SYMBIOSIS
CENTRE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Web & Media

ATHARVA

Editor's Choice

As we head into the 55th edition of Atharva magazine, The web and media family is pleased to continue to inform our readers about the recent events in the SCIT.

As a part of the enlightenment, various guest lectures and seminars were organized inside SCIT during July and August.

On 22 July, Dr Raghunath Anant Mashelkar, FRS, National Research Professor, and a Padma Vibhushan Award Holder, delivered the first lecture as a part of the Symbiosis Golden Jubilee Lecture Series on the topic, Reimagining and Reinventing Post-Covid India. The following Guest lecture is on the topic, "Defining Requirements in Agile Way", by Mr Jitendra Bachhav, Solution architect in Citi Bank.

Another great lecture by Pons Mudivai Arun, director of products at Citrix. He addressed the SCIT batch with deep insights about zero trust in cyber security. The 21st edition of the National Seminar with the theme 'Embracing Agile Practices to Mould Management Practices in the Virtual World' was conducted online this year. The speaker of the seminar includes Mr Erdal Ozkaya, who is a speaker, an author, a lecturer, and a technical expert. Followed by Ms Kamolika Peres, who serves as director of sales for Google Cloud India.

SCIT believes in inclusion and understands the importance of cultural activities along with its course curriculum. On 15 August, SCIT celebrated our 75th Independence Day full of zest and zeal. The Various student-driven cultural performances rekindled the patriotism among the audience. The month ended with the Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations with lots of devotion and fun activities.

WELCOME TO CAMPUS
2022-24 & 2021-23

ITBM DSDA

SYMBIOSIS INFOTECH CAMPUS

INDUCTION PROGRAMME

-Kumar Gandhrava

The induction program for 2022-24 started on June 6 with the Inaugural event where Dr. Dhanya Pramod, Director of SCIT, welcomed all the students of the batch 2022-24. She inspired students in her unique style by telling them captivating stories concluding with some wisdom for life. Then Chief Guest of the event, SCIT alumnus Calvin D'Souza, AVP J.P. Morgan Chase, shared his experience at SCIT as a student and his journey from an aspiring MBA student to becoming an industry leader. Students were motivated by his words and seemed excited about their journey at SCIT. In the following days, more inducting events were hosted to familiarize fresh students of SCIT with Symbiosis InfoTech Campus (SIC) and all the facilities and amenities it offers students, including a Gymnasium, Swimming pool, playgrounds, and hostels. Col. Kadam mainly delivered this session. He awoke students to SIC's general code of conduct and emphasized heavily on disciplinary norms. Symbiosis is a health and wellness-promoting University every year; Symbiosis Centre also addressed students for Health Care (SCHC) to draw their attention to the importance of health and wellness in their academic journey. Apart from these sessions and introductory events, the foundation course was also delivered to equip students with some prerequisites to start their MBA Journey.

What's Inside?

MBA life till now
-Lakshmi Naveena Tamiri

After two years of staying at home, attending online lectures, and working from home, we finally walked through the doors of SCIT, Symbiosis Center for Information Technology, a dream college for many of us. Everyone was delighted to be part of SCIT and learn from the well-experienced faculty. The first day of college always creates some nervousness and excitement. However, The induction program was a great way of easing us into the MBA experience. Student bonding increased with college outings, where we participated in physical and mental challenges together.

It was a great icebreaker and made us all collaborate and uniquely work with each other. Furthermore, from Samarabh, we got a chance to inspire and get inspired by all our talented peers. Also, there were endless conversations in the cafeteria and hostel rooms.

By the time we realized that we were having a happy and good time, there was a plethora of work on our table. Assignments, quizzes, presentations, College committee interviews, late-night reading room group discussions, Sunday lectures, evaluations, guest lectures, and how can we forget the elephant in the room "Attendance!". In between all this stress, one question from our friend can bring our smile back "chai peene chale?"

All the pressure and stress to manage academics, college life, and personal life will help us to grow as a person and, most importantly, a true management student. I firmly believe the MBA life will give us lifetime friendships, memories and bring many more adventures to our table.

Samarambh

-Abizer Vakil

SCIT welcomed the new batch of 2022-24 on 6th June 2022. Samarambh, which means beginning, is a multi-talent performance event organized by SCIT on 30th June this year.

Samarambh is a fest of joy and exploration. Students, as well as faculty, perform to showcase their talents. It's to break the barriers which we all carry with us while stepping onto the new steps of MBA.

Samarambh begins after lightening the auspicious lamp, and then envelopes of different performances are opened up. A traditional solo dance, group dances, performing arts, solo singing, choirs, storytelling, fashion show, and drama all these sparkling performances just blew off our minds. It unites people from various cultural backgrounds, and the new chapter of life at SCIT starts with a bang.

Students interested in participating in any of the performances applied for the selection process. Once shortlisted, students were excited and gave their best efforts to create exceptional performances. Students practiced for more than two weeks managing time through their busy schedules and repeatedly changed their acts as per the demand. These are the early learning that a few students got from their performance experiences.

Student SPOCs coordinated Samarambh under the guidance of faculty members. They manage different genres of performances and also behind-the-screen tasks. It is extensive learning for the students of the new batch to coordinate the whole event by themselves with a minor intervention from faculties.

The hosts made the crowd noisier, and a feeling of joy surrounded everyone. The event was a big success and finished on time. Many new memories were created and captured in memories of mobile phones

Surya Shibir
-Sagar Choudhury

A day that started with a lot of anticipation concluded as one with new bonds and joyous memories. It was an exciting day for juniors, and all were in sports apparel, contrary to what they usually wear. It was an early morning start from the college to Surya Shibir, an eco-friendly resort nestled deeply in the Sahyadri valley. The location away from a network coverage area ensured a day without people fidgeting with smartphones and relying on human interaction for communication.

It was a beautiful ride to the destination, and some students did not even miss out on playing Antakshri on the way. The bus reached the destination sometime around 9:30 AM, and the Department of Sports, Recreation and Wellness (DSRW) was there to welcome the freshers.

The DSRW team instructed group activities among randomly formed team members, all contesting to win the elusive first place sportively. The central idea was to promote team-building and management skills among the students. It started with a few dancing drills, passing the ball drill, passing a hoop in a human circle drill, and finally a human knot drill where many students struggled to comply.

The students then formed groups of two in a blindfold activity. Here, one person would guide the other blindfolded person halfway through a predefined track and complete the rest of the way with an exchange of roles. This was followed by a sumptuous feast, catering to everybody's growling stomachs.

Post Lunch, all the teams were assigned the task of entertaining everybody for three minutes by performing any act of their choice. All the teams performed their hearts out, with no one having anything less than a great time. Some students grooved to the beats, some sang their hearts out, and some took centre stage in portraying their acting skills.

Overall, visiting Surya Sibir was a unique ice-breaking experience. The central idea was to give insight into the significance of teamwork and coordination among team members, which will be a pearl of core wisdom for these forthcoming leaders in the coming years

Independence day at SCIT

- Stuti Roy

Celebrating Independence day, our institute organized a student-driven event filled with remembrance of the martyrdom of our great leaders and brave soldiers who laid their lives to give us this precious freedom we enjoy today.

The celebration began with the echoes of our national anthem all over the academic building, followed by the hoisting of our national flag.

The crowd was then addressed by the director of SCIT, Dr. Dhanaya Promod, creating an aura of patriotism among the students while explaining the significance of the three colors of our flag. Then our campus administrator, Col. Kadam, gave us an inspirational speech filled with lessons to be carried lifelong.
To commemorate "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav," Team Symbeats and Eklavya presented the glorious history of its people, culture, and achievements through their performance.

Team Symbeats took over the stage with their high adrenaline-filled dance performance. At the same time, team Eklavya presented a tale that revolved around an Army hero and the ordinary people who achieved extraordinary dreams. They enacted the lives of Sundar Pichai, Neeraj Chopra, Rishi Sonak, Prakash Bilhore, and his father, Dadarao Bilhore and Gauri Sawant.

The event was concluded with SIC staff distributing sweets to the children and later releasing the tricolored balloons

Here's how our Ganesh Chaturthi 2022 at SIC went

- Shubham Singh

The annual Ganesh Chaturthi festival, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, has arrived. In this article, I have put together how we celebrated eco-friendly Ganesh Chaturthi at our SIC campus. It is believed that Lord Ganesha comes every year with prosperity and success, he is the remover of obstacles, Lord Ganesha's appeal is broad and multifaceted, and it manifests itself differently in various regions of the nation.

As we know we are in an age where going greener is substantial for the planet as well as for our environmental health. Keeping the same in view we celebrated the festival at our campus starting with Ganesha's Idol Making Workshop, a day before the arrival of Lord Ganesha to share the art and knowledge of molding idols in an eco-friendly manner. Many students participated in a group followed by the help of an instructor and completed sculpturing different idols in their ways, the whole process of utilizing clay and transforming it into an idol was a remarkable experience for many first-time makers, this has not only to master them to celebrate the festival in a greener way but also inculcated new skill which will help them carry social responsibilities in days to come.

The entire campus was embellished, and the joy of students was at its zenith level to take a break from mundane life and be a part of different activities to celebrate the birth of Ganesha in the form of Singing, Dancing, and Drama.

With this we arrive on Mahotsav day which started with an Idol display and Aarti, where everyone was seen wearing an ethnic dress, the entire campus looked different, with this all the event of the afternoon ends, and people were seen preparing for an eventful evening, the excitement and eagerness to witness the famous Dhol, the most awaited one which started with a blast that even the sky went clear, the aura of the people in and around the campus made the entire canvas of everyone's thought colorful and filled them with zeal.

As the dusk peaked in, different cultural events started for which many of us were waiting, the singing and dance performance including drama added more light to the evening, and with this, we were towards the end of an event, and the DJ was kept at last where everyone was seen dancing their heart out, with this an eventful day came to an end with people making lots of memories to cherish forever.

Defining Requirments in Agile Way

- Mr. Jitendra Bachhav

Requirements gathering is an essential step in project development that determines what a project needs to achieve and what needs to be created for that to happen. In an ideal scenario, no requirement changes are implemented in the project's lifecycle. But requirements face changes regularly, and defining the requirements needs to adapt to the change. Keeping this in mind, SCIT is helping its students become resourceful and meet the industry's standards in software development.

Recently, the guest lecture committee of SCIT invited Mr Jitendra Bachhav(Solution architect), currently working in Citi Bank. He highlighted implementing the agile approach in requirement definition can make the process adaptable to change.

Mr Bachhav enquired with the students about their knowledge of Agile and how it could work with requirement collection. He emphasized how using the iterative approach of Agile is superior to the traditional waterfall-like approach. He highlighted how Agile delivers work in small but consumable increments leaving room for any possible change during the development lifecycle.

He then spoke about the different values and principles of Agile that discuss the importance of customer coordination and collaboration over the process and the result. He then cited the example of his experience of working in a team that did not always rely on their superiors to give instructions but took the initiative on their own to deliver and achieve specific required objectives. The lecture then moved towards an interactive session between the students and Mr Jitendra Bacchav. Towards the final part of the lecture, the guest talked about the different steps involved in an Agile approach.

Overall the session was beneficial for the students as they learned about the value of integration, collaboration, and communication when a team is gathering and defining requirements. Students got acquainted with how Agile can be implemented in the different stages of software development.
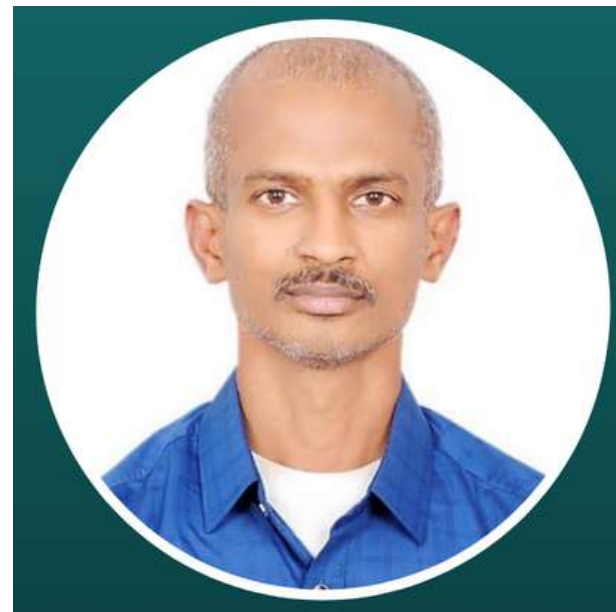
What is Not Zero Trust?
- Pons Mudivai Arun

Pons Mudivai Arun, who is the director of Citrix, addresses the SCIT batch with his deep insights about what is not zero trust in cyber security. He is the director of Products Application Security. He has 20 years of experience as a cyber specialist. He is a speaker and CISO Advisor. He Initiated the lecture by thanking the guest lecture team and Shaji Sir, then started sharing his experience about questions we must address in this domain. Firstly, why are we talking about cyber security? Secondly, why are customers worried? And third, why do you invest in cyber security controls?

He began with student interaction about what we think about the topic and why. We shouldn't unnecessarily expose our software, and firewalls to reduce exposure of digital assets. What is zero trust?

NEVER TRUST; ALWAYS VERIFY! Or we can say always verify and then trust. Do not assume things and trust. Don't inherent trust. We need a mechanism to verify our data and surroundings, such as checking trust patterns. Implement the principle of least privileges, by removing implicit trust and constantly confirming each stage of a digital connection.

The zero trust strategy for cybersecurity safeguards a business. Objectives of zero trust are- the need for frictionless security, ensuring business assets are protected, and simplifying IT administrator and security people's jobs.

Why do we need zero trust?

Because there are wrong assumptions about traditional access control, a few early assumptions are that the user inside is always trustable, the attack surface is finite, storing all resources in a single data center, and the user or an employee always accesses from trusted devices. Core concepts behind zero trust, how to implement zero trust, and a few prime misconceptions were also discussed. Such a detailed discussion followed by a doubt session was conducted, and the students had a great learning experience.

Archives from the Past

Reimagining & Reinventing Post COVID India

How we as a nation will be able to triumph over the uncertainties that we are facing right now? To this end, on 22nd July, Dr. Raghunath Anant Mashelkar, FRS, National Research Professor, and a Padma Vibhushan Award Holder delivered the first lecture as a part of the Symbiosis Golden Jubilee Lecture Series on the topic, Reimagining and Reinventing Post-Covid India. The lecture covered a wide array of topics all of them directed at how the world was before COVID-19 and how the outbreak, of this pandemic, has perhaps changed the way society operates at large; possibly forever. Some of the key areas Dr. Mashelkar touched upon were the increasing role of Work From Home (WFH), the changing meaning of workplaces as a concept, the rapidity of said change, and the similarity between various pandemics and climate change occurrences. It is important to ponder these topics while moving forward in order to ensure sustainable development. Dr. Mashelkar highlighted that it is of utmost importance that one must direct the efforts at recovery but focus on reimagining and reinventing as well. To this end, he proposes that there are 5 pillars on which a reinvented India must focus Mashelkar, highlighted that it is of utmost importance that one must direct the efforts at recovery but focus on reimagining and reinventing as well. To this and he proposes that there are 5 pillars on which a reinvented India must focus; these pillars are as follows: 1. BUY 2. Make 3. Buy to Make Better 4. Make to Buy Better 5. Make Together These five pillars all signify the various stages that an economy must go through while working on becoming independent and self-sustaining. While one must focus on these pillars it is important that one must also identify the three effort multipliers that allow us to bolster the economy, these multipliers are talent, technology, and trust. Effectively applying these multipliers to the five pillars will yield incredible results in the form of a confidently self-reliant nation. The session concluded with a Question and Answer (QA) session where Dr. Mashelkar addressed the queries of the students in a diligent manner and provided in-depth perspectives on the respective topic.

Archives from the Past

National Seminar, Embracing Agile Practices to Mould Management Practices in the Virtual World

Owing to the pandemic, the 21st edition of the National Seminar was hosted online this year. The host introduced the audience to the theme of the seminar i.e. 'Embracing Agile Practices to Mould Management Practices in the Virtual World'. He touched upon the burning topic of the survival of organizations by embracing agile practices. The session started with the Director Dr. Dhanya Pramod Ma'am sharing her thoughts on the idea of the National Seminar and its theme. She added that every year the Seminar is conducted with an aim to address the current trends in the industry. Since the businesses are going online, owing to Covid-19, they have adapted agile practices to stay in the market. The first speaker of the seminar was Mr.Erdal Ozkaya who is a speaker, an author, a lecturer, and a technical expert. As we all know, the pandemic has not stopped the hackers and there are attacks happening. He imparted some knowledge regarding how to keep ourselves abreast of methods and how to be assured of our safety. He went on to Big Data and discussed three things that are intertwined i.e.1. How one started the journey 2. The current state and 3. The technology being used. Hence big data is needed to leverage insider security. With the ever-increasing data, now in petabytes, the main concern is to secure them. Better governance and controls are needed to mitigate and detect unforeseen attacks. He concluded by encouraging the students to be aware of the past and with the amalgamation of knowledge and current technology, there can be a better future for all. The next speaker was Ms. Kamolika Peres who serves as director of sales for Google cloud India and is also a great orator. She comes with 20 years of experience in consulting, business and technology, and transformation enterprise suite. She spoke about digital transformation and companies morphed in accordance with the new norms and stood upright during pressing times. With the change in customer behavior the business processes were re-engineered and how business models changed. She mentioned that Google is not only confined to an infrastructure storage network but also includes collaboration with data and analytics, machine learning, AI, and application development. The session ended on a positive note. A vote of thank you was delivered by the host and the event was a big success and insightful. It taught us the importance of agility and that we should adapt to change.

Shweta Kaushik

We take immense pride to announce that our Star Alumni is Ms Shweta Kaushik this month. She is currently working as a Vice President of Technology Service in Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India. Ms Shweta pursued her bachelor's degree in Computer Science Engineering from the University of Hertfordshire. After pursuing her bachelor's degree she continued her studies in management at Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology, Pune.

After passing out from Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology, she has been working in the IT industry for the past 17 years across varied domains. Ms Shweta has been a working professional in the Information Technology and Telecom domains. She has extensive involvement in Employee experience in end-to-end sectors, complex IT infrastructure, digitizing workspace, driving automation and many more.

She started her work journey at Wipro Infotech, followed by working for eminent organizations such as Cisco Systems, Unilever and Mercedes Benz. Her extensive experience is backed up by excellent teamwork and motivating skills that contribute to successful and efficient deliveries.

Her goal is mainly centered on directed decisiveness and strategic technological solutions with consultative engagements that drive the maximum revenue to the company she works with, and her ardent passion to be involved in future-driven technologies has helped different companies to come up with effective solutions ensuring a successful outcome.

Our Team

Prof. Vidyavati Ramteke

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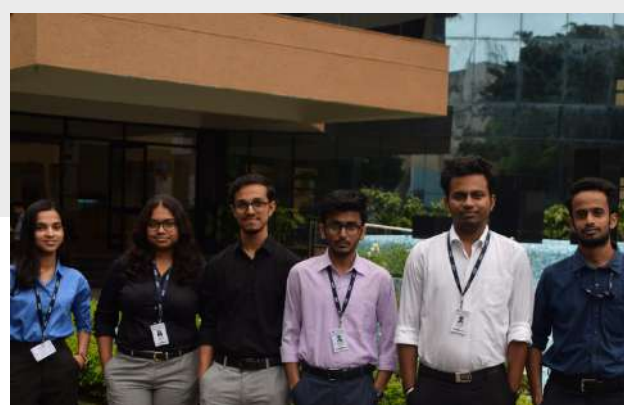

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