# THE SECOND ISOC INDIA MUMBAI IN-FORMATION MEET AND A SEMINAR ON 'THE INTERNET AND DYNAMICS OF INNOVATION IN THE INTERNET WORLD'

**Venue: Antonia Da Silva Technical Junior College, Shivaji Park, Mumbai**

**Date: 11ᵗʰ August 2017**

In 1980's, would it be possible for us to imagine that a software can be downloaded from telephone lines over a record store? In early 2000's, would it be possible for us to imagine a software feature that would allow a social media user to share her perspective for a time period of 24 hours and realise the power of an existing, ephemeral moment ?

Most of us couldn't imagine the need for these developments in the software world but some individuals could. No wonder, Steve Jobs launched the Apple App store in July 2008 and Evan Spiegel's notion of an ephemeral messaging platform feature manifested itself in form of a Snap Story on Snapchat in October 2013.

Since the first mobile application emerged from personal digital assistants and through addictively simple games like Snake on Nokia 6110 phone, these mobile applications have performed two important functions- they have made it possible for software to be accessible to the masses and they have promoted innovation in application of software to solve real time needs and problems faced by humanity. Indeed, mobile applications like Whatsapp, Paytm, BHIM, Uber, Byju's Learning App etc. are being used by millions of individuals across India to communicate with each other, pay their bills, book cab rides, prepare for aptitude tests etc. In this process, these internet based applications have transformed the manner in which various individuals interact with each other and they have disrupted various business sectors like the education sector, the financial sector, the transport sector etc.

But how can our younger generation be made more innovative? Is there a Simon Sinek's golden circle model (i.e. a model which answers the quintessential questions related to a process - Why? What? Who? How? When?)  which can inspire the younger generation to make more innovative mobile applications?

Based on his experience working as a SAP technical lead within the Innovation team at Capgemini, Mr. Rohit Gupta, tried to articulate this golden circle for innovation to the students of Da Silva Technical Junior College in the second ISOC In-formation meet.

According to him, students need to be innovative to leverage software programming to solve issues which affect them-irrespective of the nature of issue. Such a rationale not only helps them to stand out among their peers but also enables them to meaningfully participate in entrepreneurial pursuits as well as job opportunities provided by companies, civil society and government. Indeed, the inculcation of an innovative and a creative mind is critical for students to build their resilience against the spate of challenges that they will face in life characterised by uncertainty.

Additionally, a plethora of online resources are available for a curious and an innovative mind set to sharpen their acumen. For example, Open course wares from international universities like MIT, Yale etc. can help students to keep their coding skills updated and learn about different academic disciplines. He narrated the story of an autodidactic Grade XII student who had developed an app for monitoring stress within animals.

The students participated in a meaningful discussion with ISOC India Mumbai Chapter team and shared their personal experience with them. One of these students narrated his experience of running a Youtube channel and another student shared his experience of mining bitcoins over the internet. Additionally, all the students also realised an interesting pertinent insight- An innovative mobile application eco-system requires the underlying internet infrastructure to be innovative and representative of user concerns.

'An open, resilient internet is the foundation for these mobile applications and the internet user plays a critical role in ensuring that the internet continues to remain open and resilient' emphasised Mr Prateek Pathak, an ISOC India Mumbai Volunteer. In fact, organisations like the Internet Society and At-Large bodies within the ICANN led internet eco-system like APRALO play a critical role in representing the voice of millions of internet users to ensure that internet is utilized for the benefit of people throughout the world in an innovative manner. Students were urged by ISOC India Mumbai team to actively contribute to a better internet eco-system by actively participating in organisations associated with the internet eco-system.

The seminar ended with an important announcement by Prof. Milton, In-Charge Principal, Antonio Da Silva Technical Junior College, Shivaji Park, Mumbai. He notified the students that admission and attendance process at the junior college would soon go online. Moreover, he encouraged them to assist the college administration by developing innovative mobile apps to make these aforementioned processes flexible and convenient to use.

At the in-formation meet held at the same location as the seminar, changes pertaining to by-laws were discussed and unanimously approved. The seminar cum in-formation meet ended

with faculty members appreciating the ISOC India Mumbai In-formation team for their time and valuable insights.

Some photos from the event:-



*Mr Rohit Gupta, an ISOC India Mumbai volunteer, explaining the golden circle approach towards innovation to students of Da Silva Junior College.*

*Mr Prateek Pathak, an ISOC India Mumbai Volunteer, explaining the importance of an innovative mind set to the students.*

*Mr Prateek Pathak, an ISOC India Mumbai Volunteer, urging students to contribute to a better internet.*

*Prof. Milton announcing that attendance and admissions would soon go online.*