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## 5.6.6 Does your university as a body have women’s mentoring schemes, in which at least 10% of female students participate?

## My first-ever experience of attending an international conference at Harvard University

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/my-first-ever-experience-of-attending-an-international-conference-at-harvard-university/>

RONIKA TATER · MARCH 31, 2021



I was nominated as a delegate at two renowned conferences – HPAIR and HUII – organised by Harvard University in 2020

During my second year of graduation at UPES, I came to know about the professional networking website LinkedIn. Through the connections I made on the platform, I became aware of the conferences that Harvard University organises. These conferences attract top employers, have industry-specific networking and information sessions, and provide valuable insights and contacts. Curious to participate in these summits, I started checking the Harvard website for regular updates. As soon as the dates of the conferences were announced, I filled the application form available on the website with all the details including my academic experience, extra-curricular activities, interests, and the statement of purpose.

I was nominated as a delegate at two renowned conferences held at Harvard University in 2020: The Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR) and the Harvard US-India Initiative (HUII).

HPAIR is an exchange forum for students and young professionals to discuss and learn about the most important economic, political, and social issues facing the Asia-Pacific region. HUII is an initiative that aims to create a dialogue between Indian and American youth to address India's crucial social, political, economic, and environmental issues. Each year, HUII organises a conference in India to provide Indian youth with the opportunity to hear from inspiring leaders and engage in discussions with them. It brings together prominent keynote speakers and industry leaders on the same table, thus serving as a forum for the enlightened minds of India to engage and connect with the leaders of today and tomorrow.

Due to health reasons, I could not attend the HPAIR conference, but I attended the prestigious HUII session in February last year, which took place virtually due to COVID-19. There were around 500 delegates and notable speakers including Kiran Shaw, Manish Malhotra, Manoj Sinha, and Anjali Bansal to name a few.

I feel honoured to have attended the prestigious conference, where I got the opportunity to interact with eminent personalities and bright delegates from a wide range of backgrounds, such as politics, media, law, technology, and humanitarianism, who are pushing the boundaries of intellect in their respective fields. I was delighted with the friendliness and warmth that I received from other participants. The conference gave me a global perspective on benefitting from the exchange of ideas, sharing of legal expertise and socialising with international counterparts. It was an excellent opportunity to network and learn from the brilliant work done by other people presenting at the conference.

I would like to apply for many such conferences in the future as it promotes holistic development. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my professors, friends, and family for always supporting and encouraging me in my endeavours.

## [Creating a level-playing field in education](https://blog.upes.ac.in/creating-a-level-playing-field-in-education/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/creating-a-level-playing-field-in-education/>

BY A CORRESPONDENT · JULY 17, 2020



Women's empowerment has been at the core of all our efforts at UPES. We are proud to be associated with scores of women achievers – our alumni, faculty and even our current students

Women are severely underrepresented in the boardroom and STEM fields. In India, women comprise only 25% of academic faculties, and only 11% of R&D institutions. This inequality is evident even in the rates of graduation. The discrepancy is so pronounced that not only has this been studied by academic, it has also found its way into pop culture: mostly from a position of mirth. However, this is a sign of a deep rot in our [STEM education eco-system and needs to be addressed](#).

One of the many reasons this is happening because there is a systemic bias against women that often begins in the family. A large part of the problem is that women aren't invested in as much as men. In families, because of patriarchal thinking, the boy's career is of higher importance than a girl's. In fact, investment in the future of women and girls could add billions to India's GDP.

A critical aspect of ensuring inclusiveness in our universities is reducing the barriers of entry for women. Given that gender investment gap is significantly high in India, this could be done by incentivising more women to join universities. Financial aid programs and scholarships can go a long way in reducing these systemic challenges. It can encourage more women to be a part of the growth story.

Setting aside the macro level perspective, on an individual level too, this measure can lead to significant gains. In the modern world, it is not just someone's skill that determines success. It is also confidence. Imagine being in a situation where you find it much harder to convince their parents to invest in your education than your brother. Because many girls are also raised in a way that denies them the right to ambition, the institutional and structural barriers are often enough to break her confidence.

Moreover, the lack of representation of women in STEM fields and upper management acts in cyclical ways. A lot of women feel the lack of strong female role models who can tell them how to navigate the often complex social dynamics in academia and R&D, leading to many women dropping out of the program, convinced that this wasn't for them or that they would never make it to the top. Positive role models and mentors also help in dissipating the passive aggressive energy that many women have reported in male-dominated professions.

At UPES, we take this problem extremely seriously. That is evident in the fact that we have declared the year [2020 as the Year of Women Empowerment](#). In light of this, we designed our initiative Shakti to address many of these concerns. To begin with, as part of Shakti, we are providing a 25% scholarship on tuition fees for the entire course duration to all women. To add to this, we also provide skill-development sessions, leadership development sessions, industry exposure, and close mentorship to women, to ensure that in addition to skills and drive, women also build confidence and have the tools they need to climb up the corporate ladders.



The idea of Shakti is to create an environment that is conducive to the development of women's capacity to shatter the glass ceiling

We also understand that it is not only the women who need to be prepared for an uphill battle. It is also society that needs transformation. To lead this process, we're also conducting gender sensitization workshops with our students and faculty. The [idea of Shakti is to create an environment](#) that is conducive to the development of women's capacity to shatter the glass ceiling. This is how we aim to combat the inequality in education and the upper echelons of management

and research, and create a more equal society. To find out more about Shakti, visit [upesforshakti.upes.org](https://upesforshakti.upes.org).

## [UPES student bags the prestigious LiFT scholarship](https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-student-bags-the-prestigious-lift-scholarship/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-student-bags-the-prestigious-lift-scholarship/>

PRADEEP JAGWAN · JULY 6, 2020



Gargi Jaiswal, student of B.Tech Computer Science (Open Source and Open Standards), 3rd year, received a scholarship from the Linux Foundation in the category of Women in Open Source

It has been an incredible feat for Gargi Jaiswal to win the coveted Linux Foundation Scholarship in the category of Women in Open Source. Says an elated Gargi, “With Open Source Systems in demand and young professionals constantly trying to become a part of this vast network, the Linux Foundation has been a blessing in times like these. For students like me who are keen to enhance their skill set, it is a wonderful opportunity. The Linux Foundation’s LiFT or The Linux Foundation Training programme provides opportunities to highly-motivated students and young professionals who otherwise don’t have the privilege of working with other open source softwares and attend their training courses.”

LiFT, she further adds, is aimed at providing scholarships to those who enroll into learning tracks of their choice. LiFT conducts certification exams at the end of the course at absolutely no cost. “If awarded scholarship,” Gargi informs, “the applicant gets his or her fund covered for not only working with more software and engaging in training programs, but also covering primary travel expenses if any.”

The program is curated to engage more highly motivated girls and women with great potential to get into open source systems. It is a global scholarship meant to be secured by very few. Out of the 8 categories of award of the scholarship, Gargi bagged it under the category of 'Women in Open Source'.

"I went for it with no big expectations to be honest as it a huge thing. When the results came, I got the biggest surprise of my life. I would like to thank UPES and my esteemed faculty members who encouraged me. After I got to know about the scholarship through the website, the Placement Coordinator of my branch, Dr. Ankit Khare, also played a pivotal role in providing details about the scholarship program. One of main motivations that drew me towards this scholarship was not only the fact that it educates one about open source, but also that it helps the person spread more awareness about the same and educate other people as well. The representation of women in open source, and the category I had applied under, gave me a chance to not only educate myself, but also help peers and juniors learn about the same as a part of the campaign," says Gargi.

## Promoting Girls' Education: Ensuring a Healthier and Happier Society

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/promoting-girls-education-ensuring-a-healthier-and-happier-society/>

MANSHA DHINGRA · JANUARY 7, 2020

Education is a basic human right, yet there are millions of children who are deprived of this right. Constituting approximately half of the world's population, women form a significant global resource. Therefore, girl education becomes important for the development of the society. It is often said, "If you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate a family". Needless to say, when girls are educated, they go on to better their lives and that of their families, communities, and countries.

Let's look at some ways in which girl's education can make a difference in society:

1. Improve socio-economic growth: Education is a way through which the vicious cycle of abuse, poverty, and subjugation of women can be disrupted. Educated women can lead productive, healthier and happier lives; thereby increasing the standard of living. If girls are not given basic education, it can hamper the stability and development of the entire world.

2. Reduce child marriages: Child marriage can result in the end of a girl's schooling. This is primarily due to uneducated mothers without any effective measures to build healthy, educated families. On

the other hand, if women are well-read, they typically marry later, when they are ready to shoulder the responsibility of their family and children.

3. Educate the next generation: Literate women understand the importance of education well and ensure that their children, especially the girls, receive a formal education. It makes them aware of their rights, improves their knowledge and skills, increases the chances of employability, and has a positive influence on society.



UPES gives 25% scholarship to all girl students for the complete program duration.

4. Decrease malnutrition: Educated women are well-aware of their surroundings and know how to keep their families and children healthy. This includes health care, better nutrition, sanitation and emphasis on overall health and well-being.

5. Empower women: Educated girls and women can make decisions that benefit their family and community. They are less likely to accept domestic violence and are always ready to take up cudgels against any form of injustice, for themselves and for others who might need their help.

Creating awareness about the importance of educating girls and addressing the issue of gender disparity in education, requires constant support from all stakeholders. Due to the global scarcity of resources, it is vital to adopt a coordinated and integrated approach instead of duplicating efforts and working individually without adequate consultation or collaboration. UPES, Dehradun has taken a small step to address this issue. The university gives 25% scholarship to all girl students for the complete program duration.

Girl education is the best investment that can be made anywhere in the world. In order to tackle the issue of gender disparity in classrooms, there needs to be greater awareness regarding the importance of educating girls among parents, educators, academicians and the community at large. Once the society is sensitised to this glaring issue, there may be a greater possibility that more and more girls will be educated.



# My experience as a Modern Media student at UPES

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/my-experience-as-a-modern-media-student-at-upes/>

ANJORI · FEBRUARY 3, 2022



*As a student of journalism, my learning is not limited to traditional forms of media and their practices. I learn about Digital Branding, SEO Management, Strategic Communication, Web Publishing, Mobile Journalism, OTT Platforms, Google Analytics, Studio Production, and many such aspects that keep me informed and updated on the current media trends*

When you are fresh out of high school, you do not always know what you want to do. But it was different for me. After finishing Boards during the lockdown and having months to myself, I did a lot of thinking. What profession would suit me? Where does my passion lie? Which course would be perfect? And which colleges should I apply to?

Like a typical student, I filled out numerous application forms. I had interviews and online tests lined up. I had a list of colleges I preferred, had their backups, and even had backups backed up. While looking for universities in Dehradun (I picked this city because it is beautiful), UPES was always the top search. I tried hard to find out whether it was the brilliance of their community or the academics. Now I know it's both.

Picking Journalism and Mass Communication as the program was an impulse, but it was the sort of intuitive trait that had developed over the years. My love for the media industry had created a subconscious muscle memory. Even though there were other courses that I would have loved to pursue, I chose BA Journalism and Mass Communication (BJMC).

While filling out the form for UPES, I was aware that the [School of Modern Media](#) was only launched that year and that I would be in the very first batch of the school. For me, it was exciting; it did not scare me. The UPES School of Modern Media is India's only digital-first media school. I believed in the university and believed in myself. I did not know what to expect. During the admission process, one of the interview questions was, "Why UPES?" Back then, I remember giving a generic response and listing the good facilities that the university provides. After spending a good one-and-a-half year with the School of Modern Media, I have a detailed, personalised answer.



## The 'Resilient Batch of 2020'



“We got everything we could have asked for – a brilliant faculty, industry connect, activities for writing and creating stories – we were exposed to every facet of media.”

Since the academic cycle began during the pandemic, the university dubbed us 'The Resilient Batch of 2020'. The truth is, we were heartbroken because we could not physically attend our classes. This was not the college experience we had imagined from the movies. However, the university did its best to cheer us up, introducing us to clubs and communities, the new School for Life, social internships, and exploratory courses with the option of a minor. Although we were still low after spending an entire year of college in our homes, we always had that glimmer of something new, something exciting, something to make our day. That was all we needed.

Although I spent two-and-a-half semesters online, I have zero complaints. There were subjects we would have preferred in a face-to-face mode, but we got everything we could have asked for – a brilliant faculty, industry connect, activities for writing and creating stories – we were exposed to every facet of media.

We adapted and used every disadvantage to our advantage.

Journalism is ever-evolving. A couple of decades ago, we had limited sources of information and entertainment; now it's everywhere. Everything is easily accessible on our mobile phones. My learning is not limited to traditional forms of media. I learn about Digital Branding, SEO Management, Strategic Communication, Web Publishing, Mobile Journalism, OTT Platforms, Google Analytics, Studio Production, and many such aspects that keep me informed and updated on the current media trends. I get to study all of this whilst learning and understanding the correlation and polarity between traditional and modern media, with courses such as Reporting the Other India, Writing for Media, New Media, Media and Gender Politics, and Media Laws.

To summarise, I can say that the confidence I have now, the voice that I have found, and my passion, are all part of my journey at UPES. Never in my life had I thought that I would be expressing myself through poetry on a stage in front of an audience, or that I would be organising a campaign for LGBTQ+ rights. I even started my podcast named 'Explore Asia' that is dedicated to my love for Asian culture (it's hosted on Spotify).

This was made possible due to our university's collaboration with Hubhopper, a platform that enables you to create your podcast within minutes. I further worked on creating news packages and research videos on topics such as sexism in anime and cartoons, along with exploring diversity in Marvel movies.

I never expected that I would be excited about waking up in the morning for a class. Clearly, I am in a happy place, and I am extremely thankful for that.

Link to the 'Explore Asia' podcast: <https://hubhopper.com/podcast/explore-asia/336705>

*(The writer is a student of BA Journalism and Mass Communication at UPES School of Modern Media)*

## NASA's prestigious NPWEE Summer 2023 program

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1677172906546065408>

Mahima Gupta is poised to achieve greatness as she secures a coveted spot in NASA's prestigious NPWEE Summer 2023 program.



## Interning at ISRO

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1646423629058416641>

Pursuing your goals and not giving up until they come true is what being a part of the #UniversityOfTomorrow is about. And that's what Ishika Punhani did by interning at ISRO.

#UPES #SchoolOfComputer #Ambitious #ISRO



I have worked with ISRO as a project intern.

I am **ambitious**.

**I Am Tomorrow**  
Are you?



Ishika Punhani  
School of  
Computer  
Science  
Batch of 2024

#UniversityOfTomorrow

## Tanvi Bhalla

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1641849404029009931>

Tanvi Bhalla from UPES #SchoolOfLaw has published a manuscript and written a book while studying to be a lawyer at #UPES. Being passionate about what you do is what it takes to be from the #UniversityOfTomorrow.



I have published a manuscript titled - Climate Justice: Emerging Issues.

I am the author of an international book titled - Global Thoughts and Opinions, bearing foreword by a Chief Justice of India.

I am a **trailblazer**.

**I Am Tomorrow**  
Are you?

Tanvi Bhalla  
School of Law  
Batch of 2022

#UniversityOfTomorrow

## UPES Shakti footprints at Google, California

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-shakti-footprints-at-google-california/>

PRADEEP JAGWAN · SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

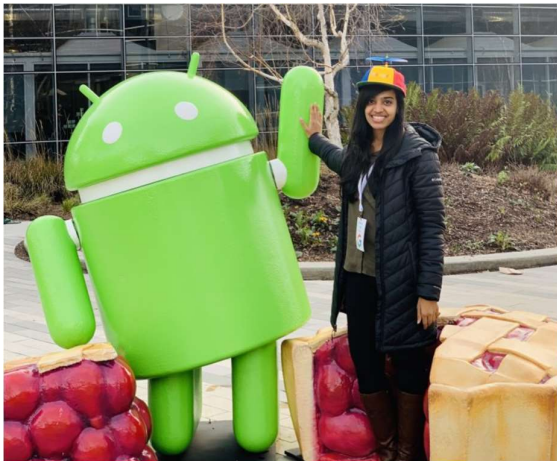


UPES alumna Prakshi Rastogi, who did her post-graduation from Georgia Tech University, is working as a Silicon Engineer at Google in Mountain View, California

A childlike quality still pops up in Prakshi when she talks about her college life at UPES five years back. Prakshi Rastogi is an alumna of UPES, Class of 2011-2015, B.Tech. Electronics Engineering. Presently, she works as a Silicon Engineer at Google in Mountain View, California.

When asked about the practical aspects of living in a faraway country, Prakshi talks about the difficulties she faced. "I knew living alone in a faraway country would be difficult but that was the price to be paid to achieve my dreams."

Prakshi attributes her relentless spirit to her mother. She says, "My inspiration of dreaming big and achieving it has always been my mother, who pushed me to aim high and never give up on my dreams. In the world that we live in, it is rare to have parents who are supportive of all your dreams and I am lucky enough to have them. They have always taught me that sky is the limit."



Studying circuits was an interest for her ever since she was a little girl. Prakshi admits that all her childhood, she was intrigued by circuit design and its intricacies of how millions of transistors were integrated into one small chip. “The interest,” she adds, “widened when I pursued Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI) courses at UPES. I would spend hours reading about VLSI and searching colleges that specialize in it. As a result of that, I came across a few colleges in the United States that offered specialization in VLSI.”

She knew she had to pursue her Masters in the field of VLSI. But pursuing masters from a foreign university has its own difficulties, Prakshi admits. “My target was difficult,” she informs, “as these were the top tier colleges and needed a good GRE score. With motivation from my professors and parents, I prepared for GRE and successfully got into Georgia Tech, which was my dream college. My parents and professors were elated about it.”

Prakshi vividly recalls her experience during her college days at UPES. She says, “When I look back at the four years I spent at UPES, there is nothing I want to change about it. The whole experience gave me a solid career foundation for where I am today in my life. A big thanks to the amazing faculty members at UPES who shaped my career in the best possible way. Furthermore, the summer internship program gave me the industry exposure I needed at that time.”

## [This bureaucrat makes UPES proud!](https://blog.upes.ac.in/this-bureaucrat-makes-upes-proud/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/this-bureaucrat-makes-upes-proud/>

PRADEEP JAGWAN · AUGUST 28, 2020



Margan Sinha, alumna of B. Tech Electronics Engineering, class of 2013, today serves as Senior Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, Bihar

Margan Sinha, class of 2009-2013, B. Tech Electronics Engineering, is currently serving as Senior Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, Bihar. Hers is a story of true grit and tenacity. Making it to the top of the bureaucracy in India is never an easy dream to nurture. “But hard work never goes unpaid,” quips Margan.

Reminiscing about her experience at the university, Margan recalls the time when her other classmates were working on themselves and getting prepped for campus placements. “I was

preparing,” she adds, “without any backup plan or job experience just after graduation. I was under tremendous peer pressure as others were doing pretty well in their lives and I was still struggling. There were moments of frustration and even the impulse to quit the preparation.”

Besides the challenges on the professional front, her personal life, too, had its own share of difficulties. Margan explains, “During the process of preparation, my father got transferred and my mother was also facing health issues. So I had to balance the responsibility along with the preparation.”



Margan Sinha, class of 2009-2013, B. Tech Electronics Engineering, is currently serving as Senior Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, Bihar

She secured rank 159 in Bihar Public Service Commission 60-62nd exam.

Despite all the success, she is modest enough to concede that she did not expect to crack any of the examinations in one go as she was an average student. . Says she, “I was not amongst those few who crack such competitive exams in one go. I faced failures, nothing was working out. One exam cycle is a pretty long one, lasting minimum for a year and failure in one attempt is a loss of a year of hard work, and career progression.”

But one thing she had in ample measure was perseverance and positivity. She credits her success to strong family support that never let her quit and kept motivating her. “Along with it my own belief,” she adds, “that one day I will surely crack it, and even if by any chance I am not able to clear it, I will do something for the masses, was my sole motivation that kept me going.”

Margan says, “The course I pursued at UPES helped me immensely in the preparation of science and technology section which constitutes a major chunk of the syllabus and gave me an easy edge over the other aspirants. UPES also provided me with ample opportunities for overall personality development, in the form of extra-curricular activities, personality development sessions, professional communication classes and a focus on practical, rather than just theoretical sessions.”



Margan believes that the seeds of one's career are well sown in the college, and it stands true for her as she began preparing for Civil Services during her college days. She proudly says, "My alma mater has been a major pillar of strength and confidence building. It has helped me inculcate the values and qualities expected of an administrator. UPES provided me with a conducive environment, an atmosphere to grow, learn, lead and become what I am today. For all aspirants and my present UPES fellows who wish to become an administrator, I would like to dedicate my favorite quote: Winners never quit and quitters never win."

## India's Missile Woman Interacts with Students

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/indias-missile-woman-interacts-with-students/>

BY A CORRESPONDENT · MARCH 8, 2020



Distinguished Scientist and Director General-DRDO Dr. Tessy Thomas visited UPES recently for National Space Convention 2020

Uttarakhand witnessed its second National Space Convention, Renaissance 2.0 in collaboration with Uttarakhand Science Education and Research Centre (USERC), Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) of United Nations and SPACE INDIA, organised by Infinity Space Club, the Department of Aerospace Engineering, UPES. The inter-university national-level space convention took place in UPES, Dehradun, with the support of its media partner, World of Science, and sponsors, CADD and Rocketeer India.

Among the dignitaries present at the event were Shri Kusum Lata Sharma, Director of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Mr. Tarun Sharma from Space India, Delhi, Mr. V.M. Chamola, Ex-Director, Human Resource at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), and Dr. Durgesh Pant, who is among the earliest adopters and pioneers of Computer Science and Information Technology and is currently the Director of Uttarakhand Science Education and Research Centre (USERC).



## Missile Woman speaks on leadership skills

The audience was captivated when Dr. Tessy Thomas, the Missile Woman of India, stepped on the podium to give her remarks. She is currently the Distinguished Scientist and Director General at Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). Dr. Tessy was the Project Director for AGNI-4, becoming the first woman in India to lead a missile project in the country. She presented the young minds with a presentation on Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, an introduction about the ongoing ISRO projects and development on missiles and lastly, India's Aerospace industry's progress on a global level.

Speaking about the qualities that make a good leader, Dr. Thomas said: "A leader should take his subordinates along and not just dominate them. He or she should be ready for every challenge and try and protect their team like their own family. A leader should be well-prepared for tackling any situation. He should know the plus points of his subordinates and focus on them to get the best out of them!"

This interaction was followed by flagship and non-flagship events such as Endeavour (treasure hunt), Destinesia (space quiz), Astrometrica (workshop) and webinar session with NASA scientist, Marcos Pena, the man behind the Artemis mission.

## National Space Convention



Renaissance, the National Space Convention, was a brainchild of the students of Infinity Space Club.

## UPES Aerospace Engineering Department

This department has, over the years, promoted various teams, clubs and students to partake in various activities that promote the research and development of Space systems. UPES, Team Astral under the department of Aerospace Engineering has over the years secured top ranks on the global scale and also making India proud by securing the first rank at the CanSat competition organized by the American Astronautical Society which tests the electronic and mechanical systems of a canister sized satellite with weight and size constraints. Another team of the same department, Team

Agastya makes breakthrough in the Aeronautical domain by partaking in the world's best aero design challenge organized by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. There are also other teams like team Odyssey and team Tesseract which are setting benchmarks in the Singapore Space Challenge and winning the Lockheed Martin Roll on Roll off Challenge. Apart from these UPES also encourages students pursuing research in the field of space sciences and clubs like Infinity Space Club and Aeroclub that promotes the education of this science.

Renaissance, the National Space Convention, was a brainchild of the students of Infinity Space Club. The idea of conducting a one-of-its-kind national space convention for the first time in 2018 was nurtured and nourished by the continuous support from the UPES Administration: Dr. Kamal Bansal, Dean of Academic Development and Innovation and School of Engineering, Dr. S.J. Chopra, the Chancellor of UPES, Department of Aerospace Engineering, which has been a constant pillar of strength for Infinity Space Club, especially Dr. Sudhir Joshi, Head of Department and Faculty Mentors, Mr. Zozimus Labana and Mr. Vipin Kumar.

## UPES student's research paper published

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-students-research-paper-published/>

PRADEEP JAGWAN · MAY 8, 2020



Currently pursuing her B. Tech in Computer Science, Anukruti Mathur was recently in the news for her research paper titled 'Implementation of Technology-Enabled Education in Teaching and Learning: A Study'

Anukruti Mathur, a student of Cloud Computing and Virtualization Technology (CCVT) from School of Computer Science, UPES, has published her research paper in the Journal of Xidian University, a public research university in Xi'an, China. The paper titled 'Implementation of Technology-Enabled Education in Teaching and Learning: A Study' has been published in the fifth edition of 2020 of the Journal of Xidian University.

Anukruti did her research for this paper under the guidance of Dr. Naveen Tiwari and Dr. Gopal Dutt. Says Anukruti, “For the purpose of this study, survey was conducted amongst educators of different schools and colleges. Respondents gave details of the implementation and success of the use of computers and internet in schools in all districts of Uttarakhand.”

An elated Anukruti informs that she has been an avid researcher in college. “I am the Department Editor,” she adds, “for XRDS magazine printed and published from New York. Research has always interested me and I wish to pursue it in future as well.”

Sharing insights from her experience, Anukruti says, “My journey till now at UPES has been nothing short of amazing. The exposure and opportunities each one of us here get, paves our way towards holistic development. Labs embedded with latest equipments and technologies, various activities held throughout the course and the newly-added Coursera and HitbullsEye tie-ups give us a clear understanding of what lies ahead, thus making us industry ready.” She further adds, “I would sincerely express my deep sense of gratitude towards the management and teachers at UPES for integrating content vertically and horizontally, thus bringing out the best in me.”

## Meet the women scientists who are leading the battle against COVID-19

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/meet-the-women-scientists-who-are-leading-the-battle-against-covid-19/>

EKTA KASHYAP · MAY 6, 2020



As countries, including India, reel under the Coronavirus pandemic, several women scientists are powering through with their uncompromising attitude to help rebuild the nation and the world

The Indian mythology and folklore are replete with accounts of legendary women, armed with swords, bows and arrows, fighting in wars and eventually emerging as winners. Women were warriors then; women are warriors now. Today, they are fighting an unseen enemy – a virus that has

taken scores of lives across the world. Their weapons have changed, too. But what hasn't changed is their exceptional resilience and determination to win every battle with courage and conviction.

The world is facing a crisis like no other. In such trying times, it is the frontline workers who are risking their lives to ensure that others stay safe; it is our medical researchers who are working at record speed to develop a vaccine and effective treatments. We bring you such six women scientists who are going above and beyond their call of duty to make sure that the nation and the world come out of this pandemic, healthy and safe.

Dr. Priya Abraham

On January 30, 2020, the first case of Novel Coronavirus was confirmed in India by the National Institute of Virology (NIV) based in Pune. It is affiliated to the nation's apex health research body, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and initially, was the only centre that was testing samples for Covid-19.

Leading the charge of this organisation at this crucial juncture is its director, Dr. Priya Abraham. Not only did she make a momentous medical breakthrough by isolating the deadly Coronavirus, but she, along with her team, has also been the guiding force of all the government and private labs that are testing the Coronavirus samples.

The NIV has succeeded in reducing the testing time of Covid-19 samples to just four hours a sample from 12-14 hours, a significant feat that will increase the number of testing.

Sanghamitra Pati and Jyotirmayi Turuk

As the number of cases spike in different states, the women of Odisha – nurses, Anganwadi workers, healthcare workers and sanitation workers – have set an example of leading the battle against the pandemic.

The foremost medical institutes that are responsible for COVID-19 testing in the state are also being led by women. Scientist Sanghamitra Pati is heading the Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), the key COVID-19 testing centre at Bhubaneswar, which is a regional institution of ICMR. Pati, together with her team scientist Jyotirmayee Turuk, is involved in aggressive testing to detect as many cases as possible.

Minal Dhakave Bhosale

On March 26, Mylabs Discovery, a molecular biology firm based in Pune, successfully delivered its first batch of the first-ever Made in India Coronavirus testing kit. This kit gave results in just two-and-a-half hours as compared to the imported ones, which take six-seven hours for the same. Moreover, the Mylabs testing kit was priced at INR 1,200, which is a quarter of the cost of the imported testing kits.

This breakthrough was made possible because of the relentless efforts of Mylab's research and development chief, Minal Dhakave Bhosale. Notably, she delivered the working kit for evaluation by NIV on March 18, just a day before delivering her daughter.

Dr. Renu Swarup

In the quest for the treatment of the deadly infection, researchers are racing against time to find an antidote of Coronavirus. Dr. Renu Swarup, secretary, department of biotechnology under the science ministry, is one of them. She is also the chairperson of the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), which serves as a bridge between research laboratories and industry.

Dr. Nivedita Gupta

Virologist, Dr Nivedita Gupta, who is a senior scientist at ICMR, is currently designing the treatment and testing protocols for the country. She had played a key role in setting up a viral and diagnostic network for ICMR.

These achievements have put women front and centre in the medical arena. There is only one word to aptly describe these women of courage – inspiring.

## [Menstrual hygiene product by UPES students gets special mention at National Design Awards](https://blog.upes.ac.in/menstrual-hygiene-product-by-upes-students-gets-special-mention-at-national-design-awards/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/menstrual-hygiene-product-by-upes-students-gets-special-mention-at-national-design-awards/>

[EKTA KASHYAP](#) · JULY 5, 2022



Vendo, developed by UPES School of Design students Bhasha Maheswari, Siddhi Deshpande and Shruti Bamb, won the 'Special Mention Award in Product Design' at the MIT-WPU National Design Awards 2022

According to the National Family Health Survey (2015-16), there are around 355 million menstruating women and girls in India. However, women across the country experience significant barriers to a comfortable and dignified experience with menstrual hygiene management.

They face issues in first accessing, and then discarding the used pads in public washrooms. And for the cleaning staff who handle them later, it is a nightmare. Once discarded, one sanitary pad takes up to 500 – 800 years to decompose. Given that an average woman uses 12 sanitary napkins every cycle – which accounts for approximately 15,000 pads or more during her life – the number of pads landing in the landfill worldwide is unfathomable.

To address this complex problem, three [UPES School of Design](#) students – Bhasha Maheswari, Siddhi Deshpande and Shruti Bamb – developed Vendo, a public sanitary solution for women.



Vendo – Sanitary napkin vending and incinerator machine

Vendo helps in managing hygiene in public washrooms with ease in a sustainable, accessible and eco-friendly manner. It is a combination of a sanitary napkin vending machine and an incinerator. The incinerator helps with the easy disposal of soiled napkins and the vending section helps provide access to sanitary napkins 24\*7. The machine runs with a token of INR 5 with three different pad size options.

“The intent was to create a product with massive social and environmental impact. That is when we realised the need to create a product that helps in managing female hygiene,” says Bhasha, a fourth-year B.Des. (Industrial and [Product Design](#)) student.

Shruti, who is also pursuing Industrial and Product Design, says that the thought of “literally leaving a lot of crap for the future generations to come” made her think about a sustainable way to discard

sanitary waste. “We saw an opportunity in a pad-burning incinerator. That was the beginning of Vendo,” she says.

Elaborating how Vendo can help curb the mounting menstrual waste, Siddhi says, “Burning of sanitary napkins is better than disposing them in the garbage. But not many people are aware of this method. The product that we designed has a vending machine and an incinerator for the sanitary napkins with better display and control. We want this product to be installed in public washrooms, mall washrooms and other public spaces.”

Given that several products in the market provide similar services, what differentiates Vendo from the competition? “The highlight of Vendo is that it is a combination of a vending machine and incinerator. And its user-centred design adds to the greater purpose. The form and ease-of-use of the product make it convenient for the users. Additionally, Vendo incinerates pads at the right temperature, which most of the incinerators in the market do not do. Features like storage, battery backup and easy-to-use control panel also make it stand out,” says Bhasha.

It is their innovative approach to solving a gigantic problem that got the trio the ‘Special Mention Award in Product Design’ for Vendo at the MIT-WPU National Design Awards 2022.

Talking about the achievement, Shruti says, “As designers, we are asked to [design systems and experiences](#) in an increasingly complex environment. For the MIT-WPU National Design Award 2022, the theme was ‘Design for the Society’. With the ability to shape values and expectations, designers have an obligation to use their skills to improve lives, create opportunities, and bring people together. The idea I had with my two other group members, Siddhi Deshpande and Bhasha Maheshwari, helps shape society and increases awareness around the need for the product.”

## UPES Professor conferred with ‘Leading Women Researcher Award’

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-professor-conferred-with-leading-women-researcher-award/>

[EKTA KASHYAP](#) · MARCH 23, 2022



*Dr. Neelu Jyothi Ahuja, Professor at School of Computer Science, was bestowed with the ‘Leading Women Researcher Award-2022’ by Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST)*



Research is the key to unlocking knowledge, and higher education thrives on research. Faculty and students at UPES have made remarkable discoveries with their expertise, hard work, dedication, and persistence, further strengthening the academic prowess of the institution. Their efforts have been recognised by academia and governments alike.

Dr. Neelu Jyothi Ahuja, Professor and Head-Department of Systemics at [UPES School of Computer Science](#), is one such active researcher and a dominant figure in her field. She has been conferred with the 'Leading Women Researcher Award-2022' from Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST).

In 2010, Dr. Ahuja was awarded her Doctorate for the development of a prototype rule-based expert system for seismic data interpretation. From 2010 to 2017, she headed the Research Centre-Computing Research Institute, spearheading intra-disciplinary research and coordinating research activities. Dr. Ahuja was also among the 25 women leaders who were awarded the [Second Himalayan Nari Shakti Samman-2020](#) under the aegis of Uttarakhand State Law Commission and Uttarakhand Human Rights Protection Centre.

She has successfully delivered several government-sponsored projects in research worth INR 2 crore, under various domains ranging from Artificial Intelligence applications such as Intelligent Tutoring Systems to technology interventions for learning disabled children.

Talking about the value of research and the importance of upskilling as an academician, Dr. Ahuja says, "Gaps in knowledge can only be filled with research. From a personal point of view, it has always been stimulating, intensely engaging, and rewarding; rewarding in terms of personal satisfaction. As an academician, I am a strong believer in constantly upskilling, updating, and enriching. Only then, does it add value to the classroom and the life of students, as well as fellow team members."

Indeed, such scholars enhance the learning experience of students. Ardent researchers and academicians, who believe in sharing and spreading knowledge, support students towards their growth and accomplishments. Dr. Ahuja, talking about the efforts at UPES to prepare future decision-makers, says, "Encouraging students to discover their potential and excel is the way to work for us. Scaffolding them to go beyond the boundaries of a classroom and show their talent at various universities and institutes of repute, has led to them bringing over many laurels to UPES, including the field of research. Whether, it is grabbing coveted titles, prizes, placements, or highly acclaimed recognitions, students have done it all."

She emphasises that at UPES, students get the opportunity to learn from the best. "Developing students as ethically strong, environmentally conscious, well-rounded professionals, and placing them as leaders of tomorrow, has been a norm to take forward always. Noteworthy to mention, is that some of the very high salary packages have been achieved by students of the Cyber Security and Forensics program. Bringing some of the best academic learning experiences, industry alliances, training and certifications, real-time exposure, projects, and mentoring for the students, provides them with the necessary head start," Dr. Ahuja adds.

## Incredible, but true! 700+ UPES students receive more than one job offer despite economic gloom

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/incredible-but-true-700-upes-students-receive-more-than-one-job-offer-despite-economic-gloom/>



Disproving the job market trends, UPES witnessed a strong placement season with students receiving multiple offers from reputed companies such as Wipro, TCS, Indian Oil, Dell and Accenture, to name a few

As the pandemic continues to disrupt the world, several sectors, especially education, have been severely affected. In their quest to provide uninterrupted learning, higher educational institutions have been facing two of the biggest challenges – online classes and placement drives on campus. Despite many hurdles, however, UPES witnessed a strong placement season by giving much-needed support to its students. As a result, [UPES students received multiple offers from reputed companies](#) through the campus placement drive.

A premier institution of learning, UPES always equips its students with the ability to address real-world problems and social challenges through immersive industry engagement and participation. The university is determined to enhance employability skills by providing graduates with industry exposure, a practical hands-on approach, and relevant knowledge which enhances their overall employability. From holding masterclasses to conducting online tests and interviews, UPES did not leave any stone unturned to ensure that their students have a job.

Constant and regular intervention in terms of training is crucial for an enhanced learning experience leading to better career opportunities. Therefore, UPES' Career Services Department focuses on creating well-rounded graduates who are prepared for the globalized world.

According to Manish Madan, Director, Career Services and Corporate Relations, UPES, [“700+ students received more than one offer](#). In the current scenario, it is important to inculcate the right skills in students. Upskilling is crucial in the industry. At UPES, we impart skills that are high in demand and are fundamental for a career in the corporate world. This has also helped them to shine bright and grab multiple offers during the placement season.”

Noormansa Narula from UPES School of Design says, “Placement season at UPES started in September. I was the first one from my batch to get placed in Dell Technologies. I also got an offer from Accenture. It was difficult for me to choose, but I decided to join Dell Technologies as an Analyst, Product Design. The faculty at UPES are subject matter experts and are friendly and helpful. The placement cell conducts training programs and mock interviews and brings the best companies on campus so that we can land our dream jobs. We were given practical knowledge about the present-day job market, and how to face different scenarios in the interview process. The placement team always supported us and encouraged us even when we failed.”

A student of UPES School of Law, Manyata Singhal recalls that the placement training sessions involved resume writing, group discussions, and mock interviews. “The placement cell helped me to lift myself to new heights I never thought I would achieve. I want to express my gratitude to the Career Services Department for helping me improve at every step. Joining UPES was one of the first independent decisions of my life, and I am proud to say that it was also one of the best. I got successfully placed in not just one but two reputed organisations – Legasis Services Private Limited and Effectual Services. Management skills, working under pressure, confidence to face challenges, sincerity, and hard work helped me achieve multiple offers.”

Shobhit Kumar from UPES School of Engineering and the Lead Student Placement Representative says, “With the support from my teachers, parents, and the Career Services Team, I was able to secure four offers from top-notch companies such as Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Cognizant Technology Solutions, and Indian Oil. The placement team had prepared us well for aptitude sessions, group discussions, and interviews. The pre-placement talk, seminars, and workshops helped me achieve my aim, which was to start my career with an MNC. The message I want to convey to my juniors is that there will be times when you will feel demotivated but believe in yourself and be confident.”

A thrilled Daksh Bana from UPES School of Computer Science says, “I am thankful to UPES for providing me with a platform where I was able to hone my skills, develop my personality, and emerge out with flying colours. The university has been supportive throughout my journey. Ajay Rawat, Assistant Professor at UPES School of Computer Science, and Aditya Singh, Career Services Department always guided and motivated me. The placement department conducted aptitude tests, group discussions and mock personal interviews to prepare us for the final day. I thank the placement team and all my teachers who helped me get a job in four reputed companies: Cognizant Technology Solutions, TCS, Simplilearn, and Pegasystems.”

## UPES placements buck the trend; rack up 2500+ offers from 480+ companies

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-placements-buck-the-trend-rack-up-2500-offers-from-480-companies/>



*Despite the pandemic, undergraduate and postgraduate students from School of Engineering, School of Computer Science, School of Business, School of Design, and School of Law received 2500+ offers from 480+ companies*

Campus hiring is an important platform for students to get noticed in the job market and is a valuable addition to their professional experience. Students who possess relevant skills, and have

industry exposure to some extent through internships, have better prospects of landing their dream job, in comparison to those who have had little or no exposure. Merely having a degree is certainly not good enough, the right skills are a must have in today's day and age.

UPES has been focussing on developing a world-class pool of young and talented professionals with relevant 'real world' education and 'on the job' exposure. The industry-readiness of UPES students has been [one of the key differentiators for the recruiters](#).

The university's robust Career Services department ensures that the students have adequate industry exposure and get naturally and rapidly absorbed into professional roles on completion of their degrees.

Manish Madaan, Director, Career Services and Corporate Relations, UPES, says, "In March 2020 when the first nationwide lockdown was imposed, we were in the middle of our placement season for the graduates. The biggest setback was for our final year students as they were the first to experience virtual recruitment process and it was a new way of placements for us as well. We learnt a lot and our learnings helped us in preparing for this placement season. We geared ourselves up with video resumes, elevator pitches and improved our virtual presence. So, at a time when people are losing jobs, salaries are being cut and offers are being revoked, UPES has managed to offer multiple jobs to deserving and meritorious students. Credit for this goes to our faculty, who committed themselves to online teaching, and our students, who, despite all the challenges, ensured that they gave their best."

This year again, for the fifth year in a row, UPES School of Computer Science has achieved 100% placements. UPES students have been placed across various Indian and global corporations, start-ups and unicorns. The highest pay package for the year [2021 is 27 LPA from UPES School of Business](#).

About the multi-prolonged placement drive, Manish Madan says, "The whole interview process this year is being carried out virtually with the students and corporates participating from their respective locations. Organisations are giving assignments or taking virtual technical rounds as a part of the recruitment drives. Online assessment tests, virtual group discussions, aptitude tests, domain-specific online tests, and HR rounds are the stages involved in the recruitment process. It is important for us to train our students for all these new ways of recruitment well in advance. To ensure this, we make a series of interventions, such as holding webinars with industry experts, mock interviews to ensure that the student is comfortable during the actual placement drive, besides training them on their domain and soft skills. The university has not left any stone unturned to ensure that students have a job before they graduate."

UPES has been at the forefront of industry-oriented, future-ready, and world-class education, turning crisis into opportunity whenever the need arises. That's the reason it is the preferred choice for corporates for recruiting fresh talent. This year industry giants like Accenture, Adani Power, Amazon, Deloitte, DTDC, TCS, Cognizant, SpiceJet, Infosys, Flipkart, Wipro, Byju's and Vedantu, have already recruited students from UPES. The university not only helps students in final placements, but also ensures that the pre-final-year students have industry exposure through internships on live projects under the guidance of industry mentors in online mode.

### [Employability Boot Camp](#)

UPES organises a [15-day Employability Boot Camp for its final year students](#). Through insightful workshops, seminars, and training programs, this camp prepares students to face professional challenges; to survive and grow in their job. Additionally, it gives students comprehensive training,

equips them with life skills, cognitive and metacognitive skills, oral and written communication skills, competencies to build resume and social media profiles, personal branding, and mock interviews.

### Alumni Connect

Owing to its commitment to support the alumni in all aspects of their professional life, UPES has been going the extra mile to ease the burden on the families of its alumni. UPES offers a 35% discount on tuition fees for all post-graduate courses. This is applicable for alumni who have completed graduation from UPES and wish to pursue post-graduate courses at UPES or any other academic partner institution.

Besides successfully meeting the targets of maximum placements over the years, [UPES has been offering special placement assistance](#) to alumni. UPES acts as a bridge between the recruiter and alumni. UPES also supports in upskilling, building portfolios, and enhancing the resume.

Additionally, UPES has launched an initiative called 'Sahyog' that aims to provide help and support to the family of alumni by creating region-wise WhatsApp groups. Currently there are 350+ alumni across 20+ cities supporting this initiative and saving lives of people in need.

## [How UPES helped me to become a Data Privacy Analyst at Infosys](#)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/how-upes-helped-me-to-become-a-data-privacy-analyst-at-infosys/>

VAISHNAVI SHUKLA · JANUARY 6, 2021



Even during the pandemic, the faculty provided constant support to students. Periodic follow-ups with companies and regular feedback from the college helped me convert my assessment internship into full-time employment and I will be forever thankful to UPES for the opportunity

I hail from a small town in Uttar Pradesh. In 2014, I chose B.Tech Computer Science Engineering and LL.B (Hons.) with a specialisation in Cyber Law. The specialisation had its own peculiarity and advancements, focusing on the present-day needs. Continuous hard work, dedication and passion for six years and the association with cyber laws and technologies gave me some incredible insights and today, I am proud to say, I work as a Data Privacy Analyst at Infosys Ltd.

Just like other higher secondary students, I was worried about my college admissions after board examinations. I was clueless about the best universities for my course and how to proceed with my applications. It was then when I came to know about UPES Dehradun and how it is different from

other engineering colleges. The university offered some in-demand specialisations which fascinated me, and I decided to sit for the entrance examination at UPES.

During counselling, cyber law grabbed my attention and I found it interesting. I never thought that I would pursue a career as a Data Privacy Analyst. Long back in 2014 many people were not even aware of data privacy. I tried my hands in different fields such as web development, hard core coding and cyber security. Finally, I developed an interest in Data Privacy. So, I decided to use my technical knowledge and implement it into a legal framework to further develop my career in the Data Privacy stream.

For me, college experience is difficult to express in words. With its sprawling 44-acre campus in the safe and scenic environs of Dehradun, UPES can make anyone fall in love with its scenic beauty and calm surroundings. I will always cherish the time I spent on campus. Going to the riverbed, celebrating birthdays in nearby picnic spots, endless chats with my friends in the hostel, playing in food courts and taking part in various student activities, fests and events made my college life memorable.

Our faculty constantly helped us in dissertations and projects. Dr. Inder Singh from the School of Computer Science guided me in the project: Quantum Cryptography. Akanksha Singh from the School of Legal Studies relentlessly helped every student of cyber law. Jatin Bhagat played an important role in developing my interest in the field of cyber security. My professors always guided me, encouraged me, and most importantly believed in me.

I joined Infosys in February and opted for self-study mode. Therefore, by the end of the semester, I had doubts about the course and curriculum. But UPES faculty arranged quick learning classes and equipped me with all the industry-relevant skillsets. Our professors helped us sail through exams, dissertations, vivas and presentations so that graduating batches could transition smoothly to the workplace. The university also made the examination process fairly easy for us.

Due to the pandemic, online exams were held. Even during these difficult times, the faculty provided constant support to students. Periodic follow-ups with companies and regular feedback from the college helped me convert my assessment internship into full-time employment and I will be forever thankful to UPES for the opportunity.

(The writer is an alumna from UPES School of Law with a specialization in Cyber Law/Intellectual Property Rights)

## How a UPES alumna successfully crafted her dream career in Avionics Engineering

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/how-a-upes-alumna-successfully-crafted-her-dream-career-in-avionics-engineering/>

PRADEEP JAGWAN · AUGUST 14, 2020



Tanya Manchanda is currently working as an Avionics Engineer with Boeing, India. She is a celebrated employee and has been felicitated by the company for her active participation in organisational activities, people management, quality work and efforts on task completion to meet the milestones

Tanya Manchanda, a student of B.Tech. Avionics, class of 2009-13, UPES, has been successful in crafting her dream career. Currently, she is working as an Avionics Engineer with Boeing, India. Talking about her professional experience, Tanya said, "I am working on a project of Onboard Health Management System that provides other Line Replacement Units (LRUs) with a means to effectively communicate fault and airplane health information. I have been felicitated by Boeing India for my active participation in organisational activities, people management, quality work and efforts on task completion to meet the milestones."

When asked about her journey at the UPES Department of Aerospace engineering, she recalled the experience vividly. Tanya said, "It was the year 2009 when I attended the UPES counselling at Delhi and was confused about what to choose. I decided to go for the aeronautical sector as it has a wide scope. I saw the various courses in the UPES brochure. For me, Avionics was a lucrative option as one could choose to go beyond design and development. It is important to note that without pursuing Avionics, one cannot fly the aircraft, at least in the current scenario, and for the future growth of automation development."

She admitted that her journey at UPES was a rich learning experience. Reminiscing about her teachers from the Department of Aerospace and how they helped build her interest in the field, Tanya said, "I learnt many subjects of core aerospace and avionics engineering from various professors. I thank all the faculty members who taught me the concepts so well. I remember in my 6th semester in 2012, one of my teachers Dr. Sudhir Kumar Chaturvedi taught 'Introduction to Automatic Flight Control'. That was the turning point of my life. Under his guidance and mentorship, I wrote research papers, which later got accepted in the International Conference on Microwave, Antenna and Remote Sensing 2012. I learnt a lot during this tenure."



When she sat through the placement process, Tanya got selected in HCL Technologies Limited. “I along with 13 other potential candidates got selected in 2013. I joined HCL technologies the next year and worked on OAPI, a DO-178B standard project, having D-level security. The objective of the project was to develop a custom software tool in support of Flight Test Analysis, allowing more dynamic displays and manipulation of data,” she added.

After four years of experience with HCL, Tanya switched to Boeing India, which was her “true calling”. Today, she is a celebrated employee with the company. “Boeing India recognised me for taking ownership in FMS, Control Display Unit Verification and Validation tasks and competing on schedule. I am grateful to UPES for making me what I am today,” Tanya concluded.

## Women deserve every chance to be emancipated

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/women-deserve-every-chance-to-be-emancipated/>

RASHIKA SRIVASTAVA · MAY 1, 2020



As a businesswoman, I realise that it’s important to help other women enhance their skills and be financially independent

I graduated in BBA Aviation Operation programme (2013-2016) from UPES. During this course, introduction to concepts such as management and leadership, business communication, corporate social responsibility, financial management, organisational behaviour and many more helped in my understanding of managing a business with a handful of employees. These courses also enhanced my skills of communicating, decision making and team management.

I firmly believe that theoretical knowledge is incomplete until there is a real-life application. The subjects which we were taught in the programme helped me to apply all those learnings in my life, personally as well as professionally. There were several workshops and projects, such as dissertation and community service, that taught me valuable lessons in team management and collaboration.

The faculty, seniors and career services team at UPES were extremely supportive at every step of my life. I was given a chance to be on the Ignite team as Head of Event Management Department. I was

also the class representative so there were many responsibilities entrusted with by our class coordinator Mr. Shubendu Vimal.

The internship was in the summer of 2015 and mine was at RHIAL, i.e. Hyderabad International Airport, on a 12-hour shift. It was my first exposure of the aviation industry where I mastered several skills such as self-control, multitasking and people management.

The education system at UPES works like a well-oiled machine. It helped me in getting admission in one of the renowned universities in London for my Masters, post which I interned in Singapore for one year. This global exposure gave me a whole new perspective of the world around me.

Today, as Director of Rcube Healthcare Industries Pvt. Ltd., all my core competencies are put to test. Quick decision-making, proper communication and financial planning are important for the business that I run.

Being a woman business leader is still a challenge in this country as the patriarchal mindset still prevents men from taking orders from a female boss. In order to change this primitive gender stereotypes, my NGO, Rcube Foundation, is helping women to enhance their skills and be financially independent.

Workplaces should be gender neutral and both women and men should be assessed on merit and the hard work that they put in.

Women can do wonders in any field if they are given the freedom to decide their career paths. My office has more women than men and most of them undertake extensive travel and field inspection duties. Women deserve every single chance to be empowered, educated and be in control of their own destiny.

(The writer is a UPES alumni and Director, Rcube Healthcare Industries Pvt. Ltd.)

[UPES alumna at the National Human Rights Commission](https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-alumna-at-the-national-human-rights-commission/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/upes-alumna-at-the-national-human-rights-commission/>

RACHIYTA JAIN · MAY 7, 2020



A silver medallist of her batch (2012-18), Rachiyta Jain pursued her B.Tech. (Hons.) Computer Science and Engineering with LL.B. in Cyber Law from UPES. She was conferred with the 'Mahila Shiksha Suraksha' award by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in 2015, along with several other recognitions for spreading awareness about cybercrime. This is her story

'Fate is only an armour we protect ourselves with during a downfall; destiny only intends what you hustle for.'

As both computer science engineering and law were my areas of interest, I joined the B.Tech. Computer Science Cyber Law batch of UPES in 2012. The course allowed me to add to my skills in ways that I could not have imagined. In 2014, I was one of the 36 interns selected for a summer internship under the guidance of Mr. Rakshit Tandon at the Gurgaon Police Cyber Cell. That is when I learnt the ground reality of cyberspace and cybercrimes and realized the lack of awareness about the issue among the public. This further encouraged me to contribute in this field.

In December 2014, my friend sent me a message that he was starting a blog on cyber awareness and that I could edit his blogs and maybe contribute with my posts for the same. That is when we co-founded The Cyber Blog India, which went on to win several national and international accolades.

Initially, when we offered to conduct workshops for schools for free, we were turned down. However, that never stopped us. Our constant efforts paid off and we began conducting training for law enforcement officials of several states and teachers, parents and students of various schools and colleges. We were invited for a session at BITS Pilani and as guest speakers at the Annual Conference of Principals of Schools in UP and Uttarakhand, Gorakhpur Mahotsav. With time, our team grew and we involved many of our juniors with us. The blog flourished and we started India's first WhatsApp helpline for providing pro bono consultation to victims of cybercrime. We also made the helpline a medium to disseminate information.

The then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh conferred upon me with the 'Mahila Shiksha Suraksha Award' for my contribution. I was also appointed as the Cyber Cell Ambassador of Saharanpur for the year 2015 by SSP Mr. Nitin Tiwari. I went on to become a Consultant for the Cyber Peace Foundation and conducted training in collaboration with Google, UNICEF and numerous other

organisations. In that role, I also designed the Law Enforcement Training Manual for police on how to investigate child-related cyber offences. Presently, I am working with the National Human Rights Commission in Delhi as a Junior Legal Research Consultant.

Message for the alma mater:

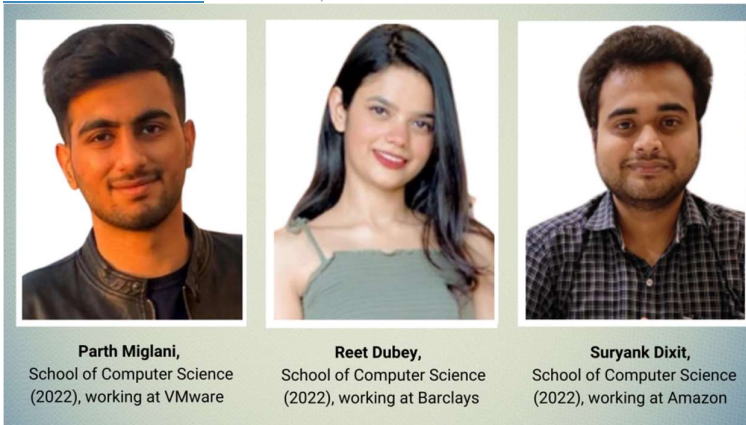
I am extremely thankful to UPES for offering industry-aligned courses that stand out from the ordinary. The institution provides an atmosphere for the overall development of an individual. My faculties have constantly supported me in all the ventures I undertook, both during and after college. I cannot thank the entire UPES community enough for providing me with the resources and infrastructure that helped in shaping my dreams and introducing me to the best classmates, guides and mentors. I have seen the University grow exponentially – new blocks came up, the School of Design opened, law and management shifted to the Kandoli campus and what not. It was like the two of us grew together. UPES is the home I left behind, always longing to return to. I am certain that even a decade later, the beautiful drive to the college would bring back the same nostalgia bitten smile and I will find myself silently thanking my parents for sending me to UPES.

(The author is a Junior Research Consultant at the National Human Rights Commission.)

## [Students placed at top companies share their workplace experiences](https://blog.upes.ac.in/students-placed-at-top-companies-share-their-workplace-experiences/)

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EKTA KASHYAP · JUNE 6, 2022



*The job-preparedness of UPES students has helped them thrive at some of the most demanding workplaces including Amazon, Barclays, VMware in roles such as Backend Application Developer, Software Development Engineer, Analyst, and more*

College is said to be a transformative journey. Students walking inside the campus for the first time may not realise at that moment that their life is going to change forever. Of all the things they experience during this journey, placement is undoubtedly among the most crucial and fulfilling processes. And so is the first-ever experience of working at a company.

UPES students have always been the foremost choice of top recruiters, given their practical learning exposure, agility, intellect, skills, a 'can do' attitude, and a zeal to keep learning. Here, UPES students placed at renowned companies take us through their learnings during the placement drive, their key responsibilities areas at their workplace, and more...

- Parth Miglani
- 2018-2022 batch
- Program: B.Tech. (Hons) [Computer Science and Engineering](#)
- Specialisation: [Cloud computing and virtualisation technology](#)
- Company placed: VMware

"In my final year, I got an on-campus Intern + Full-time offer from VMware Software India Private Limited as a Member of Technical Staff. Currently, I work as a Backend Application Developer at VMware. The role requires exceptional coding skills, which I am happy to say I learned at UPES. The university has helped me gain knowledge and exposure right from the start. The faculty has always been encouraging and helpful. With the support of my mentor, I wrote a research paper that got published in IEEE. For my academic excellence, UPES even provided me with a scholarship.

During my course curriculum, I held various positions, which helped me develop teamwork and leadership skills. The university organised personality development and aptitude sessions that helped me crack the interviews. The interviewers were highly impressed by my performance. I am thankful to UPES for the wonderful learning experience and for providing ample opportunities throughout the course. I feel fortunate to be among the top placed students at UPES."

- Reet Dubey
- 2018-2022 batch
- Program: B.Tech. (Hons) Computer Science and Engineering
- Specialisation: [Open Source and Open Standards](#)
- Company placed: Barclays

"The placement drive at UPES has always been enriching in terms of quality as well as quantity. The placement cell has always motivated and prepared us through various programs. I have gained a lot from this process, and I can proudly state that I am placed at Barclays as a Graduate Analyst. It has given a great kick start to my career."

- Suryank Dixit
- 2018-2022 batch
- Program: B.Tech. (Hons) Computer Science and Engineering
- Specialisation: Cloud computing and virtualisation technology
- Company placed: Amazon

"I have been placed in Amazon, and currently I am doing six months internship as a Software Development Engineer in the Amazon Appstore team. I have been assigned a project to create an internal job portal for Amazon named Explore.

Explore is a tool that provides end-to-end support to associates in their career development lifecycle. This tool is developed for employees to help them discover various tech and non-tech roles available within Amazon globally, skills required for those roles, and get guidance to build and grow in the desired capacity. This complete journey – starting from placement till now – has been roller-coaster. Every day is a chance to learn and explore new things.”

## [Start-up founder credits UPES for giving her ‘wings to fly’](https://blog.upes.ac.in/start-up-founder-credits-upes-for-giving-her-wings-to-fly/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/start-up-founder-credits-upes-for-giving-her-wings-to-fly/>

DIANA GEORGE · OCTOBER 19, 2021



Shefali Goyal, UPES alumna and Co-Founder of Creative Consilio

*UPES School of Design alumna Shefali Goyal talks about her success story, from being a student with dreams in her eyes to a successful product design start-up owner*

Creative Consilio – a design, branding and strategy venture – was launched in 2018 by an [alumna of UPES](#), Shefali Goyal. Shefali pursued M.Des. in Industrial Design from 2015-17. She launched her start-up after two short internships of 7 months each where she gained the necessary skills in industrial as well as digital product designing.

“Soon after my Masters, I worked with a product design start-up as an industrial design intern for 7 months,” Shefali says. “That was a golden period of my career where I got the opportunity to shape my skills as an industrial product designer. I worked on multi-disciplinary projects there, majorly outdoor pollution controllers. From structuring the project research to manufacturing it in the factory, this journey made me into a professional industrial designer,” she adds.

Next in the journey was a tech-company. This was again an internship for 7 months where her digital product design skills were developed. She worked with the hardware team to develop a ‘Smart Water Bottle Brand’ that could monitor the water intake among corporate professionals. It was a project from scratch to manufacture. A lot of research, ideation, prototype and user-testing was done to make the product a success. “This being a tech-company, I got the opportunity to be introduced to and work on digital products too,” the young entrepreneur explains.

Shefali credits her time working as an intern for shaping her skill sets and giving her a vision for her future – a product design start-up that would be inspired by abstract ideas to bring her clients' requirements to life, while also adhering closely to their functional and aspirational demands.



Team of Creative Consilio (from left to right): UPES alumna Shefali Goyal, Shubham Goyal, Anu and Prashant Sharma

Creative Consilio was started with a primary focus on product and interior design. Its team of agile engineers, designers, artists and strategists excel at 'concept to creation' and 'idea to implementation', producing truly unique and engaging designs that enliven up any atmosphere.

The agency has been working with small to mid-size companies for the past three years, helping them launch new or revamped products in the market within strict budget guidelines.

"For 3 years now, I have been working for small to mid-size companies which are keen to launch a new or improved product, but are struggling with execution and budgets. From my years of experience, I help them bring their idea to the desired level of optimization and then launch it in the market profitably," Shefali says.

Currently, Creative Consilio handles physical product design projects apart from a few digital products. The company handles projects for digital marketing, packaging design, brand strategy and development. It credits its success to its ability to have a deep understanding of the needs of their clientele. Consilio's branding solutions are strategically designed to exemplify the core competencies of their clients. It enables a brand to say exactly what it should through its design solutions that are an apt amalgam of form, type, colour and materials. The company is accomplished at workspace designing, café theme solutions and home interior planning.

Shefali attributes her entrepreneurial success to strong mentorship and support from UPES.

"It has definitely been a journey in which the UPES was the catalyst," she says. "The School of Design gave me the wings with which I fly today. I am very grateful to Mr. Rakesh Sah, who encouraged me and moulded the designer in me. He recognised the entrepreneur in me and has been supportive whenever needed," Shefali signs off.