

SANKHYIKI 2019

Over 150 students from across Mumbai came together to attend a two-day Statistics workshop, Sankhyiki, held on the 1st and 2nd February this year. The theme of Sankhyiki 2019 was ‘Automation: A pervasive Tool in data science’. In its ninth year, the annual event of NMIMS Sunandan Divatia School of Science, Department of Statistics surpassed all benchmarks that were set in the preceding years.

The event began with lighting of lamp to the holy chants of Saraswati Vandana. The dais was graced by our Respected Dean: **Dr. Aparna Khanna**, Advisor, SVKM: **Dr. M. N. Welling**, Pro-Vice Chancellor: **Pawas Agarwal**, Chief Guest: **Dr. Tuhin Chattopadhyay** and Program Director: **Prof. Sunil S Shirvaiker**.



The keenness to learn and urge to grow was seen among the enthusiastic audience. The theme for **Sankhyiki 2019** was “**Automation: A pervasive Tool in data science.**”



Dr. M. N. Welling shared his journey with Sankhyiki since its inception 9-years ago. Being a statistician himself, he talked about the widespread enigma of data science. He urged the students as well as faculties to never stop learning.

Mr. Pawas Agarwal – Pro Vice Chancellor, SVKM, Alumni – IIM Kolkata and IIT Kanpur, gave a quick talk about his first-hand experience using statistics in the industry as well as academia. He believes that true power of Statistics lies in being able to convert numbers into vivid stories that any layman can understand.





Welcome speech by Prof. Sunil S

Shirvaiker followed. He talked about the growing popularity of the pervasive tool-Excel and the importance of in-depth knowledge of other software like R, Python, SAS, etc. He proudly discussed the inspiring placements and PPOs of our MSc. Students in companies like HDFC Bank, TATA AIA, Infosys, Glennmark, etc.

The motto of Sankhyiki is to educate and prepare students for the challenges that they will face in the business world by providing them with a hands-on experience in the software used in the industry.

The students felt motivated and eager to listen to the speeches that followed.

The first speaker for Day 1 was **Dr. Tuhin Chattopadhyay, CTO, QuantFarm Pvt. Ltd.** He has been awarded: the AI Leader of 2018 by NASSCOM's centre of Excellence, the Analytics and Insight leader of 2017 by KamiKaze B2B Magazine. He is a Data Science consultant, a leader and a motivator to the entire industry. His topic was '*Automation of Automating Automation.*' He taught everyone that Statistics should enable the user to connect to the customers and map solutions. The proper way to solve a problem is to understand the business logic and then find models or simulations that fit.

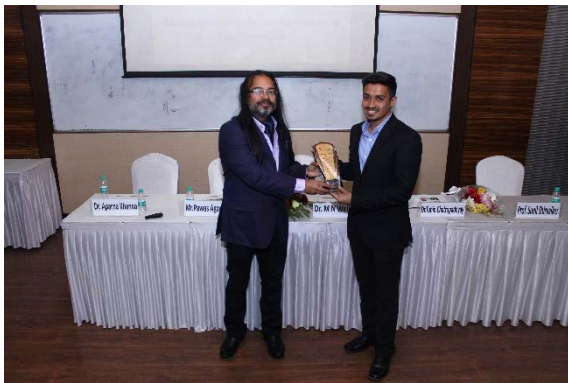


The audience was inspired to create, modify and model new and upcoming techniques. From Data validation to feature inclusion to Machine learning, everything was incorporated in Dr. Chattopadhyay's speech.



The most awaited moment for M. Sc. Statistics II students came when the ‘Best

Summer Internship’ awards were given by the Chief Guest. Ms. Archana Mishra had won the first prize for her internship with Nielsen, Mr. Archit Pore bagged the second prize for his experience at HDFC Bank and Ms. Girija Samant had received the 3rd prize for application of Tableau and automation at CRG Solutions Ltd.



This was followed by a captivating talk by **Mr. Pallab Bhattacharya, Associate Director Business Excellence and Data Science, Edelweiss Financial Services.** His expansive knowledge on ‘Data Science in Financial Services’ was showcased skilfully. He referred to the knowledge of algorithms and models as equivalent to having a bag full of artillery.



He walked the audience through the various applications of data science and students were excited and all-ears to everything that he had to say.



The post lunch session was conducted by the charming, **Ms. Madhavi Gokhale**,

M.Phil. Literature, Area Chairperson, Communications, School of Business Management, NMIMS. She taught students about the essentiality of team work. She made everyone understand that conflicts are inevitable and also walked them through the different ways to resolve a conflict. Her motto is to “Discuss ideas, not people.”

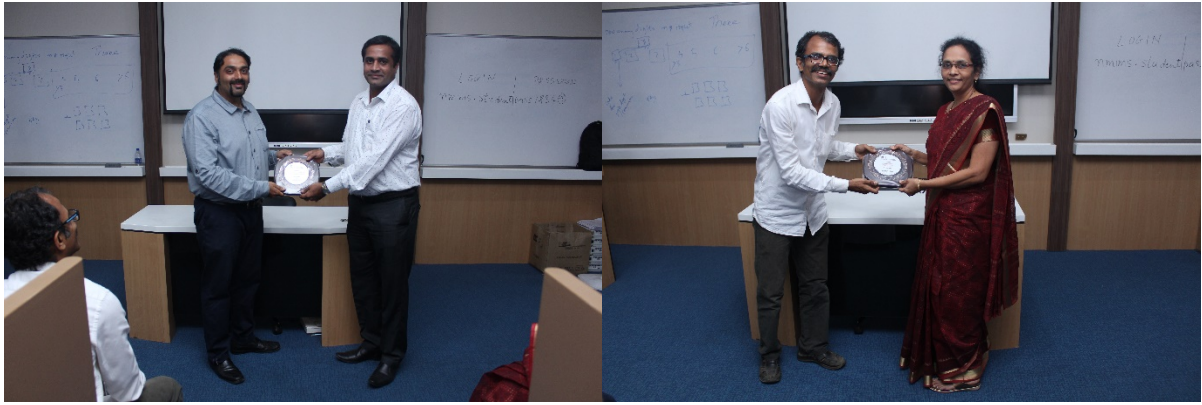
Mr. Ravi Vyas, Director, S.Monk School of Actuaries, gave an insight about the growing branch of Statistics: Actuarial Science. He displayed his level of professional knowledge on the subject and created a wave of discussion among the students.



The students gave positive feedback on day 1’s activities and were rather eager to come back the next day.

Keeping in mind the rapid growing importance of Machine learning, day2 was dedicated solely to training in advanced Excel: VBA and Macros. The training was provided by expert trainers: **Mr. Nachiket Pendharkar** and **Mr. Vinay Vedak** from **ViN Learning Centre**. At the end of the 6-hour training session, certificates confirming successful completion of Excel Training Program were given. With a heart-felt vote of thanks the event came to an end.





Despite setting the bar high, Sunandan Divatia School of Science will always strive to raise the bar higher, to improve and to expand Sankhyiki in the coming years. 2019 being a great success, Sankhyiki will continue to highlight the scope of Statistics in today's world.

