

University of Moratuwa Team Wins the World Prize in IEEEExtreme Competition

Winning Teams

1	University of Moratuwa	Mora Seekers	Sri Lanka
2	University of Auckland	Citrus Celebration	New Zealand
3	Chulalongkorn University	Amobear	Thailand
4	Politehnica University of Bucharest	Powerhouse	Romania
5	Tokyo Institute of Technology	Konohanasakuya	Japan
6	Carnegie Mellon University	Brain Eating Mellon	United States
7	University of Florida	Vehicle of Puzzle	United States
8	University of North Texas	Texas Codeboys	United States
9	Princess Sumaya University for Technology	Cursed Grapes	Jordan
10	Queen's University, School of Computing	Sapientia et Doctrina Stabilitas	Canada
11	American University of Beirut	AUB	Lebanon
12	Bilkent Universitesi	Bar Code	Turkey
13	University of Florida	Team 1/0	United States
14	University of Sarajevo	Sarajevo Dragons D	Bosnia and Herzegovina
15	Binghamton University	Crowbar	United States
16	University of California-San Diego	The Bagpipe lubricators	United States
17	National Technical University of Athens	AlgoJobs	Greece
18	Chulalongkorn University	Emertxe	Thailand
19	University of California-San Diego	XYZZY	United States
20	University of British Columbia	Fizz	Canada
21	James Cook University of North Queensland	Lorem Ipsum	Australia
22	University of Miami	Shocklate	United States
23	Tartu University	SegaMegaDrive	Estonia
24	University of Passau	Upgrade	Germany
25	University of Klagenfurt	Quit pro Code	Austria



A University of Moratuwa Team, “Mora Seekers”, emerged victorious among 721 teams from more than 40 countries in the coveted IEEEExtreme global competition. IEEEExtreme is the world’s most extreme programming competition. The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), which celebrates the 125th anniversary this year is the world’s largest professional organization for advancement of science and technology with 365,000 IEEE members in over 160 countries around the world. It is the leading authority in many disciplines of engineering including computers. There are 1,789 IEEE student branches in 80 countries. IEEEExtreme, IEEE’s extreme programming competition, is a global 24-hour online contest where student teams of three representing student branches around the world solve a challenging set of programming

problems. This is the first time a country in the Asia-Pacific IEEE won this global competition. Our students’ glorious victory, then, is of huge magnitude. It brings glory to our region, our country, our universities, and our programming industry.

IEEEExtreme is a challenging competition. It was held on the 24th of October, 2009. The online competition started at 00:00 hours UTC and continued for 24 hours. During this time, the students had to solve real-world problems and provide solutions in Microsoft Visual C++, C/C++, Java or languages selected by IEEEExtreme as surprises! Within this 24-hour duration, IEEEExtreme released problems at times of their choice using the Internet. The competitors had to understand the problem, research, plan a solution, divide tasks among the three team members, design the solution, program with the given language, and submit the solution using Internet. As such, this is well-known to be an extremely challenging, strenuous and the world’s most “extreme” programming competition. Our students faced this immense challenge by using their taught and untaught knowledge, good teamwork, planning out activities, and taking breaks often to keep the concentration level up. All the

groups that represented University of Moratuwa, faced the challenge well and completed the competition.

This year, IEEEExtreme has received an overwhelming response with the participation of more than 700 teams representing more than 40 countries. Twelve teams represented University of Moratuwa. Two of our teams grabbed the 26th and the 50th places as well. IEEE published top 25 teams on their websites: <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/students/xtreme/2009results.html> and <http://www.ieeextreme.org/>.

Top 25 teams include a team from Canada, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Romania, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and three teams from the United States. A team from University of Auckland, New Zealand and Chulalongkorn University, Thailand won the second and third place, respectively. There were teams representing world's top-ranked universities. University of Moratuwa's victory, in this context, is very significant.

It is also noteworthy that the IEEEExtreme competition was open for all IEEE student members including the graduate students. To that end, this achievement also highlights the quality of our undergraduate programs and skills of our students. Chetiya Abeysinghe and Parinda Jayasiri of the winning team study in the third year reading for their B.Sc. Engineering degree in Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering, and Lalintha Polpitiya is reading for his B.Sc. Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering.

Our students' remarkable achievement signifies the results of the University's policy to emphasize on the creativity, utility of our academic programs and the final year projects of the students. Please be good enough to inform the Faculty, Senate and the Council of this significant achievement.