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UVCE GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

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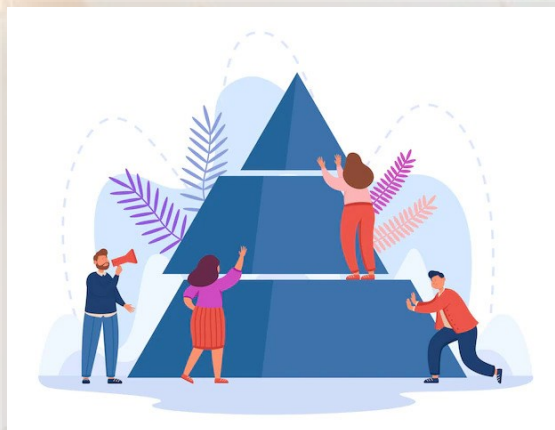
SAMPADA

Your window to UVCE

151st Edition

EDITORIAL

Happy 75th Independence Day !! When we published the 150th edition, dedicating it to the UVCEians who served in Indian Armed Forces, we had not imagined the impact it would create. It was just us, continuing our efforts to collate the data on UVCEians and the contributions. But, the overwhelming response received says a different story altogether. We are really happy that many of you felt it was a wonderful effort and liked it very much. Based on the responses, we felt it was worth it and thank each of you for acknowledging the fact.

Every time the Editorial has to be written, there is a discussion on the points to be shared with our readers and what should the message be that can be conveyed through this edition. We try to present different perspectives by inviting guest editorials from alumni, students and others, apart from Sampada Team alone. As mentioned previously, we have realized many things in this 12.5 years of journey of Sampada. One of the main points being, the focus of Sampada slowly changing from UVCE alone to the UVCEians. We understood that the true potential of Samapda is to create awareness of the achievements and contributions of UVCEians, which in turn will automatically highlight the alma-mater. Bringing the alumni together, creating a platform for them to interact with each other will help us reach goals of supporting UVCE in a better manner.

In this path, the first milestone of reaching 1000 members for UVCE Graduates Association has been achieved. We are very glad that the slow and steady approach has starting bearing results. It is just the beginning and we will make sure that we go a long way in the future. When UVCE Graduates Association was formed in May, 2019 and we lost almost 2 years due to Covid, there was a concern. But today, with the first 1K marker crossed, we see many alumni glad to be associated and that's the positive impact created in building the community. To achieve this, we are helping with organizing Reunions of various batches, especially the Golden Jubilee, Silver Jubilee or Decade Anniversary of graduation. It will be an occasion to meet the batchmates and interact with them. It will also serve as a short break from the continuous stress filled environment, where you can recall the wonderful college days, memories of friends and more. We have realized it when we have organized few of them. Why don't you let us know if you would like any help from our end.

In this edition, we have couple of newspaper updates on UVCE—one particularly on the future of UVCE. Sri B Muthuraman has been appointed as the Chairman of UVCE Governing Council by the Governor. We are very pleased with this selection and hope that he will help in getting back the glory and legacy of UVCE. In contrast to this news, there are also couple of reports about the staff shortage and other infrastructure related issues too.

UVCE UnConference - Monsoon edition was organized recently and was well received. You can read about it along with the feedback from the participants. MARVEL updates will continue to give the sneak peek about what is happening in the R&D Lab. We do have a special interview with Mallika from 1996 batch as promised in the previous edition.

Returning to the topic being discussed earlier, what kind of news about UVCEians would you like read and share? Any specific themes or suggestions for our upcoming editions? We at Sampada have always wanted more involvement from the readers and here is a good opportunity. We can have a dedicated column for alumni to share the thoughts and experiences on particular topic every edition. If you or any UVCEian whom you know are interested to be part of this exciting opportunity, write to us sampada@visionuvce.in.

- **Team Sampada**

UVCE IN MEDIA

B Muthuraman appointed as UVCE board chair

Tata Group veteran B Muthuraman has been appointed as the first chairman of the Board of Governors at the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) in Bengaluru.

The UVCE, which was started by Sir M Visvesvaraya in 1917, was a constituent college of the Bangalore University before it was granted autonomy so that it can be developed on the lines of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT).

The Higher Education Eepartment decided to set up a board of governors following passage of the Visvesvaraya Engineering College University Bill. Sources in the department confirmed Muthuraman's appointment saying Governor and Chancellor Thaawarchand Gehlot had issued an order to this effect.

Muthuraman, 78, was chairperson of Tata International and vice-chairperson of Tata Steel. In 1966, Muthuraman joined Tata Steel where he held various positions, including managing director (2001) and non-executive vice-chairperson (2009). It was under him that Tata Steel acquired the British-Dutch Corus Group in 2007. An alumnus of IIT Madras and XLRI, Jamshedpur, Muthuraman was conferred with Padma Bhushan in 2012.

Source: Deccan Herald (4th August, 2022)

On behalf of UVCE Graduates Association, we are glad that Sri B Muthuraman has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Governing Council for UVCE. A person of his stature and capabilities can definitely redefine the vision for UVCE and lay a strong foundation for the autonomous institution for a long time. We would like to assure that the alumni community, especially the UVCE Graduates Association will stand behind every decision taken by Sri Muthuraman that is in the best interest of our alma-mater. We will hope that the alumni too feel the same and support him.

1000 REGISTERED MEMBERS
UVCE GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

www.uvcega.org

UVCE Graduates Association is now One Thousand Alumni strong! That's right, this college with around 105 years of history now has 1000 members in UVCEGA. We are super excited to share this milestone with all of you, and grateful for your support. With activities like Scholarships, Reunions, MARVEL, Sampada, UVCE Chronicles, Sammilana and more, this milestone is keeping us boosted for a lot more! We have people from 1946 onwards until 2022 as part of this alumni family and we hope to connect the alumni to make the bond stronger... If you are not a member already, what's stopping you from being a part of this community? Check out the list of members and Register Today - https://www.uvcega.org/members

UNCONFERENCE - MONSOON EDITION

Before I go on to share my experience at UVCE Unconference, I want to try and explain what an un-conference is. Simply put, it's everything a conference is not, which means no preparation, no slide deck, no hard rules on the topics to speak. It is a platform where anyone can volunteer and speak on a topic, share their views, and even initiate a discussion with the audience. And this isn't a new phenomenon and has prevailed for some time now where colleges and universities organise this on a larger scale, even as a one- or two-day workshop. This was the first time something like this happened at UVCE and the response it received was quite gratifying. We had students and alumni register to speak choosing between topics such as Health and Technology and Bangalore history – Art and Culture.

On the day of the event, students and alumni slowly started gathering in the quadrangle, interacting with each other over some tea and biscuits. There was some jittery energy you could sense because we didn't know what to expect from this event. What session to choose from or what to expect from the speakers and mostly how to behave at an un-conference were some of our thoughts. But soon we started to settle in and in a huge way the speakers helped ease the tension and break into these topics seamlessly.

On one side, we had speakers talking on neural networks, their scope in the present world and entrepreneurs who spoke on how technology played an essential role in the health sector. It was really inspiring to listen to how we as engineers can touch so many lives across various domains. On the other side, we had speakers talk about the hungriest topic there is and share some wonderful stories on the eateries in Bangalore. The conversation got the entire crowd engrossed in sharing their eatery experiences and nostalgic memories at UVCE. And the best part was that we got to choose and shuffle between the speakers and get the best of both the topics discussed.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the event look effortless. UVCE Unconference, the Monsoon edition was indeed a good start and I hope that we unravel more topics and share more stories at UVCE in the days to come. Each one of us has a story to share and how we need to just find the right stage to inspire matters most and I am very grateful to all the speakers who not only chose to share their stories but also treat us with their memories and conversations.

- Meghashree G, 2016 Batch

UVCE IN MEDIA

Oldest engineering college in Karnataka hit by staff crunch

One of the premier institutions in the country — the 105-year-old University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) set up by Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya — is facing a severe shortage of permanent teaching staff. The college has close to 4,000 students, including 2,800 BE and 700 PhD students, but has only 80 permanent teachers. This is against the sanctioned strength of 139 teachers. No permanent teacher has been recruited since 2007, while the college is making do with guest faculty all these years. Also, the institution has only 35 non-teaching staff, while the sanctioned posts are 203. "Again, the college is managing with contractual staff," said an employee of the college, requesting anonymity.

Sources from the Higher Education Department said UVCE Principal HN Ramesh recently wrote to the Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, about the staff crunch. The letter, a copy of which is available with The New Sunday Express, states that the recruitment of permanent teaching staff has not been done since 2007 and non-teaching staff since 1995. "There are no qualified non-teaching staff in laboratories," the letter reads.

In December 2021, University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering Bill 2021 was passed to upgrade it intoan autonomous institution on par with Indian Institutes of Technology. But the state government is yet to appoint a director, the board of governors and members. This will help in constituting a senate and executive council, and also in the appointment of other officers.

There have been issues with the infrastructure too, as students of the mechanical engineering department have to use lab facilities in other colleges as their department building collapsed in 2017. The estimate for the reconstruction was put at Rs 85 crore, while tenders too were floated. The finance committee of Bangalore University Syndicate approved the estimate and later, it was cleared by the state cabinet. But Bangalore University is delaying the works as UVCE is now autonomous, , UVCE authorities allege.

Despite these shortcomings, UVCE is doing good academically. Principal HN Ramesh said more than 150 companies recruited students last year. "98% per cent of our students got jobs through campus recruitment... A few even got two to three job offers with salary packages varying between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 30 lakh per annum. This is also because we have vocational training of 200 hours starting from the 2nd semester & it helps candidates in campus interviews," he added.

Source: New Indian Express (24th July)

There were similar news published in couple of Kannada Newspapers too as shown below (Vijayavani and Vijaya Karnataka) mentioning the placement numbers, shortage of staff and more. There was also an question about the Autonomous status given to the college few months back through the Gazette Notification but not appointing the Governing Council or the Director to the college to take it forward in the same articles.

IN TALKS WITH MALLIKA

Team Sampada: Lets begin with a fundamental question - Why did you choose UVCE?

Mallika M T: UVCE had the best reputation as an engineering college when I graduated in 1996. I wanted to do engineering in Bengaluru. Further, my father had also studied at UVCE. He encouraged me to pursue my studies there.

TS: When we say UVCE, what fond memories do you think of?

M: The students in my class were all self motivated and worked hard towards earning good results in all the classes. This made for a good peer environment. Some fond memories include spending time in the quadrangle area and attending the annual Milagro festival.

TS: Tell us about your career.

M: After UVCE, I attended Kansas State University to secure a Master's in Computer Science. For my first job, I worked as a management consultant with a big 5 consulting firm, doing software development on eCommerce projects with clients such as HP. I then worked as an independent consultant at startup companies. When the IT industry took a hit in the early 2000s, I worked in finance for a couple of years. After that, I worked as a software developer in the education industry for a few years, and finally ran a coding camps business for 3 years.

TS: Now, tell us about a little beyond your career. You volunteer to teach English to rural kids. What is it like? Also, a bit about the book that you have written.

M: As my husband had a demanding job and we have two young kids, I needed to take some time off from the corporate world. I have always been interested in giving back to the community, primarily inspired by my father and grandmother. I was looking for opportunities to give back to India. A friend of mine recommended eVidyaloka, an organization that sets up computers in rural classrooms to enable online teaching. Initially, I wasn't sure this would work out due to time zone differences (as I reside in the US).

But luckily, I found that it was indeed possible to teach morning classes. eVidyaloka connected me with a school in Nilogal (North Karnataka) within a couple of days of me signing up. I teach English to 7th grade kids daily. It has been the most rewarding volunteering experience for me thus far. Although the students' reading and writing level is lower when compared to kids who reside in urban areas, they have made huge strides since they first started. They are extremely motivated and I feel blessed to have the opportunity to create an impact. eVidyaloka is looking for more teachers. I am happy to provide more information to anyone who is interested. The commitment is a minimum of 2 hours per week for 3 months. Interested folks may contact me at **mallika.m.thoppay@gmail.com**.

With regards to my book 'Unfair & Lovely', my writing journey began with creating basic grammar books for my students. An illustrator friend who used to volunteer with me at a microlending organization wanted to create a book and reached out to me for a story. As both of us were interested in creating something that delivered a social message, **'Unfair & Lovely'** was born. The book tackles color bias issues in society. It is an effort to nip this issue in the bud, hence it is targeted towards 8 years and up. It is available on Amazon as well as the Kindle.

TS: What advice do you have for female engineers and engineering students at UVCE?

M: Given that they are students at UVCE, I will assume they are self motivated and will probably not need a lot of advice with regards to advancing in the corporate world. So my advice for them would be to take into consideration not only advancing in their own careers, but to also mentor their juniors. I would encourage them to exercise out of the box thinking to create an impact in this world, be it in the technological or social space. I feel that especially for female engineers, life may chart out a path different from what they anticipate. Hence, it is important to reinvent and innovate, based on what the situation demands.
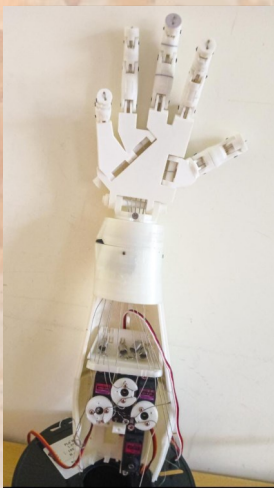
MARVEL - INSIDE STORY

If MARVEL had a new superhero for every cool initiative we take up, we'd have our own line of Avengers merch.

Piggybacking off of a new Team MARVEL, our coordinators were allocated domains they wish to work in and began fine tuning the existing MARVEL's domain-specific syllabus to achieve a more holistic learning trajectory for each of the Courses. Coming up with inventive tasks for each Course Level was a challenge, but with some research and effective team communication, we overcame it.

Replenishing the inventory for the lab was also undertaken soon after. This meant listing out all electrical components and other pre-requisite resources needed to complete the Course Tasks, which would be given to batch students in the form of 'equipment kits' that they would use for completing said tasks. This entailed a trip to good old SP road. MARVEL had begun the shortlisting of applications for Batch 2 by now. With around 100 of them to review, it was humbling to see the faith these applications showed in what MARVEL strives to provide students - a platform to push yourself to innovate.

"Shortlisting new batch of MARVEL students was not just a new thing for me, but yet another learning experience, seeing so many different applications and opinions." says Abhilash Bhat, a coordinator at MARVEL

"As a fresher coming into UVCE, MARVEL was always something I wanted to be a part of. Was it for the badges and the cool tag? Definitely! But the idea of growing my skills and doing so while collaborating with peers sounded more appealing to me. Being an independent learner, MARVEL's framework for the student course was exactly what I was looking for. Over the duration of the course, I'm excited to create a clear understanding of basic AI ML concepts and apply this learning to build various projects." says Liyana, a 1st year CSE student part of Batch 2.

An Orientation Day was held for the freshly inducted Batch 2 students where they were briefed on all basic MARVEL procedures, the academic etiquette and necessities.

The Humanoid Arm, developed in the lab, which has in its own right become the talk of the town among visitors, was taken to a Project Exhibition at BMS College of Engineering called 'Srishti' by a team of UVCE students: Chhantea (3rd year Mech), Yuan (3rd year ECE), Prajwal (2nd year Mech) and Adrian (3rd year ECE) from MARVEL. The arm is designed to be remotely controlled using a haptic glove and has potential use cases in the biomedical and automation sectors. We're very proud of the team of students for their commitment, hardwork and their representation in this prestigious event. Take a look at their display in the picture.

"I was able to interact with many students from other colleges and go around stalls where they demonstrated their projects, all of it being a collection of great ideas. I also had a great experience working together with my teammates, who besides technical skills, also have great communication skills as they explained our project to the judges as well as other participants and visitors. I learned a lot from them." says Chhantea, a 3rd year Mech student who worked on developing the bionic arm.

On July 19th, MARVEL collaborated with IEEE UVCE CS Society to conduct a successful workshop on Automation. A budding crowd of about 90 was taught how to build a Python bot that automates simple tasks for you by way of Telegram's API. We hope valuable takeaways were made by attendees and thank the Team at IEEE UVCE CS Society for being the amazing collaborators that they were!

Due to the lab being accessible through only 2 keys that are shared among the coordinators, incompatible schedules have led to some inconveniences. Some of our coordinators decided to solve this problem by making a door lock that would involve RFID cards to grant access to the lab. So far, we have interfaced the RFID reader to an ESP 32 which has an inbuilt WiFi module. It will read the data in every card and sends it to a Google sheet in our drive through a webhook. In the Google sheet. Every card's ID is mapped to a particular name and thus the time entered, in or out, and name of the card holder will be updated there. Long story short - it serves as an attendance recording mechanism.

At the end of July, MARVEL and the Training and Placement Office kickstarted a 'Project Support' programme for 3rd year EEE, ECE and Mech students. We observed that core branches, while brimming with learners of great potential, were unable to find interesting projects to work on for their resume that would ultimately decide their placement prospects. Project Support aims to provide help to those who want guidance on starting and completing a project of their liking. They would be mentored by Batch 1 students and coordinators. Those who have enrolled in this 2-week programme will be given problem statements as well as access to MARVEL's resources. About 25 students have enrolled in the programme which has already begun! We wish all of them the very best. And before we wrap up, here is what Adrian from 3rd year ECE who is involved with the "Humanoid Arm" project has to share about his experience so far -

After hours of designing, 3D printing, testing and debugging, we were able to make the first working prototype of the Bionic arm. Let's travel back in time and see where it all began. 6th June 2022 saw the beginning of a new chapter in MARVEL's (UVCE's very own R&D lab) journey. Our team—Vakesan, Chhantea, Yuan, Prajwal, Adrian and Anish met for the very first time to discuss plans to create a bionic arm. The goal: To embark on a multidisciplinary project and see it through in the next 3 months. Our background experience: little to none. The task ahead seemed quite daunting but the excitement to realize the project's end goals far outweighed our initial apprehensions. Over the next few weeks, we worked towards our goal one step at a time, picking up the necessary skills along the way and utilizing MARVEL's facilities to work on the design, 3D printing and electromechanical control systems of the arm. Over the past few months, I'm sure that the readers of Sampada have got a few glimpses of our project journey.

During the early weeks of July 2022, we were made aware of "Srishti 2022-Innovation Exchange", a state level project exhibition hosted at BMS College of Engineering. We were encouraged to enter our project into the exhibition and were overjoyed when we found out that our project had been shortlisted. There were a lot of 'firsts' during this period: The first time we stayed late into the night in the lab, the first time we worked on a Sunday and a lot of other milestones that brought our team closer together.

Early in the morning on 25th July, we (Chhantea, Yuan, Prajwal and Adrian) packed all the necessary equipment and embarked on our journey to BMSCE. Once we set up our stall, visitors from across the state poured in. As we explained the working of our prototype and its potential use cases, we saw the eyes of our listeners twinkle as they quickly responded with questions to feed their curiosity. The competition was evaluated in three rounds spread across three days. There were about 200 teams participating who had come from all corners of the state with ideas ranging from a simple smart soil moisture sensing system all the way to full-fledged electric vehicles, go karts, smart devices, optimized algorithmic models and octocopters that were set to revolutionize Industry 4.0. In these 3 days, we gained a larger appreciation for technology and its potential use cases, met students who were equally motivated about solving real world problems, received constructive feedback, optimized our design and savoured delicious food served by the organisers in picturesque Basavanagudi.

We plan on continuing to optimize the design, expanding the project's use case and encouraging our peers to let their creativity run wild. We'd like to thank UVCEGA for setting up MARVEL without which this project would not be possible and also sponsoring the team's participation for Srishti event.

UVCEIAN IN MEDIA

Vihaan, Ankita Amar in Chandrajith Belliappa's directorial debut

Dreams do come true. Ask Chandrajith Belliappa. One among Rakshit Shetty's team of writers, The Seven Odds, Chandrajith is all set to helm his debut directorial set to roll this September.

A former techie, Chandrajit had penned the story of this film as a series during his IT days and got in touch with Rakshit. The actor read and was impressed by it, and that's how Chandrajith came to join Rakshit's writing team.

"I worked in Kirik Party and Avane Sriman Narayana, and even helmed one segment in the anthology Katha Sangama. Even though I wanted to work as a writer on more films before taking up direction, it somehow came to be that I took up direction earlier than planned. Rakshit encourages us writers to go independent," shares Chandrajith.

The film, whose title he wants to reveal at the muhurta, is a love story. "I have grown up watching Mani Ratnam's films and they've had a huge bearing on me. Imtiaz Ali is another filmmaker I admire and this film is my takeaway after watching their films," avers Chandrajith.

The movie stars Vihaan, who returns to the big screen after three years, and Ankita Amar. "In the very first meeting, I could see that glint in Vihaan's eyes. He is ambitious, but the child within him is alive. His character in the film is also like that. Ankita, on the other hand, is someone who is positive and makes you want to be like her. Yet, she's grounded and innocent. Again, her role in the film is just like how she is in real life. I'm glad that I've found such talented and genuine people for my film," sums up Chandrajith.

Source: Times of India ([July 17th](#))

Chandrajith Belliappa is an alumnus of UVCE from 20212 batch. We are extremely glad to see him making his mark in the Kannada Film industry. We are happy that UVCEians are continuing the trend of following their passion and interest in various fields apart from Engineering alone. We will be interviewing Chandrajith shortly and publish it in upcoming editions so that you can know more about him and his work..

UVCE Chronicles has been well received and with around 25 episodes out so far, we have made sure the students are up for interacting with the alumni as well. To listen to all the episodes, check here - [Spotify URL](#)

If you would like to share your experiences or thoughts with us, we will be more than happy to record it. Let us know— campus@uvcega.org

PETRICHOR - AI/ML FRESHERS PARTY

Out of all the college memories that stand out in our minds, a very special one is the Fresher's Day. The initial burst of connections and friendships stand the test of time, and go a long way into developing bonds. In couple of Maathukathe discussions, it was mentioned about. Not an experience we would want to see anyone miss out on, we wanted to give the first ever batch of AIML at UVCE a warm welcome.

On the 23rd of July, the UVCE Graduates Association in collaboration with a few student volunteers organised the first edition of the AIML fresher's, Petrichor. With snacks and activities galore, it was a fun event that saw participation from over 40 students. Despite the hurdles of having to conduct it within the campus, in a simplistic manner, we hope everyone enjoyed it. The idea was to make them go home with a smile on their face and thanks to the student volunteers, we were successful to certain extent.

FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS ON UNCONFERNECE

I was impressed by the talking style of alumni and the way they treated & interacted with us. They guided us in a positive manner and understand how to look at the big picture - **Sahana M, student**

Thank you for such event, but next time please don't make them run in parallel. We need to make sure everyone attend all the sessions. Because so many of them missed the points and knowledge they shared on another slot. Other than this everything went very well and we loved it. - **Prajwal, student**

Continue in this format for some time and it will evolve. Start early at around 10.00 AM so that we can conclude before lunch time. You need not have the sessions in class rooms. We can sit around at different places around the campus. - **Muralidhara G V, alumni**

Krishna A. G. • 1st

AI powered video telematics to make commercial fleets safer and more effici...

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Visited UVCE after many years - the first time after renovation! It was absolutely marvellous to see how nicely the renovation has been done keeping the ethos intact! Many thanks to Satish AG and all the other volunteers behind UVCE Graduates Association for the 'Unconference' which brought the current students and alumni together - hope more UVCE alumni get involved, you can stay updated by following the LinkedIn page of UVCEGA

TEAM: Greeshma, Liyana (2nd Sem), Fouzan, Nowfal (4th sem), Varsha Bhat, Niranjan, Sanjana, Chitra S Reddy, Meghashree G, Satish A G & SriHarsha D V (VisionUVCE Team)