

# CONNECTOR

Quarterly Newsletter of EdTech Society



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear EdTech Society Members,

On behalf of the EdTech Society Executive Committee, I am happy to launch our inaugural issue of the quarterly newsletter!

The EdTech Society was officially registered on July 14, 2021, and launched on April 27, 2022. We have grown steadily since then, and as of April 15, 2024, boast a strong membership base of 370. We have fostered this growth through a series of engaging online events, including Masterclasses, Perspectives panel discussions, InFocus Interviews, Industry Talks, and a culminating in-person T4E 2023 conference.

Moving forward, we are excited to announce the launch of this quarterly newsletter, which serves as an official publication of the EdTech Society. This newsletter will be a valuable communication channel for both our members and the broader public interested in educational technology. We encourage member contributions to showcase expertise and foster collaboration within the community.

Each newsletter will feature key highlights from the previous quarter, a "Member Spotlight" section, a "Curiosity Corner", upcoming events, and an editorial. We envision this newsletter evolving into a forum that fosters knowledge exchange and strengthens our EdTech community. We hope you enjoy this first issue!

Sincerely,  
Sridhar Iyer  
President  
EdTech Society



**T4E 2023:** The International Conference on Technology 4 Education organized by the EdTech Society, India, and hosted by IIT Bombay, T4E 2023 will take place in Mumbai, India, from November 24-26, 2023. The preceding T4E conferences were held in Bengaluru, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kharagpur, Kollam, Warangal, Mumbai, Chennai, and Goa in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2019 respectively.

The Technology for Education (T4E) conference has evolved significantly over the years, expanding its scope and reach. Beginning in 2009 and spanning various cities across India until 2019, T4E has become a platform for researchers, educators, developers, and practitioners to explore the intersection of technology and education.

In 2023, the conference took on a broader perspective, focusing on four key aspects: Technology for, of, in, and across education. This edition aimed to unite stakeholders interested in leveraging technology to enhance learning and teaching practices. The conference addressed emerging roles of technology in education, alongside issues such as access, sustainability, policy, and practice.

T4E 2023 received significant interest, with 247 abstract submissions and 204 final submissions. These underwent a rigorous review process, resulting in the selection of 20 full papers, 63 short papers, and 14 poster presentations. The event featured keynote talks, workshops, best teaching practices sessions, industry demos, and panel discussions, showcasing the latest research and developments in technology-enhanced education.



The success of T4E 2023 was made possible by the dedication of the technical program committee, reviewers, workshop chairs, and organizers. Special thanks were extended to keynote speakers, authors, presenters, and volunteers for their contributions. Gratitude was also expressed to IIT Bombay for hosting the event.

Looking ahead, the T4E community eagerly anticipates future conferences, continuing the dialogue and collaboration in advancing technology for education.

## CURIOSITY CORNER

### Upcoming GPT-5: Your AI-Learning Assistant(AI-LA)?

Let's imagine an AI-Learning Assistant (AI-LA) that creates and controls all your learning activities in a course you are enrolled in. The AI Learning Assistant would review the course calendar, identify deadlines and prioritize tasks, find relevant materials, submit assignments, and participate in the course discussion forum.

Are you interested in learning more about the implications of GPT-5 in learning?

In this blog, "An 'AI Student Agent' Takes an Asynchronous Online Course," Dr. David Wiley started a conversation about the potential impact of GPT-5 in education.

<https://opencontent.org/blog/archives/7468>

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## HIGHLIGHT OF THE QUARTER

The very first edition of the Infocus Interview with Dr. Sridhar Shukla was a goldmine of expertise and insight. If you're looking for perspectives on creating competency based education tools [head over to the video](#) to explore this and more. Looking for an analysis of these insights in text form? [Here's the quick review by Shalin Amin Sheth.](#)

## FEATURED MEMBER OF THE MONTH

My name is Daisy Wadhwa and I am currently working as an Assistant Professor and the Head of the Department of Computer Science and Applications at Guru Nanak Khalsa College for Women, Model Town, Ludhiana, Punjab.

I am a passionate, student-centered educator and a life-long learner, striving to instill a similar desire in my students. I have an ardent interest in Computer Programming, Artificial Intelligence/ Machine Learning, Learning Analytics, and Collaborative e-learning and, in this regard, I have published articles and presented papers at academic conferences. As a member of the Content Team, Resource person, Teaching Associate, and Discussion Forum Moderator, I have contributed to the conduct of MOOCs, FDPs, Workshops, and Training programmes for institutions of repute, namely, NPTEL- SWAYAM, IIT Bombay, UGC-HRDC's of several universities, among others. I am a UGC-trained resource person for conducting Faculty Development Programmes on the theme of NEP 2020 and Information Communication Technology for UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centres. In addition, I am EdTech Society certified Trainer for Forum Engagement and Moderation. I have acted as a Jury member for the evaluation of MOOC proposals and have also served as a validator for online courses.

Additionally, I am an impassioned reader, a keen quizzer, and an emphatic orator. Furthermore, I am pursuing my doctoral research in the area of Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning Techniques.

## UPCOMING EVENT

Masterclass #20: How data-driven services support technology-enhanced education? Saturday, June 8, 2024, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

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# EDITORIAL

T. G. Lakshmi

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Welcome to The Connector: Building Bridges in EdTech

The Power of Connection: Learning Together, Growing Together

We all know that true learning happens when connections are made. Ideas spark, concepts solidify, and understanding deepens when we share and collaborate. This principle lies at the very heart of the EdTech Society, and it's the driving force behind this inaugural issue of The Connector, our new newsletter.

The EdTech Society, a non-profit organization founded in India, brings together passionate individuals committed to transforming education through technology.

We believe that by fostering connections - between educators, learners, researchers, and industry leaders - we can create a vibrant ecosystem for EdTech innovation.

This newsletter, The Connector, embodies this vision. We aspire to build a platform where the EdTech community can co-create, share best practices, and celebrate collective achievements. It's a space for shared goals, diverse perspectives, and a platform for collective learning.

As we embark on this journey together, we're excited to unveil some of the initiatives planned for 2024:

- **Monthly Masterclasses:** Join us for expert-led sessions with a clear teaching focus, designed to equip you with practical skills and knowledge.
- **Infocus Interviews (Yearly Series):** Get to know the inspiring individuals working across various facets of EdTech through in-depth, personal interviews. We are already have completed two interesting in focus interviews in the last 2 months. Take a look at them!
- **Perspectives (Yearly Series):** Engage in stimulating panel discussions on current trends and topics shaping the world of EdTech.
- **Industry Talks (Yearly Series):** Representatives from leading EdTech companies will delve into the pedagogical foundations of their products, offering insights into the research and academic considerations behind the technology.

We invite you to actively participate in our mission. Share your insights, contribute articles, and engage with fellow EdTech enthusiasts. Together, through collaboration and connection, we can push the boundaries of learning.





## Bringing together Education, Technology and Community

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### Editorial team

- Dr. T. G. Lakshmi
- Srunika Kannan
- Richin S Kottaram
- Tanisha Gaur

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