vTools Training

REPORT

Date: 10th April 2022

No. of Participants: 65

INTRODUCTION:

SAC IEEE Gujarat Section in association with IEEE GCET SB, IEEE SOU SB, and IEEE ADIT SB had come up with a Virtual vTools Training Session. The IEEE Volunteer Tools (vTools) webpage provides access to a variety of resources for IEEE members and volunteers. The portal streamlines organizational operations and management by providing web-based applications. The session was conducted for IEEE Student Branch Executive Committee Officers to help them get more understanding of vTools. The event was conducted by three speakers from different student branches. They briefed about reporting an event, officer reporting, OU analytics, and many more resources in vTools.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

The participants were graced with the presence of three eminent speakers and experienced vTools users. Swayam Bhalodia, the Chairperson of IEEE GCET SB in 2021, and now a Mentor, IEEE GCET SB. Under his leadership, IEEE GCET, SB won the Special Mention Student Branch Award this year. Giriraj Shah, the Vice-Chairperson of IEEE GCET SB, in the year 2021, and now a Mentor, IEEE GCET SB. He was awarded the prestigious "IEEE Outstanding Student Volunteer 2021" by IEEE India council during INDICON'21 held at IIT- Guwahati for his consistent efforts towards IEEE as a whole. Maharsh Patel, Chairperson of IEEE SOU Women In Engineering AG in the year 2021, and now a Student Advisory Board member, IEEE SOU SB 2022. IEEE Gujarat

Section WIE AG recently recognized him as the Best Supporting WIE Volunteer. He has also leads volunteers at a number of global and council-level events.

ABOUT THE SESSION:

The vTools Training was conducted virtually on the Google Meet platform on 10th April 2022. The session began at 11:30 AM and concluded at 12:45 PM. The Executive Committee members of the various IEEE student branches across Gujarat attended the session, with a total of 65 participants present. Dr. Satvik Khara, IEEE Gujarat Section SAC Vice-chair, also graced the session

After the introduction of the speakers by the hosts, Swayam Bhalodia began the training. He first explained the basic login procedure for vTools. He then went on to describe vTools Student Branch Reporting and vTools Officer Reporting. vTools Student Branch Reporting is where the yearly plans and goals of an IEEE student branch are reported, along with the events they have conducted. The Officer Reporting feature allows authorized users to update the officer database for their respective region, council, or student branch. The process for finalizing and saving any pending changes was also covered by him.

Giriraj Shah took the training ahead and explained some more features out of the plenty offered by vTools. The two key topics covered by him were vTools eNotices and vTools Events. eNotice is a service for email distribution of newsletters, meeting notices, events, and conferences. He discussed the steps which can be used to send eNotices based on a timeframe. He elaborated on how some notices can be categorized as urgent and sent out within just a few hours, while some can be sent out after a few days. He then went through vTools Events, which is used for creating events and their announcements by entering all relevant information. He explained how one can enter any upcoming event on vTools, and fill in the details and category of the same.

After this, the training was taken forward by Maharsh Patel. The two primary topics covered by him were IEEE Membership Validator and IEEE OU Analytics. IEEE Membership Validator is an online facility that allows the designated IEEE staff to securely validate an individual's IEEE member grade and society memberships and returns active member data. IEEE OU Analytics is the graphical tool for access to member data, which is available only to authorized IEEE volunteers. He thoroughly explained how these tools function and how to use them with several illustrations.

CONCLUSION:

It was a tremendous opportunity for the attendees to learn from the speakers. The discussion came to a close with a Q&A session and a vote of gratitude to all of the dignitaries from the IEEE Gujarat Section. The effort put forth by all three Student Branches to make this event a success was amazing. We also expect to see more collaborative events in the future.

SOME GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT:

Giriraj Shah is presenting		
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Editors:

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