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A 3-day Workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation and Problem-Solving'

Considering societal problems as one of the major concerns of tomorrow's engineers, the 'Tomorrow's Engineers Club' of MVJCE conducted a 3-day Workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation and Problem-Solving', from 23rd September to 25th September 2019, at Seminar Hall 4, MVJCE, from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm. The main objective of this Workshop was to provide an opportunity to students from all the disciplines to work together, think out-of-the box, and present solutions to various open-ended problems that we face in our daily lives. 61 students from various engineering disciplines participated in this workshop.

Day 1 (23.9.2019):

The workshop started with a motivational talk by Dr. Nagaraj Sitaram, Principal, MVJCE.

The facilitators for the 1st day of the workshop were Prof. Muralidhara R (HOD, Dept. of Civil Engineering), Prof. Rakesha Sharma (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering), Prof. Naem Ahmed (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Electronics and Communication Engineering) and Prof. Sanchari Saha (HOD, Dept. of Information Science Engineering).

The session started with a brief introduction to the workshop by Prof. Sanchari Saha. Following that, Prof. Rakesha Sharma and Prof. Naem Ahmed highlighted the role of Engineers in solving various societal problems. Prof. Muralidhara R gave a brief outline on creative thinking, innovation and the problem-solving process. 9 teams with interdisciplinary participants were formed. These teams presented various open-ended problems such as:

- 1) Lighting of Street Lights using S.H.W (Sound, Heat, Wind)
- 2) Carbon Ink
- 3) The Red Alert
- 4) Doctor Drone
- 5) Producing Paper using Waste
- 6) Plastic to Activated Carbon
- 7) Integrated Sewage water Management
- 8) Energy/Closed circuit Energy Conservation
- 9) Ambulance alert system/Electrical transmission fault alert system



A 3-day workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation & Problem Solving' by Tomorrow's Engineers Club - Day 1- 23.9.19: Team members presenting problem statement.

Day 2 (24.9.2019):

The facilitator for the 2nd day of the Workshop was Prof. Keerthi Pai (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Chemical Engineering).

The second day of the workshop started with a brainstorming session on the identification of issues around us, by Prof. Keerthi Pai. Through this session, the participants understood the importance of a systematic approach to solving a problem. Following this, the student teams were asked to find the solution for their chosen open-ended problem. The teams presented their solutions to the faculty mentors.



A 3-day workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation & Problem Solving' by Tomorrow's Engineers Club - Day 2- 24.9.19: Team members presenting proposed solution.

Day 3 (25.9.2019):

The facilitators for the 3rd day of the Workshop were Prof. Kavyashree C (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science Engineering), and Prof. Sanchari Saha (HOD, Dept. of Information Science Engineering).

A lecture on 'Types of stakeholders and their Importance in problem-solving' was delivered by Prof. Kavyashree C. Prof. Sanchari Saha explained how to set an objective and an action plan to convert the proposed idea into implementation, to finally create a market-ready product. After this, the teams were asked to identify the various stakeholders for their chosen problem. They

had to explain the importance of those stakeholders in the context of their problem.



A 3-day workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation & Problem Solving' by Tomorrow's Engineers Club - Day 3- 25.9.19: Team members presenting identified stakeholders for their proposed solution

The workshop concluded with the valedictory programme, during which our beloved Principal Dr. Nagaraj Sitaram encouraged the students to convert their idea into a product or prototype. Finally, certificates were distributed to the participants.



A 3-day workshop on 'Creative Thinking, Innovation & Problem Solving' by Tomorrow's Engineers Club - Day 3- 25.9.19: Participants receiving certificates from Dr. Nagaraj Sitaram, Principal, MVJCE.

Outcome:

Students were able to improve their problem-solving skills and understand the importance of thinking out of the box while solving a problem.