IIHMR UNIVERSITY JAIPUR CONDUCTS ALUMNI MEET-2023 "Ekatva"

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A BRIEF REPORT

To establish and maintain connections with its alumni goes a great way for any educational institution, as this corroborates its excellence as a notable centre of education. IIHMR University, Jaipur, successfully organised **Alumni Meet- 2023 "Ekatva"** on January 28th , 2022. The Meet witnessed the presence of more than 150 Alumni from various part of the country along with their family, existing students, faculty and staff.

The Alumni Meet -2023 IIHMR started with the welcome address by **Dr. P. R. Sodani- President, IIHMR University.** He updated the esteemed alumni about recent achievements, new developments and future initiatives, research activities taken by the University.

Dr. S.D. Gupta- Trustee-Secretary, IIHMR in his address highlighted alumni's significant work and achievements. He said that there is strong need to connect academics with job-readiness. He encouraged the gathering to thirst for knowledge in their careers. He said, Alumni is an important stakeholder of education system in improving the quality of not only the Teaching-Learning–Evaluation system but also students experience on campus in variegated ways.

Dr. Ashok Agarwal- Founder and Trustee, IIHMR emphasized the importance of alumni and shared his international experiences. He also appraised the gathering about the success stories, positions of Esteemed Alumni in their respective organisations and thanked the alumni living all around the globe and helping in enhancing the reputation of the university.

Mr. Sudarshan Jain- Chairperson, IIHMR shared the alumni's role in strengthening the university system. He extended a heartfelt welcome to the alumni and emphasized that they should make efforts to forge stronger bonds with their alma mater.

The nostalgic and emotional bonding moment came when a Short movie **Relive the Memories at IIHMR** was played during the meet. The video covered their journey and memories they lived and enjoyed at IIHMR.

The event was Followed with the proud moment for all IIHMR'ians when The Esteemed Alumni shared their excitement and experiences with the gathering. They also gave their valuable feedback and suggestions for the betterment of University, existing students and Alumni Association.

The Central Alumni meet culminated with the closing remarks by **Mr. Vinod Tejwani – Dean Placements & Alumni Relations.** He thanked all the Alumni from across locations for their presence. He also thanked all departmental Heads, Faculty , Staff and student coordinators, for putting their best effort in arranging this grand Alumni Meet IIHMR 2023.

The central Alumni Meet was followed by departmental alumni meetings where all the alumni interacted with their faculty members and junior students. The panel discussions brought together alumni experts to share their expertise and discuss important topics that are relevant to the industry. The participants also got a chance to interact with the current students and faculty members of IIHMR University, providing a platform for mentorship and the exchange of ideas.

Points discussed in the Alumni meet with the Alumni are as follows:

Alumni Networking

- A professional body of IIHMR alumnus (IIHMR Association) need to be formed immediately.

- All the alumni have suggested that the students must be interacted with the Alumni on regular basis, currently this is missing. They told that do not expect immediate success after passing out, and first three years of job must be given at the grass root level to understand the environment of development, different kind of challenges and how to manage them.

- The practical life at the corporate and government world is different. Hence, they suggested the students to be more practice than theoretical.

- Establish a robust network between students and alumni. Share List of alumni and their contact details with Alumni.

Course Curriculum

- Review Quality or Quantity in terms of starting courses.
- Blend of academic and practical classes (involvement of alumni for industry experience. Institute should cover their cost)
- More of case studies as the info is available on Google but insights would need expertise.
- Develop course content of your own and use the existing module for references.

- It was shared by the moderator that recently course curriculum has been revised by school in consultation with experts. More practical session is placed in the course and the university will try to match the same.

- However the alumni were of the opinion that the field segment is missing in course curriculum or conducted for short sphere. The alumni feels that necessary exposure related to the industry should be conduct for the Development management students. Lack of field exposure did not bring much confidence to the student, and they must involve in the field assignment rigorously at the grassroot level to understand the theory and practical work culture.

- Social and Developmental issue wise session must be conducted by experts and a student exchange programme must be conducted with industry. This need to be accelerated. The students must understand what kind of work is being done in the industry and whether they were skilled. Student should prioritise the operational area and must work in those domains since beginning.

Communication & Documentation, governance structure:

- SDG has been focusing on publication for last so many years. It is important to inculcate this habit at the budding stage. Keep prize or medal for a student who is able to publish based on summer internship or dissertation.

- High emphasis should be given to communication and documentation, and how to manage the Human resources at organisational level. Project Management must have taught them rigorously with practical orientation. Besides, governance structure must be taught to them very prominently.

- Organisation and companies are focusing more on documentation. If student could be groom on those domain, chances of selection would be more. Multiple skill set should be developed among the students.

Advance software and Analysis, Data presentation:

- Developing Business. Research plan and conducting research is mandate in education, and this must be done rigorously in summer internship and Dissertation. No relaxation should be given. More involvement from industry experts in solving the problem will help them to understand the organisational culture.

Placement

- To ensure interaction, necessary action must be conducted at a right timey the university. Students should be oriented towards how to manage the programmes at the field level.

- Initial salary will be less as students they do not know much about programme. So, students have to take lead for learning new things available on development sites. Research rigour need to be increase in teaching.

- Regular interaction must be conducted with Alumni in different places, and they may be called to give a lecture/session. The alumni are ready to help the students for placement, but the Development Management students need to be in touch with them on a prior basis for seeking their guidance.

- One piece of advice to students is to convert contact into connection.

To entertain and offer some moments of fun and frolic, the students of the university presented an exuberant cultural programme for the alumni including singing, dancing and acting performances followed by ramp walk by Esteemed Alumni and prize distribution to the winners of Ramp walk Mr. Alumni and Ms. Alumni. The event ended with the DJ evening and outdoor activities .

The Alumni Meet was a fruitful event, keeping up with the tradition of organizing an annual Alumni Meet in the university.

Registration Details:

Total No. of Alumni				
Batch	**HM Alumni**	**PM Alumni**	**DM Alumni**	**MPH Alumni**
1996-98	1			
1997-99	3			
2002-04	6			
2004-06	6			
2005-07	4			
2006-08	4			
2007-09	3			
2008-10	2			
2010-12	7	2	1	
2011-13	1		2	
2012-14	4			
2013-15		2		
2014-16		1		
2015-17	4			
2016-18	5	2	2	
2017-19	11		2	
2018-20	6	6	6	
2019-21	7	1	1	
2020-22	2			

Cohort 1				1
Cohort 4				1
Total Alumni School wise	**76**	**14**	**14**	**2**
Total Registered Alumni	**106**			
Total Unregistered Alumni	**32**			
Total Alumni	**152**			

Some moments captured: