

## INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2019

**Acumen ECE**, an annual technical fair organised by the *Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)* of *Vasavi College of Engineering, Ibrahimbagh* provides a platform for engineers to implement their innovative ideas in the form of enthralling events and also to challenge their existing knowledge by participating in various activities like the neoteric *Product Expo* and *Project Expo*. **Acumen ECE – 2019** was held on *March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019*. The motto of the fest was '*Re-imagine the world*'. In light of this motto, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> year students revolutionized the 'Inspire and Ignite' initiative to be in concurrence with the most recent technological advancements. In addition to this, the students expanded the base to a total of 150 students from *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi* and *Government Boys School, Langar House*.

The *Inspire and Ignite* team of 15 active members conducted weekly workshops on today's most relevant technologies like *Internet of Things (IoT) using Arduino* for the students of the aforementioned schools. These students were also constantly encouraged and guided to come up with their own ideas for solutions to everyday problems using IoT. These brilliant minds came up with projects like *Smart Garbage System* and *Voice-controlled Wheelchair* that bear socio-economic benefits to society. These projects were exhibited in the *Project expo* on the day of *Acumen* where the students demonstrated the working as well formally presented them to teachers and college-going students from various colleges and institutions from all over the state of *Telangana*. The students were also given a career-counselling session by the 2<sup>nd</sup> year students who helped these young children self-evaluate their skills and aptitude, form realistic career goals, and also guide them on how to pursue these goals. Additionally, various other interactive self-development workshops on public speaking and overall personality development were conducted every week in the month of *February*. The students were also trained in different dance forms like *Kuchipudi, Mass, Bollywood* and *Freestyle*. A cultural programme was organised for these students to exhibit their singing and dancing skills. They were also given an opportunity to showcase their craftwork in the *Arts and Craft Exhibition* arranged by the *Inspire and Ignite Team*.

*Inspire and Ignite – 2019* was a one-of-a-kind initiative that adopted many changes to keep in pace with the ever-changing and always-growing technology-driven world. The team successfully pulled off this unprecedented initiative through high standard technical and personality development workshops.

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## INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2018

**Acumen ECE**, a mega-technical extravaganza organised by the *Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)* of *Vasavi College of Engineering, Ibrahimbagh* gives the upcoming engineers a platform to showcase their practical prowess through novel events like *Electronic Scary House* and *Laser Maze*. **Acumen ECE – 2018** was held on *March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018*. As part of this annual festival, the students of the ECE Department gave impetus to the '**Inspire and Ignite – 2018**' initiative with a team of over 20 students belonging to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years. These students continued their collaboration with the students of *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi* and *Government Boys School, Langar House*.

Staying true to the **Acumen ECE – 2018** tagline – '*Curiosity triggered, Creativity Amplified*', the *Inspire and Ignite team* conducted weekly technical workshops and trained the students in various fields like public speaking, dance, music, and arts and crafts. In addition to this, the girl-students were made to learn Karate for self-defence. The *Project Expo team* encouraged these young students to come up with innovative project ideas and guided them in developing a working prototype for the same. These project models were then displayed in the *Project Expo* at the college campus, where the students were allowed to demonstrate and present their projects to teachers and students from various other colleges from all across Telangana. An exhibition was arranged to exhibit the innovative arts and crafts projects done by these artists. A career-guidance session was conducted by the students of 2<sup>nd</sup> year to assist these young individuals in exploring career options that cater to their aptitude and goals, and also to inform them on how to pursue their dream jobs. The one-day technical symposium ended with a dance performance by these multitalented students who captivated the audience through their graceful moves and fitting expressions.

The *Inspire and Ignite – 2018* initiative was fuelled by enthusiastic leaders who in turn aimed to create young leaders out of these curious students, thus shaping a bright future for them in the ever-changing world of advanced technology. This year saw an increase in the number of members in the Inspire and Ignite team as well as a dramatic growth in the number of students from the aforementioned government schools who were part of this social cause.

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### INSPIRE AND IGNITE – 2017

Every year, Vasavi College of Engineering acts host to a 3-day fest. It is a result of nearly a year-long effort and collaboration between students of all the branches with help from the faculty and the management. The first day of this fest is allotted to “**Acumen**”, a proud display of technological innovations and innovative projects made by the students. This was possible not only because of a free and conducive environment provided to the students to dream and create, but also because of the right exposure provided to them to create such projects. The students of the ECE Department realized that if the same conditions were provided to the inquisitive and imaginative minds of children, it would spark great interest in them for science and technology. The *Inspire and Ignite team* decided to give back to the community by letting children from government schools benefit from this opportunity under the initiative “**Inspire and Ignite**” held as part of **Acumen ECE** since 2014. Initially starting out with only a few student volunteers, the workforce now has grown to over 20 members this year. Students from *Telangana Social Welfare School, Narsingi*, as well as *Government Boys School, Langar House* were invited over this year again due to the tremendous interest they showed in previous visits.

- As always, technical workshops, career-guidance sessions, and art, music and dance classes were conducted for the students. The volunteers divided themselves into different groups based on their areas of interest. These volunteers then went on to teach the students in their respective fields for two weekdays and the weekends over a period of one month.
- One notable difference this year was the improvement of the schedules of teaching. Due to feedback from the children that certain classes ended too soon and that some areas weren't given enough attention, the schedule was revamped to suit these needs, now possible due to the increase in the workforce.
- As usual, on the day of Acumen, a *Project Expo* was organised for these young students to showcase what they had learnt and how they implemented it. Projects like *Syringe-Based-Crane* and *Cycle-Chain-Driven-Pumps* were few of the exceptional projects presented by the students.
- Many children had several interests but did not know what fields of study would cater to these interests. Hence, career-counselling sessions were

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held to clear-up these doubts with student volunteers as well as the professors giving necessary suggestions and advice to the children.

- The event ended with the now customary and much awaited dance performance by these children to popular jingles.

As the saying goes, "If you have the spark of knowledge, let others light their candles in it." With the same sentiment as their motivation, the students running "*Inspire and Ignite*" work harder every year to share and teach all that they can to these children. Owing to the children's undying curiosity and interest, they absorb all that has been offered and implement it in ingenuous ways never thought possible before. Thanks to the support of the college and faculty, this year was a success beyond expectations. However, irrespective of the level of success or the number of children turning up, the students are ever ready to inspire learning and ignite its flame, even if there's only one child thirsting to share its light.