Message from Chair, IEEE Pune Section

Dear Members,

We are happy to announce PuneCon 2018, the flagship event of IEEE Pune Section. It will be hosted by Symbiosis International University. The conference dates are being finalized and the event will happen around Nov/early Dec. The theme for the conference is "Data Science and Analytics". Look forward to your active contribution and support to make this event a grand success.

In early March, myself and Dr Rajesh Ingle participated in the Region 10 Conference held in Langkawi, Malaysia. It was a good opportunity to connect with the Region 10 office bearers, IEEE President, other HQ Execs, India Council members and other participants. One of the concerns highlighted by R10 Director was about sustainability of student branches with zero or very few members; we are working on addressing this issue. I am glad to inform that Dr Deepak Mathur from our India Council has been nominated as a candidate for R10 Director Elect for 2019-20.

A Special Interest Goup (SIG) on Affordable Agriculture has been formed under IEEE Pune Section with a view to encourage engineering college students to take up Agritech projects. Students will be groomed to understand farming community’s problems with empathy and help solve such problems using frugal and inter-disciplinary digital solutions. This is a collaborative effort with TCS Digital Farming initiative, Pune Agriculture College, Bhau Institute (COEP) and few engineering colleges in Pune.

Our section has provided support to TCS in its thought leadership effort of proposing a new curriculum on Computer Science and Business Systems in line with Industry 4.0. This is being piloted in 3 colleges across India and BVU COE from Pune is one of them.

Our Execom team focused on streamlining the operations of the section which included the section website, various operational processes, member updates & reporting. We want to nurture the Section Website as a single source of all information about the section activities. Would encourage you to visit the website frequently and share your valuable feedback with us. Our objective is to create a foundation for further growth and all round maturity of the section.

To ensure that all student branches are active, vibrant and have good membership numbers, we have selected the new SSR (Section Student Representatives) and co SSRs. Our student activity chair, Prof Mane along with the SSRs will start connecting with the new office bearers with a view to sustain momentum in the active branches, reviving some of the inactive branches and enroll few new branches. I wish to encourage all our professional members to volunteer efforts related to our student branches as well as our young professional activities.

We are also doing a membership drive for increasing the number of professional members. Current members are requested to leverage their valuable connections to enrol new members into the section. Also we would welcome new ideas on engaging professional members in a sustained manner. We will be hosting the India Council Execom in June 2018 at Pune.

Look forward to sustaining the momentum in the next quarter with active support from all you.

Best regards,

Dinanath Kholkar
Chair, IEEE Pune Section

Editor’s Note

Dear IEEE members,

It gives me immense pleasure to present the first newsletter of the year 2018...

What a terrific start we had this year!!! Last three months were entirely dedicated to contemplate, plan and initiate the line of action for the set goals towards advancement of technology for the benefit of humanity. I appeal to all of you to understand that this year is an important year in the making of YOU as a significant IEEE member and volunteer. So, to become the person you truly desire to be, set a long term goal to towards the ultimate purpose of your life and accomplish the part of set goals in 2018 along with IEEE.

This year, the main focus would be on strengthening the student community and enhancing the industry participation in IEEE Pune Section. It is essential that we get ourselves engaged with a activities of IEEE Pune section, which is continuously working on the strategy of improvement of each member. Therefore, lets be proactive and supportive to everybody we are associated with and to the organization we are working for.

You must resolve to take at least some time to apply our skills and strengths in bringing positive difference in the community. Let’s begin The Year 2018 with PURPOSE… End it With RESULTS!!!!

Dr. Neha Sharma
Editor, IEEE Pune Section Newsletter & Publication Chair, IEEE Pune Section
TCS has come up with an Integrated Degree Program on Computer Science and Business Management. An idea of designing and implementation of industry relevant computer science curriculum for B.E/B. Tech was fully supported by IEEE Pune Section. It was presented to 29 participants which included Principals, Deans, HOD (CS) and senior faculty of reputed Engineering Colleges in Pune and their feedback on the proposed curriculum was sought. Also institutes were requested to confirm their interest in implementing the program. Dinanath Kholkar (Vice President and Global Head of Analytics & Insights, TCS), Ranjan Bandopadhyay (Vice President HR, TCS) and Asoke Dassama (Transformation and Change Management, Cognitive Business Operations, TCS) were the key people driving this initiative.

Integrated Degree Programme Workshop
4th Jan 2018 at TCS Sahyadri Park, Pune

Workshop on agriculture was organized with a purpose to develop a road map for the Initiatives towards improving the state of agriculture in collaboration with key stakeholders like IEEE Pune Section, TCS A&I and mKrishi teams, Maharashtra Grape Growers Association, Rural Relations and individual contributors as well as experts. Make agriculture a viable profession was the key focus area. The workshop focused on the need to encourage women participation at various levels in the field of agriculture, skill building and empowering farmers via technology and partnerships. Other points which were discussed are partnering with ICAR (Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi), transforming rural livelihoods through platform solutions, application of IT in Precision Agriculture was shared by Dr Khilari through various examples, identifying the scope to leverage ITIL for incident management in agriculture, development of Low Cost Instruments and Equipment’s for Agriculture Operations. There were many such vital points discussed during the workshop and total 17 participants had attended the workshop.

Agriculture Workshop
8th Jan 2018 at TCS Sahyadri Park, Pune

Curriculum Design Workshop

29th Jan 2018 at TCS Niyati Office, Pune

In continuation with the workshop on Integrated Degree Programme organized on 4th January 2018, this curriculum design workshop was organized to review the proposed course structure by the well-known experts from academia and Industry. Asoke Dassarma (Head, Transformation and Change Management, Cognitive Business Operations, TCS) was the resource person and the workshop was attended by 14 participants.

Membership Drive

30th Jan 2018 at G.H. Raisoni College of Engineering, Wagholi

A lecture was delivered by Dr. Neha Sharma on the topic ‘Benefits of IEEE Membership’. The event was coordinated by the Prof. Simran Khaini, Student Branch Counsellor of the Student Branch. There were approximately 200 students present and were highly motivated to take the membership and advance technologically.

Session on Industry 4.0

3rd Feb 2018 at TCS Niyati Office, Pune

A very powerful and informative session was conducted by Mr. Dinanath Kolkar, Chair, IEEE Pune Section and Vice President and Global Head of Analytics & Insights, Tata Consultancy Services on “Industry 4.0 – The Future of Work”. The session was mainly to prepare ourselves for continuously changing technological world. The session was attended by 50 SBCs and student members of 10 colleges.

Student Branch Counselor’s Meet

3rd Feb 2018 at TCS Niyati Office, Pune

In order to encourage the hassle free communication between Section and Student branches, a Student Total 50 participants were present in the meet and participated in the interactive discussion concerning everybody. Following points were discussed in the meet:

1. Creating a tab on IEEE Pune website for students with some areas of interest on which they can use technology as a means to impact social lives of a larger group of people. Identifying problems and then using technology to create solutions. “Work where there are problems”

2. Detailed FAQs clarifying points mostly regarding the petition for student branch formation, filling forms with correct address.

3. Creating a mechanism for event submission on website from all section stake holders

4. Frequent membership drives in all the colleges and industries and making a digital flyer which provides a mind map about how can they justify paying the membership fee and visibility on benefits.

5. Efforts towards retention of graduating students to professional members and engaging them for section activities and by organizing frequent professional and competency building programs

6. Revamping of Section website to make it more user friendly and attractive and encourage entrepreneurship activities amongst students.
Preparatory Workshop on Affordable Agriculture

29th Feb 2018 at AISSMS Institute of Information Technology, Pune

Preparatory workshop on affordable agriculture was organized towards preparation for a larger event to be hosted by the Special Interest Group (SIG) on Agriculture which is a part of IEEE. The workshop was attended by 08 participants. Following points were discussed during the workshop:

1. There was a consensus within the group regarding huge opportunities in the field of agriculture and potential for IEEE to contribute in terms of technology leverage for farming.

2. The group felt that the government’s program for doubling the farmer’s income could be a good starting point for our work.

3. There was a brief discussion around the Research & Innovation model being used at Pabal Vidnyan Ashram and the need to replicate it in other Engineering colleges.

4. Emphasis on encouraging inter-disciplinary work in engineering colleges to find solutions.

5. The group agreed on the need for exposing engineering students to domain knowledge on agriculture. For this purpose it was agreed to collaborate with the Agriculture College. It was also agreed to start small and do quality work with around 5 engineering colleges (PICT, MIT, AISSMS and College of Agriculture Engineering) for creating affordable agriculture labs or Centre of Excellence to drive innovation, in its phase 1 implementation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brij Kathuria</td>
<td>TCS</td>
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<td>Dr P B Mane</td>
<td>AISSMS</td>
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<td>Girish Khilari</td>
<td>Entrepreneur</td>
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<td>Jagdish Chaudhari</td>
<td>TCS</td>
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<td>Ms A D Shiralkar</td>
<td>AISSMS</td>
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<td>Prof Dilip Deshmukh</td>
<td>Agriculture College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Sanjivani Joglekar</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
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Event organized by Society Chapter

IEEE Signal Processing Society Chapter – Pune Section has organized a two day workshop on 'Data Science using Python' at Modern College Of Engineering’, Pune, in association with IEEE Student Branch-PES’s MCOE, Pune on 23rd and 24th March 2018. Tutors for the workshop were Anup Manekar and Omkar Kulkarni from Nitor Pvt. Ltd, Pune, India. The programme was coordinated by Dr. K.R. Joshi and Dr. R. S. Kamte.
Awards and Accolades

It gives us immense pleasure to share with you that Amol Gulhane, who is an IEEE member, COEP Alumni and Robolab CoFounder is awarded as **Innovator who changed the Startup World 2018** by Insights Success Group.

http://insightssuccess.in/robolab-technologies-a-perfect-platform-to-explore-learn-and-build-ideas/

Late Shri Pralhad Chhabria Awards – 2018

**12th Mar 2018 at I²IT, Pune**

Late Shri Pralhad P Chhabria, Founder Chairman, Finolex Group of Companies and Founder President, HOPE Foundation and Research Centre (HOPE Foundation) has been an inspiration to many. He firmly believed that the future of our country depended on two critical aspects; quality education and women empowerment. Through FAMT and I²IT, he has established a number of scholarships, assistantships and cash awards for students who have displayed academic excellence but lack the financial opportunity to pursue their dreams.

In accordance with his principles Shri Pralhad P Chhabria Awards 2018 was held on Founder’s Day, 12th March 2018 instituted by Hope Foundation and Research Centre in association with IEEE India Council, WIE Affinity group, IEEE Pune Section. There are 2 awards for the category

**Award I** is to be bestowed upon a female student who is in her final year. She should have, throughout her under-grad years, not only maintained excellent grades but have contributed to the institute, the university and/or the community.  Cash prize of Rs. 1, 25,000 and Medal.

**Award II** is to be given to woman in her early career stage and has been successfully contributing to economic development of the nation.  Cash prize of Rs. 1, 25,000 and Medal.

Receiving this award is a personal challenge and just a competition against others. It is intended to push young women to reach their full potential and achieve for themselves as well as those they are associated with. These awards will transform the lives of young women and can play a critical role in their personal and professional development.

Winners of these awards are:

**Best Outgoing Student- Ms Jayati Vijaywargiya**

Jayati Vijaywargiya is in the final year of B.Tech Computer Engineering at Mody University, College of Engineering and Technology, Madhya Pradesh.

**Best Women Engineer (professional in early career) – Dr. Soma Biswas**

Dr. Soma Biswas, Asst Professor at Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
Appointment of Section Student Representatives 2018 for IEEE Pune Section

A systematic approach was adopted for the selection of Section Student Representative. It was decided that along with the selection of Section Student Representative, two Co-Section Student Representative should be selected in order to strengthen the student network. Total eight student members were nominated by their branch counsellors. A rigorous selection procedure and multiple rounds of interview were conducted to select the Section Student Representative and two members and their names are as follows:

Section Student Representative
- Appar Thusoo, 3rd Year E&TC, International Institute of Information Technology, Pune

Co-Section Student Representative
- Alifia Sheikh, 3rd Year E&TC, VIIT Pune
- Purva Igatpuri, 3rd Year Computers, PICT

Announcement of IEEE Pune Section Awards

The IEEE Pune Section, in its attempt reach out to all its members and involve them in all its activities, is administering awards under various categories. Through its Awards Program, IEEE Pune Section shall advance the interests of its members by recognizing their contributions in advancing the fields of interest to IEEE to the benefit of society. By this means, the image and prestige of the organization, its members, and the profession are all enhanced. The IEEE Pune Section Award Program honors members and other professionals for their service to society.

The IEEE Pune Section Awards shall be awarded for contributions towards spread of technology and outstanding performance in specific fields of interest of the IEEE.

These awards may be presented annually when, in the judgment of the Awards Committee, suitable candidates / branches are available. These awards may be presented during Annual IEEE Pune Section Conference ie. PuneCon.

All the participants will be given a CERTIFICATE duly signed by the IEEE Pune Section Chair and a MEMENTO.

The categories of the awards are as follows:
- IEEE Pune Section Student Branch Counselor of the Year
- IEEE Pune Section Student Branch of the Year
- IEEE Pune Section Student Chair of the Year
- IEEE Pune Section Event of the Year by each Chapter
- IEEE Pune Section Professional Member Volunteer
- IEEE Pune Section Student Member Volunteer
- IEEE Pune Section Special Contribution
- IEEE Pune Section Innovation Award
- IEEE Pune Section Social Contribution Award
Up-Coming Events at IEEE Pune Section Level

Name of Event: Fourth International Conference on Computing Communication Control and Automation 2018 (ICCUBEA 2018)

Date: 16-18 August 2018

Venue name: Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering, Nigdi-Pradhikaran, Near Akurdi Railway Station, Pune

URL: www.iccubea.com

Last Date of Entry: 31st March, 2018

Representative Name:

Swati V. Shinde, Mobile-9226095012, Email-swaati.shinde@gmail.com
A. D. Thakare, Mobile- 9226094966, Email-adthakre2014@gmail.com

Name of Event: International Conference on Information, Communication, Engineering and Technology (ICICET 2018)

Date: 29-31 August 2018

Venue name: Zeal College of Engineering and Research, Narhe, Pune

URL: www.zcoer.in/icicet2018

Organizing Chair: Dr. Sanjay Deokar (9823141287) icicet2018@zealeducation.com

Important Dates:

Paper Submission Start Date: 15th Feb 2018
Full Paper Submission Date: 30th April 2018
Acceptance of paper Date: 15th May 2018
Camera Ready Paper Date: 15th June 2018

Call for Papers

The IEEE Punecon 2018 is conceived by IEEE Pune Section to provide a platform for academicians and practitioners to identify and explore the issues, opportunities, and solutions in the recent and cutting edge areas of science and technology.

The 1st IEEE Punecon will be an international conference on Data Science and Analytics and will be organized with the support of Symbiosis International (Deemed University) ranked amongst India’s topmost private international universities. The conference will be hosted at Symbiosis Institute of Technology, constituent of SIDU and ranked as 19th amongst the topmost emerging Engineering institutes of the country. The conference will be held at Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Lavale campus on 1st and 2nd Dec 2018.

The theme of IEEE PuneCon 2018 will revolve around Data Science and Analytics and will bring together researchers, engineers and practitioners interested in databases, big data, data mining, data management, data security involving advanced applications of data science. It encompasses wide and diverse topics of application in almost every field of business and services.

The broad topics of interest are:

- Business Intelligence
- Big data analytics
- Machine Learning
- Data and IOT
- Data Decentralization
- Predictive Modelling
- Data Structures and Data Management, Algorithms, Optimization
- Data Integrity, Privacy and Security

The conference invites papers describing methodologies, working prototypes, systems, tools and techniques and general survey papers eliciting future scope in the area of data science. Accepted papers and papers presented at the conference will be published in the conference proceedings and indexed with IEEE Xplore and Scopus. Acceptance will be based on quality, recentness and originality of the work.
Up-Coming Events at Student Branches

Student Branch Activities by International Institute of Information Technology, Pune
- National Level IEEE Women in Engineering Symposium
- Project Making Competition
- IEEE Day
- Speakers Talk (Industry/Current Technologies)
Contact Person - Shubham Dubey (+91 91467 90226) - jaialka48@gmail.com

Student Branch Activities by Vishwakarma Institute of Technology, Pune
- Open CV Workshop
- Java Workshop
- Rasberry Pi Workshop
- IoT, Big Data, Artificial Intelligence – Guest Lecture
- Web Designing Workshop
- MATLAB
- Industrial Visit

Glimpses of Activities during January to March 2018

IEEE Global Meet at Malaysia
Student Branch Counselor’s Meet on 3rd February 2018
Late Shri Pralhad Chhabria Awards – 2018

Dr. Neha Sharma, Editor, IEEE Pune Section Newsletter
nvsharma@rediffmail.com, 9923602490