

NEWSLETTER

IIT ALUMNI SOUTH KOREA

(JAN-JUL) 2016





INTRODUCTION

2015 was a ride worth remembering for all of us. We built the foundations of this association to stand on its own for years to come, supporting alumni of all IITs in Korea. This organization was made possible by efforts not just from office bearers but also from all members who contributed their time, talents and marked their presence in many of our events. A quick thank you to Subhojith Chakladhar and Pawan Nagwani whose services as VP PR and VP Operations were exceptional. We welcome Jitendra Kumar, Nupur Kala and Nishit Bhandari as new VPs for the year 2016. Vishnu Vinjam, Jalaj Jain and Pankaj Agarwal are the other 3 office bearers.

OUR VISION



"Every IIT alumni in Korea proudly calls this place a home"

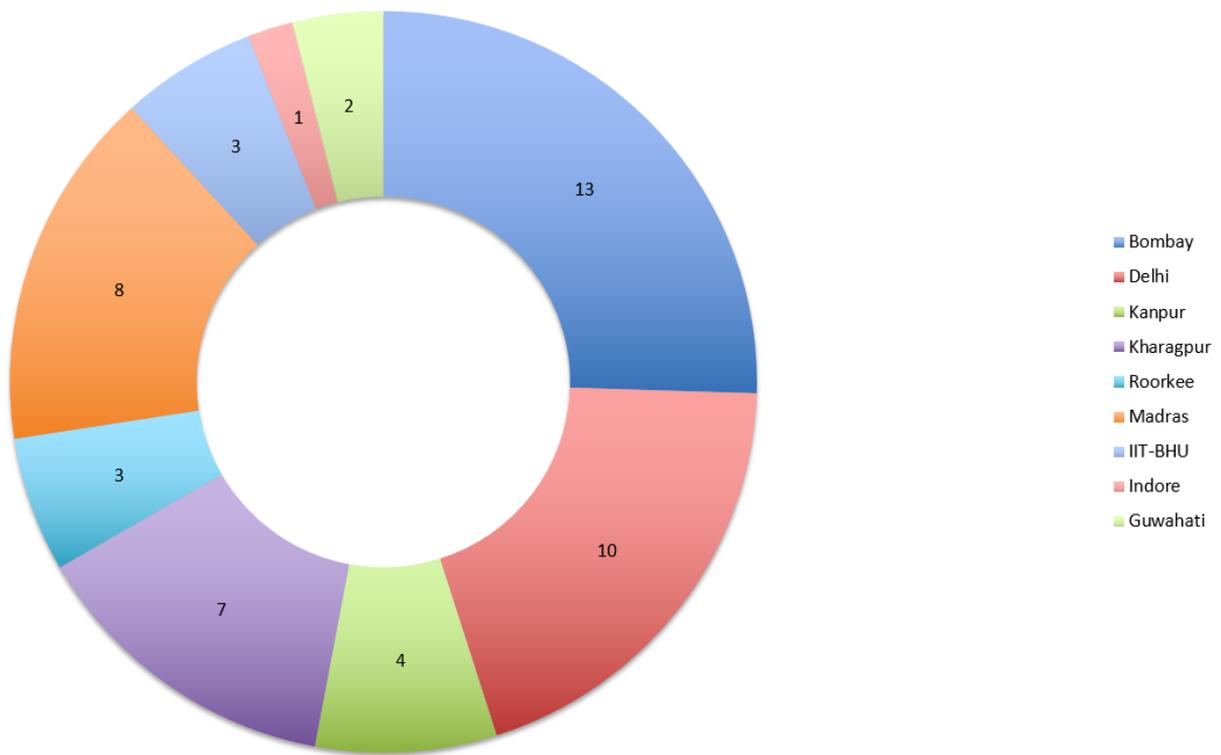
OUR MISSION

To provide a platform to IIT alumni in Korea where they can connect and create value both for themselves and for the community. More specifically, our objectives are:

1. To foster a sense of belonging, friendship and family ties among IIT alumni
2. To welcome and assist new IIT alumni adapt to Korea
3. To lead initiatives that contribute to our local community in Korea, our Alma Mater, and to our motherland.

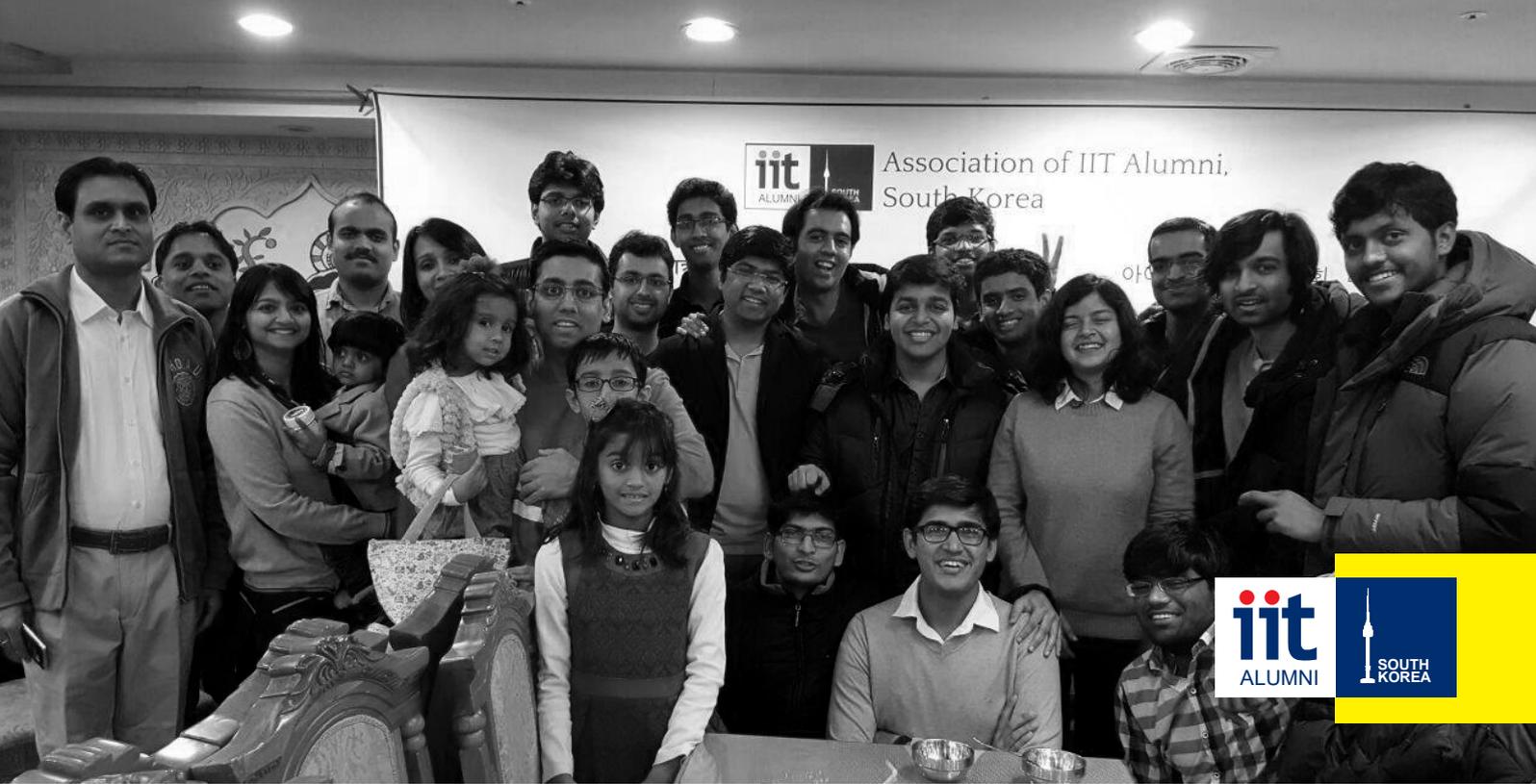
OUR CORE VALUES

1. Integrity - We will uphold all our actions/decisions with strong ethics and will be perfectly comfortable even if all that we do gets published in tomorrow's paper.
2. Bias for Action - We won't wait for all the answers. We believe in "Just do it", "Its ok to make reasonable mistakes and learn on the fly"
3. Togetherness - We will help each other and collaborate to accomplish our goals.



MEMBERS

This year, IITAAK has 51 members from various IITs as shown in the snapshot above. Our group is very young - 61% of our members are still bachelors, most of whom came to Korea in the last 2 years. While we see increasing number of fresh IIT graduates come to Korea every year, many also leave this amazing place after spending only a couple of years. 12 of our members left Korea in the last 6-8 months to move to a new destination, either to a new company elsewhere or to a graduate school for higher studies.



SOCIAL MEETUP

What better way to celebrate another year of this shared journey, with family, in a foreign land, than to bond over "curry-nan" and snacking with Samosa and gulabjamun. Suwon - New Delhi became the host for our 1st meetup in 2016 and to put it simply, it was sweet. It began with introductions, memories from good old IIT days soon followed and it ended with memories captured in these amazing pics with an enviable lighting.

Pankaj Agarwal, our president shared his vision for the group and outlined his plans for 2016. To add flavor to the event, Nishit our VP who led this effort organized a fun quiz game among tables, to claim the fabled position of Dhabapati. There came the end of of this wonderful beginning.

1ST PRIZE



PHOTO CONTEST

To celebrate the beauty of spring, we invited all our members to share their best photographs as part of "Spring Photo contest." Stunning mountains, pristine beaches and nature in all its beauty were subject of most entries showing our yearning away from concrete hogwash. Sandeep Gupta takes the crown, while Sudhakar Sah surprised everyone with both his entries taking a podium finish..

2ND PRIZE



3RD PRIZE





GSIS PROGRAM

We are proud to announce successful completion of a year long collaboration between IITAAK and GSIS (Gyeonggi Suwon International School). MoU which was signed about an year back aimed to provide middle and highschool students with professional guidance from members of IITAA. Spanning a length of 1 year, a total of 7 sessions were conducted covering topics like, programming, critical thinking and importance of habits and passions. Sessions also covered careers in science, arts, engineering and a glimpse in to the world of business and entrepreneurship. With the success of this project, Korea International School(KIS) in Seoul has signed up for the coming year.

A shout out to all enthusiastic speakers who made this project successful. Thanks, Prajwal, Jatin, Rohan, Sreelatha, Sachin, Shubham, Nupur, Nishit, Vishnu, Subhojith, Jalaj and Pankaj. We need to double our efforts and contributions with two schools in hand.

Nupur, a volunteer from IITAAK says,
"GSIS program was like a much needed breath of fresh air amidst the busy corporate life. I have learnt a lot, including how smart the kids are nowadays to how different the education system is."



TOMORROW INDIA PARTNERSHIP

Second edition of Tomorrows India (TI) will be held in Seoul from 24th to 29th, September 2016. This 4-day program attended by thought leaders across the two nations, aims to bring an integrated approach, focused on developing international collaborations and tie-ups in the fields of business, culture and education. TI has kindly agreed to launch our idea from DISC (Digital India & Smart Cities) Task Force setup last fall as part of their event and is giving two passes to our members to attend the prestigious conference.

Know more about it here: <http://www.tomorrowsindia.com/>



ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES

21st May, 2016 - Maximize Your Life

'IIT should be the last thing that should come to your mind, when you think of your achievements' was one of the many memorable insights shared by Pankaj Agarwal on the inaugural Alumni Lecture series on 21st May, 2016. His solution to achieve, to succeed? Discipline! 10,000 hours is a good way of thinking, to pursue something, continuously improving and reaching mastery. But he went further and asked every member in the audience to define the important things in life, what is success for them. He reminded us that these would evolve with time, but by making changes to our lives every day, every week, we compound the impact. He suggested to create a dashboard, a timeline tracking several things you want to achieve and improve; family, career, skills, books, travel, exercise, everything. "Maximize your life" was what this exchange was called and that pleasant evening surely lived up to its name..



ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES

19th June, 2016 - The Untraveled World

"You don't negotiate with nature, you take what it gives," Subhojit said narrating his adventures in Kenya, to the 13 alumni seated around him in a well lit cafe shop on a Sunday evening near Gangnam, Seoul. An avid birdwatcher, Subho as he is fondly called, has been to places where most would only day dream about. He shared his journey on how he developed his passion for bird photography and cooking and how he carefully nurtured his interest and built a Rambo style life and community around it. When asked what one lesson we should take away, "passions outside work, relieves you of stress, offers new perspectives and gives you opportunities to meet very interesting set of people." It will definitely make our lives interesting and meaningful.

Hear such wisdom that comes with experience, and "been there, done that" stories from fellow alumni in these lectures.

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