



NEWSLETTER FROM SASTRA DEEMED UNIVERSITY VOL 24 II QUARTER 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



It is with great pride and a sense of accomplishment that this second quarter of the year has been one of remarkable progress, significant partnerships, and meaningful contributions to both academia and society. At SASTRA, we continue to advance our mission of excellence in education, innovation, and societal impact, as reflected in our various initiatives this year.

One of the highlights has been the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bosch Global Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd. This collaboration marks a milestone for us, as it paves the way for joint research, prototype development, and infrastructure creation on our campus. Bosch's commitment to nurturing top campus talent through hackathons, internships, and joint research ensures that our students remain at the forefront of innovation and industry relevance. This partnership is a testament to SASTRA's growing stature as a hub for industry-academia collaboration.

Equally noteworthy is our MoU with the Indian Navy and Naval Welfare & Wellness Association (NWWA). Under this agreement, SASTRA is providing 100% scholarships for the wards of naval personnel who sacrificed their lives in service to the nation. This initiative reinforces our belief in using education as a powerful tool to uplift and support those who have served our country. We also offer 50% scholarships for the children of serving Navy personnel, highlighting our ongoing commitment to serving the larger community.

Our long-standing partnership with Deakin University, Australia, is renewed this year, marking more than a decade of successful collaboration. This MoU will enhance student mobility, research, and collaborative academic programme, providing new opportunities for our students and faculty to engage on a global scale.

SASTRA proudly released 'Miscellaneous Legal Wisdom from Valmiki Ramayana and Retrospective,' co-authored by Dr. Sudha Seshayan. The book highlights the Ramayana's timeless legal principles. Shri K. Parasaran presided, with Shri S. Gurusurthy receiving the first copy, reaffirming SASTRA's commitment to cultural and scholarly contributions.

In addition to these academic partnerships, our social responsibility initiatives have expanded. Our support for children affected by Type 1 diabetes, in collaboration with the Idhayangal Trust, has helped over 140 children by providing life-saving insulin. This initiative exemplifies our belief in contributing to the well-being of society, especially to those who need it the most.

As we look ahead, the vision of *Viksit Bharat 2047* provides a compelling framework for our nation's development. At SASTRA, we are aligning ourselves with this vision, focusing on research, innovation, and preparing our students for a rapidly changing global workforce. Our efforts are aimed at making India a developed nation by 2047, a goal that we wholeheartedly support.

Our University Day celebration is a proud moment where Shri Abhay Jere, Vice-Chairman of AICTE, emphasised the importance of preparing students for the evolving workplace, especially with the rise of the gig economy and technological advancements. Recognising the achievements

of our outgoing students and awarding our faculty for their research excellence further showcased our dedication to nurturing talent.

Our participation in the Vice-Chancellors' conference highlighted the importance of continuous adaptation to meet the changing demands of higher education. Tamil Nadu Governor Shri R.N. Ravi acknowledged the impactful discussions and reinforced our collective responsibility to improve the academic environment in the state. I also had the opportunity to share insights on how we, as educators, must embrace growth and change in order to provide the best for our students.

Additionally, recent discussions surrounding NEET and medical counselling delays led to important deliberations with AICTE Chairman Shri T.G. Sitharam and other academic leaders. We have requested an increase in student intake by 10% to ensure that institutions ranked in the top 100 of the NIRF can accommodate the growing demand for quality education.

I thank all the students, faculty, and staff for their dedication and hard work. Together, we will continue to push the boundaries of education and innovation, shaping a brighter future for our society and nation.

Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam

Vice-Chancellor

MoUs

Bosch Global Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

SASTRA Deemed University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bosch Global Software Technologies Private Limited (formerly Robert Bosch Engineering and Business Solutions Private Limited) on April 22, 2024, at the SASTRA University campus in Thanjavur. Prof. John Bosco Balaguru, Dean, Sponsored Research, delivered the welcome address. Shri Mohan Bellur, Head of University Relations, Fresher Hiring, and Early Talent Management at Bosch, announced that the MoU encompasses joint research, prototype model development, and the establishment of necessary project infrastructure, including a lab at SASTRA. He also mentioned that Bosch conducts hackathons to identify top campus talent and offers

internships for students, sabbaticals for faculty, and joint research opportunities with various academic institutions. Prof. R. Chandramouli, Registrar, SASTRA, and Shri S. Kamalanathan, Programme Director of Home Appliances at Bosch, signed and exchanged the MoUs.



Scholarship

On April 25, 2024, SASTRA Deemed University signed an MoU with the Indian Navy and Naval Welfare & Wellness Association (NWWA) in New Delhi. Under this MoU, SASTRA will offer 100% scholarships with free boarding and lodging to the wards of Naval personnel who died in the line of duty. Additionally, a 50% scholarship will be provided to the wards of serving Navy personnel. The MoU was signed by Cmde G. Rambabu, Commodore (NE), Indian Navy, Smt. Kala Hari Kumar, President of NWWA, and Prof. R. Chandramouli, Registrar of SASTRA. SASTRA extends its gratitude to the Indian Navy and NWWA for their partnership and trust.



Renewal of MoU

SASTRA Deemed University, has renewed its MoU with Deakin University, Australia, to strengthen academic and research collaborations. The partnership, which began in 2008, aims to expand joint initiatives by facilitating student mobility across undergraduate, postgraduate,

and Ph.D. programmes, and advancing collaborative research. The renewed MoU was signed by Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor of SASTRA, and Prof. K. Baskaran, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Associate Dean of International and Partnerships at Deakin University. The MoU was exchanged on June 24, 2024, at the SASTRA campus.



Book Release

On April 10, 2024, during a book release function in Chennai, eminent jurist Shri K. Parasaran and SASTRA Deemed University released the book 'Miscellaneous Legal Wisdom from Valmiki Ramayana and Retrospective,' co-authored by Dr. Sudha Seshayan, Director, SASTRA Chennai campus. Shri S. Gurumurthy, author of 'Tughlaq,' received the first copy. The event was attended by distinguished guests, including SASTRA Chancellor Shri R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Vaidyasubramaniam, former minister Shri H. V. Handay, former MP Shri D.K. Rangarajan, high court judges, and lawyers.



Medical Assistance - Type 1 Diabetics

On April 11, 2024, a medical camp was recently held at Thanjavur Government Rajah Mirasdar Hospital by Idhayangal Trust, Coimbatore, to provide medication for children affected by Type 1 diabetes. Dr. Krishnan Swaminathan, Founder and

Managing Trustee of Idhayangal Trust, highlighted that 20,000 children suffer from the disease. He has been identifying, supporting, and following up with underprivileged children across the state, providing them with high-quality medicines, glucometers, and 100 strips monthly. SASTRA supported about 140 children diagnosed with the disease by providing insulin at a cost of Rs 40 lakh. Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning & Development, SASTRA Deemed University, stated that these children will receive support for the entire year. Additionally, Dr. Krishnan Swaminathan presented Rs 1.00 lakh to the SASTRA team for developing a bioartificial pancreas.



Vision

On April 28, 2024, NitiAayog CEO Shri B.V.R.Subrahmanyam delivered the 18th City Union Bank (CUB) V. Narayanan Memorial Lecture at SASTRA Deemed University, where he outlined the *Viksit Bharat 2047* vision, which aspires to make India a developed nation by 2047. He highlighted the nation's diverse economy, driven by economic growth, demographic advantage, geopolitical positioning, and rapid technological adoption. The event was opened by SASTRA Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, and Shri N. Kamakodi, CEO & MD of City Union Bank, delivered the vote of thanks.



University Day

On April 28, 2024, during University Day celebration in Thanjavur, Shri Abhay Jere, Vice-Chairman of AICTE, emphasised the need for higher educational institutions to prepare students for the evolving demands of the workplace, especially in the context of the gig economy and rapidly advancing technologies. At the event, Shri Abhay Jere awarded prizes to outgoing students in recognition of their achievements and contributions. He also presented research awards to faculty members and Ph.D. scholars, acknowledging their dedication and excellence in academic research. Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor, delivered the annual report, detailing the University's accomplishments over the past year and its ongoing initiatives to enhance educational standards and research capabilities. The event celebrated the University's commitment to academic excellence and its proactive approach to addressing future challenges in higher education.



Valediction - Vice-Chancellors' Conference

On May 28, 2024, at the valedictory function of the Vice-Chancellors' conference held at Raj Bhavan in Udhamandalam, Tamil Nadu Governor Shri R.N. Ravi expressed his gratitude and congratulations to the participants for their impactful deliberations during the conference. He conveyed his hope and confidence that the insights gained during the conference would significantly contribute to improving the academic environment. Prof. S. Vaidyasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor of SASTRA Deemed University, also offered valuable inputs and emphasised the need for continuous adaptation and growth in response to evolving educational demands. The event highlighted the commitment of academic leaders to advancing the quality

and impact of higher education in Tamil Nadu.



During a discussion held on June 26, 2024, Shri T.G. Sitharam, AICTE Chairman, Shri Abhay Meganathan, Vice-Chairman of Rajalakshmi Group of Institutions, Shri Jayaprakash Gandhi, career consultant, and Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor of SASTRA Deemed University, addressed concerns about irregularities in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) and the uncertainty surrounding this year's medical counseling. In light of these issues, Engineering Colleges and Deemed Universities are requesting a 10% increase in seat capacity to prevent potential wastage. Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam has called on the AICTE to allow universities and autonomous colleges ranked within the top 100 in the NIRF to admit 10% more students for the 2024-25 academic year.

Workshops/ Seminars/Lecture Series

The Research Club of the School of Management hosted a guest lecture on April 3, 2024, 'Unlocking Innovation: The Role of Data Science in Management Research.' Prof. A. Raja Gopal, an expert in Six Sigma, SQC, and OR, shared his insights on data science's pivotal role in advancing management research.



On April 13, 2024, the Civil Engineering Association of SASTRA and the Indian Concrete Institute (ICI-Thanjavur chapter) hosted a hybrid workshop on '3D Printing in Construction' at the School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA. Dr. Prabhat Ranjan Prem, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC, Chennai, Dr. A. V. Rahul, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupathi and Dr. Najeeb Shariff Mohammad, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, led the session, benefiting 113 participants with insights into 3D printing technology's applications and challenges in construction.



On April 27, 2024, Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, CEO of NITI Aayog, delivered the XVIII CUB Shri V. Narayan Memorial Lecture. He discussed India's economic growth, demographic dividend, and technology adoption, emphasising the need for global standards. Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam and Dr. N. Kamakodi, CEO and MD of City Union Bank, also participated in the event.



A two-day workshop titled 'Teaching Skills for Budding Teachers' was organised by the Department of English, School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities, and Education, on June 3-4, 2024. The workshop aimed to enhance essential teaching competencies for Teaching Assistants, addressing topics such as lecturing skills, classroom etiquette, AI tools, outcome-based teaching, and experiential learning. Led by senior faculty members, the programme saw participation from approximately 40 Teaching Assistants

from SASHE and the School of Management.



A two-day workshop on 'Digital Control of Power Electronics & Drives,' coordinated by Dr. K. Arun and Shri A. Kannabhiran from the School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, took place on June 6-7, 2024. Day 1 covered digital control fundamentals, power electronics controllers, and MATLAB/Simulink sessions. Day 2 focused on advanced techniques, embedded systems, and hardware implementation, concluding with a panel discussion on future trends.



Under the TATA Palkhivala Chair on AI & ADR at the School of Law, SASTRA Deemed University, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, University of Oxford, and CNRS, a two-day workshop on 'Dispute Resolution in Major Industrial Projects Involving State Parties' was held at SASTRA's Chennai campus on June 12-13, 2024. Facilitated by Shri Florian Grisel (University of Oxford and CNRS) and moderated by Shri Amrith Bhargav (Attorney & Fellow, SASTRA), the workshop featured speakers Shri Shahla Ali (University of Hong Kong), Shri Hafez Virjee (Delos Dispute Resolution), Shri EdernCoent (Mayer Brown, Singapore), and Smt. Jennifer Lim (Sidley Austin LLP, Singapore). The event included a panel discussion on international commercial arbitration involving state entities with panelists Shri Ganesh Chandru, Shri Anirudh Krishnan, Shri Pramod Nair, Shri Thriyambak J Kannan,

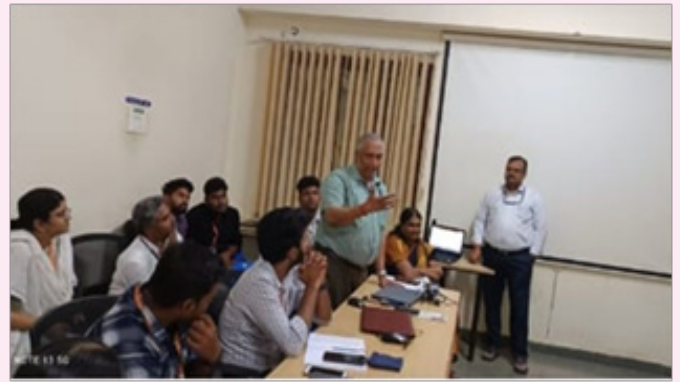
Smt. Kshama A. Loya, and Shri Florian Grisel (TBC). The general discussion on learning outcomes was led by Shri Florian Grisel and Dr. S. Sangeetha (SASTRA Deemed University). Shri K.E. Seetha Ram (Task Manager, ADBI) delivered the closing remarks.



School of Chemical & Biotechnology organised a 'Schrödinger Workshop on 'Life Science and Material Science' (DBT-BIC) from June 27 to July 3, 2024, for Ph.D. scholars and faculty members. A four-member Schrödinger team provided training to 65 PhD scholars and 10 faculty members on using Schrödinger Software for tasks such as identifying transition states, reaction kinetics, electrocatalytic applications, molecular docking, drug discovery, and protein engineering. The workshop also addressed individual research challenges, helping participants familiarize themselves with this powerful computational platform for drug development and materials applications.



On June 29, 2024, the School of Management hosted a workshop on 'Teaching with Cases,' led by Dr. S. Selvabaskar, Dean (i/c) and Prof. Dr. V. Srinivasakumar. MBA faculty engaged in discussions on four Harvard case studies, learning effective techniques for case study analysis and fostering critical thinking and collaborative learning.



School Activities

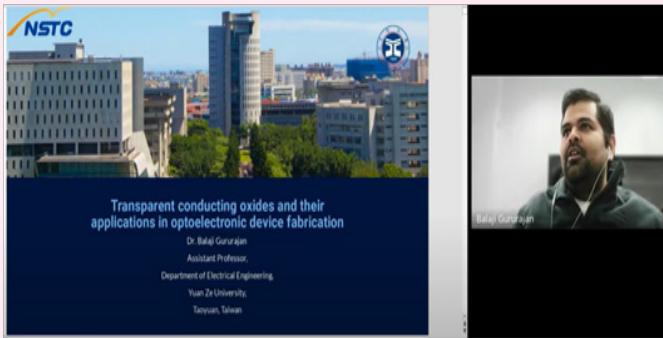
School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Dr. A. Rajesh, Associate Professor, delivered a session on '5G IoT Enabled ICT and Advancing Society through Intelligent Connectivity' at the workshop on 5G Use Case Labs held at IIT Madras on April 1, 2024. The event was organised by the National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation, and Training, the apex training institute of the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India. Dr. Rajesh was honoured with the 'Distinguished Speaker' Award for his presentation. Dr. James A. Baskaradas from the School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering also participated in the event.



On April 11, 2024, Dr. Balaji Gururajan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at Yuan Ze University, Taiwan, delivered a KLF Lecture on 'Transparent Conducting Oxides and Their Applications in Optoelectronic Device Fabrication.' He highlighted the crucial role of solar energy for the future and detailed various methods for fine-tuning the efficiency of solar cells. He also discussed opportunities for internships and higher education at Yuan Ze University. A proud alumnus of

SASTRA Deemed University, Dr. Balaji completed his M. Tech. in Nanoelectronics during 2013-15.



On May 9, 2024, the research scholar group KRIYA organised an invited talk featuring Dr. Ramya Vijay, Assistant Professor, Department of ECE, SEEE. Dr. Ramya delivered an insightful presentation on the topic 'Benefits of IEEE Membership.' The session highlighted the numerous advantages IEEE membership provides to scholars in technology and engineering fields.



A 10-day internship on 'Electric Drives & Control' was held from June 10–20, 2024, with 30 participants. Coordinated by Dr. R. Sriranjani, Senior Assistant Professor and Shri A. Kannabhiran, Assistant Professor, the programme covered electric drive fundamentals, control techniques, and IoT integration, featuring MATLAB/Simulink simulations, hardware implementation, and project presentations, culminating in a certification ceremony.



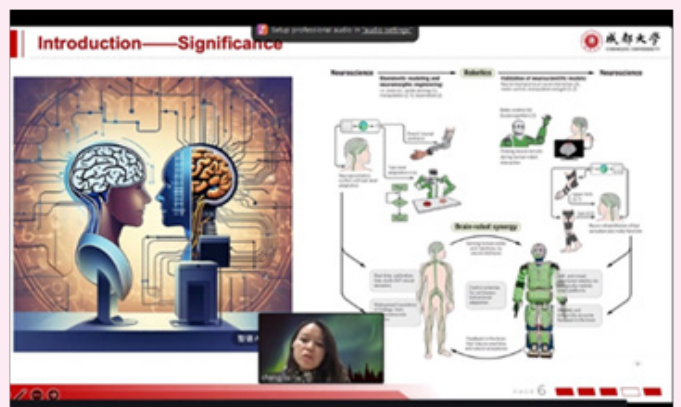
School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering and IEEE SB (STB 10171), SASTRA, organised a six-day FDP on 'A Gateway to Quantum Computing – Hands-on Approach' from June 24-29, 2024,

at SASTRA Deemed University. The programme covered Quantum computing evolution, Quantum mechanics, essential mathematics, and applications in Blockchain, with hands-on sessions on key sequence generation, image metrics, and NIST test suite evaluation. Dr. Padmapriya Pravinkumar convened the FDP, benefiting 18 participants, including faculty, researchers, and students.



School of Computing

On May 31, 2024, a Tech Talk on 'Decoding the Brain: Utilizing Machine Learning for Neuroscience Research' was delivered by Dr. Chang Liu, Professor and Vice Dean at the College of Computer Science & College of H3C IT, Chengdu University, China. Dr. Liu's presentation, organised by ACE, captivated attendees with its focus on using machine learning in neuroscience. She covered topics from neuro-imaging to disease insights, discussing current trends like Structural vs. Functional MRI scans, non-invasive brain examination techniques, biometric modeling, neuromorphic engineering, and brain-robot synergy. Faculty from SASTRA Main Campus and SRC-SASTRA Kumbakonam attended this insightful online session.



The VLSI Team from the School of Computing hosted the second edition of a six-day Faculty Development Programme and Workshop on Digital Design Prototyping using

FPGA from June 3 to June 8, 2024, in collaboration with CoreEL Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore. The event attracted 50 participants from various institutions and focused on Verilog HDL and FPGA prototyping. Sessions were conducted by faculty and industry experts, providing in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience, significantly enhancing participants' skills in digital design.



On June 22, 2024, School of Computing hosted a one-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on Large Language Models/Generative AI, led by Shri Nagarajan Karupiah, VP and Head of AI at Tata Digital Ltd. Shri Karupiah shared valuable industry insights, exploring fundamental concepts and enterprise applications of Generative AI. Organised by Dr.V.S. Shankar Sriram, Dean, School of Computing, the FDP involved 21 faculty members, who engaged in hands-on activities like prompting, retrieval augmentation, and building GPT models. The session concluded with a traditional Tanjavur painting presented to Shri Karupiah as a token of appreciation.

School of Mechanical Engineering

A SIEMENS-sponsored Skill Development Programme on 'Machine Design Using SIEMENS Solid Edge' was collaboratively organised by the School of Mechanical Engineering at SASTRA Deemed University and Coimbatore CAD Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore. The 6-day programme took place from June 24 to 29, 2024, and was open for registration to third and final year students of the School of Mechanical Engineering for the academic year 2024-25. The training was conducted by two resource persons, Shri J. Abdullah, Chief Technical Officer, and Shri Chandra Mohan, Application Engineer, from Coimbatore CAD Solutions Pvt. Ltd. On the final day, an examination was held for participants to earn a SIEMENS E-Certificate, with

56 students successfully completing the programme.



MECASSO valedictory function was held on April 20, 2024. Dr. P. Srinivasan, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at BITS Pilani, was the chief guest. In his address, he highlighted the vital role of energy, environment, and economics in India's sustainable development, emphasising the importance of renewable energy. He noted India's leadership in renewable energy markets, driven by strong government support and favourable conditions. He also discussed India's potential in clean energy transitions, particularly in renewable batteries and green hydrogen, with a market opportunity of \$80 billion by 2030. The event concluded with thanks to the Dean, faculty, and MECASSO members for their efforts throughout the academic year 2023-24.



School of Civil Engineering

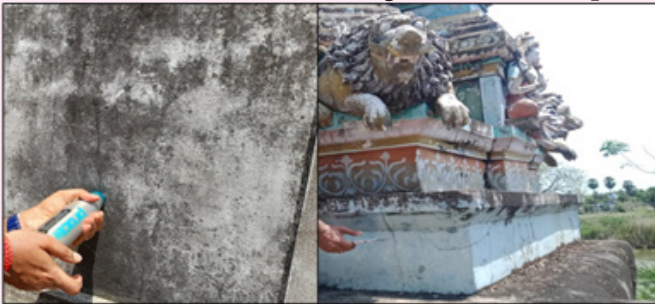
On April 12, 2024, a field visit to Medicare Enviro Systems – Biomedical Waste Treatment Plant in Ayyothipatti, organised by the School of Civil Engineering, provided students with practical insights into biomedical waste management. They learned about waste classification, handling, and disposal methods, including autoclaving, incineration, and chemical disinfection, enhancing their understanding of environmental sustainability and public health.



The Civil Engineering Association's valedictory function for the 2023-24 academic year was held on April 22, 2024, chaired by Dr. T. R. Neelakantan, Dean. Dr. M. Mahalakshmi, Assistant Professor, reviewed the year's activities, and students were awarded prizes for their academic and co-curricular achievements.



On May 31, 2024, a team from the School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA Deemed to be University, inspected the temple's gopuram for structural stability. They conducted non-destructive testing with a rebound hammer and measured cracks with a digital Vernier caliper. They recommended targeted rehabilitation to address water leakage and visible cracks, avoiding extensive repairs.



School of Management

On April 9, 2024, the Abraham Maslow HR Club was inaugurated at Chanakya Auditorium by Prof. S. Selvabaskar, Dean – i/c. Dr. C. Vijayabanu, Professor and Dr. N. Shobhana, Assistant Professor,

outlined club activities and announced office bearers. A roleplay, 'Southwest Airlines - HR Policies at 32,000 ft,' highlighted innovative HR practices and moral values.



On April 11, 2024, the Philip Kotler Marketing Club was inaugurated at Chanakya Auditorium under the leadership of Prof. S. Selvabaskar, Dean – i/c. Dr. R. Renganathan, Senior Assistant Professor and Dr. R. Gayathri, Assistant Professor, detailed club activities and announced office bearers. Guest speaker Shri ManojJeevagan, CEO of Jobbycart Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Chennai, discussed 'The Impact of AI in Digital Marketing.'



Dr. V. Badrinath, Dean of Corporate Relations and Extension Activities, and Dr. V. Vijay Anand, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Management participated in a one-day training programme on 'My Bharat Portal' organised by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. The event, sponsored by the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, took place on April 26, 2024, in New Delhi.



From May 2-7, 2024, Dr. C. Therasa, Assistant Professor, Dr. V. Arun Kumar, Assistant Professor and Dr. S. Rahini, Assistant Professor, attended a six-day 'NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme' workshop. Held by the Teaching Learning Centre at IIT Madras, the event was part of UGC's Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme.



From June 3-5, 2024, MBA students at SASTRA Campus, Chennai, participated in a 'Business Skills Workshop' before starting their Business Simulation course. This three-day orientation, led by Dr. K. Nigama, Sr. Assistant Professor, Dr. V Arun Kumar, Assistant Professor and Dr. Vinod Dumblekar, CEO of Mantis, aimed to enhance their business skills and management knowledge.



On June 5, 2024, Dr. P. Suganthi, Assistant Professor, School of Management, published an article in THE HINDU (Tamil) titled 'The Role of Data Analytics in Politics.' It explores how data analytics transforms political campaigns, highlights ethical challenges, and emphasises the importance of transparency in shaping political strategies.

On June 28, 2024, School of Management faculty from SASTRA's main campus, Srinivasa Ramanujam Centre (SRC) Kumbakonam campus, and Chennai campus met to discuss academic and administrative matters. The meeting aimed to unify educational approaches and streamline operations, focusing on academic integration, research collaboration, student support, technology, and community engagement.



School of Law

Moot Court Achievements

Chi. S. Kamesh, IV year B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), Chi. K. Swaminathan, and Chi. Sisir Rao from IV year B.Com., LL.B. (Hons.) were declared winners of the II International Moot Court Competition conducted by the School of Law, Karnavati University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, on April 13, 2024. Chi.S. Kamesh also received the Best Speaker award. The team won a cash prize of Rs. 50,000, with an additional Rs. 10,000 awarded to the Best Speaker.



Chi. Tamil Maaran, Kum. Jenitha Darshini, both from IV Year B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), and Kum. Bowya Darshini, III Year B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) were named Runners-up in the II National Level Tamil Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition held by TNNLU, Trichy, on April 14, 2024. Kum. Jenitha Darshini also received the Best Speaker (Female) award. The team was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 10,000, with an additional Rs. 5,000 for the Best Speaker.



Chi. SasiBaradwaj, an Advocate Clerk at the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and a graduate of SASTRA Deemed to be University B.Com., LL.B. (Hons.), 2018-2023 batch, along with his teammate Chi. Raghav, were named Runners-up in the Supreme Court Law Clerks' Moot Court Competition, organised by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on April 28, 2024. The finals were judged by Hon'ble Shri Justice P.S.Narasimha, Judge, Supreme Court of India, and Senior Advocate Smt. Rebecca John.



Kum. Arya Anushree, Kum. JenithaDarshini from B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), and Chi. B. DamodarNarayana from IV year B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) were declared the Winners of the IV REVA National Moot Court Competition, organised by REVA University, Bengaluru, on May 4, 2024. The team received a trophy, certificates, and a cash prize of Rs. 30,000. Kum. JenithaDarshini was also recognised as the Best Speaker in the competition.



School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education

As part of the Prakashika Club, the Math Club organised an engaging event titled 'Connection Game and Activity' on April 12, 2024.



The educational movie '12th Fail' was screened for all students of the integrated B.A., B.Ed./B.Sc., B.Ed. programmes on May 10, 2024. The motivational film captivated the students, leaving them spellbound.



Students from the first to IV year Int. B.A., B.Ed./B.Sc., B.Ed. programmes embarked on a field trip to Trichy Planetarium and Kallanai Dam on May 11, 2024. The trip was organised and facilitated by the School of Education (SOE) faculty members.



School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities, and Education (SASHE) conducted the 'Summer Internship in Mathematics for School Students 2024' from May 13-31, 2024, under Dr. Sridharan, Associate Dean - Research. The internship aimed to enhance math skills and critical thinking through hands-on experiences. Out of over 100 applications, 20 students were selected. The program included visits to Ramanujan House, Ramanujan Museum, Kumbakonam temples, and Thiruvaiyaru village, emphasising the importance of mathematics and current research.

The Pre-Internship Orientation, held from May 16 to 21, 2024, guided II, III, and IV-year students on record maintenance, classroom behaviour, and

internship procedures. Led by Dr. UshaAjithKumar and SOE faculty, it featured separate sessions for II year (Observation) and III and IV-year (Teaching) phases, covering various essential topics.



Dr. S. Brindha, Assistant Professor, was a resource person for the webinar 'Understanding the Learner,' organised by the Department of Psychology at the American College, Madurai, on May 19, 2024.

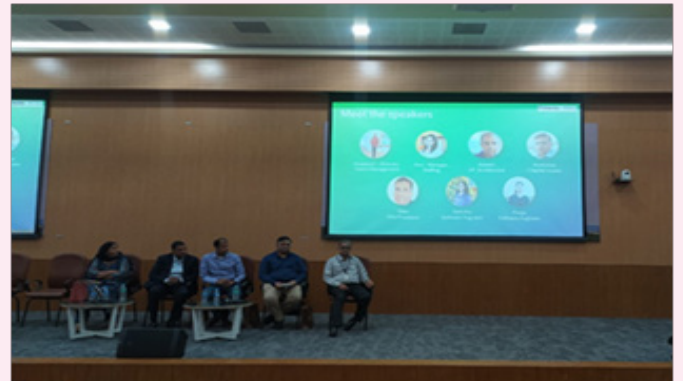
Dr. R. Jayasree completed the NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitisation Programme under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Held at UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, Bharathidasan University, from June 18 to June 27, 2024

Corporate Relations and Department of Training and Placement

As of June 30, 2024, campus placements for the AY 2023-24 have seen significant success, with 246 companies visiting the campus and extending 2,175 offers. A total of 1,766 students have secured placements. For the upcoming 2024-25 graduating batch, pre-placement training was conducted from May 18 to 30, 2024, with 1,650 students participating. Additionally, through summer internship hiring, 98 students received a total of 105 internship offers, further enhancing their career prospects.

On April 8, 2024, M/s Fidelity Investments, a US-based multinational corporation and regular recruiter at SASTRA, engaged with around 300 II year female students from circuit branches to explore career opportunities and discuss future hiring expectations. The event, titled 'Fidbuds,' featured presentations by Smt. VisalakshiPasupatheeswaran (Director), Smt. AnuSathyanarayanan (Manager), Shri

Shan Sasudharan (Vice President), Shri Aravind Sundaravaradan (Chapter Lead), and Shri AshwinVeeravalli (VP, Architecture). SASTRA alumni Kum. Pooja and Kum. Mahita, now Software Engineers at Fidelity, also shared their insights.



A voter awareness programme was organised at SASTRA Main Campus on April 11, 2024, by I year B. Optometry students. An oratorical contest on the topic 'My Vote, My India' was held on April 9, 2024, open to all UG and PG students. Shri Joseph Victor Raj, Coordinator of Tamil Nadu Election Watch, presided over the event, distributing prizes to the winners of the oratorical contest and certificates to all participants. Dr. V. Badrinath, Dean, Corporate Relations and Extension Activities, addressed the students, emphasising the importance of fair participation in elections.



Two job fairs were conducted at SASTRA Main Campus in collaboration with NaanMudhalvan – Government of Tamil Nadu: one for Engineering students and another for Diploma and Arts and Science students. The Engineering job fair took place on May 17, 2024, with around 500 students from 20 Engineering institutions in and around Thanjavur, including SASTRA, participating. A total of 273 offers were received from 36 companies. The job fair for Diploma and Arts & Science students was held on June 19, 2024.



Faculty Achievements

Prof. V. Muthubalan, Associate Dean-Research, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering visited Binghamton University, New York, USA, under the G20 Chair Professor Programme from April 23rd to May 30th, 2024. During his visit, he established academic collaborations in the fields of AI, machine learning, electronics manufacturing, and healthcare.



Prof. V. Ponnusami, Associate Dean, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, visited the University of Toronto, Memorial University of Newfoundland, and Toronto Metropolitan University from April 30 to June 5, 2024, as a SASTRA-G20 Professor. He discussed SASTRA's Semester Abroad Programme, explored dual/joint programs, strengthened research collaborations, and considered MoUs for joint initiatives.



Dr. P. R. Naren, Head of the Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) at SASTRA, visited the National University of Singapore's CTLT from May 1-30, 2024, under the SASTRA Indo-G20 Faculty Exchange programme. The visit aimed to adopt best practices in teaching and learning, leading to potential research collaboration and TLC-talk sessions with NUS faculty.



Dr. Sakthivel Gandhi, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, G20 Faculty Award recipient, conducted a research visit at NIMS, Japan, from May 6 to June 5, 2024. Collaborating with Prof. Masanori Kikuchi, he synthesised compounds like hydroxyapatite and mesoporous silica. His visit included exploring advanced techniques, fostering potential collaborations, and paving the way for future bilateral projects and workshops.



Dr. Ashok Palaniappan, Associate Professor, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, SASTRA Indo-G20 Faculty, visited Prof. Krishnan Suresh at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 16 - June 30, 2024). The visit focused on a multi-objective optimization problem in computational finance, course development in Quantum Computing, and interactions with faculty and graduate students on various research topics.



As part of the G20 Chair Professor Programme, Dr. K. Narayanan, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering visited the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, from May 20 to June 28, 2024. During his visit, he collaborated with Prof. Mithulan Nadarajah's lab at the University of Queensland.



Dr. S. Thamocharan, Associate Professor, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, SASTRA Indo-G20 Faculty Award recipient, visited Prof. Judith Percino's lab at BUAP, Mexico (June 6 - July 8, 2024). He collaborated on research, delivered a lecture on acrylonitrile derivatives at INAOE, and conducted a workshop on Quantum Chemical Calculations. He also explored potential research collaborations at BUAP's labs.



Dr. Mahalakshmi Mathivanan, Assistant Professor, School of Civil Engineering participated in an Academic Research Exchange Program (Indo-G20) at CIEMAD, IPN-Mexico from May 24 to June 14, 2024. The programme aimed to enhance collaboration and explore research opportunities, featuring interactions with faculty, conference participation, and research facility visits.



Dr. Noori Saady, Associate Professor from Memorial University, Canada, visited SASTRA Deemed University, as part of the G20 Chair Professor programme. On June 26, 2024, he discussed his University's rankings and research, and presented a lecture on 'Empowering Communities to Address Climate Change Challenges.' He explored collaboration opportunities and toured the School of Civil Engineering laboratories on June 27.



Dr. S. Brindha, Assistant Professor, School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education, became a life member of the Tamil Nadu Counsellors and Psychotherapists Association (TNCPA). This membership reflects her dedication to the field of counseling and psychotherapy in Tamil Nadu.

On April 23, 2024, Dr. B. Lalitha Bala, Assistant Professor, School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education, participated in a world record event, delivering research orations on 193 Tamil personalities over 100 days via Zoom. This record-setting event was organised by *Bharathi Bhavnar Senthamizh Vanam*, Tamil Nadu.



Students' Achievements

Kum. Namuni Sneha, a Ph.D. student under the guidance of Dr. S. Kiruthika from School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, delivered an oral presentation titled 'Flexible and Transparent Breath Sensors and Conducting Electrodes Based on Highly Interconnected Au Nanoparticle Network' at the IEEE International Conference 5NANO-2024. The conference took place at VISAT Engineering College, Ernakulam, Kerala, on April 25th and 26th, 2024. Kum. Sneha was honoured with the 'Best Paper Award,' receiving a memento and a certificate for her outstanding work.



Chi. Abijith and Chi. Siddharth (III year B.Tech. Biotech) secured II place and a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh in the YI IDS 2024 competition under Dr. N. Saisubramanian's mentorship. Their innovative biofilm consortium for urban sewage treatment excelled through stages of ideation, implementation, and final pitching, standing out among 1,000 applicants.



Sixteen students (2020-2024) from the four-year integrated B.A., B.Ed./B.Sc., B.Ed. programmes secured placements in esteemed schools across Thanjavur, Trichy, Karur, and Arunachal Pradesh, with an average package of INR 20,000. Notably, Kum. Sahasra, a final-year B.Sc., B.Ed. student, received the Dr. T.N. Ramachandran Award, including a certificate and INR 5000, from the Registrar.



NCC

4(TN) Girls

CDT. S. Shruti Saatvika (126137007) from B.Sc., B.Ed. Mathematics attended the pre-training TSC camp with the 4(TN) Girls Battalion from June 15 to June 22, 2024. She was subsequently selected for the Group TSC Training Camp at 14 Bn, Dindigul, from June 25 to July 5, 2024. CDT. Saatvika excelled in the Judging Distance and Field Signal Competition, and among 500 cadets, she has been chosen for the next level camp in Kumbakonam, scheduled from July 8 to July 17, 2024.



NSS

On April 3, 2024, as part of *Shaheedi Diwas*, SASTRA NSS organised a Voters' Awareness Campaign featuring a pledge, rally, talk, mock polling, and various competitions. Dr. R. Chandramouli, Registrar, Dr. S. Selvabaskar, Dean i/c, School of Management, and Dr. Ravisekara Raju, Dean, School of Law, awarded prizes for the quiz, speech, and poster presentation winners.



On April 15, 2024, as part of the voter awareness campaign, SASTRA NSS conducted a camp where students made handprint impressions to show their support.



On April 20, 2024, SASTRA NSS students actively participated in the Thanjavur car festival as part of their service camp.

On May 30 and 31, 2024, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and SASTRA Deemed University jointly organised a two-day master trainers' training programme on 'MY (Mere Yuva) Bharat Portal and Digital Literacy.' Dr. P. Ramajeyam, NSS Programme Coordinator at Bharathidasan University, addressed the attendees. Dr. K. S. Rajan, Dean of School of Chemical & Biotechnology, SASTRA, delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates the attendees. Dr. K. S. Rajan, Dean of School of Chemical & Biotechnology, SASTRA, delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates.



On June 17, 2024, SASTRA NSS celebrated *Jambu Dweep Prakadanam Day* at the University Campus. The event featured a special lecture on 'Contribution of Youth towards Sovereignty, Unity, and Integrity of India.' Chief Guest Dr. T. R. Neelakantan, Dean, School of Civil Engineering, addressed the gathering and took the National Integrity and Co-operation pledge. Faculty members, students, and scholars from the Schools of EEE, Mechanical, Computing, and Bio-Tech actively participated in the event.



On June 21, 2024, SASTRA NSS celebrated International Yoga Day. The chief guest, Dr. B. N. Vedhahai from School of Chemical & Biotechnology, delivered a special talk on 'Yoga for Self and Society' and demonstrated several aasanas.



SCORE, KS Upahaar and UBA

From April 9-11, 2024, the DATRI Foundation organised a blood stem cell donation camp, with successful coordination by SCORE and UBA volunteers. Nearly 900 university students participated by providing swab samples and registering as donors.

On April 11, 2024, as part of the SASTRA Community Outreach Programme under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, students were encouraged with the message, 'YOU can be the CURE and the LIFESAVER for a cancer patient.'



On April 13, 2024, KS UPAHAAR concluded its final event for the academic year 2023-24 by visiting the Kangaroo Old Age Home in Crawford, Trichy. Ten team members participated, contributing essential items including stainless steel plates and tumblers, buckets and mugs, and bedsheets.

Sports

XXXX Sports Day

The 40th Sports Day was held on April 17, 2024, with International Kabaddi player Shri D. Cheralathan as the chief guest. The event featured Fuera, Intra-Mural sports and games for students and staff, along with Inter-Collegiate Weight Lifting and Power Lifting competitions. Chi. P. Lokesh (II year Mechatronics) and Kum. R. Abinaya (II year Mechanical) secured the men's and women's Individual Athletics Championships, respectively.



Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean of Planning and Development, presided over the event, while Dr. B. Sriperiya presented the Annual Report.

SRC

International conference on contributions of Ancient Indian Mathematics

Department of Mathematics organised an

International Conference on 'Contributions of Ancient Indian Mathematics to the Development of Science and Technology' on April 10, 2024. The event was inaugurated by former Dean, Prof. K. G. Raghunathan, with notable resource persons including Dr. BhaskarKamble, Dr. N. Kannan, Dr. V. Kannan, Dr. V. Swaminathan, Dr. M. S. Sriram, and Dr. Ramakalyani. Around 160 participants, including students, faculty, and research scholars, benefited from the conference. Dr. D. Narasimhan and Dr. K. Kannan served as coordinators.



XXI Sports Day Celebrations

On April 11, 2024, Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, Kumbakonam, held its XXI Annual Sports Day. Smt. K. Rekha Rani, Inspector of Police, Nannilam, served as the Chief Guest, presenting cups, shields, medals, and certificates to the young athletes. Dr. K. Sathiyamoorthy, the Physical Director, delivered the Annual Sports Report.



International Conference on Innovate, Analyze, Transform: The AI Advantage for Business

Department of Commerce and Management Studies at SRC organised an International Conference titled 'Innovate, Analyze, Transform: The AI Advantage for Business' on April 13, 2024. The conference focused on utilising AI tools to enhance business prospects. Key resource persons included Shri S. Balakumar

from Reliance Foundation, Dr. J. Bharath from Citi Bank, Dr. Dinesh Elango from American University of Phnom Penh, and Shri N. Ramesh from Sri Vedha Dairy, Trichy. Dr. A.S. Mohan, Principal of SKSS Arts College, Thirupanandal, inaugurated the event.



International Conference on Secure Computing and Intelligent Technologies

Department of Computer Science and Engineering at SRC organised an International Conference on Secure Computing and Intelligent Technologies on April 20, 2024. The conference focused on the latest research, methodologies, and advancements in secure computing. Smt. Jeyapradha Ganesh, Scientist-G and Additional Director at DRDO, CVRDE, Chennai, inaugurated the event and delivered a keynote address on AI in defense applications. Dr. V. Kalaiselvi, Associate Professor, SRC, served as the convener.



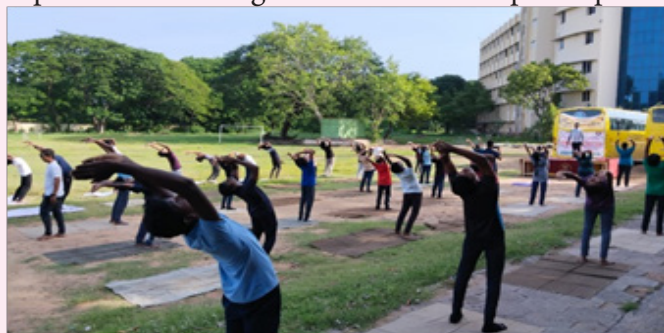
XXIII Annual Day Celebrations

The XXIII Annual Day of Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre was celebrated on May 3, 2024. Col. S. Chandrasekar of 8 TN Battalion served as the chief guest, presenting cash prizes, awards, and certificates to the academic toppers of 2023-2024. In his address, Col. Chandrasekar encouraged students to seize every opportunity to develop new skills and build a strong professional and personal identity. Dr. V. Ramaswamy, Dean of SRC, provided a detailed report on the Centre's activities.



International Yoga Day

On June 21, 2024, the NCC and NSS units at SRC collaborated with the NCC Wing of Government Arts College, Kumbakonam, to celebrate International Yoga Day. Approximately 100 cadets practiced yoga. Shri. R. Sivakumar, a certified yoga trainer, demonstrated various asanas and explained their significance to the participants.



Annadhanam

On April 20, 2024, SASTRA's Kumbakonam campus organised an annadhanam, distributing 8,000 food packets to *padayatra* devotees, led by Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA.



IT IS HAPPENING AT SASTRA

Forthcoming Event

On August 26, 2024, the School of Management, the Thanjavur Chapter of NHRDN, will host a lecture on 'Emotional Intelligence and Project Leadership through HR Analytics'.