International Conference on Skills, Engineering & Technology
ICSET CONCLAVE 2021

CONFERENCE THEME

Leading the new normal

2021 MAR 15, 16
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The fifth edition of ICT Academy of Kerala’s International Conclave on Skills, Engineering & Technology (ICSET) is aimed at bringing closer the academia, industry, government and connected stakeholders at large, to discuss, deliberate and exchange ideas about skills, engineering and technology areas. The conclave stands out as a platform to explore the multiple facets of emerging technologies and recent trends. ICSET comprises panel discussions, speaker sessions and paper presentations on various subjects under a common theme. The programme will be useful for researchers, academicians, Industrialists and practitioners across the globe and pave ways to explore the subject areas in a collaborative environment.

COVID-19 has shone a light on the need to hold our own truths lightly, as well as revealing the importance of finding truths in others’ experiences. It demonstrates that none of us are alone in this.

The conference will try to address the question; how do we lead in the new normal? Both in the same way we always have, and also in a completely different and unique way. Right now we need to lead with compassion, empathy, fellowship, trust and humanity. Our top tip is to tune into what you are noticing, what you are feeling, what you are sensing, and what are you witnessing. Do this for yourself, for others, for your teams, for your organization, and for the world.

The conference will provide immense opportunities for faculty members and research scholars of engineering and management discipline in showcasing their research work to Industry and academic experts. In the era of fast developing world of technology, there is something which put you one step ahead, is generation of ideas. ICSET 2021 comprises various virtual technical discussions, hands-on-sessions including Mobile App Development, Bot Creation, Panel Discussions, Techathlon and Paper Presentations, which uplifts the competence and skill of the individuals.

Objectives

- To understand the speed of change happening in the Engineering technology, Life-style, innovation & Entrepreneurship and also in Business in New Normal.
- To understand the new Normal Challenges and Opportunities in various domains.
- To understand the changes happening in the filed of work, education, lifestyle and business.
- To present a holistic picture about “the transformation of entire systems of production, management, and governance” in New Normal.
- To groom professional and technocrats in tune with the New Normal Opportunities and prospects.

ICSET 2021

At a glance
How many times have you heard the phrase ‘the new normal’ over the past few months? It has become a cliché, but it is truly undeniable that the COVID-19 public health and economic crisis has greatly impacted our daily lives. For leaders, the challenge of thoughtfully, purposefully, and effectively leading during a time of crisis is all-encompassing. With so much changed about the way leaders manage teams, tackle dilemmas, and prioritize, how can we seek clarity to help us survive - and potentially thrive - during this critical time?

Leaders must understand the new trends and brand-new conditions that have arisen from an unprecedented pandemic. And, although factors and our environment continue to change, some universal truths are becoming clear. During the pandemic based on the new research from LeanIn, women are more than twice as likely as men to be experiencing physical symptoms of severe anxiety. This stress has a real impact on quality of life: According to the same survey, more than half (52%) of women are having sleep issues, compared to about a third (32%) of men, and women are reporting feeling over-burdened with “more than they can possibly handle” as they juggle housework, childcare, eldercare, and professional responsibilities.

Remote workforces and working from home: Another important part of “the new normal.” The COVID-19 pandemic has increased an existing trend: In 2012, Gallup reported that 39% of the US workforce was working off-site at least some of the time. In 2016, that number increased to 43%. And data from the first half of April finds that 63% of US workers have worked from home because of concern about the pandemic or due to restrictions from statewide lockdowns. And, there’s no sign that remote workforces or working from home will end as COVID-19 relents. Tech companies like Twitter and Facebook, among the first to enact work-from-home policies at the start of the pandemic, are now announcing they may shift permanently to more remote work.

Technology like video conferencing, which many employees had had access to for years but didn’t regularly use, are now vital. The environmental needs of employees changed overnight, and in most instances, employees are equipped with the technology to pull off remote work - but they may lack the skills to make the most of working from home. Here’s an important point to consider: Employees aren’t just dealing with using new technology or adjusting to being at home - they’re working full time during a global
health crisis and trying to adapt their entire working style to meet new restrictions. For leaders, managing remotely brings its own challenges, including a new expectation to equip and empower their teams to perform at their highest levels, during a time of increased stress - all from home. But, as we shift to more permanent remote workforces, leaders will have new questions to answer: How can we keep employees engaged who have never worked together in person? How can we continue to offer virtual training and deliveries of all kinds, in a way that keeps our attention in a rapidly expanding virtual world? And, how can we anticipate the challenges tomorrow’s virtual world will bring and preemptively act to mitigate future risk?

The direct correlation between diversity and business performance is well documented, and according to new research from McKinsey, more-diverse companies are now more likely than ever to outperform less-diverse peers on profitability. In fact, the relationship between diversity on executive teams and the likelihood of financial outperformance has strengthened over time: CompA-

**Subthemes**

I. Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the New Normal

We see a bevvy of highly charged start-up enthusiasts whose ambitions have been particularly triggered after the government’s rising emphasis on start-ups and entrepreneurship. Some start-ups reflect a high growth potential, whereas some perish on account of their inability to compete. However, the point here is that both the sets of entrepreneurs begin with the same mojo, but down the line, one fails to find scalable ways to capture the market while the other maneuvers with a solid knowledge base, thus benefitting from various start-up schemes that help tide over the difficulties.

COVID-19 has unleashed a wave of innovation as well as new innovation challenges. The evidence base and experimentation of science, coupled with the agility and risk-taking of entrepreneurs, are major elements of this wave and essential to ending the crisis and building a post-COVID-19 world.

II. Knowledge Economy - The New Normal Career Opportunities

Remote work is here to stay, accelerating the arrival of a long-anticipated trend: the delinking of talent from place. Companies will recruit talent globally, convening the best teams for projects rather than maintaining standing headcount. New talent metrics and rewards will be needed - from onboarding to succession planning - with emphasis on empathy and soft skills. Will work from home or evolution of work near home set a new trend in the post-COVID scene? Let the experts deliberate and enlighten on this.

III. Lifestyle in New Normal

One thing that is certain, we know that adjusting to change can be challenging. Be it planned or unplanned, gradual or sudden, change is inevitable and very much part of being human. Over the past few months, we’ve experienced an unprecedented shift in our way of life due to COVID-19. Pre-pandemic, who would’ve thought that toilet paper could become as precious as gold! And now, a trip to do a weekly grocery shop seems like an adventure of its own! Even when society starts up again, there will still be restrictions and we are facing fundamental shifts to our way of life. So, what does a New Normal look like? Here are some thoughts (and
nies in the top quartile for gender diversity on executive teams were 25% more likely to have above-average profitability than companies in the fourth quartile - up from 21% in 2017 and 15% in 2014. While the data in the McKinsey report was prepared before the COVID-19 pandemic began, the findings become even more important when we consider the new demands on organizations to rise to an unprecedented crisis.

In a time dramatically impacted by COVID-19, organizations that have already built up diverse leadership ranks are better positioned to navigate uncertain waters. And, the most successful organizations take their work around diversity one step further, focusing on creating the cultures of inclusion necessary to empower employees of all backgrounds to perform at the highest level. The best leaders understand and make the business case for diversity and inclusion, and in a world changed by COVID-19, they will double down on their commitment to leading and living inclusively and raising up each member of their team.

realities) below; with tips on how to adjust to the New Normal to follow. Give yourself the space and time to grieve, to celebrate, and to feel every emotion in between, during this challenging time. We are living in a situation that never happened before (at least in our lifetime), and it is impacting each and every one of us in a unique way.

IV. Technology Impact to Business in New Normal

At some point, an effective Corona virus vaccine could fully reopen the world’s schools, workplaces, cultural sites, and public places. But one thing won’t change back. The pandemic has permanently changed the nature and landscape of work, and both employees and employers are already adjusting to this new reality. With virtual and digital replacing physical, adoption of automation, artificial intelligence, and augmented / virtual reality will surge.

The pandemic has also put human welfare and sustainability front and center. Consumers will prioritize businesses demonstrating a long-term value agenda in culture, purpose, and actions.

Technology plays a central role in this new normal, which will change definitions of the workplace, both remotely and on the job site. And employers’ new strategies are in alignment with the new expectations of the workforce. To prepare for the new normal, companies have redirected investments from bigger office spaces and on-site support to new technological solutions to allow for resilient, safe, and productive work environments.

Acceleration of Technologies has been the key during COVID-19 period. Virtual collaboration platforms, remote tele medicine, jump in e-retail and digital payments are examples of such acceleration. Zoom for example grew 350% during the pandemic is continuing to be the most accelerated companies.

Robotics in health care was performing in a slow change mode, but COVID has accelerated its deployment in hospitals. Hyper local services became very useful for citizens. Also the world’s average mobile usage moved from approximately 3.5hrs. to 6.5 hrs. Per day due to lockdowns. The conference through its speakers are trying to explore how businesses are going to change in the new normal.
Techathlon is an annual Technical Skills Competition organized by ICT Academy of Kerala. It’s a unique competition designed in-line with employability skills assessments conducted by Global Organizations. This is an event open to the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students where the participants can exhibit and depict their creativity, problem solving, collaboration, communication and prototyping skills. The event is conducted based on a theme every year, and for the fifth edition, the theme is ‘Leading the New Normal’.

Guidelines
Techathlon 2021 is a team event and participants have to register as a team of three members. Teams can be formed by combining members from different streams, different batches and even from different institutions. While selecting the team make sure that your team members have adequate skills to participate in the various events as part of the competition.

• dHackathon is a Design Thinking Hackathon in which each team has to create a High Fidelity prototype based on a given theme. All three members of the team can participate in this Virtual event.
• Codeathon is an online coding competition conducted on coding platform, HackerRank. The given coding problems can be solved in any programming language. Any two members of the team can participate in this event.
• Courseathon is a microskills course making competition. Participants can choose any topic of their interest to create a short video tutorial. All three team members can contribute to this event.
• Interactive Quiz is a virtual quiz on Future Technology. Any two members of the team can participate in this event.
• Digital Treasure Hunt is a virtual treasure hunt in which participants have to cross the hurdles by solving puzzles or finding solutions to given problems. All three members of the team have to work together to find the treasure.

Points Scheme
Each event has separate scores and the winners of the competition will be selected based on the cumulative scores. In each event the top 10 performers are awarded points as follows: 25 (1st position), 18 (2nd), 15 (3rd), 12 (4th), 10 (5th), 8 (6th), 6 (7th), 4 (8th), 2 (9th), and 1 (10th).
CSET is a premier forum for the presentation of new advances and research results in the fields of Skills, Engineering & Technology. The conference will bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and scholars in the domain of interest from around the globe. Topics of interest for submission include, but are not limited to:

- Affordable Technology to reach at remote place
- Applications of Computer Science in Modeling.
- Artificial intelligence and its applications including intelligent tutoring systems and computer assisted language learning
- Bio-informatics
- Cloud Based Learning
- Cloud Computing for Education Delivery Services
- Computer and Intelligent Communication
- Computer integrated manufacture
- Computer Vision and Image Analysis
- Computer-Based Learning and Courseware Technologies
- Data & Web Mining and Cloud Computing
- Data and Information Systems.
- Digital Image and Video Processing
- Digital Systems
- Educational Games and Simulations
- Educational Laboratories
- E-Learning and E-Governance.
- Embedded Systems
- Embedded Wireless Systems
- Expert Systems and Artificial Intelligence Techniques
- Expert, Agents, Diagnostic and Decision Supporting Systems
- Geo-informative Systems
- Graphics and Imaging
- Grid Computing
- Hypertext and hypermedia
- Infrastructure and Technology for Engineering Education
- Infrastructure and Technology for K-12 Education
- Intelligent Tutoring and Mentoring
- Internet and Distributed Computer Systems.
- Management of technological change on campus and in local education
- Machine Learning
- Mobile and Optical Communication
- Mobile and Optical Networks
- Mobile Learning
- Natural Language Processing Research for Promoting native languages
- Network Security
- Online Study Tools
- Robotics and Micro-Robotics
- Semantic Web Technologies and Social Semantic Web
- Signal Processing
- Social Network Mining
- Software Life-cycle Management
- Software Testing
- Systems and Institutions to build Skilled and Digital India
- Use of Localization in Digitization
- User interfaces to learning systems
- Uses of advanced technology information systems, networks
- Video On Demand
- Virtual Experiments
- Virtual reality in an educational context
- Visualization and Multimedia.
- Web Based Learning
- Wireless Communication
- Wireless Sensor Networks
International Journal of Information and Communication Technology Academy of Kerala (ConVergence – ISSN 2454-5848) is a multidisciplinary journal attempts to cover the research findings and developments, state-of-the-art research and fundamental advances in all aspects of skills, engineering and technology. The international and multidisciplinary nature of this Journal also bears the mission of being the window to many academicians, professionals, and scholars to showcase their innovative research and development activities. The subject areas will wrap into various branches of Information and Communication Technology as well as latest advancements in Engineering and Technology covering theoretical and empirical research.

A. Abstract Submission Guidelines
1. The acceptable word range for the abstract is 175 - 275 words.
2. Your submission should be in English.
3. We encourage you to send an informative abstract (complete abstract) which is a summary of a paper’s substance including its background, purpose, methodology, results, and conclusion.
4. Once you prepared your abstract according to the above guidelines, Submit your abstract at https://tinyurl.com/icset-21-submit
5. The abstract Acceptance or Rejection status will be intimated to the corresponding author after the review.
6. If it is accepted, the authors will be allowed to present the paper during ICSET 2021.
7. The papers successfully completed the Full paper submission phase, only will be considered for the journal publication.

B. Full Paper Submission Guidelines
1. Authors will be allowed to submit the full paper after the presentation during the conference.
2. Authors need to incorporate the changes/modifications (if any) suggested by the panelists during the presentation time.
3. The full paper should be submitted in the IEEE format.
4. Papers reviewed should be free from plagiarism and have not been submitted to any other publications at the same time (double submission), and strictly adhering to the copyright rules.
5. There will be double blind review of each paper to find its suitability, credibility and authenticity before acceptance for the publication.

Dates to Remember
- Abstract Submission Open 2021 Feb 15
- Last Date for Abstract Submission 2021 Feb 25
- Acceptance Notification to Author 2021 Feb 28
- Registration Date 2021 Mar 05
- Conference Dates 2021 Mar 15 & 16
- Camera Ready Paper * 2021 Mar 31

* After reflecting the suggested modifications.

For registration and other details, please contact;
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