ACM-W India 2nd National Hackathon for Women

ACM Student Chapter, Chitkara University in collaboration with ACM-W India and Oracle Academy organized ACM-W India 2nd National Hackathon for Women on October 2-3, 2017 and witnessed an ACM celebration of Women in Computing!

ACM-W India and Oracle Academy organized the hackathon to encourage & empower girls with an opportunity to exhibit problem solving talent using Computing Technology. The event witnessed the participation of 308 enthusiastic and tech-savvy teams from all over India with an idea which had the power to change the world and transform the machinery on which the world works. The theme of the hackathon was ‘Digital India’. The event started with the registration of 308 teams, had three rounds in total and finally ACM-W celebrations. ‘Digital India’ is a campaign launched by the Government of India to ensure that Government services are made available to citizens electronically by improved on-line infrastructure and by making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology. The goal of this Digital India Hackathon is to get developers, designers and entrepreneurs come together, form connections and apply their skills to create something of value. The hackathon was an intellectually stimulating activity that will spur innovation and collaboration.

The round 1 marked the beginning of the hackathon as 308 teams from all over India registered themselves, with any one idea on the theme ‘Digital India’. After witnessing a huge response in the registration process, a team of 52 highly professional members from ACM India and Oracle Academy was formed to review the ideas of the teams registered for the event and select the best 20 teams out of it. The selected 20 teams were then promoted to the next round which held on 9th September, 2017. The round 2 was witnessed on 9th September 2017 taking place on Skype. The 20 shortlisted teams selected for the were cross-examined by the panel. The discussion was mainly focused on the idea of the respective teams. The participants were questioned about their idea, it’s implementation and it’s application and use in the society. Out of these 20 teams, 10 teams were shortlisted to participate in the final round.

All the top 10 finalist teams and one wild card entry accompanied by their respective mentors were called for an on-site Final round with the theme like healthcare, Fintech and Education using gamification at Chitkara University, Chandigarh. These teams were given 24 hours to successfully run their application and showcase their idea to the judging panel. The process of evaluation of the projects took place in three phases. First phase was the evaluation of the designs of the projects. Second was the feedback and architecture based round, in which the teams presented their project and explained all the basics of their project such as the
coding part and the probability of the completion of their projects in the specified time. Third was to give a
demo of their respective projects and a presentation describing the mechanism of the project in five minutes.
All the teams were given marks on the basis of these three rounds and the team with maximum marks was to
be declared the winner. Ms. Heena Timani, Dr. S P Sood, Dr. Jagpreet Singh, Mr. Ajitpal Brar and Mr.
Anish Chaudhry were the judges for the final round. The guests included the Mr. Shekhar Sahasrabudhe,
COO, ACM India, Dr. Arati M. Dixit, Chair, ACM-W India, Mrs. Rashmi Mohan, Secretary of ACM India
and Mrs. Maria Chaudhary, council member, ACM India.

Mrs. Rashmi Mohan addressed the students and enlightened them about the theme ‘Digital India’ and
women empowerment on 3rd October. She also laid stress on the current situation of women in the IT sector
as well as the society and pressed for reforms. Dr. Madhu Chitkara, Vice-Chancellor of Chitkara University
also addressed the students and gave away the prizes to the winners.

The Hackathon Winners(Sponsored by Oracle Academy, India) announced by Ms. Maria Choudhary were:
1. First Position: Tadakamadla Naveena, Yelakonda, Pilli Naga(Sphoorthy Engineering College)
2. Second Position: Priyanka Atmakuri, L.Geethika, Sreeja(Sphoorthy Engineering College) &
3. Third Position: Sarveen Kaur, Shrijal Chauchan, shruti babbar(Chitkara University)