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Not just magnitude but also the direction!

VECTOR

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COMEDY NIGHTS 2017- AT VIDYALANKAR

Laughter is truly a potent medicine. With a laughter dose, we forget our daily worries and get transported into a world of fun and mirth. The harsh realities fade and we laugh our worries out of our system. With the fun and frolic in mind, Vidyalkar decided to honor the teachers of the Classes with an evening filled with laughter and more.

The scene moves to The Experimental Theatre, NCPA, the guests are the revered teachers, who are seated expectantly for the curtains to rise. The man of the show for the night is none other than the doyen of comedy - Johnny Lever, who has to his credit more than 300 films which he has acted in and bagged numerous best comedian awards.

With the ambience set for a laughter riot, the audience is soon moved to become silly giggling teenagers, holding on to their stomachs as they laughed full spiritedly. The best thing about Johnny Lever's comedy is that the common man can relate to it, since he draws his inspirations from real life. A keen observer, Johnny is able to see humour in most mundane situations and he puts them into his act with such a delectable flavour of comedy, that one can do nothing but laugh out loud at his perception. His energy on the stage is to be seen to be believed. On receiving an encore for a dance enactment of Shakira that was astounding, Johnny took just a second's break to break into the same dance with the same energy and vigour.

His daughter Jamie Lever took the stage after the break, and the chip of the old block, Jamie got the audience rolling with her enactments. Her musical skills make her stage presence very noticeable. The entire program lasted for over 2 hours, and one really lost count of time in the midst of all the fun.



The dinner at the end of the evening was a large spread of lip-smacking gourmet delights that satiated every palate. It was truly an evening to remember.

- Prof. Jayanti Das,
Manager-Corporate Communication,
VDT

Hearty Congratulations to VIT Alumnus Tanay Shinde for serving India as a Naval Officer!

My 4 years at VIT were the basic building blocks of my career in the Indian Navy. The kind of culture and ethos which I experienced and inculcated in VIT nurtured all the qualities in me which are mandatory for clearing any SSB, and eventually getting an opportunity to serve our nation.



Candidates were selected for the upcoming rounds and the rest were sent off. The next day we had our psychological tests. The following two days went in GTO and physicals. The fifth day was a conference, after which the results were declared. Out of those 24 who got in after the first day, only 2 were recommended. We then had to wait for another 5 days for our medical tests and on the last day I was declared medically fit.

1 Experience during pre SSB rounds

The initial screening rounds were conducted at my college. It was a pool campus placement for University Entry Scheme for Short Service Commission. Students from all the colleges in the vicinity of Mumbai participated. Group discussion and personal interview round were conducted. We were assessed as per the conventional points of any GD or interview. The training which I got during the pre-campus placement stage and courses like Communication Skills and Business Communication and Ethics in my Engineering curriculum really helped me sail through the initial screening stages. Somewhere in the month of December 16 I got my SSB call and I was told to report to Visakhapatnam in January '17.

2 Experience at SSB, Visakhapatnam

This phase indeed proved to be life-changing. I, along with 153 others from all over India, reported to SSB. On the first day we had to face aptitude and picture perception and description test. At the end of the day, 24 out of 153 can-

3 Experience in INA

Life at INA was a roller coaster. It was really difficult at the start; the tenure there was both mentally and physically demanding. In a nutshell, the Academy showed us our physical and mental limits.

To sum up, I can say that VIT picked up a small town suburban boy and gave him a chance to be a Naval Officer and lead a life dedicated to serving our nation, which is coveted by everyone. I have the highest amount of gratitude to all the faculty members who made it possible. Special mention to the Placement Cell which took extra efforts and helped me in achieving my goal and in making my dream come true. I would like to mention the point about the training of soft skills which I got during my 4 years in college. The training which I got in VIT helped me to furnish my soft skills, thus increasing my confidence, which is the most important requirement for clearing SSB.

Regards from a grateful Naval Officer!
- Tanay Shinde
VIT Alumnus (Electronics Engineering)

VIT NSS UNIT CREATES RIPPLES OF POSITIVE TRANSFORMATION

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". This was the motto that the NSS volunteers of Vidyalkar Institute of Technology followed during the 7 days special camp held at Kharivali. The objective of the camp was to inculcate the spirit of voluntary work among students.

Special camping forms an integral part of National Service Scheme. It appeals to the youth as it provides unique opportunities for group living, collective experience sharing and constant interaction with com-

munity. During the special camping, the NSS volunteers, led by Program Officer Prof. Pravin Gharge and faculty team members, worked hard day and night to ensure that everyone in that adopted village gets every possible help from them so that they can raise their standards and lead a life of dignity in the society with all and bring about positive development in the village. In doing so, the volunteers themselves learnt a lot from the people in the village like how to lead a happy life even while facing extreme scarcity of resources.

During the camp, after a day or two the

NSS volunteers started getting massive support from the villagers too. It is rightly said that "small acts when multiplied by millions of people transform the world." The students of the college showed great enthusiasm while participating in the events of the special camp. They hope this legacy of social service will continue to be followed by the new NSS volunteers in the upcoming years as students should join the National Service Scheme unit not for any income but for the best possible outcome-service to society and the nation.

- Prajakta Lonkar, SE EXTC (A), VIT



An Evening with Andreas Bauer, IMF Senior Resident Representative for India, Nepal, and Bhutan

The Department of BMS of VSIT organized a Seminar on the role of IMF and its impact on global development on September 26, 2017. Mr. Andreas Bauer, IMF Senior Resident Representative for India, Nepal, and Bhutan spoke on the occasion. During his career spanning 15 years at the IMF he has worked as a Mission Chief and Senior Economist in many countries, mainly in Latin America and the Middle East. Before taking up his current position in New Delhi, he headed a unit in charge of international monetary and financial issues, and institutional strategy at the IMF's Washington headquarters. Earlier in his career, Mr. Bauer was an Emerging Markets Analyst for Credit Suisse and held senior positions in the Ministry of Finance of Chile, including chief of staff to the minister.

He started his address by introducing the students to the History of IMF. He

moved ahead by stressing on the important role IMF plays in strengthening the world economy and that it has been dedicated since its inception to promoting international monetary cooperation through a permanent institution which provides the machinery for consultation and collaboration on international monetary problems.

1. To facilitate the expansion and balanced growth of international trade, and to contribute thereby to the promotion and maintenance of high levels of employment and real income and to the development of the productive resources of all members as primary objectives of economic policy.

2. To promote exchange stability, to



maintain orderly exchange arrangements among members, and to avoid competitive exchange depreciation.

3. To assist in the establishment of a multilateral system of payments in respect of current transactions between members and in the elimination of foreign exchange restrictions which hamper the growth of world trade.

4. To give confidence to members by making the general resources of the Fund temporarily available to them under adequate safeguards, thus providing them with opportunity to correct maladjustments in their balance of payments without resorting to measures destructive of national or international prosperity.

In addition to financial assistance, the IMF also provides member countries

with technical assistance to create and implement effective policies, particularly economic, monetary, and banking policy and regulations.

He reiterated that India's economy is catching up and taking on a more important position in the world. High trend growth will be needed for many years to raise per capita incomes to levels of upper medium-income countries. Accelerating trend growth requires continuous structural reforms to encourage investment in human and physical capital, and productivity growth. IMF is a partner for India in this effort. He believes that India's weight in the global economy is rising but it has challenges to overcome.

He also answered the students' queries patiently and enjoyed interaction with them. The session was extremely interesting and informative. The event was organized by Asst. Prof. Sagar Gaikwad.

- Anindita Banerji
Asst. Professor VSIT

IMPARTING SOFT SKILLS

Royal College, Mira Road had organised a soft skill programme from 27-30 December '17 for a batch of 24 students of TYBAF and TYBMS. The lecture was conducted by Prof. Sindhu Krishnan and Prof. Ranjit Singh Anand. There were many simple messages learnt throughout the session like raising a question and asking questions wherever needed. Leadership skills and self-motivation, importance of being dynamic and versatile were learnt. The first day's session also involved a heartening discussion on emotional connect with par-

ents, ethics and the importance of listening. The students were quite inspired by the lessons and they were also trained in speaking and reading skills. Day Two involved instilling a sense of self-confidence and motivation. Students were also taught how to draft an effective email. It was observed that many shy students slowly started to develop confidence and interact with the trainers and their classmates.

The importance of team-building was demonstrated through an interactive activity. Day Three included a group discussion activity and an understanding on



inculcating the right attitude in life. The students were also taught the importance of facing criticism in a headstrong manner and to never lose hope and courage. They were also made to understand the value of the words 'sorry' and 'thank you' and its appropriate usage. Additionally, they learnt the importance of personal grooming and

body language.

The last day's session began with a mock interview round for which students were well prepared along with their resumes. Prof. Lakshmi Pillai explained their mistakes and the best answers that were given by some students. She also explained the need for professionalism during formal interactions. Additional-

ly, she conducted activities and explained various concepts on grammar, tenses, punctuation, error avoidance and brevity to enhance writing skills and communication.

The training programme came to an end with students providing feedback to each other and pointing out improvements in each other. It was a heartwarming experience and the students really enjoyed the programme. The response received was overwhelming and the students found it hard to part ways with the trainers.

-Prof. Sindhu Krishnan,
Prof. Ranjit Singh Anand and
Prof. Lakshmi Pillai
Assistant Professors, VSIT

Visual Politics and the Camera – the Selfie Culture

Last year the Supreme Court, in Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd) vs Union of India case, witnessed a triumphant unanimous decision which recognized the Right to Privacy as “an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution.” In the age of visual story-telling and data ownership, this recognition is much-needed. Humans function as spectators to events instead of active engagement. The spectatorship that generates meaning devoid of any factual grounds or objectivity is blind to the private space of individuals. Everything is objectified and rendered into an object of inspection. The one that holds the camera, shooting the image, exercises the power to territo-

rialize an object into a specific field of knowledge and meaning.

But then came the selfie. The object of scrutiny assumes control over the generation of meaning and perception. The selfie is both revolutionary and conflicting in visual culture. It is the epitome of the ultimate paradox of self-scrutiny and objectification. It is difficult to place the selfie craze as a subversive denouncement of the gaze of the onlooker or a reiteration of the reifying gaze. However the ease in access to portraiture has brought into question the authenticity of the author as the generator of meaning. The selfie displaces the professional photographer and the capturer simultaneously becomes the object captured. However, the rise of the selfie also recorded the introduction of filters and HD filters. This trend attests to the problematic agen-

cy of self-representation accorded to the capturer of the selfie: is the exercise empowering or does it embroil the object back into line of the objectifying vision by rendering the object itself as the primary lens of scrutiny. This observation is on the lines of Michel Foucault's conception of biopolitics, derived from the notion of biopower. It is the most influential apparatus of control where the individual becomes complicit in his or her own regulatory surveillance and objectification. Even as people find selfies empowering, they are still pressurized by normative beauty standards and the reaction of others on social media. But there still exists the agency of the self that can potentially empower through strategic negotiation with and resistance to regulatory mechanisms.

- Lakshmi Pillai, Faculty, VSIT

GLIMPSES OF VSIT VIGOUR



GATEway to Success

One month before the GATE exam

All said and done, it's time to perform! So, gear up for the last one month of your preparation and give it your best shot. With the GATE exam just around the corner, it is important to self-assess and plan your month on the basis of your preparation and target score for your goal in cracking GATE for a PSU job or a desired M.E./M.Tech. programme. With this assessment in place, it will be easier for you to set up a methodology to improve your score on a daily basis with a proper schedule.

Make a schedule

Know your strong areas and finish off with easier topics first. You must be aware about topics that you are thorough with. Revise these topics and solve maximum questions based on them. This will boost your confidence and help you make a strategy to get maximum marks on stronger topics. Allot at least 7-8 hours of study and practice on a daily basis. Three rules of making a schedule are:

1. Draft an appropriate schedule
2. Adhere to the schedule
3. Do not procrastinate

Solve maximum question papers

Get the hang of the question paper and

pattern. Give a number of mock tests. It is important to position yourself and analyse for boosting your score. By solving maximum question papers, you'll also get familiarized with questions of your strong topics and also the questions on topics that you find difficult. After attempting the questions, try to understand the solutions for your unattempted questions and incorrect answers, so that the next time you get a similar question, you are better prepared. Remember that this is a competitive exam, so the maximum questions you solve will definitely help you improve and boost your score. It will also help you in attempting more questions in lesser time since speed is crucial.

Concentrate on GA and Engineering Mathematics

At least 30% of the GATE paper comprises this section. GA and Engineering Mathematics are comparatively less tough, hence more scoring. You could accommodate at least 2 hours from your every day schedule in solving these type of questions. Books you could refer to:

- Quantitative Aptitude – R. S. Agrawal
- Higher Engineering Mathematics – B. S. Grewal

Customize strategies for yourself:

If you think speed is an issue, you could



set up speed bars; for example, 10 questions in 30 minutes and then reducing the time. This will come with self-assessment and consistency in solving GATE papers. You could also target your final GATE score and try to solve the paper accordingly. Also, numerical type questions do not have negative marking, so you could attempt all, but, try not to waste too much time in solving. However, you could mark the not attemptable ones too as there's a probability of 25% of getting the right answer with no negative score. Keep self-made short notes handy for last minute revisions. Do not start a completely new concept if you are not too sure to finish it, but also,

check the weightage for the subject and dedicate time likewise.

Planning and practicing forms the very basis of your schedule for this month. Apart from this, get sound sleep, eat well and be relaxed. Do not over-stress yourself, take short breaks, listen to light music, play a sport, maybe, for rejuvenation and breaking the monotony. After all, cracking GATE is a game of consistent practice and strategy.

Team Vidyalankar wishes all the very best to all the aspirants of GATE 2018!

- Shruti Karnik
Counselor – Higher Studies
Vidyalankar

Initiatives of VIT-MMS for Enhancing Employability Skills – Need of the Hour for MMS Students

It is said that “Education that helps young people develop skills has transformative potential.” Our endeavour at Vidyalankar has always been moving forward on the never ending path of achieving excellence in the field of education. We are constantly trying to review, question and change existing systems for effective outcomes. Stakeholders' delight is our one and only goal. Keeping that vision in mind, we have taken various initiatives to enhance the employability skills of our MMS students. Some initiatives taken towards this are: Formation of Board of Advisors, Senate Team and Board of Studies. Churning of their ideas gave rise to new processes and systems like January to March Internship (JAMI) and Value Added Courses (VAC) for our students.

A team of Board of Advisors was constituted with an objective of making the curriculum current and as per the needs of the industry practices. Industry stalwarts from various companies like Publicis, Mahindra & Mahindra, Wockhardt, Marico etc. are on the panel of Board of Advisors.

The team also has internal members such as top management, Chief Mentor of VDT, HoD MMS, Dean Placements and MMS faculty. The BoA generally meets once a semester to review the semester plan and to discuss what more can be offered to students. Senate and Board of Studies are the internal team formed to execute the ideas and suggestions discussed during the BoA meet and also other ideas, if any.

The outcomes of these committees are a few initiatives. One of the major initiatives towards enhancing employability skills is introducing the students for industry projects and this is done through JAMI by providing a platform to get an exposure to the corporate world. JAMI is designed for the MMS batch of 2017-2019. The students will now do projects with companies where they have to work for 2 days in a week in the companies and the remaining days are kept for academic learning at Vidyalankar. On the successful completion of their projects, students will receive a certificate which will add more value to their CV as well as groom them to

accept industry challenges. JAMI internships will not only give students an opportunity to build up on their skills but a platform which then can be converted to final placement. This initiative also helped the placement team to build an early approach to the companies for students. So far more than 90 students are already placed in companies like Wockhardt, CaféMarathi, Publicis, The Hindu, HT Media, KONGO, Birla Ayurveda, Legasis etc.

Another initiative is towards building an advanced knowledge base among the students. This will be done through offering Value Added Courses (VAC) which are over and above the University of Mumbai syllabus. These VACs are derived at, after mapping the Mumbai University syllabus with syllabus of institutes of national and international repute such as Harvard, IIMs, NMIMS, S.P. Jain, XLRI and TISS. These courses will be offered right from Semester 1 to Semester 4. These courses will be delivered by industry experts who bring the current practices of industry to the college doorstep.

SNAPSHOT OF THE PROFILES OF BOA MEMBERS Snapshot of Value Added Courses – Year 1

Board of Advisors

NAME	PROFILE
Mr. Ramesh Iyer	Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Mahindra Finance
Mr. Preet Singh	Global CHRO, Wockhardt Pharmaceuticals Limited
Mr. Rajeev Nayak	Country Manager (Malaysia), Marico Limited
Ms. Srija Chatterjee	Managing Director, Publicis Worldwide India
Ms. Minakshi Sament	VP – Human Resources, B. Braun Medical India Limited
Mr. Rama Krishna	Managing Director & Partner, Preventus HR
Mr. Avinash Kalia	Founder, Crucible Investment Management LLP
Dr. Hemjith Babakrishnan	Sr. Group VP - Strategy and HR, Health Prime Inc
CA Mr. Akhilesh Thakur	Partner, Mahajan & Albana Chartered Accountants
CA Mr. Raghu Iyer	Partner, Raghu & Associates

Snapshot of Value Added Courses – Year 2

Value Added Courses added by VIT School of Management

Finance	Marketing	Human Resource	Operations	Systems
Banking Products & Services	Business to Business Marketing	Organization Structure Theory and Designs	Business Process Re-engineering	RFID and its business Application
Behavioral Finance	Customer Relationship Management	Recruitment, Selection & Psychometrics	Revenue management & dynamic pricing	Technology Innovations in Banking
International Finance	Digital Marketing	Strategic HRM	Six Sigma Advanced	Enterprise Resource Planning
Strategic Financial Management	Retail Marketing	Talent Management	Data analysis	

Value Added Courses added by VIT School of Management

- Service Sector Management
- Introductory Marketing Concepts
- Business Ethics
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Process Management
- Sales Management and Selling Skills
- AI, Cloud Computing, Business Metrics and Analytics
- Cost and Management Accounting
- E-Commerce and M-Commerce
- Legal & Tax Aspects of Business

VP SPORTS DAY LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! VERVE-2018

The much awaited festive season begins at Vidyalankar Polytechnic with the clarion call of Sports Day! A display of athletic skills and stamina, along with loads of fun and excitement, marked the sports day at the Institute. VP recognizes that opportunities must be created for students to showcase their sporting talents. Realising the changing scenario on the sporting front, VP came up with 12 sporting events which gave the much needed boost to the students as well as the staff members.

The day started with the classic case of outdoor boys event, cricket which witnessed over 18 teams in total, from 3 departments CO, IF, EJ including both the first as well as the second shift. A number of other events, including outdoor as well as indoor games such as football, volleyball, rink football for boys and throwball, girls' cricket, dodgeball for girls, and games common for all- badminton, chess and carom, table tennis was organised too. Both boys and girls equally



participated in the tournaments. Enthusiastic spectators were gathered every day to cheer and watch their respective mates play for their department. Beginning with the outdoor events till the indoor events and the annual sports day of college on 13th December, every event was managed well by the student coordinators. After outdoor events, indoor events were conducted such as chess, carom, tables tennis which saw the serendipitous victory of Dastagir for chess, Laxit

Jadhav (carom doubles) and Jay (table tennis-singles) and Palash and Jay (tt-doubles). The outstanding players from the events were selected for intra college sports tournaments.

The final day of sports started with the welcome address by Principal, who also declared the sports meet open by unveiling the sports logo of VP VERVE 2017-2018. On 13 January all the finale matches were played including the staff match. The overall championship was won by the

department of Computer Engineering.

The organiser Prof. Imran Sayyed expressed his happiness on the successful completion of the event, and pride towards the students. He expressed his gratitude towards the staff members, students, and the alumni who came for cheering their juniors, and on the splendid discipline maintained throughout the programme.

- Naomi Mhatre
Computer Engineering SEM VI, VP

VIT ELITE WINTER ALUMNI MEET 2017 WELCOMING ALUMNI HOMECOMING

To take a walk down the corridors of nostalgia, Elite Winter Alumni Meet 2017, was hosted by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology on 16th December 2017 from 4.00 p.m. onwards for the academic batches of 2003 to 2014 for BE and MMS. The occasion was well-received and attended by 100 alumni and their family members, faculty and staff. A much awaited event for alumni, it was a time to take a pause and look back in life's precious moments spent at the institute which laid the foundation of success later. It was time to visit their alma mater, to interact with batch-mates faculty members, staff and to relish and refresh those memories.

Elite Winter Alumni Meet 2017

The Vidyalankar Campus was bustling with excitement on seeing its distinguished alumni attending the event who have made a mark in their careers and society. A day like this is very important for us as it also enables the alumni to notice the changes and developments in the college campus over the years. A pleasant and cheerful ambience was set with an array of chairs, decorations, batch wise photo gallery and a



Alumni Association in taking the Institute ahead.

Felicitations of VIT's Rising Star Alumni

VIT's Rising Star Alumni Award recognizes young alumni with a minimum 5 years of work experience who are already making significant contributions to greater society through professional or philanthropic work. We felicitated distinguished alumni who have made a mark in their respective fields. This is done based on the recommendations received from fellow alumni and senior faculty members of the institute. The rising star alumni were felicitated by the faculty of each department. Vishal Chaudhari, George Abraham, Lieutenant Sandeep Yadav, Ram Iyer, Sahil Potnis and Anil Daud were felicitated from Information Technology, Computers, Electronics, Electronics and Telecommunication, Biomedical and Management Studies Departments respectively.

- Prof. Smita Mukherjee
MMS Faculty, VIT

quirky photo booth to recreate college fun.

The event started with the registration of alumni and taking live feed and tweets from them on their feelings of homecoming, the changes they were witnessing and their thrill on meeting people with whom they had spent the best years of their life. Alumni were thrilled with the overall ambience, and arrangement done at VIT. They expressed delight at witnessing the Institute's efforts towards taking care of them. They were happy meeting batch-mates and senior faculty.

Alumni Association Felicitations

Prof. D. Krishna addressed the alumni on institute alumni relations and the role of

VIDYALANKAR CLASSES TOPPERS -2017 EXAMS



FE Sem II May 2017



TY Diploma Sem VI April 2017



SY Diploma Sem IV April 2017



FY Diploma Sem II April 2017



B.Sc.IT April 2017