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Cherishing Alumni Relationship and Engagement

Career Development Workshop by Alumni Association

A report by Varun Venkata Krishnan, President, SSN Alumni Association

The SSN Alumni Association organized a Career Development Program for the current students at SSN College of Engineering on 9-September-2023. The primary focus area of this program was a series of mock interviews conducted targeting four key interview types: Software, Core Companies, Management Consulting and HR.

Key Highlights:

• Diverse Alumni Participation: The event saw enthusiastic participation from a diverse

- group of 45 SSN alumni who have excelled in various industries and roles. This ensured that students received insights and guidance from professionals with a wide range of experiences.
- Invaluable Feedback: After 140+ each of the mock interviews that were conducted, students received detailed feedback constructive and criticism from the alumni interviewers. This personalized guidance allowed students to identify their strengths and areas for improvement.



• **Networking Opportunities:** The program also facilitated networking between current students and alumni. This enabled students to build connections with professionals in their areas of interest, potentially opening doors to internships and job opportunities.

• **Post-Event Support:** The SSN Alumni Association committed to providing ongoing support to students, including access to alumni resources, career guidance, and mentorship opportunities.

The SSN Alumni Career Development Program's mock interviews were designed to prepare current students for the competitive job market. It served as a testament to the strong sense of community and support within SSN, bridging the gap between current students and our alumni. Thank you to our Alumni and student volunteers for making this event a huge success.

Events conducted by Alumni

Event 1: Workshop on Conversion of Innovation into Start-up

The department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering in association with Institution

Innovation Council (IIC), organised a workshop on "Conversion of Innovation into Start-up" on 17.08.2023. **Dr. V. Vasan Prabhu (2006 -2008 batch, M.E. Power Electronics and Drives),** Academic Manager & EV Tech lead Great Learning Chennai, delivered the lecture. The workshop was attended by UG students, research scholars and faculty members. The speaker discussed the importance and need for



innovation. The session focused on the types of innovation and the process involved in



converting an idea into a prototype. He substantiated the talk by giving real world examples. The speaker highlighted the importance of legal and intellectual Property Considerations while converting an idea into a product. The speaker engaged the attendees in an

insightful discourse on the entrepreneurial landscape within the electric vehicle domain. He discussed various facts of entrepreneurship development, including insights into the Startup India initiative, while also shedding light on the expansive opportunities within the field of electrical innovation. He advised to explore the relationship between entrepreneurship development and the scope of electrical innovation. He described challenges faced by entrepreneurs in the electrical sector, including regulatory hurdles, technological complexity, and market competition. He also highlighted the opportunities arising from these challenges

which serve to create new models and products. The Faculty Coordinators for the event were **Dr. R. Seyezhai, Dr. R. Ramaprabha and Dr. M. Balaji** and the Student Coordinators for the event were Ms. K. Lithika & Ms. K. Manasa of III Year/EEE.

Event 2: Insight into Higher Studies

On 14th of August 2023, the department of Mechanical Engineering convened an assembly wherein a distinguished alumnus, **Nithin Balakrishnan (2009-2013 batch, Department of Mechanical Engineering)**, delivered an illuminating discourse. He also has a Masters in automotive with controls specialization. At present, he holds a vocation at ASML, situated in Eindhoven, Netherlands.



The discourse initiated with a succinct exposition of his individual life trajectory and familial background. To arrest the attentiveness of the scholars, he embarked upon delineating the resemblance between his cognitive disposition and that of a majority within our cohort, characterized by perplexity regarding the navigational route towards aspirations and the quest for fervour. Furthermore, he proffered

a succinct overview of his scholastic dossier, underscored by an accumulative grade point average of 8.4, alongside an enumeration of the extracurricular engagements that enriched his collegiate tenure. Notably, he occupied the mantle of secretary for "INSTINCTS" and assumed the role of its convenor as well.

The discourse subsequently transitioned to an exegesis of his pursuit of postgraduate studies at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e). It



was unveiled that his academic voyage lacked a lucid direction, his selection of mechanical engineering being the result of societal peer pressure. His recognition of the onerous nature of engineering crystallized upon matriculation at TU/e, an institution characterized by its rigorous yet adept pedagogical structure. He extolled the imperative of grasping the fundamental tenets rather than mere rote assimilation, especially pertinent when aspiring towards global academic pursuits, where not only comprehension but also the practical application thereof is rigorously assessed.

A salient facet of the discourse encompassed the burgeoning significance of amalgamated education within the domain of mechanical engineering. Within the contemporary milieu, characterized by the ascendancy of semiconductor technology and electronic sensing

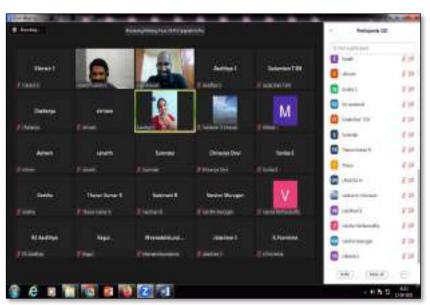
modalities, a perpetual pursuit of contemporary knowledge assumes an imperative role. With the burgeoning electric vehicle domain traversing geographical confines, he underscored the gravity of discerning one's academic specialization with discernment. Fortified by the assertion that meticulous pre-planning isn't invariably obligatory, he endorsed intuitive inclinations and accentuated the value of amassing a biennial trove of vocational experience. Such a trajectory not only culminates in enhanced vocational clarity but also facilitates the judicious selection of a fitting institution and academic trajectory in pursuit of cherished aspirations.

The discourse culminated in an interactive interlude, marked by a symposium wherein scholars proffered inquiries. The termination of his discourse was underscored by a note of assurance, accentuating that the epiphany of true passion isn't always immediate; rather, it matures through temporality and experience, and the pursuit of one's dreams knows no temporal constraints.

Event 3: Online session on Placement Preparation

Alumni Association of Chemical Engineering Department organized an engaging and insightful interactive session for the current final year students, focusing on placement preparation on 12th August 2023.

The event brought together a diverse group of accomplished alumni. Mr. S. Nijanthan (2012 2016 batch, of Chemical **Department Engineering)** Senior Process Engineer, Mr. G. Sudarshan (2015 -2019 batch. **Department** Chemical of **Engineering)** Senior Process Engineer and Miss. Lavanaya (2017-2021 batch, **Department** of Chemical **Engineering)** Process Safety Engineer at Technip Energies.



During this dynamic session, students gain valuable insights into the intricacies of job searching, interview techniques and industry specific advice. The interactive nature of session not only empowered the students with practical career skills but also fostered a sense of connection and community within the alumni network.

Event 4: RESUME BRILLIANCE - Profile Building for Internship Triumphs

The Department of Information Technology, organized an Alumni Talk on 1st September 2023. **Anni Priscilla (2019-2023 batch, Department of Information Technology),** Senior

Associate Business System Analyst in Equinix and Keertivaas (2018-2022 batch, Department of Information Technology), were the speakers. Both speakers excelled in their studies and extracurricular activities, and being hired by such prestigious firms is a strong testament to that. They were involved in groups like IEEE CS, with Anni serving as the last team's chair and Keertivaas serving as vice chair during his final year. The welcome address was delivered by Nusaiba Afsheen in the fourth





year. The talk was attended by around 75 students. The session went on for 1 hour followed by a question-and-answer session for another 30 minutes.

The talk was primarily focused onresume building and the key elements and aspects that need to be taken care of while building a resume. The speakers demonstrated the art of crafting a resume, personal branding, the importance of keywords, and other crucial elements in resume. Both the speakers, Anni and Keertivaas beautifully

explained the resume building process by using their own resumes which captivated the audience. They also generously shared essential tips and tricks to help the participants succeed in securing their internships. The talk provided the audience with a comprehensive understanding of the resume building process, which is vital for securing internships. The vote of thanks was delivered by Nusaiba Afsheen in the fourth year. The Faculty Coordinators for the event were **Dr. Vasuki P, Dr. S. Sasirekha S and Dr. Joe Louis Paul I** and the student coordinators were Nithish and Lokesh Adithya, III yr/IT.

Event 5: Bridge Course for Batch 2023-25

SSN SoM organized a tailored bridge course for the incoming **MBA Batch 2023-25**, introducing them to the unique learning experience and featuring distinguished alumni from SoM as esteemed speakers.

Highlights of the event included KP Bharathy Venu Prakash (2002-04, batch), an

entrepreneur who generously shared invaluable insights on meticulous preparations required for pursuing a career in marketing and encouraged students to take calculated risks; **Mr. Ganesh DG** (2003-05, batch), Vice President at Citibank's Data & Analytics team, who provided invaluable counsel on preparing for the upcoming two years of MBA life and emphasized the cultivation of uniqueness in presentations; **Thenkavi E** (2015-17, batch), a seasoned Business Analyst with 7







years of experience, who inspired students to 'embrace change' and elaborated on non-academic preparations essential for securing positions in top companies; and **Harshini H** (2019-21, batch), with an illustrious career in banking, who showcased her journey at a reputed private sector bank and illuminated the path to maximize institutional resources.

Engaging discussions on newspaper reading, placements, and internships ensued. SSN SoM appreciates all the speakers for their active engagement and support.

Event 6: Orientation for Batch 2023-25

The SSN School of Management extended a warm welcome and orientation to the MBA Batch 2023-25 through a comprehensive two-day inaugural program. This event aimed to provide students with a holistic introduction to the college and industry insights.

The orientation began with a lamp lighting ceremony and an overview of the curriculum and course structure. Students also participated in a brainstorming session to formulate clubs and associations for the upcoming year.

Notable speakers graced the second day, including Chief Guest Mr. Siddharth Sridharan, Cofounder and CEO of Spendflo, who shared insights into startup development and the digital product landscape. Guest of **Honor Madhumitha Manimaran (2003-2005 batch), DGM of**

Finance at HCL, provided guidance on maximizing the MBA experience and succeeding in the corporate world. Other speakers, including alumni and committee members such as **Divya Dharshini B** (2021-2023 batch), SDR at Spendflo; Ravi Shankar Shanmugam (2007-2009 batch), Vice President of SSN Alumni Association and Sales Director at Cognizant; Akshaya Sona Sri (2017-2019 batch), Alumni Student Relationship Lead and Relation Analyst Lead at Zoho; and Gowsik Ganesan (2021-2023 batch) shared their experiences and emphasized the value of a strong alumni network. SSN SoM expresses gratitude to all the speakers and extends best wishes to the 24th batch on their journey ahead.



Event 7: The Tech Unplugged 2.0: Placement Talks

Avinash Karthik (2018-2022 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), Software Engineer Google and Harrison Vijay (2018-2022 batch, Department of Information Technology), Software Engineer Google gave a talk in IEEE CS Tech Unplugged 2.0: Placement Talks organized by IEEECS Student team and faculty advisor Dr P. Vasuki. Around 50 students have attended the talk.

The Tech Unplugged 2.0: Placement Talks event began with Avinash's insightful presentation

the benefits on Competitive **Programming** (CP), engaging the audience and setting a positive tone. Sathvika moderated a lively 0&A session. with participants actively seeking on CP. Harrison clarity followed with a dynamic session on the importance of Data Structures and Algorithms (DSA) for



interview success. Madumitha deftly moderated the subsequent Q&A, with participants enthusiastically discussing DSA and interview preparation. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all involved. The active participation of the 50 attendees highlighted the event's success as a platform for knowledge exchange and networking.

Event 8: Online session on Opportunities for Master's Study

Joannes Sam Mertens, an alumnus of ECE, delivered a talk on 'Opportunities for Master's Study', at the University of Catania, Italy on 09-09-2023 (Saturday) to II and III year students.



Event 9: Profile Powerplay - Crafting Your Path to Top US Universities

The Department of Information Technology, SSN College of Engineering, organized an Alumni Talk on the 16th of August, 2023 on the topic Profile Powerplay – Crafting Your Path to Top US Universities. **Ms. Vibha Viswananth and Ms. Aswini Ramesh (2019-2023 batch, Department of Information Technology)** were the speakers. Ms. Vibha joined Dartmouth

MEM and Ms. Ashwini joined the University of Massachusetts to pursue higher studies. Approximately 120 students from various departments attended. The session lasted for 1 hour

and was followed by a Q & A session for another 30 minutes.

The talk was primarily focused on the profile creation for and the admission process to get into the top universities in the US. The speakers at first covered various points on why US is the right choice for higher studies marking out the ranking and facility of the universities, the diversity and environment of the States, the learning methods and future opportunities. They



further gave a detailed explanation on how doing multiple projects, internships, extracurricular activities and mainly maintaining a good CGPA will facilitate in building your profile.

The speakers also elaborated on the preparation strategy for the tests required, GRE/GMAT and TOEFL/IELTS. Adding onto it, they provided tips for writing SOPs and LORs and the application process. They also gave a clear picture on the numerous possible courses and universities to choose from. At the end, students had an interactive session with the speakers and put forward their doubt and questions to get it cleared. Overall, it was a very informative and friendly session. The Faculty Coordinators for the event were **Dr. Vasuki P, Dr. S. Sasirekha S and Dr. Joe Louis Paul I** and the student coordinators were Priyamvadha Pradeep and Jessica Pragalathan, III yr/IT.

Alumni Visits and Interactions

Sadhana Sriram, Mahalakshmi and Shenbagabala (2019-2023 batch, Department of Civil Engineering) had a Chit Chat Session on Higher studies in the Discussion room of Civil Department on August 2023.



Dr. Mohamed Irfan Refai (2008 - 2012 batch, Department of Biomedical Engineering) currently holds the position of Postdoctoral Researcher at Prof. Massimo



Sartori's laboratory, situated at the University of Twente in the Netherlands visited the department on 21.08.2023 and gave a talk to the department students after the IEEE Signal processing society student chapter inaugural function. During his visit, he engaged with third and final-year students, offering valuable insights into his personal journey from his time at SSN up to the present moment. Dr. Irfan candidly shared the obstacles and challenges he encountered along the way, shedding light on the various projects he has undertaken.

Through this interaction, the students gained profound insights into the abundant opportunities awaiting them, both in the realm of higher education and in the industrial landscape. Dr. Irfan also provided a comprehensive overview of the path ahead, equipping the students with the knowledge needed to prepare them for what lies ahead.



Following his presentation, a question and answer session ensued, during which Dr. Irfan imparted invaluable tips and advice. The session served as a powerful motivator, encouraging the students to embark on further exploration of their potential.

Mr. Shashank (2017 – 2021 batch, Department of Biomedical Engineering), currently pursuing masters in Cognitive Neuroscience at the Radboud University, Netherlands, visited our department on the 24th August '23 and addressed the students of third and final years. He



conveyed his life experiences that have played a pivotal role in shaping his current self. Furthermore, he elaborated on the factors that influenced his decision to pursue his chosen career path, all while maintaining his unwavering passion. Having graduated from SSN recently, he could easily connect with the students and empathize with their perspectives. He generously imparted valuable advice to the students on approaching projects and further studies, proving to be an invaluable resource for them. His calm and enthusiastic attitude is what helped him easily connect with students and share his ideas effectively.

Mr. Barath (2017 – 2021 batch, Department of Biomedical Engineering) is currently working in TCS Digital visited the department on 22.08.23.He met his faculty advisor Dr. Arun Karthick and had discussion about the opportunities for higher studies abroad.



Ms. Varsha R (2018-2022 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), Software Developer, IBM Bangalore, visited our campus on 04.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Ms. Suba Shree VS (2018-2022 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), SDE -1, Amadeus, visited our campus on 07.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Mr. Sanjay R, (2014-2018 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), AGS, SDE, visited our campus on 15.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Mr. Deepananth K (2019-2023 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), Associate Software Engineer @ ADP India Pvt Ltd, CSE Alumni 2023, visited our campus on 26.8.23 and interacted with our faculty.

Ms. Keerthi Priya M S (2019-2023 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), Software Engineer at NielsenIQ, visited our campus on 26.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Mr. Manickam L (2019-2023 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), Analyst at Citi, visited our campus on 26.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.

Mr. Naveen M R, (2019-2023 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering), visited our campus on 26.08.2023 and interacted with our faculty.



Mr. Harisaran G and Sanjay Ram S (2019-2023 batch, Department of Information Technology) visited our campus as a part of placement drive representing Motorq on 18.08.2023 and also interacted with our faculty.

Alumni write up

Write up 1:

My Experience at SSN – Shriya Baskaran (2018-2022 batch, Department of Computer Science and Engineering)

I am Shriya Baskaran, alumnus of SSN College of Engineering. My journey at the CSE department was truly enthralling. With the help of the excellent faculty, I got to learn a plethora of new subjects and technologies.

Every lecture, lab course, research project etc taught me so much and helped me grow into a well-rounded professional.

At the same time, the valuable lessons I learned from my impeccable mentors are forever etched in my mind.

As a result of the unwavering support from my department, I got a marquee placement at Virtusa Corporation. I worked as a full-stack developer there for a year where I could put all the skills I honed in my college life to industrial use.

However, after a year-long journey of being in corporate, I decided that I needed to do something that really was my forte. As much as I loved tech, I wanted to do something along with tech in such a way that my other strengths could make a difference.

And that is when I came across the Master's in Engineering Management program which is pretty much an amalgam of Technology and Management. I aspire to be a product manager, whose role is to be a bridge between Tech, Business and Design. The part-time designer/commissioned artist in me couldn't be happier. Whilst a million calls to attend and codes to push, I decided to go through the stressful journey of master's applications.

It was no cake walks, but after all those sleepless nights preparing for the GRE and drafting my essays, I paved my way into the prestigious Ivy League University - Cornell University. I'm beyond thrilled to begin this journey at my dream school. I sincerely thank **Dr. D. Venkata Vara Prasad** sir **and Dr. V Balasubramanian** sir for the countless number or recommendations they submitted just in time before every single deadline. I would have never been here without their support. I'm all set to travel to the US in a few days. Looking forward to updating my future endeavours!

Campus News.....

Aug 27 Research Advisory Council meeting

Prof Raj Reddy and other members of the Research Advisory Council were in campus on 27th to review our Research progress and suggest improvements .



They have offered several suggestions, which have been shared by President to the heads of departments, for actions.

Report on SPURS training

SPURS (Scholarship for Potential Undergraduate Rural Students) is a flagship philanthropic initiative of SSN. Every year 25 students who are toppers from government high schools in rural areas are admitted under SPURS. A two-week Orientation Program was conducted from 11.08.2023 to 24.08.2023. The main goal of this program is to enhance their English speaking skills and develop their personality traits. This preparation aims to smoothly incorporate them into the larger eclectic group within the College.

The English department faculty engaged them both in the forenoon and afternoon sessions. Dr. Princely Samuel, Director of Training and Placements, Loyola College, Chennai, trained them with various language-learning activities and language games and ingrained in them the mantra "to speak without fear and shame". During the last hour in the afternoon, the students were introduced to the various facilities available in the college. They were taken on a tour of the library, the medical and the Sports facilities.

Dr. Jayakaran Amalraj, the First-year-in-charge, the Doctor on Campus, Dr. Sachin S, the student counsellor, Dr. Nanda. S and Dr. Praba, HoD, Maths, met them for a session each. The coordinators of YRC, Dr. Thiyagaran V and team, and NSS, Dr. Kaythry and team encouraged them to take up several outreach programs to render service to society and impact lives. Dr. Murugesan, the faculty-in-charge of SPURS made sure that they had adjusted well to the new setting and college life as for most students this was their first time away from home and their families.



The highlight of this training program was the trip to Mahabalipuram. On the 15th of August after participating in the Independence Day flag-hoisting ceremony, the group accompanied by Dr. A. Chandrasekar of the Physics department, went on a sight-seeing journey.

It was an exciting, fun-filled day, which they said, they would never forget. They took plenty of selfies, posed in front of monuments, sang songs in the bus, had ice cream and a lot of fun, creating precious memories.

This year, the Lateral entry students also joined with SPURS students for the training and this enriched the teaching-learning atmosphere.

On 24.08.2022, during the Valedictory meeting, they gave plenty of positive feedback about the entire training program and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to study at SSN, which was a dream come true.

The Team of Faculty Alumni Coordinators

