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Not just magnitude but also the direction!

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Reader Engagement Initiative
Volume 10
Issue 03
October 2013
Circulated free to students of
Vidyalankar (For private
circulation only)

Talk on 'Building India as a Science, Technology and Innovation Superpower'

Dr Raghunath Mashelkar (FRS) at VIT

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology hosted an event on 8 October, 2013 on 'Building India as a Science, Technology and Innovation Superpower' which will be remembered as a trigger for igniting our minds from being a teaching institute with a research environment towards becoming a research institute with a teaching environment.

The Guest Speaker on this occasion was Dr Raghunath Mashelkar (FRS) who is popularly known as a 'dangerous optimistic' amongst the fraternity of scientists. The visit of Dr Mashelkar to the Vidyalankar Campus was a wonderful opportunity for people on the campus to interact live with one of the best scientists that our nation has ever produced. He enlightened us

and Dr Ankush Sharma (HOD, MMS Department). Dr Sanjeevani Deshpande formally welcomed the guest and expressed gratitude on behalf of VIT for his accepting the invite and agreeing to enlighten the faculty and students through his rich experience. It was followed by a welcome note delivered by Mr. S. Suryanarayanan (Dean, Corporate Affairs). Dr Mashelkar was then invited to share his views on the theme of the event.

Dr Mashelkar discussed the most powerful equation 'E=F' that he has derived, where 'E' stands for Education and 'F' stands for Future and gave significant examples to prove this equation.

He said that now the time has come to change our philosophy from right to education to right education. He suggested that education should be coupled with opportunities and as education and ladder of excellence has no

limits, one should strive towards continuous learning. He said that teaching is sterile without research, as innovation converts knowledge into money and research converts money into knowledge so people should now start working for such knowledge. Dr Mashelkar talked of India as an emerging superpower not economically or militarily, but one on the basis of science, technology and innovation. He put forth concepts that were eminently conducive to excellence and progress.

He motivated us to develop the risk taking attitude which would help us to solve the problems which should be solved rather than those which can be solved. To imbibe and nurture the risk taking ability we need to accept failures with a positive spirit. It is only then that we will be able to think about

the next practices instead of merely the best practices.

Dr Mashelkar introduced a new category of innovation that is 'affordable excellence' which emphasises on creating more from lesser resources. Affordable excellence will ensure that not merely some Indians but all of India will be benefitted. He concluded the session by saying that an Innovator is a person who does not know that something can't be done and now we should take our country where I for India and I for Innovation are looked as synonyms. Dr Mashelkar also answered a few queries of our students and made this session more interactive. Through a speech liberally interspersed with anecdotes, he established a deep connect with the audience, who gave him a standing ovation. Especially enlightening and moving for all was the determined manner in which he overcame many financial challenges, a lesson indeed for all of us who have grown up

in much more fortunate circumstances.

Dr Sanjeevani Deshpande felicitated Dr Raghunath Mashelkar and Dr Ankush Sharma gave an engaging vote of thanks.

Thus ended an extremely stimulating and enriching experience which we are certain is only the beginning of many more to come.



Mr Vishwas Deshpande, Managing Trustee - Vidyalankar Dnyanapeeth Trust (VDT), felicitating Dr Mashelkar, flanked by Mr Milind Tadvalkar, Director - Vidyalankar Dnyanapeeth Trust (VDT) on the left and Dr Ankush Sharma, HoD - MMS Dept and Dr Sanjeevani Deshpande, Chairperson - Vidyalankar Dnyanapeeth Trust (VDT), on the right.

about taking our nation towards affordable excellence by adding Innovation to science and technology practices. Dr Mashelkar (Former Director General, CSIR) is one of those pioneering scientists who have worked towards glorifying our nation in the field of Science and Technology in many path breaking ways. He is the man behind getting the patents of Basmati rice and turmeric for India. He has been awarded with two of the highest civilian awards of the country - Padmshree and Padmabhushan, among various other prestigious international and national distinctions for his contribution in this field.

This event was attended by more than 200 people including Board of Governors, Director, Principals, faculty members and students of Vidyalankar Institute of Technology, Vidyalankar Polytechnic and Vidyalankar School of Information Technology. Arrangements were made for displaying the live telecast of the event at the M Block of the Institute so that many more people could avail of the opportunity of listening to Dr Mashelkar's words of knowledge.

The event was started with lightening the lamp of knowledge by Dr Mashelkar, Dr S. C. Deshpande (Chairperson, Vidyalankar Dyanpeeth Trust)



Connecting the Dots with VIT Students...

In an attempt to bring students closer to the world of books and motivating them to do something different by choosing the path of entrepreneurship, to do something on their own rather than opting for the conventional means of taking up job opportunities, Vidyalankar Institute of Technology recently hosted an inspirational and interactive session of Rashmi Bansal, author of bestselling books 'Connect the Dots'



Ms. Rashmi Bansal at VIT Campus

and 'Stay Hungry Stay Foolish' with the students on the VIT Campus. Individuals who have read her books have admitted that they are a revelation and they talk about possibilities they didn't know existed before.

Rashmi Bansal is a writer, an entrepreneur and a youth expert. She is also the co-founder and editor of the hugely popular youth magazine called JAM (Just another Magazine). Her much read blog 'Youth Curry' gives an insight on Indian youth, careers and entrepreneurship.

In her session she encouraged people to think about their dreams and motivated people to dream about what really drives them. What is it that they wish to achieve in their life? She explained with various examples that how impossible things become possible only because of absolute passion, strong commitment and never ending persistence.

Contd. on page 2

Eat healthy, live healthy (Arogyam Dhana Sampada)

Stressful life, excessive work pressure, need of achieving targets on time has become routine these days. Nine out of ten teenagers eat junk food pretty much every day. However, your body can't run properly on inferior fuel.

Compared to home cooked food, junk food i.e. fast food is almost always:

- High in fat, particularly saturated fat
- High in salt and sugar
- Lower in fibre
- Lower in nutrients such as calcium and iron

Most of the teenagers who consume junk food may not even be aware that they could have health problems already. A poor diet can cause weight gain, high blood pressure, constipation, fatigue and concentration problems - even when you are young. Eating for the sake of just filling your belly or discarding healthy food from your diet because it doesn't have a happening taste is a strict no. Your body needs energy and nutrients from food to grow and work properly. If you don't eat a healthy, balanced diet, you could be putting your health and growth at risk.

A healthy diet also gives you the energy you need and can help you look and feel great. But eating well doesn't mean giving up all your favourite food. A healthy diet means eating a wide range of food so that you get all the nutrients you need and eating the right number of calories for being active. How do you know what to eat and what not to eat?

Here is the answer

The Food and Beverage Committee of Vidyalkar Polytechnic has taken this initiative to help the students understand the importance of eating healthy



and im-bibe good eating habits in the students by introducing several activities meant for students. The first activity was “My Recipe” where in the students would share quick, easy, tasty and healthy recipes and also elaborate on their calorie content. One best recipe will be selected every week and will be put on V live. Every month one best recipe will be selected which will be published in vector. Students will also be given the opportunity to share their views on proper diet.

Experts will be called to give suggestions on how to prepare healthy food without compromising on the taste. It has been observed that students admitted for professional courses have high levels of stress. Improper diet may bring down their concentration levels and efficiency. Students also suffer due to lack of awareness about when to eat, what to eat and what not to eat. So this is a small effort from our side to ensure that the students eat healthy and live a happy, healthy and active life which is very important to excel in all spheres of life.

— Shradha Kshirsagar
Lecturer - VP

Connecting the Dots with VIT

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Rashmi Bansal's love for writing started when she caught hold of a book by Steve Jobs where he talks about entrepreneurship and the challenges associated with it.

During the course of her session she also shared the story behind her first article with Times of India which taught people about persistence. She also shared how she got her first assignment from IIM Ahmedabad to write a book on IIM entrepreneurs which later turned out to be one of the bestsellers 'Stay Hungry and Stay Foolish'. She also shared various stories of entrepreneurs which was truly inspiring. She shared three important entrepreneurs' traits which are 'Jugaad', 'Junoon'

and 'Zubaan'. She gave a little spiritual touch to her speech by explaining that the universe conspires to give you something which you truly desire and once you start taking actions towards it. At VIT, she shared some of her life experiences when she was in IIM Ahmedabad and about her summer internship with Lintas. She mentioned about an event when she was working on a project on Nirma, she had prepared a questionnaire that she was supposed to get filled and how she got it done by traveling in the ladies compartment of a local train by the fellow commuters. This showed innovative technique of working.

In spite of being a celebrated author, Ms Bansal came across as extremely down-to-

earth and approachable.

The session was thrown open for questions too. While replying to a question, she said something that stuck in my mind, long after the culmination of the session. She spoke about how the youth of today tend to just follow the herd, and do what someone else, a parent or teacher, maybe, wants them to do. It was a truth that resonated within me, and made me resolve to chart my own path. I share it with you in the hope that you will feel the same way. After all, who would have thought that by the end, she had 'connected the dots' with all VIT students?

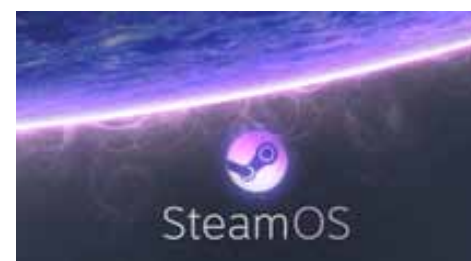
— Shardul Thakker – First Year MMS & Smita Mukherjee – MMS Faculty

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Linux-based SteamOS - PC gaming enters the living room

Valve has announced SteamOS, going one step further towards bringing PC gaming into the living room. SteamOS is an evolution of the Steam Big Picture interface, which made browsing the library/store, connecting with friends, and playing games easier for large screen users, and is the latest attempt to compete with Microsoft and Sony in what is traditionally the home console space. SteamOS is described by Valve as a “free forever”, standalone Linux-based operating system that is meant for the “TV and the living room.” Valve on its SteamOS page says that in its efforts to bring Steam to the living room, it reached the conclusion that the “environment best-suited to delivering value to customers is an operating system built around Steam itself.”

Valve has introduced the “In-home Streaming” feature, which will be available soon for both Steam client and SteamOS. This will allow gamers to stream games from their computers to their



SteamOS machine, which is connected to their TVs. The Bellevue, Washington-based company has also unveiled three other new features for the Steam client and SteamOS, which will be made available soon. These include the much-anticipated 'Family Sharing' feature.

Valve has not detailed this feature much however, saying “you can share the games you love with the people you love.” It explains that family members can take turns playing one another's games, while each individual's achievements and game progress are saved to the ‘cross-platform’ Steam cloud. Valve is also working on bringing movies, music and TV content to both Steam client and SteamOS. This will of course be more relevant in countries like the US, where such digital content partnerships are more common. Valve says: “We're working with many of the media services you know and love. Soon we will begin bringing them online, allowing you to access your favourite music and video with Steam and SteamOS.” For Windows/Mac games, you'll have to once again switch to the desktop client for the respective OS. Of course, this setup would also allow the laptop to stream gaming and other content from your desktop to your TV, most useful if the desktop and TV are in different rooms, and you happen to Of course, this setup would also allow the laptop to stream gaming and other content from your desktop to your TV, most useful if the desktop and TV are in different rooms, and you happen to have a laptop lying around.

The Steam game distribution service debuted in 2003, and is today available in 185 countries and 25 languages. Valve calls Steam a “truly global platform”, which along with SteamOS, will bring “entertainment to an audience without borders”.

Participation of VSIT NSS in "AVHAN 2013"

State level training camp on disaster preparedness

Chancellor's Brigade: NSS Wing had organized a state level Training Camp on Disaster Preparedness titled as 'AVHAN-2013' at Swami Ramanand Tirtha Marathwada University, Nanded from June 2 to 12 June, 2013. The participants at the camp were about 1150 NSS volunteers and 60 Program Officers from 35 districts all over Maharashtra.

VSIT student NSS volunteer Mr. Jeeteshkumar Chuadhary of SYBMS participated in the camp and the NSS Program Officer Prof. Vijay Maruti Gawde of VSIT was the Team Leader of 30 Volunteers of the Mumbai City District from the University of Mumbai.

A team of 39 members from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Pune was engaged in providing training to the volunteers with regard to disaster management. The NDRF team gave demonstrations on the measures to be taken to save the lives of people and their sources of livelihood during natural and man-made disasters such as floods, earthquakes, fire accidents and building collapses among others.

The impact of any calamity can be mitigated to a large extent if people responded in time in an appropriate manner. People should be aware of the disaster management techniques so that they react appropriately during natural calamities. The NDRF team explained the precautionary measures to be undertaken during natural and man-made disasters giving an insight into the different



methods of rescuing people during the disaster and further demonstrating the method of giving first aid and rescuing the victims.

The team revealed the techniques on how to search for people beneath a collapsed structure and to rescue them. The team also gave a live demonstration on the method of operating rescue equipment, giving first aid to injured persons and other related acts of rescues.

Actions to be undertaken during accidents, earthquakes, fire, building collapse, poison-

ing and other calamities were also taught by the team with demonstrations in the various sessions conducted. Sessions on basic life support and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) were also held which can be helpful to save a person's life.

The University of Mumbai has been awarded the Best Processing Trophy during the camp rally and the Vidyalkar family is proud that a faculty member and student were part of the same.

—Sumbul Samreen Lecturer - VSIT

International Youth Day Celebrated at Vidyalkar

Vidyalkar Volunteering Committee of VSIT, VP and VIT celebrated the International Youth Day on August 12 2013 with the UNESCO declared theme of "Youth Migration" for the "International Youth Day 2013".

The Chief Guest for the event was Dr Sudha Deshpande Professor, Department of Economics, University of Mumbai, who distributed prizes for the Essay Competition on the topic 'Impact of Youth Migration on Indian Economy' and the Collage Competition on the topic 'Role of Youth in India's Development', which were held preceding the Youth Day Celebration.

Dr. Sudha Deshpande has her speciality in the study of Demography (Science of population) with her doctoral study on 'Migration to Bombay (Mumbai)' and she has been constantly working on the population census of India. She has to her credit a wide range of studies based upon employment, labour market, slums and various other components of demography She has also been as-



sociated with the Ministry of Health for studies on sex ratio.

Some of the pointers which emerged from the session were

Reasons for Migration:

- Higher Education
- To escape discrimination at the place of origin
- Family Migration (among richest and poorer)

Migration Distance:

- Longer the distance, fewer the people who migrate.
- From 1961 to 2001 majority of people migrated to cities like Mumbai and Pune for better opportunities. This shows that the remote areas from where these migrants drift are not at all developed in the greater sense.
- There are jobs available to the migrants which the urban folk looked down upon. The migrants however readily do take them up.

III Effects of Migration:

- Slums have been the major problem which arises due to Migration.
- In 1991-Slum data to be published separately states that "Labour of the people living in the slums is needed by the economy. So why look down upon them? They should be given basic amenities and must be developed".
- The session was a huge success and every individual gained a perspective into this issue which is integral to our city.

Priyesh Keekan Lecturer VSIT
Sumbul Samreen Lecturer VSIT

Jallosh and Hindi divas

The Students Council of Vidyalkar Institute of Technology hosted its first event of the calendar year 2013-14 'Jallosh - where Art meets Culture!' on 11 September, 2013.

The event commenced on a melodious note with a prayer to invoke the blessings of lord Ganesha. After the enchanting musical start, it was the dance team who stepped forward to entertain the audience. The dancers shook their legs on 'Morya Morya' and preformed the Legim dance. The music team sang some of the evergreen Marathi melodies like 'Gaarva', 'Deva re Deva Ganapati Deva', singer Avdhoot Gupte's famous songs 'Man moracha asa pisara fulala' and 'Jai Jai Maharashtra majha'. The next performance by Professor Rugved Deolekar was the high point of the event. Everyone was as-

tounded to hear him sing the 'Vinchu chavala' song.

The award winning drama team of VIT, known as 'V-Ranga', put up an amazing performance - 'Melyashiva Swarga', a small part of the Marathi play 'All the Best'. Last but not the least, was a small trailer of the events that VIT organizes. The events shown were 'Hindi Divas', 'Freshers' Week', 'Dandiya Night', 'Maa Tujhe Salam', 'Marathi Divas', 'Traditional Day', and the grand festival of VIT - 'VERVE'.

The cultural head of the council, Mr. Eshwar Gole, thanked everyone for their presence and response and signed off with a promise that the coming year will be full of surprises and fun!

'Hindi Divas' was celebrated on 25 September, 2013 in the presence of an enthusiastic

crowd including staff and students. The hosts of the evening Mr. Akash Desai and Miss. Neha Badami, entertained the audience with their excellent Hindi.

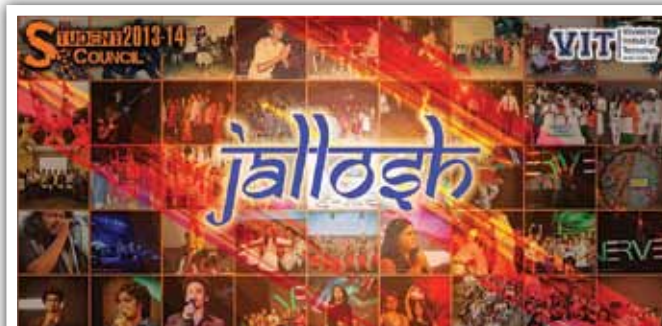
The event saw performances including songs, dances and poetry recitals by the talented VITians.

The drama team of VIT, 'V-Rang' came up with yet another energetic performance. Already having captured the hearts of many people during "Jallosh" they made sure that they lived up to their reputation and raised the bar for their upcoming performances.

Lastly, as an accolade to the Bollywood cinemas of India and their evergreen songs the music team performed songs like 'Duniya main logon ko', 'Chala jata hu', 'Gulabhi anken' and 'Pyaar deewana hota hai' among others.

This was VIT's dedication to the language that is spoken by 41% of Indian people, which is spoken in 21 different countries and ranked 5th in the world, our national language - "Hindi"!

—Manjiri S Acharekar SE
Computers - VIT



Chess, the game professionals should pursue

Professionals are supposed to be experts in their selected activity domain. They have to understand the situation at a glance, determine the action plan and implement it at the right time without delay. While implementing the plan they should always estimate its value and be ready with alternate plans if it fails due to unforeseen reasons. How can professionals be trained to acquire these skills? One may say that they should learn through experience, but that may prove to be detrimental and dangerous.

Every game of chess is unique and similarly a

known authors of chess books has said “It is not important how many pieces you have on the chess board but it is more important how many of them are active”. The author further says that rather than having many pieces in store (inactive pieces) few active pieces can fetch you the win.

Mobility and Development: These are very important aspects of the game of chess. Mobility is defined as the ability of the pieces to move freely on the board. While playing the game of chess a player should simultaneously take care of mobility and development. Similarly in busi-

ness situation the clarity of goals is very important in business development. The professionals should see that the action and decisions in business situations should synchronize with each other. The decisions and decision makers should not compete but complement each other failing which, there will be conflict leading to weakness.

Value: The value is the outcome of cost benefit analysis. Mathematically the value is given by benefits divided by cost. The professional has to see that the value is always greater than unity and should continuously work for increasing the value. To increase the value he should do all the efforts to increase the benefit and when the benefits are saturated he should try to minimize cost. A professional has to be always cost conscious. The chess player similarly has to get maximum benefit of the situation or else he has to minimize cost i.e. material loss.

Planning and organizing: A chess player has to have a definite plan which should have sufficient flexibility to counter his opponent's plan. He has to organize his men in such a manner that he succeeds in his plan.

Implementation of plan: The purpose of planning is to synchronize actions. If the plan is made and then implemented with lethargy then the whole plan flops. Timely implementation is very essential as the delays may be detrimental. Opportunities never shower like rain, a chess player has to be alert and take advantage of every opportunity without delay.

Game philosophy: One of the grandmasters in his book has explained the game in crux. He writes - chess players have different levels. The beginner has to at least visualise the mistake of the opponent and immediately take the advantage. A player at a higher level should make a game plan and develop his game according to plan and should not fall in his opponent's trap. Amateur is a creative player who not only makes a plan but innovates winning streaks. A grandmaster does not wait for his opponent to make mistake but compels him to make mistake and take advantage of the mistake. A professional is in the similar situation and he has to understand the situation and control it with new ideas.

So hurry up! Learn chess to succeed in your mission.

— Prof. P. R. Limaye Dean Administration (VIT)

The Need for Speed

Every age in the history of human civilization has had a guiding principle that symbolized the aspirations, focus and activity of those times. Thus we had the age of reason, the age of science, the age of progress, of war, of peace and liberalism.

These guiding principles determine what the youth of the time aspire to be, what professions are favoured and esteemed, which achievements are held up by society as worth emulating and which qualities in the individual need to be encouraged and inculcated.

If we are asked to isolate one quality that has rapidly reached the top of the aspirational peak since the outset of the industrial revolution, it must necessarily be the need for speed. The wheels that were set in motion then have not stopped driving our race to accelerate in all spheres of its activity.

The concept may not be new. The Greeks aspired for it when they chose ‘citius, altius, fortius’ (swifter, higher,



stronger) as the ideals of the Olympic spirit. But that was an ideal limited to the games. Greek civilization during that era was one that esteemed contemplation, art, poetry, theatre, philosophy and a life spent in these pursuits was a life well lived.

Today despite laments of some poets that they have no time to stand or stare and additionally no time to notice and savour the bounties of nature, it has become more than likely that given an option between quality and speed the latter will be chosen. Analysis has made way for sound bites and everything is preferred in the abridged version. The ‘Shahi Biryani’ that slowly cooked over the charcoal fire, bringing out all the flavours, gives way to the pressure cooker that does the job in ten minutes and that in turn concedes to the microwave that finishes in three minutes.

Have we lost anything in the process? Who has the time to ask such useless questions? Whether we ask them or not the question remains. The final destination of every living thing on the earth is the same. Dust to dust. Why are we in such a hurry to reach there?

— Aman Mahadeshwar
Lecturer - VIT



business situation never repeats itself as every time a professional is confronted with new environment and challenges. This may occur because of change in government policy, change in market competition, change in economic status, global competition, change within own company etc. Therefore professionals should understand the philosophy of business rather than correlating the problem situation with past cases. The study of past cases definitely helps to sharpen decision making skills. There is no other game but chess which can replicate such situations and the classical study of chess can prove much beneficial to train the professionals to acquire the necessary skills. Let us try to understand this-

Equal opportunities: The game of chess provides equal opportunities to both players by providing equal resources (same number of chess men). But the superior player always wins. A professional in a business situation also has equal (similar) opportunities as his competitor has but a well trained professional always wins.

Resource utilization: Having equal opportunities the professional cannot win unless he fully utilizes the available resources. One of the re-

Goal setting: Now-a-days people conduct workshop on goal setting under the banner of soft skills training or management development programs. Setting a goal is not bad but simply setting goals and then forgetting about it is nothing but day dreaming or just creating a “feel good” atmosphere. Beware of such goal setting. There is vast difference between feel good effect and being really good. Chess is the game which really trains in goal setting. In the game of chess the player not only does goal setting but achieves the sub goals step by step in order to achieve the final goal. There is a fool proof chain of movement which a good chess player plans to achieve sub goals and the main goal. A creative chess player may sometimes use the technique of sacrifices to win the game.

SWOT analysis: During the progress of the