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SAMPADA

Your window to UVCE

Edition
139



EDITORIAL

It's already August and we have just about 4 more months before it's a new year and wow! how did 2022 come here so quickly!? Although we have 4 months to end the calendar year, its time for the academic year to end at UVCE and as each batch gets excited to move to their next year, the final year students are wrapping up—all ready to graduate!

Yes graduate! Ah, all the memories that gush as you say the word! I am sure we all have our own unique memories of college wrapped beautifully and sealed by our graduation. Each of our memories are different and each of the experiences that our batches have had are different. What different experiences you mean? Just looking around, so many things have



changed in over the last 100 years as students have studied here. The college environment, the industries, technology and so much more the list never ends have had such influences on the experiences of each of these batches (from cycles to stylish bikes, from dhotis to jeans today and much more!). Same place but the changing time affects each batch uniquely.

Well, this graduating batch has had their own share of unique experiences - pandemic student life, engineering journey with 2 years normal classes and 2 years of online classes, multiple exam postponement, conducting fests online for the first time, building camaraderie online with peers and juniors. Kudos to the graduating batch as they take a step into the industry or corporate world and join the family of UVCE Alumni!

As we speak of Alumni, it is a known fact of how Alumni form the a critical essence of namma Sampada's soul and being. These are not just mere words on paper but reality. Since the inception of Sampada in 2010, the sole reason for it to sustain almost 11 years now is because of our UVCEian alumni family that is so involved, cooperative, humble, approachable, supportive and so much more that has aided for it to be where it is today—reaching a mass of 4000+ readers. We have had a great opportunity to interact with alumni from 1950 batch to the most recent graduates, from every branch working in various fields and all with such enriching experiences, journeys and learnings. Despite the variances and diversities, one thing we have personally noticed to be common amongst all batches is the love and bond they have towards namma UVCE . We have been to reunions, get-togethers, batch anniversaries and celebrations - all occasions were different forms of one purpose - celebrating the valuable time they studied together at UVCE and the special camaraderie they share. This is the most wonderful thing for us to witness as a team and document, because generations of batches may vary but this feeling has been constant from 1950s to 2020s.

Apart from doing our best to document and share these memories, journeys and thoughts on this platform, we have trying to push ourselves further to build a platform for these groups to come together even more often. One hurdle to UVCEGA in this mission has been cooperation from college authorities which is what puts us on the side bar as compared to other college alumni groups. College authorities and alumni work hand in hand to build a better community whereas an incongruity lies between our UVCEian alumni and the college administration in managing the needs of UVCE. Our hope is to work towards bridging this gap, push more for the involvement of authorities and build a better UVCE! What we need most in this journey is your constant support to make this happen!

- Chitra S Reddy, Batch of 2016 ECE

IN CONVERSATION WITH NAVANEETHA

Team Sampada: Can you please introduce yourself to our Sampada readers?

NH: I am Navaneetha Hombali B N, an alumni of UVCE, I graduated from the Department of Civil Engineering in the year 2012. I later pursued my masters in Construction Technology and Management at University of Florida, USA. After gaining some experience in the industry and various academic institutions, I joined Department of Civil Engineering, UVCE as an assistant professor, in the year 2019.



TS: After graduating from the Civil branch at UVCE, you pursued your higher education in the US. How was your experience, and how was it different from your time in UVCE? We would like you to elaborate a bit on this point.

NH: After having studied under both the US and the Indian education systems, I opine that both education systems have their own strength and weaknesses. Honestly, an education system which can redefine a human being by imparting skills which can help in accomplishing one's dreams can be deemed a good education system, and remarkably both the American education system as well as the Indian education system manage to do that.

As per my experience, I thoroughly enjoyed the flexibility that the US education system had to offer. I have seen an engineering student who took ballet lessons to earn his credit to get his degree, similarly I have seen a student from business school take classes on robotics. This autonomy encourages students to experience different verticals and explore multi-disciplinary horizons. US universities give lot of space and freedom for young adults to define themselves. Be it sports, politics, social causes or arts, there are umpteen opportunities to explore and develop these skills. Most students also work part-time jobs which teaches them to manage their finances responsibly and learn valuable life lesson/experiences along the way.

I also appreciated the mentorship that university was offering. I was given an opportunity to socialize and build an entire support system where my mentors (which included some local business owners, professors, seniors) not only fostered me in academics but also helped with personality development and social skills.

Universities in the US have a much larger continuous assessment component compared to Indian Universities. Indian universities focus mostly on internal and external examination which may help student absorb the content being taught in that course. In the US universities, there are assignments throughout the semester, which keeps the students focused. They work through the assignments much harder as it helps them apply the concepts that they have learnt in the course. Also, the laws against plagiarism are much stricter in USA.

TS: How different is the experience of being a faculty in UVCE as opposed to being a student?

NH: It was truly surreal to stand on podium to teach in the classroom where once I sat on the opposite side as student. As a student I had few demands from my institution, as a faculty I am trying my best to meet those demands. It becomes easy for me to develop an action plan as a faculty because as a student, I already knew what were the gaps in the organization.

TS: What opportunities do Civil students have after their bachelors degree? We are aware of the fact that the majority of the students in Civil and UVCE, in general, are from rural background. What would you suggest to them to enhance their skills and knowledge?

NH: As per industry estimates, the size of India construction industry is expected to be USD 5 trillion by 2030 and contribute to 13 per cent of the country's GDP by 2025 which may sound like good news. But, every year India produces around 1.5 million civil engineering graduates, however, the country needs approximately 4 million civil engineers on an average, over the next decade, to deliver potential real estate space and planned infrastructure. There is a huge overlap in the supply and demand for civil engineers in this country. This increases competition with your other fellow engineer in landing a job. To figure out a career path. A student must ask himself these two questions:

A. What is your expectation from life being a civil engineer?

B. What is your field of interest in Civil Engineering?

If you can answer these questions, half your problems are solved.

During your final year, you can actively participate in campus placement drives and score a job in a construction company in India. There is also a huge demand for civil engineers in abroad (Middle East) which will provide an opportunity to learn and earn more. In any core branch, the undergraduate degree that you hold doesn't provide you enough theoretical or practical knowledge to have a prosperous career in that sector. The things that you have learnt in your undergrad will turn obsolete as you progress in your career, so getting masters would help. There are multiple ways you can earn your masters. If a student is interested in enrolling into IISc, IITs and NITs for their masters, one may have to take the GATE qualifying exam. If they are interested in pursuing it in abroad, one may take GRE, TOEFL, IELTS etc. If a student wants to enrol in a college within the state, one can take the PG CET qualifying exam. All the exams mentioned above would need a good amount preparation to crack. I would recommend our students to start planning this before they step into their third year as it will give them enough time to prepare for these exams.

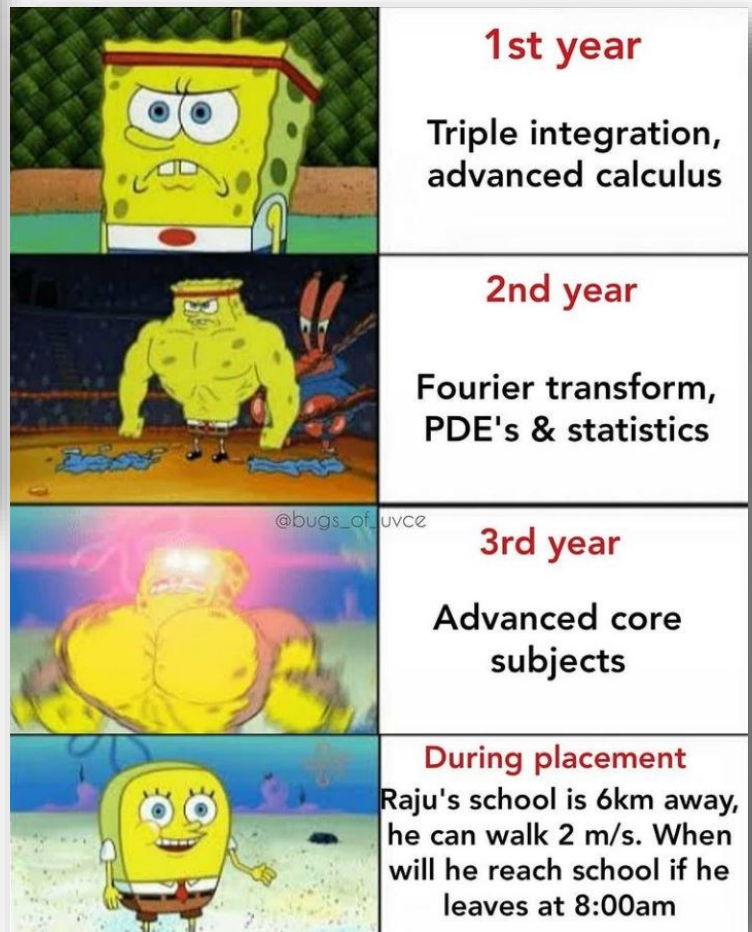
Upon qualifying GATE, candidate will be eligible to apply for jobs in PSC such as ISRO, BHEL, HAL, IOCL, GAIL, SAIL, BSNL, ONGC etc. Students can also look for govt. sector jobs by qualifying Engineering Services Examination (ESE) - this exams conducted by UPSC for the recruitment into the departments of the Central government such as Central Engineering Service (Central Public Works Dept), Indian Railway Service of Engineers, Indian Defence Service of Engineers (Military Engineer Services), Central Engineering Service Group 'A' (Roads) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Central Water Engineering Service (Central Water Commission), Border Roads Organisation (Border Road Engineering Services), Survey of India. The Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and Staff Selection Commission (SSC) are two major recruiters of civil engineering graduates. Another option that a civil engineer can explore is to obtain 'contractor in civil' license and work independently.

My personal suggestions: Amongst all branches of engineering, the range and application of civil engineering is the broadest and the most visible. Make your choice wisely. Students should not only utilize their time in university developing technical knowledge but also improve soft skills and always stay up to date with new/upcoming trends and technologies in the construction industry.

TS: You have been a student, alumni and now the faculty of our college. In a broader view, how should all these stakeholders work together to build the momentum for improving the college?

NH: The organisational development is seen as consistent and permanent efforts of all the stakeholders. Ideally, a student should voice out, faculty should listen and alumni should support their alma mater, only then will the amalgamation of these stakeholders bring a change in the institute. Along with helping our students in building professional network, I would recommend a mentorship programme to be adopted. An experience of a successful alumni will be more valuable than the 1000 textbooks that student may read.

BUGS OF UVCE



UVCE IN NEWS

Manjunatha Prasad is Chief Minister Bommai's Principal Secretary

Following the formation of the government headed by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, postings of senior IAS officers were reshuffled on Thursday.

Senior IAS officer Manjunatha Prasad N., Principal Secretary, has been appointed as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister. He replaces Ramana Reddy E.V., stated a notification issued by the government.

Mr. Prasad is also placed as in charge of the post of Principal Secretary, Department of Information and Public Relations, Bengaluru. Earlier, Mr. Prasad had also served as Commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department.

Dr. Reddy, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) to the Chief Minister, has been posted as ACS, Commerce and Industries Department. He is also placed in concurrent charge of the post of ACS, Information Technology and Biotechnology Department, Bengaluru.

-The Hindu (For complete news, click here)



TEAM SAMPADA would like to wish Mr. Manjunath Prasad a hearty Congratulations on this news! This makes all of us so proud to be part of the UVCEian family!

CAMPUS SAYS

Engineering is not as complex as one thinks, it's a way of life to us. One can find artists, musicians, writers and other enthusiasts here because, hey, we are engineers and being just that is not easy for us.

Every student has his/her vision on how the college looks like and how will the next four years be. When I saw my college, the reality was completely different than what I had expected. I had never thought I will enjoy my life between these red blocks. Not my fault as I first visited on a gloomy evening on a rainy day of July, one can expect "Conjuring" vibes from mechanical block. But to be honest as the time progressed, everyone, including me realised that UVCE is the best.



Being a mechanical student, I was initially separated from the main block and like most mechanical people, I didn't care to visit main block regularly. My first few weeks were all about going to classes, finish it and come back home. It was after a few weeks when I made some friends, I started visiting the main block. We started to play near the OAT daily and have fun together. OAT became our second home now.

No one will spoon feed us here for exams. As a result me and my friends sought the idea of group study and these sessions are something I'll always cherish. I also started to indulge in extra curricular activities like volunteering for fests, decorating college, etc. I can humbly say I'm no less than an artist. I made a lot of friends from various streams. Be it going out with friends or regular trips or conducting any events, I made sure I enjoy every moment of this engineering life. UVCE is the best place to experience not only academics and fun but it's the best thing that can ever happen to anyone and I'm glad I'm an UVCEian.

- Aditya Shetty, 8th Sem Mech



Four years have flown by since I entered the college. And being at home for the last one and half years, I have realised that this time period of engineering has been nothing but the best years of my life. I have fought for the first bench and struggled to bunk classes as well. I have burnt components in lab as well as have aced experiments with zero faults. Have been scolded and have been advised too by the professors. Every action had a reaction because the foundation for a better life was to be laid. Bonds were made, memories were shared and in a blink of eye, it's over. I could write a book with all the things I have learnt but nothing comes closer to the gained confidence which makes me believe I can do anything I want without the fear of failure nagging me. They say engineering teaches about life. A truer fact hasn't been said. Lessons were learnt through different people. Some good, some bad. But everything made me a better person with better perspective. However all good things must come to an end.

The time has come, to leave the college I grew to love as much as any of my best friend's. The classrooms, the corridors, the common hangout places, the library (which was rarely visited for academic purpose) and every inch of area stepped foot on will be etched in the memory of me as well as every outgoing student. I am pretty sure all of us wish for more time in the college because frankly, we will never get enough of the college. And that is when you know that you have lived the best part of your lives in a wonderful place.

- Chaitanya Hegde, 8th Sem EEE

I could write volumes explaining about my experience in UVCE yet I can go speechless when asked to tell what was UVCE to me. It might be just an engineering college to many, but for those who are graduated from here knows it was nothing less than a "Home". When I first entered the gates of UVCE I was clueless of how things run. As calendar turned I got adjusted, met new people, learnt so much and today I'm so proud that I got into the First Engineering College of Karnataka. UVCE is typical 'Student run college'. It's hard to survive & enjoy at the same time unless



you are really patient, hard-working & creative. I'm a civil engineering student & my 3 years were in JB campus, college went really smooth & systematic; adding on was the heavenly feels of the surrounding environment. It's really calming in Bangalore University Campus for all the greenery & scenic beauty. Fortunate are those who stay in hostel & so am I one. I cannot exactly say it's because of all the freedom but can't deny that either. Late nights - fun rides - Complex - Gopalan - Ullal - Boss & Dine - some random function at the night are things that provokes nostalgia in civil students. Despite isolation feels, I have always tried participating in fests & cultural events & had fun to the fullest celebrating our years of freedom from 'actual responsibility'. As a whole it's been an amazing experience & a perfect blend of joy & hardships and a complete package of "No Regrets".

- Nivedita Naik, 8th Sem Civil



While joining UVCE I was a bit hesitant about my decision after seeing the old rusty building, but as the saying goes you shouldn't judge a book by it's cover. I feel lucky to be in the 101th batch that saw the transformation of the college from a rusty old titan to becoming a resurrected challenger. Regular technical workshops conducted by the college on various domains gave insights into industry relevant skills that would not be attainable from classroom or textbooks. The college's freedom, while giving its student the ample time to try out "literally" anything they wanted to do, also gave taught me about taking up responsibility of my own future. The students of UVCE are some of the most inspiring people I know, who go to any extent to explore their passion regardless of the year they are in.

The best memories of UVCE would always be the time spent with my friends in the library, where we discussed wide ranging topics while also expanding our individual knowledge. After graduating from this historic college I hope that I can carry on the legacy of it's prosperous alumni and be an integral part of building our nation.

- Navaneeth Krishnan B , 8th Sem CSE

Looping back to my first day at UVCE as an architecture student is and was very bizarre.

For most of us it wasn't what we had envisioned it would be. My idea of architecture then seems very naive to me now and it surely didn't include an hour long class of practising how to draw straight lines. Nonetheless, over the course of 5 years, the most well learnt professors have surely given us a peek into the workings of the real world.

To tell you that these 5 years help you develop patience and perseverance hardly serves any justice. Even so, you will not be expecting the reality to hit so hard during your internship. With regards to that, I'd definitely



advice my juniors to attend as many workshops as humanly possible, learn every single software but never underestimate the potential of sketching to convey your ideas and finally, try to bag as many internships as you can during every break because no amount of theoretical classes can surpass the experience of a more hands on environment.

- Poorvika Mallesh, 10th Sem Arch



7th August 2017. The day it all began. My first day of the engineering life. We had an Orientation day for all the students hosted by department and seniors. Parents were also invited to this event. I can recall the bright, excited, curious and confused faces of students of my branch (ISE) seated across the classroom. Everyone were communicating and trying to get to know each other. The event began with lecturers introducing themselves followed by then principal Dr. Venugopal sir sharing his experience about his engineering days and also certain valuable advices for our career. We also got a chance to introduce ourselves. The day ended with fun activities organized by our seniors. This was the start of my engineering life.

During my first year, I went about exploring the college, student clubs, fests, events etc. I got to know about my batchmates well and even made good bondings. I met wonderful seniors who gave me insights about college life, academics, placements, etc. They became an integral part of this engineering ride. On the other side, along with my friends, I volunteered for all the fests.

During my second year, I got to be part of the core team of Entrepreneurship-Cell club (E-Cell UVCE). Being the Events-head, I shouldered the task of organizing various club events and this is a small yet closer-to-the-heart experience for me. In between all these, I still made time to hang out with friends and go on few fun trips. From playing cricket or football with friends and seniors to just sit, sip a cold beverage under the shade of the big tree next to the old canteen, we spent some great time around Open Air Theater and it had become the companion of our college life. And all of a sudden, the pandemic happened and life depended on virtual mode.

Everybody loves to spend their final year of student life in the college and it still hurts me that we are separated from the campus. Classes and placements, internals and project briefing; everything is a virtual call.

But then, virtual or not, it's been a great time at UVCE and I had moments that stay in my heart forever. I made some awesome friends who'll back me forever. UVCE has become an indispensable part of my life and its an honour to be a part of this prestigious institution.

- Ratan Ghasti, 8th Sem ISE

I remember asking seniors each year for a Sampada article regarding their thoughts about it being their final year in UVCE, and suddenly it's my time to do the same. It feels very surreal. Four years might seem like a long time, but if you ask me if it really did feel like 1461 days of my life, I would have to disagree. Before joining UVCE I was definitely more attracted to the bells and whistles of all the private institutions around the country. But as every UVCEian could testify, coming to UVCE is a humbling experience that not many get to experience, and for that, I am glad I didn't go to any other institution. From day one you learn that UVCE is a University driven by its past, present and future students, and it is the most beautiful thing to witness. UVCE Payana, one of the biggest displays of this, was an event I volunteered for in my first year and it is an experience I will never forget. UVCE Payana gave me front row seats to witness the

The past year allowed me to reflect on a lot of tiny things that were so unique to UVCEians that I guess a lot of us took for granted, for example, all the birthdays that students celebrate in Rock Garden by smuggling in a cake. The absence of it was truly felt. Being smack right in the heart of Bangalore allowed me to explore our magnificent city and its treasures in all the free time you get as a UVCEian.

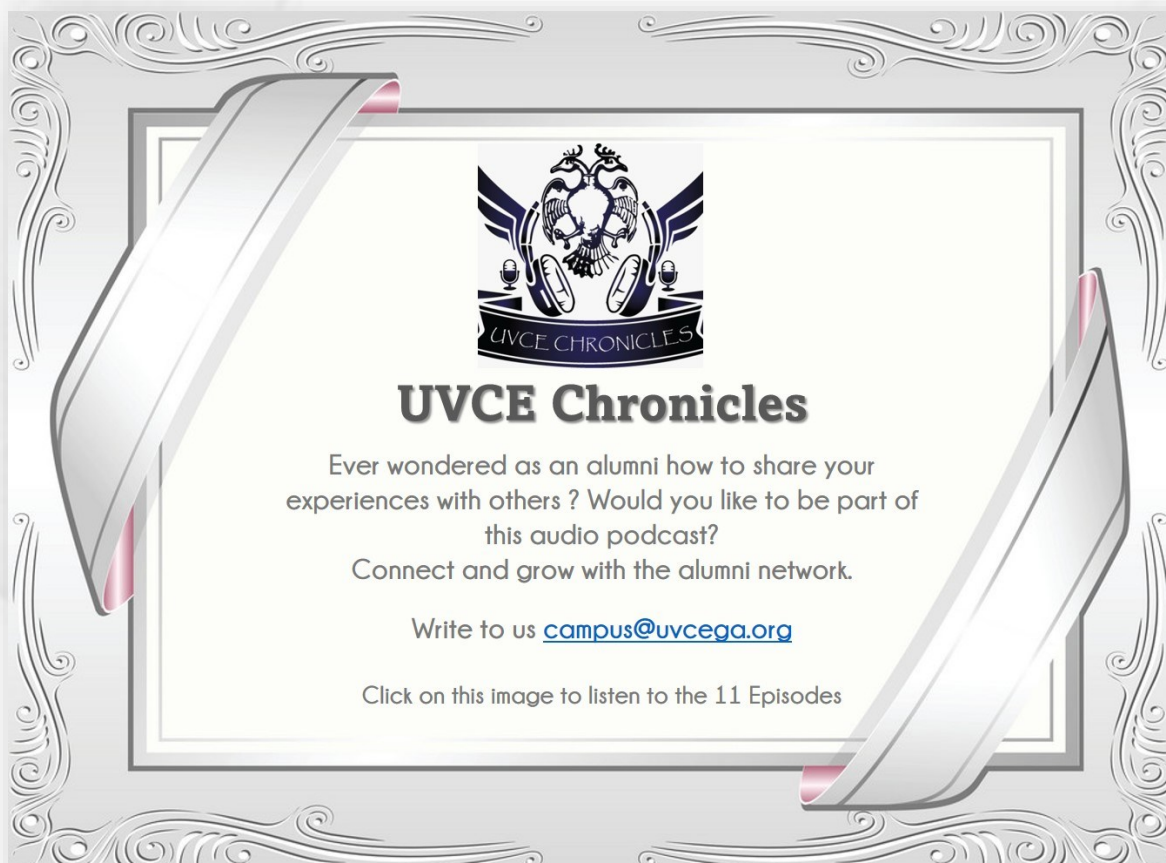


I particularly remember my friends and I taking a walk down to the National Gallery of Modern Art and even all the way to MG Road through the less travelled and most spectacular pathways in Cubbon Park. Another event that comes to mind would be the Best Class competition which had my classmates coming together to win the title of Best Class and we did so not once but twice in a row. These are just some of the memories I am going to treasure.

As a University, we do have a lot of flaws, and while I am going to cherish all the good times, a lot of struggles and bad memories do come to mind as well. What's always been important in UVCE has been acknowledging these flaws and the way students come together to overcome the struggles we do face. Something else that has been crucial to my time in UVCE has been all that I learned from my seniors and juniors and the friendliness and care that I was met with whenever I struggled with something.

All in all, my time at UVCE had the highest of highs and lowest of lows. I am definitely not the same person I was when I walked into the gates of UVCE four years ago, but I am proud of all that I have accomplished and the person I am walking out of these gates now. UVCE definitely played a large role in that along with every single person I met during my time here. As all good things must come to an end, I am sad but more excited for the next chapter all us 4th Year students are embarking on, and I cannot wait to see all that you guys accomplish. One Last Time, this was Sanjana Ramesh from the 2021 Batch of Electronics and Communication Engineering, UVCE.

-Sanjana Ramesh, 8th Sem ECE



THE WEARYING DOCUMENT PROCESS!

When we got a chance to discuss with the students on various topics - apart from regular studies - there are multiple things that take us down the memory lane. One among them is definitely the tiresome, irritating and frustrating process you have to go through for one letter in our college. To be honest, we have heard from senior alumni that it was not the case in 60s and 70s, where they did not need to break a sweat for these things. But, in later stages, we don't know what changed, but we have heard 90s alumni share same kind of experience - be it for getting the exams conducted on time, approval letters, college permission letters, marks cards, degree certificate etc have all been a very gruesome experience. I too, am not different. I am from 2009 batch and what it took to get the No Due Certificate after 1 year of completion of Engineering, so that I could collect the Degree Certificate is a long story. But, this article is not about my experience, but what one student has to go through today (even in the Covid situation). We assured to keep the student anonymous and publish this write-up as is. Read on...

One document is all it takes.

Requirements? One filled form with the sign from the Head of Institution approving the request.

What is a simple 5 min in/out job, takes at least an hour because government institutions mandate 55 min of wait time. I came prepared to spend 2 hours waiting to get one signature, little did I know that it would take many hours of the day

Since I needed the document urgently, I had one visit to get everything I'd need. I was prepared in all aspects for everything they would throw at me; laptop in hand, MS Word with letter templates ready, Durga Xerox's email drafted for all the printouts that might be necessary.

To the uninitiated, the process for getting signatures is as follows:

Submit a letter saying you want the document to be signed. Oh also, did I mention that the letter has to be signed by your department saying that you indeed belong to the college? If this sounds simple, I would say, picture abhi baaki hai.

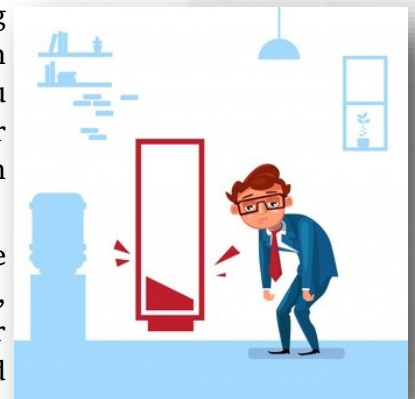
After getting the letter ready, you go to the department asking for their seal in response to which they ask you to prove it is you, in the flesh. One identity crisis later, you finally convince them that you are indeed the same student that has been part of the college for couple of years now and have volunteered alongside them in numerous occasions.

I was told to submit the letter and documents on the table when we are done. Now, we all know one signature equals 1 hour, now on to round 2 the dreaded lunch break ! I had to wait for another hour before I could submit the documents. They then told me to go have lunch and come back to collect it. After putting a short

visit to avenue road for a quick lunch, I come back to find that our documents are exactly where I left them, untouched. It was brought to their notice again and it finally went to the Head of the Institution. Fast forward to 30 more exhausting minutes of waiting, I finally got the documents.

After spending most of my day and energy in college, the only thing that comes to mind is; for a management that boasts about being the oldest engineering college comparable to the IITs we are still living in the 1990s when it comes to any procedures.

Well, you read it right.. Does not it feel like a trip to some Government Office/ Public Bank, where they make you run from one pillar to the other? Don't you think UVCE need to set some standard procedures, streamline it so that the students don't feel disheartened with such basic requirements? Personally, I request the college authorities to look into these kind of small matters which make a huge difference.



-Satish AG