

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) All India Student Congress (AISC) 2013

Proceedings and Event Report

3/10/2013 (Thursday) - 6/10/2013

Prepared by the IEEE AISC 2013 Organizing Committee
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore

I ntroduction

Advancing humanity for technology.

These words have been the pillars for the rise of technology and innovation initiatives under the world-wide network of our professional, non-profit organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the vibes have now entered India. Spearheaded by the IEEE India Council and hosted by IEEE Madras Section, the All India Student Congress 2013, brought together young IEEE student and professional members for a series of interacting and networking opportunities, launched at the Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore.

Keeping this in mind, the Organizing Committee of the IEEE AISC 2013 brought forth an array of thought-provoking talks and interactive sessions to cater to the all round development of an IEEE Student Member - i.e. in technical knowledge, leadership, entrepreneurship, life skills and so on, through this year's congress.

330 select student delegates from 80 institutions across the country spanning over 8 states were selected to attend this invite-only event. The fourth day catered to the raising of awareness and involvement into the two key IEEE societies namely, IEEE Computer Society and IEEE Power and Energy Society. The main IEEE Society event is the Innovative Projects Showcase where 33 projects have been short-listed from numerous submissions across the nation.

Spanning over three days, the congress promised to be an informative and engaging experience for all its attendees. The first three days elucidated the various dimensions of IEEE and its host of functionalities, along with a number of leadership and professional events. This included talks from some of the top brass in the IEEE, such as Dr. M. Ponnaivaiko, Chairman, IEEE India Council, Mr. Harish Mysore, Director, IEEE India Operations, Dr. Preethi Bajaj, Vice-Chair, IEEE India Council Student Activities Committee, Mr. T.S. Rangarajan, Chairman, IEEE Madras Section, Mr. Barnabas Muthu, Chair, IEEE India Student Activities Committee (SAC) and Mr. Anand Balu, Chair, IEEE Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technologies (SIGHT). Some of the top industry and academic speakers include Dr. C R Muthukrishnan, Former Deputy Director, IIT Madras, Mr. Vineeth Vijayaraghavan, Founder & Editor, Panchabuta, Ms. Priya Kuber, Managing Director, Arduino India and Mr. B. Damodaran, Consultant, Randstad India Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Vijay Anand, CEO, The Startup Centre.

The congress on the whole intended to provide impetus for its participants to observe, assimilate and learn from many inspiring sessions and thereby evolve as better leaders for taking on the challenges ahead. It also provided a unique opportunity for students from various disciplines and institutions to interact and exchange ideas and hence benefit mutually.

P

roceedings of the IEEE AISC 2013

Day 1, 3rd October 2013

The events for the day began on an auspicious note with the delegates participating in the Lighting-of-the-Lamp Ceremony overseen by the dignitaries. Mr. Barnabas Muthu welcomed the dignitaries namely Dr. Ponnaivaiko, Chairman, IEEE India Council, Dr. Preethi Bajaj, Vice-Chair, IEEE India Council SAC, Prof. K. Gangadharan, Chairman - IT, Amrita School of Engineering, Dr. C R Muthukrishnan, Former Deputy Director, IIT Madras, Mr. TS Rangarajan, Chairman, IEEE Madras Section, Prof. Prashanth Nair, Vice-Chair, IT, Amrita School of Engineering and others for the event.

This was followed by talks from each of the above dignitaries where they all stressed on the importance of IEEE and the AISC.

Dr. Ponnaivaiko's talk on the need for reinforcement of IEEE's Code of Ethics and the need to advance learning methodologies was welcomed by the student community. It was in this talk that a spot-on proposal for a C V Raman Innovative Product Award was declared to the Congress upon request from several students.

The inaugural keynote lecture titled You - The Next Gen Leaders was delivered by Dr. C R Muthukrishnan, Former Deputy Director, IIT Madras, where he also spoke on the importance of advances in computing systems and bio-nano-computing. His talk focussed on the importance of technological leadership among engineers of today and the need for innovation in the field of computing.

A networking session and a tea break followed the talk where students engaged in conversations with the dignitaries.

The following session by Mr. Vijay Anand, CEO, The Start Up Centre was on the topic "Why is it the best time in India" where Mr. Vijay discussed the various challenges and opportunities involved in mentoring start ups with several crowd-pulling real-life examples and success stories.

Following this talk was the networking lunch where IEEE Student Delegates from various Sections across India interacted with each other.

The post-lunch sessions started with the Elite Panel Discussion with Dr. M. Ponnaivaiko, Dr. Preeti Bajaj, Mr. TS Rangarajan and Dr. N Kumarappan where several important topics, challenges and issues with regard to the direction of IEEE in India both at the national as well as sectional levels were discussed. Delegates raised several important questions to which the top officials of IEEE India Council directly answered.

Followed by a networking tea, IEEE Region 10 Representative Mr. Pasan Pethiyagode and Mr. Jerry Althaf, Chair, Industry Relations, IEEE Kerala Section spoke on Student Networking,

Membership Retention and Industry and Training Initiatives which was well received by the Student Delegates.

Following this, the Multi-cultural evening was conducted where the host, Amrita University presented their cultural programs. The dinner was followed by the Awards Night where Regional and Sectional Awards were presented to the respective delegates and the proceedings of Day1 came to a close.

Day 2, 4th October 2013

The 2nd day of the AISC 2013 began with a distinguished talk about open-source microcontroller boards by none other than Ms. Priya Kuber, Director, Arduino India. Ms. Priya's talk on how this innovation has shaped the world of prototyping and technology learning was inspiring to all the delegates. The students raised questions on the various uses of open-source prototyping and on how they could utilize these tools to learn engineering better.

This was followed by a thrilling session on career opportunities by Dr. Damodaran, Consultant, Ranstaad Group, India and a talk by Mr. Harish Mysore on IEEE Standards and their importance in today's technological contributions by IEEE. Dr. Damodaran's talk highlighted the need for students to be prepared both mentally and intellectually to handle various interviews and career changes. His talk also highlighted important to dos by students such as having their emotional quotient tested and so on.

Mr. Jery Althaf, IEEE GOLD Member, interacted with the students on the Industrial Relations and Training Initiatives by IEEE. He spoke on how important internships and industry projects are for recent and final year engineering students.

This was followed by the M V Chauhan Paper Presentation Contest where Dr. Preethi Bajaj reviewed the presentations of the winning paper entries and awarded the prizes to the top two presentations.

Following lunch, was the session on Women in Engineering by Dr. Ramalatha and her WIE Team who interacted with the students, especially the women engineers on technological leadership, cultivation of qualities to be a true engineer under IEEE.

To follow suit was Mr. Ranjit R Nair's talk on the activities and importance of the Teachers In Service Program (TISP) and also its vision at large. With this, the day came to a close followed by the multi-cultural evening and dinner for the delegates of the congress.

Day 3, 5th October 2013

The day started off with a special session by Mr. Vineeth Vijayaraghavan, Founding-Editor, Panchabuta on Social Entrepreneurship. With the rise in the number of small enterprises into the market, most of them revolving around the concept social entrepreneurship, Mr. Vineeth's

talk highlighted several important stats and facts about how one could prepare himself/herself to become a social entrepreneur. Key highlights on the support provided by the Government towards starting social enterprises and also areas of interest for social entrepreneurs were shared in this session.

This talk was followed by a webinar where Mr. Jaison A Sabu spoke on the various awards, opportunities and recognition within the IEEE. Followed by a networking tea was the session on IEEE Xtreme by Mr. Sinan Alsheikh, IEEE Xtreme Lead 2013.

The next session, was by Dr. Gopakumar, Vice-Chair, Information Management of the IEEE MGA Committee who shared with the delegates his experience of having worked with information systems both at IEEE and at ISRO and of how they have transformed the way we perceive technology today. His nostalgic talk brought to memories some of the oldest technologies used to build India's base in telecommunications and was well received by the student delegates.

Following the networking lunch, the session was handled by Mr. Anoop Teja, HCL Infosystems on the importance of Virtual and practical learning and by Mr. Ramesh Rajesh, Solarillion Foundation on being an Engineer for Change.

The day came to a close with the valediction ceremony overseen by Mr. HR Mohan, Associate Vice-President, Systems, Hindu and by Mr. Prashanth R Nair.

The congress came to a grand finish and the delegates were briefed about the upcoming events in the IEEE India Network.
