

VSIT's DLLE students on a winning streak.....P2

Vidyalankar Students Bag Placements Abroad.....P3

Glowing Stars of VP...P4

Not just magnitude but also the direction!

VECTOR

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS **DNA**
IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Reader Engagement Initiative

Volume 14

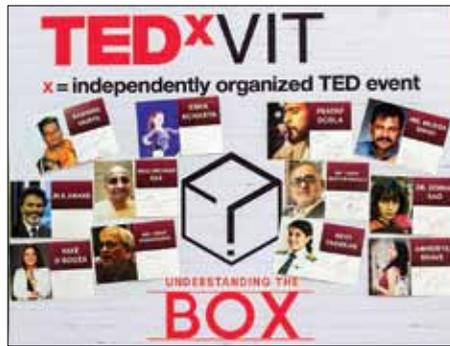
Issue 05

February 2018
Circulated free to students of Vidyalankar (For private circulation only)

TEDxVIT: "Understanding the Box"

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology hosted its very first TEDx event on 21st January 2018. After months of planning and preparation the team finally put up a spectacular event wherein some of the brightest and most innovative minds came forth to share ideas and experiences that changed lives. There were 12 speakers, all from different domains and each with a different thought and concept to talk about.

The theme for the event was "Understanding the Box". All the problems faced by people in the different walks of life are analogous with the problem of living in a box. As a child, when shown a box and asked how many faces it has, we always replied with the one face that was visible to us through our perspective. But we then learnt that a box in fact consists of not one, but six sides, may open and close and that the box itself comes with its own environment. This gave us a wider perspective and a better understanding of the box as a whole. The definition of success varies from person to person and there is no common parameter by which we can compare the journey and hard work of one man to another. All the speakers spoke on the paths they chose and about all that they put in so as to achieve what they have. The



talks left the audience with an open mind, to perceive the different aspects through which the solution to a problem can be approached and not be blindsided by the one face of the box that is visible to us.

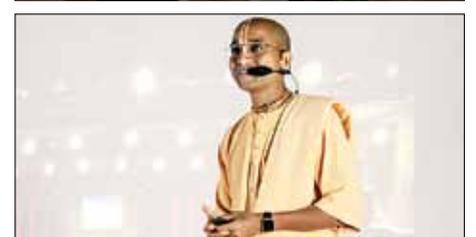
The event started at 10 a.m. with the inaugural speech by VIT's Vice Principal Prof. Varsha Bhosale, followed by the first speaker for the day Mr. Brijesh Singh, who spoke on the current scenario of the cyber war and its effects on a common citizen. Actress Abhidnya Bhave spoke on her journey to becoming an actress. Captain Aditi Paranjpe talked about the daily modus operandi of a commercial pilot. Mr. Braj Mohan Das enlightened us on how the traditions we consider to be age-old still hold value in today's life. Leading

journalist Faye D'Souza inspired the audience by sharing her own experience on how a small and different idea can grow up to becoming so much more. Dr. Komal Rao gave an informative talk on Jeet Kune Do and how it's a way of life.

Mr. M. K. Anand spoke on his journey to becoming the CEO of one of the largest TV Networks and the struggles he had to face along the way. Mr. Pratap Dodla talked about his transition from an engineer to a singer and also sang a refreshingly beautiful song for the audience. Artist Rashmil Vaidya encouraged the audience to change their lives for the better simply by changing their vision by sharing his personal experiences. Mr. Vikas Khanvelkar spoke on how the first step to finding a solution is identifying the problem. Dr. Yusuf Matcheswalla spoke on the problem of addiction and its variations. Lastly, we had VIT's BE Final Year student Esha Acharya give us a short talk on her passion for dance and a marvelous performance to end the event.

Each talk had the power to open the minds of the audience, spark conversation and challenged and gave them courage to turn ideas into action. TEDxVIT inspired and connected curious individuals to help shape a new world. One idea at a time.

- Poorvi Rai, Lead Curator, TEDxVIT



VSITians bag 5th Place at Indian Case Challenge 2018 at IIT Kharagpur

CC 2018, the 6th edition of the Case Study Competition, was hosted by IIT Kharagpur during its Annual Techno Management Conclave "Kshitij". With IITs and IIMs and other reputed institutes from all over the country contending for the glorious trophy, ICC is fiercely competitive and tests the mettle of aspiring consultants every year.

This year the competition witnessed a plethora of nail-biting moments across two months with two intense case studies on topics such as Environment Intelligence, the basic criteria for tomorrow's development and Demystification of Amazon Acquisition of Wholefood and its impact on Retail Industry.

In this article, I would like to walk the reader through my team's experiences and learning while participating in Indian Case Challenge. My teammates, Siddesh Mahadik, Mehul Waghambare, Saud Mukri and Aman Mahato are fellow students from VSIT.

Elimination Round

The first round in the competition is the Elimination Round which takes place in December where every team is given a common problem statement and teams have to come up with an innovative solution. This year the first-round problem statement was on "Environment Intelli-



350+ Teams from various institutes across India including 25+ IIM's and IIT's participated in Indian Case Challenge a Case Study Competition hosted by IIT Kharagpur.

gence, the basic criteria for tomorrow's development" which was designed by HSS Department of IIT Kharagpur. Just like in real life, there are no right or wrong answers here. However, the problem setters have a 'perfect answer' in mind which they think would be most apt for the given situation.

This year out of 350 Teams which participated, 14 teams consisting of 11 IITs, NSIT, VSIT and Symbiosis were short-listed for Final Round

Final Round

The final round took place at IIT Kharagpur wherein all the finalists were invited to present their solutions on the final case study which was provided by Harvard Business Review on Demystification of Amazon acquisition of Wholefood and its impact on Retail Industry.

We were presenting our strategy to the Panel consisting of Prof. Indrajit



Mukherjee, XLRI Jamshedpur, Prof. Abhijeet Chandra, VGSoM IIT Kharagpur, Prof. Runa Sarkar, IIM Calcutta, and Prof. Bhaskar Bhowmick, RMSoEE IIT Kharagpur.

We were ranked 5th after IIT Kharagpur (2 Teams), Symbiosis and IIT Madras.

After the competition, Prof Runa Sarkar from IIM Calcutta gave us a few tips to remember while presenting a strategy which personally were the biggest takeaways from the competition:

Make sure your arguments are coherent and logical

Do not burden the observer with excess of information

BUSINESS CLUB		KSHITIJ 2018	
INDIAN CASE CHALLENGE 2018 FINALISTS			
SANS IIT Delhi	Autopsy IIT Kharagpur	Outliers IIT Guwahati	Casefreaks IIT Delhi
Jedi Masters IIT Roorkee	Wrecking Crew NSIT	Miracle Workers IIT Roorkee	Team VSIT VSIT
Mayhem IIT Madras	Rekindle DMS, IIT Delhi	Spartans IIT Delhi	Cryptocorrupt IIT Madras
Fine Gentlemen of KGP IIT Kharagpur	SCMITes Symbiosis Center for Management Studies, Pune		

Rehearse what you say and deliver the message rather than reciting what is already visible

Our journey was in many senses remarkable competing with teams from premier Institutes across India. This competition has helped us improvise our decision-making capabilities to a great extent.

- Akhil Dalavi, TY B.Sc.IT, VSIT

VSIT's DLLE students on a winning streak

REALM-2018

VSIT's Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (DLLE) students participated in the inter-college festival "REALM-2018: Improving Safety Together" held at Khalsa College on 10 February. Students participated in the Street Play competition were awarded the First Prize. The theme for the Street Play was "Disaster Management".



DLLE Festival- UDAAN

DLLE students of VSIT participated in the Annual Extension festival "UDAAN - the flight of Extension 2017-18" DLLE (University of Mumbai), held at G.N. Khalsa College on 31st January. The students participated in Street Play and Poster making competition. The participants were accompanied by student managers and extension teachers. Around 300 students from 17 colleges participated in the festival. VSIT's theme for the Street Play was "Badlaav" and it depicted the current issues of pollution in society and how to prevent pollution. The DLLE Students were awarded with First Prize for Street Play.

- Swapna Kadam, Asst. Prof., VSIT

Research is the product of curiosity, which is something we all have. To gain knowledge is to thrive. Without research, our lives as we know it would be completely altered. Vidyalankar School of Information Technology recognizes that research is a necessity for the nation's sustained economic growth. It believes in facilitating the interchange of information, establishment of standards, new techniques and fresh approaches to old problems. VSIT organized its 5th National Multi-Disciplinary Conference. The objective of the Conference was to provide a common forum to disseminate the knowledge of academic excellence, and it aimed to keep the academic community updated with the latest developments in the domain of innovative ways of managing Business in the fiercely competitive era. The theme of the conference was "Vision India 2025" on Skill Development and Employability, Innovative Applications of Emerging Technologies and Role & Contribution of Women - A Paradigm Shift.

Ms. Neela Satyanarayana, retired IAS officer & First Woman State Election Commissioner of Maharashtra inaugurated the event. Dr Rohini Kelkar, Principal, VSIT, welcomed and felicitated the keynote speaker. Ms. Neela congratulated all women on their achievements and encouraged them to always follow their dreams. She talked about the projection of women on social media and to break down the stereotypes which are termed as 'Women Jobs.' Women should be supportive of each other which completely justified the title 'Role and Contribution of Women.' She asserted that a developed nation is not determined by its people but by their character. She envisioned women as equally contributing by making themselves strong in every walk of their lives.



The session chairs for the different tracks were: Dr. Rajesh Bhoite, Assistant Professor, Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce and Economics, Dr. M. Sumathy, Dean and HOD at Bharathiar University Coimbatore, Dr. Shobhika Mukul, Associate Professor, Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Dr. Gulabchand K. Gupta, Principal, Seva Sadan College of Arts, Science & Commerce, and Dr. Vinit Kotak, Vice-Principal at Shah and Anchor Kutchhi Engineering College.

The panel discussion organised by Vidyalankar was on the comprehensive theme of the conference "A Vision for The Next Decade". The panelists were Mr. Vijayan Pankajakshan, Dean, WE School (Track 1-Skill Development and Employability), Mr. Hemant Nerurkar, Chairman at MindCraft Software Pvt.

Ltd (Track 2-Innovative Applications of Emerging Technologies), Ms. Sangeeta Rivankar, COO at Kaisha Lifesciences Pvt. Ltd (Track 3-Role & Contribution of Women - A Paradigm Shift), Ms. Sujata Sahu, Founder, Director at 17000 ft Foundation (Track 3-Role & Contribution of Women - A Paradigm Shift).

Prof. Devayani Ganpule, (Moderator for Panel Discussion), Associate Professor at Ramnarain Ruia College introduced the audience to all the panelists. She also talked about the link of three tracks using the slogan, "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and inclusive growth.

Mr. Vijayan Pankajakshan

Mr. Vijay talked about the importance of skills which will lead to creation and also highlighted the fact that parents are facing challenges in selecting careers

for their children which can be avoided. Teachers should also play the role of mentors where learning should be given preference rather than the context of the learning. A challenge in India, in terms of jobs, is to attract people towards unconventional jobs which are more in numbers in countries like Germany and Switzerland. Vocational courses should be introduced.

Mr. Hemant Nerurkar

Mr. Hemant gave an overview of recruiter's procedure in terms of Information Technology. Today's generation is much advanced technologically and this skill should be used in employability. Mr. Hemant further added that technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Internet of things (IOT) can never replace human beings. Human touch is missing in these technologies which should only be fulfilled by learning in schools and colleges. HR recruiters are useful in terms of providing training keeping in mind different expectations of different companies. They should also focus more on training rather than employing.

Ms. Sangeeta Rivankar

Ms. Sangeeta encouraged promoting research in a field in which we are pursuing our education and career. Equal rights should be given to acquire education. Inventions should be properly documented so that all can be benefitted by it even in the future.

Ms. Sujata Sahu

Independence does not mean getting into one's comfort zone. We all have inherent skills which need to be identified and put into a good cause. The touch of 'Empathy' can bring a lot of difference in term of approachability in the workplace.

Later the conference was followed by paper presentations on different tracks followed by the Valedictory ceremony.

Vidyalankar Students Bag Placements Abroad

Studying abroad is an important period of anyone's life. It contains a lot of exposure, experience and personal development. It has deep effect on students because people from all over the world come at one place having different cultures and different schools of thought. When they study together they discover new methods of study and research. At Vidyalankar, the students who have opted for the collaborative transfer program with prestigious Universities in US, UK and Canada, have made the institute and their parents doubly proud. Not only have they been successful in completing their courses with flying colors, many of them have stood proud on with their names embellished on the Dean's List. The icing on the cake however is the jobs they have landed up in lands unknown to them, through their sheer effort and grit.

Angad Anand, a student who graduated from California State University, Fresno campus from the collaborative transfer program at Vidyalankar, had two recommendations from his professors at CSU which landed him with a plum job at Internet Brands, Mumbai, as Associate Web Developer; after having worked in Los Angeles for 2.5 years for the same company. Today he works from Mumbai, and his employers want him back in the US. That is his demand! Harsh Chauhan from the same course is a happy man. He is working as a Software Quality Engineer at Tesla, San Fransisco. Sai Kadale, a boy with



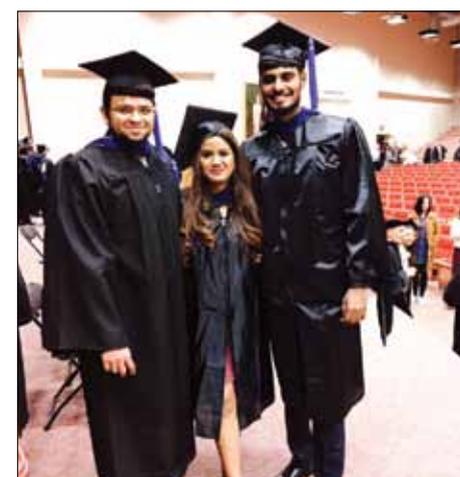
the gift of the gab and a great deal of networking skills is working as a Software Engineer, at Chalk Digital, San Fransico.

Penn State University has been the flagship program that Vidyalankar first collaborated with in the year 2006, and there has been no looking back with the kind of placements the students have been landing into. Gauri Khawadkar, a quiet and reticent girl when back home in India, is a confident Solution Analyst with Deloitte Consulting, in Berks, USA. Venu Mulane, her batch mate, is working as a Technology Developer and Analyst with the Bank of America at New York.

Vivek Anand has been special in his performance even when he was studying at Vidyalankar. It came as no surprise when he was chosen as the youngest team member to the live project of Portfolio Management, where the team would manage the portfolios worth 10 Million dollars on real time basis! Today he is working with Raymond James at

Detroit, Ohio, as a Cost Basis Associate. Jinesh Duggar of his batch is working as a Supply Chain management Intern with Mitashi at Toledo Ohio. Rajat Bangera, from the same batch is working as a Supply Chain Specialist with Lafarge Holcim at Michigan. Khoushik R., also from the University of Toledo is working as a Database Management Associate with Havill Consultants.

Vidyalankar has collaborated with the University of Toledo for an MBA program as well, wherein the students complete a year of their MMS program under the auspices of Mumbai University and then fly to Ohio to complete their MBA for UT. The first batch of students has graduated with laurels and their fantastic placement speaks greatly of their efforts and rigour. Sandeep Bairam and Prachi Loke, students of this collaboration are working with Welspun New York as Ecommerce and Business Analysts. Sayli Mhatre, is working as a Sales Associate



with Frontier Promotions at Michigan.

It is with immense pleasure Vidyalankar wishes the very best in their endeavour. May each one of them rise and shine!

- Jayanti Das, Manager-Corporate Communications, VDT

‘Entrepreneurship education really could change the world – Steve Mariotti

The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one. In order to broaden the thinking of our students and take a step towards fulfilling the endeavour of excellence in education, E-Cell VIT, in collaboration with Entrepreneurship Cell, IIT-Bombay conducted a workshop “Envoyage” on 23rd February. This workshop oriented students to the basics on entrepreneurship, start-up strategy and sources of funding. The

Envoyage by VIT E-Cell

interest and self-motivation of any student can be easily judged by the attendance, especially when it is not mandatory. The workshop was attended by about 80 interested and self-motivated students who definitely prefer hustling 24/7 than being a slave of the 9 to 5 employee routine. The purpose of the workshop was to create awareness about the intricacies related to entrepreneurship, make students aware

about the journey from a common man to an entrepreneur, and various steps involved in it, such as:

1. Identifying ideas which can be converted to a business
2. Building a business model canvas
3. How to market a product
4. Encouraging students to come up innovative business ideas, which are feasible and executable.

The workshop then ended with a Busi-

ness Idea Competition wherein students were given a few minutes in which they were to think of their business idea and make a pitch of it on the stage. The event was judged by Mr. Dahotre who is a start-up consultant on the SINE- IIT panel. The participants got to know what exactly entrepreneurship is. The participants got an opportunity to listen to an experienced incubator and start-up mentor who has helped various business ventures. They were taught how to analyse an idea from an entrepreneur's point of view and were motivated to chase their entrepreneurial dreams.



“You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future.”

— Steve Jobs

FEBRUARY 2018

4

Glowing Stars of VP

Achievements are the fruits of commitment and dedication.

Parent Interaction Committee of Vidyalankar Polytechnic organized **Scholar's Day** to felicitate toppers of MSBTE Winter 2017 exam on 20th January. The objective of the program was to motivate and appreciate the achievements and academic excellence of students. The program witnessed an overwhelming response from parents and students. It progressed with the address of the HODs of respective Programs, followed by felicitation of students. With the score of 96.88% Om Rajpurkar of Computer Engineering (Sem-V) topped the chart

Parents too were keen to share their experience. The success stories of students included how a student of 57% in the SSC exam scored 90% in his Sem V (EXTC) exams and stood third in his class was narrated by his father in a very emotionally packed speech. It was a joyous and proud moment for students, parents as well as their teachers when the students stepped on the stage to receive the certificate of honour from their respective HODs. The function was given a festive touch with students in their traditional attire as the day was celebrated as traditional day as a part of the college fest 'Verve'.

Highlighting the outstanding performance of the students and encouraging them further to define new heights was the main motto of the ceremony. The function made the students realize their potential to soar higher and encouraged them to perform in an extraordinary way in every field they work in. It also marked a few words from teachers as well as parents reflecting their happiness in every aspect.

The ceremony marked the presence of the Principal, HODs and teachers. Students were honoured in the presence of their parents who were specially invited to the program. The ceremony ended with Principal's address. In his speech, Prof. Ashish Ukidve expressed happiness and pride in the spectacular results of the examination. Exhorting the students to carry



on with their pursuit of excellence, he congratulated the toppers and stressed on the importance of hopes and aspirations and how they are the stepping stones on the path to success.

- Ritu Patel & Riya Patel
VP, (IF 6GA)



VERVE @ VP Entertainment Unlimited...

The much awaited Annual Fest of Vidyalankar Polytechnic enthralled the audience for three days. The span of two months, right from the practice till the final execution was indeed an enjoyable phase for all our students. The great enthusiasm of all the participants made the event a successful one. Students across all branches portrayed their talents and entertained everyone and simultaneously learnt valuable lessons in team work and event management. The best and positive side of this event was getting to know each other better and realizing the potential within each one of us.

Early mornings were dedicated to rigorous practice. Some evenings were delightful to watch upcoming talents and skills. Yet we all were divided into groups for various tasks but worked better as a team. We had our supportive pillars, our teachers and coordinators who made sure that each event builds up on the right place. Right from sports, cultural events, back stage events all were managed well by them. Surely the event was incomplete without hardworking participants. I was amazed to see my fellow mates participating and showcasing their talents. We had a good number of participants in sports where team spirit and sportsmanship was seen in abundance.

The melodies songs sung by my friends proved that they were no less than Arijit Singh and Neha Kakkar! It was not just limited to singing, we also had various musical instrument played along with the



cool beat boxing. Definitely each one has a talent, but that day VP got its talent (VP's got talent)! All the back stage events surely helped many of us to cherish our school times. Something that we all were hoping to see were the on-stage events. We had all our top male and female models right on the ramp, glowing and walking with style who defined the meaning of fashion well. The dance added charm and beauty to the show and kept the audience entertained.

The hard work and dedication of all of us made this event a grand success. Some won trophies, while some won medals and certificates; the most important was winning hearts of the audience and holding hands with our new friends. This is what will stay forever. The craze on cultural days, back stage mischief, sharing emotions will all be missed. We are sure, many of us will miss these days. But let us count down to welcome this grand fest again, in the next academic year. Awaited!

- Tariq Sheikh & Aditi Pawar
VP, (CO6G B)



Times Job Fair @ VIT

The Times Job Fair conducted on 10th February was a mammoth event organized on the Vidyalankar campus. Twenty six companies participated in the event, of which N.I.I.T Kohinoor, Hyundai are just a few examples. Almost 1700 job aspirants walked in for their respective career enhancements. Vidyalankar has provided a platform for various job aspirants in securing jobs with reputed companies and lived up to its image of being a positive societal change manager!



The students of FYMMS whole heartedly participated in the same as volunteers working as networking agents for the job seekers and the job givers.