



Pan IIT USA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, January 06, 2009 6PM Pacific / 9PM Eastern

Attended by:

Chairman: Umang Gupta
Co-Chair: Rajat Gupta

Presidents of IIT Alumni Associations/Foundations
IIT Guwahati: Kiran Kumar Thota
IIT Kanpur: Abhay Bhushan
IIT-Kharagpur: Roy daSilva
IIT-Roorkee: Purnima Gupta

Chapters Representative: Vinay Karle

PanIIT USA Executive Team:
President: Gunjan Bagla
Secretary/VP: Siddhartha Chowdhary
CFO/Treasurer: Ashok Gupta

Summary:

- The meeting started with introductions by the new Board and Executive Committee Members.
- A debrief was provided on the IIT-Madras 2008 conference. It was noted that the lessons learned should be taken into consideration when determining the location of the next conference in India.
- IIT Kanpur is bidding to host the next Conference in India to coincide with its 50th year anniversary.
- Abhay Bhushan provided an update on his discussion about having the next India conference in Delhi, followed by a day-long program in IIT-Kanpur focused on a specific topic that would be interest to alumni, students, and academia alike.
- A brief status of the 2009 Chicago Conference was provided. Umang Gupta suggested a follow-up with Ray Mehra and Rajat Gupta to get the DA participation and commitment for this event.
- This was followed by a discussion on the Charter Member Program, which is an approved initiative of the Global Board. The USA Board has been tasked to implement this program along with coordination with the India Board.
- Roy daSilva has agreed to lead the Charter Member Program on behalf of the Pan IIT USA Board, and will coordinate the effort along with Pawan Kumar as his counterpart from the Pan IIT India Board. Roy will set a launch date for this program to get it off the ground.
- Umang Gupta clarified that the Global Board will handle the fees for the Charter Member Program, and has the authority to put the money wherever it deems appropriate.
- The final discussion item was related to the Distinguished Alumni (DA) representation on the Pan IIT USA Board. There are 3 DA positions in the Board, each of whom can serve for a maximum of 3 year term. Umang Gupta and Rajat Gupta have each completed their 2-year term, and the Board has the option to extend their term for another 1-year.
- There is currently an open DA position that is vacant due to the resignation of Sunil Wadhvani. It was recommended that Dilip Venkatachari and Gunjan Bagla, as past and current presidents take the lead on finding and nominating the DA to the board to fill the vacant DA position.
- Umang Gupta and Rajat Gupta then left the meeting. After their departure, the board resolved unanimously to extend the terms of both Umang Gupta and Rajat Gupta for a 3rd and final year.
- It was also noted that next Chair of the USA Board should be a DA representative instead of an IIT Alumni President to mitigate any perceived conflict of interest.