VESIT Connect

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VESIT Alumni Day 2019

--Sreevidya Iyer

The annual VESIT Alumni Day 2019 was organized on Saturday, 21st December 2019 at Sindhi Society Gymkhana from 7.00 pm onwards. The Alumni Day is held every year to strengthen the bond between the Alumni and their Alma Mater. This year marked the Silver Jubilee celebrations for Batch 1994. The function was presided over by VESIT Trustees - Shri. B.L. Boolani, Dr. Lulla, Advocate Shri. Kannan, Mrs. Saxena, the Vice-principal, Dr. Vijaylakshmi, , VESIT Alumni Committee members, Heads of Departments and Deputy Heads of Departments.

The function began with informal introduction of Alumni members from various batches amongst themselves. About one hundred Alumni had registered for the evening. The President of VESIT Alumni Cell, Mr. Vijay Talreja, presented a formal welcome address to the attendees. In her address to the gathering Vice Principal , Dr. Vijaylakshmi gave a brief report on the achievements and developments at VESIT in the year 2019. Our Trustee, Shri. Boolani and all the Alumni members of the 1994 Batch unveiled the "WAVES" magazine. There was a formal round of introduction of the Silver Jubilee Alumni (From the Batch 1994) and also of other senior Alumni members across all Batches. Trustee, Shri. Boolani addressed the gathering with his noble thoughts on the significance of the day.

The Distinguished Alumni award for the year 2019 was awarded to Mr. Jayesh Kirange- Director of a Hedge Fund Administration and Consulting company SS&C Globeop, also the Chairman and Founder of Nitya Saarthi Foundation - a non-profit, non-government organization. The award was handed over by Trustee Shri Boolani. Mr. Jayesh Kirange, then, briefed the audience about his career building journey and recounted about the all-volunteer Nitya Saarthi Foundation.

The function ended with the DJ followed by dinner. It brought back many fond memories for the alumni and the teachers and gave them an opportunity to relive their college days.

Wedding Bells

-Sristi Kushwaha

The month of May rings in the wedding bells for **Ms. Komal Durgavane**, Lab Assistant in Computer Department VESIT, when she tied the knot with Amol Salunkhe on 17th December 2019. VESITConnect congratulates the newly wedded couple and wish them a Happy Married life.

Mr. Jayesh Kirange receiving the Distinguished Alumni of 2019 award from Shri Boolani sir

Alumni Incharges of VESIT

The Silver Jubilee Batch of VESIT at the Alumni Meet

VESIT Conducts Winter Internships

-Yash Aswani

Internships provide a great platform for students who wish to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world applications. They provide a great insight to the student by not only making him adept in analytical skills but also guide them to be ready for the industry.

Every winter, VESIT provides internships for its students, soon after the commencement of the winter break. These internships provide great opportunities with projects which are not only challenging but also important for developing the right technical skills and knowledge. Each project belongs to a separate domain and there are a diverse range of domains such as IT, Electronics and Computer Science for the student to choose.

The projects available to students were included VESIT Content Management System, Bank Application for the Disabled, Automatic Cloth Drying System, Developing a Trainer Kit, and Patient Referral System. This exercise helped the students brush up and develop skills in their preferred domain, thereby strengthening their core technical skills.

This Winter Internships commenced on the 27th of November and were aimed to conclude by the 2nd of January. Students who are not able to complete their projects within the stipulated interval will be given extensions for six months or more. This provision gave students the flexibility to manage their work and time easily and efficiently.

Students working on their projects at the Winter Internship

VESITians Shine At The TOI Quiz-a-thon

-Sristi Kushwaha

Quiz-a-Thon, an Inter-college Quiz competition, organized by The Times of India, was held at Phoenix Marketcity, Kurla on 19th December 2019. Each college could send four teams per college with three members per team. It saw over 500 students from all over Mumbai. **C V Ananya (D14A), Adith Nair (D14B) and Avinash Tripathy (D9B)** from VESIT secured the Third place in this competitive battle of wits where a total of 170 teams participated. Mihir Mishra, an Indian television actor, was the Chief Guest for the 'Quiz-a-thon'.

The first round was an arduous paper elimination round where students were asked 25 questions on current affairs and general knowledge. Six teams who made it to the final round was then seated on the podium where they had to go through five round. VJTI stood first with a total of 50 points, followed by NIFT with 40 points. The team from VESIT secured the second runners-up position with 35 points.

The quiz was not to determine who knows the most, it was about appreciating the ones who used their proficiency and presence of mind earnestly. The winners received a trophy, individual medals and certificates along with fabulous gift vouchers and hampers each.

L-R: Adith Nair (D14B), CV Ananya (D14A) and Avinash Tripathy (D9B)

L-R: Aditya Rao (D12B), Neeraj Patil (D6A), Anahita Goswami (D19A), Adith Nair(D14B), CV Ananya (D14A), Avinash Tripathy (D9B), Arnab Saha (D9B), Rohan Ghosalkar (D7C), Arnav Bagchi(D7C), with Dr. Geeta Ajit

Competition makes you better, always, always makes you better, even if the competitor wins.

-Carlos

VESIT Voice

-Gayatri Belapurkar

As the month of December dawns upon us, smiles grow wider on the faces of everyone at VESIT, as they prepare for their month-long vacation. Owing to the Mumbai University, all students indeed have the time they would need to pursue a professional internship and make the most of their engineering days. With this in mind, the college organised Winter Internships to aid the efforts of students and to keep them busy.

Looking within the college, one would expect some calm in the campus this month. However, this place is buzzing with energy as students prepare for Illusion 2020, ISA conducts its workshops and students prepare for multiple competitions. All this preparation indeed converted to results as VESITians shone at the TOI Quiz-a-thon, the MCC quiz, the CII debate, IES debate and at IMT Hyderabad. Students have also brought out the sportsmen and sportswomen in them and won at VJTI's sports event, Enthusia.

This month witnessed the Alumni Meet, with alumni returning to their alma mater. Speaking of alumni, WeChange, an NGO initiated and headed by the alumni of VESIT, has been doing very well and is constantly reminding us at VESIT to do our part for the society. The alumnus speaking to us this month for the Diaries section is Mr. Prashun Chatterjee.

We hope you enjoy this vibrant issue reminds you of your days at VESIT and brings a smile on your face.

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Quizzards of VESIT Shine in MCC

-Vanshika Dangi

Avinash Tripathy (D9B) and C.V Ananya (D14A) represented VESIT at an Intercollegiate Quiz competition and secured the first place.The competition organized by the Mulund College of Commerce during their fest "Spectrum", on December 18, 2020.

The questions asked were based on economics, business, history, geography, sports and current affairs.The quiz consisted of three rounds. The first round being written prelims, wherein the participants had to answer ten questions within ten minutes. Both Avinash and Ananya qualified for the next round.In the second round, the participants had to stand at a point on the circumference of a circle and answer questions, after each right answer, they were to take a step towards the center of the circle. The first two participants to reach the center of the circle qualified for the finale.

The final roQund was a buzzer round, and the contestants were asked ten questions. Avinash bagged the first position with a total score of 40 points.The received a certificate and a 300 rupee cash prize.

"The quiz was really different from the other quizzes which I had gone to before. The circumference round was not only challenging but also equally fun.We look forward to playing such engaging and entertaining quizzes" said Ananya.

Avinash Tripathy (D9B) receiving the winning certificates.

VESITians Justify Their Merit At CII Debate

-Bhavesh Lohana

With a surge in innovation, the competitive and analytical thinking skills of the students is challenged. A Debate Competition was held by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Western Region. Smartest minds were picked from different cities, to strive on riveting topics. CII raised a platform, The India We Want, as an opportunity for bright young minds to take charge and exhibit their thoughts. This nationwide competition was held at President Hotel, Mumbai, on 5th December, 2019. The chief guest was Mr. Aiyaaz Menon, cricket commentator and anchor.

It consisted of two categories: Below eighteen years and Above eighteen years. In the first round, the participants had to prepare a video of one minute, in which they had to present their points. After evaluation of the entries on the basis of the method of delivery and eloquence of idea, four teams per category were shortlisted for the semi-finals, following the final competition.

More than ten teams from our college participated, but the only team that went through for the second round was of Adith Nair(D14B) and CV Ananya(D14A) qualified for the semi-finals The topic which was given to them was 'Whether one-child policy must be implemented or not.' Following the competitive semi-finals, the duo contended their opponents with a sense of zeal. After a gruelling and intense round of semifinals against H.R College of Commerce and Economics. The duo procured a satisfactory third position with a great sense of team-spirt.

Adith Nair (D14B) said, "I have been to many debates before but CII provided me with a different platform altogether. It was an excellent competition and it tested my debating and analytical skills. We also got to see a lot of great debates amongst all the categories and the panel of judges were also very senior and experienced which enriched the experience in total."

Adith Nair and C.V Ananya with their winning certificates at the CII Debate, Western Region

A High of Victories at IMT, Hyderabad

-Mansi Kasar

Atique Kudchi (D11A) and Atharva Gupte (D14A) secured the second position in two of the events in the Institute of Management Technology, Hyderabad's Annual Management Fest, Impelz 6.0. The grand fest was held on the magnificent campus of IMT, Hyderabad on 6th December and 7th December 2019.

'Battle of Wits' was an equally interesting and challenging event that tested the creativity, analytical skills, and presence of mind of the participants. This was conducted by the MRC, the PR Club of IMT Hyderabad. The first round involved writing a well-structured press release on a jumbled topic provided by the organizers. The next round tested their creativity skills and included making an incomplete comic strip complete by filling up the dialogue boxes with dialogues. They secured the first runners up position by skillfully maneuvering the rounds.

They also secured first runners up in 'After Stories' which was based on creative writing and use of imagination. The event was based on writing a story about the next season or a sequel to a book, movie or television show and make it as engaging as possible in less than two-fifty words

They wrote a thrilling plot for the second season of the hit Amazon Prime show, 'The Boys' and secured the second place. They were also the finalists for Adtract'19 which was the flagship marketing event of Impelz 6.0.

"The campus was spectacular and the energy of the fest was infectious. We competed against many teams from the premium B-schools in the nation and the competition was really good. The events were conducted very well and it was an equally stressful and enjoyable experience", said Atique Kudchi.

Atharva Gupte (D14A) and Atique Kudchi (D11A) with their certificates at IMT Hyderabad

Debating on Thin 'IES'

-Sristi Kushwaha

Adith Nair (D14B) and Harish Muthalagan(D19A) secured the first position in VaadWeVaad, the Debating Competition in Indian Education Society's Management College and Research Center, Bandra. The competition was a part of their finance-based fest, FinFare. The objective of the fest was to help the students understand the complex finance concepts and enhance their understanding in the fields of finance.

VaadWeVaad, the Debating competition had three rounds. In the elimination round, the participants had to debate on the given topic for a duration of twelve minutes. The next round, Super Four, was similar to the previous round and Adith and Harish cleared the round with eloquence and solid arguments. The last round was the Face-Off round in which the top two competitors engaged in a debate for a longer duration. At the end of a high

octane debate, Adith and Harish were declared as the champions.

"IES gave us an excellent opportunity to brush up on our debating skills, we went head-on against management teams which gave us a lot of experience which we were lacking against professional debaters," said Harish Muthalagan.

Adith Nair (D14B) and Harish Muthalagan (D19A) with their certificates at IMT Hyderabad

Ruia Acti-tude: An act that takes you centuries back

-Mihir Pamnani

Sneha Kartik (D2C)

Sneha Karthik (D2C) secured the second runners up position in, Acti-tude, the intercollegiate mono act competition held at Ramnarain Ruia College. The competition was held on the 24th December 2019.

The theme for the event was Classic Literature. The theme was not only challenging but also very informative. The participants had to study the classic historical epics from centuries before and then put up a befitting performance for the act. Sneha Karthik played the role of Lady Macbeth, from William Shakespeare's classic play, Macbeth.

The stage stood witness to the acting prowess of participants from several colleges as they took up roles from the Merchant of Venice's Antonio to Miss Havisham from Great Expectations.

"The experience at Acti-tude was very enriching, I saw some phenomenal acts as the par-

ticipants displayed their rich acting skills with everlasting fervour. I would definitely love going to more such competitions in the future", said Sneha.

Sneha Karthik (D2C) performing her Mono act at Actitude'19

The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves.

- Julius Ceaser

Getting Technical with ISA-VESIT

-Rashmi Singh

ISA-VESIT is known for its diversity in workshops they conduct. Being known as a technical society they have always succeeded in providing its members with technology from basics to advance. ISA conducted three workshops in December for its members. The workshops were Wireless Sensor Network(WSN), FPGA and Embedded Systems. Each of these workshops had something new to learn.

ISA conducted WSN workshop from 2nd December to 5th December 2019 in lab 107 and 108. Wireless networking is known for providing information transmission at a much higher pace which is the requirement of today's world. WSN is all about specialized sensors that form a communication network wirelessly and founds its application in IoT.
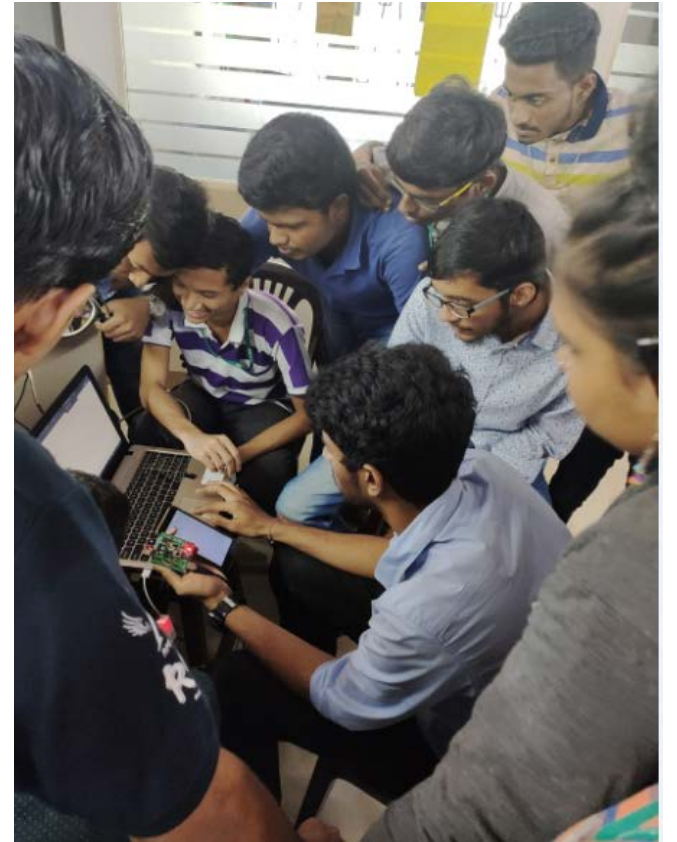
Each day, during the course of the workshop, consisted of theory and practical sessions equally divided into three hour duration. On Day 1, the students were instructed on the basics of WSN, its applications, its edge over others and many more terms involved in it. The practicals included use of Arduino IDE and board. ISA provided students with customized shields for Arduino that was used for demonstration of LDR and controlling the brightness of LED. The next day was loaded with many activities that included hardware implementation. Students who participated were divided into groups of three, where they played the role of transmitter and receiver for the information they shared through Arduino. The participants were also introduced to NRF and ESP modules that were useful in information transmission. Students were taught the use of firebase which is a database platform and MIT app inventor to make their own apps and add functions in it to operate wirelessly. Said Rutwik Pendse (D8), "The workshop taught many new things; and App development was one of them. It was the first time we were learning about communication and it proved to be really informative for us."

The second workshop that was conducted was FPGA. The workshop was held from 9th to 11th December 2019 and was conducted in Lab 107 of the Department of Instrumentation Engineering. The aim of the workshop was to introduce students to programmable devices and logical devices that are used in computers, circuits and systems. The speaker for the workshop were three final year students Prithviraj Billav, Sanket Jadhav and Nikhil Sonawale from D18. The workshop commenced with the installation of Xilinx software and later digital logics were implemented by the students. Students made their own ALU (Arithmetic Logical Unit) which is an essential part of a logical device. Saurav Bhosle (D8) said, "The activities and assignments gave us a chance to collectively understand and wrap our minds around the concept of FPGA."

The third workshop, the Embedded Systems Workshop, was conducted exclusively for the Third year and Fnal year students. An embedded system is a combination of computer hardware and software, either fixed in capability or programmable, designed for a specific function or functions within a larger system. The workshop was from 12th to 18th December 2019 and conducted in lab 107 by Mr. N. Gopalkrishnan, Assistant Professor at the Department of Instrumentation Engineering.

The workshop commenced with the introduction to the Embedded systems. Students were introduced to different kinds of Cortex and ARMs and about its architecture. They were instructed on installation of software and were handed STM32 F401R boards. The first practical demonstration was blinking an LED. On day two students were given programmable shields which they used to manipulate and interface LEDs with various other components. The following day, the students were taught about timers, interrupts and delays and pro-

Students engaged in circuit implementation

grams for it.

On day four RTOs (Real-Time Operation Systems) were introduced to students and were given related programs to execute. On the last day, students were given problem statements, the solution to which involved all the concepts they had learned throughout the workshop. Tanmay Shravge (D13) said, "At the start, the concepts seemed difficult and foreign but with practice, we got a better overview of concepts. The workshop was concluded with the students learning the fundamentals of Embedded systems, being acquainted with the newly introduced components and executing programs that interfaced both software and hardware."

Practical demonstration by Prithvi Shetty (Secretary ISA VESIT)

Art without engineering is dreaming. Engineering without art is calculating.

-Steven Roberts

Musings And Expressions

My Winter Internship at Titan

-Anusha Krishnan (D14B)

My winter internship at the Corporate Office of Titan Company Limited, Bangalore was highly fruitful. It was for a period of one month, from the 2nd of December 2019 to the 3rd of January 2020, where I was placed under the Head of the Analytics and Data Science Department.

Titan is an Indian company that mainly deals with customer products such as watches, jewelry, eyewear, etc. Accurate customer data is of utmost importance as it helps improving product advertising and marketing. The buyer is at the center of the company's success and fulfilling the buyer's wants raises the profits of the company. My project revolved around this concept and was roughly divided into two parts. First, to create a deep learning model on Python that predicted the mother tongue of a customer, given his/her name, gender, state and city of product purchase. Second, to improve a pre-existing model that predicted future customer purchases from past purchases and perform hyper-parameter tuning on the improved model. I was allotted 2.5 weeks for the first task and 2 weeks for the second.

The software tools I used were Jupyter Notebooks, which contained the code and the datasets of the customer data and, Amazon Sage-Maker, which contained the notebook instance and various training job outputs. Jupyter Notebooks is a web application that allows you to create and share documents that contain code. It has many uses such as data cleaning and transformation, machine learning, statistical modeling, data visualization, etc. Amazon SageMaker, on the other hand, is a service that AWS provides that allows users such as data scientists and ML enthusiasts to create, train and de
ploy deep and machine learning models.

For the first task, I began by creating a neural network that took the input variable as "customer name" and predicted the variable "mother tongue" solely from the entered name. This model, after being trained and tested on a large dataset, had an accuracy of 72%. On changing the network parameters manually and adding two auxiliary input variables of "state and city of purchase", the accuracy jumped to 83%. For the second task, I worked on the pre-existing model by adding more hidden layers to the network and ran this model through Amazon SageMaker. The final model was saved on Amazon S3 (Amazon Simple Storage Service) on which the predictions were made. The new model's accuracy improved by 4.562% from the older one.

This experience not only introduced me to large scale, real-time technical projects but also gave me insight into the corporate world. It improved my interpersonal skills, taught me the importance of punctuality, which I previously lacked and helped me develop time management skills which are very necessary for successful project completion.

Paper Jam

-Abhiruchi Bhattacharya (D17A)

So, the printer in your lab isn't working. You had rushed into this lab around an hour ago, hoping to print out the front pages of your journal well before your submission. The scattered crowd already waiting around the printer had discouraged you. You decided to scour the rest of the labs on your floor first before getting in line. Surely, there must be another working printer in the nine other labs here. Alas, each lab you entered landed a blow in your faith. The only functional printer on this floor had been the one you had passed by. Defeated and regretful, you had gone back to the lab and bided your time, stifling your impatience and waiting for your turn.

The printer chews up your last blank page, crumpling it up halfway and stopping, as the computer complains of a paper jam. Great, you think, any moment now and the assistant will be breathing down your neck. You try to rally the best of your engineering spirit and attempt to fix the problem. You open up the paper tray and tug at the paper. You feel it tearing, which sends a shiver of panic down your spine and you immediately stop. You try restarting the printer but it whirs at you for a moment, coughs out your half-torn sheet of paper and then settles back into its resolute state, flashing its menacing red light at you. You restart the PC, but the printer does not budge. The few people waiting behind you have lost faith in the device and are looking for other options.

You are baffled. Your eyes dart towards your wristwatch, showing too little time remaining. This can't be real. You can feel your nerves straining under the stress that descends upon your shoulders. You consider going down to the xerox shop as a last resort, but the long way down and the thought of the crushing crowd of students shoots that idea down. That's it, you've lost your chance. Your professor leaves very soon. Even if you went down to the shop and got the prints now, they're not going to be persuaded to give you a sign as they leave their cabin.

You should have listened to your own anxiety and taken the prints before you came to college, but you didn't. What makes the feeling of your hopes being dashed to the ground even worse is how somewhere in your heart of hearts, you knew this would happen. It's all because of those buffoons that got to the printer before you. They probably messed it up after getting so many prints. What were they printing for so long anyway, a book? Didn't they realise how fragile these printers are? Why didn't they go get it printed from the xerox shop or somewhere else? Of course, for the same reasons as you didn't. But you have a submission, for crying out loud. Doesn't that entitle you to something? You waited for an hour. You only wanted a couple of pages. Several terrible things rise in your heart which you want to voice and act out, but you manage to stop yourself by swallowing and frowning at the floor.

Of course, it's not their fault. There were probably people who waited twice as long as you in that line, with even more important things to do. Still, you feel awful. About your decisions, your situation, and how you reacted to it. You feel like an immature fool. Your vision gets blurry for a moment and you blink, trying to level your thoughts. It's just a printout. What happened? How did a printout clean-bowl your fate?

Your phone buzzes in your pocket. You fish it out and squint at the screen. It's your friend, calling from the xerox shop. A sliver of hope cracks into your heart, but you dare not indulge it. Your friend had gone down there two hours ago, but it feels like you're hearing from them after four years. They took extra front pages for you, and are asking where you are. You can't believe your ears. It takes some effort to keep your voice steady. You thank them profusely; they laugh and tell you that they're coming up. The pressure on your nerves eases up, and you find yourself able to take a deep breath and smile again. You chuckle to yourself, attracting a puzzled glance from the distant lab assistant. To think you almost got upset over some journal pages! You make a mental note to treat your friend lavishly, as soon as submission season ended. Gathering your returning energy, you head out.

Unpleasant situations are never endless. Hang in there, bud, things will look up soon!

Move fast and break things. Unless you are breaking stuff, you are not moving fast enough.

– Mark Zuckerberg

Hope in the Dark

-Priyanka Awatramani

Like waves crashing on a shore
With each wave striking, creates a tornado in my brain.
My mind full of hurricanes
Like a scattered puzzle with the pieces miles away.

Not a moment of satisfaction
Far from the land of tranquillity
Not certain why this upheavel.
I feel lost at times, can you hear a scream at night?

Like the blazing sun, there's a fire burning inside you.
Every atom of you is stardust.
Look deep within, you will find that the universe lies in you.

हे कृष्णा

-सौ. निलिमा वसंत वारके

सांगितलास तू गीतार्थ
पण इथे सारेच व्यर्थ
रमलाय मानव कमवण्यात अर्थ
न समजून घेता जीवनाचा अर्थ
कधी करेल हा परमार्थ
अन् त्याचे जीवन सार्थ...

अलगद डोकावतोस तू
मनाच्या झरोक्यात माझ्या
मग लागते चाहूल मला
दुडक्या पावलांची तुझ्या
हळूच खुणावतोस तू
खट्याळ वागण्याने तुझ्या
मग उधाण येते मनाला
घ्यावे तुला कवेत माझ्या...

The Mother Earth

-Aashish Nagpal

The reason we are born for, no one knows,
Our emotion,like river it flows.
Our minds get smaller,
While we make the world shorter.
Thinking about how our future scatters,
No one talks about what really matters.
Mother Earth cried with a roar,
But we just sat there with our ignorant snore.
The water is lost from the shores,
Yet everyone is busy with their daily chores.
In the night the moon doesn't stare,
But there is no one left to care.
The world which was built for us,
Is now dying in our dust.
Seeing the air filled with mist,
We're crushing earth in our fist.
The gods came to do the act of just,
But the man sat there with his selfish lust.....

Respect Mother Earth and her giving ways or trade away our children's days

– Neil Young

Until Next Time.....

-Mihir Pamnani

It's been months of hiding,
tired of our own sulking,
dreams of far running,
from all that's coming.

Awkward silences embrace,
the loudest screams you say,
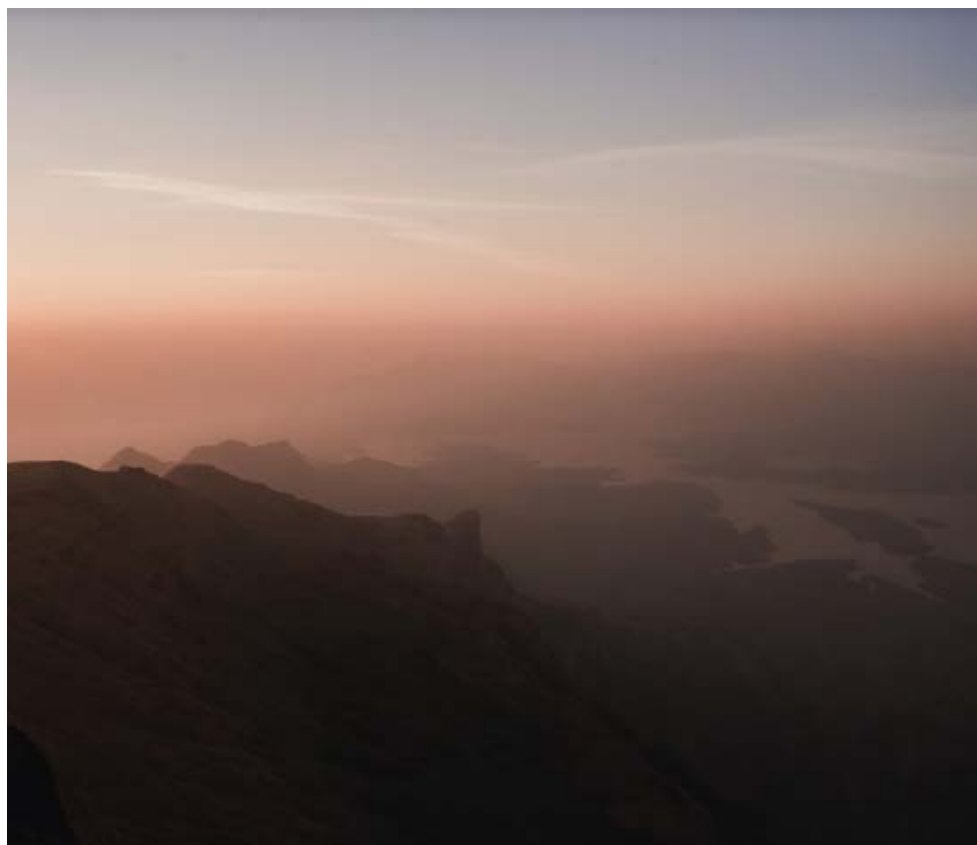my throat is parched,
waiting for that quench per se.

Life is a treacherous maze,
but there's no-way out you say,
and I hallucinate the feeling of us,
flying high across these planes.

Things are not forever,
there's always an opening you say,
but gnarls of bygones shade out,
every angle of this chase.

Our chords are interconnected I say,
there's an humming of our anthem behind,
but my mind's not sleeping,
Can you sing me a lullaby to wake?

Prof. Prashant Kanade

Vedhas Kudtarkar(D13)

Jay Mulani(D10)

VESIT Diaries

Mr. Prashun Chatterjee, an alumnus of VESIT, belongs to the 1989 Batch of Instrumentation Engineering. He has completed Senior Management Program from IIM, Calcutta and has 25+ years of experience in Branding, Marketing, Sales, Operations, Customer Service and General Management. He was the COO of Manipal Heart Institute, Bangalore and is currently the founder and trustee of AVORU Health & Research Foundation which promotes rehabilitation as a focused and co- ordinated service in India.

Q. How has life been in all these years since VESIT?
My life has been always good during or after doing my engineering from VESIT. Although it has been a roller coaster ride but the overall graph has been trending upwards since it was always 2 steps back to 5 steps forward. Few of it was calculated risks and few challenges came along where adversities were turned around as opportunities in strategic planned manner.

Q. How has your Engineering background equipped you to tackle the problems presented by your diverse portfolios?
Over the years in my career I have recognised (more recently though) engineering background has given me a strong analytical mindset to cope up with all the challenges faced during my career, Like in engineering every problem has solutions which may not be unique. Life, career and it's challenges are very similar. It has made me concentrate more on the solutions rather than the problems in hand, hence constructively conquer the challenges and move ahead.

One thing I must mention here though. Education determines your threshold point to get a job just like any diode to start functioning. Engineering drastically reduces your threshold point and lets you start off your career with much better job role (comparatively).

Q. What motivated you to pursue an MBA after Engineering?
I planned my career in a very simple way. I decided first what I want to retire as and that was being a CEO of an organisation. I deliberately & diligently did those things which would add value to reach my career retirement goals. After moving back to India from Canada in 2008 where I was in International Marketing of an IT firm, I landed up in Healthcare (Manipal Hospital, Bangalore) as Head of Operations of their Cardiac Unit, due to my previous track record in GE Medical Systems while in India till 2000. During my role as COO of Manipal Heart Institue, I raelized my upward mobility as a CEO of an organization will come only if I have knowledge of the other functional areas like finance and human resource where I had no exposure during my previous stints, That's when I decide to do Executive MBA which I did from IIM C in 2009-10.

Q. As someone who has taken on various leadership roles, what qualities do you think are important for managing people?
In every field and industry domain, one moves up the ladder in following steps:
a. Core Competence Specialist to Manager of Core Competence Specialists (Team Lead)
b. Manager of Core Competence Specialist to Manager Manager (Departmental Manager)
c. Manager Manager to Functional Manager (CXO)
d. Functional Manager to All Functions Manager (CEO)

During every step one has to proactively prepare to learn the next level of man management techniques as they are very different in every step. No institutions that I know teaches these different levels of managerial aspects, but one needs to learn by observing and researches and adapt the styles which suits their personality. There are various leadership styles and one must adapt that style which most suits their personality traits and play through their strengths

Q. What are the most unique business challenges you have encountered and how has it shaped your thinking?
Two business challenges that I can remember which were similar in nature one leading to another were in GE Medical Systems and in Manipal Hospital were:
a. GE were pioneering into Service Sales as a concept way back in 1995 where I was inducted as Service Sales Manager for the entire Western region which covered the states of Maharashtra, Goa, MP & Gujarat. My role was to support 70+ service engineers to get revenue out from them as Service Business. It was challenging as most were senior to me in experience and some in education too as they had done Masters in Engineering. I stress on the word SUPPORT as I played as a supportive leader mixing and matching various leadership skills predominantly Servant and Strategic leadership skills to keep them motivated and get the best out of them. We were the best zone for 3 consecutive years thereafter.
b. My this capability was recognized and I was offered the role of COO of Manipal Heart Institute by my ex boss in GE, who was then the CEO of Manipal Healthcare Systems Bangalore first time as a non Doctor. The role was similar to lead a team of DM Cardiologists and MCh CTVS to make the institution profitable. I used a very similar leadership skill set to turn it around from red to green in one year.
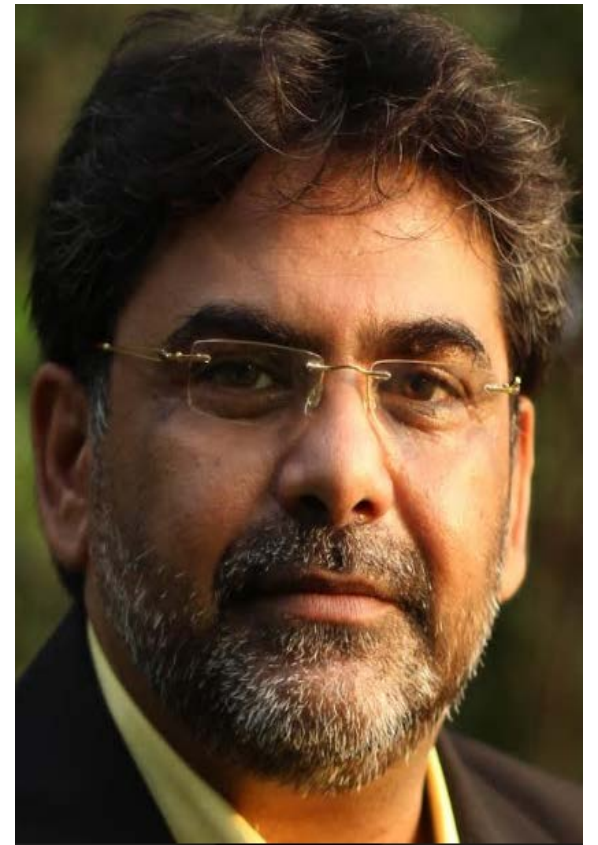I am certain now that leadership skills are situational and more suiting to individual's personality to follow suit.

Q. Being from an engineering background, what made you go towards healthcare?
Being an Instrumentation Engineer and having a knack of Sales and Marketing I started my first job in my career with Hinditron Services Pvt. Ltd. in marketing Test & Measuring Instruments. This lead me to a job with GE Medical Systems over few year. During that tenure I developed more in human management which companies look for to etrust profitable resposibilities. I accepted this as a challenge to absorb the new domain knowlede to mathch my business practices from the other industries for bettering the results. The transition was challenging, industrious, reveling and rewarding.

Q. You are the CEO of AVORU Health & Research Foundation which promotes Rehabilitation as a healthcare service. Can you tell us more about it and what led to it?
Healthcare services can be divided into 2 parts Treatment and Rehabilitation. Treatment is that

Mr. Prashun Chatterjee

part where a particular symptom is treated for arresting the situation from further deteriorations whereas rehabilitation services starts thereafter to take back the situation to near original. Rehabilitation is very predominant in neurological disorders acquired congenitally, accidentally or clinically. In India the whole focus is on treatment whereas rehabilitation is a very neglected unorganized sector. Even medical insurances seldom cover the rehabilitation part for which it has not yet become a profitable service business domain. My aim through this NGO is to structure the rehabilitation services in India and establish it into an organized service business domain.

Q. What are your most cherished experiences from your time in VESIT?
I always believed for professional growth three most important things required are:
a. Sincerity with ones role
b. Utilization of available opportunities
c. Networking (connections)
VESIT has not only given me the threshold to start at a level in my career but also the ability to network with my college fellows, who have attained high positions professionally all across the world. It has given me the power of networking, which I cherish the most apart from the analytical mind, which has given me the power of reasoning.

Q. What advice do you have for the future entrepreneurs and aspiring business aspirants at VESIT?
Education is the base platform to launch oneself in their career. Engineering education adds to being more analytical and systematic compared to others. It opens up the opportunities for entrepreneurs and business aspirants to explore into any business that they think are passionate about and have the backing for required investments. Never have the mental block to restrict yourself only to the subject field of your study. Rediscover yourself by continuous assessment to grow through broadening. I have seen many engineers attain success through methodical diversifications.

VESITians Shine At Intercollegiate Sport Fest

-Mansi Kasar & Vanshika Dangi

Enthusia is a national-level annual sports festival of Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute. It was a fourteen day long festival which started from the 9th December 2019 to 22nd December 2019. VESIT participated in this magnificent Sporting extravaganza with strong determination and a lot of enthusiasm. The girls throwball team secured the second position under the guidance of their captain Juhi Ajwani.

These were the members of the victorious VESIT Throwball Team:

Juhi Ajwani (Captain) (D14A)
Tamanna Saini (D12B)
Aayushi Ved (D9B)
Vanshika Dangi (D9B)
Reshma Sawant (D13)
Stuti Karn (D14B)
Smriti Karn (D1)
Nikita Joshi (D9B)
Mansi Kasar (D9B)
Sakshi Yendhe (D14C)

L-R: Stuti Karn (D14B), Smriti Karn (D1), Sakshi Yendhe (D14C). Mansi Kasar (D9B), Juhi Ajwani (D14A),Aayushi Ved (D9B), Nikita Joshi (D9B), Tamanna Saini (D12B), Vanshika Dangi (D9B), Reshma Sawant (D13),

C .V Ananya (D14A) and Archita Malgaonkar (D6B)

Apart from that Madhumita Menon (D9B) participated in chess and won an award for the best player. The VESIT badminton team was also flawless in their efforts, Archita Malgaonkar and C.V Ananya bagged the runners up position in badminton doubles (girls). In the individual's category, Archita and Tejas Dhopavkar (D7A) qualified for the semifinals in badminton singles.

Vishal Laungani (D19B) participated in lawn tennis and bagged the first position in the doubles category. Vishal also secured the second runners-up in the singles category.

Madhumita Menon (D9B)

Vishal Laungani (D19B)

Tejas Dhopavkar (D7A)

Please send your contributions and suggestions to vesit.connect@ves.ac.in