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Connecting Thinkers…

Editors' Message

Dear Thinkers,

Stephen Covey in his 'Seven Habits of Highly Effective People' has mentioned 'Sharpening the Saw' as the seventh habit. He metaphorically presents how we can be ahead of our peers if we upgrade and polish our skills from time to time. For a Researcher, apart from publications one definite way of doing this would be by presenting papers in quality conferences.

One of the important aspects of the journey of research is getting the data analysis and preliminary findings validated. This can be done only when our work is presented at public platforms either in the form of publications or at conferences. In this world of blogs, podcasts, YouTube videos, webinars and a host of other platforms which give us an opportunity to sharpen our learning, presenting a paper in a conference has many advantages. The top most advantages are that by presenting our ideas to the research world we often get useful feedback and secondly, by listening to others we expand the horizons of our knowledge and understanding. Further, networking at conferences helps in getting to know other scholars working in the same field, being known in the academic circles for the work being done by you, meeting experts and forging new relationships. Papers can be presented at any stage of your research work, whether it is at the literature review stage, or the theoretical framework or the final sharing of the findings.

It is important to be cautious about selecting the conference where we present our work. What is the purpose of the conference, who are the keynote speakers and their topics, will it open-up new understanding of cutting-edge research which will help us be ahead of the curve, what is the theme and sub-themes, does it lead to publication – these are some questions that we need to answer before going ahead with the submission of papers.

On a lighter note, travelling to new places, making new friends, socializing with academia, getting away from the mundane routine of life, taking selfies with important people in the field and of course posting them on your social media pages!! are some of the other benefits of attending conferences. There is also a chance of winning the Best Paper Award, as many of you would have already discovered!!

While pushing ourselves out of the comfort zone, all these efforts make us develop the confidence to present ourselves and learn in a new space which in turn leads to improvement and incremental growth in our approach of doing things.

Inside the Issue

GUIDE'S COLUMN

Research in Engineering: Past, Present and Future

The role of conventional Technical/Engineering institutions specially meant for under-graduate education, in nurturing research culture will play a pivotal role in the developing countries of the world. In our country before the dawn of 21st century many of such institutions were focussed only on teaching, training and development of B.E and B.Tech students. Research publications and patents were in the second and third place. In some institutions located in the rural/ tier-II cities, it was minimal or totally missing. Now, there is paradigm shift in the policy of UGC and AICTE, that these institutions are also need to focus on research related activities with high quality expectation. This advocates that the faculty in an engineering / technical institution must possess the following qualities.

- ◊ Faculty must have good teaching ability
- ◊ At early stages of their career they must exhibit excellent administrative and managerial skills.
- ◊ Good at public relations
- ◊ Good at research related publications
- ◊ Must be capable of converting research into patents and products

It is rare to find all these qualities in one person. This limitation poses problems in identifying and nurturing all the above qualities in the faculty of engineering institutions. For example, a good researcher may not exhibit quality teaching abilities. Hence, the institutions have to plan ahead to create manpower which fulfils present and future requirement. The institutions have to device new methods, procedures and metrics in developing and training man power. Further, the participation of laboratory staff and technicians will become crucial, when it comes to outcomes of research experiments. This adds another dimension to the manpower requirements. It creates the necessity of hiring qualified and trained personnel. The updated technological knowhow for research and research assistants cannot be spared in this process. State government and central Governments have to design and develop special policies and programs in order to supply such manpower to the institutions.

This issue has another dimension of financial allocation for the purpose. Usually, the development of laboratories is focussed in order to train the students, which provides only basic equipments and setups and also demands low investment. Whereas, the research experimental setups are of state-of-the-art technology and requires huge investments from the government and management. Further, every institution has to have its own signature in research activities.

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Existential Struggles of Small-scale Deep-sea Fishermen

Fishing in the sea is one of the high-risk occupations, due to the long hours of work in the harsh and unpredictable weather conditions, along with the difficulty of reaching the shore when emergencies arise. Without much education and having no alternate jobs, majority of the fishermen take up fishing as a caste-based traditional profession. The recent cyclone Ockhi in December 2017 killed more than 500 fishermen in the sea and created havoc in their lives. However, every day thousands of fishermen go to the sea for their livelihood, risking their lives and placing their families at risk. With this background, an ethnographic study was undertaken to explore the lifestyle of the fishermen in terms of their existential struggles and the cause of their poverty. The study specifically focused on the realities of life struggles, meaning of life and death situations, examination of their work culture, customs and rituals, the patterns of thinking and ideas, beliefs, behaviour and knowledge.

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On 27th January 2018, I travelled with one of our PGD counselling students and four fishermen who go for deep-sea fishing from Beypore port. The team travelled 42 nautical miles (one nautical mile is equal to 1.8 kms) into the Arabian sea, in a 32 feet motorized roofless boat, that could cruise at a speed of a little above 7nm/h, to have a naturalistic observation and to understand the realities of existential struggles of fishermen at sea.

The fishing voyage started at 12.30 AM in the night and reached the fishing spot (35 nautical miles away from the shore) around 4.45 AM. Till 7 AM in the morning, the fishermen laid serial hooks to catch Tuna fish, for a distance of 7 nautical miles. Once the hooks were laid, they prepared fish curry in the boat for breakfast, along with the rice brought from home. It was time for rest and relaxation.

At around 9 AM, the fishermen started to collect the fish that were caught in the hooks and this went for over 5 hours. Once the collection of fishes was over, the return journey started at around 2.45 PM. The wind condition was tolerable and it was below 8 kms per hour. Occasionally it went up to 12 km per hour, which was still not threatening. Fresh fish curry was prepared again for lunch that was had with the old rice during the return journey. Some fishermen slept and the others cautiously led the boat and the team reached the port around 6.45 PM. The trip had a catch of fish for 36 thousand rupees.

The chain of conversations, repeated interviews and visits gave a clear picture of their unconventional concept of life and death, their preference for economic needs over survival and safety needs. It was also identified that it is not earnings, but poor budgeting that perpetuates them in poverty. Various forms of exploitation in the profession and business are overlooked by them as an unavoidable evil in the trade. The negligence of government's labour wellbeing measures makes them one of the poorly organized workforces in India.

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Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP)

Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) is the link between neurological process (neuro), language (linguistic), and behavioral patterns learnt through experiences (programming), which can be changed to accomplish the desired goals in our life. This approach was created by Richard Bandler and John Grinder in California, from the United States, in 1970.

Dimensions of NLP:

1. It is helpful in psychosomatic disorder treatments; e.g. weight loss, allergy, common cold, learning disorders etc.

2. It is a modeling tool; i.e., NLP methodology can 'model' the skills of exceptional personalities and imbibe those talents into any other person.

3. It is a powerful technique to change any habit or addiction.

Conversational hypnosis: It is the NLP technique, which can be used to build a rapport with whom we have a common interest and also with whom we strongly disagree

Science behind NLP: The speed of information produced by our sense organs is 4-10 MBPS; out of which 0.2-0.4 MBPS information goes into conscious mind and 1 MBPS goes into the subconscious mind. The brain cannot handle such a huge data. So our nervous system filters this data to utilize the relevant information. We delete, distort, generalize the information, and then thought is constructed. Every person has a unique way of what comes into the mind. This uniqueness means the same event is interpreted differently by different people.

In a nutshell, NLP is a very effective tool to have control over what happens in our brain.

Every person has a unique way of what comes into the mind. This uniqueness means the same event is interpreted differently by different people.

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Understanding Jainism in the Journey of Research

As someone not belonging to the Jain religion, my interest to understand Jainism developed during my Masters in Kannada literature followed by a diploma in Prakrit studies. While pursuing M.Phil. in Jain studies (I was the first student to this domain!), my guide motivated me to know more about Jainism. Now as a Ph.D. scholar, I find that it is a multidisciplinary as well as interdisciplinary research. As time progressed, the in-depth study about Jain philosophy, literature, art and culture made my research highly intriguing. It helped to understand the main principles of Jainism such as non-violence, tolerance and forgiveness which are very important for worldly peace and much relevant in the contemporary world. Discussions with many eminent Jain scholars were a great experience in this journey. Participation in a national conference held at Ladnu (Rajasthan) about "Engaging Jainism in Modern Issues" was quite helpful to understand the principles of Jainism in detail and how to relate it to modern issues. I also learnt more about the different aspects of Jainism when I attended an international Prakrit conference held at Shravanabelagola (Karnataka). It was an amazing experience indeed. This journey of research has inspired me a lot to know more about the subject and has made me more enthusiastic and passionate about this field.

Discussions with many eminent Jain scholars were a great experience in this journey.

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The Importance of Amplification

Often, especially in traditional circles, musicians/music critics lament that the music has changed in the last few decades, especially when it comes to amplification. One thing I hear often is that microphones/amplification has ruined an artist's ability to project and perform powerfully- "Let's remove the mic and then see how they will perform!".

I have a different view. While the music presentation has definitely altered due to amplification, there are so many more opportunities and directions to explore as an artist. When students are taught how to use a mic (or other amplification if you're an instrumentalist) instead of shunning it, there are so many more possibilities of expression and dynamics that an artist can do without worrying whether each note will be audible for the audience. With regards to classical music, audiences can now hear the quietest alap, phrased almost whispered by the artist – as well as their most powerful phrase.

It's a positive step for young artists to explore different options, use different microphones, try different processors and find an ideal tone that works for them.

In addition, for both vocalists and instrumentalists, tonal quality is probably the most important aspect of playing. As a violinist, if my tone is not alright, I've lost half the battle. It's a positive step for young artists to explore different options, use different microphones, try different processors and find an ideal tone that works for them. A better understanding of amplification will not only get a better tone, but will also enable the artist to work better with the sound engineer at a concert and get an enhanced overall sound for the concert.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
APRRN South Asia Short Course at Jain University - June 2018

The Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education, Jain University and the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) will be hosting *the first South Asia Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy* at Jain University, Bangalore The course will bring together refugee rights advocates from across South Asia to strengthen their understanding and ability to effectively advocate in the South Asian context.

Applications should be submitted by **Friday 16th March 2018**.

Find a short brochure at http://aprrn.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2018-Short-Course-Brochure_Final.pdf

Applications can be made at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOuf6_h_ljSH4vUd2Av2ggpk7ZwhD1ukjqL4FcERaPqilYHg/viewform?usp=sf_link

We encourage all interested participants from Jain University to apply for this course. For any queries related to the course or application procedure, kindly contact Dr. Priyanca Mathur Velath at *mv.priyanca@jainuniversity.ac.in.*

Highlight of All India Survey on Higher Education Report (2016-17) with respect to PhD Program in India

As per AISHE Report of 2016-17 issued on 5th January 2018, a total 28,779 students were awarded a Ph.D. level degree during 2016 out of which, 16,274 were males and 12,505 females. The maximum numbers of students out-turn was in the Science stream, followed by Social Sciences. Tami Nadu had the maximum number of Ph.Ds awarded (4,838), followed by Karnataka (3,117) and Uttar Pradesh (2,536).

There are 1,41,037 students who enrolled for Ph.D.in the year 2016-17 which is less than 0.4% of the total nunber of students enrolled. The maximum number of students are enrolled in the Sciences, followed by Engineering and Technology. The enrolment at Ph.D. level has increased from 95,425 to 1,41,037 during the period 2012-13 to 2016-17 and the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) is 8.1% during the last five years.

The maximum numbers of students out-turn was in the Science stream, followed by Social Sciences.

The share of Ph.D. students is highest in State Public Universities (33.6%) followed by Institute of National Importance (21%), Central University (14.3%) and Deemed University-Private (13.4%). Only 2.6% of the colleges run Ph.D. level programmes. In Agriculture and allied courses 22.4% of the students are opting for Ph.D. after their Post-Graduation .In Engineering and Technology courses, 15.1% of the students are opting for Ph.D. after their Master's degree. This is followed by Science in which 6.5% of the students are opting for Ph.D. and in Medical science 4.5% of the total students. Social Science has 2.1% of students opting for Ph.D. after their Master's degree in the same field.

*Source: http://aishe.gov.in/aishe/reports

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Publications and Achievements

Our Electronics Engineering Ph.D. Scholar Mr. Nagabhushana HM has filed an Indian Patent (File No: TEMP/E-1/495/2018-CHE) on 5th January 2018 under the guidance of Dr. Thangadurai N. Associate Professor and Head of the Department, ECE School of Engineering and Technology, Jain University. The innovation filed is titled *Keyhole Slot Loaded and plus Shaped Microstrip Patch Antenna for Ultra-Wideband Applications*. Along with filing, an examination request has also been submitted for the innovation on the same day.

Mr. Lokamanya Chikmath, PhD Scholar in Aerospace Engineering along with his guide Dr. B. Dattaguru, has published a paper titled "Study on Non-linear Contact Stress and Prognosis Analysis of Lug Joints with Misfits " in the Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies Vol 70 Issue 1.

Thinklet Congratulates the achievers and wishes them Good Luck for all their future endeavors!

Award of Ph.D to the following Scholars– January 2018

1. Basanagouda Ronad in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, for the thesis titled Optimum Sizing of SPV Powered Irrigation Systems Based on Field Conditions– A Case Study of Riverbed Pumpsets, under the guidance of Dr. Suresh H. Jangamsehetti

2. Kariyanna S. in Kannada, for the thesis titled Basavaraja Kattimani mattu Niranjanara Kathegala Taulanika Adhyayana, under the guidance of Dr. Manjunath.

3. Krishna Prasad Shetty in Management, for the thesis titled Ethical Dilemmas of Advertisement – Based Communication affecting the rights and preferences of Indian Consumers, under the guidance of Dr. Hari Krishna Maram.

4. Megha H. S. in Biotechnology, for the thesis titled Molecular analysis and mapping drought tolerance traits in banana, under the guidance of Dr. K.V. Ravishankar.

5. Oruan Memoye Kepeghom in Computer Science, for the thesis titled Availability and impact of ICTs in teaching and learning, under the guidance of Dr. Madhu B.K.

6. Padmaja D. S. in Sanskrit, for the thesis titled Perspective of Narratology Vedavyasa as a story teller, under the guidance of Dr. Rajani Jairam.

7. Parthipan S. in Biochemistry, for the thesis titled Identification of functional transcripts involved in fertility regulation of bull spermatozoa, under the guidance of Dr. S. Selvaraju.

8. R. V. Srinivasa Murthy in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, for the thesis titled Simulation Study of Voltage Surge Distribution in a Transformer Winding, under the guidance of Dr. Pradipkumar Dixit.

9. Ramesh Pai A. in Management, for the thesis titled An Evaluation of Institutional Support to SMEs – An Empirical Study, under the guidance of Dr. Ananthapadmanabha Achar.

10. Sanjay Kumar in Management, for the thesis titled Impact of Emotional Competency on Transformational Leadership and Organisational performance, under the guidance of Dr. K.S. Gupta.

11. Satish Tunga in Electronics Engineering, for the thesis titled Study, Exploration and Development of Efficient Algorithmic Models for Content Based Image Retrieval, under the guidance of Dr. D. Jayadevappa.

12. Somashekar L. in Biochemistry, for the thesis titled Assessing bull fertility based on seminal and sperm membrane proteins, under the guidance of Dr. J. P. Ravindra.

13. Venugopal K. in Civil Engineering, for the thesis titled Properties and applications of geopolymer masonry units, under the guidance of Dr. Radhakrishna.

" If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."
— Vincent Van Gogh

Response to Thinklet Issues

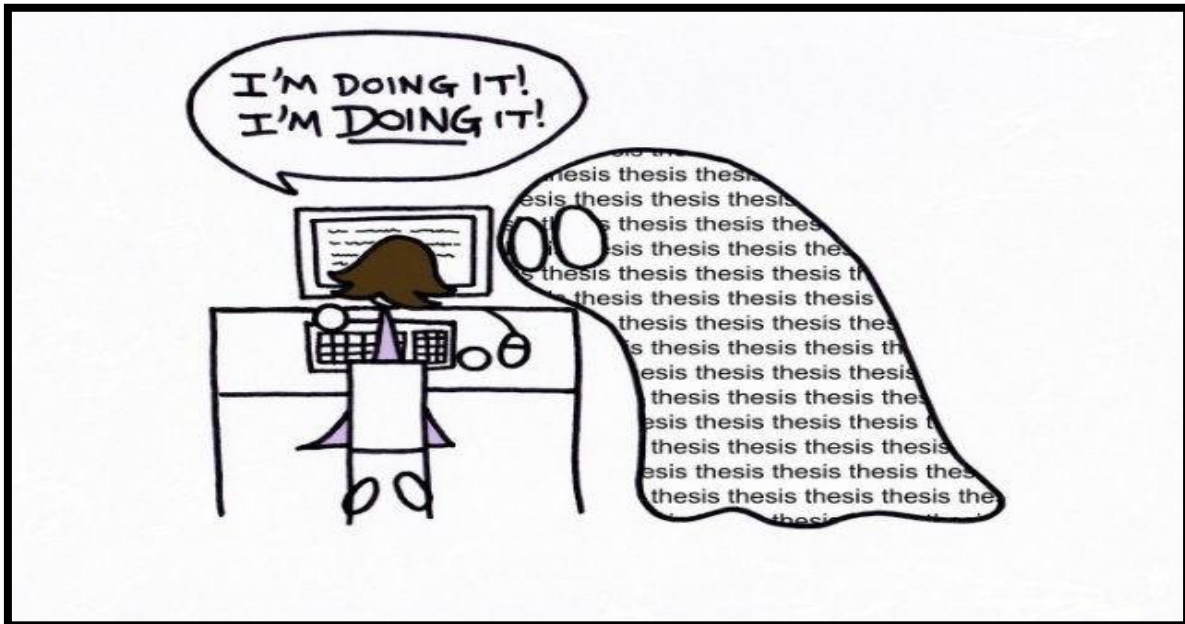*Solomon Jebaraj (Phd Scholar in Computer Science):*
'Received the Thinklet issue (for February). Really wonderful motivation from our beloved Dr. Sandeep Shastri sir'

Pranati Paheli (Phd Scholar in Management):
'This issue was personally very inspiring for me knowing the kind of research the scholars have undertaken. It was really good to know the journey of many of them.'

Deepa Nayak P (Phd Scholar in Management):
'Dear team Thinklet, it gives me immense pleasure in expressing my heartfelt emotions towards the efforts made by the team. It was indeed a good read, specially the article on the activities conducted for the new batch of research scholars. Congratulations to Jain University'

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Articles for the next issue of Thinklet should be sent by **March 20, 2018** in not more than 250 words.

Guide's Column, Special articles, and reports of conferences organized/ attended can be 400-450 words

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, E-MAIL ADDRESS AND THE KNOWLEDGE DOMAIN OF YOUR INTEREST