



DON BOSCO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

COLOSSEUM REPORT 2021

Colosseum 2021 is the Annual Technical Festival of Don Bosco Institute of Technology that was held on 31st March and 1st April 2021. For the past thirteen years, this tech-fest has successfully garnered the attention of all tech-enthusiasts, entrepreneurs, and knowledge-seekers and this year was no different.

Covid Pandemic has disrupted the normalcy of the whole world. From businesses, government offices, educational institutes to Routine mundane activities - everything has taken a 360-degree turn. As the Technical Convener of DBIT and first-time in charge of Colosseum, I knew this year was going to be different. Colosseum had to adapt, Colosseum had to come up with unique ways of engaging the audience and raising the bar.

The Student Core-team of Colosseum was formed in November after an extensive interview process conducted by Technical Secretaries - Mr. Taaha and Ms. Swati. Event Coordinators were selected and all of them were asked to do homework and come up with ideas for the events to be organized. The marketing team and tech team were under the spotlight as Colosseum was going to be an Online event and we required innovative strategies for advertisement. Tech team we knew would be the heart of the Colosseum. We required a professional website with a responsive User Interface to attract a maximum audience. And Tech team did deliver an amazing website that contained the information, links (registration/ feedback), images, games, and what-not of the Colosseum. In the times when online payments are the only way of transferring money, we had to set up PayU account for online transactions. And without a professional, genuine website of the event, we would not have been able to do that.

The Core Faculty team of Colosseum included- Ms. Madhavi (EXTC dept.), Mr. Hemant (Mech depart.), and Mr. Tayyabali (IT dept.). Ms. Madhavi was in charge of the workshops, Mr. Hemant was responsible for the smooth conduction of Competitions and Exhibitions, and Mr. Tayyabali took care of the scheduling of the talks. Many Competitions were judged by the faculties of DBIT. "Technical Paper Presentation" organized by Physics Club of college under the guidance of Ms. Revathy was judged by four faculties- Prof. Ditty Varghese (Computer), Prof. Yogesh Gholpa (EXTC), Prof. Prasad (IT), and Prof. Shreepasad (Mech). "Build from Base" competition was judged by Prof. Nilesh Gaware (Mech) and "Know Your Factory" was judged by "Prof. Cleta Pereira".

One of the major attractions of the Colosseum is - Workshops. The challenge was to structure the technical workshops in a way that makes them different from any easily available educational videos available freely to consume. We targetted the futuristic technologies that are currently in demand. Professional coaches were approached to teach the concepts using Hands-on projects. The duration of workshops was spread over a week making it possible to start from the basics and

cover the advanced topics. Students were able to get the maximum exposure to advanced technologies like ReactJS, Digital Marketing, UI/UX design, Microbit, and many more. We utilized the online nature of workshops to our maximum advantage by having a flexible schedule - without anyone complaining of the clash of time slots!

Student Chapters, E-Cell, and various clubs of our college are the bodies that make life on campus full of energy, enthusiasm, and zeal with the help of the events they organize throughout the year. So we had to approach them for their contribution to Colosseum. And we were not disappointed! Code-a-thon, Bug busters, UI/UX challenge, Know Your Factory, Technical Presentation, Marketing Maestro are some of the Competitions to name- that was enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Talks by experts- are the most awaited event of the Colosseum. And we took full advantage of the Online nature of events to have some of the world-famous personalities on board for Talks. I remember the first pitch made by the Event Coordinator - Ms. Saloni seemed overly ambitious to the whole team. After endless emails, Whatsapp communication, and Instagram messages - the convenient time (as some speakers were abroad), duration, and content of the sessions were finalized. Some speakers made us wait till one week before the Colosseum and the experience was nail-biting! But the efforts made by the team were well rewarded with the success of these talks. There was something for everyone! Dr. Shohini Ghose on Quantum Computing, Dr. Daniel Angerhausens's talk on Aliens and Exoplanets, Mr. Sujan Roy's life lessons for the younger generation, National award winner Mr. Suresh Eriyat sharing his experiences in animation - and many more of such talks were on the point. We decided to keep some sessions in an interview format just to make the interaction more natural. And that proved to be the very successful element of the sessions.

Exhibitions were the one area where we faced few challenges. Every year we have been inviting companies for demonstrating their models, and organizations that showcase their unique projects to the audience. This time the response we got from the companies was not very encouraging. Most of them were reluctant to share their state-of-art technologies. They were comfortable sharing videos that were more of a promotional stunt. So we changed our approach and reached out to a startup. This startup is a B.E. project turned Startup run by four students and they were quite open to an interview set up where they answered the technical questions with a lot of openness and zeal. Also, we got some wonderful project demonstration videos from our DBITians- that we put under the Internal Exhibition category on the website.

A free workshop on "HTML, CSS and Javascript" was conducted for the 9th and 10th standard students of "Mumbai Utkal English Hig School" as a social initiative of the Colosseum team of DBIT. The duration of the workshop was of 6 hours and it was a wonderful experience for the student instructors to interact with the students of the school.

I would like to mention that the Marketing Team did a great job in ensuring that Colosseum makes as much noise as possible! Social Media is the new way of reaching out to a huge audience base. Instagram ads, Facebook, Whatsapp messages, promotional videos, posters, catchy messages - no stone was left unturned for the publicity. The final act of the Colosseum was a beautiful live performance by Ms. Sagarika on Instagram. She sang live songs on request, and

also shared some fun insights about her life and work.

Right from the curation of events, the finance aspect, till the execution of Colosseum- we got unconditional support from Rev. Fr. Mario and Our Principal Dr. Prasanna Nambiar. There were so many speculations about how the nature of this event would be depending upon the situation around us. During this uncertain loop of normal-lockdown-normal, there was one thing that was constant and it was the motivation and support of our management. Whether it was their keen eye to spot the areas for improvement or the complete change of approach - we worked on all of their inputs and came up with a festival that lived up to the expectations of all. I would also like to mention that faculties of all the departments were very supportive of our efforts. Whether it was sparing 10 minutes from their lectures for publicity, or participating whole-heartedly in all the events, their involvement was so encouraging for the Core team.

The one thing I have learned from this experience is - "When Online is the only way to go, you make an extravaganza out of it". Every challenge has an opportunity to rediscover and relearn, and that's what we as a Core team of Colosseum did this year!

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