

Oculus- Annual Techno Cultural Festival

The Annual College Festival of Sardar Patel Institute of Technology, was held on the 18th, 19th and 20th of January 2019. This year the Student Council decided to amalgamate the very important aspects of what S.P.I.T. believes in, Culture, fun and Technology. This year the annual College festival was coined "Oculus", the perfect blend of technology fun and culture. The three days long Techno-Cultural event was all set to take things to a greater level this year.



The Techno-Cultural festival Started its journey with an inauguration function that took place at SPIT entrance right after the classes. All Students, Faculty and staff members gathered near the college entrance. The Event began on a high note in the form of 'Flash mob' by team Oculus, the precursor for the three days journey to come. Our Principal, Dr. Prachi Gharpure inaugurated the first edition of Oculus and joined the team for a small dance and shared her thoughts and expectation from the team. Encouraging the team members, Chairperson, Anukrit Jain took over the mike and shared his vision and joy that was threaded in reality by all of his team member. Sound of drones flying over and students cheering the inauguration was just highlight for what was stored in coming days.

Inauguration was followed by Oculus's very first Cultural event "SARGAM". As the name suggests, Sargam was an intercollege singing competition at Oculus 2019, where the very best singers from all over Mumbai gathered to showcase their talent. There were two categories namely solo and duet. The top 12 solo and top 5 duet contestants cleared the auditions to go through to the finals. The event took place in the Quadrangle which was filled to the brim with excited students eager to glimpse what Oculus had in store for them, Sargam being the opening event. After much deliberation, the judges Rae Valentine and Bharatt-Saurabh awarded the first prize in solo to Rishabh Giri from Bhavans College whose powerful performance of 'Bulleya' had the audience singing along. While Kaustubh Patil and Parth Ghaisas from Sathaye college bagged the first position in the duet category by singing an enthralling version of 'Khwaja Mere Khwaja' which touched everyone's hearts.



On the 18th of January at 7:30pm, SPIT stood witness to one of the most awaited dance competitions of the year- the war of branches. With Azain Jaffer and Siddhesh Pai compering, the event started off. A bustling crowd gathered in the quadrangle, eagerly waiting for their branches to put their best foot forward. One branch after the other went with their spectacular performances. There was nothing to stop them, starting with the formation was MCA with the theme of love and emotions, followed by an enthralling performance put up by the students of the EXTC branch showing the best of memes going around, next on stage were students from IT performing with great energy and engaging the crowd right till the end. This was succeeded by ETRX performing the crowd favorite Bollywood theme. The final act was of the COMPS branch who kept the entertainment going for everyone, thus concluding an incredible set of performances.

Judging these zealous performances were Harshita Taparia, a skillful dancer, who won the Mumbai University trophy for folk dancing and Chinmay Khedekar, a contemporary dancer. With their expertise, they contemplated and conclusively decided that from all the fantastic performances, IT was the winner. The quadrangle was resounding with celebration, as the students danced the night away in the subsequent DJ night.



On second and third day of the Annual Techno-Cultural Festival SPIT Campus saw the most amazing and spectacular Events put up for all participants. With bright, colourful decor the campus was shining and attracting all the crowd to participate who step the foot in the campus. The two days witnessed the various Technical, Fun and Cultural Events.

Technical Events

Project Exhibition:

To foster innovations which hold the potential of revolution, Oculus hosted the national level 'Project Exhibition', organized by IETE and FETS. Around 90 participants from different colleges delineated and demonstrated their projects and prototypes ranging from IoT to AI. The event witnessed the line-up of models solving daily life problems, saving drudgery, and way up to the products for sustainable development.

The projects were judged by the panel of Dr. Surendra Singh Rathod (Dean Academics, SPIT), Mr. Bhavin Kamdar (Co-Founder of Embedos Engineering) and Prof Vijaya Kamble (EXTC Dept, SPIT). The team of Aakash Salunke, Ashley Samkutty and Trilok Sawant (St Francis Institute of Technology) grabbed the first prize for their 'Project Blue', a solar air-water purifier.

The team was one of the most experienced participants, with 11 patents on their name. 'Temperature controller using PLC and SCADA' by Ajay Upadhyay and team (SPIT), and 'Smart Irrigation System' by Nirmal Attarde and team (Government Polytechnic, Mumbai) were awarded 1st and 2nd Runner-ups respectively. 'Waterless portable toilet' by Pratik Bhagat (NICMAR, Nasik) which was also demonstrated in Kumbh Mela won a special mention. In short, the Project Exhibition precisely showed how engineers turn tech, problems, and ideas into innovations.

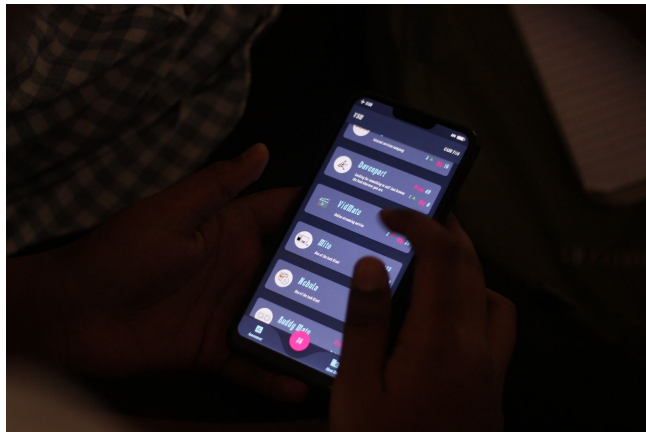
Codatron – Cook up Code !



Problem-solving is a crucial skill that can only be imbibed through practice and Codatron was just the quintessential platform for the same. Put together by a very talented team of 8 SEs, together called 'The Eight Bits' this event consisted of 83 participants from all branches; it was an event for all. The participants were from colleges like VJTI, DJ, RJIT, etc along with our college. The first round comprised of 5 challenges with a 3-hour time limit with questions of varying levels of difficulty. This was only for the experienced seniors i.e. the SEs, TEs, and BEs. After three hours of intense coding, Abdullah Aslam from LR Tiwari COE bagged the 1st prize while Vivek Chauhan and Ritwik Jog from VJTI stood second and third respectively.

VSM (Virtual Stock Market)

The mega event which attracted a total of 392 participants over two days of the fest and the themes and the storyline was a huge hit among the “investors”. The event, designed to emulate a stock exchange system continued its tradition to teach the functioning of the stock market in an innovative way. A team of 9 second-year students continuously strived to make the event a smooth experience. The stocks were transacted within a limited time per round using an app developed by the team themselves.



The theme consisted of a timeline based story where the stocks were derived from fictional companies/entities following Oculus' theme, GenZ. The jackpot on day 1 went to Sarika and Rohit from FE Comps who stood first, Ebrahim and Jainam, FE Comps, 2nd place and Yash & Deep who stood 3rd. A whopping 12.5k cash was awarded to the team who stood first. The 2nd and 3rd place teams got 7.5k and 5k cash respectively. Winners earned a total of 50k cash on both days along with vouchers worth 75k.



The organizers at the end of the fest rejoiced at the resonating success of the event.

On the second day, Darshan Biyani, SE ETRX won the first prize while Ishwar and Parth from SE Comps stood 2nd. Hrishikesh and Rajat stood at the 3rd place.

Game of Codes : CSI SPIT Hackathon (Pre Event)

Following tradition, CSI SPIT organized the annual SPIT **Hackathon** as a pre event to the techno-cultural fest of SPIT- Oculus 2019. 35 teams from over 13 cities across the country participated in the event. It was one of the biggest student body organized events SPIT has witnessed. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Priyanka Allen of Larsen and Turbo Infotech and SPIT's very own Dr. Prachi Gharpure.

Blockchain, an upcoming technology, served as the basis for the problem statements for the hackathon. Blockchain technology is a database where data is shared across a network of computers and is secured using cryptography which can consequently only be changed by authorized people. Xin-fin, the sponsor for the hackathon, also held a workshop on block chain a week before the event. Coding began with immense enthusiasm at 11 am on the 5th of January and maintained its vigor for the next 24 hours. The participants were provided with mentors for any guidance they needed throughout the course of the hackathon.

The final judging round was followed by a short oration by Mr. Ritesh Kakkad, the co-founder of Xinfin. He unveiled the potential of Blockchain technology and announced the top 10 teams. These teams then gave a final pitch to secure a place in the top three. Tathagat Thapiyal, Ansh Gujral and Tanmay Bhatnagar from Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala stood first with cash prizes worth 60,000. Finishing second were Riken Gala, Aadit Kachalia, Rohan Kalantri and Apurva Dani from Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering, Mumbai. The third place was bagged by Kyle Lobo, Calden Rodrigues, Pratz Nerurkar and John Anand Abraham from Don Bosco Institute of Technology, Mumbai.

Adding to the success of the event, Amarinder Singh, the Chief Minister of Punjab, took to twitter and congratulated the winners of the Hackathon. The CSI committee was extremely pleased with the response, and also hopes to host such events in the future.



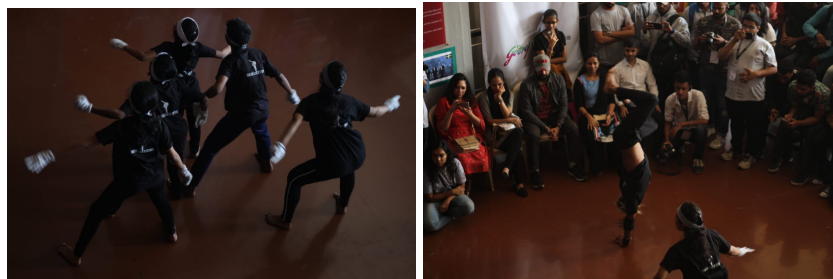
Cultural Events

CARNIVAL

The first image that forms in the mind when one hears Carnival is a parade of people dressed in larger-than-life costumes promenading along the streets filled with cheering people. The Carnival at Oculus 2019, though a fashion show, was nevertheless a window to the street-celebrations. Seven teams from colleges across Mumbai competed in a bid to win the title of Les Fashionistas Ultime. The themes ranged from societal topics like 'Gender Equality', 'Royal Indian Heritage', and 'Dark Side of the Soul' to the more abstract topics 'Black & White' and 'Dreams'.

The crowd cheered as the participants walked down the runway, stopping with sensational poses. What garb would normally seem absurd in public melded perfectly with the drama of the show. Despite rich themes and unfaltering performances, there was room only for the best at the top. VIT bagged the first position, an astonishing cash prize of ₹20,000, with its theme, 'Throne of Birds'. While the theme, 'The LGBTQ Community' showcased by Tolani College received the second prize as well as the Best Theme award.

STREET DANCE



What do you get when you call seven dance crews around the city and pit them against each other in a no-rules, open-ground, battle-to-win competition? You get breathtaking performances, awestruck audiences, and a spectacular show reminiscent of a Step Up movie. The first round was a group performance, where each crew performed to the beats of the music and the claps of the crowd. This was followed by a face-off, where the teams were pit head-on against each other. The atmosphere grew tense as each performance bested the other. Two teams headed for the Finale, which was again a face-off. After jaw-dropping performances by both the teams and an ensuing suspense-filled period, the judges (The Tuttix Dance Crew) declared the 'Fauji Crew' as the winners, while the 'Khadihood' were the runners-up.

AELAAN-E-JUNG

One of the most anticipated events of Oculus, Aelaan-E-Jung certainly met all the expectations. Nine teams from colleges all over Mumbai came to SPIT on Sunday afternoon to show their best moves on the stage of this dance competition which took place at the Quadrangle. Each team came up with graceful performances which left the audience spellbound. The crowd hooted as the dancers showcased different styles of dancing, leaving people awestruck. Pooja Nayak, who was an instructor

with renowned choreographer Shiamak Davar was called to judge Aelaan-E-Jung. All the teams put up a tough fight and picking the best was quite a task. But at the end, the team from V.E.S.I.T. emerged victorious.



Fun Events

With all the flagship events dominating Oculus, it was time to lighten things up with a mash-up of these fun events. We hope you got to enjoy them as much as we did !

Human Foosball :



Ever since we saw Joey and Chandler place bets over foosball in F.R.I.E.N.D.S we have been dying to play the game. Human Foosball satisfied this craving of every fan or otherwise with a unique twist: you now played the role of a foosman inside a giant foos table.

Teams consisting of 5 members went leg-to-leg against each other to score the most goals. A roar of cheers could be heard when the YouTube teams the TimeLiners competed against FilterCopy. To keep the waiting teams engaged two side events: back-heel and AIM were kept which also drew sizeable crowds.

FUN FIESTA:



Fun fiesta was a mixed bag of mini-games where you were guaranteed to find one matching your niche.

For the selfie kings and queens, there was **Pico-O-Mania**, which asked the participants to roam around the campus and click photos with the places in the given clues.

For the die-hard fans, there was **Fandom Quiz**, where Game of Thrones, Friends, football, Sacred Games and Harry Potter fans could battle for the ultimate prize. The face-off round which required zapping quick answers got the participants on fire!

For the sports people, there was **Dizzy Football**, where the participants spun around the ball 10 times and then hit the goal. Better said than done!

Blindfold Pictionary tested the guessing & drawing skills of the participants, but with eyes closed!

HOGATHON:

Hogathon, one of the most anticipated events of Oculus was back, with enthusiastic participants from different colleges ready to gorge on food and to take home the title of “the greatest foodie of all”.

For the first round, Domino's pizza was on the menu, as students discovered new ways of fitting an entire slice in their mouths to beat the clock. The second round was a hysterical sight to see, for the contenders tried to wolf down a pastry and noodles, but with a catch: no hands allowed. The final round was every street food fanatic's dream: all you can eat Pav Bhaji.

With people cheering on from the sidelines, the finalists tried to do their best to down as many pavs as they could. Dhyneshwar from FE IT emerged the winner by consuming a whopping 24 pavs to beat them all.

ZORBING:

The latest addition to the extravaganza of events was the exciting game of Zorbing, which aimed for the entrants to let loose and just have fun. A good break from the heavily competitive events, Zorbing was a game of wrestling, while being inside a zorbing orb, with the goal to be the last man standing, literally.



Students clashed with their friends to win bragging rights, with an added bonus of watching their friends topple and roll over in the giant balls. Vrinda Bhatu from SE IT and Omkar Varudkar from FE ETRX bagged the first place in the girls and boys category respectively.

IPL AUCTION:

One of the flagship fun events of the fest was the IPL Auction, an interactive game where players in teams of four, were given the chance to put their knowledge of cricket in a battle to win attractive prizes. It was held on 19th and 20th of January in various slots in the Seminar Hall of the institute, with the grand finale being reserved for the final day. Participants had to install an application on their smartphones which allowed them to take control of the bidding war and put together the team of their dreams in their pursuit of winning the famed IPL Trophy. Each player had a predetermined number of credits assigned to them and the team having the most credits, in the end, was deemed to be the champion. Prizes worth Rs.15000 were given out to various winners.

After hours of bidding, Deepak Yadav, Pravesh Ganwani, Ayush Gosar, and Luv Gupta emerged as the champions.

LAN GAMING:

While the IPL Auction was taking place, the room next to it was hosting one of the most positively reviewed events, LAN Gaming. The lights were dimmed and RGB colors were allowed to flash all over the room truly encompassing the spirit of competitive gaming. Participants had to compete in some of the most popular games right now, namely FIFA 19, Counter-Strike 1.6 and PUBG.

There were attractive prizes kept ready for all the gamers who emerged victorious after hours of strenuous gaming filled with emotion and excitement. The experience was truly one to be remembered and the gamers were eager to be a part of the event next year as well

Oculus Cube Open



Such is the case with the Rubik's Cube. With over 43 quintillion permutations, it took even Ernő Rubik, the inventor, 30 days to come up with a solution for the regular 3×3 cube. With a goal to bring together cubers throughout the community, Oculus hosted Oculus Cube Open, organized by Cubenama.

The event saw 157 people from various colleges throughout the city gather at one place to Speedcube. The event included several categories like 2x2x2 to 7x7x7 cubes along with Pyraminx and Skewb. The other categories included solving the 3x3x3 cube with feet or with only one hand.

Each category consisted of around 1 or 2 rounds followed by the semi-finals and the finals where the players were required to solve the cube 5 times in each round. The players with the best average time advanced to the next rounds and competed for the first place.

Records and Winners

The event also witnessed some continental and national records being set among various categories. In the 2x2x2 category, the most noteworthy records were created by Advay Sant who set a continental record with an average solve time of 1.31 seconds while Nikhil Soares set a national record with a best of 0.66 seconds. Mohammed Aiman Koli and Aniket Das both achieved national records in 3x3x3 with feet and Pyraminx category respectively.

The first place in the 3x3x3 category was bagged by Nikhil Soares while Aamir Saiffee won in the 4x4x4 category. Aman Bhutani came first in both the 5x5x5 and 6x6x6 categories while Aarav Gandhi won the 7x7x7 competition. Bhargav Narasimhan and Aniket Das won the 3x3x3 with one hand and Skewb categories respectively.

Human Library -



Everyday we come across people from various walks of life. At times some of these people leave a massive impression on us. The Human Library event was quintessentially tailor-made for that. The 'books' at the human library were people from unusual walks of life with a unique story to tell. The type which we rarely meet in our day to day life. The books at the HLM shared awe-inspiring anecdotes which left the audience touched as well as intrigued. A total of five books were hosted. The subjects of the books ranged from sexuality and gender enlightenment to a rags-to-riches story. Broaching sensitive subjects, the stories were heart-rending and struck a chord with those watching. Suffice to say, there was a lot to hear and learn from, for the audience present.

Youtubers- Meet and Greet-



The two guests invited for this event were Viraj Ghelani and Ambrish Verma, from runaway hit Youtube channels, Filtercopy and Timeliners. They were called upon to meet and interact with their fans. Many of the students were massive followers of the said channels and were starstruck when they came face-to-face with the Youtubers. Rest assured they had a great time interacting with their virtual world favourites. The interaction ranged from the students expressing their pleasure over meeting the Youtubers, to knowing the secret to creating a superhit Youtube channel. The stars of the virtual world stayed true to their nature, and were cool enough to also play human foosball at the adjoining playground, thereby leaving an indelible mark in everyone's hearts with their gesture.

Liminal AR VR



As one entered the college it was impossible to miss the curious sight of people punching in the air with headgear on them. That was the place where the AR VR experience was delivered. It was a one of kind feeling to see things in the augmented and virtual reality which is usually not a daily happening for any of us. There were games and movies which the players could choose from, a rather exquisite collection to experiment with.

Literary Event – Jam



Good at winning arguments and insulting your friends? Might as well make some money out of it. With an aspiration to stimulate the oratory skills of students and provoke creative thinking, Oculus 2019 organized 'Just A Minute'

A panel of 6 participants was required to talk on a given topic for 60 seconds without repeating strong words or getting tongue-tied. The JAM master, Pranav Nambiar, challenged the participants with some out of the box topics they couldn't possibly have prepared for.

JAM this year was won by Vatsal Shah, NCP. He was followed by Yash Wagle from Jai Hind College. The third place was shared by Shaima Sheikh and Yashraj Mehra from Jai Hind College.

Under the leadership of the JAM Master Pranav Nambiar, the two day event gained a lot of participants and set the bar very high for its next edition.

Needless to say, JAM provided the ideal platform for public speaking blended with witty humour, effectively contributing to the success of Oculus 2019.

S.P.I.T. MUN 2019



Great opportunities seldom come without us seeking them but such a rarity became a reality on the 12th and 13th of January this year. With the motto 'Listen. Speak. Resolve.', the sixth edition of the annual Model United Nations Conference of Sardar Patel Institute Of Technology was conducted as a pre event to the official techno-cultural fest of SPIT- Oculus 2019. Over 130 students participated from colleges across the country which is the highest number recorded since the inception of the event 6 years back.



The committees this year included the Human Rights Council (HRC), the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), the Security Council (SC) and the Lok Sabha. The United Nations Security Council under the presidentship of Jemin Shah, took up the agenda of Denuclearization of DPRK post Panmunjom Declaration and peace talks in 2018. The UNHRC, led by Vatsalya Mishra and Saral Uttamani aimed at eliminating xenophobia and related intolerance. The Lok Sabha, presided over by the speaker Ishaan Joshi, discussed the DNA technology of the Regulation Bill, 2018. Finally, the DISEC, under Chairperson Apurva Singha, witnessed the youngest of debaters voice their views on the prevention and acquisition of nuclear technology and material by non state actors. The Press Corps ensured that the world knew about the proceedings of these committees.

The second day was dedicated to consolidating all the solutions suggested on day one. It was on this day that the formulation of draft resolution was undertaken. The more powerful blocs in each committee succeeded in making a draft resolution and in convincing the other delegates to vote in its favour. "This was my first MUN experience and SPIT MUN has set the bar quite high for the other MUNs to follow," said the delegate of Equatorial Guinea, UNSC.

The strenuous day two was followed by a closing ceremony where the hard work of the delegates was appreciated through various laurels. Mrs. Shweta Shalini, advisor to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, graced the ceremony with her presence. The award for the Best Delegate was won by the delegates of DPRK (UNSC), Cameroon (UNHRC), Pakistan (DISEC) and Parliamentarian Narendra Modi (Lok Sabha). High commendation was received by the delegates of USA and RoK (UNSC), Iraq and South Africa (UNHRC), Australia (DISEC) and the parliamentarians Dr. Harshavardhan and Mrs. Sushma Swaraj.

Pronites

Bringing day two of Oculus to a perfect close, the Anthracite took on the smokey stage. The group gave tribute to one of our most beloved bands Linkin Park. The symphony of the instruments reverberated in the quadrangle as everyone cheered them on, waving with their flashlights turned on. As the sun went down the glimmering lights livened up the atmosphere students lived the moment immersing in the performance.



To add to the excitement of end of last day was great performance by Amit Mishra and Illuminati as a part of day 3 Pronite.

A very special act, one that literally set the podium alight. Performing before the ecstatic crowd was the group Illuminati, former contestants of India's got Talent. Adorned in glowing body suits equipped with LED lights, the group put up a mesmerizing performance that had the crowd screaming for more. It couldn't be as it was now time for the most awaited performance of the night.

As the musician took on the stage a huge roar from the crowd beckoned him to sing his signature track, "Bulleya". The atmosphere at the quadrangle was electric as Mr. Mishra belted out hit after hit

before the frenetic audience. The students dancing and singing into the night, Oculus 2019 finished on a powerful note, one that will resonate for years to come.



End of Day three was filled with all kinds of emotions. Core team was proud and enthralled by their members who put up such an amazing show throughout these three days. Students were mesmerised by the great event the team Oculus put up for them. The happiness and joy of success was echoing in the quadrangle which got multiplied 10 times when in the closing ceremony principal ma'am Dr. Prachi Gharpure expressed how proud and delighted she feels by looking at the hard work done by the entire Oculus team and Student Council.

The Student Council appreciates and recognises the efforts of the entire Oculus Core Team ably led by the Chairperson, Anukrit Jain and Vice Chairpersons Ahmed Shaikh, Vaibhav Bagri, Azain Jaffer and Anushree Kulai.