primarily is to help the students gain practical as well as theoretical technical knowledge. ISA-VESIT is known for its insightful and comprehensive technical workshops instilled with modern trending technologies that provide overall skill development. ISA provides a separate hands-on experience to the members of the society into the BE council, TE council and the SE council, and being a part of the council is an honor.

BE council interviews were conducted by the former BE council members in brief based on their last year's performance. This was followed by an interview by the faculty advisors of ISA, **Mr. N.Gopalkrishnan**, (Assistant Professor in the Instrumentation Department), and **Mrs. Jayashree Ramakrishnan**, (Assistant Professor in the Instrumentation Department) regarding the positions of the selected candidates. After an exhilarating interview round, the Senior Council for the academic year 2020-21 was formed.

-Sristi Kushwaha



BE Council for the Academic Year 2020-21

Interviews for the formation of the TE Council were carried out by the BE Council. Candidates had to submit their Statement of Purpose (SOP) along with the preferences list of the posts, through a google form, stating strengths, weaknesses, achievements, their objective for joining the council, etc. On 12th and 13th September, interviews were conducted via google meet where each candidate was assigned a particular time slot for the. BEs hand-picked the top 15 most suitable candidates to form the TE for the A.Y 2020-2021.

Position	TE Members
Secretary	Raj Talashilkar (D11A)
Technical Officer	Jatin Dandelia (D14A)
Jr. Treasurer	Atharva Patil (D13)
Operation Officer	Poorva Vichare (D13)
Marketing Executive	Manas Maskar (D11B)
Executive Officer	Rakhsita Krishnan (D13)
Executive Officer	Aditi Zhankar (D13)
Jr. Public Relations Officer	Manali Ganacharya (D13)
Jr. Public Relations Office	Sahil Shewale (D13)
Web Executive	Shubham Metkar (D11B)
Web Editor	Omkar Mangapalli (D12A)
Technical Executive	Amogh Sadhu (D13)
Technical Executive	Onkar Bhatlawande (D12A)
Jr. Editor	Mahek Tardeja (D14A)
Jr. Editor	Abhijeet Gaonkar (D13)



TE Council for the Academic Year 2020-21

Position	BE Members
President	Lewin Noronha (D19B)
Vice President	Prithvi Shetty (D18)
Sr. Treasurer	Shubhangi B (D18)
Sr. Public Relations Officer	Aarya Padhyegurjar (D16A)
Sponsorship Head	Simran Mayekar (D16A)
Chief Executive Officer	Sakshi Kulkarni (D19A)
Sr. Web Developer	Prateek Mehta (D17C)
Project Manager	Uday Tare (D18)
Chief Editor	Tanmay Pandit (D18)
Chief Technical Officer	Aditya Ganesh (D18)
Chief Operations Officer	Tanmay Shravge (D18)
Chief Operations Officer	Raghav Potdar (D17A)

Frontline Warriors of VESIT

-Aadi Fernandes & Shruti Bondre

COVID-19 has been a sharp reminder of the fact that there is no substitute for hygiene. Every nook and corner of the world is being sanitized and thoroughly cleaned. Our college was utilized by the BMC as a COVID isolation centre from the month of May to the end of July. These warriors started going to our college on the 4th of August after thorough sanitization of the premises. They were provided with adequate equipments and safety measures followed by which they started a deep cleaning session of our college

Within a month’s time, the 18 member team sprung into action and polished the entire college premises. The Frontline heroes of VESIT during the COVID-19 pandemic are our cleaning staff and we asked them to share their stories and experiences with us.

Ashok Gaikar: Supervisor (4 Months)
I used to previously work at Taj and Oberoi group of hotels before I came to VESIT about 4 months ago. I primarily provide housekeeping and overall training to the cleaning staff members. On a daily basis, during the COVID-19 pandemic include temperature checks, inspection and to provide adequate safety measures such as gloves and masks in order to facilitate a safe working environment for the staff. I have really good relations with the faculty members and the work environment is terrific. The hotels have a different vibe but the experience here is much better and it feels like home. I’ve been here only for a few months and there are no students in the college now but I am eagerly looking forward to seeing the premises when the session resumes and the entire surrounding would be bustling. I would wish good health for everyone and hope that they all stay safe and never lose out on any opportunities in the walk of life.



Mr. Ashok Gaikar

Durga K Singh: (4 and half years)

It feels really good to work here and all the faculty members and students are very nice to me. Due to this pandemic, the college premises now feel a little empty. It used to be really wonderful to have the students around as they used to spread a lot of energy and make the environment extremely lively, but now, it really is fully deserted.



Ms. Durga K Singh

Jaitunisha Shaikh: (5 years)

I really love going to college. I absolutely enjoy being around students and faculty members. Everyone speaks really politely and respectfully to all of us. Even my fellow staff members are really good and I sincerely like their company.



Jaitunisha Shaikh

Sibel D'Mello: (4 and a half years)

The faculty members and students have always considered us as our own and always respect us. I miss the mahapooja and also other such events that take place in college throughout the year. I only come across a few faculty members nowadays and the brightness of the college is missing as the students are not here. The students give us flowers and speak very warmly with us. Even on women's day, I get plenty of wishes from the students and faculty members. I totally enjoy being in college around the students and miss them a lot at this point of time.



Ms. Sibel D'Mello

Laxmi Kamble: (4 years)

I certainly love VESIT. Everyone here, right from the students to the faculty members talk to me really pleasantly. There are no fights amongst any of us and everyone lives in harmony. The students speak very sweetly to me, and have also given me cards on several occasions, appreciating the work that I do. Some of the most memorable moments I have is when the birthdays are celebrated and we have cake, snacks and soda as celebrations. I miss everyone during lockdown and especially the students as the college feels absolutely empty and incomplete without their presence.



Ms. Laxmi Kamble

Sangita Nirus: (8 years)

All the faculty members have been really cordial to me throughout the time I've spent in VESIT. The students are also very sweet and communicate very respectfully to all of us. At this point of time, I really miss the students and the entire college atmosphere at this point of time. It feels really incomplete without the chaos and energy of the students.



Ms. Sangita Nirus

Suraj Nirmal: (1 month)

I joined the college just a month back so I don't know much about the college. All my colleagues are very nice. They helped me understand the work and helped me out if required. My Colleagues say that the place is much more lovable when the students are around so I am hoping that the College starts soon.



Mr. Suraj Nirmal

Sahu Khanpate: (4 and a half years)

When the college was handed over to us, initially, there was a lot of cleaning to be done. Currently, there are more tasks to be completed as the entire college is empty and we are able to clean it much more efficiently. When the students are around, the classes are occupied which makes it a little difficult to clean, but their energy is missed. All the teachers and students are very good and treat us with respect.



Mr. Sahu Khanpate

Sudhakar Angre: (4 and a half years)

Faculty members and students are really caring and everyone speaks very nicely to us. Wadhwani sir also assists us a lot. Currently because of the lockdown, the college feels really empty without all the students. Their energy and enthusiasm is missing at this moment, specifically the vibe during the fests and events conducted in our college throughout the year.



Mr. Sudhakar Angre

Rajesh Kuchekar: (1 year)

I have been a part of the Housekeeping team for the last one year. We all have always worked together. Teachers and Students have always been respectful and we have never been back-answered. It feels very good to work here. These days, only the Housekeeping staff, Supervisors and some days, a few teachers are present. It feels very empty. When everyone is there, the college feels lively and I hope the college reopens soon.



Mr. Rajesh Kuchekar

Pratik Shinde: (1 and a half year)

I have been working here for over an year now. The Students and Teachers have always been co-operative and respectful. When the College re-opened in August, our entire team worked hard and cleaned the college. We are going for our duties daily, but the place feels very empty. It is true that we are able to work more efficiently now because there are no students but the place has just lost its charm without the students. I really hope everyone remains safe and takes care of themselves and the college reopens soon.

**Mr. Pratik Shinde****Pramila Rokde: (3 years)**

VESIT is a good college with really helpful co-workers and polite and respectful teachers and students. Students have always been appreciative of our work and never disrespected us. They greet us and ask us about our work and health.

In August, when we resumed our duties, it was a lot of work. The College premises were not clean and it took a lot of efforts from the entire team to clean it. We are still going for our duties, but it doesn't feel good without all the students and the commotion.

**Ms. Pramila Rokde****Chanda Lahase: (1 year)**

I have been working at VESIT since last year. The Teaching Staff, my colleagues and students have always been very nice and respectful. Our College is a very good place to work. We resumed our duties back in August after a lockdown of five whole months. Now, the college feels really empty without the students.

**Ms. Chanda Lahase****Jayashree Prakshale: (3 years)**

VESIT is the perfect workplace. Teachers, Students and other staff members are very sweet. We really enjoy talking with the kids and they have always been respectful. When we resumed our duties in August, we were given safety kits for all the cleaning and sanitizing. College is very lively when students are there especially during events. We miss the students a lot. It feels a little dull with very few people in the College now.

**Ms. Jayashree Prakshale****Manohar Hatale: (1 and a half year)**

All the teaching and non-Teaching staff, the students and my colleagues are very nice. They have always treated us with respect. We resumed our duties in August. Our team cleaned and sanitized the entire college within one month before the teachers joined back. It is a good and lively place with all the students especially during College Fests. It is a bit boring now that there are only a few people around.

**Mr. Manohar Hatale****Komal Jadhav: (1 and a half year)**

Working here feels good. My co-workers have always been supportive and Teachers have been really cordial with us. Students are very sweet and polite. A few students also made a Thank You card for me which I have still preserved. I miss the normal routine before the lockdown started when everyone- teachers, students and other staff members were all there. Now, it just seems empty and all the zeal and enthusiasm is lost.

**Ms. Komal Jadhav****Kamlakar Kamble: (1 and a half year)**

Everyone in our College is very nice and sweet. Principal Ma'am is very nice. Teachers and other staff members have always been respectful. Students are very respectful and we enjoy talking with them. When college started in August, the place was very dirty. Our team cleaned the entire place in a month wearing the mask and required equipment. After the lockdown when the college opened, we have missed the students the most. The College feels dull without the students around. When students are around especially during College Fests, there is chaos everywhere. That "Josh" around during these programs motivates us to work with more enthusiasm. It is more lively with students being around and I really miss them.

**Mr. Kamlakar Kamble****Sunita Vare: (15 yrs in hostel + 2 months)**

For the last fifteen years, I have been a part of the housekeeping staff at the Campus Hostel. I joined the college team in August 2020. Overall in a short span of time, all I can say is that the working environment is good. My co-workers have supported me and teachers are polite. At the hostel, students were always polite and respectful. Sometimes, they brought extra snacks and sweets for the staff from their hometowns. Since there are no students in the college and hostel, it feels really dull without all the students and the chaos.

**Ms. Sunita Vare**

They are all the frontline warriors of VESIT who have gone to great extents in order to make sure we all can safely enter college once the course resumes. Even before the pandemic struck, they always made sure that our needs were met. Some of them have been working with us for years while a few of them have just joined recently, but for everything they do, all of them are nothing less than our heroes.

Online Classes - A Tribute To Our Faculty

-Aadi Fernandes

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought in a wave of transformation through every possible industry. From digital monetary transfers to online shopping, we have seen a paramount surge in utilization of technology and the education sector is no exception to this. Since the month of March 2020, the teachers all around the world have shifted to online channels in order to continue to impart knowledge to the students amidst the lockdowns and social distancing norms.

The drastic shift from physical classroom to online lectures required changes in various factors, except one, the dedication and commitment of our professors. On the occasion of Teacher's Day, with the knowledge transfer, vivas and examinations, all being conducted online, we documented their experiences under this scenario.

Mr. Gopalakrishnan (Assistant Professor, Department of Instrumentation Engineering)

"I had already implemented a hybrid teaching model last year in a few subjects, wherein the students had to go through the NPTEL or youtube video materials before the teaching sessions, followed by which a group of students had to showcase a presentation through which I would initiate a deep thinking process for that topic. I did not find this technologically daunting as I have been using google classroom for the past 6 years, taking submissions digitally.

Currently, teaching is comparatively difficult due to the lack of physical sessions as behavioral observations are important to judge whether the students understood a particular concept. In this setting, there will be only a couple of students saying that they understand the concepts and I have to believe their words and move on to the next topic. I really miss the enthusiasm, pranks, and fun that we would have in class, the online sessions have a sterile environment where we need to focus only on studies and cannot incorporate those emotions.

Another major hurdle in terms of online classes is the fact that some students and professors do not have the infrastructure to support seamless learning and teaching due to hardware or network connectivity issues, especially for those who have returned to their native place."



Mr. Gopalakrishnan

Mr. Prasad Godse (Assistant Professor, Department of Instrumentation Engineering)

"It is a wonderful experience for me to teach online but unfortunately, we cannot accommodate face to face live interactions and Q&A sessions as effectively as we would under the classroom setting. Despite Virtual Labs being a very good tool, I believe that engineering is incomplete without labs and hands-on sessions which the students are missing.

The major problems associated with the online setting are that the students are more burdened with the continuous sessions and from a teacher's perspective, it is more difficult as students may not be proactive while answering questions as they would be during the offline sessions."



Mr. Prasad Godse

Ms. Geocey Shejy (Assistant Professor, Masters of Computer Applications)

"The initial declaration of 10 days of the college closing was received with an expectation that things would be back to normal in a few days but it has crossed months now. The semester ended abruptly and even though we managed to complete the lectures through the online medium, the theory, practicals and the semester left a pinch of dissatisfaction. The next semester, I was mentally prepared for virtual classes after thorough planning and departmental meetings packed with guidelines, instructions and suggestions. The first few classes gave me a sense of vacuum, as if I were speaking to a wall. In order to overcome the one side communication, I kept the list of students open to call names and gain some kind of response to grasp whether students could understand the concepts. The class representatives are the ones who have been consistently bridging the gap between teachers and the students. Programming subject classes are far more responsive compared to theory lectures and I can feel the beaming curiosity, which again, is limited to a circle of few. The faces, the voices, nodding of the head, the 'Silence Please', the submissions and late submissions, and of course, the vibrant young presence of the students are all missing."



Ms. Geocey Shejy

Mr. Sunny Nahar (Assistant Professor, Masters of Computer Applications)

"Online teaching has been a very intriguing experience for me. Initially, I had a very conflicting opinion of this mode of teaching. My perception changed when I realised that as the physical barrier had dropped down, the attendance of the students had significantly improved, with a rise in attendance from 75% to almost over 90% over this course of time.

I have noticed that the most challenging problem encountered by most of the students when it comes to online teaching, is being distracted. During physical classroom sessions, maintaining the attention of students was much more convenient, and under this setting it is crucial for me to make sure that I convey my point to the students on that particular topic. Online classes focus only on teaching but we cannot effectively work on the overall development of the students. By participating in various activities, students are able to hone their skills and hobbies alongside their academics. This holistic development of the student prepares them for their future when they are placed in various companies."



Mr. Sunny Nahar

Dr. Parmeshwar Birajdar (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics Engineering)

"The online setting is a completely new experience for me and my dear students. There are a few advantages and disadvantages associated with this method of delivery, but we should always focus on the positive aspect of the learning process. In this case, the positive aspect is that the students and faculties can interact and go ahead with the academics despite the unfortunate COVID-19 crisis. With the advancement of software technology, I am not missing any factor of the face to face teaching sessions as I can see my dear students online in real time. Of course there are a few issues in online learning, such as discussion of mathematical derivations and other important flowcharts could have been performed effectively on the blackboard of our classroom, compared to online tools. But in the end, we have to face the situation and readily adapt to the online platforms, while focusing on the positive aspects of it."



Dr. Parmeshwar Birajdar

Ms. Sarika Kuhikar (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics Engineering)

“The online teaching mode is the most effective alternative to face-to-face teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic as everyone’s safety is important at this point of time. This mode of class conduction is dependent on technology and sometimes cause an interruption due to network issues, but they are temporary and can be fixed. Despite it being the best substitute at this point of time, I really miss the social interaction that would take place during physical classroom sessions with the students as this facilitated building a strong rapport and also assisted in understanding whether the students could grasp a topic. All of these factors cannot be replicated effectively in the virtual setting.”



Ms. Sarika Kuhikar

Ms. Priya RL (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering)

“Initially, I found it difficult to handle everything in the virtual environment but then I started focusing on harvesting the power of technology in order to effectively deliver the lecture to our students. This pandemic has showcased that technology is an integral aspect of the education sector and has also taught us to balance our professional work with our family routine life. The biggest challenge in virtual teaching is to make the students listen to the lecture in a joyful manner. Conduction of group activities in order to teach concepts of certain subjects is also increasingly difficult online. The most beautiful part of teaching has always been the face to face interaction with students. In the virtual scenario, I miss the facial expressions of students and find it hard to grasp their level of understanding of the subject.”



Ms. Priya RL

Dr. Anjali Yeole (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering)

“I always used the blackboard to express myself during the lectures and the lack of it was a huge challenge, but I tackled it by writing on PPTs with a stylus. In the beginning, I had difficulties using the stylus, but with practice, that has also been addressed and I use apps like Jamboard which remotely mimics the feeling of teaching on a blackboard. As we cannot see the facial expressions of the students, I find it difficult to ascertain if they are paying attention to the lecture and understand the concept or not. Occasionally I utilize asynchronous mode of learning for the students by posting a video which the students watch during the lecture followed by which I post a series of questions based on videos which the students have to answer.

Online sessions save a lot of time because there are no interruptions between the lectures unlike offline classes, where the students would come late. Another advantage is the live demonstration of a certain program or application-based example makes the learning more practical for some subjects. To make the lectures more interesting, more resources need to be utilized so that more practical applications are covered and the subject doesn’t become too theoretical for the students. Interaction with the students and the warmth of the relationship between teacher and student is missed tremendously. The face to face interaction with the students creates a stronger bond and gives profound satisfaction to all the teachers, which is difficult to replicate in the online scenario. The third year and final year students need a lot of mentoring and I miss the lab because it spotlights the area the students are struggling with.

Until now, I could never imagine taking online vivas for students, or conducting online examinations either. But now, I feel we could definitely culminate the positives of both the scenarios such as conducting quizzes at the end of every chapter to make sure skills are being imparted to the students and the students using their laptops so that the teaching doesn’t become entirely too theoretical. A hybrid mode of classroom session coupled with online teaching would be super beneficial.

No matter how unpredictable and difficult the online teaching-learning process was in the beginning. It has helped open many doorways for education as a whole. At the end, everything has its positive and negative aspect, so instead of just focusing on the negatives, we could learn more from positives and achieve our goals!”



Dr. Anjali Yeole



Ms. Rasika Naik

Ms. Rasika Naik (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

“As we shifted to online teaching due to the pandemic, I was initially excited, thinking of exploring different teaching methods. Firstly, I prepared PPTs for my subjects and clubbed it with other methods like writing in the notebook, scanning those pages and putting them in my presentation. But I encountered a few limitations for mathematical subjects after which I tried utilizing a physical board for those subjects with a higher rate of satisfaction. For other subjects, I continued with PPT mode and used a pen/highlighter and for further explanation, I use blank slides and write on that as per the requirement of the session.

Despite the advent of online learning, I would prefer the classroom sessions from the viewpoint of convenience in responding to questions from students, interactive discussions and explanations/derivation/solving problems on the board. The most integral thing I’m missing is the satisfaction on the face of students. With online teaching I’m not able to see the facial expression of all students, to ascertain their understanding of a topic. I miss the students coming to my cabin and asking doubts and the daily interactions which made me form a rapport with them. I also very deeply miss the technical and festive events in the college and all those casual conversations and greetings on the corridors, I hope we can get back to it soon.”



Mr. Gaurav Tawde

Mr. Gaurav Tawde (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

“Online teaching calls for a greater amount of motivation and self-discipline than classroom-based teaching, and involves setting our own goals, tracking progress and meeting deadlines. Technology also adds on to the visual experience by incorporating animations, different ICT based tools that can be used interactively for effective learning and communication alongside discussion forums, email and one-on-one support. For an impactful teaching and learning process, we need to learn and we are learning new innovative methods and tools. An advantage of asynchronous online learning is that it allows students to participate in high quality learning situations when distance and schedule make on-ground learning difficult-to-impossible and

also improves time efficiency. Students can join the classes from anywhere in the world, provided they have a device and internet connection. The online format allows physically challenged students and teachers more freedom to participate in class, also allowing dynamic interaction between the instructor and students or students themselves.

Unless thoughtfully crafted, online instruction can turn students into passive observers rather than active participants, making the students feel disconnected from their instructor, as well as their peers. The internet connectivity issues also. Although these unengaged students may acquire the lecture content, they aren't able to apply their learnings outside the virtual classroom. It's important to help students engage with course material by providing them with ample flexible opportunities to reinforce course concepts which will ensure that the learning material sticks with them, even after they've completed their final assessment. It can be difficult for instructors to teach online when they struggle to gauge how students are comprehending course content, and whether they are participating in learning experiences. In my view, teacher-student interaction and body language are important 'ingredients' for an effective learning outcome, both of which are missing in online teaching."



Ms. Pooja Shetty

Ms. Pooja Shetty (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology)

"Initially, there was a bit of hesitation towards the virtual teaching sessions and it did persist until a few days of starting of online classes. Learning to use Virtual classrooms, virtual quiz, and virtual whiteboards was a puzzle now it's fun! I acknowledge the students for getting us to adapt to the new platform and themselves, being very proactive at all stages.

Earlier, the interaction was limited to college working hours only, but now any discussion is just a google meet away! With passing days, students as well as we teachers have started harnessing the advantages of online classes. It's been very helpful for me to teach programming subjects with Just-In-Time (JIT) Coding! My students are able to try out what we learn. Furthermore, online chat is an aid for introverts to communicate their thoughts.

In a physical class, teachers could gauge the level of understanding by observing the body language of students, while in online classes some students are very reciprocal, some lesser and a few don't respond at all. There are days when a task takes longer than I expect, juggling between home and professional life but of course on a heavy rainy day, I was thankful that I didn't need to get wet and travel to college. Especially for the 8:10 am lecture and find no students in the class yet!

On the other hand, I miss hanging out in

the canteen and amphitheatre with my colleagues, and especially our lunch breaks. I miss also seeing the smiling faces and finding the ones sleeping in the class and the conversations in the classroom and corridor, solving problems and developing new ideas. Had we been in college, we would have witnessed Praxis, Octaves, and Society events, we learnt in so many different ways!

At the end of the day, we cannot ascertain what may come but we can be grateful for what was. Once we return, we'll embrace what we took for granted and restart our journey with gratitude."



Ms. Sukanya Roychowdhury

Ms. Sukanya Roychowdhury (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology)

"Academia is experiencing massive reforms globally amid lockdown in COVID-19 outbreak. All faculties are grappling with new ways of managing this sudden transition to online education and the students are left clinging on to their mobile phones and computer screens. I had to make several decisions on how to ensure equitable access to all learners such as using google meet over zoom because of better functionalities. Students are utilizing online tools creatively that make our classes more personable, and also ensures that they communicate with one another in similar ways as to the classroom sessions. Thankfully, all students have access to their smartphones, with which they can access digital lecture platforms even if they come in from different time zones or cannot use a laptop. I have recorded many videos so far for my students. It was a bit awkward at first, but eventually I felt more at ease and the videos helped them have access to the lectures at the same time or at a later time.

Under normal circumstances, for mini projects, the groups identify and analyse a problem statement and would have presented the projects in front of their peers. However, now the students add voice-over PPT and the video of the project along with the online demo, attempting to impersonate the way it would have been in real time. We have converted our labs to google meet discussions, using open source software and online compilers, which is a nice way for them to learn, perform, practice and stay connected with me and peers, but nothing can replace in-lab instructions. We have a very supportive teaching community within our college and department. Lots of tips and tricks for exams, lectures and other aspects of online teaching have been circulating since the lockdown. While technology helps bridge geographical distance and keeps the learning process going, there's really no substitute for the delight of witnessing a student arrive at a new understanding of a complex

topic, sharing ideas, taking notes and walking out together, still in conversation, after class.

The biggest challenges are to stay connected with students, the instructional strategy and encouraging collaboration among all of us and receive adequate feedback. There's no playbook for moving an entire academic institute online in a week or in a month. Our success to date can be attributed to the commitment and dedication of our pedagogical experts, and of course our faculty who restructured course components using new pedagogical approaches and tools. Everyone has pulled together to make this the best experience possible for our students."



Mr. Ravi Shankar

Mr. Ravi Shankar (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science)

"Initially, when the lockdown was imposed, I didn't have a clue about online lectures or about any platform such as zoom or google meet. After the situation seemed to lurk, I spent about a week watching YouTube videos and learning various tools to conduct online lectures. I am a little tech-savvy and try to explore and learn new technologies as per my capability even though it's not within my domain. I thought I knew a lot and wouldn't face any difficulty in conducting online lectures. But in the initial days, my experience was not that great as the students used to complain about connectivity issues, voice clarity, background noise and the screen kept changing. I was a little unaware of how to tackle these issues but the students were quite supportive, patiently logged in for the lecture and some of them also guided me throughout the lecture. With due course of time, I have learned a lot about the technical aspects of online teaching. Teaching online, a subject like Mathematics is itself a great challenge. During the month of July-August, I attended a workshop about "Transition to online facilitation" jointly conducted by the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, VESIT and Department of Educational Technology, IIT Bombay. I learnt the application of synchronous and asynchronous mode of online teaching, how to communicate and collaborate with students through various online modes, involve them in a group activity, etc, which boosted my confidence. It is altogether a new experience and I feel more connected with the students one-to-one through e-mails and chats. I can listen to their individual problems and try to give solutions for them. I am able to share my notes, extra material, video lectures and some content that are beyond the syllabus yet useful for the subject with the students. Of course I do miss classroom sessions and there is no replacement for it. I miss the pleasure that I used

to see on the student's face when they solve a challenging problem in the class and the confused faces whenever I mess something up on the blackboard and they couldn't figure out the steps. I also miss the crowded noisy classrooms and laughter of the students that brighten everything up. The major issue with this online mode of teaching is that we are unable to monitor the understanding as we cannot see the student's success or failure in solving a particular problem, get immediate positive or negative feedback, encourage them or improve ourselves. Teaching is at its best in the classroom and online teaching is a supportive tool, both of which can be utilized under a hybrid learning environment."

Dr Pooja Kundu (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science)

"Online lectures have been a new and challenging experience for me. It makes me immensely happy that the students and faculty have quickly adapted to the current scenario.

I learnt new techniques from faculty development programs which polished my technical skills and I'm still learning and trying to make the class more interesting and engaging.

The content and activities need to be specifically moulded and require a lot of innovation because undivided students' attention needs to be received such that learning objectives are achieved. For instance, students are divided into groups of seven for a project or activity where they are learning and solving their problems together as a team, and simultaneously honing their interpersonal skills. The blessing in disguise is that this scenario

promotes self-learning which is integral as students are forced to think and develop their own point of view about a particular topic. It also fosters pre class preparation among students, thereby reducing spoon feeding to a huge extent.

It's difficult to teach online as our course and many activities are specifically designed for classroom sessions. Moreover, not all students have access to the best internet connection, gadgets or a quiet space at home to attend the classes. It's a little more challenging when you are a parent cum teacher, handling a toddler and simultaneously conducting online classes. One needs to make sure that the kid is occupied with work or in some activities while you are conducting your classes.

Non verbal communication plays a vital role in getting feedback from the students which is completely missing in the online scenario. I firmly believe that the concepts become more clear in face to face communication as I can observe whether students are following what has been taught or they require further explanation. Moreover they develop better social skills and professional etiquettes in traditional classroom settings and it's easier to identify who needs more attention and grooming. I really miss the chirpy wishes of my students and our incessant discussions which followed every topic taught in class."

Technology has indeed been our savior under these dire circumstances, but conducting the lectures online is much more difficult compared to the already challenging classroom sessions. All our faculty reinvented themselves to adapt to this online environment and truly lived the phrase that,



Dr. Pooja Kundu

"learning never stops", everyone has had different perspectives of the scenario, but one factor remained constant throughout the statements, their efforts.

Making PPTs, recording video lectures, conducting classes, maintaining their work-life balance are some of the things that each and every one of them are doing. Despite the endless connectivity issues, lack of non-verbal communication cues, no lab facilities, among many other such problems, our faculty have been doing their best to make sure we obtain the best possible learning. They indeed are our role models and superheroes, who continuously facilitate knowledge transfer despite all odds, to make sure their students have a bright future.

Musings And Expressions

If the Pandemic Occured 20 Years Ago

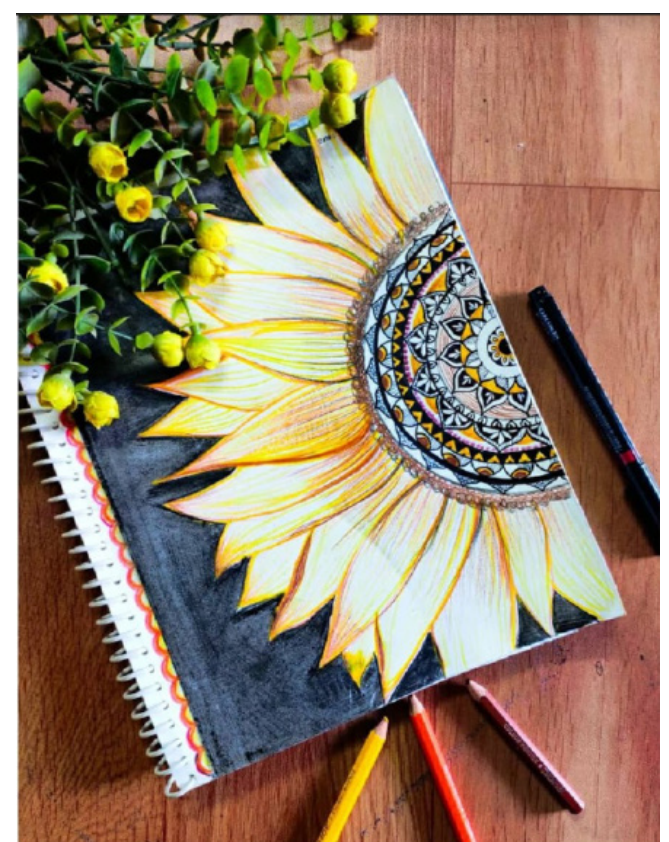
-Palak Garg (D7B)

So as usual I'm trying to sleep,
But my mind wants to do its favourite thing "overthink"
Been stuck in this pandemic for more than 6 months,
Every night thoughts come and go tonnes.
Now that the people being aware act unaware,
Makes me wanna think what if the pandemic happened 20 years ago
Back when that awareness was also rare.

There'd be children locked in houses with no entertainment,
And adults deprived of their payments.
Everyday there'd be a new city declared as red zone,
People stuck in places would have almost no way to get back home.
Employment being affected at its extreme,
And work from home was only a dream.

Death rate would increase every single day,
"Usne Go-corona havana nhi karwaya tha" people would say.
Back when there was no proper technology for treatment,
And having a computer was considered as an achievement.
No netflix or prime to binge, just thinking about this makes me wanna cringe.

Having no work to do and play all day was once a dream for all
But this pandemic had made our lives stale and foul (for death is what surrounds us all)
20 years ago it might have destroyed the whole ball
I just wish this virus was never born at all



Shruti Mishra (D12C)

Humanity

-Bhairavi Chavan (D11B)

An eight letter word,
Loud enough to be heard,
Whose meaning lies in itself,
An important quality, seen in oneself!

Acts of charity,
Any kind of help socially,
All counts for humanity,
And a great heart is the key.

A little comfort when someone is sad,
A quick hug when someone's day is bad,
A little appreciation when someone does great,
A little piece of advice when someone curses his fate.

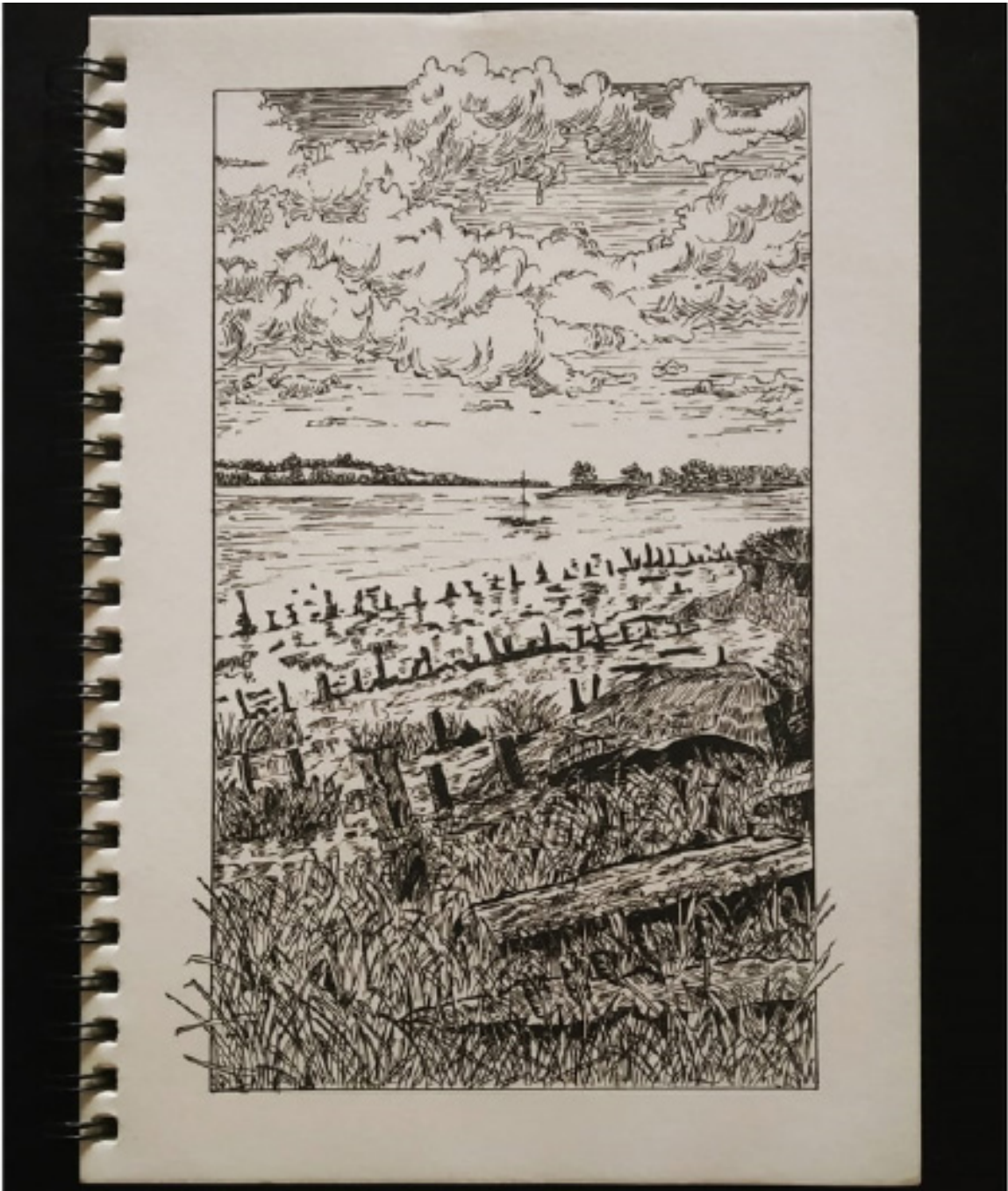
Humanity improves you personally,
Inculcates values of sheer importance,
Because those will give you an edge over others,
Many many times, not just once.

It teaches you to care,
Choosing the right and being fair,
Being inhuman will bring you nothing,
No door would open, even if you give a ring.

No need to belong to a specific caste,
No need to belong to a specific gender,
Just being human is enough,
For you at humanity to surrender.



Neeharika Nagori (D7A)



Muskaan Bhargava (D14B)

VESIT Diaries

Ms. Neha Menon is a VESIT alumnus from the Batch of 2018, Master of Computer Applications. She is currently employed as a Data Engineer at General Mills. Pvt. Ltd, in Powai. Neha Menon was also a senior reporter in the maiden team of VESIT Connect. We are now very glad to have her in conversation with us.

Q. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT?

It was amazing. I have done my BSc. IT from KJ Somaiya, which is a great college, but our course was isolated from all the other courses in the Institute, so we did not have a lot of extra-curricular and co-curricular opportunities. VESIT proved to be a complete 180 degree in terms of that. I had taken it upon myself to participate in almost all the events. VESIT Connect, however, was my first venture outside academics and I have some very fond memories of my time with the team; mostly of not submitting my articles on time, which, I am sure, was part of my charm. Through it, I met Geeta Ma'am and I am grateful for all that I have learned from her. My emails are the way they are because of her!

I also made some amazing friends and we did all sorts of "collegy" things together. We participated in the Smart India Hackathon and won. It was also my first time traveling without my family, so that was fun. Our teachers were great, and we had a lot of fun with them as well.

Q. What was the most memorable moment/time at VESIT?

Oh, man! This is difficult! Smart India Hackathon was one memorable moment. It was not only the fact that we won but also the fun that we had while building it. We had been given exemption from attending lectures for about a week to work on our project and we spent the whole week holed up in our friend's rented house working rigorously on it. Rohini ma'am had accompanied us for the event as our mentor and this experience has helped us build a lifelong relationship with her.

Another memorable moment is when we worked on the Admission Portal. We spent the whole day, from around 8 in the morning to 8 at night working on this for around 3 months; speaking to parents, resolving issues, and devouring sandwiches. We spent a lot of time with Priya ma'am, Hema ma'am, and Dattu Kaka.

Q. How was your professional life after VESIT?

I think I am using great and its variations a lot for this interview! It has been fulfilling. General Mills is a great company to work at, the culture is very casual and employee centric and the technologies

I am currently working on are very interesting. I have and am learning a lot of new things, technical and inter-personal. General Mills is also very keen on CSR and provides us wonderful opportunities to give back to the society.

Q. Can you throw some light on some activities that a student can do which will help them build their career?

What helped me the most was working hard on our college projects. You need to take it seriously and think about all that you can create. You can learn and apply new stuff and get hands-on experience. It is also a great time to innovate. Our college project took us to District and State Level competitions. It is also something that adds weight to your Resume. Along with this, it is also important that you participate in events or clubs or extra-curricular. This is a great way to boost your confidence and meet people you otherwise won't come across. If possible, also try for summer internships.

Q. How has your experience been so far working as a Data Engineer?

Rewarding! Our college education is not really focused on data while now, speaking from an industry perspective, everything is revolving around it and what insights we can gather from it. Data is something that we already have, just a matter of modeling it to best suit our needs. That is where in the Data Engineers come into the picture. When I joined as an Intern, almost everything that I worked on was new to me, but I enjoyed the work and learning process thoroughly.

Q. How did you decide to venture into the field of Data Engineering?

I don't have a great story about how I always knew I wanted to do something in data. I was open to working with any technology and General Mills had asked us to sort a few departments based on our preference and I felt Data Engineering is something new and fun. So, I opted for it. Best decision yet!

Q. What are some things that fascinated you about working in field of Data Engineering and what are some things that you did not expect?

The amount of data that is generated by even the simplest of the processes fascinated me. During our academics, database and data were just means to an end. However, the insights that Analysts gain out of it is almost magic. We can gain Consumer shopping patterns, real-time Inventory information, Spend versus Profit information. All this just from data.



Ms. Neha Menon

Q. How important is post-graduation in today's world?

I would say it is very important. You don't have to immediately do it after your graduation. You can gain some company experience and later decide on a field of focus for your Post Graduation. And you don't necessarily have to go for the full-time courses. Distance learning is also now a very good option. Getting a Post Graduate degree does improve your prospects of employment opportunities a great deal.

Q. Any tips you can give the students who want to venture into the field of Data Engineering?

Start learning Python and/or Java if you haven't already. Try to get hands-on on various cloud services like GCP, AWS, or Azure.

Q. Post COVID-19, the job situation is going to be quite scary, how do you think students who'll be graduating can cope up with that?

Currently, a lot of IT companies are hiring, so one way or the other you will get a job. My advice would be to not just wait for college placements but to try outside as well. Do not hesitate to apply for companies that you think you do not have a chance with, you might be surprised. In case you do not get placed, do not be discouraged. Spend your time learning new things while looking for opportunities. There is a lot to learn and it will just diversify your resume. There is always something to do!

Q. Message for the new generation at VESIT!

Enjoy your time in college. Don't always rush back home if you don't have any prior commitments. Socialize and meet people from outside your department. And complete your assignments and practicals on time!

"Make your life a masterpiece; imagine no limitation on what you can be, have or do."

– Brian Tracy