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## **Cherishing Alumni Relationship and Engagement**

## TRIBUTE 2023

Write-up from Mr. Varun Venkata Krishnan (Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering 2002-2006), President, SSN Alumni Association



A New Year is a time to look forward to what's yet to come and cherish memories of the past. This sentiment was felt by all who attended our annual Alumni get-together event "TRIBUTE'23" on January  $7^{th}$ , 2023 which turned out to be one of the biggest SSN alumni events to date.

The event was a resounding success, with a large turnout of alumni who gathered to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate their time at SSN. The day began with the excitement of alumni arriving at the college, meeting department faculty, and reuniting with old friends. After a brief tree-planting ceremony on "Alumni Avenue," all attendees gathered in a packed auditorium for the main event. The proceedings were opened with crowd-engaging activities by our awesome compering team, followed by a welcome note and report on the achievements of the SSN Alumni Association.

We strongly believe the biggest assets of SSN are its staff and alumni. To that end, the Alumni Association had the pleasure of recognizing Dr. I. Jayakaran Amalraj and Dr. Venugopal P for their 25 years of service at SSN. This was followed by the presentation of the SSN Distinguished Alumni Awards to Mr. Naren Sundram (Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, 1998-2002) and Mr. Shanmuga Sundaram (Department of Computer Science Engineering, 1998-2002) by Mrs. Kala Vijaykumar (President, SSN Institutions) for their contributions in their profession and to the community. Both the

award winners delivered inspiring keynote speeches, sharing their experiences after graduation and the impact that their time at SSN had on their careers and personal lives.



The formal portion of the event ended with a cake-cutting ceremony, followed by a vote of thanks from **Mr. Aswin Suresh (MBA 2012)**, the Secretary of the Alumni Association. This was followed by an exciting performance by the charismatic Motta Madi Music band, which had alumni singing and dancing all over the auditorium. The evening concluded with our alumni networking over dinner.

The event was a huge success and received positive feedback from attendees. It provided a wonderful opportunity for alumni to reconnect with old friends and make new ones, while supporting the mission of the Alumni Association.

Thank you to all the Student Alumni Representatives (SARs), volunteers, SSN management, office bearers, Executive Committee members and attendees who made this event possible. We look forward to seeing you at future events and building a strong alumni community.



## Mr. Narendran Sundram – Distinguished Alumnus Award winner writes

Creativity, passion, and entrepreneurial spirit are the fundamental principles that define every SSN student. The best part of the SSN culture is that these intrinsic characteristics are still alive. These foundational elements go so deep that the student understands the strength of the roots only when they grow in their professional journey. The fondest memories of SSN are given by my friends with love, compassion, and kindness. I would not be the person I am today.

I just wanted to quote to two instances that defined my educational and professional journey. My friend Amrithraj advised to my parents to choose SSN before my counselling day. That's how I landed in SSN Institutions. Another instance during my interview round for the HCL



campus, I was surrounded by friends guiding me to write the profile for the interview. SSN culture gave the freedom to think, act on righteous activities and allow leadership qualities imbibe among every student.

SSN Alumni would belong to India's top 10% demographic and a lot more than 1% among economic benchmarks in our country. As a community, we have a simple task to enable each other to the top 10% by providing sufficient opportunities. This will enable the SSN Community to serve more value-driven contributions.

வரப்புயர நீர் உயரும்!!! நீர் உயர நெல் உயரும்!!! நெல் உயர குடி உயரும்!!! குடி உயர கோல் உயரும்!!! கோல் உயர கோன் உயர்வான்!!!

The guiding principles will make every SSNite have economic independence and become a compassionate leader. With these attributes, every SSN member grooms the leaders of the community with compassion and kindness, helps them to thrive in the giving ecosystem, and builds inclusive communities. I am sure our 17000+ community will leave a greater impact in serving society, making our founder's vision Padma Bhushan Mr. Shiv Nadar come true.

I wanted to take a moment to thank the SSN Management, Dr. Kala – President, Dr. Kasthuri Sir, Dr. Annamalai Sir – Principal, Dr. Sunita Madam, all our teaching and non-teaching staff, SSN Alumni Association and Affairs, and the students for all the continuous support and keeping up the spirit of SSN live. Thank you for all the opportunities and for always putting SSN Alumni at the front end.

Thank you for honoring me with the SSN Distinguished Alumni Award! I devote this to the SSN institution and all the SSN Alumni members who have always said 'yes' to contribute back to the SSN Community.

## Mr. Shanmuga Sundaram - Distinguished Alumnus Award winner writes



Hello! I am Shanmuga Sundaram, a 2002 Graduate from SSN College of Engineering, Computer Science Department. After being in the IT sector for almost 18 years, I switched gears to become an entrepreneur. Currently, I am the CEO of Optimum Products & Services LLC and Clean Fuels Research LLC.

I am honored and humbled to accept Distinguished Alumni Award for this year. I would like to thank the selection committee for considering me for this award. It is truly an honor to be recognized among such a talented and accomplished group of alumni. I would like to express my gratitude to the faculty and staff at SSN College of Engineering. The education and guidance that I received during my time here were instrumental in shaping me into

the person I am today.

I am forever grateful for the opportunities and experiences that SSN has provided me. As I look back on my time here, I am reminded of the friendships, mentorships, and collaborations that have had a profound impact on my life and career. Doing something worthwhile in life will bring accolades from friends and society. But there is no substitute for the accolade that we receive from our own home. That's the most potent accolade, which will motivate you to achieve even more in Life.

And I consider this Distinguished Alumni Award is from my own home and will always be on my top shelf, reminding me to keep doing more in life. I hope that my success serves as an inspiration to current and future students and that it demonstrates the potential that SSN has to offer. I am proud to be a part of the SSN Family and I will always be grateful for the opportunities that SSN has provided me.

Once again, thank you for this Distinguished Alumni Award. I am honored and humbled to be recognized in this way. Thank you.

# Rural Alumni Meet

As part of the Tribute' 23 Rural scholarship Alumni met with the current First year, Second year and Third year students admitted under SPURS (Scholarship for Potential Undergraduate Rural Students) scheme on 07-01-2023 between 11 am to 12: 30 pm in EEE Department Seminar hall.

Following SPURS alumni attended the meeting.

1. Mr. Jagan (IT); 2. Mr. Dilip Kumar (EEE); 3. Mr. Sivanesan (Mech); 4. Mr. Gopi (Mech); 5. Mr. Saravanan (IT)

SPURS alumni shared their personal experience on getting placement through campus interview. They insisted on how difficult it is to compete outside the campus for placement. They gave some tips on how to prepare for the placement test, group discussion, personal interview and how to balance the academics and placement preparation. They strongly advised to keep minimum CGPA to 7.5 and above and clear all the papers up to sixth semester to make them eligible to sit for the placement in 7th semester. Around 60 students attended the meeting. It was more inspiring to our students and our students also interacted

with SPURS alumni. Finally, alumni asked our students to enjoy the college life, study well and leave the campus with good placement offer letter.



# Alumnus helping in getting Internship

**Dr. Dheeban S S (Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, 2014-2016, ME Power Electronics and Drives),** Scientist 1 / Senior Ideation Engineer, Larsen & Toubro, is in close interaction with the faculty and Masters students of Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering and had recruited a ME student from Electrical and Electronics Engineering department for internship.



# **Events conducted by Alumni**

#### Event 1:



Mr. Vikash Kumar (Department of Information Technology, 2006-2010), Solution Architect at EY GDS, who has a very good field experience on Ontology was invited to act as a Key note speaker for the conference ICCCSP - 2023 organised by IT Department. He delivered the keynote talk titled, "Knowledge Engineering using Ontology". He detailed about building real time applications using various ontological tools. He also narrated how and why banking sectors are moving towards ontology than the traditional DBMS. He also mentioned how to use existing information for extending application without adding any further complications. The session was informative, interactive, and interesting and attended by conference attendees, faculties, and PG students.

#### Event 2:

The IIC, in collaboration with the Alumni Council, Department of Information Technology organized an Alumni talk on Personality Development. The event was coordinated by Dr. P. Vasuki and Dr. S. Sasirekha.

Mr. Guruvayurappa K
R(Department of Information
Technology, 2001-2005), Sr.
Project Manager at Kryptos
technologies, and Amazon Best
Selling Author, was cordially
invited to engage the students of
SSN. He shared his thoughts on
how to achieve one's dreams in a



stress free and smart way. Students were highly interactive and participated in a few fun activities conducted during the talk. Around 100 students and 2 faculty members participated in this event.

# **Alumnus in SSN iFound Competition**

Mr. Viswanath. S (Department of Bio-Medical Engineering, 2015-2019) along with Dr. M. Dhanalakshmi AP/BME, presented their business model of "Composite blade" in the "Lean Canvas Business model competition" held on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023. The programme was organized by SSN incubation foundation and SSN IIC. External jury members evaluated the projects and the project won Second place.



# Alumnus as Mentor

**Ms. Swethaa Suresh (Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, 2012-2016),** who has cleared the UPSC Civil Services Examination in 2019 with AIR 251 is currently serving in IRS(C and IT), posted as Assistant Commissioner, CGST, Vizag CGST Commissionerate.

She is in close interaction with the department and has come forward to offer guidance for students of BE(EEE) this academic year and is planning to continue her mentorship for the future.



# Alumni Visits to the campus

Mr. Siddharth Sriraman (Department of Computer Science Engineering, 2018-2022), SDE, Amazon, visited our campus on 12.1.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Mr. Yasir Manzoor Itoo (Department of Computer Science Engineering, 2018-2022), Advanced Application Analyst, Accenture, visited our campus on 20.1.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

**Mr. Gokhulnath T (Department of Computer Science Engineering, 2018-2022)**, Software Engineer, Chargebee, visited our campus on 27.1.2023 and interacted with our faculty and volunteering for Instincts 2023 events.

Mr. Pradeep Kumar Tamilmani (Department of Chemical Engineering, 2012-2016), visited the department of chemical engineering on 25.01.2023. Mr. Pradeep interacted with the faculties and had a brief discussion with the HOD of chemical engineering, Dr. K. Sathish Kumar about department activities. Mr. Pradeep explained about his new start up named "Strategy Fox" https://strategyfox.in/ that provides D2C services for clients and also he further discussed about his business model and its current stage of implementation.

Mr.Pradeep Kumar further had an discussion with Chandran Krishnan, CEO, SSN iFound, SSN's incubation foundation about the requirements and mentorship advices for his new start-up and the formalities associated with incubating his start-up with SSN's incubation foundation.

The Department of Chemical Engineering takes great pride in its alumni's new Start-up venture "Strategy fox".

**Mr. Sesha Gopalan (Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2015-2019)**, studying in University of Warwick visited the campus on 27.01.2023 and interacted with the faculty.

Mr. Krishnath (Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2017-2021), visited the campus on 28.01.2023 and interacted with the faculty.

# Alumni Writeup

## Write up 1:

# Mr. Jobin Babu (Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2015-2017, ME, Manufacturing Engineering) writes

If there is heaven on earth, it is here, it is here at SSNCE!! From Heartwarming welcome by lush Green carpet to Snow White Empire resembled buildings seated with Professors of astonishing knowledge. From a captivating Clock Tower to a sports complex that nurtured so many talents. From a beautiful carnival like INSTINCTS to enlightening conferences. What else is needed to make a College day so memorable? It's a collective effort by Staff and Students that paved the way to build such a great institution. And I try to embrace these cherishing moments that always exhilarate me.

## Write up 2:

## Ms. Rakshitha (Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, 2017-2021) writes

I am currently working as Senior engineer in LTIMindtree. College days are indeed the most cherishable days in one's life and revisiting those days with memories flashing in front of you is an amazing feeling. I visited the underwater acoustic research lab on Jan 7 and spent a wonderful time with Dr. Sakthivel Murugan sir and my lab friends. We had a wonderful conversation on life, new projects in the lab, recent achievements and growth. It was a great feeling to see the lab bring in more laurels and achievements. Having tea at nadukadai with my lab friends further added to recreating the memories that we had of the college days. I am looking forward to visiting the lab again soon in future.



## Write up 3:

Ms. Lavanya Rathnaswami, (Department of Information Technology, 2004-2008), Creative Director, Stone and Acres Realty Consultants, Chennai, writes

#### Make a Difference

Time doesn't stop. That's the brutal truth that keeps us all going.. or not. In the process of wanting to be successful in all the ways that may not matter in a broader view, we tend to forget and oversee our main duty of giving back to the society. This is primarily what this article is about, and it is for those of you who are entirely sure of your future professional plans and also for those who are absolutely clueless too. I aim to share my experiences here in a humble attempt to shed some perspective on success, life and all there is to it.

To introduce myself I would say I currently am in the process of learning the art of giving back to the society. I take inspiration from my father-in-law who is a great man who lives to give. I also aim to devote my mind and time and professional energy in working for the betterment of our society and all its deserving stakeholders. Under my father-in-law's umbrella, we run a children's home for boys in Thindivanam, TN. We have also adopted a government school



and paalvadi in a village in the area and serviced the school with new infrastructure and necessary materials.

The main focus of our trust is providing education for the helpless children of the society. Through a process of meticulous search and screening, we admit boys of the age 10-12 in our Kamarajar Home and enable them to pursue education in the surrounding government schools. We provide them with accommodation, food and clothing till they complete eighth grade and cover the tuition fee for their higher education post that. We provide them a safe place to grow and they are encouraged in all ways to become successful individuals through academic and physical coaching. Through this trust, I aspire to take full time efforts that will make a change in someone's life but the journey to this point hasn't been direct.

After completing bachelors at SSN, I followed the American dream where I aced the masters program. I then came back to my first job back home that gave me all the satisfaction that I assumed I needed. The first pay, the first real-life work, the first appreciation, the first hike, etc. The zeal and hard work that I exhibited as a fresher clouded my doubts on the career that I was starting to build. It took me three jobs and 8 years to understand that I wasn't in the place where my heart and passion wanted me to be. I then went in pursuit of my new interest and spent another couple of years in getting the education that I needed to become a professional in that field. Interior architecture and design has kept me going since then and I partnered with my husband who runs a real estate firm. We run a successful business together and today I am glad that I chose to pause, step back and restart to pursue my new interest.





The point here is that I have let myself explore my interests when the opportunity presented and gave my 100% at it which was definitely a terrifying move every single time. In your professional life when you feel like you are stagnated or you don't see yourself there and if your circumstances allow it to an SSN- CARE Vol. 1, issue 8, February 2023

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extent, go for it and explore what your heart and mind wants, even if it is a brand new stage and give your 100% at it. Choices, chances, changes.. adulthood revolves around these three C's and one must be wise yet forgiving about them in life. Always remember that its ok not to be ok at any point in life as long as you don't forget to keep trying harder till you find that work that doesn't feel like work.

It is also natural for all of us to get engulfed in the rat race that the professional world stages but having the social cause at the back of the mind will definitely help to keep you on track. Of all the professional roles that I have as experience, I would confidently say that working for social causes has given me the most satisfaction. Let's aim to stop running behind immaterial satisfactions and instead learn to give back to the society irrespective of what we become as professionals. Simply because.. why not! ② Always keep striving to up your potential and along with climbing the professional ladder, always remember to move up the social cause in your agenda whenever you can and I'm sure the world will become a beautiful place to live in.

Quoting Winston Churchill,

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a LIFE by what we give".

Here's to life with a purpose!

## Write up 4:

**Mr. Vikram PG (Department of Civil Engineering, 2018-2022),** Software Developer, Metamation Pvt Ltd. (An R&D company in Sheet Metal CAD/CAM software Industry) writes

#### TO MY PAST SELF

My name is Vikram, a recently passed-out student from the Civil Department-SSNCE, 2018-22 batch. I would like to share some of my present thoughts with my past self who is in his final year of college and looking a job.

To You, Final year student, SSNCE.



## The First and Foremost

"It's very astounding for me that when I close my eyes, I see myself sitting at my class desk in front of the blackboard awaiting the faculty for the next period; but when I open my eyes, I am really sitting at my office chair in front of the computer. Just like a Thanos snap, the college days got completed (One-Two-Three-Four-Over), and the 4 years of the journey are now just present as 4GB of memories in google photos... [Sighing]".

So firstly, get up and start making the last few drops of your college days into colourful memories by setting aside the small misunderstandings you have now. All the fights you had with your friends will look silly one day.

#### Good Bacteria

Being a recently passed-out student, I can easily understand the fear-mixed mindset of you being in the final year and already started thinking about your post-college life. As the days approaching the end of your college life, the ratio of fear about the future in your thoughts starts to increase. Here, I would like to say that this fear is completely normal as the statement, "The sky is blue".

While traveling on roadways, we used to notice the speed limit boards on the sides. The board gives us a warning to control our speed if we are driving too fast, because there may be speed breakers ahead. Without that warning the chance of accidents is more. The fear that you are feeling now is same as the speed limit board. It's just giving you a warning that you are overthinking about your future, and you should calm down a bit, because may be decision-making situations ahead. Sometimes, it also directs us to the right way. So, the fear you have is like the good bacteria in your body, it's helping you. At the same time, having control over the bacteria to not overpopulate and phagocyte your positivity and confidence are very important.

## Two equals Three?

Often fear originates from comparing yourself with your fellow mates. Perhaps your friend has got an offer from a super dream company, but you still haven't even from a regular company. Does it either mean he wins or you lose?

In the final year, everybody is trying to get placed in their dream company; it seems like everybody is running in a marathon altogether, but it's not. Though all run together, everybody is running their own unique track, towards their own unique goal. Everyone is unique here, so please don't compare yourself with your friends. The comparison is like 2 = 3, this doesn't make sense, right? How the comparison of two different unique numbers makes no sense, in the same respect, comparison of yourself with your friend makes no sense. You two are unique people, having unique talents (like 2 is the smallest even prime number, and 3 is the smallest odd prime number) and unique goals. And remember that, because your friend is winning, doesn't mean you are losing. You have your own timeline, and your success may be on the way towards you. So, please don't lose hope and keep trying.

#### Shift + Ctrl

Most of your classmates would have opted for campus placement, and some of them have other plans to proceed. If you are in one among them asking, "I have opted for placement, because I want to work. How to choose the right company for me to get placed?" then the below points can give you some clarity.

Firstly, find your area of interest to work, or in what area you interest really lies on; it can be anything, even it need not to be within your current branch of engineering. Secondly, analyse yourself that in what things you are good at or competent. Then, just aim for the job that intersecting the answers of above two questions. Plus, make sure that the job pay scale satisfies your financial demands.

#### Do prioritize the job role over the company name.

Final and important point is that, if you have ever got a job offer from a Day One Company, then consider that as a last option. Only accept the offer if you have other choice. If you find that your area of interest doesn't lies within the branch of engineering you are studying and if you are sure about it, then don't think sentimentally and do not hesitate to shift your career domain. Until you are having a good control over, which direction your career track is moving whether towards or away from your intersection area (mentioned above), the decision to shift your career domain will not be wrong.

#### It's YOUR Time Now

Till the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, you would have been with your elder friends whom you call Anna and Akka - your seniors, also you would have got many helps from. But now, they are gone, and you have come to their place. Do you remember the day when you are in the first year, an unknown senior who helped you to take the printouts in reprography; in the second year, the senior who gave you the right piece advice you needed at that time; in the third year, the senior who appreciated your small win in an event, etc. But now it's time for you to give it back to your juniors. Because they deserve it from you, as you deserved

from your seniors. So, be helpful to them as much as you can, you will not know how the small help you are doing is going to impact them greatly in their life.

Finally, always remember the advice you heard from your teachers. Again, you will not know when the words they have told will mentor you in life. So be respectful to them and grateful for everything you have learned from them in your entire college life.

# The Team of Faculty Alumni Coordinators



**Newsletter Compiled by:** Dr. C. Arun Prakash, Faculty Alumni Co-ordinator/Assistant Professor [Mech] with inputs from Faculty Alumni Co-ordinators of all departments.

#### Distributed to

- All Students [through Department Alumni Relationship Team-DART]
- Faculty [through Principal's Office] and
- Alumni [through Manager, Marketing and Alumni Relations]