

Web Science CDT Trip to Bangalore

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As a Web Science PhD student, I was offered the opportunity to participate in a number of workshops at IIIT in Bangalore, India.

As a first timer in India, and having experienced a similar trip to Singapore recently, I was more than eager to do it again and engage with people from another completely different cultural environment as well as the city itself.

We attended a three day workshop in the IIIT campus, and were thoroughly spoiled by the staff and students. Our first day was a Brave Conversations event where we teamed up with various people to discuss social topics which technology has an effect on, such as privacy and AI. It was fascinating to discuss among people our thoughts about AI imitating those who we lost, as a way to comfort us.

On the second day, we attended a series of talks with different interesting topics by professionals and academics in India as well as those with links to other countries. On the last day our cohort, and the web science cohort from Bangalore did our own cosy little workshop. Here we discussed our research as part of four panels that would cover talks about Empowerment, Diversity, and Social Cognition etc.

Overall all the events we attended were extremely informative and interesting and the people there were amazing. We were provided with food and drinks throughout the days and we had spent time with the local students, who were kind enough to show us around and tell us about life in India as well as offering us tips on places we should visit during our free time.

