



4th ACM-W National Hackathon

16th-17th November 2019

The 4th ACM-W National Hackathon was hosted by Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies and Research (SICSR), Pune, India and sponsored by ACM India, Oracle Academy and TCS. The event aimed at providing students to develop innovative practical solutions to pressing real-world problems. The theme of the event is announced on the spot, and the participants are given 24 hours to build such a product.

The event received a tremendous response and registered over 130 teams, each with 3 students and a mentor, from all over the country. They submitted their innovative project ideas and descriptions for the jury to shortlist, after which 20 teams were selected for the next Skype Interview round. After hours of inspiring interviews, top 10 teams were selected to participate in the final on-site Hackathon at SICSR on 16th and 17th November 2019.



Inauguration and welcome by the students of SICSR

The 4th ACM-W National Hackathon meet was inaugurated with blessings of the Lord by the lighting of the lamp. The students of SICSR welcomed the dignitaries of the day, namely Mr. Chandrashekar Sahastrabudhe (COO ACM-India), Dr. Heena Timani (ACM-W India Chair), Ms. Maria Choudhary (Principal Engineer Oracle, Secretary/Treasurer ACM India), and Prof. Dr. Pravin Metkevar, Deputy Director of SICSR. The participants were made aware of the roles and responsibilities shouldered by ACM and ACM-W throughout the year to encourage women to take up STEM and inculcate a passion for computing sciences in them. The ACM-W National Hackathon meet was declared OPEN by Prof. Dr. Tejaswani Apte.

The participating teams were explained the rules of the hackathon, and the theme was declared as "Environment protection". The eager participants began the process of narrowing down problem statements in the domain, and selected their project topics under the guidance of their mentors.

The teams began to brainstorm their analysis of the topic and their approach to developing a solution to present in the first round of evaluation to be held in 3 hours. The jury conducted a brief interview with each team to discuss their plan forward, and provide feedback for improvements, if any.

A similar evaluation session was held later in the day, to assess the progress made, and

review the project case studies. The jury steered the teams in the right direction to develop the most effective and innovative solution, while maintaining a competitive spirit in them. This ensured that the participants had a strong foundation to build their module in the next 14 hours.

After a whole night of inspiring ideation, the teams made the final touches to their work submitted their videos and presentation of their project. The final evaluation round commenced and the teams presented their projects and illustrated the feasibility and impact of these ideas in the mission to save our Earth. They were judged on the basis of innovation, originality, significance and relevance.



After a long and elaborate discussion within the jury, the winners were finalized. The Valedictory Ceremony function began with a showcase of the efforts taken by the SICSR ACM-W Student Chapter for the past three years, and the new office bearers were felicitated by Prof. Mr. Harshad Gune.

The winners were announced by Dr. Heena Timani as follows:

First position:

College: Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi

Project Title: Before and After effects of Afforestation and Deforestation

Second position:

College: Pune Institute of Computer Technology, Pune

Project Title: Android Application which uses AI technology for environment protection

Third position:

College: MIT Art Design and Technology University, Pune

Project Title: Software to assess Soil Fertility and Conditions

Special Mention:

College: Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies and Research, Pune

Project Title: Water Quality Status



The winning teams awarded by the jury

The event was declared closed on a pleasant and joyful note with words of praise for the participants from the jury.