

VNIT CSE Students: Create Your Own Opportunities

1 Overview

Several of new companies and startups are visiting VNIT campus for recruitment. The reason for this is that *you*, the computer science students of VNIT, are performing very well in competitions and third party evaluations.

To take the momentum forward, following are some of the areas that you can and should excel for better placements and better career.

2 Programming Competitions

2.1 High Visibility Competitions

- ACM ICPC: Typically held in December at several locations, like IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, Amruta University Bangalore, etc. The trials start sometime in September. <http://icpc.baylor.edu>
- Google Code Jam: Probably the best way to get noticed by Google. Held in August. The trials begin in March. <https://code.google.com/codejam>
- Infosys Programming Contest. Trials start in August.

2.2 Programming Practice

- CodeChef: Periodic competitions - Good place to practice programming. <https://www.codechef.com>
- Programming Problems: <http://poj.org/problemset>
- HackerRank: <https://www.hackerrank.com>

2.3 Books

- “How to solve it by computer”, by R.G. Dromey
- “Introduction to Programming in Java”, by Robert Sedgewick. <http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu/java>
- “Algorithms”, by Robert Sedgewick and Kevin Wayne. <http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu>

3 Higher Studies

- GATE: Test for admission to a PG program in India.
<http://www.gate.iisc.ernet.in>
NPTEL preparation site: http://nptel.ac.in/gate_paper.php
Some websites provide solutions to GATE papers of previous years.
- MS/PhD in other countries: Mostly requires GRE or TOEFL. The details are available on their respective websites.

4 Paper Presentations

- For this you will need to become comfortable using LaTeX:
<https://tobi.oetiker.ch/lshort/lshort.pdf>
<http://texdoc.net/texmf-dist/doc/latex/latex2e-help-texinfo/latex2e.pdf>
- You should also become familiar in searching papers on scholar.google.com
- Finally, you should work with one of the faculty members in VNIT or other educational institute, or a guide from a professional company or in a research project to understand how to perform research and report that as a technical paper. Note that some of the CSE faculty members offer internships from second year onwards.
- Doing an online course on <https://www.coursera.org> or <http://ocw.mit.edu> would be an added advantage.

4.1 Books

You can find these books online.

- “On Writing Well”, by William Zinsser.
- “The Craft of Research”, by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams.

5 Other Notable References

- The book “Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid”, by Douglas R. Hofstadter [available in departmental library]
- Peter Thiel’s Stanford University startup course notes available at <http://blakemasters.com/peter-thiels-cs183-startup>
- “Advice to a Young Scientist”, by Peter B. Medawar

Remember that you can always better your chances!!!