



# Don Bosco Institute of Technology

## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATION

### Report on **“Mindful Engineering”**

**Topic:** Discussion on the **Leadership Responsibilities and to provide Ethical engineering solutions to societal problems.**

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.

**Time:** 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

**Venue:** Don Bosco Institute of Technology, Kurla, Mumbai 400070.

**Speaker:** Dr. Prasanna Nambiar (Ex-Principal of DBIT).

**Participants:** 10 IEEE members and 15 non-IEEE members.

**Objective:** Learning Ethical and Mindful Engineering.

- Students will be introduced to unethical manners or behavior.
- Students will also be guided to become better leaders.
- Dr. Prasanna Nambiar will explain that more companies need to be responsible about their products and how this can help the society.

**Description:**

- IEEE-DBIT Student Chapter organized a workshop of “***Mindful Engineering***” for final year BE students of DBIT on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- The workshop commenced on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 3:00 pm by Dr. Prasanna Nambiar.
- Dr. Prasanna Nambiar introduced the topic to the students with a simple question as to how a would



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the society would be if animals had equal rights as humans.

- Dr. Prasanna Nambiar, former principal and esteemed educator, addressed final year students, emphasizing the importance of leadership and ethical values in engineering education
- Dr. Nambiar began her address by underscoring the significance of human values in leadership. She stressed that strong leadership incorporates a value system that embraces empathy, compassion, integrity, and responsibility.
- She posed thought-provoking questions regarding the allocation of rights to non-human entities like animals and rivers. Dr. Nambiar encouraged students to consider how such rights could impact human life.
- This topic encouraged the students to think critically about the interconnectedness of all life forms and the potential consequences of our actions on the environment.
- An Exercise was provided by Dr. Prasanna Nambiar on what the students found unethical?
- Participants enthusiastically answered with different opinions such as cheating an exam, stealing etc.
- Dr. Nambiar elucidated the distinction between values and ethics. Values, she explained, are the core principles and beliefs that guide one's behavior and decisions.
- Ethics, on the other hand, are the application of these values to make moral choices in specific situations. Understanding this differentiation is essential in making ethically sound decisions as engineers.
- Dr. Prasanna Nambiar pointed how men and women are similar yet they have different needs all together. Ma'am also pointed to the fact that products designed for men do not fulfill the need of women.
- To understand the point above deeply, she also suggested the students to read the following book: Invisible Women by Caroline Criado Perez
- To elaborate about unethical engineering, several cases were introduced by Dr. Prasanna Nambiar



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- Case 1: To illustrate the consequences of unethical behavior in engineering, Dr. Nambiar discussed the infamous Volkswagen emissions scandal. This case serves as a stark reminder of the detrimental impact that unethical engineering practices can have on society, the environment, and a company's reputation.
- Case 2: Dr. Nambiar also touched upon the unethical aspects of social media. She pointed out that many social media platforms prioritize profit over ethical considerations, often neglecting user privacy and fostering misinformation.
- She emphasized the need for engineering students to cultivate a strong value system that prioritizes human values, responsibility, and ethical behavior.
- Dr. Prasanna Nambiar's lecture highlighted the crucial role of ethical values in leadership and engineering.
- The session ended successfully at 5:00 pm.

### **Summary of session analysis:**

Upon conducting an in-depth analysis of the gathered data, it becomes evident that the predominant demographic among the attendees comprised students. Furthermore, a substantial portion of the respondents expressed their satisfaction with the session, deeming it both pertinent and efficiently structured. The questions raised during the talk received answers that were deemed appropriate and satisfactory by a majority of the participants. This consensus of approval extends to the overall value and informativeness of the session, as echoed by the feedback provided.

The feedback collected underscores a noteworthy level of interest among attendees regarding their willingness to engage in forthcoming workshops. This eagerness to participate in future events signifies a positive trend, suggesting that the sessions offered not only met the expectations of the current audience but also left a lasting impression, thereby cultivating a potential for sustained engagement and growth in future talks and workshops.

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