

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF VIT

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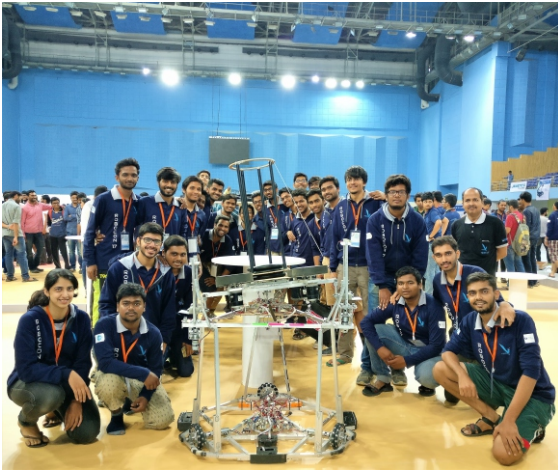
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ABU Robocon 2017



The biggest electro-mechanical event of the year, the Asia-Pacific Broadcast Union RoboCon 2017 took place with great pomp and show. The robotics forum of the college being one of the most experienced participant in the contest represented the college at this nation event too with a team of 28 students from the 2nd and 3rd year. The event was a 3 day affair from 2nd to 5th of March at the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Pune. The theme of the year was "Flying Disc" wherein a robot had to throw disc and make them land on certain platforms.

There were about 112 robots by various colleges across the nation. The VIT Robocon team headed by Kaiwalya Belsare performed outstandingly well securing 5th position overall in the league stage and was ranked 7th in the super league stage amongst the top 8 teams. The team received sensors modules and break out shields from ROHM Semiconductors, Singapore worth Rs. 20,000 as a prize. The team has now already started preparing in full swing for the next year's contest and are confident to be crowned victorious this time.

VIT Bags Firodiya Karandak for the 15th time

Firodiya karandak is gunn darshan spardha in which every college portrays a story using different arts and events and give the story a screenplay just like a movie of 45 mins. Rather than a team, we prefer it to be known as a family. Hence, this family was created during college hours, introducing us to people and asking them to join us further and then these people further were asked to perform on stage. Working duration for every competition is different Purushottam Karandak: June to September, Firodiya Karandak: December to March 1st week. "See what I recommend is to experience it because it

is difficult to put it in words. Its a process you are emotionally attached and when you get the result for what you have been working it feels like your work has paid off", says Saman Arora, Team Firodiya Karandak. On stage on show experience is an another part. It is a normal day with many challenges and you love it. Sometimes you feel the pressure and sometimes feel the tension, but you need to hold nerve there, and do your best. Its been a very pleasant experience. VIT added one more title to its Firodiya Karandak wall of fame, backed by 7 Individual Prizes.



Go Kart: Taurus hits the Bull's eye

Team Taurus from Vishwakarma Institute of Technology (Dept. of Mech. Engg.), Pune had participated in the Go-Kart competition named **International Series of Karting (ISK)**, season- 3 conducted by **Mean Metal Motors, Pvt. Ltd.** The event was **FMSCI (The Federation of Motor Sports Club of India)** recognized. There were around **60 teams** across the country who participated in the event. Participating teams from different institutes designed and manufactured their own karts based on their applied engineering

The event was conducted for 4 days. There were different sub-events on each day. Design Evaluation was conducted on the very first day. There was Technical and Safety Scrutiny on the next day. Our team successfully cleared it in the first attempt itself and headed for Brake Test. Brake Test was also conducted on the same day which we cleared quite easily in the first attempt following to which were trial laps of the track. There were dynamic events on day 3 i.e. Acceleration test and Maneuverability.

On the final day, top 28 teams were selected for Qualifier round based on their performance in Acceleration test and Maneuverability. The Qualifier We won the semi-final too and got selected for finals with 1st pole position in it. There were top 10 teams in the final race. Our driver made us realize that we are the best amongst them by winning the finals and making Team Taurus the Champion of the competition ISK, 2017 recreating the history. Our result in the competition is as follows –
1. Champion – ISK, 2017, Prize

money of Rs. 2,00,000 /-

2. 1st in Acceleration

3. Best Driver

Awardround was conducted for deciding the pole positions of different karts in quarter finals by calculating their minimum lap timings in the qualifier. We got 1st pole position in the first quarter-final as our lap timing was the least from all the 28 karts in the Qualifier. All the 28 teams were divided into 4 groups (7 in each) for 4 quarter-finals. We stood first in the quarter-final race and got selected for semi-final. There were top 16 teams selected for semi-finals (8 in each group).



The most awaited event at Vishwakarma Institute of Technology is our annual intercollegiate fest 'Mélange'. The dates for Mélange 2017 were '27th Feb- 3rd March', with only few of the sport events starting from 24th February and theme this year was 'Back to our Roots' , the idea was that while we as a nation move forward towards progress and betterment, it is important to not lose track of our past and our tradition , because it is what defines us, what makes us who we are. Over the span of the first four days numerous technical, social, sport and extra-curricular were held all around the college, with participation from numerous colleges all across India. Just like every year, VIT looked beautiful, due to exceptional work done by our aesthetics team and the overall ambience of the college, all the chaos and all the commotion were a treat to witness.



Benny Dayal



Shalmali Kholgade

With food stalls from several of our sponsors, an interesting food truck, a human fooseball set-up, and the continuously ongoing lounge events, along with the numerous events going on simultaneously, this Mélange had a lot to offer. From events like 'Robo-Wars', 'Robo-Run',etc. for all the tech-geeks, to events like 'V-Rock', 'Footloose' for all the artistic souls out there, to events like 'Drama' , Street-Play, and even 'Smart-Chef' all of us have equal opportunities during this fest to come out of the darkness and express ourselves, whatever way we find suitable.



Kenny Sebastian

The highlight of the Mélange this year was definitely the amazing celebrity performances. On 27th of February, a stand up special by the famous comedian 'Kenny Sebastian' resulted in the audience being completely awestruck and truly happy, the act was smart, funny, witty and gripping and it left the audience wanting for more.

The second night of Melange was a musical night, a performance from the 'Indian Jam Project' was another treat. The Indian renditions of various popular theme songs such as that of Harry Potter, and Game of Thrones and the special performance of the tune of 'the Nirma advertisement' kept the audience entertained making it an enjoyable night.



Tushar Lal

The final night of Mélange, was the concert night and the ending couldn't have been better. A musical concert with two of the finest singers of the country, full of live, love and energy was the perfect closing to a near perfect event. While Shalmali Kholgade made the audience fall in love with her beautiful voice, the second half of the concert was performed by 'Benny Dayal', who had the audience jump off the edge of their seats and feel the beats of the music.

Overall, the five day fest was a successful affair and also an engaging one, and as each year passes, we think it couldn't be better than this and yet Mélange never fails to surprise us, because each year it turns out to be bigger and better, and we can only hope that this continues to happen.



TED^x VITPune

x = independently organized TED event

TED^xVITPune is a university level TED^x event which is conducted after obtaining a free license by TED. This is the 3rd time a TED^x event was held in VIT ever since its conception back in 2015. The team formation of this year marked the beginning of the preparations for TED^x. The interviews were conducted by the founder members (who had been part of the previous two editions) in the month of November. The team formation was completed by the end of November and the team comprised a total of 33 members.

The initial preparation period from the months of December to February was dedicated to the planning of the actual event and the other major task was creating the perfect license application to be sent to TED. On the basis of the application which we had submitted to TED and an interaction with our licensee and some of the team members, an official license for conducting TED^xVITPune was obtained in the first week of March. The date of the event was decided as 15th of April.

The months of March and April were completely dedicated to ensuring every aspect of the event is well-planned to the micro level including but not limited to, speakers, merchandise, aesthetics, website, social media content, and sponsorship. The attendee applications were released on 15th of March and the last date for submitting the application was 4th of April. After this, the applications were sorted to select a total of 100 attendees from a total of 260 applications.



On the day of the event, preparations began from 7 am in the morning; the attendees arrived at the venue at 8:30 am. The breakfast session was scheduled at 9:00 am followed by an ice-breaking session at 9:30 am. An opening ceremony which began at 10:15 am was followed by the first session of talks which went on till around 1:30 pm and were followed by lunch. The second session of talks began at 2:15 pm, went on till 4:30 pm. The third session which started after the high tea, ended at 6:30, marking the end of TEDxVITPune 2017.

Vishwotsav

Vishwotsav, the annual fest of Vishwakarma Institute of Technology was organized during 6th-8th April and had a lot to offer. The three day fest was pretty eventful with an opportunity for the faculty members to indulge in numerous sports and enjoy themselves, a cultural program with several performances, a prize distribution ceremony for the achievers in the field of academics, sports, extracurricular or technical events and for the various college committees and a chance for the students of our college to dress up and get the perfect pictures. Cricket matches were held between faculty members of different departments during the span of Vishwotsav and the students

gathered around as an audience for the match, completely astounded by the fact that their professors were such good cricket players.

The day one of the event, was the 'Saree and Tie Day', while all the girls looked beautiful in their elegant 'Sarees', the gentlemen were dressed in formals and flaunting a tie. The second day of Vishwotsav was an unexpected ride altogether. While day one was all about grace and style, day two was focused on standing out from the crowd, being unique, being interesting.

With the arrival of character day, VIT became an unrecognizable place, we had everything, from goons, to Disney princesses, from popular Bollywood

characters, to Kings, Gods, and even pirates, and every kind of costume imaginable was evident on the premises of VIT. All these characters getting clicked together, was an amusing sight to behold.

The final day of the three day fest was all about 'Getting back to the Roots', it was all about tradition. With traditional day as the theme and all the students dressed up to represent the cultures of the various regions, the closing ceremony of Vishwotsav held on the evening of 8th April, included the felicitation of 'LEAD', the student council of VIT Pune, the annual report presented by the University Representative 'Yash Kale', and an amazing (first prize winning) performance by the 'Firodiya Karandak' team.

Internship Mela

The third edition of Internship Mela in VIT Pune received a great response yet again. The event which was held on the 1st April 2017 was back after the continued interest shown by earlier attending start-ups and new ones alike. Students who were unaware about this flagship event of the EDC of VIT Pune were all introduced to the wonderful opportunity being presented to them.

This time, the idea was to make the event even more student centric in its approach. This was achieved by having workshops held one day prior to Internship Mela 2017, i.e. on the 31st March 2017.

Three workshops having diverse domains were held which enlightened students about entrepreneurship and a

variety of domains. The first workshop taught them about building a profile, followed by which there was a workshop on the true spirit of an entrepreneur. The final – yet most awaited workshop – was the Finance Workshop conducted by Prof. Rajesh Dhake, the Faculty Advisor for VEDC himself. Students learnt a lot on this day and it helped them gear up for Internship Mela 2017.

The event was graced by the presence of about 55 start-ups and close to 1500 students. It is noteworthy that these students were from various branches of engineering, and not limited by their engineering background. Place was not a barrier either, and students from outside Pune and regions like Solapur, Ahmednagar etc. also attended the event.

The internships offered were in the field of IT, Business Development, Marketing, Content Writing, and so on. Prominent companies like Monarch Yamaha were also present, and so were imminent startups like Alifmart.com and Rabbit and Tortoise Technology Solutions.

Internship Mela collaborated with POCC for their third edition. The event was coordinated by the V-EDC team, VIT Pune's own Entrepreneurship Development Cell. The faculty guide for the event was Prof. Rajesh Dhake. It was a success and we look forward to the upcoming editions.



CLUBS



E-YANTRA: Taking ideas beyond boundaries

Seeing their ideas come to life is everyone's dream, and dreams of millions of students started to come true when MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource and Development) sponsored IIT Bombay's initiative, e-Yantra Ideas Competition was introduced in India. It encourages innovative projects from robotics labs set up through the e-Yantra Lab Setup Initiative (eLSI), in colleges across the country. The main aim of this competition is to ensure sustained use of the robotics labs set up through e-Yantra Lab Setup Initiative, to nurture BE projects in Robotics and Embedded Systems at eLSI colleges and to encourage innovative ideas.

Our college, VIT Pune, being one of the nodal centres for the e-Yantra activities, hosted the e-Yantra Ideas Competition Regional Finals 2017 on 1st of April 2017. Thirteen finalist teams from western region had come to showcase their projects. Some of them were- "Automation for The Process of Paper Bag Manufacturing System", "Organ Transplant Drone" and "Disaster Management Robot". The event was inaugurated at 10:30 a.m. in the Reading Hall, by Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Jalnekar, Director VIT Pune, in presence of Prof. Kavi Arya, Principal Investigator of e-Yantra Project, Dr. Krishna Lala, Senior Manager of e-Yantra,

Prof. Rajesh Dhake, Dean Student Activities, Prof. (Dr.) G. N. Kotwal, Coordinator e-Yantra Lab VIT Pune, and the e-Yantra team. Snacks were served soon after and evaluation started at 11:30 a. m. After an interesting round of presentations, everyone headed for lunch at Students' Section. Shortlisted projects were announced in the College Auditorium, followed by a short address by Dr. Krishna Lala regarding the competition and the further procedure. The program was concluded by Prof. (Dr.) G. N. Kotwal with a Vote of Thanks and everyone headed out for high tea.



Aatmabodh: Adult Computer Literacy Program



AATMABODH- A Computer Literacy Program for Senior Citizens, conducted every semester, was scheduled in the college premises from 3rd -13th of October. The preparations, publicity and registration of volunteers had begun well in advance. At the inaugural ceremony, NSS Program Officer Prof. Sagar Kale welcomed the participants, spoke a little about the mission and vision of Aatmabodh and introduced the Aatmabodh team. The course syllabus included basics of computers, Paint, MS Word, using Internet and certain applications like emailing, online ticket booking, online shopping, bill

payments et cetera. To ensure that the teaching-learning process was in proper alliance with sincerity, quizzes were organized during the course of the event. On the final day of Aatmabodh, Prof. R.J. Dhake (Dean- Student Activities) and NSS Program Officer Prof. Sagar Kale presented certificates to the participants





National Science Day at IUCAA

National Science Day is celebrated in India on 28 February each year to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman on 28 February.

IUCAA organizes the open Science day program every year on 28 February, in which the general public can visit the institute to take a look at the ongoing research and contemporary work happening elsewhere in the world.

We were given the opportunity to volunteer for the Open Science Day programme in IUCAA through our astronomy club Antariksh.

Thus, we began our training process for Science Day.

To ensure that the teaching-learning process was in proper alliance with sincerity, quizzes were organized during the course of the event. On the final day of Aatmabodh, Prof. R.J. Dhake (Dean- Student Activities) and NSS Program Officer Prof. Sagar Kale presented certificates to the participants for the successful completion of the course. Volunteers were rewarded for their noble work and their selflessness was revered.



Antariksh: Party with the Stars

About 50 members of the club and even some students from other colleges attended the Star gazing night organised on Saturday, 1st of April by the core committee members of the Antariksh club. The goal of this Star party was to give the students a brief introduction of our sky, the celestial bodies like planets, stars, clusters and other things and at the same time a relief from their day to day hectic schedule. The briefing was done by Mr. Jameer Manur, a researcher from IUCAA. The students were shown how to observe the night sky and find directions. The first session

started at 7 p.m. and ended at 10 p.m. Then students had their dinner. The students were provided with the star maps and taught to use them. This session also included a campfire, singing songs and ghost stories around it. This session was started at 2:30 and ended by sunrise. The students were mesmerised by the beauty of the night sky. They showed great enthusiasm and a great interest in knowing about Astronomy. The attendees had a chance to interact with Jameer sir through a Q&A session. The Star Party ended with seeing the beautiful sunrise. It was truly a day to remember!



Industry Visit by CHESA



A crew of 30 students with Prof. Dr. Satchitanand Satpute left for the destination at 8 a.m on the 25th of February. The first industry to be visited was Shivshakti Oxalate which is known for its distillation processes and separation technique. Learning practical relevance of the subjects taught in the curriculum and the equipment learned. After first visit lunch was done at 3pm, Lavender laboratory was next stop. It is a pharmacy based industry, after two hours visit crew left for college at 5:30.

Students liked the happenings in industry and it was informative and fun as conveyed by the students. Students got to interact with the industry officials who shared their work experience and described the infrastructure of their factory. It also cleared the mindset of students about what they want to do after B.Tech. The process manager of Shivshakti oxalate communicated with students and asked them to attend the annual ChemTECH festival and keep a keen eye on the happenings in chemical industries and he also promised to visit our college

and interact with teaching staff and students. The students benefited from the industrial visit they enjoyed and learnt a lot from the industry and industry personnel, they responded to every doubt asked by students quite calmly and in brief. There was an establishment of a cordial relationship between Shivshakti Oxalate and Lavender laboratory and Chemical Engg. Dept, all thanks to Tanmay Kulkarni and Pravin Javheri for arranging this event successfully. They expressed a desire to visit the college again for more such enlightening events.

SAE Workshop on ANSYS

A workshop conducted in the Mechanical Department caught the eyes of our technical survey. It was a pre-registered workshop open to all SAE membership holders as well as an opportunity for other students to be a part of learning. Students assembled in 3205-CAD/CAM lab of mechanical department at 1 pm. SAE's Baja and Supra team member Swapnil Thigale and his fellow mates conducted this workshop. As it was a three-hour workshop, all the

important features and applications of ANSYS were made sure to be taught to the present members. It was scheduled on the 25th of February with a three-hour session of imparting knowledge. It was a raiser for their curriculum enhancements and helped the students in clearing their basis of fundamental subjects. The event was Free to SAE members. All the facilities were available in college itself. Students were made aware of software how it used in the

industries. So they will be aware when working on their job well in advance and find it easy. Students can now think more practically their approach to solve the problems faced in day to life has been improved. The event can be conducted for a full-course ANSYS programme in the near future. Also, other major CAD software's like Solidworks and Advanced Catia workshops can be taken.



Rajmachi Trek: A Memorable Expedition



The first ray of light on the 29th of January saw yet another adventurous activity from the students. Rajmachi as we know is one of the many historical forts in the rugged hills of Sahyadri mountains. A group of enthusiastic students of the college set out on this expedition for a day long trek organised by able third year students of the Industrial, Production and Chemical department. The trek was well organised by the team with quite structured distribution of responsibilities. "Rajmachi was an overwhelming experience!", as exclaimed by one of the first timers. The team is now looking forward to conduct many further adventurous treks including activities like rafting and rappelling.



The Stock Market Workshop

MERCANTILE

THE ECONOMICS & FINANCE CLUB

Mercantile- The Economics and Finance Club of our college is a student and faculty guided initiative for enthusiasts in the field of Finance and Economics. During the intercollegiate event 'Melange' a stock market workshop was conducted by the Mercantile club in association with the Extracurricular committee of the students council. Prof. Rajesh Dhake was the speaker for the event which was conducted from 26-27th February. Sir has an experience of more than 24 years in the same field and was enthusiastic throughout the workshop.

, On the first day the event was conducted from 3-6pm. The workshop began by discussing the importance understanding the terms asset, liabilities, learning how to make balance sheets, introduction to bonds, mutual funds, securities. At the end of the first day the students were able to understand what is an investment? Where and how to invest. The second day which began at 4pm covered the introduction to the market BSE, NSE and share pricing. Participants were taught how to see the rise and fall of a share by using the graphs and candle techniques. .

The fundamental analysis was applied to know whether the share is sustainable or not. The long time investment, short term analysis, technical analysis and some other market terms were explained. Examples of shares and companies to be purchased were given. The event ended with the virtual stock market game where the participants experienced the race against time situation while trading the shares. The workshop was beneficial for all the students and their interest in the stock market has increased exponentially after the workshop.

TRF Summer Internship

One of the most experienced and active clubs of VIT kick started a new season with its level II workshop marking the beginning of a zealous July. Considered to be one of the most important training activity of the robotics forum, the workshop lasted for over three weeks wherein the students were trained by the existing TRF members. This year it was given an internship recognition by the college, where over 100 participants and 15 organizers were involved during summer vacations.

The students were provided with theory as well as practical sessions that covered teaching software such as DipTrace, Eagle, Atmel Studio, Python etc. which are the basic software used in the field of robotics. Prof. Harshavardhan Khare and Dr. Girish Kotwal were a part of the teaching staff along with a few senior members of the forum. Some of the projects included line tracing robot using mobile phone, distance mapping radar, pick and place arm etc.



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