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# Community News

"All the news that fits"

Volume 1

Issue 7

October 2013



## Synchrony Meet 2013

*"The best help we can offer the youth of today is to prepare them for tomorrow."  
-Mark W. Boyer*

Karen Corda (B.E. Comps)

Our youth is the best resource we have, since it is our biggest asset for tomorrow. DBIT has always been committed to empowering its students, the gen next, to be employable and technologically competent. Living up to these ideals, the Computer Engineering Department, proactive and dedicated to guiding their students in scaling new heights, took an extraordinary step on 3rd October, 2013 with "Synchrony Meet" – an event that went well beyond a panel discussion. This event was led by Mr. Imran Ali Mirza (HOD of Computer Department) and Dr. Amiya Kumar Tripathy, and was made successful by the faculty members of the Computer Department.

The panelists and our alumni, on arrival were ushered into the board room where they interacted with their mentors and faculty members. They expressed their happiness at being back in college and were thrilled to receive an opportunity to communicate with their teachers and mentors about their lives after graduation. The faculty members took pride in the achievements of their protégés and were well pleased with their success.

After this interaction, a panel discussion on the subject "Skills Engineering Graduates Require for Success" - An alumni perspective was in store for the students of DBIT. An extremely apt theme, given the current unsteady economy and the upcoming placement season, was deliberated over for more than an hour and explored openly with the students. And



who could've done this better than our alumni, who as students sat on the same benches just a few years ago! As the students of the Computer Department were ushered into the Mondini Hall, one could sense the anticipation in the air. After a dazzling introduction of each alumnus and their achievements, the mood was set and everyone got in the groove of the event. Along with the pre-decided key topics, a number of related topics right from basic communication skills and corporate politics to standing out in the crowd were also discussed at length. In the ensuing discourse, we came across some differences in opinion between the panel members.

Students were then given the chance to question the alumni and their queries were answered positively and enthusiastically. The students were introduced to the functioning of the corporate world and the words of

advice that the alumni volunteered. The panel discussion instilled confidence in the students making them enthusiastic about the world that awaited their brilliance in the near future.

At the end of the Q&A round, all the panelists were felicitated, following which Ginny Jose, the ACM-DBIT chairperson, concluded the event by thanking all the panelists and guests for honoring DBIT with their presence and apprised them about ACM's endeavor to give the students an extra edge, be it through workshops or events like these.

As the day concluded, conversation over lunch resulted in the alumni building a strong rapport with both the students and the faculty. Synchrony meet will be looked back as an event which set a milestone in ACM-DBIT chapter's chronicles.

## News in Brief

### Backtrack workshop

BackTrack provides users with easy access to a comprehensive and large collection of security-related tools ranging from port scanners to password crackers. Support for Live CD and Live USB functionality allows users to boot BackTrack directly from portable media without requiring installation, though permanent installation to hard disk is also an option.

### Photography Workshop

The main objective of the workshop was to make the students learn the art of photography and how to click pictures with more precision by taking care of every minor part of an image. The workshop formed a base for the next workshop which is Photoshop, where the students can edit images which were clicked during this workshop.

### Photoshop Workshop

Adobe Photoshop has been called the "Swiss army knife" of multimedia applications. It is useful for a number of projects such as photo editing, graphic design, web design, poster design and much more. Two levels of workshops, "Adobe Photoshop: Basics and Advanced," were offered. Students were taught different aspects of Photoshop which can be used in a variety of ways.

### Entrepreneurship Workshop

A workshop where students learnt the ropes of entrepreneurial skills by participating in various activities organized by skilled professionals.

## Community News

*A half yearly newsletter of the ACM Community*

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# Editor's Message



Dear Readers,

With immense pleasure, on behalf of the entire newsletter team, I present, the 2nd edition of the ACM Newsletter for the year 2013. The purpose of our newsletters is to bring forth all the highlights and activities of ACM-DBIT, every semester, the best way we can.

Apart from providing the computing field's premier Digital Library and services to its members with leading-edge publications, conferences, and career resources, we at ACM-DBIT constantly strive to help students keep up with the booming technology by introducing various seminars and workshops which empower them to exhibit their latent skills and constantly help them learn something new and useful. The Synchrony Meet, Entrepreneurship sessions and many other workshops stand testimony to the same.

There are a number of people responsible

for making ACM what it is today. One of whom is Mr. Imran Mirza, Staff Coordinator of ACM DBIT Chapter and Dr. Amiya Kumar Tripathy, Faculty Advisor, for the constant encouragement he has extended throughout the semester. Also I would like to thank our Administrator Fr. Edward, Director Fr. Adolf, Principal Dr. N.G Joag, Head of R&D, Dr.S. Krishnamoorti, Mr. D Sundararajan and Dean Ms. Prasanna Nambiar for their support.

This newsletter is the collective output of the perseverance and dedication exercised by each member of the newsletter team and we thank all our readers for appreciating our efforts. We heartily welcome your reviews, comments and compliments for the improvement of our newsletter.

Happy reading!

Srinidhi Shetty  
Publication Head, ACM-DBIT

## Chairperson Speaks

*"In union lies strength"*

When I was appointed as the new chairperson, I came across the above quote and it inspired me to lead a team of very creative and talented individuals. ACM-DBIT chapter has always had excellent and outstanding results from the past 10 years and has rightfully proved itself to be the superior and exceptionally productive among the other chapters in DBIT. With my designated position, came big responsibilities, high expectations and a bag full of challenges.

I began my journey with my ACM Core committee with a lot of hope, enthusiasm and dedication. In the rainy month of June, we started our expedition, but little could the rains do to dampen the spirits of 15 new people on the job of keeping ACM DBIT where it has always been - the top. The starry eyed students brainstormed with each other day in and day out, formally and informally to bring out what the students of DBIT so much appreciated. We had series of workshops, Industrial Visits, events like Synchrony meet and Refractus to our credit.

We are almost at the end of the semester and yes we still have more to give. ACM-DBIT 'Awesomeness Redefined' as the tag

line goes, we did have an awesome year and there are always very powerful individuals who help us in redefining this awesomeness. I would like to express my heart filled gratitude on behalf of the whole ACM-DBIT team to our Director DBIT Rev. Fr Adolph Furtado who has always been a pillar of strength and also Principal Dr N.G. Joag for his guidance and support, without such influential and inspiring individuals ACM-DBIT wouldn't have achieved such great heights of success. There is always an idea, a vision behind every success of a team and yes the credits of ACM-DBIT's success majorly goes to the most charismatic, dedicated and innovative person Mr Imran Ali Mirza along with the visionary and ingenious Dr Amiya Kumar Tripathy for their relentless support, guidance and belief in us. Last but not the least I can never have enough words to thank my team for their hard work, perseverance, determination and team spirit. It was a wonderful learning experience for me and would thank all the people who believed in me and my team. Thankyou!

Ginny Jose  
Chairperson, ACM-DBIT



**“The value of an idea  
lies in the using of it.”  
—Thomas Edison**

# I CREATE - Aspiring Entrepreneurship Workshop

Karen Corda & Sharon Rodrigues  
(B.E. Comps)

**D**BIT has always been foremost in nurturing ideas and encouraging innovation amongst its students. It is with this vision that, in the month of September 2013, ACM-DBIT along with the Computer Engineering Department, collaborated with the ‘I CREATE’ India, in order to conduct a workshop on Entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurship is the ability of an individual to build and organize his own business and to run it profitably, using various traits like leadership, decision making, innovation, managerial calibre among many others. This workshop aimed to provide the students with a step by step guidance towards learning about entrepreneurship by identifying students who could be mentored for entrepreneurship. It endeavoured to build institutional ability in the development and delivery of entrepreneurship support by providing comprehensive business and entrepreneurship training to the students by helping them develop ideas that would transform into a business venture. The workshop also aspired to boost teamwork

and leadership qualities in students as they were encouraged to work in groups.

A total of 30 students were selected to be a part of this workshop which was held over a span of 5 days and was conducted by Mr. Venkatesh Rangaramu, Mrs. Tejaswini Venkatesh, Mr. Imran Mirza (HOD - Computer Department, DBIT) and by the other ‘I CREATE’ India staff members. Some of the topics covered under this workshop were issues like the qualities of an entrepreneur, market research & opportunity identification, recognising talent, taking an idea to execution, the negotiations game, inexpensive ways to promote your business and Break - Even Analysis.

The workshop began with the introduction of the participants followed by an assignment in which they had to identify 10 Indian business leaders. The students were made aware about the qualities that made these 10 leaders such great luminaries in the industry. The participants were divided into groups where they chose a topic on which they would generate a business plan. Each group had a span of three days to develop and work on their business plan. A competition was held among the participants in order to make the

presentation more interesting.

Apart from business related knowledge, the participants played some games that were conducted by the organisers. They were made aware that a business venture requires an individual to be continuously on his toes using these games. The participants were then given an insight on the important aspects needed to run a successful business like balance book maintenance, the costs involved in setting up a business, marketing aspects, seed planning, and using the abilities of individuals to solve problems in a business. The last day of the workshop involved the business plan presentation wherein participants were supposed to explain how they were going to execute their business plan. During the workshop, the participants were given handouts that furnished improvements in their business plan structure and helped them understand certain business concepts too. Methods to optimise the cost of their business plan were also given to the participants. The knowledge imparted to the participants was extremely useful and it helped the participants develop an inclination towards starting their own business. Overall the workshop was a booming success.

## News in Brief

### SE industrial visit to Volkswagen

The Volkswagen plant gave an insight about the cutting edge technologies that are being used to roll out the fine line of cars it produces.

### Web-o-Mania

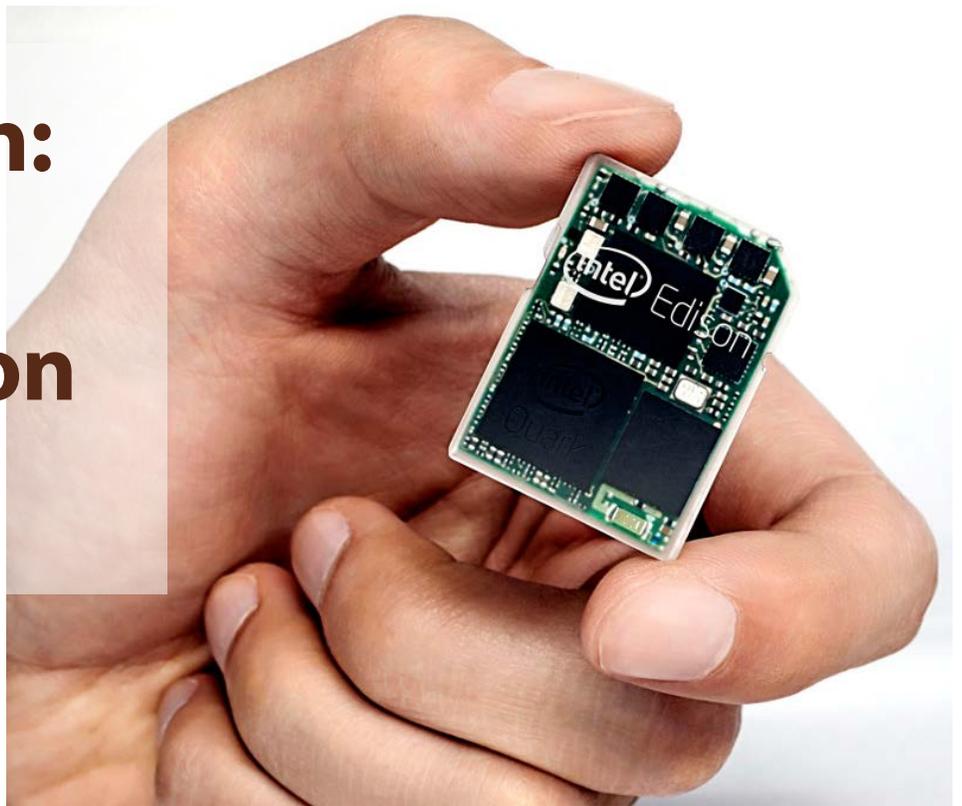
Web-o-mania was conducted as a series over a period of 4 weeks. Topics related to Web Design and Development were covered each day. There were approximately 30 attendees on each day with some workshops like PHP getting a response of more than 60 people.

# Intel Edison: The wizard of the Silicon Valley

Roshan Lasrado (S.E. Comps)

The International Consumers Electronic Show (CES), known for introducing us to technological innovations like the Videocassette Recorder (VCR), The Plasma TV, The Blu-Ray Disc, this year has in store for us another brilliant piece of technology, The Edison. Straight from the heart of the Silicon Valley comes a tiny, ultra-power-efficient computing platform, the size of an SD card that is small enough to be dropped into just about anything and turn it smart. It is a platform which can be designed to work with almost any device—not just computers, phones or tablets, but chairs, coffeemakers and even coffee cups.

Intel CEO Brian Krzanich described Edison as a full Pentium-class PC that's the size and shape of an SD card. The



Intel Edison is a low-power computing chip that flaunts a 22nm Dual core Intel Quark processor and runs at a frequency of 400MHz. The Edison also features an integrated Wi-Fi and Bluetooth LE connectivity in addition to LPDDR2 memory and NAND-based storage. The device is also capable of running a fully functional Linux kernel along with a Real Time Operating System (RTOS). Apart from having its own app store, the Edison also has Wolfram Alpha's Mathematical baked in by default.

Krzanich admitted that wearable technology were an area that needed

kick-starting. “Why aren't wearable technology everywhere, what's holding back wearable technology in this market place?” he asked. He also pointed out that current wearable technology require the user to carry another device at the same time, and they don't solve real life problems. To fix that, he called for the industry to “make everything smart” and advised that “simplicity makes technology desirable.”

To demonstrate the potential for Edison, Intel showcased a concept called “Mimo Baby Monitor” developed by Rest Devices at MIT. It is essentially an onesie featuring a “Turtle” device full of sensors that monitors heart rate and how a baby is breathing, as well as how much and when the child moves around in the night. Edison was used to display that information on, of all things, a coffee mug. When the baby is comfortable, blinking lights on the mug show a happy green smiling face, but when something is wrong that face turns red. A much more useful application, however, involved using Edison to switch on a bottle warmer whenever the baby started to stir, in that way it was ready by feeding time.

The Edison chips were notified to be available by mid-2014 and to help spur innovation Intel announced a competition called “Make It Wearable” to develop wearable technology using Edison. The top prize was declared to be \$500,000, with a total \$1.3 million at stake, and the top ten creations will be brought to market by Intel and partners.



# Bitcoins – Money, Computers, Confusions?



Reuben Thomas (SE Comps)

## What is Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is a consensus network that enables a new payment system and a completely digital money. It is the first decentralized peer-to-peer payment network that is powered by its users with no central authority or middlemen. Bitcoin is pretty much like cash for the Internet.

## How does Bitcoin work?

Bitcoin is nothing more than a mobile app or computer program that provides a personal Bitcoin wallet and allows a user to send and receive Bitcoins with them.

Behind the scenes, the Bitcoin network is sharing a public ledger called the “block chain”. This ledger contains every transaction ever processed, allowing a user’s computer to verify the validity of each transaction. The authenticity of each transaction is protected by digital signatures corresponding to the sending addresses, allowing all users to have full control over sending bitcoins from their own Bitcoin addresses. In addition, anyone can process transactions using the computing power of specialized hardware and earn a reward in bitcoins for this service. This is often called “mining”.

## Bitcoin and the world

Bitcoin has not been made illegal by legislation in any jurisdiction. However, some jurisdictions (such as Argentina) severely restrict or ban all foreign currency. Other jurisdictions (such as Thailand) may limit the licensing of certain entities such as Bitcoin exchanges.

Regulators from various jurisdictions are taking steps to provide individuals and businesses with rules on how to integrate this new technology with the formal, regulated financial system.

## Bitcoins and India

Enthusiasm over Bitcoin has dampened in India after the country’s central bank cautioned investors to be wary of using virtual currency. The Reserve Bank of India’s advisory was prompted by its worries which include taxation, security risks, losses due to the volatility and money laundering by moving around black money internationally because of the ease with which the virtual currency can be sold as opposed to doing it via banks.

Therefore, currently, large Indian Bitcoin operators continue to remain suspended for want of a clearer regulatory framework.

## Conclusion

According to forbes.com, Whatever It Is, It’s Not Money! The basic reason is that it has no fixed value. We don’t really know how this coin is created. You can’t have a functional money without a basic transparency. Therefore, it would be most appropriate that use of bitcoins be done most cautiously. At least for the near future.

## CommunityReviews



Each month we review something of interest to the community.

### Backtrack

**Conducted by:** Justin Philip  
BackTrack provides users with easy access to a comprehensive and large collection of security-related tools ranging from port scanners to password crackers.

#### Reviews:

Session was awesome, hoped for some more time to practise... Overall, HATS OFF !!! to ACM for conducting such a workshop...  
-Valency Colaco

### Photography Workshop

**Conducted by:** Mario Durando and Ishan Bagai

The main objective of the workshop was to make the students learn the art of photography and how to click pictures with more precision by taking care of every minor part of an image.

#### Reviews:

A good learning experience, nice !  
-Snehal Suryarao

### Photoshop Workshop

**Conducted by :** Neha Natarajan  
Adobe Photoshop has been called the “Swiss army knife” of multimedia applications. It is useful for a number of projects such as animation, photo editing, graphic design, web design, poster design and much more.

#### Reviews:

Great workshop ! Got to learn lots of tips and tricks..  
-Royston Dsilva

### Web-o-mania

**Conducted by :** Satej Sawant(HTML), Ajinkya Powale(CSS), Piyush Lodaya(javascript), Piyush Lodaya and Prashant Yadav(PHP)

#### Reviews:

Excellent workshop.. management was good..  
Got to learn PHP. Was a great experience  
-Vidya Jagadale

# CommunityProfile

The rainy month of June was when the new ACM core committee was appointed. But little could the rains do to dampen the spirits of fifteen new people on the job of keeping ACM DBIT where it has always been - the top. The starry eyed brainstormed with each other day in and day out, formally and informally to bring out what the students of DBIT so much appreciated.

The goal was to ignite the curiosity, wake up that sleeping engineer inside every student who walked into the gates of DBIT and then taking it from there. And so we had our first workshop, "Ethical Hacking", a topic whose name would get people's eyes to pop out and hearts racing. I mean, we all have dreamt of being that one neo who could see the world in green!

Next stop: Web Development. The web, as we've been seeing - from extremely high end graphical applications to storage and multimedia - has taken over all of it. It would be very reasonable for even the ACM chapter to say that almost all desktop applications that the lay man end user will ever use on his desktop, are now also being built for the web. The fact that the entire Operating Systems exist to allow only web applications, shows the sheer penetration of web technologies in our life. And why would ACM stay behind then? Why would the students of DBIT? Armed with the positive feedback of our peers and the backing of our faculty, we went on with another ambitious and a long term project called "Web-o-mania". Six consecutive workshops were held under this. Taking it from the basics of HTML, we marched on step by step to CSS, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL and several other must-know technologies of today. But built to perfection web

applications were just half the battle won. Jef Raskin said "As far as the customer is concerned, the interface is the product". The fact that all the complexities must be hidden behind a beautifully draped curtain would have been a challenge without our Photoshop and Photography workshop, which would, of course, also help you get more likes on your Facebook profile picture!

The students were all set to go out there in the market and sell their technical expertise. The enormous and ever-growing field of "Web Developer" ranks 9th in the 100 best jobs (money.usanews.com). It would be a good bet to start working and taking projects based on it right away. With a daring audience of students under the age of 20, we thought it would be wise to empower not just to work for someone but also to start their own businesses. That way they don't look for employment but quite often end up creating employment. In association with iCreate India, ACM held a 5 day workshop on "Entrepreneurship"

And just when we thought we had left no loose ends when it came to empowering people to become a tech business baron, we thought of the most significant phase of success- inspiration. Towards the end of the semester with the sword of submissions and exams hanging over the head of every student, the spirits do go down. But not with us and certainly not with anyone who had anything to do with ACM either. To tell them that they weren't the first ones, that this too could be conquered, we called upon our prestigious alumni for a panel discussion. With an aim to remind everyone that hard work is always worth it, that new heights can be reached amongst several other things that the alumni

had to say, the event "Synchrony Meet" was definitely the highlight of the semester.

The month of August was also marked by an Industrial Visit to the automobile manufacturing company Volkswagen. The plant gave an insight about the cutting edge technologies that are being used to roll out the fine line of cars it produces.

We find it very important to mention that the faculty had been very supportive and of course the students who waited even after college hours to attend workshops definitely had us believe that our time was worthwhile. We extend our thanks to everyone who has been a part of ACM, either as a faculty, volunteer or a participant.

## ACM Core Members for 2013-14

**Chairperson :** *Ginny Jose*  
**Asst. Chairperson :** *Satej Sawant*  
**Secretary :** *Rahul Divekar*  
**Treasurer :** *Pamela Mathias*  
**Technical Head (Design) :** *Prashant Yadav*  
**Technical Head (Development) :** *Piyush Kumar Lodaya*  
**Publicity Head :** *Vicky Fernandes*  
**Design Head :** *Neha Natarajan*  
**Publication Head :** *Srinidhi Shetty*  
**Event Manager :** *Mario Durando*  
**ADT Head :** *Ajit Varghese*

**ACM Faculty Advisor :** *Dr. Amiya Kumar Tripathy*  
**ACM In-charge :** *Mr. Imran Ali Mirza*  
**ACM Co-ordinator :** *Mr. Allan Pinto*

# CommunityCalendar

**1st August, 2013**

**Backtrack Workshop**  
By *Justin Philip*

**6th August, 2013**

**Photography Workshop**  
By *Mario Durando,*  
*Ishan Bagai*

**20th and 22nd August, 2013**

**Photoshop Workshop**  
By *Neha Natarajan*

**12th to 17th September**

**Web-o-mania**  
By *Satej Sawant(HTML)*  
*Ajinkya Powale(CSS)*  
*Piyush Lodaya(javascript)*  
*Piyush Lodaya and*  
*Prashant Yadav(PHP)*

**20th and 22nd August, 2013**

**Photoshop Workshop**  
By *Neha Natarajan*

# BE'ing @ ACM

Srinidhi Shetty (BE Comps)

ACM began the semester with a bang. From forming a new, dynamic core team to welcoming a large crowd of zealous participants into the ACM-DBIT family, everything has been top notch!

A notable number of students from the present third year computer department attained training and global certification on IBM DB2 during the summer vacations. IBM DB2 is a family of database server products developed by IBM.

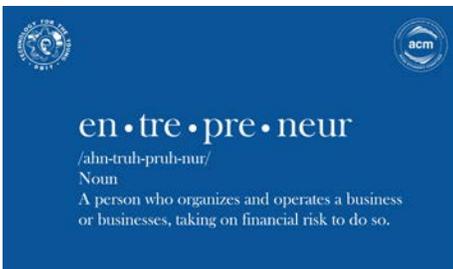
(visit) for second year students to one of the most prominent companies, Volkswagen, Pune. The excursion was an amazing experience where students learnt about the technologies that are being used to roll out the fine line of cars it produces. Overall, the trip



well.

On 3rd October, 2013, ACM-DBIT called upon the prestigious alumni of Don Bosco for a panel discussion with an aim to remind everyone that hard work is always worth it and that new heights can be reached with a clear goal and dedicated passion. They called it the “Synchrony Meet” which can be said to be the highlight of the ACM activities of this semester.

Acknowledging the immense response of students to the various workshops in web development and other technologies, ACM



A workshop on “Ethical Hacking using Backtrack” marked the beginning of the workshops conducted by ACM DBIT 2013 on 1st August, 2013, which was received with a lot of exuberance. Backtrack, being the highest rated and acclaimed security distribution to date that provides users with easy access to comprehensive and large collection of security-related tools ranging from port scanners to security audit, enthused the students even before the workshop began.

In the month of August, ACM DBIT was instrumental in conducting an IV (industrial

visit) for second year students to one of the most prominent companies, Volkswagen, Pune. The excursion was an amazing experience where students learnt about the technologies that are being used to roll out the fine line of cars it produces. Overall, the trip

was insightful, knowledgeable and fun. With an aim to provide comprehensive business and entrepreneurship training to the students by helping them develop ideas that would transform into a business venture, in the month of September, ACM-DBIT collaborated with iCreate India and organized a 5 days’ workshop on entrepreneurial skills to 30 bright students and mentored them provide a step by step guidance towards learning about entrepreneurship.

The Photography and Photoshop workshops that soon followed were a success as

well. DBIT conducted Web-o-mania, a series of workshops on topics covering HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL and Wordpress. The main aim of Web-o-mania was to provide classroom-like learning to students with hands-on practise which would prove to be beneficial to lay the foundations of their technical skills. Also, the added benefit was the certification provided to them after successful completion of the workshop.

With a lot more events and activities planned for the next semester, the students of DBIT have a lot to watch out for!

# POWERED BY



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## *Community*News

Computer Departmental Library,  
Second Floor, Old Building,  
Don Bosco Institute of Technology,  
Kurla West, Mumbai-400 070.

