IDE & A NATIONAL SEMINAR 2024

19 & 20 FEBRUARY 2024

Unlocking potential through INCLUSION, DIVERSITY EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY

THEME 2024: “EQUITABLE DIGITAL ACCESS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY”
Why IDE & A matters

According to WHO, 15 percent of the world population lives with some form of disability. With the extensive digital transformation of services and information sharing, vulnerable populations like persons with disabilities now face even greater risk of losing access to information and services. Ensuring equitable digital access for people with disabilities is not just a moral imperative but a legal and social necessity. In recognition of this critical issue, we are pleased to announce the IDE & A National Conference on Equitable Digital Access for Persons with Disability. We are proud to present our current year annual IDE & A conference dedicated to the theme: unlocking digital potential through a holistic approach that embraces inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility.

Key Thematic areas

- Influence of Media in the Lives of Persons with Disability
- Stories from the Lives - Challenges and Answers
- Digital Accessibility - Implementing Laws and Guidelines
- Implementing Accessibility Guidelines - Challenges and Collaborative Solutions
- Role of Artificial Intelligence in Digital Accessibility
Objective

**Raise Awareness**: To increase awareness about the challenges and the rights of people with disabilities, particularly in the context of information and communication technology and media, and through them, the society.

**Share Insights**: To provide a platform for sharing insights into how media influences the lives and experiences of persons with disabilities and the role it can play in promoting inclusivity.

**Discuss Legal Frameworks**: To explore accessibility guidelines and laws pertaining to digital accessibility and rights of PWD.

**Point of View**: To showcase testimonials of individuals with disabilities, offering first-hand accounts of their experiences and challenges related to digital accessibility.

**Challenges Faced by Media**: To identify and discuss the challenges faced by media professionals in making digital accessibility a reality and find collaborative solutions.

**Role of AI**: To explore the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing digital accessibility and improving the lives of individuals with disabilities.

**Aid in Policy Making**: To submit a comprehensive report based on the interactions in the conclave to relevant policy-making authorities to help implement the conclusive ideas.

**Join us on this journey!**
We invite you to be a part of this transformative experience. Together, let's unlock the potential of IDE & A and create a future where everyone can thrive in the digital age.

**Who Can Participate**
Media Professionals, journalists, Information Communication Technology Experts, Disability Advocates, Activists, Social Workers, Policy Experts, Lawyers, and Administrators

**>Contact:**
+919526601883 – NISHA JOSE | +919447327734 – AJESH P JOSEPH
Organised by
Marian College Kuttikkananm Autonomous and Vathil Foundation Kottayam in Partnership with Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge

**RCC Mozilla**, The Responsible Computing Challenge (RCC) funds academic teams that combine faculty and practitioners from the Computing, Humanities, Library and Information Science, and Social Science fields in order to reimagine how the next generation of technologists will be educated. The goal of redesigning undergraduate curricula with more inclusive and diverse perspectives, is to support a new wave of technologists who will create visions for more equitable systems across the technology sector and in related fields to ultimately build more responsible and ethical tools, applications, platforms, policies, and social norms.

**Marian College Kuttikkanam Autonomous**, affiliated to MahatmaGandhi University Kottayam, Kerala was founded in 1995 and is managed by the Catholic Diocese of Kanjirapally with the vision to provide quality higher education opportunities in the backward hill district of Idukki. In 2016, the institution was elevated to the status of an Autonomous College by the UGC. In 2023, College is accredited with A++ grade by NAAC, UGC.

**Vathil**, a visionary foundation for Wellness, Training, and Research located in Kottayam, was established in 2018. Activities include Collaborative academic projects, Accessibility and inclusion with the support of Mozilla Foundation, Counselling services, and Training programs. The resource team of Vathil is comprised of experts from social work, psychology, sociology, law and computer technology.

**About Kuttikkanam**
Kuttikkanam is a hill station located in the Idukki district of Kerala, by the side of NH 183, at an altitude of 3,500 feet above sea level. Nestled amidst verdant tea plantations, this place is a popular tourist spot. The greenery of Kuttikkanam, wrapped misty climate, with tea and cardamom plantations and pine forests provides a heavenly experience to the tourists.

**Nearby Attractions**
- Valajanganam Waterfalls
- Tea Plantations
- Pine Forest
- Pallikkunnu Church
- Vagamon
- Pattumala Church
- Peeru Hills
- Parunthumpara
- Thottappura
- Ammachi Kottaram