

- Internship at Wellness Forever.....**P2**
- BE Well-Placed!.....**P3**
- Toyota's Kirobo Mini: The small robot with big possibilities.....**P4**

Not just magnitude but also the direction!

VECTOR



Reader Engagement Initiative
 Volume 15
 Issue 01
 July 2018
 Circulated free to students of Vidyalankar (For private circulation only)

GLORY TO VIT ALUMNUS

VIT alumnus Abhay Valsangkar has received an award from the former President of India Shri. Pranab Mukherjee in recognition of securing a National Rank in a Training and Development course conducted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. Abhay has served as the General Secretary of the VIT Student Council in 2013-14 and is currently a Talent Developer at Alter Ego Learning. Abhay shares his thoughts on this proud occasion: "I feel blessed to have received some of the best opportunities at Vidyalankar Institute of Technology



which have inspired me to dream Big. It is the values that I learnt at Vidyalankar that proved to be stepping stones in this journey. Thank you Vidyalankar Family for the constant support and encouragement!" Team Vidyalankar heartily congratulates Abhay and hopes that he reaches greater heights of success!

Establishing a Healthy Bond



Wipro-GE Healthcare has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vidyalankar Institute of Technology on 03 May, 2018 to establish a "Centre of Excellence" at our campus. Wipro-GE Intends to work with VIT to establish a "Healthcare Institute" in India and further expand the network and develop skilled healthcare engineers by offering skill enhancement courses in the areas of Medical Instrumentation, Medical Imaging and Healthcare Simulations. In the process a State-of-Art laboratory with modern medical equipment would be established at VIT.

Opening the Gates of Opportunities: Interaction with GATE Topper

Somesh Shrivastava
 Branch: EXTC
 College: SPIT
 GATE - 2018 Rank 102 |
 IISc Bangalore –
 Systems Engineering



- **When did you start your Preparation for GATE?**
 I started my GATE preparation more than a year in advance i.e. from the Third Year.
- **What was your strategy to prepare for GATE?**
 I started preparing for GATE with the subjects I was comfortable and I liked because of which I started enjoying GATE studies.
- **How much time do you dedicate for GATE studies?**
 I actually can't quantify but most important is the day I started preparing for GATE. I dedicated some time everyday. Initially it may have been about an hour but gradually I went on increasing the study hours when the examination was around i.e. by the month of Dec – Jan it was almost 10 hours a day.
- **Is it possible for one to prepare for GATE along with your engineering semester?**
 Yes, very much! I used to prepare for GATE and that used to refresh my mind. Actually GATE does not expect you to rote learn things which becomes time consuming. GATE needs you to understand things and once you start understanding things, you start enjoying them.
- **What do you think is the most important part of your preparation?**
 I feel regularity is most impor-

tant and giving sufficient time to yourself to understand the subject is critical. Once you have time at your disposal you can practice to get perfection. I took all the tests taken at Vidyalankar and studied my performance after the tests and went on improving test by test. Also I appeared for all 15 Mock tests given by Vidyalankar that gave me a good level of confidence.


■ **What really happened at the IISc Bangalore Interview?**
 Around 400-500 students were shortlisted based on the GATE score and were called in the campus for further rounds. Written test comprised 50 marks and had subjective questions of 1,2 or 3 marks. The questions were based on General Maths, Engineering Maths, Signal and Systems, Power Electronics, Communication, Material Properties and focussed on basic concepts and were easy compared to GATE questions.

Around 150 students were selected for the interview. There were 4 panels with 2 interviewers in each panel and interviews lasted for around 25 minutes. Initially, they started with basic questions on General Maths. They specifically expect a step by step explanation of every answer you give. Once he was satisfied with the answers, the other interviewer asked me about my Final Year project. He would interrupt during the explanation and ask questions until he was completely satisfied. The project's working, specifications and its real world applications were the major points of interest. Then, to end with, he asked a simple question on current source design.

■ **What do you look forward to in your Master's program?**
 I have decided to join IISc Bangalore's Flagship Program i.e. M. Tech in Systems Engineering I am really looking forward to get into the core topics in Systems Engineering.

Vidyalankar's Legacy of Success Continues with Toppers at JEE Advanced 2018

1st in Thane



AIR 101
 JEE Advanced 2018
 1st in Thane

JEE Main 2018 - 320/360
 Std. XII - Avg. 92.74%

Harshavardhan B.
 (2 Year Classroom Program,
 Vidyalankar Jr. College)

Coaching at Vidyalankar for two years is what got me here today. The faculty were ever helpful and always involved themselves in my studies & took all my teachers who hard work and skill in teaching helped me scale the difficult & faced. I would recommend Vidyalankar to all students dreaming of studying at an IIT.

Harshavardhan Baheti

Some of our other JEE Advanced 2018 Toppers

 Avijit Mandal AIR 115*	 Archit A. AIR 221	 Prasann Jaiswal AIR 438*	 Dipak Nagle AIR 474
 Tanmay C. AIR 479*	 Jayesh Shaw AIR 521	 Ankur Gupta AIR 627	 Divij Jain AIR 672
 Ritwik Kadu AIR 802	 Gurdit Vohra AIR 837	 Ashay Veer AIR 848	 Vikrant Rangnekar AIR 1114

& many more ...



Internship at Wellness Forever

Internships are beneficial as they help to obtain an insight into the reality of corporate employment that students will have to confront once they graduate. Thus, faculty internships help educators to comprehend the real demands that certain jobs entail and the gap between academia and the corporate sector can be effectively bridged.

Internship for teaching faculty has become a regular practice for VSIT. This year, the Principal of Vidyalankar School of Information Technology, Dr. Rohini Kelkar, selected four faculty members for internship at Wellness Forever, the largest chain of 24-hour medical store in Mumbai. The faculty members selected were Mr. Amit Kabra, Mr. Sagar Gaikwad, Ms. Nisha Dang and Mr. Laxmikant Manchekar. The internship period was from April 24, 2018 to May 02, 2018. In this internship, the faculty members created digital content and e-learning courses for staff members of Wellness Forever, provided training to staff members of Wellness Forever which helped the staff to improve their newly-introduced supply chain management department. E-learning modules were created using certain digital tools/software such as Inkscape, E-flip Professional, MS Office, Adobe Flash, Videoscibe and Powtoon. All these modules were finally uploaded on Moodle, a learning management tool.

- **Laxmikant Manchekar**
Faculty, VSIT

INAUGURAL OF MARATHI VANGMAY MANDAL

Marathi Vangmay Mandal is a committee that perseveres to promote, cherish and preserve Marathi literature, language and culture. VSIT's Marathi Vangmay Mandal is a dynamic committee that works enthusiastically in that direction, celebrating the Marathi spirit. The Chief Guest to inaugurate the Marathi Vangmay Mandal, 2018-19 was Dr. Girish Oak, editor,

film and silver screen actor, theatre actor and poet. The event was held at Y-block Seminar Hall. Ganesh Vandana was performed by Gayatri Udaiyar of SYBMS. Prof. Madhavi Amondkar performed a mono act from "Ti Fulrani" that was met with a resounding applause. The Principal of VSIT, Dr. Rohini Kelkar welcomed the Chief Guest with a memento.

The introduction of Guest was done

through video diligently prepared by M.Sc IT student Kanchan Taksale and through an interview taken by Prof. Umesh Koyande and Prof. Prachi Mahajan. Dr. Girish Oak shared his experiences and gave many tips to become a successful individual. The program received an overwhelming response from the audience.

- **Prathma Nemane**
Faculty, VSIT

Skill Development Workshops at VP

Acknowledging the increased significance of computer languages and networking, Vidyalankar Polytechnic came forward with the idea of conducting a workshop to improve knowledge and proficiency of VPians. Vidyalankar Polytechnic organised a 5-day Skill Development Workshop for FY, SY & TY students during summer break. Students were trained in Networking, PHP, .Net and Software Testing.

Programs like networking, Computer languages- JSP, PHP, .Net and different software testing tools will enable them to prepare their project and will also be helpful in their career. They were not only given theoretical knowledge but also hands-on experience of the various programmes during the sessions.

In this workshop, students were given information about various types of networks, different advanced technologies and pros and cons of these technologies and devices. .NET helps to understand the use of GUI tools of .NET framework. The course enabled the students to understand the use of basic and advance .NET controls, interface back-end and front-end, to build appli-



cations integrated with .NET Framework, and to build .NET based applications. The course helped students to perform Asp transaction. Course of JSP helped them to understand about hosting the device, validation of sign up forms, JAVA and Database connectivity using NetBeans. The course covered topics like: Introduction to .Net framework, Types of Application Architecture, Implementation of VB.Net, ADO .Net and implementation and introduction to ASP .Net.

The courses were conducted efficiently. The first part of the session consisted of theory and in the latter part we did the practicals based on the theory

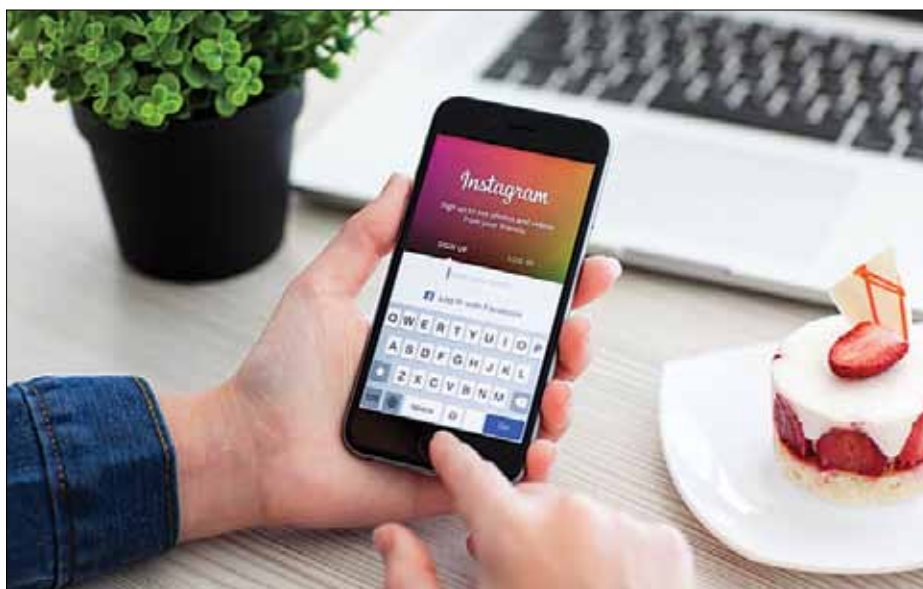
taught. This knowledge is very important for the new generation because in future the world might be completely dependent on languages and networks. The session helped to understand the actual process and logic behind this massive network. Instructors were very supportive and friendly and ensured that each and every student has understood the concepts clearly. Students were also taken to the server room of our college and were explained how the network of Vidyalankar colleges is managed, secured and also the actual process behind it.

- **Vaishnavi Sawant, Shristi Singh & Anushka Lahane** (CO3IA), VP

Visual culture and the camera: Instagram

Every moment counts. This cliché seems to fit perfectly in recent visual developments. Lives must be documented, moments captured, stories spun and snippets shared. Privacy is almost a myth and a need to upload has never been more extensive before. Social media sites and their dynamic interactive interfaces have prompted users across the globe to connect in different ways possible. With the advent of Instagram, photos and images are now produced and shared at an unbelievable rate. There is a tremendous flow of visual information and the obsessive need to produce only increases over time. This has given rise to filters and other aesthetics-enhancing features as qualitative additions, encouraging users to participate in imaginary experiences and ideals of perceptions and self-actualised reality. As of September 2017, Instagram has recorded around 800 million users worldwide (Statista).

In a world of hypervisualisation, eve-



ry individual is relegated into a common or mundane existence. This com-

mon existence gradually dissolves into complete oblivion. Trends rise and dis-

appear like the sun and individuals constantly seek meaning to make sense of their lives that are enforced with meaning generated by media images and consumerist consumption of idealised existence. This is countered through an attempt at self-representation. Thus, moments must be captured and imagined in an idealised space and stories told. An individual endeavours to define and concretize existence and belong in cyber space as a distinct, feeling, participative, active and interesting being. The self, the food, the restaurant, the friends, the party, the meditative stills, the fading cityscape, the gorgeous scenery, the candid, the gifts acquired, the struggle, the poetry, the quotes, all flood the social media app every minute. Everyone is a photographer, author, model, poet, storyteller and most importantly, a human story and a multitudinous embodiment of complex, breathing experiences.

- **Lakshmi Pillai**
Assistant Professor, VSIT

Campus placement is a very important milestone for any engineering graduate. Generally the campus placement process starts in any engineering institute for the third year batches according to the calendar of the institute. Over the years, there has been a steady upward curve in the placement graph at VIT. Our major recruiters have been TCS, Works Application, Infosys, HCL Technologies, L&T Infotech, iGATE, Accenture, Capgemini, Barclays and Oracle among others. L & T Company launched the “Brand Ambassador Program initiative” at VIT. In the last academic year more than 378 students from VIT got placed at various reputed organizations.

To achieve maximum student recruitment and equip students with the necessary skill, the Training and Placement Cell conducts comprehensive pre-placement training by way of mock aptitude tests, mock interviews, group discussions and workshops on personality enrichment, professional etiquette and communication skills.

The practice of these companies is to recruit a large number of students and later allot them profiles according to the projects in hand with them. The students are expected to join the companies soon after their graduation.

Recruiting companies follow a very structured way of selecting candidates. Every company according to the profile, design their academic requirements for each institute. The candidates who satisfactorily comply with the academic criteria set by the company are the ones who will go through the selection process.

Eligibility Criteria in terms of academic performance, as specified by various companies must be met by candidates.

Pre-placement Talk wherein officials from the recruiting company deliver a presentation about their company’s genesis, current status, facilities they provide and the working environment. They specify the role of a fresher and their expectations while also explaining

BE Well-Placed!



the eligibility criteria, salary package and the selection process.

Aptitude Test (in online or pen and paper formats) consists of verbal reasoning, logical reasoning and mathematics. There could even be a section on technical questions or an altogether separate technical test.

Group Discussion is conducted to evaluate candidates on the basis of knowledge, communication skills, initiative and interpersonal skills.

Essay Writing / E-mail Writing to test written communication abilities.

Technical Interview is conducted to

test the candidate’s technical knowledge and questions will be asked on the basics of engineering subjects studied and other co-curricular and certification courses.

HR Interview is conducted to evaluate soft skills, attitude, adaptability, and confidence and ensures that the company is not only hiring a person who is technically sound, but is also someone who is a right fit for the company and its culture.

The major challenges faced by recruiters are the unlearning of some skills and attitudes that candidates may

bring on board which may not fit in with the company’s culture. Therefore they find a big gap between what is imparted in the campus and what is required by the corporate world. This gap can be bridged by a comprehensive placement readiness and soft skill training program on campus. The Institute has hired the services of professional institutes which conduct AMCAT Test and aptitude test training for students.

Over the last few years, the traditional method of recruiting is undergoing changes. Recruiters expect students to be industry ready from Day 1 of joining their companies. Companies have started recruiting through coding and programming contests such as CodeVita, Hackathon, Code Chef etc. to tap talent directly. Willingness to learn and adapt quickly to the changing technological trends is of immense significance.

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology students have garnered positive feedback from companies where they have been placed. HR personnel, in post interview and post recruitment interaction with the Placement Officer have credited VIT students with consistently displaying the following attributes:

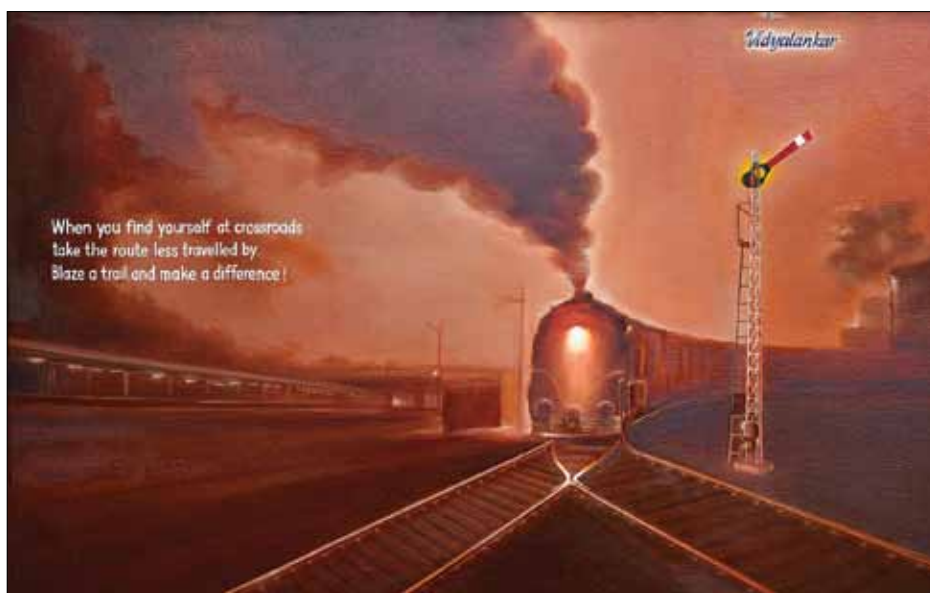
- Out of the box thinking abilities
- Strong work ethics and professionalism
- Positive attitude
- Readiness and willingness to work on a variety of projects
- Sound technical knowledge base
- Enthusiasm to learn and apply new technologies

As observed by Matsuri Suzuki, from Works Application, that, “VIT Graduates have been found to possess the skill sets, both technical and professional, that we seek in our employees. They are industry-ready and have shown a commitment to excellence.” Time and again, VIT alumni and students have lauded the positive learning atmosphere prevalent at the Institute, which encourages students to explore their potential and challenges them to put in their best efforts.

- D.N. Krishna

Training and Placement Officer, VIT

BON VOYAGE!



As we progress in life, we might encounter various situations wherein we are expected to make decisions. There might be many options to choose from, or there might be two. But what is important is one must choose wisely and after a lot of deliberations, because the consequences will remain with us forever. At critical junctures, the path you take is important, not just in itself, but because it may be connected to further paths.

Sometimes it may not be possible for us to retrace our steps. Regret over wrong decisions is futile. We must stand by whatever choices we make and we must give it our best. Right or wrong, every path teaches us a lesson for a lifetime. We should not ignore the ‘signals’ and guidance we get from our well-wishers. Whether we agree with their opinions or not, we cannot deny that their experiences can teach us valuable lessons which can act as beacons of hope in difficult times.

We should be clear about our purpose



and need to be aware of the possible destination, as we cannot afford to stumble ahead in life. Don’t always play safe - sometimes learn to take calculated risks! Have the courage to choose unconventional options. You may strike gold or at least learn a valuable lesson. Bon voyage!

Toyota's Kirobo Mini: THE SMALL ROBOT WITH BIG POSSIBILITIES



As part of the Toyota Heart Project – Toyota’s vision of a future where humans and artificial intelligence work together for a better world – they have created Kirobo Mini, a new, 10cm high communication companion. He can talk to you, gesture at you, and detect and respond to your emotions, but his mission as your new portable friend doesn’t end there. Kirobo Mini could help driving become a physically and emotionally transformative experience. After all, Kirobo’s name derives from the Japanese word for ‘hope’, and Toyota believes he’s filled with exciting possibilities...

Apart from being Toyota’s first commercial foray into Robotics and AI, the Kirobo Mini is designed, first and foremost, to be a companion. It can understand facial emotions, remember its user’s preferences and use this data to carry out meaningful conversations. Additionally, the Robot of Hope will also keep a record of the journeys undertaken with the car. Thereby giving it the ability

to respond with comments like “We were here last week too” and “That was a long drive, well done!” Moreover, it incorporates a level of ‘childlike innocence,’ as Toyota likes to call it. This ‘innocence’ is achieved by adding physical movements to its speech. Driving can be a lonely affair, hours on the highway with just the landscape and music to keep you company. The Kirobo Mini is designed to mitigate that loneliness and turn it into a richer driving experience.

The Kirobo Mini works in conjunction with a smartphone and Toyota’s cloud service. The robot records the user’s voice, relays it to the paired smartphone. An app on the smartphone will then upload this to Toyota’s cloud service where it will undergo speech recognition. An appropriate response is generated and passed on to the robot via the smartphone. It can chat for up to 2.5 hours on batteries. Think of it as Amazon’s Alexa, only for your car and way cuter.

(Sources: www.technobyte.org, www.toyota-europe.com)



Creating One’s Own Sunshine - Lessons and Experiences of Internships of MMS Students



Internship experiences are always special as it is the first step towards a dream career. MMS students do internships in the month of May and June every year and they come back in the 3rd Semester with vigour and enthusiasm. Few recruiters of interns were Amul, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Café Marathi, Agility Logistics, Birla Ayurveda, Quantum Global, A. C. Neilson, Decathlon, etc. Learning right from scratch and embracing all the opportunities that came their way, helped our students to explore the best of the experience. This unique experience is captured and presented by a few students:

Janhavi Yelamkar, 2nd Year MMS HR student, Internship @ Morpheus Human consulting

I would say that this was more of an experiential learning, which was otherwise not possible only with bookish theory. To summon the overall learning process I would put it up in a quote: “Tell me, and I will forget. Show me, and I may remember. Involve me, and I will understand.”

Shivani Solanki, 2nd Year MMS Finance student, Internship @ Crucible Funds

My internship at Crucible Funds has taught me more than I could have imagined. As a Finance Intern, I got to learn a lot of analytical skills. I gained deeper insights into the Venture Capital Industry and it has helped me significantly with my career planning. I was educated about start-up analysis, company profiling, valuations, convertible notes, term sheets... the list goes on. At Crucible Fund, I developed professionally and grew personally. One of the best things is that I met very interesting, very smart and unique people, the founders, who spend every hour of every day with exactly one thing: their business. My biggest learning about a venture capital firm is ‘Everything is a Negotiation’.

Snehal Deo, 2nd Year MMS Operations student, Internship @ Snackible

Snackible is a food company, and being a foodie myself, I was most excited about an internship there. Since my specialization is operations, I didn’t restrict myself from exploring other departments like customer care, sourcing new vendors and especially food innovation department where I also performed sensory analysis (which means I could eat while working, who doesn’t want that?). Best part of working in a startup is that you get to learn a lot about the company at its early stages. Not only I got an experience about how an e-commerce company works but also I got to give some ideas on formulating variety of products. Definitely this experience will help me later.

Amey Rane, 2nd Year MMS Marketing student, Internship @ Aries Agro

I had applied in Aries Agro Ltd. which is an agricultural fertilizers manufacturer company with no knowledge of what is going to be there in my plate. But one thing I was sure in my mind that I am going to learn a lot here. I was doing an internship for the marketing division of the company, during which I was assigned to a couple of major engagements and had the opportunity to put my Marketing knowledge into practice. My job scope included the external tie-up of the company with Jio Communications and development & assessment of Company’s own Android based Application in terms of its functionality. One of the things I learned from my industry mentor is that when you’re working here, ‘there is nothing such as designated work. Anything & everything where you get to learn new things is an opportunity for you’. That’s when I seized the opportunity and asked to receive more work of launching 9 new products and a launch of CSR activity ‘Hydroponic Kit’. These additional KRAs changed my way of thinking about business completely, the number of people connected when you launch a new product in the market, the amount of study that needs to be done for it.