ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

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From the Desk of the Principal

Prof. Seema Shah

*"The secret of joy in work is contained in one word - excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it." ~ Pearl S. Buck.*The efforts of this year have yielded great results. Key inputs have been obtained and many valuable connections have been established in both academic and industry circles. This semester saw visits to a number of prestigious events and seminars. The Institute has also greatly streamlined its human resources processes so as to increase efficiency of all our staff members and focus on greater development and growth for our students.

An idea echoed through industry representatives and alumni alike is the need for our students to be able to not only match up but also stand out amongst the multitude of engineers who graduate every year. Considering the increased competition in the job market, the need had been felt to scale up the technical abilities of our students. It was to this end that a number of workshops and seminars were conducted by domain experts and industry representatives. Most of these sessions were conducted by the various professional bodies present at VIT (ACM, ITSA, CSI, CESA) and received a good response.

While the Institute has always placed a great deal of importance upon the holistic development of students, this year, we stressed upon improving our internal academic processes. I have been conducting a seminar titled, 'Paving the Path to Excellence' for our students. This initiative has been greatly welcomed by the students and they have been able to identify a number of ideas that they can implement in their lives. On the same lines I have conducted a training session titled 'Teaching Excellence' for our faculty members in order to motivate them and ensure that our students are trained in the most efficient and effective manner. The institute has in the past explored a number of avenues for digitally enabled learning and these efforts have finally paid off. The institute is now a 'Remote Centre' for IIT Bombay and is also a part of the government's 'Aakash' project. As part of the Aakash project the college has been able to set up a digital learning room where tests, conferences and seminars for engineering conducted by the IITs can be held.

Service with a smile" and "quality through discipline" are going to be our mottos through the next semester. We are confident that our endeavours through the last few semesters and the initiatives to come will take our Institute to staggering new heights. The idea that we strive to achieve 'student delight' in place of 'student satisfaction' in itself speaks volumes of our intention to wish the best for our students!

VIT Achievements

VIT students and teachers bag prizes at e-Yantra Competition at IIT-B

Vikky Patil and Ashish Pingale from BE EXTC, and Amit Banda from TE ETRX did VIT proud when their team Real Steel stood first at e-Yantra, IITB's national level competition. About 6000 participants from engineering colleges all over India registered online and from among these 500 participants were shortlisted. The participating teams were assigned different task with deadlines like Design Analysis in which they had to design system model with different sensors and actuators. The team took initiative in programming aspect of the bot, the algorithm design and testing. The complexity of gripper design and its placing on the bot was critical. Team Real Steel secured 1st Prize in Pick and Placer theme by completing the task in 1minutes 29 seconds in the finals held on 22 March. The team members would be doing internship of two months in Embedded Real Time System (ERTS) at IIT Bombay.

The team comprising Prof. Shrikant Velankar (team leader), Prof. Geetha Narayanan, Prof. Devendra Pandit and Prof. Divya Unnikrishnan bagged second spot at the e-Yantra Robot-ics Teachers Competition organized by IITB under MHRD initiative, conducted at Pillai's college on March 12. The team recorded the second lowest timing of 3 min 53 sec and qualified for Level 2 (Finals). With this remarkable victory, 5 Fire-Bird V robot vehicles (worth Rs. 1.5 lakhs) with accessories would be given as an MHRD grant to our Institute. Team members would be awarded certificates.

Vidyalankar Consultancy Services (VCS)

Vidyalankar Dnyanpeeth Trust has initiated a comprehensive platform for utilizing existing human resource talent, Vidyalankar Consultancy Services (VCS), to carry out external consultancy, external projects and MDPs for corporates. A special jumpstart to the consultancy activity has been given by sizeable orders brought in by VIT faculty - Prof. Shailendra Kelkar to the tune of Rs. 105,000 and Prof. Shrikant Velankar to the tune of Rs. 40,000.

VIT Generates University of Mumbai Toppers

BIOM Sem VIII

Ashita Mohile   5th Rank

Trupti Jain   8th Rank

Vanashree Purohit   10th Rank

INFT Sem VIII

Heena Virpuria   10th rank

Shaila Addagatla   12th rank

EXTC Sem VIII

Priyanka More   20th rank

ETRX Sem VIII

Rohit V   42nd rank

GATE Scores of VIT students

Gaurang Naik   99.4

Jitesh Poojary   99.13

Dhiraj Gavhane   99.1

Remote Center

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology is now recognized as one of the Remote Centers out of 240 Remote Centers which are a part of the National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT) supported by MHRD with our Remote Center ID being 1288.

A Two-day Workshop on "Aakash for Education" was arranged on November 10 and 11, 2012, by IIT, Bombay, in association with its 248 Remote Centers, including our center, VIT (RC ID: 1288). This workshop was arranged using the "A-VIEW" software for two-way audio-video conferencing to facilitate the delivery of Interactive Video Lectures and Contents.

A proposal for participating in the MHRD funded "e-Yantra" project for setting up of Robotics Lab has been accepted on 3 October, 2012 and now the institute is working on the same.

"AAKASH" Tablet project proposal is also approved for VIT for which the institute is now a Remote Center.

IEEExtreme Laurels

IEEExtreme was a 24-Hour Programming Competition held on 20 October 2012. VIT students Mihir Kurdekar and Yash Kalapi participated in the same and secured World Rank no 924.

Bayer Scholarship Program

Four VIT students (Rohan Dubal, Ajay Dhruv, Ajay Kulkarni and Vratika Jain) were selected for Bayer Scholarship Program. The students are among the first batch of students selected in a comprehensive process by Bayer and are now free to join any Bayer branch in the world without undergoing any other recruitment process.

Placement Laurels

71 students have been placed in TCS and 46 have landed placements in HCL. Two students have been recruited by Works Applications, a Japanese company, on an annual package of Rs. 35 lakhs.

Project Competitions

- Final Year Project Competition held at Vasantdada Patil College of Engineering **First Prize** winners: Vighnesh Aigal , Gaurang Naik, Jitesh Poojary and Pulkit Sehgal.
- VIOLA 2.0, a Final Year Project Group from VIT won the **First Prize** in a Project Competition at Fr. Agnel (Bandra) which had participants from all branches. They got 185/200 points, and won by a huge margin of 16 points compared to 2nd place and also won a cash prize of Rs.12, 000.

V-Print

V-Print, the fully automated, in-house Print Management System has been initiated at Vidyalankar Institute of Technology. A driverless mode of printing, V-Print will enable users to print with convenience after giving print commands from their computers or other devices. It is a matter of gre at pride that V-Print has been developed indigenously at VIT, after proper research, right from the conceptual to the fully functional stages by its alumnus, Arvind Narayanan and the Systems Team with the guidance of internal experts. With this unique initiative, VIT intends to facilitate the myriad printing needs of its student community and faculty with convenience of use.

Vidyalankar introduces iPad for FE Students

Marching ahead in tune with the times on its continuous drive towards excellence, on 12 February, 2013 Vidyalankar Institute of Technology became a part of the exclusive league of Institutes which have initiated a 1:1 iPad learning initiative for their students. Every First Year student in the Information Technology Department was given an Apple iPad 2 to help them bolster their academic efforts and to help galvanize a change in the way students approach their studies. iPads were distributed to a total of 64 FE students of the IT discipline, and four faculty members. A router was installed in M408 for wifi access. A brief demonstration was given to the students to demonstrate the various apps that can be used in the classroom.

Aakash Tablets for ME students

After the successful completion of project "Aakash for Education" conducted by IIT Bombay under the banner of MHRD on 10 and 11 November 2012 to implement this project practically, IIT Bombay has provided VIT with 100 Aakash Tablets. The main purpose of this distribution was to enhance the learning ability of students with improved technology as an Aakash Tablet is loaded with the latest Android operating system. Some of features of this tablet are: Cost effective, Portability, Time saving, Pdf Reader, Wi-fi connectivity, Basic latest software package, Built in Camera and External Memory.

Institute Events

VIT organizes International Conference - RACEM 2013

VIT organized an International Conference on Recent Advances and Challenges in Engineering and Management" (RACEM-2013) on January 11-12, 2013. The Conference focused on recent trends in the fields of Technology and Management. Papers were invited on four major tracks Electronics and Communication, Computers, Management and Humanities, Bio Medical and Bio Engineering. The event included various invited talks and research paper presentations on January 11 and workshops and hands-on sessions on 12 January 2013. The major objective of RACEM-2013 was to serve as an excellent forum to facilitate interaction for an intellectual exchange of ideas among academia, industry and research personnel, standard developers, and practitioners in the fields of Engineering and Management worldwide.

RACEM 2013 received more than 125 research papers on various fields like Image and Signal Processing, Advanced communications, Network security, Embedded Systems and VLSI, Biomedical instrumentation and Management from all over India. The papers were reviewed by external and internal review committees and 51 papers were selected for full paper presentation.

The function was inaugurated on 11 January by the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker Dr Subhasis Chaudhuri from IIT Bombay, Chairperson VDT, Mrs. Sanjeewani Deshpande, Principal Prof. Seema Shah, and Conveners for the conference Dr. Anjali Deshpande, Prof. Geetha Narayanan and Prof. Girish Gidaye by lighting a lamp. The ceremonial release of the conference proceedings published by Tata McGraw Hill (with ISBN 13-978-1-25-906392-3, ISBN-10:1- 25-906392-5) was also done. This was followed by the keynote address by Prof. Dr. Subhasis Chaudhuri on "Distance Education, Mobile Applications in e-learning". All session chairs and moderators gave positive feedback about the papers and the arrangements.

VIT celebrates World Radio Day

13 February has been declared as World Radio Day by UNESCO. On this occasion, VIT was privileged to learn something new about this massive medium to promote access to information and freedom of expression over the airwaves. Mr. Jayesh Banatawala was the Guest Speaker for the occasion who not only informed the audience about HAM radio but also demonstrated how to use it. He is an active HAM (VU2IVV) user for the last six years. Mr. Banatawala shared many insights on HAM lingo, Q-codes, and special activities. It was a very exciting experience to hear Mr. Banatawala talking to another HAM user from Mahalakshmi, Mumbai. The event concluded with a small presentation from VRAC (Vidyalankar Radio Astronomy Club) which gave students an overview of "Radio Astronomy" and its applications. The event saw enthusiastic participation from more than 200 students, the Director, the Principal, the HoD and faculty members of the Electronics and Telecommunication Department.

Skilling up for Mega Trends in IT – Cloud Computing, Big Data 2012

A Confluence of Academia and Industry, Skilling up for Mega Trends in IT – Cloud Computing, Big Data 2012 was an initiative hosted by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology and sponsored by EMC2. The confluence had a three-fold agenda comprising of an overview of Cloud Computing & Big Data, the increasing industry demand for the same and also initiating a consortium of institutes for sharing resources and best practices by strengthening inter-institute interaction.

The event took place on 14 September at VIT. Principals, Heads of the Computer and Information Technology Departments and faculty of ISMDR subject of various Institutes affiliated to the University of Mumbai and autonomous institutes in the Mumbai region attended this event.

Dr. G.T. Thampi, Principal, TSCE, Ex-Chairman Board of Studies presided as the Chief Guest. The other dignitaries were Mr. Manoj Chugh, Regional President of EMC, Mr. Mandar Marulkar, KPIT Cummins, Mr. Kameshwar N.V., Head IMS Processes and Talent Development, L&T. This occasion was also attended by Dr. J.W. Bakal, Chairman Board of Studies (IT), Mumbai University, Mrs. Radha Shankarmani, Head (IT) Sarder Patel Institute of Technology.

VIT Open Day

VIT Open Day was organized by the Parent Interaction Committee on Thursday 27 September. Students along with their parents attended the program. Attendees were updated about happenings at VIT and various achievements through a presentation. The Principal updated the parents on the initiatives planned to be taken up (such as Parents Module in the ERP). Examination related queries were cleared by the Exam Cell In-charge. Records and attendance related data of his/her ward was conveyed to the parents by Heads of the Departments. Around 80 parents participated in the meet. The objective of the meet was to facilitate an open communication channel to convey performance, attendance and behavioral patterns of students to their parents and to update all parents on the happenings at VIT and inform them about various achievements.

VIT Scholar's Day

Appreciation of meritorious students encourages them to perform well consistently. Scholar's Day at VIT was conducted on 25 March to felicitate the toppers of FE, SE, TE, BE, ME of all Departments and MMS in the presence of their parents, the Principal and the Heads of the Departments. Mr. Rajiv Vaishnav, VP, NASSCOM was the Chief Guest for the event. He felicitated all the toppers and appreciated them for their splendid performance and the institute for the various initiatives it has been undertaking. VIT's Parent Interaction Committee organized the event.

VIT Elite Alumni Meet

Keeping up with the philosophy of "Learn, Earn and Re-turn", Vidyalankar Institute of Technology's alumni are instrumental in enhancing the Institute's fame locally and globally. They are contributing to its legacy and have done the Institute proud through the laurels they have won in the corporate and entrepreneurial world. The Institute always eagerly awaits its alumni's 'homecoming' and affectionately welcomes them whenever they visit their alma mater. The Institute organized 'Elite' alumni Summer Meet on 21 July.

Alumni were encouraged to share their success stories, feed-back is collected from them, and their inputs are consolidated and forwarded to the concerned departments for planning and implementation. Mr. Harish Subramaniam from the 2007 batch, who is currently employed as an Associate Consultant at Calypso Technologies in Singapore, was felicitated.

Inputs from VIT Alumni

- Jaideep Patel, an alumnus 2003 batch and currently working in TCS addressed BE Computers students on the topic "Life in the IT industry" on 13 September.
- Abhinav Mishra, a VIT alumnus delivered a talk on: Expectations from Fresher's in the Corporate World, Capital Markets and Investment Banking Technology Trends and Career Options in the field of Banking and Technology.
- Vishal Chaudhari of VIT's very first batch visited the Institute. Vishal is working with UNIKEN, an organization working on Technology Innovation and Management. This visit and the subsequent inter-action and have resulted in the Institute deciding to work towards setting up a Technology Innovation hub.
- Shreyas Mangavkar, VIT alumnus from ETRX batch of 2006 has done his PGDM/MBA from IIM Indore in 2008 and has worked with ITC Ltd. as an Asst. Brand Manager for 2 years & now working with Himalaya Herbals for the last 1.5 yrs in Dubai as a Brand Manager. He has offered to help with information to anyone interested in pursuing MBA or in knowing more about the FMCG world.

VIT's annual fests April 2 - 5

From 2-5 April, Vidyalankar Institute of Technology played host to VERVE - its annual festival. For the very first time in its history, the four councils: Cultural, Technical, Literary and Sports have joined forces to make this techno-cultural extravaganza a reality. With events like Cage football, Laser tag, laser maze, Haunted house, Rokh Thok (Marathi debate), Glow kick snooker as well as main stage events like group dance competition; fashion show competition. The event included a grand performance by Paradigm Shift, a progressive rock band from Mumbai. Their music was an amalgamation of various genres of music, combining traditional Indian classical music with contemporary progressive rock themes. VERVE celebrated the rich and vibrant Marathi culture through its flagship event – Gondhal. This year Gondhal was graced by the renowned Marathi actress Mrs. Supriya Vinod (National awardee for best Marathi film 2012-2013) and Mrs. Deepali Deshpande who has represented India at the Olympics level in many rifle shooting competitions.

World on a Platter - VIT's Global Food Fest

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology organized and hosted its very first global food festival "World on a Platter" on Tuesday, 2 April 2013 from 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. It included five popular international cuisines - Japanese, Mexican, Lebanese, Thai and Italian. The food festival saw an enthusiastic participation of more than 160 guests comprising both students and faculty members. In all, 35 delectable dishes were offered to the guests. Each cuisine counter had six dishes out of which four were vegetarian and two, non-vegetarian. In addition to this there were five assorted deserts (vegetarian) and an assortment of mocktails. The overall ambience, the tastefully decorated counters with their representative ethnic touches, the guests dressed in western formal attire and the appetizing aromas wafting around were a delight to behold. For an institute that emphasizes on grooming its students to help them evolve as 'global citizens' in all aspects, it was education of a different nature - one which helped enhance awareness of global cuisine and dining etiquette in a very gratifying way. Prof. Sonaali Borkar of the First Year Applied Sciences Department along with a team of students coordinated the event.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day was ob-served on 8 March at the Vidyalankar Campus at Wadala in an event jointly organized by the Women's Development Cells of VIT, VSIT and VP. The UN theme this year is "A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women." Dr. Suma Chitnis was the Chief Guest for the occasion. Dr. Chitnis is an educationist and sociologist who has done extensive research on Sociology and Women's Studies. She has been the Vice Chancellor of SNDT University, Mumbai, besides having headed and pioneered two major research departments at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. The event was attended by the Chairperson, Mrs. Sanjeewani Deshpande, the Director Mr. Milind Tadvalkar, the Principals and the faculty members of the three institutes.

World Water Day observed at VIT

The event was held on 22 March 2013, from 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. to spread awareness about the significance of water in our day to day life. Mr. P.K. Charankar (Ex Deputy Commissioner of Water Dept. BMC) was the Chief Guest for the event. He gave information about World Water Day and its history and this year's theme 'Water-Co-ordination'. He also briefly explained the entire water purification process carried out in BMC and its significance. The Staff members and students were encouraged to ask questions which were suitably and very promptly answered. Overall, the event was very successful and students were exposed to very new ideas that would get their creative minds working. 65 participants attended the event, received a good amount of information and were highly satisfied.

Tantra Vihar

Tantra Vihar 2013 - VIT's annual B.E. Project Exhibition and Competition (April 15-18) has scaled new heights this year. The event involves display of B.E. project display and evaluation by eminent industry experts. The main objective of this event is to provide a platform for budding technocrats to present their projects, skills and innovative ideas. This enabled the Final Year students to be ready for their project vivas and the Second and Third year students got an idea of the type of projects carried out on campus.

Vidyalankar promotes teaching excellence - UIUC Training

Dr. Cheelan Bo-Linn, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Dr. Dilip Chhajed, Department of Business Administration, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, recently conducted workshops for the faculty of Vidyalankar Group of Educational Institutes to promote effective pedagogy. The workshop aimed to foster an institutional environment that values teaching excellence and helps train faculty to prepare students for the global twenty first century. In highly interactive sessions, the participants were trained to develop innovative modules and assignments to help maximize student engagement, encourage creative thinking and active learning. The training also included modules such as participants creating their Teaching Philosophy statements and portfolios, effective classroom assessment techniques, fair and accurate grading and maximizing the benefits of student teams.

Corridors to Revelation

'Corridors to Revelation' is a unique event organized by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology. It is aimed at demystifying the decision-making process of choosing a college and selecting the right branch. Held on Saturday, 30 June 2012, it not only educated students about engineering and its various aspects, but also created publicity for prospective students. The event was successful as around 180 attendees comprising students, parents and faculty members participating.

Graduation Day 2013

Graduation Day took place on 30 April 2013 at Vidyalankar Institute of Technology, Mumbai. Principals, Heads of the Departments and many Professors graced the event giving students wishes for their future. Mrs. Neha Kharad, the Sr. General Manager of Corporate Human Resources and Head, HR Delivery for the Corporate Centre of Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. was the Chief Guest. The Principal, Prof. Seema Shah gave an encouraging speech specially by revisiting the movements of achievements by the students in the last four years. She included many different awards won by students and also put focus on events like Tantra Vihar, International Conference, placements and many more. After this, Class representatives of all the classes gathered on the stage to represent oath which were taken by students at this memorable day. Students promised to continue to uphold name and fame of this esteemed Institute, our Nation and their families. In all 580 students and Principal, HOD's of all the departments and 25 other faculty members were present on the day. Everyone stood up to respect the National anthem. Students clicked photographs wearing robes and enjoyed their last day.

Paving the Path to Excellence

Prof. Seema Shah, the Principal (Actg), conducted motivational sessions on "Paving the Path to Excellence" for the students of all the semesters and branches across a span of three months. The highly interactive sessions included screenings of inspirational videos. The objective was to imbibe a drive for excellence and self-discipline in all VITians. To achieve this, students were motivated to self-align themselves with the goals of the organization, to do extensive planning, set and learn to beat targets. The tips on how to achieve optimum utilization of infrastructure and man power, time management, SWOT analysis and self improvement as a continuous process were received well by the students. A positive and proactive approach could work wonders in bringing out the best in them. The sessions generated positive feedback.

Research and Development

RACEM 2013

VIT organized an International Conference on Recent Advances and Challenges in Engineering and Management" (RACEM-2013) on January 11-12, 2013. The Conference focused on recent trends in the fields of Technology and Management. Papers were invited on four major tracks Electronics and Communication, Computers, Management and Humanities, Bio Medical and Bio Engineering.

Technical Journal

VIT brought out and published the second issue of its Technical Journal - **Applied Engineering and Technologies**, ISSN: 2278-1722.

Short Term Training Programs and Seminars at VIT

- STTP on **"Moving towards Open Source"** on 25 June – 6 July 2012 arranged by the Computer Department of VIT.
- STTP on **"Recent Innovations In Health-Care Technology"** from 18 June – 29 June 2012 arranged by Biomedical Department of VIT.
- Seminar on **Steady State Analysis Method of Industrial Electronics System** on 12 September 2012. The seminar was conducted by one of the most esteemed and highly respected personalities in the field of Electrical Engineering, **Dr.Hiromasa Haneda from Japan**.

Research Publications

VIT Faculty and students published/presented in conferences more than **50 technical research papers** and many papers got selected for publication in international and national journals. A few examples are:

- Prof. Sachin Bojewar and Prof. Varsha Bhosale presented papers on Data Extraction from Dynamic Web Pages based on virtual features, Published in IJARS, Vol I, Issue IV, July-Sept, 2012.
- Dr. Anjali Deshpande presented a paper on" Inferctian control of DC Motor using Kalman Filter" at MNNIT,Allahabad.
- Lect. Madhumita Kharat, paper published Experimental Analysis of LDA and HMM, Published in IIJDWM, Vol 2, Issue 3, August 2012.
- Prof. Seema Shah has chaired and has given an expert talk on "Grid Computing" in ICACEEE'12 on 25-27 March 2012.
- Dr. Sunil Patekar had given an expert talk and was the Session Chair in the International Conference on Advances in Computer, Electrical and Electronic Engineering.
- Prof. Suja Jaichandran presented a paper, "A Survey on the New Technology in Satellite Communication: Sky X Technology and poster Paper format on "A survey on XML Database Limitation" in International Conference at Thakur College of Engineering, Kandivli on 24th February 2012.

- Prof. Ranjana Gite and Prof. Dattatray Bade published a paper titled 'Review of AES for data security on various development platforms' in International Journal of Information and Computation technology, New Delhi.
  - Prof. Seema Shah published the Fourth Impression of "Distributed Computing" her book, at Oxford University Press India.

Research and Development Activities Committee (R&D)

Continuing Education Program (CEP) on Renewable Energy Technology at IITB to understand various sources of renewable energy, their characteristics, circuits and systems to convert these into utilization energy from 14 to 18 May 2012

Lab Development

- VIT's Lab Development Committee (LDC) visited IIT Labs on 5 March to discuss the possibilities for R & D collaboration. The team of faculty visited Nanotechnology Excellence Center to understand the various practices done in IITB before setting up of a lab, to understand the functioning of its labs and to explore the various R&D/consultancy work which can be taken up in labs.
- A computer lab has been set up at VIT with 20 Apple machines and a Lion Server
- A major number of very costly niche equipment has been purchased last year in Electronics and Telecommunication and the Electronics Departments. These include Logic Analyzer, Vector Network Analyzer, Digital Storage Oscilloscopes, Fiber Optic kits and Microwave Test bench and software like Genesys.

Laboratory Development Committee (LDC)

Visit to Industry Chritiani Sharpline at Digha, Navi Mumbai on 29 June to understand possibilities of conducting Electrical drives lab in collaboration with Sharpline and to investigate possible MoU with them.

Visit by Expert Committee and lab development convener to check the functioning of labs and to check the lab diaries

Meeting on e-yantra project arranged by IITB on 3 October 2012-attended by Prof.Shrikant Velankar, Prof.Geetha.Narayanan, Dr.Anjali Deshpande of VIT

Department Events

Dept. of Information Technology

Skilling up for Mega Trends in IT – Cloud Computing, Big Data 2012

A Confluence of Academia and Industry, Skilling up for Mega Trends in IT – Cloud Computing, Big Data 2012 was an initiative hosted by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology and sponsored by EMC2. The confluence had a three-fold agenda comprising of an overview of Cloud Computing & Big Data, the increasing industry demand for the same and also initiating a consortium of institutes for sharing resources and best practices by strengthening inter-institute interaction.

Session on "Excellence in Teaching Methodologies"

ITSA organized a session on "Excellence in Teaching Methodologies" on 27 December and the speaker for the session was Prof. Seema Shah. The objective of the session was to introduce teaching staff to a variety of teaching methods that can be implemented in class, instead of just the traditional ways of delivering a lecture. It is important that teachers learn to use a variety of teaching methodologies in order to cater to the range of learning needs and requirements that are present within most class environments. Keeping this in mind, the above session aimed to answer various questions generated by newly appointed teaching staff for improvement in teaching methods. Participants learned about a variety of teaching methodologies, which can be implemented in class.

At the end of session, the participants came to know about various concepts like Concept map, muddiest point, (immediate early feedback (IEF), simulations, paraphrasing, concept learning, 5-minute pause, engaging and motivating students, appreciation, digital learn, real-life examples etc that can be used in class to make students actively participate in the class.

LAN Gaming

The following LAN games were conducted by ITSA: Counter Strike (5 players in a team), FIFA 07 (individual) and Need For Speed Most Wanted (individual). The winners and runners up were given cash prizes worth Rs. 4000 and certificates of participation.

Information Technology Students Association (ITSA)

Gadget Guru session on Intel Solid State Drives on 22 August 2012

Elective Orientation program to make students aware of elective courses available for them.

Dept. of Computer Engineering

IV to Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai

The CSI Committee attended the Computer Society of India's 48th Annual Day at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. It was a great evening meeting which included an interactive session with renowned dignitaries like S. D. Shibulal (MD, CEO Infosys), Padmabhushan Dr. F.C. Kohli (Board Member of Tata Group) also known as "Father of Indian Software Industry", Padmashri D.B. Pathak (Prof. at IIT - Powai), Prof. PVS Rao, Dr. Nirmal Jain (Head, TATA Infotech), Prof. P.S. Mudur (Computer Deparment Head at Concordia University.

A few key points at the meet included:

- Engineering students as well as faculty should also attend various training pro-grams and workshops so that after graduation they can start their professional career as better engineers.
- Change is a must in this dynamic world.
- Committees like CSI should play key role in students' interaction with IT industry.

Updates

1. Prof. Kavita Shirsat has participated as Mentor of Team "Great Minds of VIT" in "The Great Mind Challenge-2011" an annual Nation Software Development Program by IBM.
2. Prof. Seema Shah conducted a guest lecture for BE Computer class by using latest technology tool "A-VIEW" for Distributed Systems.
3. The Advisory Panel Meeting was conducted by Mr. Abhay Potnis, Deputy general Manager, IBM for the Computer department.
4. Guest lecture for B.E. Computers was conducted by Ms. Poonam Pradhan, Software Engineer, Igate on "Life in IT industry".
5. The H o D Prof. Kavita Shirsat along with Prof. Seema Shah and Heads of other departments attend-ed a summit on: Developing Transformational Leaders for Indian Higher Education.
6. A Guest Lecture was conducted for Semester VI students on "Recent Technologies in Industry" by Mr. James Maslamani, Head, Academic Interface Programme- India West Tata Consultancy Ser-vices and Mr. Ameya Vanjari Head, IT Architecture Consulting at Tata Consultancy Services Limited on 27 February 2013
7. Guest Lecture for Sem VI students on Recent Trends in Software Testing" by Mr. Max D'Costa from Quinox on 05 February 2013.
8. Guest Lecture for VII students Mr. Jaydeep Patel Life in IT Industry.
9. A guest lecture on "Life in the IT industry" was conducted by Mr. Jaideep Patel from TCS for B.E. Computer Students.
10. Orientation for M.E. Computer Engineering syllabus for the subjects Advanced Software Testing and Parallel Computing was conducted.
11. CSI conducted a workshop on PHP.

Workshop on JOOMLA

A workshop on Web Designing using Joomla was conducted by Rohan Dubal, Neil Doshi and Bharath Bhatt of CSI VIT. It was a lively, fun filled, interactive session where people learned the basics of Web designing through a series of practical sessions, and several hands-on-sessions.

Between them, the trio spoke on XAMPP, installation, account creation, administration and database setup for Joomla. Importing and exporting of website over servers, Content Management System and creating Blogs were also dealt with.

Industrial Visit and Workshop in Microsoft, Mumbai

The workshop started in the allotted laboratory in the Microsoft Office where students were given a heads up on Microsoft, the brand, the concept of Microsoft Student Partners, Windows Phone 7, Mobile Application Development for Windows Phone 7 using 'XNA' and 'Silverlight'. Students were trained on the following topics in the IV: Hardware requirements and specifications of the W7 phone, features of the W7 phone, platforms and tools required for mobile application development on W7 phone.

Training of the students on Mobile application development for windows Phone 7 using 'Silverlight' using Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 Express took place with the help of live demonstrations. They were educated about using 'XNA' and making dynamic applications like games via. power point presentations and live demonstrations and to make applications using 'www.appmakr.com'. Students got their Windows Phone developer licenses with which they can now submit these applications on the Windows Phone Marketplace and be certified. They also came to know about the various Student programs offered by Microsoft.

Computer Engineering Students Association (CESA)

Gadget Guru session on iPhone 5 review, and on Intel Solid State Drives

Session on Floating touch technology

An interactive workshop on HTML & CSS

Computer Society of India (CSI)

Joomla CMS Workshop on 1 and 2 September 2012

PHP Workshop on 14 and 15 September 2012

Workshop on C|Eh V7 Certified Ethical Hacking Version 7 (Certified by EC Council ATC) on 6 and 7 October 2012

Seminar on Windows 7 Phone & Windows 8 Desktop App Development by Microsoft Student Partners on 17 October 2012

Industrial Visit on Windows 7 phone & Windows 8 Desktop App Development to Microsoft, Kalina, organized by CSI and Microsoft Student Partners on 20 and 21 October 2012

Dept. of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering

- Mr.Sunil Joglekar from TATA power LTD had come as the Speaker for Advisory Panel Meet on July 10
- Induction program in SE/TE/BE held on July 16 and 17.
- ME EXTC orientation was held on July 18
- ETSA had organized Gadget Guru where students presented latest topics like Blue Eyes and Free space optics on August 08
- Wikipedia Session by Wikipidian Nikita and Pratik, Mumbai Circle organized by Dr.Saurabh Mehta on August 25
- IETE committee had organized a seminar on ' How to write technical paper using LaTex software ' on August 30
- The top 5 students of each class were felicitated by the Principal and Book Bank facility was made available to them.
- Priyanka More secured the 20th rank at the University of Mumbai level in the Final Year semester end exams.

- A guest lecture on TCP/IP Protocol Suite was conducted by Mr. Alok Surve, GSM/WCDMA Core Net-work Engineer at Vodafone India on 24 September, 2012

- Gadget review sessions on various topics like Blue Eyes, Optical Communication in Space, Bluetooth Based Smart Sensors, Palladium Cryptography were conducted by ME and BE students.

- IETE has organized activities like Directing the Direct Second Year Diploma Students, Seminar and Workshop on Matlab, Meeting of IETE members and Autonomous Line follower.

- Aneesh Rangnekar, Vikas Gupta and Tanmay Ingle secured the First Prize for Technical Paper Presentation in '3D Fingerprint Recognition' at National Conference during Technical Festival 'Inception' at Bharati Vidyapeeth CoE, Belapur.

- SE EXTC Students developed kits like level indicator, Encoder Circuit, Binary to BCD converter, Seven segment Driver, ADC 0808, Load Cells, Piezo electric Crystal, Photo Transducer, Multi range Ammeter under the guidance of Dr. Gajanan Nagare

- BE EXTC students participated and won second prize in IITB Techfest and got selected in E Yantra NMRD project organized by IITB.

- Advisory Panel Meet chaired by Shri.K Sreekumar, Vice-President, L&T, on Jan 04, 2013

- EXTC faculty Prof.Vaibhav Kshirsagar conducted 1-day workshop on Advances in Microwave , at Pillai HOC, COET, Rasayani on Feb 07, 2013.

- Educational Tour to TATA communications LTD, Dighi, Pune, Satellite Earth Station of INMARSAT, of BE EXTC students, organized by Dr. Anand Tripathi , Prof. Dattatray Bade and Prof. Anuradha Joshi on Feb 08, 2013

- Expert talk by EXTC faculty, Dr. Saurabh Mehta on Feb 22, 2013 in AKTC School of Engineering on Wireless Technology.

- Guest Lecture by Mr. Mohammad Salahuddin on 'ARM Cortex M3' for TE EXTC students on Feb 20,2013

Electronics and Telecommunication Students Association (ETSA)

- Seminar on 'How to write a Technical Paper by Dr. Anjali Deshpande on 31 July 2012
- Gadget Guru session on Free Space Optics and Blue Eye by Prof. Prathamesh Mestry and Prof. Prathamesh Indulkar on 8 August 2012.
- Seminar on "How to write a Technical Paper using LaTex software" on 30 August 2012 by Prof. Prathamesh Mestry
- Exhibition to showcase various technical projects
- Gadget Guru on Tracking and Positioning of Cell phone on 12 September 2012

Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering (IETE)

- Orienting the direct Second Year Diploma Students.
- Seminar and Workshop on Matlab on 21 September 2012

Dept. of Electronics Engineering

PCB Designing and Fabrication Workshop

A one day PCB Designing and Fabrication Workshop was conducted by Prof. Amaya Pethe and Prof. Mandar Chavan. This workshop was exclusively conducted for the S.E students of the ETRX and EXTC Departments. The PCB workshop will help the students to apply the concepts of Electronics to real world applications to make life simpler.

Webinar by Alumnus

On 4 September an interactive webinar via Skype on the Effective Pursuit of Higher Education was held by Ameya Mulye, a VIT alumnus who is currently pursuing his M.S in Electronics, Electrical and Computer Engineering from Boston, Massachusetts. The main idea behind the webinar was to motivate and answer the queries of VIT students aspiring to pursue higher studies in a direct audio-video teleconference.

Guest Lecture on Industrial Applications of Control Systems and Drives

A guest lecture was conducted by Mr. R. G. Rane, Joint GM, L&T Automation and Control, on 23 August. The idea behind the lecture was to make the students aware about the importance of the subject from the industry perspective and understand how industrial control systems are designed.

IEEE Guest Lecture

The guest lecture on Steady State Analysis Methods in Industrial Electronics was conducted by Dr. Hiromasa Haneda on 12 September. The objective of this lecture was to make students understand the basics of steady state analysis and transient analysis of circuits and the Structure, Modeling and Analysis and Digital Simulation Methods IES.

IV to GMRT

On 28 February VIT's SE Electronics students were accompanied by four faculty members on an educational visit to the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA). Located approximately 80 km north of Pune, it is the largest Radio Telescope operating at low radio frequencies. NCRA also provides exciting opportunities and challenges in engineering fields such as Analog and Digital Electronics, Signal Processing, Antenna Design, Communication and Software Development. The event was organized to make the students aware of national level projects done by Govt. of India in association with Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR). Later, the students attended a talk by Mr. Pramod Kale, Director, VLSI center, Electronic Science Department, University of Pune, on the topic – 'Science in Bicycles'. This was followed by a movie screening showcasing 'Albert Einstein's concept of space and time.'

Training Session on Control System Kits

A training session was organized by Prof. Uma Jaishankar and Prof. Jayen Modi to familiarize the faculty and technical assistants about the new trainer kits and measuring equipments purchased for the lab so that effective utilization of the equipment will be done. This will also update the knowledge of the technical staff about the new training aids available. Mr. Prashant Kendre, Customer Support Engineer, Scientific, demonstrated test and measuring equipments like CRO, Function Generator, Single Power supply and Dual Power Supply. The lab assistants attended the same as it would help them to maintain the lab and equipment in a proper manner.

Guest Lecture

A Guest Lecture on 'Ways to convert projects to monetary products' was conducted for BE students by Mr. Aslam Moolji, founder of Arshad Electronics, on 8 February.

IV to L&T, Powai

An IV to L&T, Powai was conducted on 13 February 2013. The attendees were 11 TE ETRX,EXTC students and Prof. Geetha Narayanan. The motive behind the trip was to start the industrial internship/BE pro-jects with L&T Powai so that we can improve the quality of BE projects by including the industry requirements.

E-Yantra Project

An E-yantra project was arranged by IITB on 3 October 2012 and was attended by Prof. Shrikant Velankar, Prof. Geetha Narayanan and Dr. Anjali Deshpande. The objectives of this activity were to enable Embedded Systems and Robotics in engineering colleges across India, to encourage students to do innovative robotic projects, to improve the quality of final year project so that they learn various aspects of Engineering in the process of doing the project and to impart research culture in the Institute by way of interest generated in projects and motivation gathered due to hands on experience.

Prof Kavi Arya, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IITB elaborated on the e-yantra project funded by MHRD and explained the steps to be a part of the project.

Faculty attend ICEE 2012

Prof. Shraddha Kadam, Prof. Anuradha Joshi, Ms. Sonam Dalvi, and Ms. Pallavi Gawand attended an International Conference on Emerging Electronics, ICEE 2012 was conducted at IIT, Mumbai. The objective of this conference was to get introduced to different technologies and be aware about the various Electronic equipment and resources that faculty and lab assistants can use for laboratory work. The theme of the conference was 'Emerging Electronics & the More than Moore Era'.

Electronics Engineering Students Association (EESA)

- Gadget Guru session on "CURIOSITY": the recently deployed Mars exploration rover by Mandar Chavan, "Roll Top" which was a highly compact multipurpose gadget - by Brijesh Singh, "Parallax Barrier" and smart phones using cutting edge technologies by Raj Chauhan on 22 August, 2012
- Gadget Guru session on Sixth Sense Technology was given by Harsha Ambardekar and Gaurav Ketkar on 3 October, 2012
- PCB Workshop by Mandar Chavan on 8 September, 2012
- "Webinar with Alumnus - Ameya Mulye" to involve current students aspiring to pursue higher studies abroad - on 4 September, 2012

Dept. of Biomedical Engineering

Visit to KEM Hospital

A visit at the KEM hospital was conducted for the SE Biomedical students in the subject "Human Anatomy and Physiology" on 22 and 23 August at the Physiology Department. The visit was arranged to help the students to understand the various human systems, by viewing them practically with the entire system explained in the lectures taken by expert doctors working in KEM hospital. Feedback was taken from the students who rated the event as a very informative and helpful one.

Toppers Felicitation Program

The toppers of the Second, Third and Final year Biomedical Engg. and the subject toppers were felicitated in this program conducted on 28 August. Ashita Mohile secured the 5th rank in the Mumbai University (BE) Final Year exams.

Gadget Guru

Two Gadget Guru sessions were held by the Dept. in this quarter; the first one was by Prof. Prathamesh Mistry on "Free Space Optics" and Prof. Prathamesh Indulkar on " Blue Eyes" on 8th August. The second talk was by Ninad Vadujkar (BMSA Member) on "Biosensors" and Pawan Rao (BMSA Member) on "Image Processing" on 5th September. Both the sessions were well-attended by students and faculty members.

Gadget Guru was conducted twice in the even semester by the BMSA committee. The first Gadget Guru on 6th February 2013 was conducted by Sanika Suvarnapathaki from SE Biomedical on "Arcadis Avantic Machine" and Nikhil Goregaonkar from SE Biomedical on "Shenu Hydraulic System". The second Gadget Guru was con-ducted on 6th March 2013 by Gauri Tambe from SE Biomedical on "OPAD" and Dattaraj Sansgiri.

Guest Lectures

- A seminar on "Career Advancements in Biomedical Engineering" was organized by BMSA Commit-tee for the TE and BE Biomedical students on 23 January 2013. The seminar was given by Ms. Renuka Sharma from Yogi Kripa Medi Chem., who is a Biomedical Department alumna of VIT.
- A lecture on "Hospital Management and Servicing" was organized by the BMSA Committee for the Second Year Biomedical students. The lecture was conducted by Ms. Pooja Mazoomdar, a service engineer at Pinnacle Biomedical Pvt. Ltd.. She presented on how working in hospitals can be a good career option for the budding biomedical engineers. The students got well acquainted with the job pro-file of biomedical engineers required in a hospital.
- A guest lecture was conducted for the final year Biomedical students on IntelliSuite Software Demon-stration and Introduction to MEMS on 18 February 2013. The lecture was given by Mr. Sripadaraja K., Product Manager at SriDutt Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru.
- A guest lecture was conducted for the final year Biomedical students on Intellectual Property Rights and Patents on 8 March 2013. The lecture was given by Mr. Darius Dalal, currently a partner at Ms. Jehangir Gulabbhai Bilimorial and Daruwalla.

Advisory Panel Meet

An Advisory panel meet was conducted on 10 July. Mr. Nitin Kale from Nano Sniff Technology was invited to give inputs for the development and growth of the Department. Mr. Kale mainly put forth the idea of purchasing few more resources in the subject of Human Anatomy and Physiology. He suggested improving the utilization of practical slots which would be beneficial to the students.

Updates

A visit to All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Centre (AIIPMRC) was conducted for the SE Biomedical students in the subject Biomaterials. This visit was held on 11 October at AIIP-MRC. Dr. C.S. Indulkar, Head of the Prothesis and Orthosis Department guided the students in the visit. She explained the importance of Biomaterials in this field and also the scope of advancements that can be included. This visit explored on the biomaterials that are incorporated in the prosthesis and orthosis.

Prof. Anjali Deshpande, Prof. Suvarna Udgire, Prof. Girish Gidiye, Prof. Geetha Narayanan and Prof. Gajanan Nagare visited L&T in October. The main purpose was to discover the various projects in L&T which will be helpful to the students and also to find contacts in order to provide internships to the students.

An exhibition on Biomedical Instruments was conducted for SE and TE Biomedical students under BMSA (Biomedical Students Association). This event exhibited the Biomedical equipment that are available in the college for the SE and TE Biomedical students in order to get a basic review of the equipment. The exhibition was held in Laboratory 4 at VIT. The event was a great success and obtained very good feedback from the SE Biomedical students.

The Final Year Biomedical student's project review was held in October 2012. The review included a presentation by the students on the work done till date, the respective guides and the other professors gave their views on the project and also the advancements that can be incorporated in the project.

Bio-Medical Engineering Students' Association (BMSA)

The Gadget Guru sessions helped in updating the participants of the new trends in technology.

- Free Space Optics and Blue Eye by Prof. Prathamesh Mestry and Prof. Prathamesh Indulkar on 8 August 2012.
- Biosensors and Application of Image Processing by Ninad Vadujkar and Pawan Rao on 5 September 2012
- Zigbee technology and "Wavelet Transformation" by Sushma Patel and Snehal Suryawanshi on 3 October 2102

Seminar on 'How to Write a Technical Paper' on 31 July 2012

Seminar on Biomedical Instrumentation & Scope of Biomedical Engineering by Prof. Anjali Deshpande on 11 November 2012

Technical Exhibition on Biomedical Instruments by Prof. Siddhi Sawant on 11 September 2012

Dept. of First Year Engineering

iPad Initiation Session for FE Faculty

Members of the Faculty were trained in using the iPads for education. This was done because it was recognized that the onus of the success of the project rests on their support and their encouragement to students to correctly utilise use their iPads for academic purposes. On 30 January, a session was organized to introduce and orient FE faculty on how they can use iPad efficiently in their lectures. This activity created awareness for implementing latest technology in teaching among the teachers. The speakers for the session were the Director Mr. Milind Tadvalkar, Prof. Mayur Gondhalekar and Prof. Aman Mahadeshwar. 34 FE faculty members attended the session.

Dale Carnegie Training for FE students

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology organized the internationally acclaimed Dale Carnegie Training for all First Year Engineering students. Conducted on January 10 & 11, 14 & 15, 17 & 18 and 24 & 25, the sessions focused on boosting self-confidence, developing soft skills and tips for success in professional life. The objective was to organize a productive training session for students which would help them to develop soft skills and achieve success in their future endeavours. The students were highly motivated by the session. The session boosted their self confidence and helped them in developing their soft skills. It reduced their stage fear and helped them to communicate better. The session proved to be a super hit among them! Training completion certificates were distributed later to all the participants.

Orientation Program for First Year

The Orientation Program for each of the eight divisions of First Year Engg. was conducted on different days from 7-17 August. Each session saw the Principal, the FE In charge, the Head of the Department of the respective branch, the Placement Officer, the Security Officer, the Exam Cell In Charge, the Anti-ragging Cell In Charge, student toppers and hostel students address the new VIT entrants and their parents. The new students were briefed about the institutional policies and the exam pattern along with the placement procedure. They were also introduced to V-Live and the V-Print system.

Orientation Program on the revised syllabus of CS for FE (Sem II)

This event was organized by VIT on behalf of the University of Mumbai on 12 September. The event saw 73 participants from across all engineering colleges from the city and its suburbs. The Convener and other members of the Syllabus Committee, addressed the audience on the revisions. The objective of the event was to orient faculty teaching Communication Skills from across various engineering colleges, affiliated to the University of Mumbai to the revisions in the syllabus, the new question paper pattern and the revised marking scheme so as to ensure uniformity in the teaching/evaluating process of the subject.

Guest Seminar on "Engineering: A Way of Life"

The FE Department had organized a seminar on Engineering: A Way of Life on August 2. The Speaker on this occasion was Prof. Satish Desai. The FE students found the session to be a very productive which would definitely help them in their future endeavors.

Felicitation and Prize Distribution of the Toppers

FE Semester 2 results of the examination conducted in May/June 2012 were recently declared. The FE Department had organized Felicitation and Prize Distribution for the Toppers of First Year Engineering Department for the Academic Year 2011-12. The In-charge of the FE Department and faculty members were invited to give away the prizes on 21 August.

OHU Forum

If the transition from junior college to degree college is difficult for some students, it is more so for students who belong to "Other from Home University" (OHU). To reside in a city which is alien to them, to find reasonably priced accommodation, to make arrangements for food and to adjust to situations away from the comforts of home make it very challenging for them. Taking into consideration the possible hardships they may face and to help solve them as much as possible, VIT has come up with a unique support forum - the OHU Forum. The Forum identifies and lists out all OHU students from across all the four years. Then, a Committee comprising Second, Third and Final Year OHU students is formed. Meetings are conducted with OHU students across the college. Personal details of all OHU students through a form are collected. If necessary, arrangements are made for professional counseling facilities to be provided to OHU students to keep them motivated. Regular interaction with successful OHU students helps First Year OHU students to accept the situation in a mature manner. Efforts are put in to solve accommodation and food problems of OHU students. The parents of such students are also kept in the loop with updates on how the students are adjusting in a new environment.

Dept. of Management Studies

The 'Harvard Edge' at VIT MMS

The MMS students of VIT have adopted the Harvard methodology of discussing case studies, a participant-centered method wherein students are engaged in a challenging and interactive learning environment. The questions asked during the discussion generated energetic (but courteous) debates. The group really pried the case open, created an agenda for further studies, and developed a strategy for addressing its own questions. The fresh approach provided them with a weeklong immersion into case study-focused learning of the best Harvard case studies. Students spent 12 – 15 hours preparing for the individual case by perusing and analyzing real-life case studies. The sessions were guided by seasoned professors including

the Head of the Department, Dr. Ankush Sharma, Ms. Smita Mukherjee and Ms. Radhika Joshi who helped students gain critical insights and analytical skills. Moreover, to foster the group learning experience, students were required to make PowerPoint presentations along with a word document. The entire exercise not only led to terrific brainstorming but also broadened their avenues of thinking. The Harvard program epitomizes the true peer networking experience in an environment that fosters real and robust business growth.
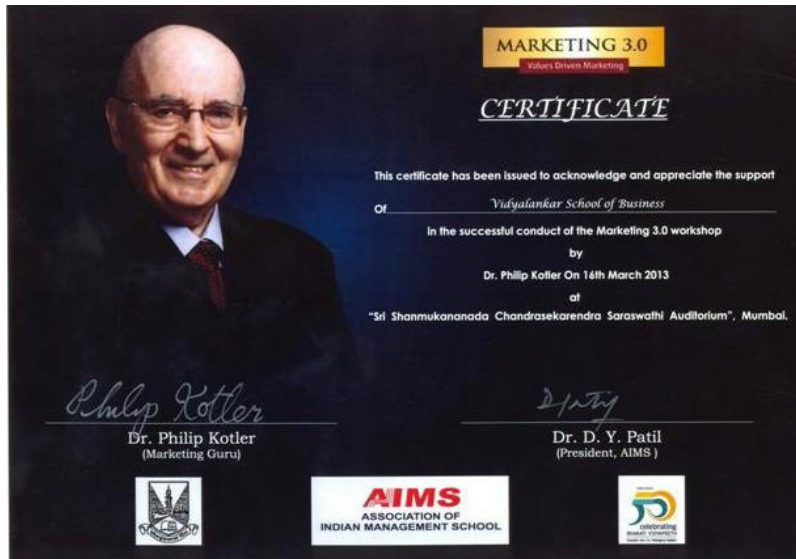
Commonwealth-Asia Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs- (CAAYE)

Delegates from London, Bangladesh and Pakistan visited VIT to attend the Entrepreneurship Development Workshop organized by Dr. Amit Rangnekar and Mr. Raghunath Medge (President of Dabbawala Association). It was indeed a privilege of the MMS Department to organize the entire workshop. This workshop was a step forward in globalization and would facilitate entering into alliances with our neighboring countries.

Tryst with Dr. Philip Kotler

Vidyalankar School of Business (VSB) is the Business Management Department of Vidyalankar Institute of Technology. VSB recognizes that management education needs to evolve constantly, as businesses too have to, in keeping with the trends and economic dictates of the times. The internationally acclaimed Marketing Guru Dr. Philip Kotler was invited by the University of Mumbai, in collaboration with AIMS (Association of Indian Management Schools) and several other eminent B-Schools, including Vidyalankar School of Business, to enlighten students in a live seminar about the changing trends in marketing and introduce a new concept of 'Value Driven Marketing'. VSB was privileged to be a part of this premier workshop.

VISAGE—VIT MMS Annual Management Fest

VIT organized its annual management fest ViSAGE on 8 and 9 March. Visage saw active participation from various colleges, and had a plethora of events such as management quizzes, Ad mad games, Business Plan, Phoenix and Box Cricket to name a few. Renuka Joshi, anchor at IBN Lokmat, was the guest of honor and part of the opening ceremony for ViSAGE 2013. The second day saw prizes being distributed and Visage was concluded with a rocking jam session.

Updates

- A number of Guest Lectures were conducted by the MMS Department. Gagan Sharma has conducted a guest lecture on Human Resource Management, Mr. T.R. Doongaji conducted

lectures on Corporate Governance, Mr. Girish Karandikar conducted lectures on ISO Certification, Mr. Ravi Nathani conducted lectures on Financial Markets, Mr. Raghunath Medge (President of Dabbawala Association) conducted lectures on Dabbawala's supply chain management.

- A total of 30 activities were carried out upto mid-term.
- Hindustan Pencil, Jaro Education, L&T InfoTech have hired our students in campus recruitment.
- Harvard Business cases were discussed and a debate on FDI was conducted for First Year students.
- Ace, an initiative by the marketing forum team was inaugurated by the Principal.

MMS Students Association (MMSSA)

Guest Lecture by Mr. Bawa on 26 September 2012

Guest Lecture by Mr. Hebbar on 19 September 2012

Ice Breaker Activity on 13 September 2012 to help First Year MMS students to get to know each other better

TOPSIM, a business simulation exercise

Student Council Activities

Student Council 2012-13

The Student Council 2012-13 was formed after in a transparent and impartial process. The **Investiture Ceremony** took place on August 23 to officially induct the new Council into office for the current academic year. The new council secretaries and the student chapter representatives spoke about their spoke about their mission, vision and committee goals. They all pledged to put in their best efforts. The Principal addressed the Council on how they can take VIT to greater heights.

Harsha Ambardekar	General Secretary		TE ETRX
Pratik Sarvaiya	Joint	General Secretary	TE IT 1
Gaurav Ketkar	Cultural Secretary		TE ETRX
Sunkist Mehta	Joint	Cultural Secretary	TE EXTC 2

Nafisa Jassani	Literary Secretary	TE IT 1
Kaveri Gupta	Joint Literary Secretary	TE CMPN 1
Mrinal Jain	Sports Secretary	TE IT 1
Somesh Pathak	Joint Sports Secretary	SE BIOMED
Shraddha Rao	Technical Secretary	TE IT 1
Pratik Damania	Joint Technical Secretary	TE ETRX
Saurabh Menon	Sponsorship Head	TE EXTC 1
Chinmay Upasani	Publicity Head	TE EXTC
Abhishek Potnis	Accounts Head	TE CMPN 1

Student Activity Committee

Auditions - to identify in the beginning of the year the talented students in various fields in order to further train, polish their skills and encourage them to participate in various inter/intra collegiate competitions from 26 September to 1 October 2012.

- Fashion show Audition to provide a platform to students to showcase their fashion talents.

- Music Auditions to search for music talent in VIT through a systematic process. Out of 40 contestants, the 12 most talented were carefully chosen.
- Dance Auditions to select talented dancers for the VIT dance team who would represent the college for various dance competitions.
- Drama Auditions to select members for the drama group of our college.
- Compering/Hosting Auditions to find the best hosting talent amongst VITians.12 students were selected to form the VIT Hosting Team
- Ganapati Painting Competition provided a platform to talented artists to exhibit their creativity.

Dandiya & Garba Celebrations on October 19, 2012 to encourage people for social gatherings and knowing the different cultures of India and their attributes. The much-awaited event witnessed more than 260 participants. Dandiya and garba went on simultaneously and everyone enjoyed playing together along with the staff members. The highlight was when a huge circle of nearly 50-60 people playing dandiya/garba together was created.

Copenhagen Movie Screening on 21 and 24 September 2012 to enlighten students as well as staff about the details of the German atomic bomb program during World War II. The Literary Council organized "Copenhagen" Movie Screening to enlighten the viewers about the details of the German atomic bomb program during the World War II. Mrs. Sanjeewani Deshpande (Chairperson of VDT) and Dr. Patekar (Principal of VIT) introduced the history and the background of the movie. It was followed by a talk by Prof. Ameya Nyayadhish on Quantum Physics.

Freshers Party on October 13, 2012 brought the week long activities for welcoming the Fresher's to the VIT family to an epic conclusion with a party. VIT's Student Council in association with Friday Paathshala organized a Freshers Party on Friday, 12 October on the campus football ground. Celebrated on a grand scale, it brought the week-long activities for welcoming the First Years to the VIT family to an epic conclusion. The event saw more than 600 enthusiastic students cheering on their peers and having a gala time!

The event saw contemporary dance and band performances, Hip Hop & Bollywood Mix Dance, Lyrical Hiphop Dance and Musical Interaction with the Freshers. The four Councils were introduced to the Freshers.

This party had many firsts to its credit:

- It was the first ever Freshers Party in VIT to be organized by the entire Student Council (instead of just the Cultural Council)
- Live streaming of the entire event was organized for the first time.
- The end of the event saw the finale of the much-anticipated Mr. Fresher and Ms. Fresher and the winners were:
- Saurabh Pandirkar from the Biomedical branch was crowned Mr. Fresher
- Krishna Khamankar from the Computer branch was crowned Ms. Fresher
- The best class award went to class Electronics – 1

Just Jam on 7 September to provide a platform to talented musicians to showcase their talent in front of the college and **Painting Competition** on 18 and 19 September to provide a platform to talented artists to showcase their talent in front of the college.

Talent Hunt for Mr and Ms Fresher of VIT on September 13 to provide the Freshers with a good platform to show their talent in various fields

Effervescence on 8 October- Fun events for the First Years for them to interact with each other and to improve the vocabulary of the students.

Hindi Divas on 14 September to inculcate knowledge about the culture and tradition and diverse Hindi literature. The event saw Hindi 'Hasya-Kavita', a skit and song renditions. The event saw around 300 attendees. The Literary Council organized a Hindi Elocution Competition on Sep 11.

Face-Off on 3, 4 and 5 October to understand and communicate various forms of argument effectively in a variety of contexts and to develop the ability to analyze controversies, select and evaluate evidence, construct and refute arguments. More than a hundred participants actively honed their debating skills in the event. The event helped to instill in students an ability to stand for a point they believed in. Prof. Aman Mahadeshwar, Prof. Kirti Meshram, Prof. Nikita and Prof. Meenakshi Nandula were the judges for the event.

Marathi Bhasha Diwas

Marathi Bhasha Diwas is celebrated every year to commemorate the birthday of the legendary poet and Dnyanpeeth Awardee V.V. Shirwadkar, popularly known as Kusumagraj. The idea behind observing this day is to create awareness and pride about Marathi culture and its roots, apart from encouraging research

and development of the language. VIT celebrated Marathi Bhasha Diwas on Friday, 1 March. It was a colorful evening which saw the institute celebrating Marathi language with musical performances, play and dance performances by the students and staff dressed in traditional Maharashtrian attire.

Traditional Day

India is one of the most diverse countries in the world when it comes to culture and religions. Traditional Day is observed as a celebration of India's diverse culture and rich heritage. VIT's Traditional Day was celebrated on Friday 22 February. The event saw a series of cultural performances by the students and staff of VIT dressed in colorful traditional Indian attire.

Model Parliament

An inter Collegiate Event- Model Parliament (also referred to as a Mock Parliament) is a simulation of the parliamentary proceedings of a legislature or other deliberative assembly. Organized on 9 February 2103 by VIT's Literary Council, the Mock Parliament saw enthusiastic participation. The objective of the event was to showcase it as an educational tool to promote understanding on the working of government.

V-Lympics on 10 October - a sports day during the fresher's week so that the interaction between fresher's – fresher's and fresher's – seniors increases

Inter-class sports events from 8-19 October

Events for Fresher's week celebration (Tech-charades & V-hunt) to build up social skills along with technical skills and to induce understanding between classmates on 9 October

Documentary Screening-Birth of the Solar System on 1 October

Engineer's Day – Poster Making Competition on 15 September

Committee Activities

Committee activities in this semester started from July 2012. The activity calendars are prepared centrally in order to streamline activities of different committees by avoiding duplication of activities. The goals, scopes and activities calendars of all committees are uploaded on Vidyalankar Live, so that the readership and interest in committee activities grow in the campus.

The overall performance of the committee working is found encouraging. The Department Committees are doing good and relevant programmes such as "Gadget Guru".

Career Counseling Committee

Visit to industry - Chritiani Sharpline at Digha, Navi Mumbai on 29 June 2102

Seminar conducted on PG Courses after B.E. on 26 July 2012

Seminar conducted on 'Exploring opportunities for further education in USA' by KIC university assist to introduce the different educational career prospects in the U.S. universities, on 28 September 2102

Entrepreneurship Development Activity Committee (EDC)

Entrepreneurship discussion with engineering students

Lecture on entrepreneurship

Screening of the movie 'The Pursuit of Happiness' on 12 October 2102

Final Year Projects Quality Assurance Committee (FYPQA)

Interim Presentation was conducted to ensure that the research for of final year specialization projects is proceeding in right direction and suggest the appropriate guidelines to students.

Industry Institute Interaction Committee (IIIC)

- Display of MOU on 13 September 2012
- Preparation of database of Industry contacts on 20 September 2012
- An Industrial Visit to the All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Center on 11 October 2012
- In coordination with R & D Committee, to carry out joint research projects with industry and to review the projects done by final year students.
- Sessions on Communication & Presentation skills to selected students of First Year MMS

- Teacher's Day Celebrations at MMS

Food and Beverages Committee (FBC)

Canteen Inspection to keep a check on hygiene in the canteen

Meeting with Consultants and Other Cafeterias

Packed Lunch

Training for Cafeteria Serving Staff

Look into the installation of more vending machines and crockery and LCD televisions for the cafeteria

Hobby Clubs Committee

"India's costly corruption culture"- a book discussion on "What young India wants" by Chetan Bhagat on 23 July 2012

Tune-takshari on 31 August 2012

'Step up' to promote impromptu dancing on 17 and 19 September 2012

Trek to Visapur Fort.

V-Debate on 10 and 12 September 2012

Movie Screening-"Hugo" (English) on 3 September 2012

Women Development Committee (WDC)

Group discussion on Anti ragging issue

Anti-Ragging and Discipline Committee

Drive to inculcate code of conduct and to increase awareness of the existence of ARC on our campus on 6 August.

Drive for wearing of identity cards on the college campus and to increase awareness about the existence of ARC on our campus on 20 August

Circulation of ARC undertaking form as per the rule of the Mumbai University on 4 September

Parent Interaction Committee (PIC)

Meeting on 3 September to standardize communication with parents and counseling sessions on dealing with failures and provide common moral support to wards.

Meeting on 6 August with Students who need to repeat a year to inform students about important exam related dates such as Form Filling, revaluation, re-verification etc. and on additional courses which students can take up

Database of students and their parents for ensuring open communication channel for conveying information such as performance, attendance and behavioural patterns of students regularly to their parents

FE Induction Program to convey important information to all F.E. students and their Parents about VIT.

Open Day on 27 September to ensure open communication channel to convey performance, attendance and behavioural patterns of students to the parents and to update all the parents on happenings at VIT and inform them about various achievements.

Scholar's Day on 3 and 23 August to felicitate the toppers of in the presence of their parents.

Other updates

Placement Updates

Campus Placements are in full swing for 2012-13. 71 students have been placed in TCS and 46 have landed placements in HCL. 2 students have been selected by Works Applications, a Japanese company, and an annual package of Rs. 35 lakhs has been offered to them.

Pre-placement training was organized for the 2014 passing batch. Two rounds of aptitude tests were conducted. Also mock GD and mock HR sessions were organized.

- 15 students have been selected by Accenture in the Pool & off campus conducted in Mumbai. Students joined the company just 2 days after they were selected.
- Five students are doing intern-ship in Deloitte for six months.
- The Principal and TPO visited Ashida Electronics, TCS and Deloitte.
- Mr. James Maslamani, Aca-demic Relationship Manager, India, West conducted a session at VIT for TCS selected students. He spoke on Industry expectations, TCS and the tasks to be completed before they join for ILP (initial learning process) in the company.

Placement Committee

Dale Carnegie training on 1, 2, 3 August to train students to be ready for campus placements, to face HR interviews, Group Discussion, CV formatting.

HR and pre-placement talks by TCS, Works Applications Co. Ltd., Barclays, to inform students about their company, the placement procedure, preparation etc

Library Updates

VIT Library is where one can avail good quality books. The purchases are made as per the recommendations put forward by the faculty and students. To increase the usage of the library, some initiatives have been taken and there was a good response for essay writing for FE students, book reviews by staff members and MMS students, feedback regarding journals and magazines, publicizing the new arrival of books on V-Live

The usage of IEEE papers is so high that there is a waiting list of students.

EBSCO is an E- journal for MMS students and most of the students make use of it for their project work.

Faculty members were asked to recommend reference books, magazines and journals like IEEE, JGATE and EBESCO to meet the requirements as per the new syllabus. A total of around 1500 volumes, subscription of journals have been purchased, incurring an expenditure of around Rs. 8 lakhs. New arrivals of books are regularly posted on V-Live, the internal portal. Topper students were felicitated and given books as per their syllabus.

Some recently added books in the library: **Quantitative Aptitude** by R.S. Agarwal (for helping students in placements), **Who killed Change** by Blanchard, **E-Business** by Cenzar-ME-IT, **Hibernate** by Shah, **Struts** by Shah, and **Silicon VLSI Technology** by Plummer.

Library Committee

Book Display from 16-20 July to acquaint students with different texts and reference books pertaining to their syllabus

Book Bank Scheme on 3 August to distribute the books to toppers.

Book Exhibition on 4 and 5 September to acquaint students with different text and reference books available in the market.

Guest Lectures at VIT

- Guest Lecture on "Security in Network Design" by Mr. Sameer Ratolikar, Global Chief Information Secu-rity Officer & Head-Business Continuity at Bank of India for First Year ME Students on 22 October 2012. He spoke to students about the importance of security, how to secure networks, current trends and research.
- Guest Lecture by Mr. Anand Paralkar on "COA trends and applications in the industry" for second year students on 9 October 2012
- Dr. Deepak Patkar from Nanavati Hospital gave a lecture on M R Spectroscopy at VIT on 5 October 2012.
- Mr. Sagar Apte from Kohinoor Hospital gave a lecture on installation, maintenance and servicing of Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Cathlab Modalities at VIT on 3 October 2012.
- A guest lecture on "Usability Engineering" by Mr. Swapnil Tambe, Project Manager, iGate, Mr. Ashish, Igate, Ms. Poonam Pradhan was conducted on 7 November 2012 to benefit MEIT students. The session was informative on the future and current trends of Usability Engineering.

HR Updates

- Attached is a list of **"Employee of the Week"** awards that VIT has given away. For earning that award, an employee should necessarily have been very diligent, and should have performed above allotted standards. Ms. Sangita Kambli (July 7), Prof. Meenakshi Nandula (14 July), Mr. Sunil Thube (21 July), Prof. Deepali Vora (28 July), Prof. D Motwani (02 August), Mr. Rahul Tadwalkar (13 August)

- Arrangements have been made to provide brand new uniforms for the entire non teaching staff. The Dept. has also initiated an activity wherein it has identified titles of "Miss Congeniality" and "Mr. Awesome". This is for non-teaching staff; those who are well groomed and wear the uniform regularly, as well as display good manners. They will also be put through a round of questions from an elite panel, who will ultimately select the winner.

- Professor Suryanarayanan has joined us in the capacity of Dean Corporate Relations. He brings with him a rich experience of 39 years. Of this, he has spent 22 years in project financing /appraisal /follow up and allied areas in Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI). In his concluding years with the finance industry, he held the position of Chief General Manager for more than 4 years when he headed IDBI's South Zonal Office and Infrastructural Finance Department. He thereafter too served at senior posts with the industry, and in the last few years had been associated with academics as a Professor and Head of Finance Dept., in ITM Business school in Navi Mumbai.

- At Vidyalankar, where excellence is a tradition, excellence in apparel is a key element in our brand building. Procurement and distribution of uniforms and shoes has been done for non teaching staff.

- Sessions on Corporate Grooming and Office Yoga took place in October 2012 for non-teaching staff.

- Software for Performance Management System has been created and installed. Staff data gets fed on to an excel template. This is uploaded in the system and thereafter appraisal can be carried out.

- E learning has commenced where content is developed and posted online. E-learning is a way by which we can reach out to a lot of people and also have a very content rich communication. A lesson on customer relations was posted online for employees. On Vidyalankarlive, a number of postings for students have been done.