VESIT Connect

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NEWSLETTER
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Content

IIC Receives 4.5 Star Rating

-Vedant Sawant

IIC VESIT received 4.5 star rating

Institute Innovation Council (IIC) VESIT in an instance of absolute prestige has been awarded a **4.5 Golden Star Rating** for the academic year 2019-20. The rating was awarded for undertaking various activities prescribed by the Innovation Cell under the Ministry of Education to promote and support Innovation and Start-up on the campus. IIC had conducted various events including workshops, webinars, competitions, and numerous others for student skill development.

IIC VESIT was established to encourage the development of innovative minds amongst students and societies. It was previously rated 4 Golden Stars and was one of the 22 Institutes out of 159 colleges under IIC in Maharashtra and Goa region.

VESIT Professors Secure the Microsoft's AI Grant

-Mihir Pamnani

VESIT added one more feather to its cap as **Mrs. Pooja Nagdev** and **Mrs. Abha Tewari,** both Assistant Professors, Department of Computer Engineering, were awarded Microsoft's Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Earth Grant 2020-21 on 21 October 2020. The '**AI for Earth**' initiative awards grants to support projects that use AI to change the way people and organizations monitor, model, and manage Earth's natural systems. To date, they have awarded 508 grants to projects with impact in 81 countries and stay committed to growing this community of grantees. Accordingly, the project proposal put forward by our respective teachers titled - '**Monitoring and Assessing Coral Reefs in Oceans**' received **Microsoft Azure Computer Grant** of **$5000** this month. The student collaborators of the project who played an instrumental role in the project discourse included Tanishqa Shetty, Naveed Sarguroh, Parth Kingrani, Rahul Motwani from class D17B of Department of Computer Engineering.

Coral reefs play a significant role in helping

Mrs. Abha Tewari, Assistant Professor in Department of Computer Engineering

Mrs. Pooja Nagdev, Assistant Professor in Department of Computer Engineering

marine life survive, acting as a barrier from surge water to reduce waves and buffer the shore, and in many other factors regarding the thriving of marine life. The United Nations has reported that 70% of the Earth's coral reefs are threatened: 20 per cent have already been destroyed with no hope for recovery, 24% are under imminent risk of collapse, and an additional 26% are at risk due to longer-term threats. With almost our entire marine ecosystem highly dependent on the survival of coral reefs for their survival, addressing this issue would be an important step towards helping our biodiversity and ensuring a better and assured future for our marine ecosystem to thrive in. Therefore, the primary objective of the project is on applying various Deep Learning Techniques to monitor and assess the coral reefs in various oceans and check if these

are being damaged to a very large extent, and if so, provide the necessary information regarding the same to concerned authorities so that appropriate action can be taken. Keeping a track of this would allow us to raise awareness and provide necessary information regarding the exact places where better measures need to be taken to avoid the possibility of their extinction. The project builds upon the pre-existing literature surveys but with filling in the data loopholes in the system for efficient statistical analysis. Thus, the proposed project would consider all the necessary features and monitor these reefs and alarm the officials, in case of any possible threats occurring.

The outcome of the project would be highly beneficial to the Ministry of Environment as it would help them to monitor corals real-time and help them have a continuous check on them. It would also benefit the researchers who find it difficult to analyze changes in the oceans. The project is truly valuable in its scope and can provide substantial data in need. Therefore, it can be said that the phenomenal project proposed by our remarkable team would surely help a step ahead in combating the emergency of climate change and usher the threshold of a better world for tomorrow.

"I believe, the more we harm the planet, the more it will cost to our future. As a team, while exploring the topics we realized that there is a dire need to protect the ecosystem of our earth. And coral reefs are some of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Thus, our project aims at real time monitoring and assessing with the super fast technologies which are being given to us and doing so, I believe, we can change the trajectory of an entire ecosystem. With this project, we are eyeing to take technology driven steps to mitigate these devastating impacts and hope that our small contribution will help make this earth a better place, " says Tansihqa Shetty (D17B) on explaining the scope of their proposed project.

Councils

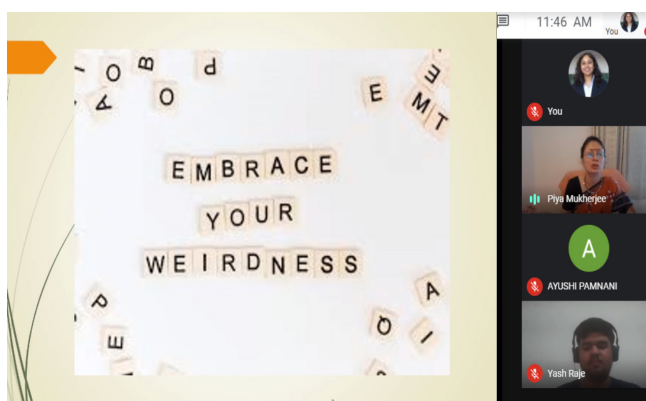## Happy Equilibrium

-Maiytraiyi Dandekar and Palak Garg

A mental illness is a physical illness of the brain that causes disturbances in thinking, behavior, energy, or emotion that makes it difficult to cope with the ordinary demands of life. It is an illness like any other medical illness. To spread this awareness on Mental Health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support to Mental Health, *World Mental Health Day* is observed on 10th October every year. To commemorate this occasion, the VESIT SoRT Council, in collaboration with VESLARC, organized "*Happy Equilibrium*", which was streamed online at 11:30 am, with **Ms. Piya Mukherjee** as the speaker and Rakshita Dane (D10A) as the host.

Ms. Piya Mukherjee, Founder and Director of VESLARC, has been a bridge-builder, having 24 years of experience in the fields of investment banking and finance, transformational ethics, cultural sensitization, HR intervention, millennial management, sustainability-themed living, and life skills. She began the session with the comment, "There's a person who's surfing the waves, but when waves hit you, you should know how to balance i.e equilibrium"

She pointed to the positive steps that can be taken to promote mental health and wellbeing.

- **Connect:** Develop your relationships with friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors as these connections support you and enrich your life.
- **Take notice:** Be aware of the world around you and see the beauty in the everyday life and unusual things. Reflect on them to appreciate what matters to you.
- **Learn:** Try something new or rediscover an old interest, or take on a new responsibility or challenge. Learning inspires confidence.
- **Give:** Do something for a friend or stranger and see yourself and your happiness linked to the wider community.

Ms. Piya Mukherjee emphasizing on the importance of acceptance and embracing one's quirks

- **Selfcare:** Spend time with yourself. Care for your body and mind. Meditate.

The importance of the event underlined the fact that we're always asked to meet and interact with more people, but getting to know yourself is the biggest struggle. Many a times, you would feel pressured to be constantly productive, but it's okay to disconnect and do what makes you happy. She spoke of destigmatizing counseling and promoted talking openly about one's feelings. All through the event, she reminded everyone of the importance of being comfortable with yourself, as every human is different and no human is perfect.

Ms. Piya Mukherjee

Vishesh Mittal (D7B) said that "The session was nice, and I feel such sessions are necessary as we deal with a lot of stuff in our day to day life and sometimes we need someone to share how we are feeling and to remind us that it's ok to feel dejected sometimes and encourage asking for mental help without hesitation"

The session made relatable and engaging by Ms. Piya, as she shared her own experiences and wisely solved any doubts that arose, during the question-answer session at the end. The event was very insightful, refreshing, and addressed the need of the hour.

CodeCell CMPN VESIT presents HacktoberFest

-Hridesh Kamal and Sneha Karthik

CodeCell CMPN VESIT, once again, brought back the massively popular annual HacktoberFest in collaboration with DigitalOcean. The episode was packed with everything from HacktoberFest and OpenSource events to essential tech sessions. The VESIT chapter of HacktoberFest 2020, which began on 3 October 2020 served as a platform for students to discover and learn things associated with open-source software.

The month-long experience, sponsored by GitHub, was spread across four events. Each event focused on a unique aspect of the world of open-source through workshops and seminars. The celebrations was conducted under the guidance of **Dr. Nupur Giri** (Head of Department of Computer Engineering), **CodeCell CMPN** Incharge **Mr. Prashant Kanade** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), and **CodeCell CMPN** Coordinator **Mr. Richard Joseph** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering).

Getting Started with Open Source GitHub Workshop: This first event was the perfect fit for all open-source enthusiasts. The seminar was conducted on the 3rd of October 2020 from 4:00 PM

Speakers of the Open source and GitHub Workshop, L-R: Jay Dulera (D12C), Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C)

to 6:00 PM by **Rohan Ghosalkar** (D12C) and **Jay Dulera** (D12C). The event was attended by more than 100 open-source amateurs and professionals - from the second year to the fourth year.

Github builds the foundation to contribute to Open-source. The session started with - how to build a Github repository to making commits, pushing changes, and forking repositories. Rohan and Jay made the session interactive by conducting Kahoot quiz to ensure that the attendees left with a precise understanding of Github. The session end-

ed with a Q&A session followed by welcoming the students into the open-source community of the college.

Google Summer of Code Talk: A prestigious annual summer coding program that catches

Getting Started with Opensource and Github Workshop Poster

Speakers of the GSoC Talk, L-R: Sladyn Nunes (CMPN - Batch of 2020), Manas Mangaonkar (D17C) and Vedant Wakalkar (CMPN - Batch of 2020)

the eye of every student who wish to contribute and be a part of the renowned software developing organizations across the world. This second seminar was conducted on the 4th October 2020 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. by **Sladyn Nunes** (CMPN-Batch of 2020, GSoC 2020), **Manas Mangaonkar** (D17C, GSoC 2019, 2020), and **Vedant Wakalkar** (CMPN-Batch of 2020, GSoC 2020) on Google Meet. The event was held exclusively for students of the Computer Engineering Department.

They shared their own experience with GSoC and how it felt to work with people from all across the world with varying backgrounds and

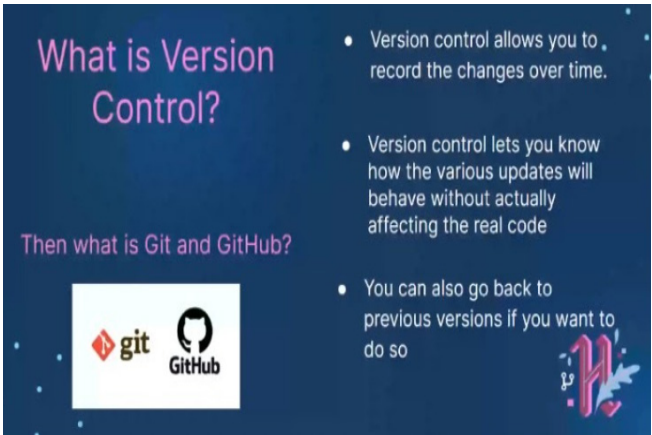**Hacktoberfest GSoC Talk Poster**

work experiences. They also guided the attendees as to how one can apply for GSoC and the steps an applicant should follow. Sladyn also gave tips on how to find the right organization to contribute. The session ended with the attendees well versed in drafting a proposal for their project.

Speakers of the DevOps and Jenkins Seminar, L-R: Amit Chabbria (D12C), Sladyn Nunes (CMPN - Batch of 2020)

Getting started with DevOps and Jenkins: The third event held on 10 October 2020, was a seminar on the basics of DevOps and Jenkins. Open to students from all Departments, it was held from 2 to 3 p.m. **Amit Chabbria** (D12C) and **Sladyn Nunes** were the speakers for this session. The event had a huge attendance, with 100 people joining through Google Meet, and the others viewing on YouTube.

Participants were introduced to the concept of Continuous Integration (CI) and Continu-

PPT on Version Control in GitHub

ous Delivery (CD) in software development. Topics such as DevOps, Wall of Confusion, and Agile were addressed. Further, Sladyn shared insights on Jenkins and its importance in the world of open-source software. The event concluded after a Q&A session with interested students being provided with Udemy courses as a reward.

Fundamentals of Linux : The month-long seminar on open-source came to an end with a seminar on the fundamentals of the Linux operating system. The seminar was organized on 11 October 2020 from 12 PM to 1:30 PM and was open to all Departments, had **Ajay Singh Khalsa** (D12C) as the speaker for the event. The seminar saw an attendance of over 80 participants on Google Meet.

Speaker of the Fundamentals of Linux Seminar: Ajay Singh Khalsa (D12C)

The session aimed at discussing the basics of Linux and introducing the participants to the OS. Students were familiarized with the command line, basic Linux commands, and working with files and directories among other Linux tools. The concern of safety in the use of open-source platforms was also addressed by Ajay.

The event concluded the VESIT chapter of HacktoberFest 2020, organized and hosted by the **CodeCell CMPN** team. **Codecell CMPN VESIT** truly celebrated the spirit of HacktoberFest 2020, with the seminars and sessions being a treasure trove of knowledge. The fact that seminars were hosted by our students made each one more relatable and interesting.

Moderator team:
Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C)
Arnav Bagchi (D12C)
Jay Dulera (D12C)
Amit Chhabria (D12C)
Ajay Khalsa (D12C)
Sahil Rajpal (D17A)
Hritwik ekade (D17A)
Naren Kathwani (D17B)
Manas Mangaonkar (D17C)
Rutuja Patil (D7B)
Tejas Mahajan (D7A)
Advait Bansode (D7B)
Rakshit Deshmukh (D7A)
Vishesh Mittal (D7B)
Hrithika Singh (D7B)
Yashraj Desai (D7B)

"You have to grow from the inside out. None can teach you, none can make you spiritual. There is no other teacher but your own soul."

- Swami Vivekananda

SPICE Council: Spicing up the Placement Process

-Shivani Shenai and Siddhi Bhosale

The SPICE Council conducted its election and now has the new Council ready to face the challenges of the coming era. This new Council comprises of members who went through rigorous selection process conducted by the outgoing Council, including screening and interviews and now all ready to breathe fresh vigor into the role of the Council.

Despite the physical barriers and all the kinds of hurdles faced by changing to the online mode, the SPICE Council has shown remarkable fortitude by coming up with creative ways in replicating the in-college experience and achieving this feeling of togetherness. Our students might have been enclosed within the four walls of their sanctuary, but the placement process went on, albeit with changes from the past process. Aiding students to get placed in a Dream company, ensuring that they are on their feet and prepared for every step in a placement process, the Department of MCA, with their most resilient student council, SPICE, got ready to achieve the goal.

SPICE (Student's Personality, Intellect, Creativity Enhancement) is the MCA Student Council which aims to prepare students for aptitude tests, group discussions, and overall personality development. SPICE lives by its catchphrase, that is, to bridge the gap between academics and industry, and ensures all activities are conducted to achieve this motto. This in turn helps students to develop their personality and assist them in gaining confidence. SPICE prepares the student for the prerequisites of placements in terms of personality advancement.

The various activities conducted include technical Aptitude Test which is a method of screening to identify high caliber candidates and an accurate way of predicting the potential contribution of a candidate with the likelihood of them achieving success within the organization. It also conducts Group Discussions, which help students

Left-Right,Top-Bottom: Karthik Sujith (MCA2A), Nikhil Nair (MCA2A), Abhishek Rajpurohit (MCA2B), Venkatesh Arumugam (MCA2B), Yogesh Jayaprakash Sanas (MCA2A), Keshav Patra (MCA2B), Dhanshree Pradeep Gurav (MCA2B)

to develop leadership skills, initiative-taking ability, knowledge, group dynamism, logical and analytical abilities, and also Mock Interviews, Expert sessions and Coding events.

The Council has certainly planned various activities such as mock interviews, group discussion, aptitude tests and guidance sessions by Alumni to ensure that students understand the level of competition in the Dream companies. At the same time, SPICE helps them prepare for various rounds of interviews, GD, Debate sessions, and a lot more, which would aid students to ace in their interviews and placements.

The events conducted so far by the Council include Aptitude Lectures (Tests conducted by faculty and senior students), Group Discussion and Intern interaction by Seniors who were already

placed. "We would try using this lockdown, to create more interesting and engaging activities for students and hope to set a benchmark for upcoming SPICE committees," said Venkatesh Arumugam (MCA2B) the President of SPICE (2020-2021).

The SPICE Council selected for the year 2020-2021 are:
President: Venkatesh Arumugam (MCA2B)

General Secretary: Nikhil Nair (MCA2A), Keshav Patta (MCA2B)

Editor: Yogesh Jayprakash Sanas (MCA2A), Kartik Sujith (MCA2A)

Treasurer: Abhishek Rajpurohit (MCA2B), Dhanshree Pradeep Gurav (MCA2B)

DSC-30 Days of Google Cloud

-Vaidyanathan Natarajan & Arnab Saha

Technology has grown into an integral part of human life today. It has found itself a place in the most basic human activities in daily life - Computers, mobiles, social media, the list has become endless. Thus, one needs to constantly update oneself with the technological progress in order to survive in this digital world. Computer programming, which was looked down upon by the engineering community, has become one of the most important prerequisites for job opportunities as well as for pursuing further education. Every upcoming Engineer is required to have knowledge about software programming and hence the role of DSC is more important than ever in the modern era.

The **Developer Student Club** (DSC) is a program presented by Google Developers through the **Codecell** of our **CMPN Department**. The DSC acts as a platform for graduate and undergraduate students to hone their software development skills, which in the longer run, aids the students in a peer-to-peer learning environment and building solutions for local businesses and their community. The DSCs are completely independent and are not owned or managed by Google which facilitates more freedom for software developers from differ-

ent corners of the world.

The DSC hosts a series of events, ranging from beginner to expert difficulty level. These events require no prior knowledge in the respective subjects, thereby giving an even competing ground for all students. A few of the workshop conducted by the DSC on Google Developer technologies are Android, Firebase, Google Cloud Platform, AR/VR, etc. Furthermore, the DSC conducts Tech Talks, Hackathons, Bootcamps, and Study jams as well.

The DSC-30 days of Google cloud is a collaborative project between **Google developers** and **Qwiklabs**, which will help students in getting started with the Google cloud. Two different tracks are offered in this project. Students can choose between Cloud Engineering and Data Science or Machine Learning. They may choose to take part in both the tracks as well. Each track has several quests, which students must finish to progress in the track. Upon completion of the track, each student is entitled to a certificate from Google. The DSC lead from our college is **Mr. Aditya Srivastava** and the Faculty advisor is **Dr Nupur Giri**.

Being a part of the DSC helps students to get in touch with developers not only across the

DSC lead Aditya Srivastava (D17C)

country but also the world, which in turn increases student connectivity. DSC is also a very useful tool in creating a powerful resume. The certificates acquired by completing the course are certified by Google, which holds quite a high value, especially in today's competitive environment. One of the most highlighting features of **CMPN Codecell's DSC** is that, it does not require any previous experience in software development. Hence, engineering students pursuing various streams of knowledge are equally eligible to sign up for this course.

Presenting the MCA Council for 2020-21

- Mihir Pamnani

Elections are always exciting. By casting their vote, each and every student gets an opportunity to articulate their voice through the representative electoral system. And this miniature world comprising of colleges and universities parallels to the real-world democracies, the way it employs the notion of emancipatory politics and also reinstates how responsibility and power function in congruence. Accordingly, the Council elections at VESIT are conducted every year to appoint student representatives from Engineering and MCA Departments. The recent MCA elections drew attention and whispers from all virtual corridors this year, from the Presidential position to in-charge selections, the inter-shift politics and grassroots populism were the key highlights in deciding votes.

To begin with, the MCA Council elections were contested for a total of 20 seats; five Councils with four positions each. The five Councils for the year 2020-21 were the Student, Cultural, Music, Sports, and SoRT councils respectively. Owing to the pandemic and everything was online. The pre-election weeks witnessed major virtual campaigns run by student candidates trying to sway votes from both the morning and afternoon shifts to gain a majority. WhatsApp forwards, Instagram stories, pdf-promises, video-call mobilization were a few, to name tactics adopted by the candidates as they ensured that no stones were left unturned to gain the voter turnout in their favor. Staying at home has definitely made us all lazy couch potatoes but the election slogans in the air weaved the thrill to keep everybody on their toes.

Drawing insight towards the stature, the MCA Student Council comprises - The President and three second-year students as Class Represen-

MCA Student Council

tatives. And the rest of the four Councils follow the structure of one Senior Deputy Council Secretary and three students as Fellow In-charges. Students across all three years did their best to turn things around to gain the votes of the individual class representatives. After almost a month of untiring campaigning and words of commitment, on 16th September 2020, the final voting was conducted via a google meets session. The second-year students participated in voting for the position of President. Following that, the Senior Deputy Secretaries of all Councils were elected by votes of second-year MCA class in-charges and by the Engineering Secretary Members of the respective councils of the past aca-

demic year. The whole session was moderated by the Assistant Professors of the MCA Department - **Mrs. Meenakshi Garg**, **Mr. Ameya Parkar**, **Mrs. Indira Bhattacharya**, and **Mrs. Vaishali Gatty**. The following morning the results were announced. Soon, the PDF of council details were circulated on all class WhatsApp groups, serving the chatter for the day.

The members of the MCA Council elected for this academic year are as follows:

Student Council :
Ms.Tania Mahata, President.
Mr. Ashutosh Pandey, Class Representative.

MCA Cultural Council

MCA Music Council

Mr. Sahil Kamble, Class Representative.
Ms. Sangeeta Dimble, Class Representative.

Cultural Council :
Mr. Krunal Rane, Senior Deputy Cultural Secretary.
Ms. Shivani Gadge, Cultural Class In-charge.
Mr. Nitin Sahu, Cultural Class In-charge.
Ms.Salwa Parkar, Cultural Class In-charge.

Music Council :
Ms. Manasi Pisal, Senior Deputy Music Secretary.
Mr. Kevin Abraham, Music Class In-charge.
Ms. Kajal Waghmode, Music Class In-charge.
Mr. Vipul Chaudhari, Music Class In-charge.

Sports Council :
Mr. Adarsh Sawant, Senior Deputy Sports Secretary.
Mr. Nikhil Nair, Sports Class In-charge.
Ms. Komal Dumbre, Sports Class In-charge.
Ms. Siddhi Thakur, Sports Class In-charge.

SoRT Council (Social Responsibility Team) :
Mr. Arbaaz Ali, Senior Deputy SoRT Secretary.
Ms. Aditi Singh, SoRT Class In-charge.
Mr. Keshav Patta, SoRT Class In-charge.
Ms. Poonam Kamble, SoRT Class In-charge.

The chamber of distinguished student leaders from MCA for the year 2020-21 were elected. Elections can always feel overwhelming for the students, but the whole process adds to the learning

curve of social skills and also employs the notions of responsibility and harmony amongst students. And once they're done, there is a change in discourse for all and a council of talented members are all ready to create an eventful year for all students ahead.

"Honestly, the whole process was nerve-wracking. Navigating the college politics, people's bonafide, and alongside coping with academics, all of it pushed me to work harder. After winning, now I aim to listen to everybody and collectively work together to achieve better results. I'll always be available at service for every student. They can always count me as their go-to person," said Ms.Tania Mahata (President) on winning elections during the #TalkToConnect online series.

MCA Sports Council
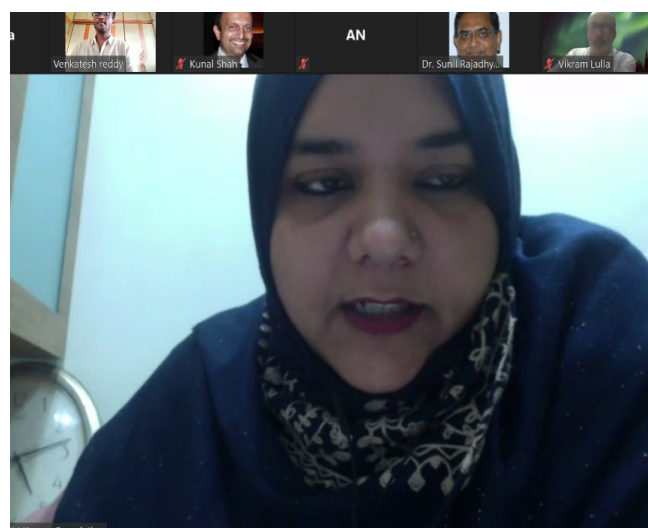

MCA SoRT Council

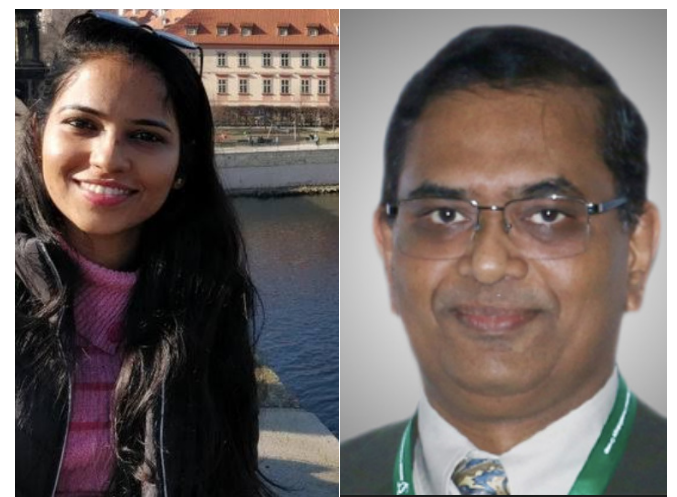# Donate Blood Platelets and Save lives

-Mihir Pamnani

With #HealWithReels blooming on SoRT Council's Instagram handle, the Council has been putting forward numerous informative programs and creating widespread awareness at large throughout this lockdown period. This month, in collaboration with the prestigious **Tata Memorial Hospital** and **Gunvati Jagan Nath Kapoor Foundation**, VESIT's Social Responsibility Team conducted a '*Save a Life*' Webinar, on 17 October 2020, to spread awareness about blood platelet donation drives. The hospital in partnership is known to be the citadel for battling cancer for eons and the Council decided to give a helping hand in their mission. For the unversed, blood has four major components - plasma, WBcs, RBCs, and platelets. Platelets are the ones that heal wounds and injuries and are also the major requirement for a number of cancer patients. So, by making optimal use of social media, the team released a heartwarming video on the internet a few days prior to the session, to increase awareness and participation. The video traced the important role played by blood platelets in saving the lives of cancer patients in due course of their treatment and also emphasized the platelet donation procedure.

Accordingly, on 17th October, almost 110 participants tuned to the webinar. The session

was conducted via Zoom Meetings from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. The energy was a gratifying spectacle, as students turned up in huge numbers on Saturday afternoon to learn how they can help others. The session began with an introduction to the event by the Junior Deputy Secretary (SoRT) - Venkatesh Reddy (D10A). The event continued with **Dr. Anisha Navkudkar** (Consultant in the Dept. of Transfusion Medicine), as the main speaker, and **Dr. Sunil Rajadhyaksha** from Tata Memorial Hospital. Furthermore, **Ms. Nirjari Dalal** (Director, Gun-
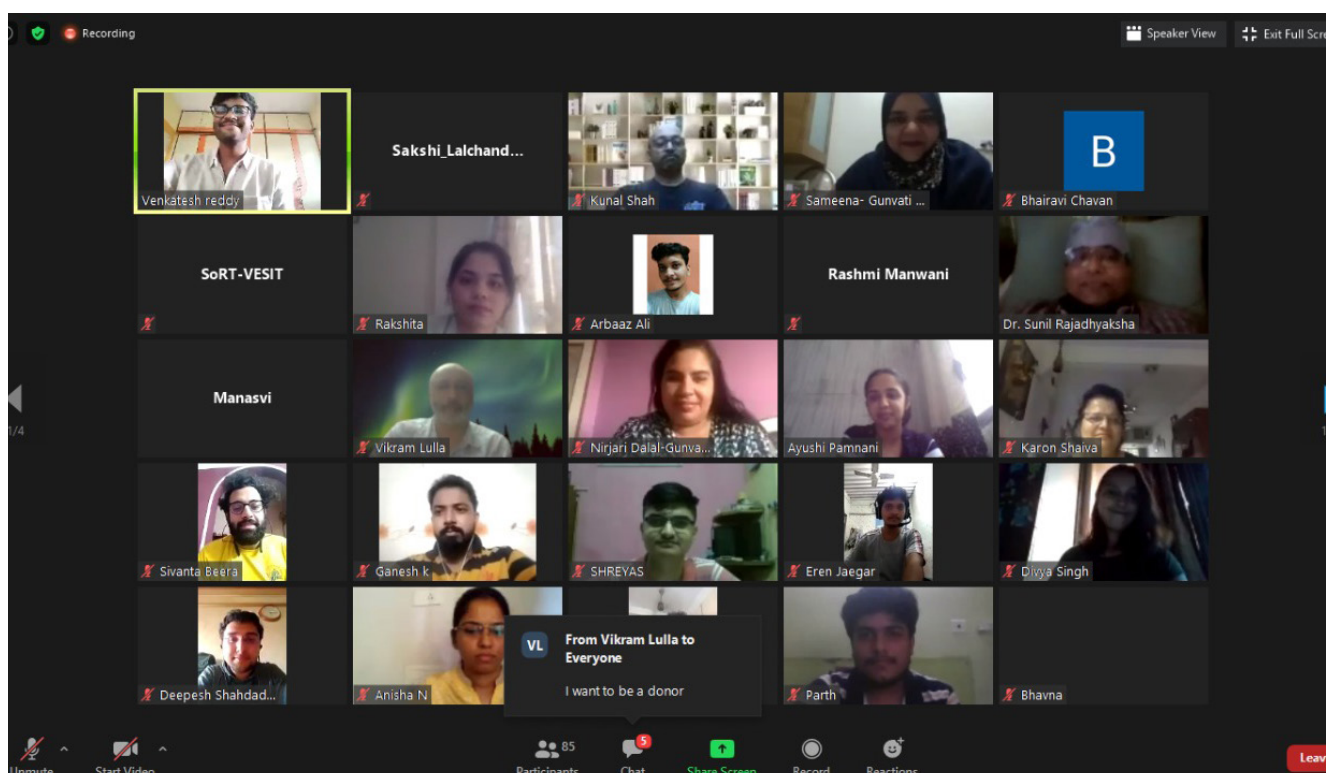

Ms. Sameena addressing the session

Main Speakers of the Session, L-R: Dr. Anisha Navkudkar (Consultant in Transfusion Dept. Medicine) and Dr. Sunil Rajadhyaksha (Head of Dept. of Transfusion Medicine, Tata Memorial Hospital)

vati J Kapoor Foundation) alongside associate Key Speaker, **Ms. Sameena**, also addressed the session adding to the knowledge. The session focused on vigilance regarding platelet donation drives and the amount of change they bring about. The Speaker spoke about how platelet transfusions are frequently required by patients suffering from leukemia, anemia, tumors, and bone marrow diseases, and as there are no synthetic substitute for platelets, donations play a major role in preserving platelet banks. The highlight of the day was the information that one can save at least three lives with **one blood platelet donation at a time**.

The session came to an end with vote of thanks by SoRT Secretary - Ayushi Pamnani (D14A) followed by the Speaker's vote of thanks and keynote address. On a whole, the webinar presented some unprecedented insights by the speakers and was indeed great amount of information for all the students. "The session was very helpful and informative. Tata Memorial Hospital's mission is highly commendable. I understood so much more about how blood donation campaigns are carried out. After learning everything about the important role that blood platelets play in cancer treatments, I wish to donate my platelets whenever the next campaign drive arrives in the town." - says Junior Deputy Secretary Manasvi Patwa (D7C).

SoRT Blood Platelet Donation Awareness Webinar

VESLit : Adapting to Online Platforms

-Kaushal Jagasia and Tanya Dubey

Fresh with a new team with BEs, TEs and SEs, the VESLit Circle conducted a variety of events, held either on their Instagram page or via Google Meet. They also had 'The Tharaurus' in place which has kept the students enthralled to VESLit's Instagram page. "Initially we planned to do a total of 14 words inspired by Shashi Tharoor, but having got an astounding response, we decided to keep going. Now we are doing a new word every Sunday using the Reels feature," said C.V Ananya (D19A), Student Head, VESLit, for the academic year 20-21.

Pundemic

The VESLit Circle started the academic year with a fun event to haul everyone out of the pandemic blues. The event, aptly named Pundemic, was conducted on the official Instagram account of VESLit on the 26th and 27th of September. It required students to get imaginative and make puns using the words given by VESLit. Staying true to the event name, the words for the first day were 'mask' and 'cough' while the words for the second day were 'zoom' and 'chaos'. With no limit on the number of pun entries per student, VESLit's DMs were flooded with close to a hundred puns over the two days.

Here are some of the best puns received by VESLit : "Bat is the maskot of corona", "I bought such a big mask that it covers my eyes as well. Meri aankhon ke upar maskara hai", "After any minor inconvenience - Meri zindagi ka chaosakta hai?"

Sristi Sharma (D7B) and Muskan Hassanandani (D7A) took home the cake with their puns. Sristi cleverly included a Harry Potter reference in her pun which was "What is the covid ward in Hogwarts called? The Hufflecough House". Muskan smartly took a dig on Gen Z's with her pun, "Grandpa: I used to walk miles to go to school but you Zoomers won't understand."
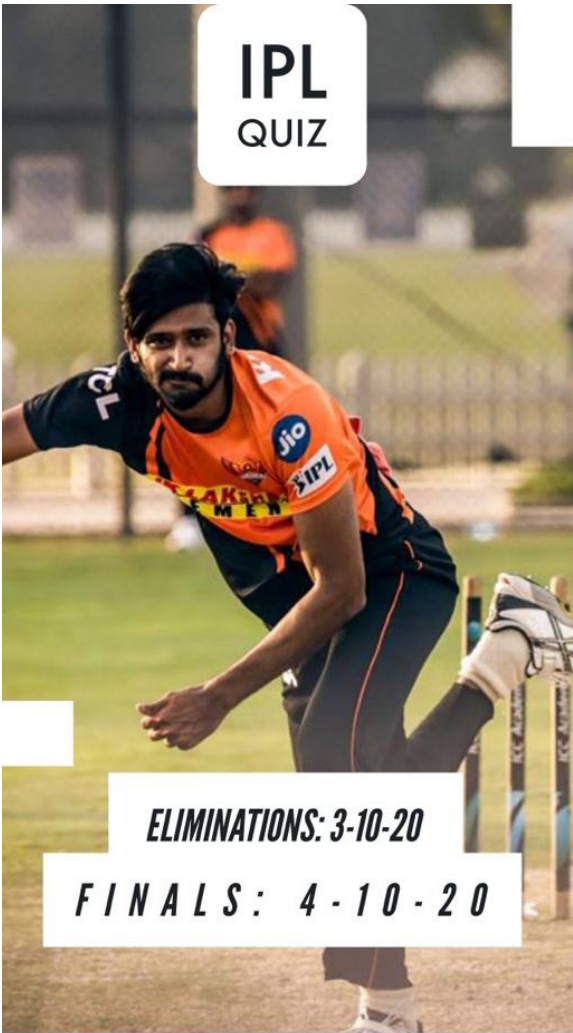
The Pundemic set the tone for the VESLit Circle, as they moved to grander events, under the umbrella of their four divisions, viz., Debate, Films, MUN and Quiz respectively.

IPL Quiz

With the IPL season on, the VESLit Quiz Division came up with the IPL Quiz as their first event for the new academic year. The event was held on 3rd and 4th October via Google meet. The Quiz Division received a good number of registrations for the IPL Quiz.

The quiz competition was divided into three rounds : eliminations, semi-finals, and finals. The elimination round was held on Saturday, 3rd October 2020. The elimination round was conducted for 115 participants using an application called Kahoot in two sessions. One session was conducted by Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C) and another by Arnav Bagchi (D12C). The elimination round consisted of multiple-choice questions. Each question had a time limit. Kahoot would keep a track of the scores and ranks as the participants answered the questions.

Poster of the IPL Quiz

From the scores of participants, the top 25 scorers from each session were selected for the second round; the semi-final round. The semi-finals were held on Sunday, the 4th October 2020, using a website called Sporcle. This round had 10 sessions on Google meet, with 5 students in each session. Sessions 1 to 5 were held from 11:00 am to 11:30 am and sessions 6 to 10 from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm. The Quiz Division received help and support from the members of other divisions of VESLit in the conduction of the event. Each session had one quiz master and one scorekeeper from the council.

Sessions 1 and 6 were moderated by Sneha Kartik (D7C) and Aishwarya K (D7A), sessions 2 and 7 by Avinash Tripathi (D14B) and Tanya Dubey (D9B), sessions 3 and 8 by Varun Pillai (D11B) and Arnab Saha (D14B), sessions 4 and 9 by Salonee Velonde (D12B) and Namrata Tolani (D12A), and sessions 5 and 10 by Arnav Bagchi (D12C) and Krishik Rao (D9B). This round had 2 questions for each session and the answering pattern was list type. Each participant was awarded 1 point for an answer that appeared on the list.

"We, in the quiz department, were cracking our brains for weeks to find a proper procedure for the quiz which was a challenge in itself considering all of it was going to be online. We had to keep in mind to make sure the essence of IPL was not lost in the event. In the end, we decided to have rounds that will engage the cricket fans just like an actual cricket match would. And not to toot my own horn but I feel we brought the same suspense as an actual IPL final. I am proud of the whole Quiz Division and the other members of the VESLit circle who were a huge help along the way.", said Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C), Deputy Head of VESLit Quiz Division.

Out of the 50 participants, the top 12 scorers qualified for the final round. The final round was conducted at 5:00 pm, on the same day. The final round consisted of three rounds. Round 1 had multiple-choice questions. After round 1, Anish Inamdar (D10A) and Yogesh Inamdar (D10B) were leading with a score of 100 points. The two tie-breakers in round one were resolved with lightning rounds. Round 2 was 'guess the player'. Sarthak Thakur (D12C) topped the table with 70 points in round 2.

After the total score of round 1 and round 2, the top 4 contenders moved further for round 3 of the final round of the IPL Quiz. All the four participants gave a tough competition to each other in round 3, which was the gambling round. It was a very close call. Sarthak Thakur (D12C) won by 25 points.

"I had a thrilling experience. The quiz was well organized. The questions asked were thoroughly researched. The difficulty level of questions was very well suited to the rounds. All the participants in each round, especially the final round, had an equal chance of winning the quiz. It kept all the participants on the edge of their seats until the very

Poster of the MUNRoulette

end.", said Sarthak Thakur (D12C), winner of the IPL Quiz.

MUN Roulette

A Model United Nations conference is a model replication of the workings of actual United Nations, wherein students are assigned countries and they debate over current world issues based on that country's principles and foreign policy. On the other hand, a Youth Parliament is a simulation of the Indian Parliament where participants mock-represent the Member of Parliaments of both Houses and discuss the pressing issues that concern the nation, within the set rules and procedure. These events help to foster various skills such as public

	Yogesh Inamdar	Anish Inamdar	Sarthak Thakur	Shubham Lokande	Vignesh Verma	Mukul Desai	Puneet Meghrajani	Rayan Shaikh
TOTALS	165 🏆	155	150	125	125	125	115	85
2.	65	55	70	45	45	65	35	25
1.	100	100	80	80	80	60	80	60

Score card after the completion of Round 2 of the Final Round of the IPL Quiz

speaking, negotiating and political understanding. Students also learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the operations of the United Nations. "The preparation for this event was an enriching experience for us as well since we prepared over two hundred questions of ranging difficulty. We also provided the participants with some trivia about certain questions." said Aishwarya Krishnamurthy (D7A), member of the MUN Division.

The MUN division carefully curated a quiz that would help students to understand the kind of topics that are generally discussed in a MUN or a Youth Parliament. The event was held on 10th and 11th October 2020 and saw more than 40 students participating in it! The preliminary round was conducted in morning and afternoon with the participants randomly divided into groups of four. The format for this round was MCQs followed by a pictorial round and was concluded with a rapid fire round.

The top eight scoring students qualified for the semifinals of the event. Staying true to the event name MUN Roulette, the semifinals and finals had a Gambling Round. Participants could place a bet with their points, if their answer was correct then twice as many points would be added to their total, but should their answer be wrong, points would be subtracted. The semi-finals were also conducted in groups of four, with VESLit Student Head C.V Ananya (D19A) and MUN Division Head Shlok Jagusthe (D11B) steering the rounds.
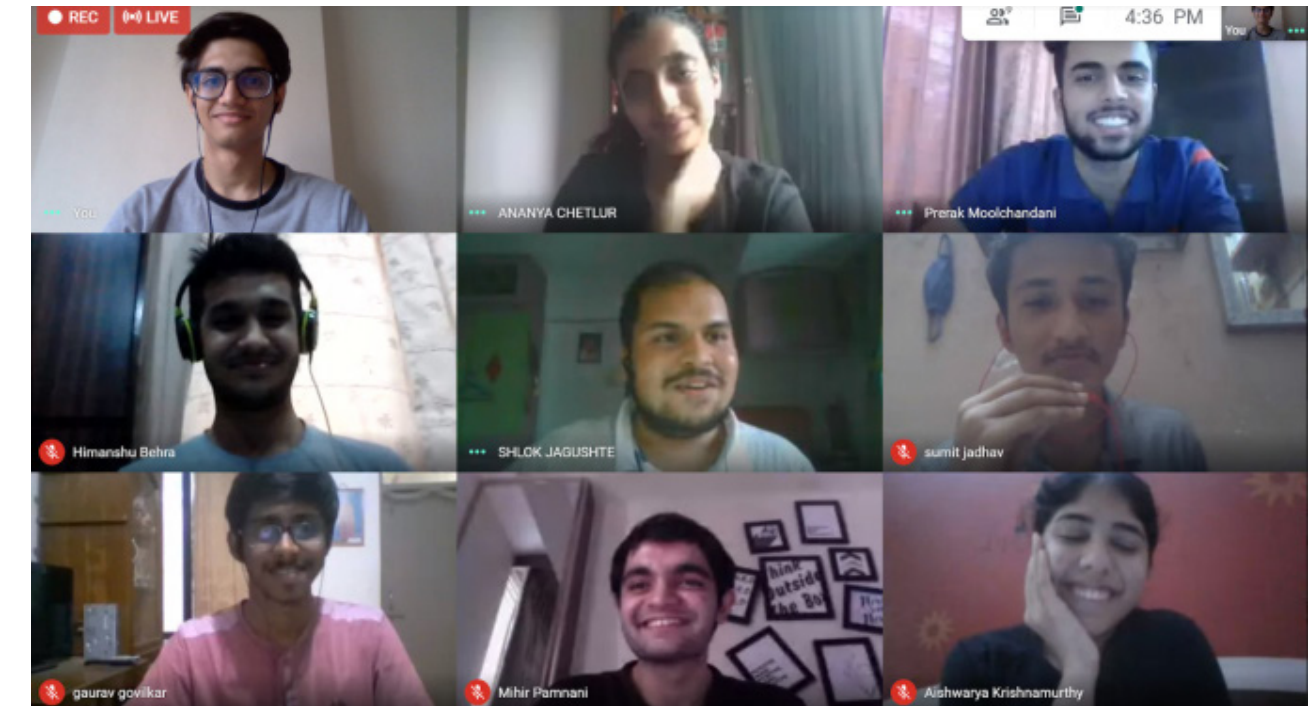
After an enthralling semi-finals the four students who scored the highest - Gaurav Govilkar (D8), Himanshu Behra (D7B), Prerak Moolchandani (D7A) and Sumit Jadhav (D9A) were set to gamble once again in the finale. Shlok Jagusthe (D11B) was the quizmaster for this final round which was live-streamed via Google Meet. Himanshu Behra was the first one to get knocked out as he bet all his points on a question but gave the incorrect answer. Prerak and Sumit had a big lead over Gaurav at the halfway stage. Then came a twist that no one expected. The question asked to the participants was "How many fundamental rights are there in the Indian Constitution?" While all three participants gave the same answer - 7, it was the bets that decided the winner. Prerak and Sumit went all in with their points, but Gaurav, being unsure of the answer, bet 70% of his points. The correct answer to

MUN Roulette final in progress: L-R, Top-Bottom: Kaushal Jagasia (D7C), CV Ananya (D19A), Prerak Moolchandani (D7A), Himanshu Behra (D7B), Shlok Jagusthe (D11B), Sumit Jadhav (D9A), Gaurav Govilkar (D8), Mihir Pamnani (D7C), Aishwarya Krishnamurthy (D7A)

Shlok Jagusthe concluded the event by comparing gambling points in this quiz to investing in the stock market. He advised everyone to always have a safety net in case things go awry.

Among Us Debate

The VESLit Debate Division came up with an innovative idea to kickstart their events for the new academic year. They planned to introduce debate with a touch of the currently trending game 'Among Us'. Since formal debates tend to scare some people, this event is aimed at providing such people with a platform to showcase their speaking and debating skills. The event was conducted via Google Meet on Sunday, 18th October 2020.

The debate was between two teams consisting of five members each. Each participant had registered individually. They were split into two teams by the Council members. The distribution of team members and the selection of the imposter in each team was done randomly. The topic of the debate was 'Is an audience necessary in sports?' The participants had been informed about the topic and the teams a day before the event. The teams were also informed whether they would be ruling for or against the motion.

Each team consisted of four crewmates and one imposter. The participant was informed about being an imposter just a few minutes before the event began. The task of the imposter was to kill maximum crewmates without being caught. The imposters had to use a specific word in their arguments to kill a crewmate. The words were chosen by the Council members. Every time the im-

posters decided to kill someone, they had to give prior notification to the assigned Council member through Whatsapp. Once the imposters used the given words, the Council would declare the selected crewmate to be dead after ten seconds. The dead crewmates would switch off their camera and mute themselves. The task of the crewmates included providing convincing arguments and figure out the imposter.

After killing a crewmate, the imposter was restricted from killing another for the next 5 minutes. Each team was allowed to have 2 emergency meetings to figure out the imposter. The teams had 1 minute for each emergency meeting. The teams could either vote out a member or skip the vote in an emergency meeting. Two separate breakout rooms were created for the emergency meetings. Sneha Kartik (D7C) and Aditya Dubey (D10A) moderated one breakout room while Tanya Dubey (D9B) and Salonee Velonde (D12B) moderated the other.

All the participants were asked to join the meet by 4:30 pm. The council began by briefing the participants with the rules and regulations of the event. Before starting the debate, the teams were given 10 minutes to discuss among themselves in the separate breakout rooms. The debate commenced at 5:20 pm. The total duration of the debate was 30 minutes. Atharva Gadkari (D13) was the timekeeper for the event. The debate began with an introduction from both the teams followed by a rebuttal. Both the teams had to conclude their arguments in the last 1 minute.

C.V Ananya conducting the semifinals of MUN Roulette

the question was 6. Prerak and Sumit were knocked out as they reached 0 points and Gaurav who was trailing by a big margin was the unanticipated winner!

"The event was engaging, competitive and most importantly edifying. It was like revisiting the History and Political Science subjects we studied at school. The organizers discussed every question in detail which was very refreshing. A big thank you to the team VESLit for such a fun event." said the winner Gaurav Govilkar (D8).

CV Ananya (D19B), VESLit Student Head, witnessed the event and constantly encouraged the participants

"The Among Us Debate was a creative and innovative concept, first of its kind actually, designed by VESLit Debate Division. We observed that a lot of students are either easily bored, lack the confidence to speak or are simply ignorant about the art of debating and that is what we intended on changing through this event. We tried to bring in the elements of the current 'Among Us' trend and tried to incorporate them into debating so that the participants are not under any debate pressure and feel relaxed, as if they were actually playing the game with their friends. As the Deputy Head, I am sure that this event would surely have introduced debating to the enthusiasts and instilled public speaking confidence amongst them. I would like to thank the entire VESLit Debate Division as well as the Deputy and the Student head of VESLit for their help and constant support", said Atharva Gadkari (D13), Debate Division Deputy Head.

Adith Nair (D19B), Debate Division Head, was the judge for the evening. The participants were awarded points based on their debating skills. Bonus points were awarded to the team which was successful in identifying the imposter. Both the teams presented excellent arguments. However, the 'For' Team identified the imposter in the second emergency meeting and hence were entitled to the bonus points.

The 'For' team was declared as the winning

Organisers of the Event, VESLit Heads and Division Heads: L-R, Top-Bottom: CV Ananya (D19A), Avinash Tripathy (D14B), Pranav Bindra (D19B), Shlok Jagushte (D11B), Adith Nair (D19B)

team after the final calculation of points. The winning team included Jasmine Sawra (D7C), Rajesh Muni (D6), Pooja Gopalprasad Gupta (D13), Saritha Ponnambalan Tharakan (D6) and Rakshit Deshmukh (D7A). Rakshit Deshmukh (D7A) was the imposter in the 'Against' Team. The winners were declared on the Instagram story of VESLit's Instagram page. The winners will be rewarded with coupons and certificates.

"Among Us Debate was a really unique and interesting competition. It was a new and great experience. I got to learn so much from my other teammates. It was a pleasure to be a part of this event. I hope VESLit organizes many more competitions like this. Looking forward to participating in the upcoming events.", said Pooja Gopalprasad Gupta (D13).

Societies

ISA Microcontroller Board Development Workshop

-Gaurav Govilkar

ISA organized their first technical workshop of the academic year 2020-21 on 27th September 2020. The workshop concentrated on imparting the basics of designing a microcontroller board. The workshop was conducted by **Mr. Souvik Saha**, VESIT alumnus, Batch of 2019, Instrumentation Engineering, currently working as an Embedded Systems Engineer with Ayu Devices, an IIT-Bombay start-up. The workshop was conducted on the virtual meeting platform, Google Meet. It was conducted in two sessions, each session lasting for an hour and a half.

Topics Covered in the Workshop were:
• Basics of Eagle
• Basics of Git
• Schematic design, reading from the datasheet
• Proper PCB layout rules
• Power segment design
• Capacitor types and selection
• Component placement
• Converting to SMD components

Session 1:
The first session began at 10.30 am. In the beginning, the speaker was introduced by **Sahil Shewale** (Jr. Public Relations Officer, ISA VESIT). This session focused on giving the participants an overview of the Eagle Software. Mr. Saha, at first, gave a brief overview on various components of the Microcontroller that were to be used. He drew attention to the properties of ATtiny85- a microcontroller in a similar vein to the Arduino, but with less IO pins, smaller memory, and a smaller form

Poster for ISA Microcontroller Board Development Workshop

factor. This component was the principal integrant of the circuit board that was to be designed.

Further, he gave an insight into using Eagle libraries, schematic features, and analyzing various components required to construct the circuit. After selecting the appropriate ingredients, he placed them on the schematic space according to the circuit diagram. This session ended at noon wherein

the participants proceeded for lunch break.
Session 2:
The workshop resumed at 1 pm after a lunch break. The nitty-gritty of this session was to design the PCB layout for the circuit diagram. The participants were asked to make proper connections between the components by referring to the sample diagram provided to them. During the session, Mr. Saha explained the importance of every connection. He then shared a few tips and tricks on how to check whether the connections are apposite or not.

After locking in the connections, the next step was board creation and layout designing. This step was the key to obtain a compact PCB design that would use optimum space and wiring. Various layers of PCB were explained during this step. The toughest part of this process was 'Routing' the tracks for the layout design. Mr. Shah discouraged from using the 'Auto-Route' feature owing to its technical mishaps at times. He advised the students to do this process manually to attain competency in it. Before ending, he taught the students how to export the file and upload it to GitHub- an online portal for saving projects. He also encouraged students to share their projects with him if they had any doubts.

In the Vote of thanks presented by Sahil Shewale, he thanked Mr. Souvik Saha for sparing his precious time for the students of VESIT. Later, the feedback form was shared with the participants and the e-certificates for the workshop were uploaded on the official app of ISA VESIT- InnSÆi.

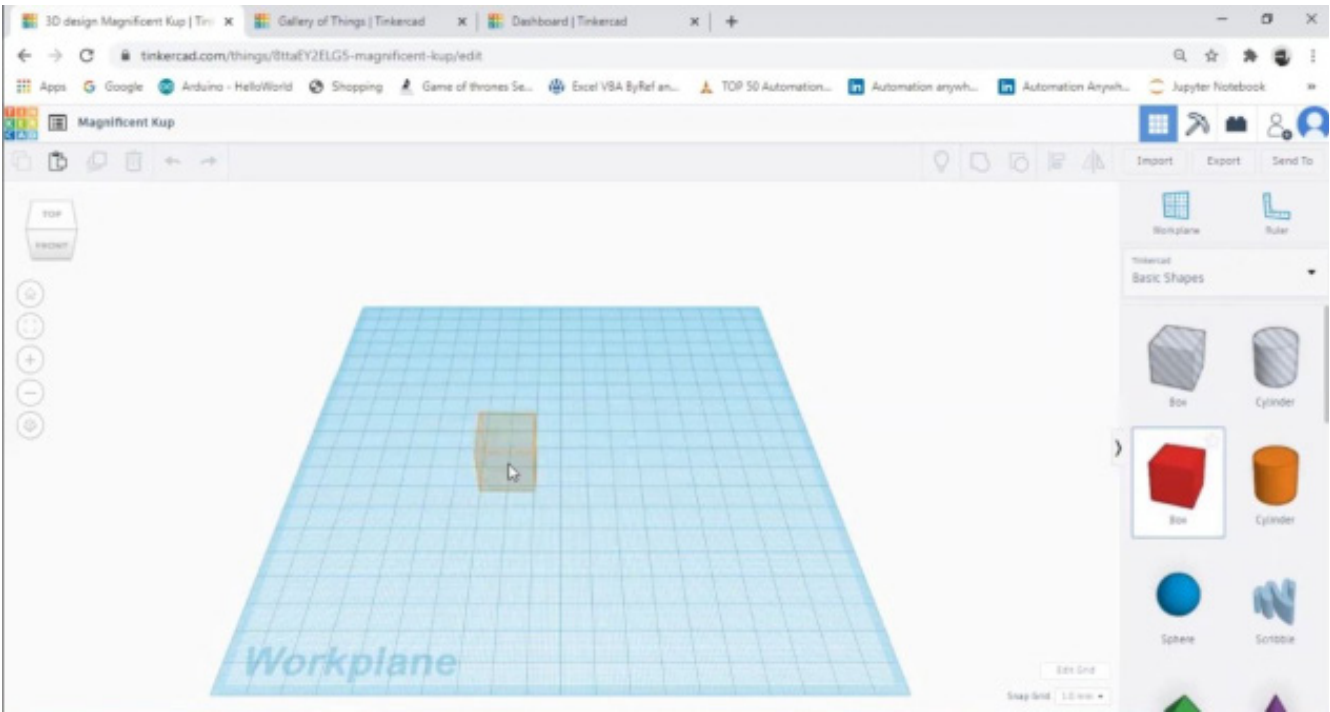# ISA Brings EluciMate to Search for the Best Learning Buddy

- Hridesh Kamal

Being stuck inside our homes, in a cycle of online education, it is easy to lose motivation. With the internal exams just around the corner, it makes starting new topics or even revising a chore. In a normal world, meeting your classmates to discuss topics and doubts is what gets most of us through. But currently, in the present environment, it is tough, having a screen drain you mentally.

So ISA-VESIT decided to help out. ISA-VESIT's EucliMate provided SE and TE students with a challenge. Choose an interesting topic, which is part of the curriculum, and teach it to your fellows. The participants can choose any medium to explain their topic with a video between 7 to 10 minutes long.

Tintercad-Arduino basics

While few things motivate us as much as the prospect of being helpful to someone, gratitude wasn't the only thing to offer. The best videos had cash prizes in store for the students. Before the registrations for the event closed on 9th October 2020, all the participants had submitted topics for their videos.

To ensure that no two students get the same topic, each participant had to submit a minimum of two and a maximum of three topics in order of preference. The council then proceeded to allot topics to each participant. With a maximum team size of two, participants were given complete creative freedom for their videos.

Finally, the submission of videos took place between October 16th and 18th. This began the first of two rounds of the EluciMate event. In the first round, all the videos were screened by the BE council of ISA-VESIT. They judged all the entries to determine the ones worthy to be shortlisted for the second round.

The shortlisted videos were uploaded to ISA-VESIT's YouTube channel for the second round. Here, two parameters were used to rank the best teaching skills. The first parameter was the likes that the video received on YouTube. Every ten likes would equate to 1 point for a maximum of 50 points per video.

The other parameter would be the score given by the panel of faculty judges, comprising of **Mr. Abhishek Chaudhari** (Assistant Professor, ETRX Department), **Mr. Gaurav Tawde** (Assistant Professor, EXTC Department), and **Mr. N Gopalakrishnan** (Assistant Professor, INST Department). The panel rated each finalist with a maximum of 50 points across innovation, communication, presentation, knowledge of the topic, and overall execution.

Poster for the EluciMate event

"The superb videos submitted by the participants and their overwhelming response is so encouraging that we want to work even harder on our upcoming events", said ISA secretary Raj Talashilkar (D11A). A total of 7 SE teams and 10 TE teams qualified for the final round where their videos were uploaded on our YouTube channel. The sum of scores from the likes and the panel of judges was used to determine who reigned supreme in ISA-VESIT's EluciMate. Here are the winners of the event.

SE category:

First Place:
Aamir Ansari (D10A) and Isha Gawde (D10A)
Second Place:
Sakshi Gupta (D9B)

TE category:

First Place:
Gayatri Jadhav (D11A) & Akshay Anand Patil (D11A)
Second Place:
Dhruvi Chauhan (D11A) and Manasi Patankar (D11A)

Winners of the SE category: L-R, Top-Bottom: Aamir Ansari (D10A) and Isha Gawde (D10A)

Winners of ISA EluciMate

Winners of the TE category: L-R, Top-Bottom: Gayatri Jadhav (D11A) and Akshay Anand Patil (D11A)

ISA Web Automation Workshop

-Gaurav Govilkar

The International Society of Automation, VESIT came up with a two-day workshop based on the lines of Web Automation and Application of Automation on a simple day-to-day basis. The objective of this workshop was to give the participants a hands-on experience of Automation. The workshop spanned over two days, 17th & 18th October 2020, with two sessions on each day, conducted via Google Meet. Each session was an hour and a half long and stressed upon developing the mindset on how an automated system works and what skills are required to design such systems.

The key points discussed throughout the workshop were:
- Basics of Python and Selenium
- Creating a WhatsApp bot using the above
- Automate the Google meet sign-in process
- Chess game Automation
- PyAutoGUI

Poster for the Web Automation Workshop

Day 1:
Session 1:
The morning schedule, which began at 10.30 am, focused on teaching the participants the basics of Python language. This session was a requisite for participants of web development domain. The latter part of the session gave the attendees a gist of Selenium Software - a portable framework for testing web applications, which was further explained in detail during the coming sessions. This session ended at noon.

Session 2:
The second session commenced, after a short break, at 1 pm. The central point of this session was to design a Whatsapp Bot. The participants were taught to design an automated Whatsapp program that was linked with the normal WhatsApp application. The bot allowed the user to send a specific message to a specific recipient automatically, just by running the written program. It was exciting for the participants to see how an automated messaging system works.

Day 2:
Session 3:
The second day began with a revision of the previous day. As they advanced into the session, the tutors discussed automation in the 'Google meet' sign-in process. This automated process makes it easier to sign-in to the links that we use daily. This topic was the center of attraction, given the daily use of Google Meets for online lectures during this pandemic times. Python along with Pycharm (an Integrated Development Environment used for Python programming) was employed to get the programming done. The session ended with a drill for an automated login process on a link provided by organizers.

Day 2:
Session 4:
The fourth session was a fun activity where participants designed algorithms for automating the process of playing Chess. It was essentially a Chess Bot which automatically plays the game on the user's behalf. After a successful run of the algorithm, the participants were given a set of interesting projects.

Workshop was conducted by: L-R, Top-Bottom: Onkar Bhatalawande (D12), Amogh Sadhu (D13), Jatin Dandelia (D14A), Prithvi Shetty (D18), Raj Talashilkar (D11A) and Manas Maskar (D11B)

The certificates for the workshop were distributed only after the submission of this process giving the participants a hands-on experience of web automation. The topics included:
- Email Automation using Selenium
- A two-player Chess Bot
- Any other project based on Selenium software.
- These projects were to be uploaded on GitHub - an advanced Git repository hosting service.

The entire workshop was tutored by **Onkar Bhatalawande** (Technical Executive at ISA-VESIT), **Amogh Sadhu** (Technical Executive at ISA-VESIT), **Jatin Dandelia** (Technical Officer at ISA-VESIT), **Prithvi Shetty** (Vice President at ISA-VESIT), **Raj Talashilkar** (Secretary at ISA-VESIT), and **Manas Maskar** (Marketing Executive at ISA-VESIT).

Narrating about his experience at the workshop, Omkar Hirugade (D8) said, "The workshop was dynamic and covered a broad range of topics under web automation. The organizers has covered all three topics and resolved everyone's doubts. The basics of Python and Selenium were meticulously taught. Involving the submission of projects in the process of certification was great. It helped us revise the concepts. Kudos to ISA for such an amazing and edifying workshop."

App Development made Easy by ISTE-VESIT

-Bhavesh Lohana and Manasi Nerurkar

App development has become a colossal point of attention for individuals and businesses alike. Moreover, the current job prospects demand us to be updated and in tune with the recent technologies. To bridge the gap between theory and practice, ISTE-VESIT organized a two-day workshop on 'Spotify using Python and APIs' on the 3rd and 4th of October 2020. The workshop was conducted on the Google Meet platform. It received an overwhelming response of over 280 enrollments. Because of this remarkable response, 2 meets were held simultaneously.

They were conducted by junior technical officers Devdatta Khoche (D15) and Sarjan Shetty (D15). The workshop began with the preliminary introduction to the basics of Python programming for the benefit of the students delving into and exploring the new language. Devdatta laid the foundation and environment for project execution. He covered the concepts of Object-Oriented Programming (OOP), exception handling, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP), and Google Firebase on the first day. The following day, the workshop was led by Sarjan who successfully built up and maintained the tempo of the webinar by the execution of the project setup. His explanation encompassed all, right from the installation of the virtual environment and libraries from the repositories to the retrieval of music from firebase. The queries and errors encountered were solved at that very moment by the technical team. The result was a music streaming app, 'Amplify' which allowed users to listen to music without any interruption from advertisements.

Condutors of the event: Sarjan Shetty (D15) and Devdatta Khoche (D15)

When asked about his experience, Gaurav Govilkar (D8) said, "The two-day workshop was energizing as well as edifying. We got to learn new and important concepts in the python programming language. The organizers meticulously handled one of the most sort-after topics of today's times. Both the sessions gave us the nuances of app development. Using firebase was an entirely new concept that I had learned. The organizers left no stone unturned to solve the doubts when they even tried to resolve the doubts on a personal level. The workshop was knowledgeable as well as a fun exercise. Kudos to the ISTE-VESIT team for their brilliant conduction of this workshop. Looking forward to more such sessions"

The workshop enhanced the exposure of actual project building and inspired participants to further explore on their own. The success of the event hosted by ISTE was confirmed by the positive response and enthusiasm shown by the attendees. All in all, this webinar meant to be a treasure-trove for the tech-savvy young minds at VESIT.

ISTE is Making Sure You " Reel-ize it! "

-Anushka Kulkarni

The Pandemic has taken a major toll on all learning verticals especially on most co-curricular activities which calls people to come together and encourages peer-to-peer learning. Councils and societies in our college are trying their best to make the online experience better. ISTE-VESIT came up with a great idea of starting a series on their Instagram page called 'Reel-ize it!' the first reel in this series was uploaded on September 30, 2020. Reels, a new feature on Instagram, are 15-30 seconds long videos which can be easily filmed and edited using the Instagram app itself.

The ISTE team has been putting a lot of great tips on the reel section of the Instagram page. The series aims at housing all the tech, placement, and GRE-related tips basically helping students with efficient tips that help them to become better students and eventually better engineers. So far date, ISTE has uploaded eight reels on the ISTE page covering important and relevant topics like coding and GRE tips. The first reel was a quick tip for cod-ing beginners which got a great response of 3500+ views. Hence, ISTE has kept uploading great tips and tricks, GRE tips, tricks on controlling android from computers, website recommendations, and even some basic but very useful windows shortcuts.

Shruti Mishra (D12C) who is the operations secretary in ISTE said "People find it interesting to watch quick short videos of 15-30 secs rather than long videos and ISTE's reels series "Reel - ize it!" did get a lot of viewership. We are also planning to make videos wherein we will be inviting Tech Experts and Ex VESITians who got placed in Dream Companies will be giving tips about their field. We are very excited to bring even more informative and advantageous placement, technology, and coding-related tips through the "Reel - ize it !" series.

To know more about ISTE's "Reel-ize it!" follow ISTE's Instagram page and you will reel-ize there are so many cool things to know which will surely help you in becoming an efficient student.

ISTE -VESIT's Reels section

weCHANGE: Spreading Smiles

-Shruti Bondre

During these uncertain times of COVID-19 and lockdowns when many people lost their jobs which was the only source of income for most families. It was also the need of the hour to generate employment opportunities for the needy in the available market. Moreover, this sudden crisis showed the lack of preparedness as the country faced a severe shortage of masks in the early months. This adversity proved to be an opportunity for many workers, as they found that they could lend their hands to supply of masks, which in turn helped them to give financial support their families. Here, **weCHANGE**, an NGO begun by VESIT alumni, proved to be a ray of hope for many such women. The **weCHANGE Entrepreneurship Cell** started its initiative, Stitching Hopes, to pro-

weCHANGE Fifth Annual General Meeting

vide a platform for these artisans and help them market their products for sale and thus achieve their dreams.

Under this initiative of Stitching Hopes, beneficiaries at **Kshamata**, Thane, were trained under the guidance of Amrit Kaur Subber and Nidhi Chheda to make these masks and market them. **Stitching Hopes** as an initiative was launched to help the marginalized communities and for providing educational support and skill-based training for the beneficiaries.

WeCHANGE conducted its fifth **Annual General Meeting** on 20th September, 2020 in a virtual format via Video Conferencing over Zoom. All the members of weCHANGE including President, **Mr. Shridhar Lokanathan** (Batch of 2015, Instrumentation) and Secretary, **Ms. Sampada Inarkar** (Batch of 2016, Instrumentation) were present. Special guests for the AGM also included **Mr. Karan Sinha** and VESIT Principal, **Dr. J.M. Nair**. The discussion in the meeting included reviewing the activities of the organization, finances, celebrating the success of mentors and interns and appreciation of member involvement.

As the lockdown norms eased after seven months, weCHANGE started **Mission Begin Again** with its first activity post lockdown, an Arts Workshop for kids at Gorai on 10th October, 2020. This activity was conducted in collaboration with **Muskurahat Foundation.** The workshop was conducted following all safety norms with limited vol-

Ms. Supriya Ramalingam at the Gender Sensitization Program at ENS, Kamshet
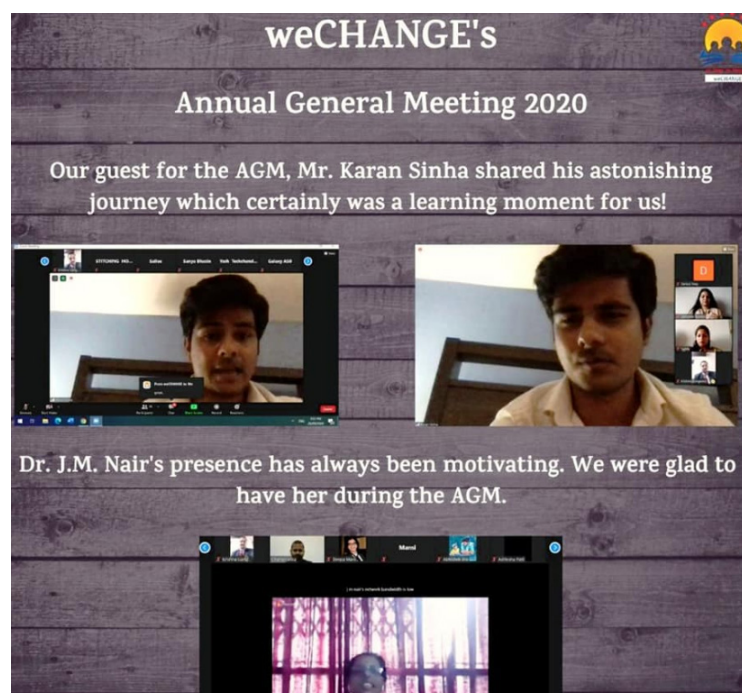

Stitching Hopes, an initiative by weCHANGE Entrepreneurship Cell

unteers. At the end of the workshop, all participating kids were awarded a certificate. It was indeed a day of smiles and learning.

weCHANGE arranged a session on Gender Sensitization at Ekta Niradhar Sangh, Kamshet in collaboration with **Ms. Supriya Ramalingam**. The aim of the program was to create a free environment for a wholesome discussion on sex education and responsibilities and help the children evolve into responsible and aware adult citizens.

weCHANGE has always been a Youth-driven Organization. It has helped a lot of people be it children or people from marginalized communities. weCHANGE has always supported them to grow and create a better life for themselves. Their programs and initiatives provide financial and emotional support to the beneficiaries and provide for the wholesome development of the youth, the future of the nation.

Dr. J.M. Nair, Principal, VESIT also attended the weCHANGE AGM 2020

Kids with weCHANGE mentors during the art workshop

Beneficiaries at ENS with Ms. Supriya Ramalingam, Mr. Shridhar Lokanathan and other weChANGE Members during the Gender Sensitization Program

Wedding Bells

-Siddhi Bhosale & Kaushal Jagasiya

While 2020 was a year which saw work-from-home, online shopping, and video calling, for a select few, it was the time for planning their wedding.

At VESIT, we had **Shweta Popat Bhosale**, Lab Assistant, Humanities and Applied Sciences Department, tie the knot with **Pratik Kumar Surve** on 25th June 2020 at a closed ceremony at Ghatkopar.

On 13th August 2020 **Rupesh Shantaram Rewale** (Peon, VESIT Library), married **Nikita Waman Kanoje** at Kopar Khairane.

VESIT Connect congratulates the newly wedded couples and wishes them a happy married life.

Mr. Rupesh Shantaram Rewale and Ms. Nikita Waman Kanoje on their wedding day

Ms. Shweta Popat Bhosale and Mr. Pratik Kumar Surve on their wedding day

"Your greatness is not what you have but what you give"

-Alice Hocker

Talk to Connect

Atharva Gupte, Student Editor of VESIT Connect

VESITConnect acted as a safe haven and an ice-breaker at a time when we felt lost and that has continued for 3 whole years. It helped us love VESIT one step at a time and gave us a sense of belonging. CA3 was our goto place and offered us the freedom to explore ourselves. Connect, unlike other student bodies in VESIT, stands out and that's why we treasure it even more. It offered us a platform to write, design and publish our work. It let us experiment, explore our potential and gain overwhelming experiences.

This year, more than ever people need to be "CONNECTed" together. Since every event in the near future might be conducted online, the change will reflect in the issues too. There would be screenshots rather than actual photos and the structure of articles will take a different turn.

Vishwakarma will be there despite fewer events, because it is more than that, it's about the people.It is about VESITIANs. Designing Vishwakarma will be levelled up as we have an experienced team. We want to make it more visually appealing and reader-friendly.

This is more than just a post for us, it's a passion project! We got a chance to join something lowkey and develop it into a brand of its own because to lead a creative bunch is a once in a lifetime chance. That's what we would advise our juniors to continue with, to help it grow because the best learning is not from courses but from each other. When you join Connect, you have to devote a lot of time and work around the clock for 365 days because you work to keep everyone CONNECTed. Last week we pulled off two issues, did the whole election campaign, held interviews and kept our social media up-to-date. It took time, hard work and teamwork to get here and that is what makes up VESITConnect.

We have achieved our goal of establishing a legacy of the best creative team, here in VESITConnect, and no one can deny it."Good things, take time.

Atharva Gupte

C V Ananya, VESLit Head

C V Ananya

Literature has always been an integral part of me. I am an avid bookworm, and through school, I participated in a lot of spell bees, crossword competitions and English olympiads. When I entered college, I knew VESLit was where I would end up, because it embodied the spirit that was closest to my heart. I got into VESLit in the second year and became the deputy head in the third year. My year as the deputy was absolutely amazing because I was working with people who shared my love for literature. So when our teachers asked us to stay on this year, I knew I was going to try to become the head, to try to give back to the council that has been a significant part of my college life.

This year, we will host the VESLit Week in the odd semester and have a few isolated events in the even semester. The general plan remains the same, but we are doing a major revamp in terms of the type of events, and what kind of audiences we'll be reaching out to! The four divisions of VESLIT namely Debate, MUNs, Films and Quiz will be working towards increasing the overall stance of each of their teams.

The team and I have a lot of ideas on what we want to do throughout the year, and I hope we can achieve most of them! Our major goal is to transition all our offline events to online and we are busy finding exciting ways to organise our events. I hope that this year we will see more of a crowd and will be able to establish some basic foundations so that in a few years VESLit will be able to hold intercollegiate competitions.

Throughout these four years, I have taken part in so many different events, debates, dramas, quizzes, dances, or sports, tapped into every possible hobby I have and I think all these experiences have nourished me as a person, and VESLit has played a crucial role in it. Remember, we are the council that panders to all things literature, so make sure that always reflects in your work and to make your college proud! Here's to always putting the 'LIT' in LITerature!

Naren Khatwani, VPC Head

When I joined VPC I didn't own a camera, instead I relied on my phone to get the required shots. I was so comfortable with mobile photography that I opted to buy a gimbal for my phone before buying a DSLR. From random shots of flowers and sunsets, I gradually learnt other dynamic skills. My fellow VPC members, seniors and juniors alike, have helped me evolve as a photographer. Today it is an honour to lead a team of 33 talented photographers.

My plan for the smooth functioning of the council is to assign specific tasks to a group of members. These tasks include creating and maintaining the drive link, editing the pictures, uploading albums on FaceBook and handling the Instagram account. Not only do we cover all council events but we are also required to click pictures of the campus for NAAC approval, conduct staff photoshoot and

Naren Khatwani

for the Convocation ceremony.

This semester we decided to tap into our enormous collection of photos and connect camera-ready memories with the camaraderie. In the coming months, we are also planning to keep an online workshop to share some valuable insights about photography. Last year we organized a Photowalk at Marine Drive. As the name suggests, the participants set out on foot to capture the moments which met their eyes. We hope to conduct a Photowalk this year too. One of the most challenging events for VPC is Utsav. There are simultaneous events inflow on different floors, and we have to make sure that we cover all events.

Photography is a stressbuster for me, it's my escape from the world. As an engineering student interested in programming, I like to say that my laptop is my partner on the weekdays while my camera occupies that role on the weekends. The truth is I only have seven pictures of myself. We tend to spend more time trying to get the perfect shot and capture the memories which one will cherish forever. Everyone has a photographer in them, it's just about capturing their perfect moment. Be passionate and try to develop your own perspective.

Archita Malgaonkar, Sports Secretary

Sports have always been an integral part of my life. I've been playing badminton for a long time now and have won state-level tournaments as well. But what really motivated me and acted as a catalyst in my decision was that VESIT has never had a Female Sports Secretary. I'm grateful to those who believed in me and hope I measure up to the faith you have in me.

In FY, when my class came runner up in Junior Sphurti, I was drawn towards the sports council & wanted to be a part of it. Being a part of the council, your days start at 7:30 AM & never end. Attending lectures, not being able to eat our tiffin on time, standing in scorching heat to conduct events for two whole months, it's a lot of hard work that we put in. Some days we didn't even have the ground to conduct events on & those were the pioneering days as I learned how the council works. If Sphurti is conducted this year, it will be a hybrid of indoor and outdoor events. We are also planning to conduct a special league for girls, and for

it to be successful we have to work things out. This year there's a big paradigm shift which is challenging as none of us have experience in organizing online events. Our biggest challenge is audience engagement in sports activities via online mode. To achieve this, luckily, I have an amazing team of extremely talented & hardworking people. By using this manpower and integrating it with my experience and knowledge, we will try our best to make an everlasting impression.

Sports is disappearing somewhere in a frenzy to maintain academics, so we need to build stronger roots. I truly believe that the Sports council is in its adolescence and we aim to build on to the foundation laid by previous councils and continue its legacy, setting a remarkable example for the future councils. I know that this year conducting 'Sports' events online won't be as fun as it is in physically playing it, but we are working hard to bring exciting and fun events for you.

Archita Malgaonkar

Ayushi Pamnani, SoRT Secretary

Ayushi Pamnani

I believe that you can always find the proverbial silver lining in every cloud — even if it's not immediately evident. This year is pretty challenging but it's important that we focus on the good things no matter how small or seemingly insignificant they are. This was the motive behind HealWithReel which is still in its initial stage, & will surely evolve in the days ahead. We want everyone to be aware of people, moments, or things that bring comfort or happiness to them.

As cliche as it sounds, SoRT is something I was just drawn to. I just wanted to reach out to the most vulnerable communities. When we set out to help others, the experience ends up helping us in turn. It's an absolute privilege now to be the Secretary of a council that is a voice to those who can't advocate for themselves & strives to make a difference. My experience as deputy last year indeed inspired me to face all the challenges head-on. Working with SoRT, I could see the impact social work had on people's lives and how it drew positive change.

With the online lectures being at its peak, it's going to be tricky to conduct events. All of us are still adapting to this new normal but one thing we don't seem to leave is our phone. We want to utilize this factor and spread awareness about the lesser-known issues that exist. As it wouldn't be feasible to organize blood donation camps this year, we want to inform people about platelet donation by conducting webinars & using social media effectively. We're also hoping to organize Umeed next semester if the odds are in favor. The spirit of giving back & contributing to society has always been the driving force for me.

SoRT has always been a family & we'd love it if more people would come forward to assist us. When we work together as the SoRT Council, there is an overwhelming sense of unity and purpose that makes us stronger. The **"Towards the better Together"** bandwagon starts with the commitment to make people smile and we'll try our best to live true to it.

VESIT Voice

-Atharva Gupte

Call it the magic of time or the just looking at the sky while the clouds pass by, we are only 2 months away from the new year. This year, be it for the better or for the worse all of us changed and grew tenfold from that experience. The month we saw our college changing and growing at every turn making the students, faculty and staff proud.

We are proud to say that the Institute Innovation Cell of VESIT was awarded a 4.5 star rating by the Innovation Cell under the Ministry of Education. VESIT added one more feather to its cap with Mrs. Pooja Nagdev and Mrs. Abha Tewari being awarded Microsoft's Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Earth Grant 2020-21. The Social Responsibility Team of VESIT took the responsibility of raising awareness about mental health amongst students which was conducted by Ms. Piya Mukherjee.

We also saw student councils putting their best foot forward with engaging virtual events like Codecell's Hacktober, Developer Student Club's 30 Days of Google of Cloud or the SPICE Council conducting workshops to help students with their placement processes. We also saw the student council elections for the Department of Master of Computer Applications, putting in place a team of fresh young minds to spearhead the department. With 2020 being a year for increased social responsibility, SoRT conducted a "Save A Life" Webinar on importance and awareness of blood platelet donation drives. ISA and ISTE jumped on the bandwagon of virtual events with different workshops spanning from the field of Automation to App Development.VESLit was back with its flagship event, 'The VESLit Week' which took a digital twist with the focus being on pop culture, current affairs and television shows clubbed together with traditional events like MUNs and debates. We also had the entrepreneurship cell of weChange started a noble initiative called 'Stitching Hopes'. Along with our monthly dose of creativity from the musings and expressions we also spoke to the student body leaders across different councils and circles of VESIT and how they plan on conducting digital events for the academic year. The Sports Council organised a virtual Yoga session keeping in mind the physical and mental wellness of students.

In VESIT Diaries we talk to Mr. Navin Gurnani from the Batch of 2013. Read on to find out about his journey in college and how educational institutions like VESIT and IIM-A played a pivotal role in his career.

VESIT Connect Team

Musings And Expressions

A Tear Drop

- Dhruvi Chauhan (D11A)

Welling of eyes signifies it's presence,
Blurs the vision within seconds.
Brimming up at a fast rate,
Trying not to topple, but it's too late.

Trickling down the rosy cheeks,
Though a drop, volumes it speaks.
Reaching down to the chin, the lowest tip,
All tries in vain; can't stop it trip.

Falling down on the heavy chest,
The very epicenter feels at its crest.
And yet again eyes well up to the brim,
Not stopping this time, directly topples the rim.

And the cycle repeats for, I don't know how long,
Lost is the personality san, sound and strong.

Rohit Kundani (D15)

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."

- Pablo Picasso

Hurricane

- Anushka Rajwade D16B

I could feel my hand stretched on the soft sand
I could feel my eyelids droop again and again

I could hear the waves splashing against the land
I could hear my heartbeats rhyme when

Up above the clouds dark
The rain came pouring in

Down below there was a cold spark
When the storm met the sea

Like a lonely boat swaying in deep waters,
Like a lonesome show, the empty seats in a theatre

I felt my body float,
I felt my mind fly
High and slow

As if I'm left alone on a broken boat,
But my mind high
And the ground beneath me low

I could feel my hand stretching, trying to hold on
The pole of light, the pole of hope

The buoy bobbing violently up and down,
My only pole of light, my kaleidoscope

I could feel myself caught in a hurricane,
The eddy swirling, pulling me down

But in my mind, I was still stuck in your lane,
Running the same path over and over in your town

I could see myself ensnared in a hurricane,
Its energy making me come undone

The storm now has me in chains,
Sucking the life out of me, sucking all the fun

I felt my body float,
I felt my mind fly
High and slow

As if I'm left alone on a broken boat,
But my mind high
Leaving the water beneath me, low

When I opened my eyes I saw nothing but pitch black sea
The silence after the storm echoing everywhere

My silver dress now wet, but shining brightly
Like a spotlight, like a cold gush of air

A spotlight amidst a sea of happy faces,
A lover searching for his 'the one'

A cold gush of air in Summery hot places,
Leaving you gasping out in the hot sun

I could feel my soul leaving my body, chilling
The stormy winds taking control

I could feel the terror, see the whirlwind spinning
The void inside me uncovered, a big gaping hole

My mind frozen like a bad stuck-up tape
As I realized my terrible mistake

I felt my body float,
I felt my mind fly
High and slow

As I leave the lonely broken boat,
My mind high
Plunging into the water beneath me, so low

I was now inside your hurricane
Engulfed in your emotions, evermore

I was now your hurricane
Your pain and your happiness, forever more

Janhavi Mulchaandani (D7A)

Neeharika Nagori (D7A)

The Last Letter from a Soldier to His Wife!

- Siddhi Bhosale (D7A)

I hope you don't mind,
For I am writing you a letter of this kind,
Coz I just felt I should rewind.
The memories of the past ,
With lots of happiness and joys are vast,
They will be with you till the last!

This is the last letter that I have written,
Please don't wait for my return!
I am going for a fight,
And this one is not light.
I will fight for our country,
Till we get a victory,
So that my end is satisfactory!

I know dear you love my care,
Don't worry I am going nowhere,
Will just be around you everywhere!

At times I will be the cool breeze on sunny days,
Sometimes I will be the unclear haze,

Witness the sunrise and the sunset,
Remember I am watching you,and I don't like you being upset!

Don't be afraid my sweetheart,
Our ways have not yet part,
We still have a lot of dreams to achieve,
Well you can do them all alone is all I believe!

I know you are mentally strong and stable,
Do read my diaries kept on the table,
I know you've even read a few without my permission,
But now they are all yours with an open invitation!

When Mom Dad will know about the demise,
I know there will be tears in their eyes,
Please wipe their tears well,
Don't give me a sad farewell,
With a heavy heart bid me adieu,
After all you have to start anew!
You have to start anew!

Aniket Ingle (D14B)

Nikita Joshi (D14B)

"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still."

- Dorothea Lange

VESIT Diaries

Mr. Navin Gurnani is a VESIT alumni of Department of Computer Engineering Batch of 2013. He is a Senior Product Manager with a demonstrated history of working in the information technology and services industry, a strong product management professional with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) focused in Business Administration and Management, General from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Q1. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT?

My VESIT journey has been one of the most unforgettable one. I got to make great friends for life, learn how to deal with life, and have fun at the same time. In college I was involved in Praxis and CSI which used to help me keep saner in between the arduous hours of academic work.

Q2. What was the most memorable moment / time at VESIT?

I clearly remember, Praxis '12 being one of the most memorable times of college. I did not sleep for three nights with around 30 events happening across the board. We would organize events during the day and then play LAN gaming in the night. One of my strongest friendships was built during Praxis. The events also gave me my first taste of taking up responsibility and that was rejuvenating. I would love to relive those moments again.

Q3. How was your professional life after VESIT?

I started my career at Indus Valley Partners. Reality of life suddenly kicked in with a sudden jolt of professional work. I did not have any framework of thinking around how to work in a professional environment. In this menace all around, there were seniors who would help me declutter the confusion and showcase the right path. One good learning came after one year of work is that you should never shy away from asking questions. If you are genuinely concerned about something, people will go out of their way to help you achieve your goals. So right after college, it was actually messy and a good experimentation age to make a lot of mistakes.

Q4. Tell us about your decision to do an MBA after working in the IT industry?

After working for a year at Indus Valley Partners it became clear that I was more curious about solving business problems than solving software or technical problems. Considering I had zero background into management, I started talking to different people around me. I used to discuss with various business managers at IVP during lunch about how their experience was post-MBA. I also used to read this blog called PagalGuy.com to get a grip on what a person does after MBA. There were few seniors from VESIT who pursued MBA right after graduation. Their perspective helped a lot as well. By the end of the two year research, it became quite an easy decision to take up an MBA. The key learning was to keep talking with the right stakeholders and keep building up perspective on the topic of interest.

Q5. How was your experience of doing an MBA from IIM-A ?

IIM Ahmedabad gives you the opportunity to stretch your limit to the maximum. The daily grind in the first year helped me get ready for the future career ahead.

A lot of time was spent on not just learning new things but on unlearning all the bad mental patterns picked up earlier. Like, I had this habit of overthinking into multiple things at the same time and then confusing myself into not taking any action. IIMA-A removed the problem without even making me realise.

I also got to do an internship in Kenya and an exchange program in Europe, which was a new cultural setting for me altogether. I learned from diverse individuals and students from across the globe helping me shape up better.

Every student at IIM-A has his own personal journey and at the end it is clear that the journey is a transformative one for everyone. I can say that, you change as an individual in your two years of MBA what you would usually change in ten years.

Q6. IIM- A is considered to be the best B- School in India, how has it met your expectations and shaped your professional journey ?

IIM Ahmedabad helped me open doors into a career in Product Management. My batchmates and the faculty helped with me clarifying various doubts about what a career in Product Management would look like.

IIM Ahmedabad has also helped me get the financial security of a steady income. This helps me take riskier bets in my career which I would have never been able to mentally afford had it not been for an MBA. I have become a bit more calmer and relaxed professionally. IIM Ahmedabad has fully met my expectations and helped me have an easier professional path ahead.

Q7. How important is post-graduation in today's world and how relevant it is to do an MBA in today's date?

I believe the world's information is getting commoditized with seamless accessibility to it because of the internet. What that means is everything today feels just a single click away. The tradeoff of this advantage is that no one is ready to put in the effort to go deep in a subject.

A post graduation offers you the exact opposite advantages. It forces you to go deep into a single topic of study for a sustained amount of time. This helps you bring about a richer transformation of an individual. Post graduation comes with the additional advantage of a one to two year of sustained time that you get to spend with yourself. This gives you time to reflect on what you really want in your life.

An MBA, as compared to a post graduation in general, has its own tradeoffs. MBA helps you build many soft skills which helps you become a masterful generalist. The other side to it is you don't build any specific hard skills. Generalists are more fluid in their career in terms of fitting into different career trajectories such as marketing, finance, operations, etc., but miss out on the deeper meaningful advantage of building something on your own. So to answer the question you need to ask yourself whether you want to go deep into a single area of study or want to go wide across different areas.

Q8. What is the importance of extracurricular activities in a student's life and how to manage them along with academics?

I define extracurricular activities in a more fluid manner than how we usually define it. Extracurricular activities are anything which helps you afford

Mr. Navin Gurnani

a multifaceted personality on a different dimension than the usual academic rigor. For example, students today can build side businesses, start online stores, build their own NGO, be Zomato reviewers, travel the world, get immersed in reading, learn how to solve a Rubik's cube, or anything in the spectrum of things available at their disposal. Once you start doing things outside your academic rigor, you start building the muscle to take up things which are larger than yourself and take them to completion.

To manage time for extracurricular activities along with academics you need to start small by just putting in a few hours a week so that you would be able to start accommodating time in your schedule. After a few weeks you would start seeing a flywheel effect where you would not need to miss out on a lot of academic time to make up time for the activity. Like any habit, the extracurricular activity also grows on the individual and finds its own time.

Q9. What are some of your interests , hobbies you developed during your college life that remained with you till today and have added value to your life?

I had built interest in the Dalal Street event at Praxis. I find myself lucky to have won the event twice. After reflecting on this, I have realized that thinking on my feet is one of the qualities I have been able to develop because of the event.

Another habit I picked up in college was reading non-fiction books. It might seem cliche now, but the muscle of reading helps me put in the long hours to achieve bigger things in life. I see a lot of friends who have completely lost the habit of reading and regret it now considering they did not hold to such a habit.

College gave me a good playground to experiment with being funny around. This has helped me see the lighter side of any situation. In today's world where everyone is stressed out about their future it helps a lot in remaining saner and coming out as a winner.

Q10. Please guide on some interpersonal skills a student should develop apart from academic knowledge for a professional life.

I find myself negotiating with different stakeholders all the time. Building negotiation skills will help you find resolution in a situation where you find yourself stuck. I would highly recommend a book on this topic, Never split the difference by Chris Voss, to learn the art of negotiation.

If you see your daily interactions, a good part goes into selling your ideas to other individuals. I would want you to develop your selling skills. Selling did not come naturally to me and hence I have read various books to understand it more deeply. A good book to build this muscle is Demand Side Selling by Bob Moesta to understand the nuances of selling.

One skill which goes a long way is active listening. In any situation, your mind would always wander in multiple directions. You need to help yourself build the habit of actively allowing other people's thoughts to modify your thoughts. Being curious and having wonder in any situation helps you overcome this and understand a situation in a more deeper manner than ever explored before. It also helps you showcase your edge of your work . I have found practising meditation as a good habit to built this skill. You can watch videos from John Vervaeke on YouTube to learn how to practise meditation.

Q11. What according to you are the key factors students should consider before deciding which field they want to pursue after graduating college?

The first thing is to check what subject helps you achieve flow state. Areas where you forget the passage of time, where you find the field challenging enough that you keep at it without losing any enthusiasm.

A proxy indicator is to see who are the individuals you look upto in your life. These people have the qualities which attract you and you want to inculcate the same in yourself. Reflecting on what field these guys have pursued would help you get more clarity into what you want to pursue in life.

Q12. 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?
COVID-19 has given us enough time to come in alignment with ourselves. Job hireability is a function of your current skillset, and how you present yourself. If you are part of the immediate graduating batch then you can spend your time on building these skills.

If you have two years or more time before your graduation, then take up creative projects or do creative retreat for a month. Give yourself time to create something of your own. I took up start-

ing my own startup right before starting my first job post MBA. It helped me gather additional courage of running a business which I would have missed out on had I not taken up such a venture. The market favors individuals who take riskier bets irrespective of ultimate failure or success. What would matter in a decade is that you took that risk more than anything. Additionally, you would have changed as an individual and be better prepared for a career ahead than anything.

Q13. Message for the new generation at VESIT!
If I look back and find the key reasons which have shaped my life, I would find VESIT to be one of the key ingredients in the recipe. For me it was the best playground to experiment and build my character and my career. You have one of the biggest opportunities provided to you in terms of mentors, college, and peers to achieve your dreams.

The year 2020 has not been easy for you. Your education has been disrupted; you have been separated from your friends and family. But I am here to tell you: big changes are coming, and you need to be part of them and keep the VESIT spirit going. All the best for your future.

Sports

Yoga: Body and Soul, a Balanced Role

-Kaushal Jagasia

The pandemic has locked us all in our homes and we have become more static than ever. We are caged in, with not enough space for physical well-being let alone mental wellness. The VESIT Sports Council, having realized this quandary, decided to conduct an online Yoga Session.

It was held on 18 October 2020 at 5 pm on Google Meet. The session was spearheaded by **Mrs. Pallavi Pawar**, VESIT Alumna, Batch of 1990, Instrumentation. Mrs. Pallavi has completed a Diploma, a 3-year Bachelors and also a two year Masters in Yogashastra. Additionally, she has done her graduation in Pranic Handling which uses the integrated approach of Yoga. One of the major goals of Mrs. Pallavi is alleviating mental wellness in youngsters. Close to 60 students registered and

joined in for this uplifting session.

The session commenced with **Mrs. Kajal Jewani**, (Assistant Professor - Department of Computer Engineering) introducing Mrs. Pallavi Pawar to all the attendees. The students performed the *yoga asanas* parallelly with Mrs. Pallavi. Some of the *asanas* practiced on the day were *Golf Chakra* (ankle rotation), *Baddha Konasana* (butterfly asana), *Greeva Sanchalana* (neck rotation), *Kapotasana* (pigeon pose), and *Vyaghrasana* (tiger breathing). A total of twenty exercises were taught and practiced throughout the session.
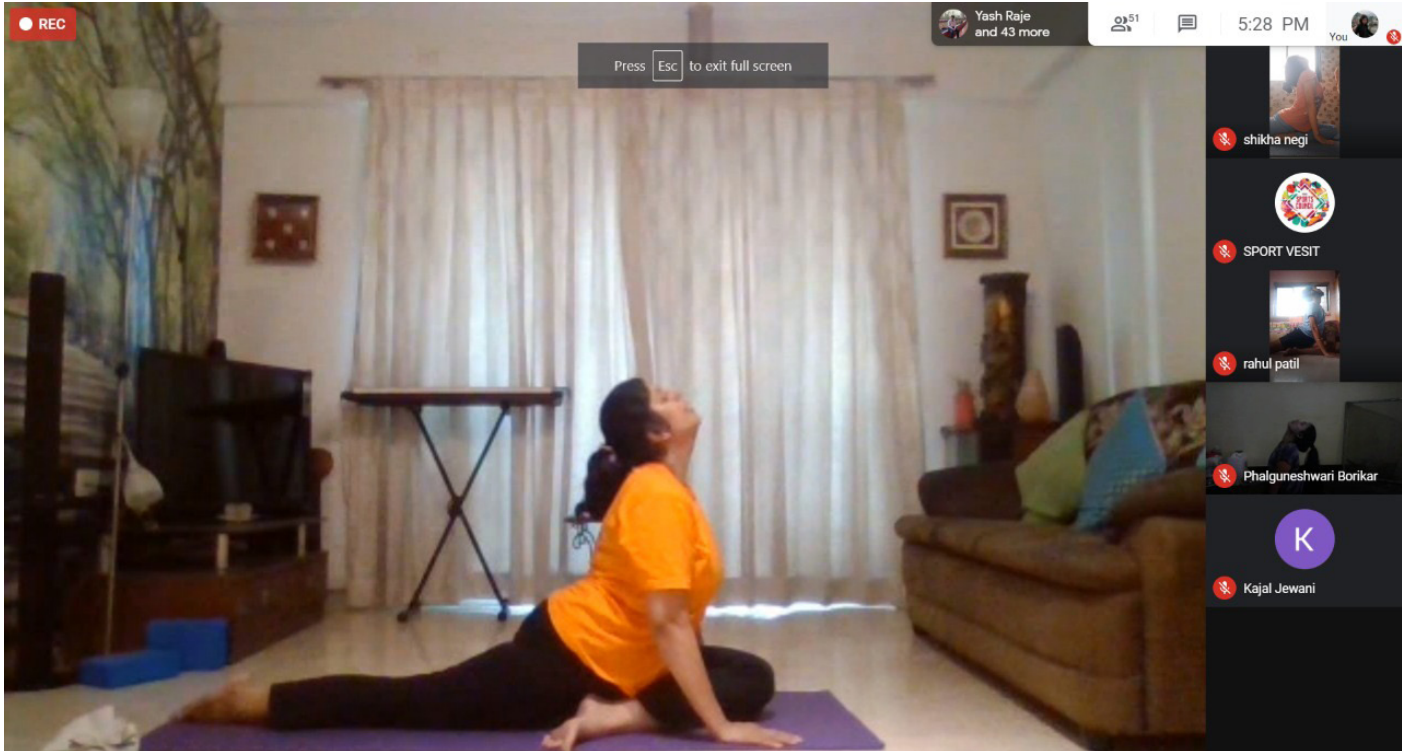
The exercises or asanas were basic yet effective and the students were educated about the benefits of each asana that they practiced. It was appealed to the students to inculcate Yoga in their

daily routine for its wholesome and salubrious effects on the body, mind, and soul.

The session concluded with everyone reciting the *Shanti mantra* of *Isha Upanishad*, which is a part of Yajurveda :

> "*Om purna mada purna midam*
> *Purnaat purnam udachyate*
> *Purnasya purnam adaaya*
> *Purnam eva vasishyate*
> *Om shanti shanti shantih*"

The enriching session was capped off with a vote of thanks, given by the Sports Secretary Archita Malgoankar (D11B) to Mrs. Pallavi Pawar.

Mrs. Pallavi Pawar leading the session with great enthusiasm.