

# MIT'S INTERCONNECTED EMBEDDED SYSTEM

Karkhana, Kathmandu, Nepal

Workshop mentor/instructor: Mr. Ashim Sitoula

I'm Ashim Sitoula, a junior at MIT studying Computer Science and Engineering and I'm delighted to be writing about Oskar's involvement in the Interconnected Embedded Systems workshop held at Karkhana. This workshop was funded by an MIT Service and Engineering Fellowship and was directly based on MIT's Introductory Electrical Engineering and Computer Science class. Understandably so, the course load was intense but the opportunity for the participating students to learn and grow was equally massive. Oskar was not only able to get accepted for this workshop (we had nearly 150 applicants for ~ 20 spots) and understand basic concepts during these six weeks, but he was able to go above and beyond to get the most out of this experience.

From my own experience, I have found that exploring science and technology in its fullest form - by learning to make things - is a rare sight to see especially in high schools in Nepal. Coming into the workshop, I was very curious to see how Nepalese students would react towards this major opportunity in their lives. We had an overwhelming response and it was very difficult to make our final selections. But I still remember reading Oskar's determined yet humble and respectful response in the application. He immediately stood out to me and I soon got to see the same behavior reflected throughout the workshop.

The workshop was full of excitement but it was also riddled with a lot of hard engineering and programming problems. This led to a lot of frustration and confusion among students. However, the successful ones were able to constantly approach me and other teachers to clarify any misunderstandings and crack the core of the problem. Oskar clearly fell into this group of students. Throughout the workshop, he dealt with these problems by asking important questions with a cool and calm composure to clearly identify if he was on the right track. I can confidently say that it has paid off as he and his teammate went on to design the most successful project out of all teams in the workshop.

It has been an absolute pleasure knowing Oskar during these 6 weeks and I already have a feeling that he will go on to thrive in the field of STEM. During my numerous conversations with him, I have gotten a sense of his remarkable attitude and passion for engaging with technology. It was a dream come true for myself getting to share MIT's resources and my own improvised teaching skills with students like Oskar.