

Aug 2016 PANIIT USA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

(PanIIT 2016 Conference – Providence, RI)

ATTENDEES

1. Chairman: Sudhakar Shenoy
2. President: Witty Bindra
3. Past President: Arjun Sen – On Phone
4. VP/ Secretary: Jassi Chadha - On Phone
5. DA Rep: Arvind Jain
6. DA Rep: Prabhat Hajela
7. KGP Rep: Roy Da Silva – Not Present
8. BHU Rep: Manu Goyal – On Phone
9. Bombay Rep: Ron Mehta
10. Guwahati Rep: Kiran Thota– On Phone
11. Delhi Rep: B D Goel – Not Present
12. Madras Rep: Sagar Pushpala – Not Present
13. Kanpur Rep: Priyank Saxena – Not Present
14. Roorkee Rep: Anoop Verma – On Phone
15. Invitee: D C Agrawal – President IIBHF -Greater NY Chapter
16. Invitee: Shamanth Shankar - President, IITAGH
17. Invitee: Hiten Ghosh - CapIIT

MINUTES:

July 2016 Meeting Minutes were confirmed.

Introduction

The board was introduced to the incoming chairman – Sudhakar Shenoy. Sudhakar has been involved with PanIIT since 2003 and played an active role during the PanIIT 2005 Conference in Washington, DC. Sudhakar is the Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Alyx Technologies, Inc., a business solutions and technology provider with operations in the United States and India. He holds a B. Tech (Hons.) in electrical engineering from the IITB and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering and an M.B.A. from the University of Connecticut Schools of Engineering and Business Administration, respectively

Role of Chapters

As discussed in the previous board meetings, it was again suggested that the large chapters should mentor the small and new chapters. It was agreed to contact Houston, Bay Area, Capital IIT and Chicago chapters and come up with a common plan for the current large chapters which eventually will be implemented for the smaller chapters. Also, to have a clear picture about what PanIIT can offer to these smaller chapters like website development, event coordination, job search, networking, etc.

Also, it was agreed to send non functional chapters notice to the inactive chapters.

It was suggested to approach Mandy Pant from Boston to be the Chapter Rep on the PanIIT Board.

Education Initiatives

These are the 2 things which the board requested Prabhat Hajela to pursue -

1. Mentoring

Develop a platform where IIT alums considering careers in academia/research can connect with established academics or researchers (also alumni/alumnae of IIT) to seek advice on what such careers entail, what would be the expectations for success, and how best to position and present themselves as prospective candidates. The level of mentorship will vary from person to person, and it is important to engage mentors from a broad spectrum of US universities, both public and private, and with different mission foci. It may be worthwhile (once the platform is established) to invite representatives from IITs to enroll as mentors so as to provide one-on-one advice to IIT alums who may consider seeking such positions in India. The platform can also be used by early career academics at US universities to connect with more senior academics to seek mentorship on issues related to career advancement.

2. Database of Experts

We have many IIT alums with established technical and policy credentials in several key areas that are considered as global societal challenges. Infrastructure resilience, potable water, sustainable energy, and diseases and human health are just examples of such challenges. To create a database of such experts, perhaps assembled around an initial set of global challenges that could be drawn from the list of NAE Grand Challenges or from the Millennium Goals of the UN. To make sure that such a list was widely accessible to government agencies and the corporate sector in India.

Finally, it was suggested for Prabhat to come up with a draft letter that can be sent to all the potential people who will be part of this education initiative.

Database and Branding Update

Board agreed to keep working on the various membership services like job portal, AAA membership, kick starter, etc. with help from Your membership. It was also suggested to explore the possibility of getting an exclusive PanIIT Credit Card through AAA membership.

Board wants to get an update on the PanIIT merchandises sale and what will be the next step.

Governance

To schedule a call with the Chairman, President, VP, Past President and Kiran Thota to go over the governance and role and responsibilities of the key board members.

PanIIT 2017 Global Conference Venue and next board meeting

Here are the 3 cities to be considered for the next Global Conference

1. Washington DC – Ron Mehta to update
2. Chicago – Witty to follow up with KV Reddy.

3. Los Angeles, CA – Priyank Saxena to update.

Tentatively 12 Nov is the date for the next f2f board meeting in San Jose.