



# FYI

For Your Information

## 2017 November Newsletter

### IN THIS ISSUE

02 International Conference On Science Engineering And Technology Begins At VIT.



03 Parents View

04 Sale Of Application Forms For VITEEE 2018 Begins

05 UHET Distributed Scholarship Of Amount Rupees 75 Lakh

06 Meet The Brains Behind Kai



08 Alumni Events December

Impactful Research Of The Month

10 The Digital Way Ahead

12 VIT student representing south asia At the iet patw 2017 wins the finals

13 Safety week celebration begins at VIT

14 VIT in news

15 Events in december

16 Adjunct faculty Interview



17 International relations



19 CSRD

# International conference on Science Engineering and Technology begins at VIT

Vellore, November 6

A two-day International Conference on Science, Engineering and Technology began at VIT, Vellore on Monday, November 6. The 15th International SET Conference was inaugurated by Dr. Vidyadhar Y Mudukavi, Head and Outstanding Scientist, CSIR, 4PI Institute, Bengaluru.

Dr. G. Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor of VIT released a special edition of a Compact Disc about the conference on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion after releasing the CD, Dr. Viswanathan said that science, engineering and technology played an important role in the economic development of a nation. Dr. G. Viswanathan spoke on Indian Education System stating that it has seen a phenomenal growth in terms of quantity and quality. India has about 800 universities 37,000 affiliated colleges and 11,000 standalone institutions. Still, we have a long way to improve the gross enrollment ratio catch up with the developed nations.

Only 25 percent of India's youth had access to higher education, while the world average was between 30 and 35 percent. To take science, engineering and technology to all the remote corners of the rural areas of the country and to make the youth from such places have access to higher education, the Central and State governments need to increase their investments on higher education. This would ensure that even young men and women will have access to good quality higher education.

He also said that there must be a lot of emphasis on research in education in the country. He stated that India was one of the fastest developing economies, yet science and technology lagged behind in the country. Dr. Viswanathan explained that the reason for this situation was the very few number of research programmes being carried out in India.

Dr. Viswanathan cited the situation in the United States, where among a population of 10 lakh people, 4,600 people were engaged in research, while in India, the figure was a meagre 140. He said that VIT had attached a lot of importance to research and towards this objective, had set aside a good amount of money. Further, top class research facilities had also been created. As a result, the number of scientific research papers published by VIT had exceeded the number published by Indian Institutes of Technology in the country and also even by the IISc, Bengaluru.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation is now engaged in the manufacture of military equipment instead of importing them. This was bound to be a boost to the Make in India programme of Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi, Dr. Viswanathan noted.

"In 2002-2003 India invested 3.7 billion on science while China invested four times the amount. Unless we spend money on research and relate it to the problems of the country, especially agriculture, the country will still lag behind," Dr. Viswanathan said.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mudukavi said that science, engineering and technology will pave the way for new thought processes. The number of scientific inventions made in the world was just enough and that the world needed much more inventions. For this to happen, research in science, engineering and technology had to increase.

He said that science could help solve problems of the society like agriculture, pollution, healthcare, traffic and would also help fight corruption. Students should make use of the technology incubator in the campus, which helps students to launch start-ups. Students are reluctant towards start-ups but they must be given importance, he added.

In his address, Dr. Gang Li, Associate Professor, Deakin University, Australia said VIT's Data science course was one of the best in the nation. The curriculum gave importance for project-based education in connection with industry and research. This, he said



Dr. G. Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor of VIT releasing a special edition of a Compact Disc about the conference on the occasion.

was a special aspect of VIT, making it one of the best universities in India.

930 papers will be presented by 1960 participants at the conference. Organising Secretary Dr. Durai Raj Vincent welcomed the gathering, while Dr. Aswani Kumar Cherukuri, Dean, School of Information Technology and Engineering (SITE) gave a brief outline about the conference. The 15th international conference served as a great platform with an excellent forum for academicians and experts from industries for sharing knowledge. Dr. Anand S. Samuel, Vice Chancellor, Dr. S. Narayanan, Pro Vice-Chancellor also participated in the event.

## How did Neeraja get to be a part of VIT?

Neeraja was the state topper of Kerala for the year 2015-16. Only thing I told my child was that if she chooses to study engineering, she must study at a well-reputed college. Many colleges in Kerala invited her to join, but after hearing about VIT and its quality of education we chose VIT. VIT offered her a scholarship for her excellence in her studies, including hostel and mess.

## How was her participation in extra-curricular activities at VIT?

She is interested in dancing, singing etc... here in VIT, she is getting a platform to participate in activities that are not academics centered also.

## What changes did you see in your child after becoming a VITian?

The first thing is personality development. The slogan of VIT – A place to learn, a chance to grow is really true. She is growing and reaching heights. We are proud that she is studying in VIT. Her confidence, communication skills have tremendously improved. The college is having a diversity of everything, the cultural diversity, linguistic diversity etc., are giving her an opportunity to mingle with people from distant places.

## What do you feel about the security of your girl child in VIT as well as the food the hostel provides?

(Mom answers) I feel she is secured there same like when she is with us. That is one of the reasons why we chose VIT, many people asked us why she did not write the exam for government engineering colleges. But the security a private engineering college like VIT is providing could not have been provided by other government colleges. The hostel and food they provide are really good and the way college is maintained, it gives a sense of a hygienic environment.

## Few words to parents, those who would like to send their wards to VIT?

Expect for smart work rather than hard work from your children. Ask your children to use the opportunities of VIT. VIT is definitely one of the best institutions in the country and let your children keep the dignity of such a reputed institution. VIT gives importance to merit rather than caste so VIT is the best choice for your kid.

*“The first thing is personality development. The slogan of VIT – A place to learn, a chance to grow is really true. We are proud that she is studying in VIT. Her confidence, communication skills have tremendously improved.”*

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Dr. Sajitha. R. Nair & Dr. M. Radhakrishan. Nair

# Sale of application forms for VITEEE 2018 begins from post offices; Dr. Viswanathan launches commencement of sales at Vellore HPO



The first sale of the application form is been formally launched by Dr. G.Viswanathan, Founder, and Chancellor of VIT at the Vellore Head Post Office.

The sale of applications for the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT ) Engineering Entrance Examinations – **VITEEE, 2018** for the next academic year for the Vellore, Chennai, Andhra Pradesh and Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) campuses began on November 9. The first sale of the application form was formally launched by Dr. G.Viswanathan, Founder, and Chancellor of VIT at the Vellore Head Post Office.

The Vellore campus of VIT, offers B.Tech in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Electronics, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, Chemical engineering, Information Technology, Computer Science Engineering, Electronics Communication with BioMedical Engineering CSE specialized in Informatics, Mechanical specialised in Automotive Engineering, Production and Industrial Engineering, B.Des Industrial Design Electronics and Communication, with specialisation in IT and sensor.

The Chennai campus offers B.Tech in Civil, Mechanical, Computer Science Engineering, Electrical and Electronics, Electronics and Computer Engineering . VIT Amaravathi (Andhra Pradesh) campus offers B.Tech in CSE, Electronics and Communication, Mechanical, Computer Science with Networking and Security, Computer Science with specialization in Data Analytics, Electronics and Communication with Embedded Systems, Electronics and Communication with VLSI. The courses offered at VIT Bhopal include B.Tech in Bio-Engineering, CSE, CSE (Specialisation in Digital Forensics and Cyber Security) Electronics and Communication, Mechanical, Computer Science with Gaming Technology and the VITEEE will have examinations to those courses.

The online entrance examinations will be held between April 4 and 15 at 124 locations in all important towns and cities in the country and also in Dubai, Kuwait, Qatar and Muscat. The application forms can be collected from 30 Head Post Offices all over India by paying Rs. 1,200/- as the cost for the application form or with a demand draft drawn in favour of VIT for Rs. 1,200/-. Those who wish to apply online can visit [www.vit.ac.in](http://www.vit.ac.in) and also for further details. The last date for applying is February 28, 2018.

# Universal higher education trust (UHET) distributed scholarship of amount rupees 75 lakh

*Education must be available for lower and middle-class people: said VIT Chancellor*

Vellore: 8-November

President of Universal Higher Education Trust (UHET) and the Chancellor of VIT, distributed scholarships for the year 2017-18 at VIT Vellore, on Wednesday, 8 November. A total of 1071 students from Vellore district including the underprivileged students from Vellore and Jawathu hills received scholarships of an amount of rupees 75 lakh.

Shri.D.D Purkayastha, Managing Director & CEO, ABP Group, Calcutta was the chief guest for the day. Dr. G Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor, VIT, Shri. P.C. Duraisamy, Founder of

spending for higher education. The government must take measures to improve the higher education sector, explained Dr. G Viswanathan.

Dr. Viswanathan asked the students to fulfill 'Make in India' vision of honorable Prime Minister with startups and thus limiting imports stating that students should perform their prime duty of studying to reap success after few years.



Distribution of Scholarships to students by UHET

Sakthi Masala, Erode, and Shri. J. S. Rajasingh, Founder Kingsway consultants, Chennai were the guests of honor. Shri. Maliambigai Kumaraguru, Trustee, UHET gave the welcome address. Dr. G Viswanathan, Founder, and Chancellor spoke on the need for better educational opportunities. "Education is obligatory for the economic growth as well as the growth of the nation. The participation of girls in higher education can improve the same, as they are good role model for the children. 2/3rd of the students received scholarships so far in UHET are girls and I want their involvement in the growth of the country."

He further compared the gross enrollment of India in higher education with the US saying, "Gross enrolment in higher education of the US is 90 percent while in India is 24-25 percent. We need to compete with the US so that we can bring development in society by giving better higher education opportunities for all."

He also said that education must be available not only for upper class but also for lower class people.

The developed nations are spending a huge amount of monetary funds in higher education by knowing the potential of educated society while in Indian is giving less importance in

"I was inspired by the vision of UHET, I own a company which is 2nd largest media in the nation, I'm wealthy and powerful but Got momentary pleasures from that fame but now I'm happy of Achieving my lifetime dream- serving the needy," Shri.D.D Purkayastha "From my childhood, I'm hearing India is a developing country and when is it going to be a developed nation? Education is necessary for that and I'm sure that it can bring tremendous changes in the society," he added. In all these years UHET has spent Rs. 3.74 crore on scholarships. Looking back, UHET has helped 3919 students through scholarships which include 66 percent girl students and 71.1 percent of the students are 1st generations graduates. "Once you start to work and earn don't forget to give it to others, see yourself in others, and find a child who is in need of your help for better education. Adopt at least a child and thus help in the betterment of the society," asked Shri. P. C Duraisamy, Founder, Sakthi Masala, Erode.

Shri.G V Selvan, vice president VIT, Shri. AKS K Jawarilal Jain, Treasurer, UHET, Shri. J Lakshmanan, Trustee, UHET, Dr. Santi Duraisamy, Director, Sakthi Masala, Erode, Shri. J. S Rajasingh, Founder, Kingsway Consultants, Chennai, Shri. C Khaiser Ahmed, Trustee, UHET, Pulavar Ve. Pudumanar, Trustee, UHET were also present for the event.

'Make in India' is not a dream anymore, young and talented minds from VIT, as the proud VITian's are on their way to success to develop an innovative startup KAI. Technological innovations are becoming reality through young brains of six young men.

# MEET THE BRAINS BEHIND KAI



## The story behind the startup:

The team did not expect Intel hackathon of 2015 will result in an innovation. In 2015, a cool idea provoked Adarsh Warriar and Abhishek Satish. They thought of a technology were lights, gaming, music controlled with a glove.

Starting from Intel hackathon to an opportunity to pitch at a business plan competition, 'StartupVIT' they have now reached heights. They were not ready to be confined to hackathon, a mere a college competition but their vision was wide and thus they thought of a business plan, which is now successful.

"The first capital we got from it was 30,000 and we reinvested the money into developing the product and a startup dream." said Adarsh Warriar, Co-Founder, Vicara.

"Starting from 30,000 with our hard work and blessings we got grants from VIT as well as the competitions. Altogether we bagged about 20.3 lakh equity-free funds for our startups," he added.

## Talking about help from VIT and TBI

“TBI (Technology Business Incubator), VIT is helping us to a great extent. On knowing the potential of our startup, TBI gave us a grant of 1 lakh in the very beginning and again we were able to manage another 5 lakh from TBI. The college is helping us not only with grants but also to participate in both national and international conference. The conferences are not only encouraging us, but also help us to find the wide opportunities of startups and encouraging us,” said Abhishek Satish, Co-Founder, Vicara, Through TBI we have got mentors and future customers” he added.

## What is KAI

KAI is a minimalist wearable controller. It can recognize one's hand gestures to interact with the digital world intuitively. It enables creative professionals and tech enthusiasts alike to interact with their digital environment. It aims to enhance productivity by creating a gesture-based computer interaction experience.

The product is essentially a sensor-based wearable that uses a nine-axis Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) and invisible light sensors to sense the movement of your hand and fingers. The data is relayed via a Bluetooth module to our proprietary desktop app UI designed on Sketch 3 and Principle. The instructions for the hardware have been coded in Embedded C on the ARM Cortex M architecture.

## Applications

The potential applications of the wearable can revolutionize the way we play music, games, VR, AR and even the way we interact with drones and robots.

Other use cases of the product involve interfacing and improving interaction with gaming, virtual training, and simulation, robot and drone control. The main use case of the product is to augment the capability of creative professionals to interact effectively with their digital environments. A CAD designer can intuitively interact with his 3D models on SolidWorks or MAYA as if the models were actually in their hands.

## Future plans of Vicara team

Based out of the incubator in VIT, they are also engaging a student intern team of 30. Adarsh said that they are set to launch their product on a crowdfunding platform in six months, and the plan is to sell at least 50,000 units over the next year. He remarked, "The consumer version of the product will likely retail between \$120 to \$150. Simultaneously, the team is also approaching B2B consumers like Autodesk and Airbus, who it believes are the right target market for its product."

## Milestones so far

- Ø The winners of the National Demo Day in Chennai in 2016.
- Ø First among 94 participants in 12 cities to win a cash grant of Rs 5 lakh.
- Ø The promise of venture also helped to qualify for the NIDHI PRAYAS grant of Rs 10 lakh from IIT Bombay.
- Ø Selected among the top 500 'Future of technology' startups around the world to attend the Global Summit and were also recently a part of Tech 30 2017 startups.

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Over a period of 12 months, they have iterated their product, KAI, 18 times to arrive at the final -prototype stage. Talking about manufacturing, Adarsh commented, "We had taken advantage of rapid in-house prototyping methods like 3D printing for development and we are currently in the user testing and feedback stage. We plan to proceed with lean manufacturing methods to optimize our cost and reduce wastage of resources. We are sourcing our parts from China and having the printed circuit board (PCB) manufactured locally in India. Our product is projected for launch in two months.

## Patent

KAI have filed a patent for the product in "methods of gesture recognition and contact less digit recognition for digital applications". Adarsh remarked that according to their understanding, Vicara is the first IMU-based gesture controller with contact-less finger recognition and the only interface device that is optimized for enhancing productivity for creative professionals among the competitors in the space. Vicara's long-term vision is to set up a hardware ecosystem in India like that of the US and China.

## Alumni Events December



### UAE Chapter's 10th Anniversary lunch event

Time : 11.30 am (local time)

Date : Friday, 01-12-2017

Location : Bangalore Empire Restaurant, Shop # 7, G Floor,  
Hitouf Building, Zabeel Road, Al Karama

### Qatar Chapter alumni members' dinner gathering

Time : 06.30 pm (local time)

Date : Sunday, 03-12-2017

Location : The Crystal Lounge, Hotel Crystal Palace,  
Doha, Qatar

### Muscat Chapter alumni members' dinner gathering

Time: 06.00 pm (local time)

Date: Monday, 04-12-2017

Location: Al Adiyat 01 & 02 Hall (Near Bank Muscat,  
Shatti Al Qurum) Ramada Muscat Hotel, Al Sarooj  
St, Way no.3009, Shatti Al, Qurum, Muscat,  
Sultanate of Oman Phone:+96824956100/ 96824694500

# Impactful Research of The Month

## Topic of the research

*System and method for predicting neurological disorders*

*"She has about 21 years of academic experience in the field of Computer Science and Engineering, 15 years of R & D Experience in the domain Software Engineering, Knowledge Engineering and Digital Image Processing".*

Research was done by  
**Dr.S.Margret Anuncia**  
Professor / SCOPE



## The scope of the research

A method and system for predicting neurological disorders are provided. The method comprises receiving videos of individuals and detecting Regions of Interest (ROI) in video frames. The method further comprises determining a Motion Vector (MV) for each ROI in a set of successive frames and comparing the value of the determined MV with pre-stored values. Furthermore, the method comprises identifying an MV matching a pre-stored value thereby identifying an ROI and a frame corresponding to the identified MV, wherein the pre-stored value indicates the onset of an expression. Also, the method comprises determining MVs for the

Identified ROI in subsequent sets of successive frames and comparing the value of the determined MVs with a pre-stored value of MV corresponding to peak and offset of the indicated expression. The method further comprises identifying the frame corresponding to the peak and offset of the indicated expression and generating a pictorial representation for predicting neurological disorders.

## Impact of the research

Depression or the state of low mood adversely affects thoughts and behaviour of humans and gives rise to disability in people. People with depressed mood lose interest in their lives and their activities. Depression also escalates risks of patients suffering from other health problems and may even obstruct the line of treatment for such patients. For example, the risk associated with a person suffering from neurological health problems are escalated when he/she is also suffering from depression. Further, in several instances, depression can also lead to various neurological disorders that may cause gait abnormalities. It is therefore important to identify and monitor patients suffering from depression. Also, it is equally important to determine and analyse if the patient is showing symptoms of neurological disorders and gait abnormalities. Various approaches are known in the art for monitoring patients with depression and neurological disorders. A general approach includes diagnosis of an individual under depression by the aid of existing interview tools comprising pre-set questionnaire that may be administered by a physician. For example, the physician may ask the patient if he/she has been feeling low, depressed or hopeless in the past few weeks or if he/she had suicidal thoughts. The physician

may also inquire about his/her sleep pattern and energy levels and ask if the patient prefers to stay at home rather than going out and/or doing new things in order to determine if the patient is suffering from depression.

Similarly, abnormal gait patterns such as loss of balance; abnormal walking and speech patterns in humans can be detected using sensors, biometric devices and other clinical devices or equipment. The abnormal gait patterns can also be detected using various available methods including determining alterations in gait speed, head turns, clearing obstacle, climbing steps; measuring time taken to walk in different situations such as walking on a hard floor or on a carpeted floor, stepping over a brick-like object, walking around an object etcetera; evaluating performance of the patient along a series of simulations of functional mobility tasks or situations in home environment; and distinguishing between fallers and non-fallers. The afore-mentioned approaches clearly indicate that physical presence of a doctor or a physician is always needed to carry out the detection of depression and gait abnormalities in patients.

Various computer-aided solutions are known in the art for detecting and monitoring depressions and gait abnormality in individuals. However, these solutions are very slow and fail to precisely detect expressions and are unable to identify real facial motion such as fine motions in the lip and eye regions. In light of the above, there is a need for a system and method for predicting one or more neurological disorders. Further, there is a need for a system and method to identify depression and abnormal gait patterns in individuals remotely or locally. Furthermore, there is a need for a computer-aided system and method that eliminates the requirement of the questionnaire from physicians, sensors, and other medical equipment. In addition, there is a need for a system and method to identify and monitor fine movements and dominant regions of motion that largely contributes in identifying and monitoring depression and abnormal gait patterns in patients.

She got US patent for -System and method for predicting neurological Disorders- US 9715622 B2



# The Digital Way Ahead

The world is ever-changing and the rate of change is unimaginable because of the recent advances in technology. Digital tools are invading the globe and creating a revolution in the way the processes are being carried out. Use of paper is slowly diminishing and manual interventions are seen as a mark of inefficiency. All the industries have already started catching up with the modern technological digital tools and transforming themselves. TouchPads, Robots, IoT based operations have become the order of the day. Under this situation, it is mandatory for every university to train their students appropriately and mold them to face the challenges in the digital world.

VIT has taken up as its responsibility, to prepare the students who are mostly Gen-Y, having a natural flair for technology, also called as Netizens, for 2025 marketplace in the digital world. Many digital initiatives have been introduced at VIT which adds value to the students and also increases the efficiency of all academic processes.

*A few of them are listed below:*

- ◆ *Biometric Digital Attendance System and the data transfer through direct online mode.*
- ◆ *Digital Library with more than 14000 e-journals and 1.2 Lakhs e-books.*
- ◆ *Integrated Digital Learning Management System developed in house.*
- ◆ *Digital Smart Boards with multiple features, in all classrooms; with many having Digital*
- ◆ *Lecture capturing mechanism.*
- ◆ *Virtual Classrooms using Big Blue Button and Virtual Labs for programming languages*
- ◆ *based and simulation-based laboratories.*
- ◆ *Examinations in Electronic Digital Tablets and scripts being stored in the CLOUD.*

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The unique concept of paperless examination has been introduced for all the 2017 batch students. Students write the answers using the Digital Pen on the Electronic Digital Tablet, similar to the way they write on paper. On submission, the answer scripts are stored in the “CLOUD” with all security features. The teachers can pull the answer scripts to their laptops and evaluate them digitally and send it back to the Cloud. The system is made full proof and the

login is always through the individual’s biometric credentials.

Even though, switching over to writing using styles pens from paper and pen methodology being followed so long, students enjoy the new methodology as it has the following advantages and benefit from it. The value addition through this exercise is given below:

- ◆ *Getting the experience and the thrill of doing something today which will be the technology of 2025.*
- ◆ *An opportunity to use a new digital technology and thus improve one's Digital Footprint, which most of the MNCs are looking for.*
- ◆ *The whole examination processes has been made totally environment-friendly with no paper used.*
- ◆ *Storing in the soft form in the dedicated Cloud platform saves space and the retrieval of data is highly efficient and easy.*
- ◆ *The evaluation becomes flawless due to the features in the tablet which prevents double marking, no marking etc.*

*‘VIT has taken up as its responsibility, to prepare the students who are mostly Gen-Y, having a natural flair for technology, also called as Netizens, for 2025 marketplace in the digital world. Many digital initiatives have been introduced at VIT which adds value to the students and also increases the efficiency of all academic processes.’*

Additional features in the electronic digital tablet, with automated addition, some pre-determined analytics etc., makes it more attractive.

VIT embarked on this, 3 years ago and tested its viability in different scales and now has comfortably come to the status of conducting exams using digital pads for over 7000 students.

Such initiatives which add value to the students for better placements and for their future, in general, are welcome by students even though there is a mental block for the change with a students. Ultimately, the students turn out to be second to none in this digital world.

# VIT Student representing South Asia at the IET PATW 2017 wins the finals

Mr. Shubham Saraff, B. Tech computer science engineering student of VIT clinched the world title of 'IET-Present Around The World (PATW) 2017' at the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) Achievement Award in London on 15th November. Mr. Shubham Saraff's winning presentation was titled 'Neurons that shaped Us'.

The PATW is a global competition for young professionals and students in the engineering and technology domain to showcase their technical acumen and presentation skills on their own researched subject.

As part of the competition, individual competitors gave a presentation for 10 minutes on how subjects related to engineering and technology provide solutions for societal problems and answered questions for a further five minutes. The final judgment is based on the presenter's presentation skills (70%) and its technical content (30%).

Mr. Shubham Saraff was the youngest amongst the Global Top 5 contestants who were selected out of thousands of participants from 150 countries across the world. He competed against finalists from the America, Asia Pacific, UK and the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) region. He bagged a cash prize of £1,000.

Mr. Shubham Saraff delivered his technical presentation on "Mirror Neurons" and has conceptualised a new technique to treat neurological disorders like stuttering that affects over 300 million people worldwide and currently has no effective cure.

"A big congratulations to the PATW 2017 winner Shubham Saraff from South Asia Region. His presentation was fascinating and presentation skills were excellent, a well-deserved winner who was up against some very strong competition," congratulated IET Spokesperson.

The competition witnessed participation from engineers across the globe contending for the top honors and the jury included an eminent panel of judges. The event also had awards given to Dr. Bjarne Stroustrup (Inventor of C++), Prof. Shuji Nakamura (Inventor of Blue LED), William (Contribution to music engineering), among others. The event had notable attendees including British Army, Royal Airforce,



Directors of Rolls Royce, Babcock International, Carl Zeiss, etc. Sharing his experiences, Shubham said, "My journey has been a dream run. The first round was at the University level at VIT on the 16th of March, followed by a Zonal round in Vellore on the 17th of March. After winning the Zonal round, I represented VIT at Chennai in the Local Network Finals on the 3rd of April. Thereafter as the winner, I participated in the South Asia Finals held in Bengaluru on the 5th of August."

"I have been invited to present my paper on Artificial Intelligence at Cambridge University, UK in January 2018," he added.

# Safety Week Celebration begins at VIT



Mr. S. Ulaganathan, Vice President, Safety Engineers Association (SEA), Chennai delivering the inaugural address at VIT.

“Nation needs more qualified safety engineers to prevent accidents that occur due to lack of safety precautions. Institutions and Universities including VIT (Vellore Institute of Technology) must take steps to include courses on safety in their curriculum,” said Mr. S. Ulaganathan, Vice President, Safety Engineers Association (SEA), Chennai in his inaugural address at VIT today, in accordance with the safety week celebrations.

“India saw growth in safety sector over time with its safety regulations from 1st Factories Act of 1948 and also by its amendments. Still, our country lags behind in safety matters compared with the developed nations,” he added.

He also spoke about the available tools for safety, “The officers are not using the safety tools including hazard analysis, hazard identification due to lack of awareness or training,” There were only four institutions in the country that provided a diploma course in safety, which produced only 160

safety officers per year but now there are more than 15 colleges in Tamil Nadu alone, which provides a course on Safety Engineering or safety-related studies, according to Mr. S. Ulaganathan.

The safety week starting today will continue until 1st of December. The event was organized by the Department of Chemical Engineering, the week will see panel discussions and talks on various topics by eminent personalities of the field including Safety Adult, Cyber Security and safety, Infrastructure (building) safety, Fire safety, Mock drill, Nuclear safety, Health safety, Road safety and safety everyone's business.

Dr. G. S. Nirmala, Head of the Department Chemical Engineering, S. Santhakumaran, Department of Chemical Engineering, Dr. I. Murugandam, Department of Chemical Engineering were also present for the event. Mr. Suresh Mariaselavam, VIT Business School gave the Vote of thanks.

## The Basic Design and Workshop @ V-SPARC

An effort by a team of 1st-year students and staff of V-SPARC (VIT School of Planning and Architecture) in compiling the entire semester's coursework. The studio involved introducing the students to basics of design: principles and elements, composition, etc.

Exercises ranging from individual level designs to large scale installations in groups were executed. Some exercises also involved activities such as city walks, photographic documentation, hands-on model making, carpentry, sketching, etc. This course was intended for training students to take forward the same knowledge of design into the following semesters of architectural design.



Students explaining their compiled works



# Events in December

Date: 01/12/2017 to 03/12/2017

Venue: VIT Vellore

Organizer: Department of Mathematics School of Advanced Sciences



Date: 18/12/2017 to 20/12/2017

Venue: VIT Vellore

Organizer: SAS



Date: 04/12/2017 to 16/12/2017

Venue: VIT Vellore

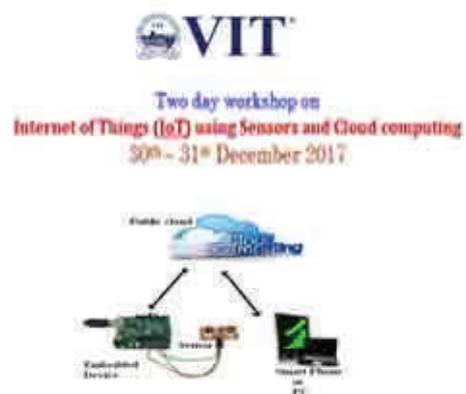
Organizer: VIT-Technology Business Incubator



Date: 30/12/2017 to 31/12/2017

Venue: 727, 7th Floor, Technology Tower

Organizer: TIFAC CORE in AUTOMOTIVE INFOTRONIC



Date: 16/12/2017 to 16/12/2017

Venue: VIT, Vellore

Organizer: School of Electrical Engineering





**Mrs. Mirtha Nelly Aldabe**  
Associate Professor,  
Nationality: American

“I am honored to be part of the VIT family. As we say in Spanish, ‘mi casa es tu casa’. You all have a home in Connecticut.”

**MRS. MIRTHA IS THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LANGUAGES (SSL) AND IS TEACHING SPANISH AT VIT.**

#### **How do you find VIT?**

*VIT is a family for me now. The hospitality giving by the Institution is excellent. The students are talented.*

#### **Is this the first time you are visiting India?**

*Yes it is, I have travelled a lot since I was 15 and I have visited all the continents but I have never found ‘kind people’ like Indians anywhere. I travel because I love to observe the culture. The experience I received from travelling is helping me teach the students in a better way.*

#### **How does learning a foreign language helps an engineering student?**

*Knowing a foreign language is an added benefit for the student. Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world. So it will help them when they join for work. It will help them to interact with the client, make the travel much easier etc...*

#### **What are your methods of teaching the students to make it different from regular methods?**

*I’ll help students to interact directly with the Spanish students abroad, it includes emails in Spanish, telephonic communication in Spanish. Practical learning is always better than theoretical studies. The direct communication helps them to improve pronunciation as well as vocabulary. I always ask students to practice the daily lessons among their friend circle, I prefer fun oriented classes.*

#### **What were the activities you have participated in VIT for the last semester?**

*Participated with my SSL colleagues in the skit and group dance. I was a member of Discipline Committee, I was one of the panelists for "A place for Learning" event by third-year architect students who presented their projects to a panel. I was also the VIP guest and speaker of the inauguration of "Dream Merchant Club", The 1st business club at VIT.*

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Dr. G Viswanathan Presenting a Memento to His Excellency Mr. Danny Faure, the President of Seychelles.

**Hon'ble Chancellor Dr. G Viswanathan and Director- International Relations Dr. C Vijayakumar visited Seychelles and Zanzibar as part of their International Outreach programme during 10-15 of November 2017.**

During Seychelles visit, Chancellor Dr. G Viswanathan met the President of Seychelles, his Excellency Mr. Danny Faure on 11th November 2017 and discussed on the various cooperation possibilities between VIT and Seychelles Institute of Technology. Chancellor also expressed his willingness to train their school teachers at VIT on gratis.

## **Potential Outcome of the trip:**

Seychelles:

1. VIT will assist Seychelles Institute of Technology (SIT)

- (i) In getting Degree for their Diploma students by educating at VIT through the 2+2 twinning arrangement. The students, who join the diploma after 12 years of study, are eligible to be admitted to our degree program.
- (ii) In the capacity building of their faculty by offering them postgraduate and doctoral programs
- (iii) Tailor-made staff training



Hon. Chancellor with the President of Zanzibar

**Chancellor visited the Honourable President of Zanzibar, who also happens to be the Chancellor of SUZA His Excellency Dr. Ali Mohamad Shein and held a discussion on VIT's willingness to participate in their endeavor to develop Skilled technical manpower for Zanzibar.**



Hon. Chancellor briefing the President about VIT and is expressing our willingness to be a partner in their endeavor to develop technical manpower for Zanzibar for their economic development.

**Potential Outcome of the trip:**

Zanzibar

1. VIT strengthened its agreement with State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) with an addendum for offering two programs one in B Sc., Multimedia and Animation and B Sc., computer Sciences on a 1+2 basis. The curriculum for multimedia will be that of VITs and the curriculum for the computers has been matched between the two universities by the schools concerned.
2. During the meeting with Hon. President, Chancellor offered to assist SUZA with Technology Business Incubator set up for the SUZA.
3. VIT will also offer to provide a Capacity building of SUZA faculty.



Hon. Chancellor attended the 16th Asian University Presidents Forum held at Manila, Philippines from November 21-23, 2017. During the occasion, four MoUs were signed with universities from Japan and Philippines.

## Rs. 1.32 crore financial assistance distributed by Indian Bank to families in Jawadhu Hills

Programme organised by VIT; Thiruvannamalai Collector hands over assistance



Rs. 1.32 crore financial assistance distributed by Indian Bank to families in Jawadhu Hills

A sum of Rs. 1.32 crore was handed over to families living in Jawadhu Hills in Thiruvannamalai District to help them enable start their own small business enterprises. The amount was extended to the families by Indian Bank. The event and the overall scheme towards empowering the families was organised by Centre for Sustainable Rural Development and Research Studies – CSR D&RS of VIT .

Thiruvannamalai District Collector Mr. K.S.Kandasamy handed over the financial assistance to the beneficiaries at a function held at the Regional Skill Development Training Centre in Jamunamarathur.

## VIT- CSR D & RS conducted Entrepreneur Training Program - NEEDS EDI

Skills need to be an integral part of employment and economic growth strategies; it boosts employability and productivity of the state. In understanding of the current scenario, the Centre for Sustainability Rural Development and Research Studies mainly aims at skill development training programmes for unemployed youths. So far the centre has engaged in 22 different trades for employment and self-employment and trained 3,418 candidates, placed 2,601 youth on jobs and created 263 entrepreneurs in 62 Training programmes.

VIT- CSR D & RS conducting Entrepreneur Training Program - NEEDS EDI, from 13th November to 12th December 2017 (25 days) in Vellore campus and 30 budding Entrepreneurs from Vellore and Tiruvannamalai Districts will be benefited through this training program.





**VIT**<sup>®</sup>

**Vellore Institute of Technology**  
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)



**Sub Lt. Shubhangi Swaroop**

(B.Tech. Bio Technology, 2012-2016 Batch, Vellore)

becomes the **first woman pilot** in Indian Navy.

**VIT**

**WISHES HER ON**

**THIS GREAT**

**ACHIEVEMENT**