EDITORIAL

Greetings, and welcome to this edition of **SiliconTech**.

In the midst of this ongoing worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, there is very good news from Silicon that I have the privilege of announcing to you. In the NIRF rankings this year, Silicon Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar, has featured one among the 7 engineering institutes from Odisha in top 200 rank with a rank of 179; it is a truly commendable achievement. This, along with our UGC autonomy, NBA accreditation (Undergraduate programs of CSE, EEE and ECE) and NAAC A - grade places us in the very upper echelon of higher educational institutes in the country. The new normal during the time of COVID-19 is on-line classes and exams. Platforms like Zoom and Cisco Webex were extensively used by our faculty members to conduct online classes and quizzes, till the end of the even semester. Several recruitment drives were held over the past couple of months, and one Hackathon event (HackWithInfy). A vast majority of our students are placed. Online Summer internships were offered by the Industry Interface Cell (II Cell) in 16 skill-based courses, and a significant number of students availed of them. Courses were conducted in various domains like Complex Problem Solving and Algorithm design, Competitive Coding, Data Science with Python, Web page development, Cyber Security, Object Oriented Programming using C++, JAVA, VLSI and Machine Learning using MATLAB. Wipro TalentNext activities, which aim to enhance the quality of engineering education by training students,were also conducted online.

This current phase has certainly been one of learning, adapting and improvising for all of us, and in the process has enhanced our overall prowess in academics; it has set the tone for us to come out better than ever before, when this passes.

Prof. (Dr.) Jaideep Talukdar
PRINCIPAL

NEWS & EVENTS

NIRF RANKINGS 2020

Silicon Institute of Technology has been ranked 179 by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India in the 'Engineering' category. We are one among the 7 engineering institutes from Odisha in the top 200 rank.

MoU Signed with Boston Microtechnology LLC

Silicon Institute of Technology has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Boston Microtechnology LLC, a fabless semiconductor start-up company in the Greater Boston Area of USA. The purpose of this MoU is to help students and faculty members engage in collaborative, state-of-the-art research work which is at the forefront of industry-based integrated circuit (IC) design.

COVID-19 Response - Ideas & Action

Social distancing has become a social reality ever since the nationwide lockdown began on 25th March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Four months into the fight against Corona, India is now in an even more precarious condition with uncertainty still prevailing. During these tumultuous times, SiliconTech administration, faculty, staff and students have remained steadfast, agile and focused in their response to challenges, churning out innovative ideas.

Proactive Measures taken

- Siliconites were alerted ahead of the lockdown about the COVID outbreak. All the activities and events on campus were cancelled from 25th March 2020 onwards.

- The on-campus student residents were advised to leave for home. Few whochose to stay back on campus, took to the self-quarantine mode and used Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- The maintenance and comprehensive sanitation of the campus was properly taken care of in spite of the restricted entry of staff.

- Limited mess facilities were provided to the resident staff and students.

- The Counselling Cell of the institute provided online services to students and faculty.

Library Activities

- Webinar on *Discover Your Research Potential* with IEEE Xplore

- Remote access to articles and e-books from Springer (408 titles), Elsevier (233 titles), Wiley (1000 titles) and Proquest (30,000 titles)

- Remote access to subscribed E-journals (935) and proceedings (2111) given to faculty and students

Academics

SiliconTech's first response was going digital while ensuring that its teaching-delivery process was least affected. In person classes were shifted entirely to the online mode of instruction following identical schedule for each course.

- 1800 online live classes conducted
- 350 online doubt clearing sessions conducted
- 150 virtual labs conducted
- 75 virtual lab recordings shared
- 20 online written examinations conducted
- 98% average participation in written exams

Training & Placement

- 3 Recruitment drives conducted
- 4 Internship drives organized
- 1 Hackathon conducted
- 5 Skill-based Training Sessions conducted
- 16 Skill-based Summer Internship programs conducted through online mode

Faculty Development

- 100 Coursera licences provided to faculty and staff for self-learning and skill building
- 196 FDPs / Technical Workshops (online/offline) were attended
- 205 Webinars/Conferences attended
- 47 Courses/STTPs / Talks & Seminars attended
- Participated in AICTE initiatives – NPTEL Special Lecture Series and attended courses available in digital learning platforms like SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA, CEC, and NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY OF INDIA.

Community Welfare

- PPE kits and N-95 masks donated to Central and State relief funds
- Grocery items handed over to Adruta Children Home, Bhubaneswar
- Donations (INR 3 lakhs) made to PM CARES Fund
- Our in-house counselling Psychologist, Dr. Saswati Jena provided free online counselling service to the general public in need of help
- Video podcasts were released to create awareness regarding COVID-19 and Mental Health under the flagship of Voices O' Counselling
- Silicon TechnoZeal team conducted free online courses for CBSE school teachers across India
- Under the Student Outreach Program, teachers and students of Future Bhubaneswar School were mentored in the field of Artificial Intelligence

International Yoga Day

To celebrate International Yoga Day, a Yoga Session was organized on 22nd June 2020 within Silicon premises. The session commenced with a talk on the importance of *Yoga in Life* followed by the Yoga postures demonstrated by the yoga teacher of the institute, Mr. Prasanta Kumar Mallik and one of our faculty members, Mr. Tarini Charana Mishra. There were around 40 attendees including faculty members, supporting staff members and students. Various yoga postures such as PawanMuktasan, Kati Chakrasan, Tadasana, Bhujangasana, UthanaPadasana, Surya Namaskar, Vrikshasana, Yog Mudra and meditation were practised by the attendees. The session ended with Savasana. The Yoga session was conducted by maintaining social distance and sanitization. Presently weekly online yoga sessions for all faculty members and students are being conducted.

Toastmasters Table Topics Contest

The Toastmasters Club conducts Table Topics Contest - an impromptu speech contest, to find the best impromptu speakers from amongst its members. *Sanath Kumar Swain (EEE, 3rd year)* first competed at the Club level in Toastmasters Community Club, Bhubaneswar on 10th May 2020; people from differen t walks of life compete at the club level. He won at the Club level and got to represent at the Area Level where Clubs from corporate and other cities compete. His area i.e. Area I-2 of Toastmasters Internationals had many corporate clubs from Bhubaneswar and also from management colleges. He competed with their club champions and won at the Area Level. Then he represented at the Division Level where Area Champions from Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal competed. He received the 2nd Runners-Up award in the contest.

Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB)

EBSB (Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat) is one of the major flagship programs of the Government to bring in cultural integration of the country as a part of the vision to build a New India by 2022. It aims to enhance interaction & promote mutual understanding between people of diverse cultures in India. Silicon has been paired up with an institute in Maharashtra.

Silicon EBSB team collaborated with Silicon Music Club and prepared a video on *'Incredible Odisha'* to mark the observance of the EBSB day and Utkal Diwason 1st April 2020, while working from home. This video has been shared with AICTE, as this program is being executed in the engineering colleges by AICTE.

TechnoZeal Program

Through its unique school connect program named TechnoZeal, Silicon conducted free online courses on Programming with C for engineering aspirants pan India and Python programming for CBSE school teachers across India. Dr. Ramaprasad Panda had convened both the programs under TechnoZeal where faculty and technical staff members from the department of CSE were the resource persons.

Online course on 'Programming with C'

A 7-day online summer course on *Programming with C* was organized from 11th to 17th June 2020 for engineering aspirants across India free of cost. This program was intended for Class 11 and Class 12 students who aspire to build their career in different engineering streams. 730 students from 13 states across India registered for this course. Based on overall performance, 133 students received their course certificate. The top 3 students were selected for a reward of a gift voucher worth INR 2,500 to practice and dive deep into C programming for one year in an LMS based platform. Prof. Samaleswari Prasad Nayak coordinated the program along with a dedicated team.

Online course on Python Programming

The second activity organized under TechnoZeal was a 5 - day online course on *Python Programming* for CBSE school teachers (secondary & senior secondary) across India from 29th June to 3rd July 2020. This course focused on logic building and coding skills in Python programming. The registration was made free for CBSE teachers across India. The live sessions were delivered through an online platform with hands-on practice. Dr. Pradyumna Kumar Tripathy coordinated the program along with a dedicated team.

Student Outreach Program

Sumit Kumar Sah (ECE, 3rd year) has mentored 20+ students and faculty members of Future Bhubaneswar School in the field of Artificial Intelligence, as part of community service. In addition to this, he has also trained around 200 students in the Basics of C and Java.

FACULTY IN NEWS

Dr. Sudarsan Padhy, Senior Professor from CSE department received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Odisha Mathematics Society (OMS) last quarter for his innumerable contributions and interests in the domain of Mathematics and Computer Science.

Prior to joining Silicon, he was the Director, Institute of Mathematics and Application, Bhubaneswar, Emeritus Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at IIIT, Bhubaneswar and Professor of Mathematics at Utkal University. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in Mathematics from Utkal University in 1979 and did Postdoctoral research at the University of Freiburg, Germany during 1980-81. He had also held the position of President in Odisha Information Technology Society (OITS).

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- 3 PhDs completed
- 3 PhD thesis submitted (awaiting defense)
- 23 Journal articles published

- 5 Conference Proceedings / Papers Accepted
- 1 Patent awarded
- 1 Book Chapter published

IEEE publication on COVID

Dr. Ambarish Gajendra Mohapatra (Senior Assistant Professor, EIE department) has co-authored an article titled 'EasyBand: A Wearable for Safety-Aware Mobility during Pandemic Outbreak' in IEEE Consumer Electronics Magazine. This article presents a smart consumer electronics solution to facilitate safe and gradual opening after stay-at-home restrictions are lifted. An Internet of Medical Things (IoMT) enabled wearable called EasyBand is introduced to limit the growth of new positive cases by auto contact tracing and by encouraging essential social distancing.

SILICON ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL

The physical activities of the Entrepreneurship Development Cell and Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) were replaced by e-activities during this lockdown period. MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC) organized 17 e-sessions on various themes of Innovation, IPR, Entrepreneurship and Start-up for the IIC Calendar Year 2019-2020. The Silicon Institute Innovation Council participated in these sessions which were conducted from 28th April 2020 to 22nd May 2020.The Silicon Institute Innovation Council also participated in a *Leadership Talk* series conducted by MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC) from 7th April to 31st May 2020. 25 Leadership talks were organized by MIC during this lockdown period. Entrepreneurs, Innovators and eminent personalities from different walks of life delivered the talk on this occasion. Some of the important speakers were Dr. Anand Deshpande, Chairman, Persistent Systems Ltd; Mr. Abhisek Singh CEO, MyGov; Prof. D. P. Singh, Chairman, UGC; Dr. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India; Dr. Madhuri Kanitkar, Lieutenant General, Indian Army; Ms. Shradha Sharma, Founder and Chief Editor of YourStory.com and Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi. Students and faculty members participated in all these events and all the participants were given participation certificates by MIC, Government of India.

STUDENT ACHIEVERS

SubhraSutapaMahapatra@Synopsys

Subhra Sutapa Mahapatra (ECE, 2016-2020) a member of Advanced VLSI Lab of Silicon, was one of the two students placed in Synopsys India Pvt. Ltd. – a core VLSI company that is No. 3 in the world in the area of CAD VLSI – with a package of 13 LPA. She has also been selected in the Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (MSEE) program at University of Texas, Dallas, USA, which is home to Texas Analog Center of Excellence (TxACE) - the largest analog research center in the world that is based in an academic institution. She is one of the proud members of Silicon Scholar's Club because of being the top performer in her branch. She is good at Circuit design and analytical analysis and also got the opportunity to do her internship in the final semester with a stipend of 25000 INR per month at STMicroelectronics, Greater Noida, which is one of the reputed and known organizations for best analog design presently in India.

AnubhaSnehal@Synopsys

Anubha Snehal (ECE, 2016-2020) a member of Advanced VLSI Lab of Silicon, was yet another student to be placed inSynopsys India Pvt. Ltd. with a package of 13 LPA. A bright student throughout her career, Anubha was one of the finalists in the HACKATHON of IEDC (2019) launched by National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), DST and Government of India. She had been recognized as the Best CR in 2017 beforebecoming the Secretary Generalof Silicon Students'Council for the session 2019-20. Anubha happens to be the first female Secretary General in Silicon and the first woman to become the Secretary of the Entrepreneurship Development Cell in 2019. She was awarded as an outstanding volunteer for the events conducted for Entrepreneurship Fest 2019.

#ETCampusStar2019-20

The Economic Times Campus Stars is an initiative for recognising and rewarding India's most promising engineering students. This initiative is meant to identify, encourage and nurture young engineers who will be driving the growth of this country as they join the corporate bandwagon. The program administers a combination of online and on-ground assessment tools culminating in face-to-face interactions with the eminent Jury (CXOs of the corporate world) who decide the final list of bright talent that qualify to the coveted list of ET Campus Stars.

The third edition of ET Campus Stars was launched in September 2019. The four-phase program received 49,000+ registrations from 2000 + colleges across India of which 104 students were selected for the list of ET Campus Stars Class 2019-20. Some of the eminent CXOs in the jury panel were Mr. Alok Ohrie, President and Managing Director, Dell Technologies India; Mr. Kishore Jayaraman, President, Rolls-Royce India and South Asia; Mr. Shailender Kumar, Managing Director, Oracle India; Mr.Avelo Roy, Managing Director, Kolkata Ventures; Mr. Harish Kohli, President & Managing Director, AcerIndia; Mr. Sharad Agarwal, Head Lamborghini India and Mr.Pradeep Menon, MD & Group CTO, HSBC.

The Phase 3 round was held on 8th Feb 2020. 4 Siliconites - MuskanGoel (4th year, CSE), Samapika Nayak - (4th year, ECE), Abhishek Kaushik (3rd year, CSE) and Utsab Kumar Agrawal (3rd year, CSE) qualified this round and were shortlisted for the final round viz., Phase 4 – Meet the Jury.

Out of these 4 students, Abhishek Kaushik (3rd year, CSE) qualified to the coveted list of ET Campus Stars 2019-20 to make Silicon proud. *Abhishek is one of the 104 ET Campus Stars selected from across India and he is one of the 5 students selected from Odisha.*

#AWSEducateStudentAmbassador

The AWS Educate Student Ambassador Program provides student leaders from around the world the opportunity to gain real life experience while helping their peers gain valuable Amazon Web Services (AWS) technical skills to develop successful cloud careers

AWS Educate Student Ambassadors will receive a host of benefits that will help them gain the professional skills needed for today's competitive job market. They will have access to AWS experts through regular webinars and guest talks. They will influence

AWS products and marketing, receive mentorship and career advice from AWS employees, and hone their professional skills by participating in speaking and training opportunities.

Throughout the academic year, AWS Educate Student Ambassadors also support AWS related activities on campus, such as delivering presentations, identifying student-led start-ups, and participating in hackathons.

AWS Educate Student Ambassadors are selected annually and represent a diverse group of students.

Through a competitive process that showcased member (student) academic and extracurricular accomplishments, the selected inaugural group comprised of 326 members from over 50 countries and more than 250 higher education institutions.

Soumit Das (1st year, CSE) has made Silicon proud by being selected as one of the 326 AWS Student ambassadors from across the globe. He is one of 72 student ambassadors selected from India. Only 2 students from Odisha got selected in this program and Soumit is one of them.

#HackathonWinners

Hackathons and different technical project competitions have become very popular these days. Students participating in these events get a unique learning experience. They get an opportunity to learn new skills, hone existing skills, meet people in the industry, and potentially build a new product, software, or to solve the problems related to various issues in a particular field. During this lockdown period too, Siliconites participated

in different Hackathons/technical competitions in online mode with great zeal.

Team APOLLO – Rajat Patti (1st year, CSE), Sabyasachi Datta(1st year, EEE) were selected for the final round of Hack for COVID-19 (Online Hackathon) conducted by Idea Innovation Cell, VSSUT, Burla from 2nd April to17th April 2020.

Team JCODER – SumeetNaik (1st year, CSE), S.K Arsad Akhtar (1st year, CSE) and Nishikanta Ray (1st year, ECE) were in the top 10 positions in Healthcare in DevHack conducted by DSC KIIT from 26th April to 3rd May 2020.

Team Wizards - Nitesh kumar (3rd year, EEE), Deepak Kumar Sharma (3rd year, EEE), Dibyarupa Jena (2nd year, EEE) and Anurag Gupta (3rd year, CSE) secured top 10 positions in an online Hackathon organized by Hotel Jini - a start- up company in Bhubaneswar from 2nd May to 4th May 2020.

Team Wizards – Nitesh kumar (3rd year, EEE), Deepak Kumar Sharma (3rd year, EEE), Dibyarupa Jena (2nd year, EEE), Upasana Mishra (2nd year, CSE) and Truptimayee Sahu (1st year, ECE) received Special Jury Award in Resurrect 2020 organized by Guru Nanak Institute of Technology, Kolkata from 12th May to 13th May 2020.

INDUSTRY INTERFACE CELL

Despite the prolonged lockdown period and all its odds, the Industry Interface Cell has continued with its regular activities with minimum disruption. Internship/internship-cum-placement drives, summer internships for autonomous batch students, skilling programs for pre-final year students were some of the activities which were conducted.

Placement Highlights

Synopsys India Pvt. Ltd., a core VLSI company that is No. 3 in the world in the area of CAD VLSIconducted a placement drive from 3rd April 2020 to 8th April 2020 - just in the beginning of the lockdown period. Advanced VLSI Lab of Silicon along with II Cell played a major role in preparing the students by quickly arranging preparatory technical sessions by industry experts and facilitating mock interviews. 5 students were shortlisted for the interview phase, which comprised of 3 rounds of online interviews. Finally, two students – Anubha Snehal (ECE) and Subhra Sutapa Mohapatra (ECE) from the 2020 graduating batch – were selected with a 13 LPA package.

Spikewell India Private Limited (a fully owned subsidiary of Spikewell LLC, USA) conducted an online written test followed by an interview on 18th and 19th April 2020. 12 students from the 2021 graduating batch got selected for internship.

Summer 2020 Internship Program

The II Cell designs summer internship programs with the help of industry veterans/experts working in different domains with a wide knowledge of industry challenges/solutions and in-house specialists, for better skilling and early identification of tracks/specialization which thereby would lead to better employment opportunity. These internship programs are well structured with supervised learning experiences that allow a student to gain valuable application based experience in his/her chosen field of study.

A total of 16 internship programs were offered across various domains like Programming, VLSI, Data Science, Cyber Security, IoT, Machine Learning, Entrepreneurship and Digital Marketing. The internship along with all its components as per the program design – viz., classroom sessions, lab sessions, mini-projects, group discussions, presentations and review sessions - was conducted in the online mode. 850+ students from the 1st year, 2nd year & 3rd year participated in this month-long program, from 25th May to 20th Jun 2020. All the programs along with its components were successfully completed except for a few programs like Machine Learning using MATLAB, IoT System Design and Development using Raspberry Pi, Electronics Circuit Design and Real-time Applications where the students need to physically work with the hardware components in the lab.

The II Cell team along with the Industry experts, in-house specialists and the students worked together for the seamless execution of this program.
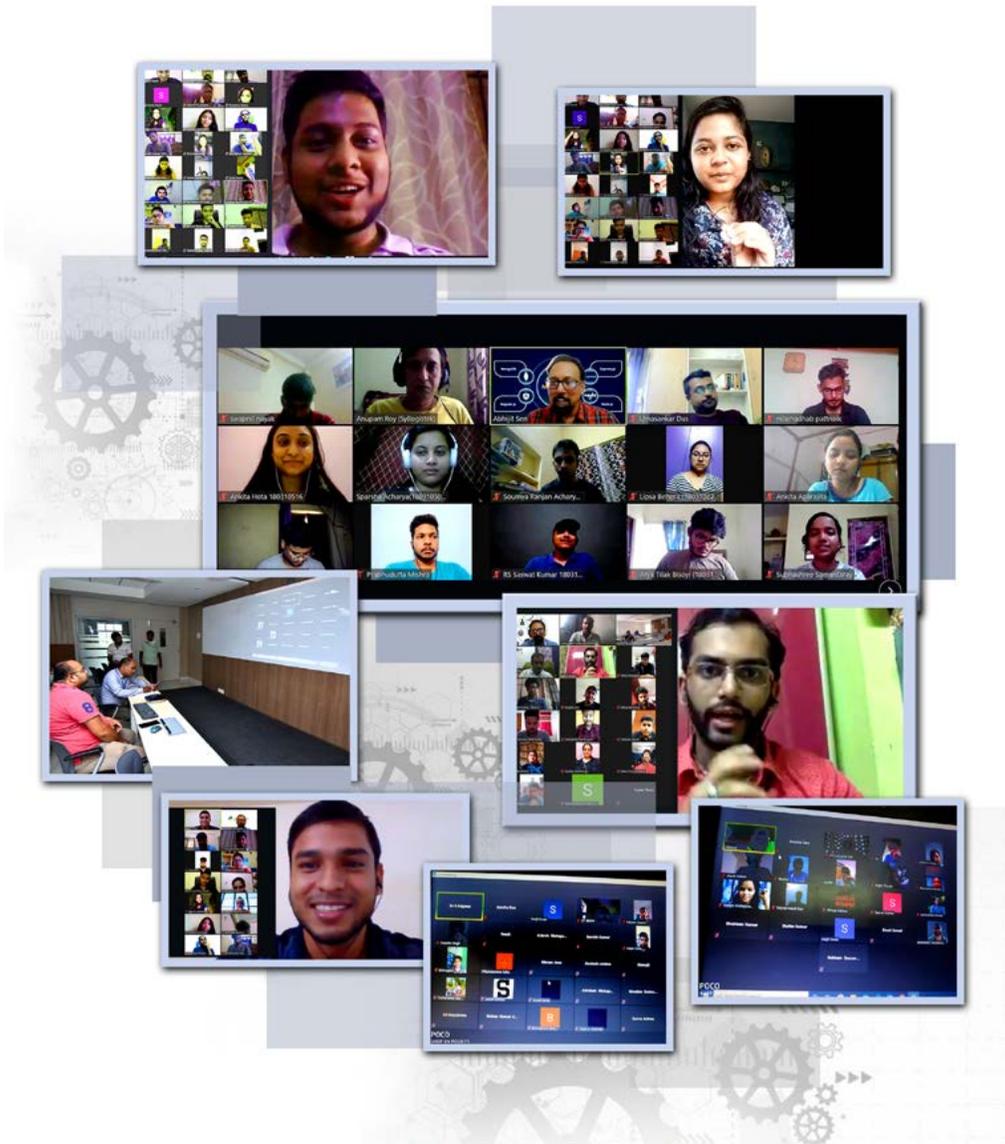
Upskilling Programs

Skilling courses in Python Programming and DBMS were conducted for the pre-final year students in the month of May and June 2020, so as to enhance their placement preparedness. Around 80+ students joined in these programs.

A 3-month course on 'Foundation of VLSI Design' was launched by our VLSI CoE in collaboration with VLSI Expert Pvt. Ltd - one of the industry experts in this domain from Noida, so as to enable our students to be industry ready for some of the most demanding VLSI jobs in the country. 42 interested students from across 2nd, 3rd and 4th year participated in this program.

QUARINTERN DIARIES

The COVID-19 outbreak – with its lockdowns and shutdowns, social distancing rules and companies mostly working in Work From Home mode, has thrown the schedule and plans of undergraduate internships into total disarray. However, some students made the best utilization of their time by doing Work From Home (WFH) internships even amidst this crisis.

Common problems such as network connectivity, lack of warmth of a face-to-face interaction with the team, procuring hardware equipment during lockdown, unavailability of software, incompatibility of software on personal computers, and distractions of an informal setting could not deter them from continuing their online internship.

KUNAL PANY
Data Science Intern @ Spikewell
(CSE- 3rd Year)

Project: The project was to build a Dynamic, Robust, Real Time, P2P oriented, End to End encrypted, and interactive AR integrated video conferencing solution capable of running on modern vanilla browsers (Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, etc.) without any additional client-side plugins/download. It is to be used primarily in the Healthcare sector.

Internship Experience: Interning at Spikewell has imparted me with cross-domain skills and qualities, providing me with greater knowledge and understanding of the Industry that I am interested in getting into. It has especially enabled me to apply the ideas and concepts I learnt in class.

Learning Curve: Change from the environment of college to workplace was associated with a steep learning curve.The theoretical knowledge I gained from college was good for concepts but not in the practical scenario. Most of the tools I knew were outdated.I had to learn time management, understand deadline management, improve my skillsets as well as equip myself with many modern tools and techniques.

Message to Other Students: Focus on being proficient in what you know by applying it to practical real-life situations, explore ideas and blogs, do mini projects. Focus on Data Structures, Algorithms, Dynamic Pogramming, Web Services & Programming Language (One High Level & One Low level). In the industry you will be judged only on your performance.

SATYABRATA DAS
Data Science Intern @ COZENTUS
(MCA 2nd Year)

Project: I am working on Demand Analytics and Supply Chain Management Optimization based on Warehouse Management System. In this project, we are working on forecasting order demand precisely on categorical types of order.

Internship Experience: Working with professionals in creating optimized solutions for challenging problems is a great experience. This virtual internship is a completely new experience for me. My mentor is very helpful and I am enjoying learning new things.

Message to other students: Data Science is not a type of coding subject which can be learnt overnight. There are so many phases to reach the final phase. Statistics, Probability, Regression are some basic topics needed to learn Data Science. Programming knowledge in either Python or R is required. Both mathematical and programming knowledge helps to grow faster in this field. Completing a good project will help you the best to get into good MNCs.

ARYAN SHARMA
Mobile App Intern @ COZENTUS
(EEE-3rd Year)

Project: I am working on a project related to building a hybrid app for iOS and Android, from designing to development. The App will work as a channel between members of any organization or team where people will be able to fathom their team members' disposition, appreciate them and will get to know about their team's changing temperament. Ionic and Angular frameworks are being used to develop this App. The project duration is of three months.

Internship Experience: As an intern, I find this internship a great opportunity to enhance my skills and learn to adapt to industry level requirements. I am having a great experience working with the Cozentus team. My mentor also teaches us key concepts and patterns to improve in this field. I am working on a new, challenging technology which is helping me upgrade my skills.

Message to other students: Students must realize that the current situation is not under our control. I suggest everyone to utilize this time to sharpen their skill sets. Because, once situation comes back to the 'new normal', competition is going to be really tough.

NAVIN CHANDRA
Data Science Intern @ COZENTUS
(CSE- 3rd Year)

Project: I am working on Demand Analytics and Supply Chain Management Optimization. In this project, we are trying to predict the future demand of certain category of products which will help in effective and efficient planning.

Internship Experience: I am enjoying working as an intern in Cozentus. My mentor is very friendly and supportive and is always available to help. He briefed us about the project and provided all the essential material to read and get better understanding of the industry.

Message to other students: The first and foremost thing that I'll be suggesting to other students is to strengthen their analytical skills in Statistics, Linear Algebra etc. Then, one should learn to implement them using any programming language and test their knowledge. Before applying for a job or internship, the final step should be to complete a number of projects in the field of Data Science go gain practical experience.

SWAPNIL JENA
IOT Intern @ SPIKEWELL
(ECE- 3rd Year)

Project: My project is related to Indoor Location tracking system and local message passing over Bluetooth Low Energy in a mesh network for a hospital. Our main deliverable is an android app that will be able to track the location of a particular asset in an indoor setting and also pass encrypted messages to other nodes in a Bluetooth-connected Mesh Network.

Internship Experience: This was quite a different experience from a generic internship. After completing training, we were given projects based on Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things and Point of Sale system. We were given weekly tasks; weekly meetings were conducted to clarify doubts. In a nutshell, it was a very informative journey for a curious mind like me where I got to learn android application development and working on Bluetooth Low Energy devices.

Message to students: My message to all those students reading this would be to never stop growing. If you want to learn something new, the internet is your best friend, though guidance is always better. Always believe that you have a lot to learn and prepare yourselves to survive in this world despite all odds.

ALUMNI IN FOCUS

Dr. Biswajita is currently working as an Assistant Professor of Marketing in the Department of Management Studies at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. Besides teaching and research, she loves doing Yoga. She is a certified Yoga teacher. She was placed at TCS through campus recruitment drive of Silicon and worked as a System Engineer at TCS Kolkata for 4 years. She has completed FPM (Fellow Program in Management) at IIM, Ahmedabad. She received Best Paper Award at the 25th Convention of National Academy of Psychology, 2016. She is a proud recipient of Prof. Tirath Gupta Memorial Award for Best Thesis at IIM, Ahmedabad in 2018.

DR. BISWAJITA PARIDA
Assistant Professor, IIT Delhi | B.Tech. (AIE) 2004-2008

Mr. Sunil Sharma is currently working as a Senior Technical Architect at Capgemini, Bangalore. He has around 15 years of experience in design, development, implementation and testing of IT solutions. During his stint in the IT industry, he has led many roles and travelled to many countries like Germany, UK, Singapore, Switzerland, South Africa, and Qatar for his work assignments. He is an AWS Certified Solutions Architect Associate (2018) and a certified SAFe® 4 Agilist. He has received many accolades like Oracle Project Leader Award in 2012 (Oracle SSI), Certificate of Appreciation (Account Satisfaction) in 2013 for covering the bid support, technical solution, estimates, project kickoff, WCS training, design and project team support, commitment, dedication and attitude towards customer centric approach, Certificate of Appreciation for in-depth knowledge around WCS, contribution towards success of the project and technical mentorship in shaping up a sizeable WCS expert team in 2014.

SUNIL SHARMA
Senior Manager, Capgemini, Bangalore
MCA, 2001-2004

Ms. Subhasree hails from Bhubaneswar, Odisha. She was one of the first batch of engineering graduates from Silicon in the year 2005. She was placed in Accenture during the campus recruitment drive at Silicon and has been working there for the past 15 years. Currently, she is working as a Technology Architect Manager at Accenture in Houston, Texas, USA. She leads a huge team, delivering quality data migration solutions. She is also part of an assets building at Accenture for data migration functionalities like Conversion/Profiling/Cleansing/Analysis. She has worked for clients across domains like Banking, Manufacturing, Pharma, Oil and Gas Industries.

SUBHASREE PATTNAIK
Technology Architect Manager at Accenture, Houston, USA | B.Tech. (EEE) 2001-2005

Ms. Khushboo, a Software Engineer at Google, Bengaluru, has always been very passionate about coding since her engineering days at Silicon. She had got placement offers from both TCS and Infosys, while at Silicon. In Silicon, she also published 2 research papers under the able guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Debabrata Kar (currently our Dean, Academics), one of which received the 'Best Paper Award' in its track at CAST-2016 at the College of Engineering, Pune. After qualifying GATE, she joined M. Tech (CSE) at IIT Bombay and continued research work for the next 2 years. At IIT Bombay campus placements, she got the opportunity to work with Nasdaq - World's Second Largest Stock Exchange Company. Her passion for coding helped her win the Company's Site-level Hackathon. She worked with Nasdaq for around 2 years, after which she joined Google.

KHUSHBOO AGARWAL
Software Engineer, Google, Bangalore
B.Tech. (CSE) 2012-2016

Alumni Buzz

Siddhartha Shankar Pany (B.Tech. AEI, 2004-2008) mentored the students of the Summer 2020 Internship Program on Machine Learning and Applications. He was involved in the course designing, content distribution and simulation. He shared his expert views on learning algorithms and its usage in real time application such as implementation of linear regression algorithm using steepest descent gradient in fitting a linear model for given datasets, use of logistic regression technique to segregate students into pass or fail category based on their marks and finally using k-mean clustering concept to cluster the data sets into subclusters. All the algorithms were implemented using MATLAB (R2019b) with given real-time data sets. The programme ensured dissemination of fundamental nuances of the subject into curious minds of budding technocrats. *Siddhartha is an Instrumentation engineer, currently working as Scientific Officer at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai.*

Silicon Alumni Give Back

In these challenging times, our alumni have also been involved in many activities to provide relief and support to those who have been adversely affected by the pandemic. Be it through social work, teaching yoga and meditation, helping stray animals or helping in the educational process to the mass, they have done their bit in this endeavour.

Sabyasachi Mishra (Batch 2006), currently an Ollywood cine star, has offered assistance to stranded Odia migrant workers in different states, arranging transport, hospitalization, ration and monetary help for them leading to a people's movement in the last 4 months. He arranged to carry the body of a migrant worker, whose distraught family had sought his help to bring their deceased kin home from Dubai. He has also contributed INR 1 lakh to the CM Relief Fund.

Ayush Agrawal (Batch 2013), Founder and CEO at Lecture Notes provided services of his platform to three Government colleges of Odisha and helped them to transition their teaching delivery process to the digital mode amidst the lock down. Over 1000 online classes were conducted in the three government colleges viz., CET Bhubaneswar, PMEC Berhampur and GCEK Keonjhar on LectureNotes platform. The students benefitted a lot from these online live sessions and continuous engagements.

chose to engineer a new pathway in the service to humankind. The Soul foundation has ever since worked for the underprivileged children providing them with nutritious food, clothes and help in education. Recently this group has extended their services in the combat against COVID-19. They have been providing masks, sanitizers, and even sanitary napkins to the under privileged areas. Moreover, hundreds of children have been looked after by them. These children were encouraged to discover their hidden talents by participating in various events and competitions.

In the wake of the ongoing pandemic, the plight of the helpless stray animals, deprived of food, came to the notice of Anubha. **Anubha Sourya Sarangi (Batch 2014)**, an Ollywood Cine star, joined hands with an NGO called Animal Welfare Trust Ekamra (AWTE) to do her bit in feeding these stray animals. Now a lot of people are volunteering for being a part of this cause.

Under the aegis of **Satyabrata Samal (Batch 2017)**, a team of Siliconites launched a social service initiative named the Soul Foundation. It came into being during September 2019 to look beyond the conventional dimensions of service. They

As the saying goes, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others", one of our Silicon Alumni- **Sabhya Soni (Batch 2015)**, has clearly lived this experience. Sabhya is a yoga and meditation enthusiast. She organized 15+ Art of Living Sessions on Yoga and Meditation over the last four months of lockdown. Being an Art of Living instructor by the blessings of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravishankarji, she has been rigorously working towards bringing a smile on everyone's face.