EnhanceEdu Bulletin

Issue #9
November 11th, 2011

At EnhanceEdu, we are very grateful to all stakeholders in the STEP for their continuous support. We would also like to acknowledge the excellent participation from the student community, be it in terms of their commitment towards the program or their level of involvement in it.

Communication Skills and you

Communication skills are about conveying ideas effectively - it is more than just speaking in English. Effective communication means conveying your messages to other people clearly and unambiguously and receiving their information, with as little distortion as possible. It includes both verbal and non-verbal communication.

During STEP, we encourage all students to actively participate in the discussion forums and also during our visits to your respective colleges. We are putting together a soft skills training package due to be released in the near future. Meanwhile, please start using forums regularly, participate in face-to-face discussions during our visits to your college as it will be a good exercise for improving verbal communication skills.

Please remember that we cannot become Chitra or S.P.Balasubramanyam in just one day just because we have working vocal chords.It takes 99% perseverance and 1% inspiration to get good at anything. Don't forget to practice communicating effectively every day! All the Best!

Top performers of last two months

Name	College Name	Assignments Submitted	Submitted Assignments Graded	Assignment Score	Quizzes Attempted	Quiz Score	Total Score	Percentage
Srihari govinda reddy Thalla	VR Siddhartha Engineering College	1	1	99	1	10.00	109	99.09%
Raviteja Surabhi	VNR Vignan Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology	3	2	197	1	10.00	207	98.57%
Kamalkanth chowdary Adusumilli	VNR Vignan Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology	1	1	100	2	18.00	118	98.33%
Srinithya Kakuru	VNR Vignan Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology	2	2	197	2	18.00	215	97.72%
Yalamanchili Sundeep	VR Siddhartha Engineering College	2	1	99	2	18.00	117	97.5 %

Coordinator's Corner

The main objective of STEP program is to make students learn concepts independently so that they gain confidence in themselves. This is the reason why tasks are provided at the end of each module. It has come to our attention that some students' uploads are not original. This defeats the purpose of joining STEP. So, dear students, please try to solve the tasks on your own and please remember that you will do a better job if you explain concepts to your friends rather than giving them your uploads.

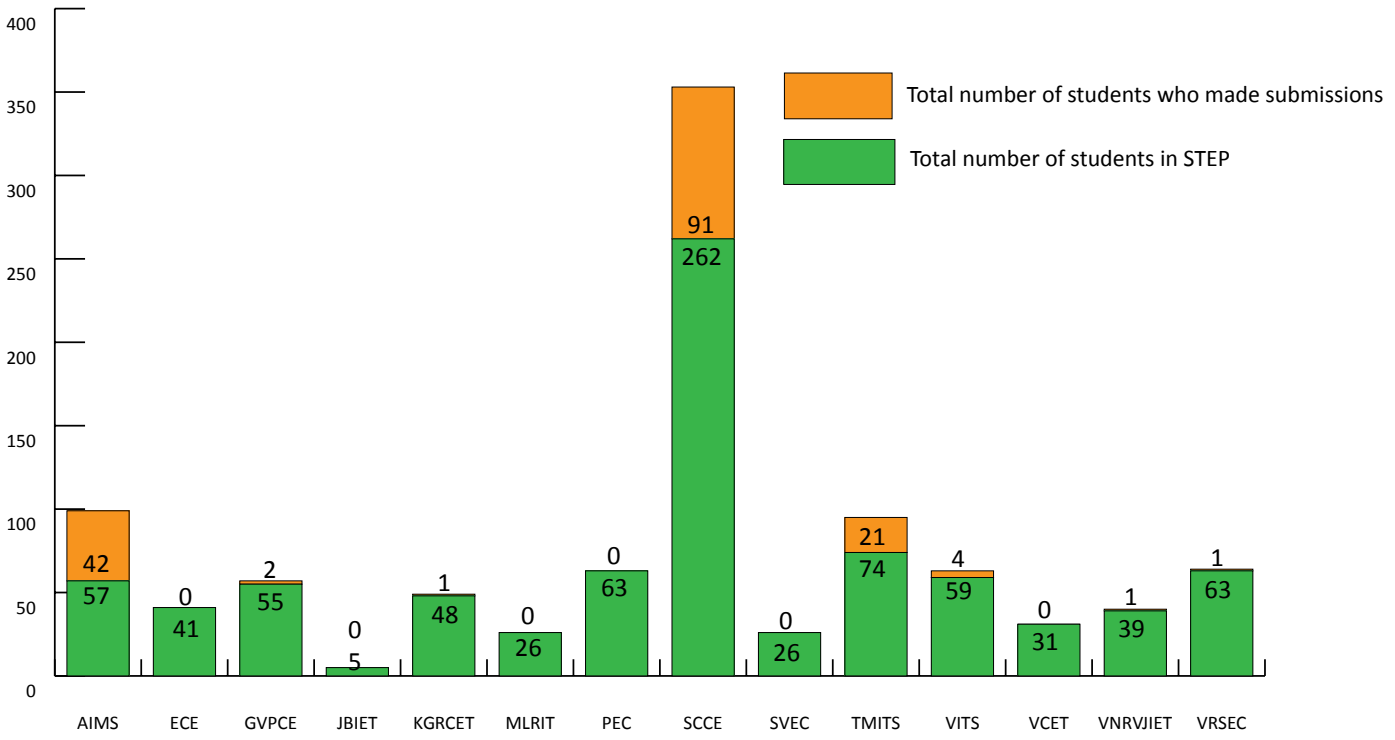
Kaumudi Nagaraju
EnhanceEdu Coordinator

Congratualtions MLRIT!

The students have taken CT assessment on 29th Oct 2011. Out of 20 students, 17 passed (13 with mastery). Good job guys!

At a glance

Number of students who made submissions this week from 1st Nov to 11th Nov, 2011



Student's Corner

CIT has improved our logical thinking ..Raptor is really an intersting software to design flowchart. We also have opportunity to interact with others through forums which makes us feel that we are not alone but part of bigger team.

- Shafia Syed 2nd Year CSE - SCCE

EnhanceEdu

Implementation Status

Data for the week 1st Nov to 11th Nov 2011

S.No.	College Name	Total Mentors	Total Students Registered	Computational Thinking	OOPS Java Phase 1
1.	Alluri Institute of Management Sciences	5	57	Section 2 : Conditions Section 4 : Arrays	Not Yet Started
2.	Eswar College of Engineering	4	41	Section 4 : Arrays Section 7 : Recursion	Section 2 : Datatypes and Operators
3.	Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering	5	55	Section 2 : Conditions Section 7 : Recursion	Not Yet Started
4.	Joginpally Bhaskar Institute of Engineering and Technology	9	5	Completed	Section 1 : Introduction to Java Section 4 : Object Oriented Programming-Level1
5.	K.G. Reddy College of Engineering and Technology	4	48	Section 2 : Conditions Section 7 : Recursion	Section 1 : Introduction to Java Section 5: Packages
6.	M.L.R. Institute of Technology	6	26	Section 2 : Conditions Section 7 : Recursion	Not Yet Started
7.	Prakasam Engineering College	6	63	Section 3 : Loops Section 7 : Recursion	Not Yet Started
8.	Sree Chaitanya College of Engineering	10	262	Section 2 : Conditions Section 7 : Recursion	Not Yet Started
9.	Sri Venkateswara Engineering College	7	26	Not Yet Started	Not Yet Started
10.	Turbo Machinery Institute of Technology and Science	8	74	Section 2 : Conditions - Section 7 : Recursion	Section 2 : Datatypes and Operators Section 3 : Control Statements in Java
11.	Vignan Institute of Technology and Science	5	59	Section 2 : Conditions - Section 7 : Recursion	Section 1 : Introduction to Java Section 3 : Control Statements in Java
12.	Visvesvaraya College of Engineering and Technology	3	31	Section 2 : Conditions - Section 4 : Arrays	Not Yet Started
13.	VNR Vignan Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology	5	39	Section 2 : Conditions - Section 7 : Recursion	Section 2 : Datatypes and Operators Section 3 : Control Statements in Java
15	VR Siddhartha Engineering College	5	63	Section 2 : Conditions - Section 4 : Arrays	Not Yet Started

Frequently Asked Questions

As you all know, EnhanceEdu coordinators have been visiting partner colleges to assess the progress of STEP. During their visits, they have interacted with the students and have addressed their queries. These interactions have been a great success in motivating the students. In this edition of news bulletin, we have captured some of the most frequently asked questions, here is the list:

1. How is Computational Thinking (CT) different from C language?

Ans: 'C' is a linear programming language. Like any other programming language, it can be used to develop logical thinking. It requires significant amount of time to learn, where as Computational Thinking (CT) is not a language but is a fundamental skill for everyone, not just for computer scientists. It develops foundation for logical thinking and problem solving skills using visual tools like RAPTOR which can be translated to any domain whether IT or non IT.

2. Does CT improve our aptitude?

Ans: CT is meant for increasing logical thinking and problem solving skills in the domain of programming.

3. How is STEP (STudent Enhancement Program) beneficial if I am an ECE/ EEE student?

Ans: STEP introduces "Learning by doing" which helps students in improving their learning process. They need to apply their knowledge and solve the tasks on their own, constantly update themselves as per the job requirements without any support and communicate well with their team. This course gives them confidence to take up any new task and perform well.

4. Does this certificate carry more weight in industry over other corporate training institutes?

Ans: In fact, the course is designed to improve the learning process of the students and make them more confident in terms of applying their knowledge into real-world problems, adapting to new technologies and communicating well. If you possess these skills, no certificate is really required. You will perform well in whichever task you will take up.

5. Why are we doing STEP in II year?

Ans: This is the time when the core subjects of your respective streams will come into picture. Getting a good knowledge in these subjects is very important for whatever option you may choose after your graduation. We are introducing this course at this time so that you will get used to learning by doing and extend this method to those subjects as well.

6. How long does it take to finish CT, Java?

Ans: Ideally, it takes 16 hours (2 full days) to finish CT, 64hours (8 full days) to finish Java phase I and 80 hours (10 full days) to finish Java Phase II and Data Structures.

7. Why did you choose java instead of C/C++?

Ans: C and C++ have been designed for systems and application programming. But ever since the burst of the internet revolution in the early 1990s there has been a search for a programming language that could help develop internet applications. At the same time, Java was developed (not with the intent of developing internet applications) as a programming language that could be embedded in microprocessors. Though this objective was not achieved, people started realizing the benefit of Java in developing internet applications. At EnhanceEdu, we have chosen Java for this basic purpose. In the STEP phases I and II, you will be introduced to the core Java language. This will give you enough handle on building object oriented programs in Java and you can quickly graduate to building more advanced applications in any of the Java environment – JSP, Servlets, Beans, et al.

8. What are the advantages of "Learning-by-doing" methodology?

Ans: The "Learning-by-doing" methodology fosters skill development and the learning of factual information in the context of how it will be used and aims at giving a hands-on fulfilling experience which helps the students understand the practical implementation aspects and the associated concepts. In this methodology, mentors assist the students in their course work by "providing hints and not solutions". The student will also obtain the skills necessary to deal with real life problems and thus will be a cut above the rest of his/her contemporaries who are going through the conventional style of learning.