

INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2015

Acumen ECE is the annual technical symposium of *Vasavi College of Engineering, Ibrahimbagh* organised by the *Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)*. **Acumen ECE – 2015** was held on *March 7th, 2015* with '*Youth, Technology, Future*' as its motto. The students belonging to the 3rd and 4th years took the social initiative of '**Inspire and Ignite**' (introduced in the year 2014) forward by conducting technical workshops and cultural activities for the 8th-grade students of *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi* – a government school for the underprivileged.

The *Inspire and Ignite* team had increased its base to over 10 students who divided themselves into groups and shared different responsibilities – contacting the school management, managing transport of the young students from the school to the college and vice-versa, conducting technical workshops, offering career-counselling, mentoring the students and helping them in various Science projects, training them in different dance forms (*Kuchipudi, Freestyle, Mass and Bollywood*), and taking arts-and-crafts classes. After a month of training and different sessions of counselling, the students were taken to the college to participate in the events of *Acumen ECE – 2015*. A *Project Expo* was specially organised for these students to display and present their projects to the various teachers and undergraduate students from other colleges across the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. A poster presentation event was conducted for these children to present their ideas on topics like '*Ozone Layer Depletion*', '*Types of Motors*' and other Scientific topics based on their choice. The 2nd year students of ECE counselled these children about the various career choices available, and the specific preparation they would require to achieve their career goals. A complete department-tour introduced them to the concepts of *Electronics and Communication*, thus making them realise the role this field plays in advance technology. Last but not least, a cultural fete was arranged for these talented students to give dance and singing performances in front of a huge audience.

Inspire and Ignite – 2015 advanced the legacy introduced by the alumni in 2014 by expanding the horizons of these underprivileged, yet multifaceted students through its policy – of the students, by the students, and for the students.

V. Krishna Mohan

INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2016

Acumen ECE is the annual technical festival of *Vasavi College of Engineering, Ibrahimbagh* organised by the *Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)*. **Acumen ECE – 2016** was held on *February 27th, 2016*. As part of this yearly symposium, the students of the ECE Department kick-started the '**Inspire and Ignite**' initiative with a widened base of around 20 students belonging to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th years. In addition to *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi*, these students extended their collaboration towards *Government Boys School, Langar House*.

Multiple technical workshops, career-guidance sessions, and art, music and dance classes were conducted for the curious and enthusiastic 8th-grade students of the two aforementioned schools. The students of the *Inspire and Ignite team* divided themselves based on the following departments – permission and transport, project guidance, career-counselling, arts and crafts, dance and music. Based on a systematic schedule, the members of each department trained the students of these two government schools in their respective fields of choice during any two weekdays and also the weekend for a period of one month. On the day of *Acumen*, these students were taken to the college campus to showcase what they had learnt in the one-month period. A Project Expo was organised for these young students to demonstrate and present their innovative projects like *Magnetic Crane* and *Water-level Indicator*. The poster presentation event gave an opportunity to these students to explain their views on current trending technical topics. The 2nd year students of the college conducted a career-guidance session for these young children, by introducing them to various career options, and also providing details on how to pursue a career of their choice. The event ended with a grand performance by these students who danced to the tunes of popular Telugu and Hindi songs.

The *Inspire and Ignite team* successfully extended its collaboration with two government schools for the underprivileged, thus nurturing and cultivating the seed of sharing knowledge in the brilliant minds of these young scientists, while promulgating the importance of all-round development for success in any field.

V. Kishor Moha

INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2014

Acumen ECE, one of the biggest annual technical fests of the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, is organised by the *Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE), Vasavi College of Engineering*. It provides a dynamic learning environment characterised by change, activity and progress designed to meet the needs of all budding engineers while challenging them to enhance existing skills, interests and understandings, as well as meaningfully build new ones. The motto of **Acumen ECE – 2014** was '*Youth, Technology, Future*' which asserts that the future of technology lies in the hands of youth. Taking this idea forward, two students – *Amarnadh* and *Prudhvi* came up with a noble initiative called '**Inspire and Ignite**' to train and counsel young students (typically belonging to government schools) into becoming the future face of technology. The students began this social project with the 8th-grade pupils of *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi* – a government school for the underprivileged.

This initiative, with a vision to *inspire* the future citizens of India towards all-round development and to *ignite* their creativity in coming up with novel solutions to current everyday problems, gained momentum in its initial stages itself – where students belonging to 3rd and 4th years personally trained these young students every weekend on the trending topics of technology and also various arts like dance and crafts for a period of 1 month. The *Inspire and Ignite team* also encouraged and mentored these students to build innovative projects like *Desk-cleaning Robot* and *Spiderbot*. On the day of the fest (4th January, 2014), these projects were showcased in the *Project Expo* at the college campus where the students not only displayed, but also presented their projects to various teachers as well as students from other colleges. The team also gave a department-tour to these young students, thus introducing them to the world of '*Electronics and Communication*'. A fun gala was arranged for these students to give a dance performance and also to exhibit their craftwork.

Believing in the saying, "*Knowledge shared is knowledge squared*", students of the department of ECE successfully propagated the 2014 motto – '*Youth, Technology, Future*' and also the importance of well-rounded development to these pioneers of future India. The novelty of the initiative along with the socio-economic benefits to these underprivileged children contributed to the unparalleled success of the event.

