

# **February 2016 PANIIT USA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

(ICC – San Jose, CA)

## **ATTENDEES**

- |                          |                                       |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Chairman:             | Vacant                                |
| 2. President:            | Witty Bindra                          |
| 3. Past President:       | Arjun Sen                             |
| 4. VP/ Secretary:        | Jassi Chadha - Not Present            |
| 5. Prominent Alumni Rep: | Arvind Jain – Not Present             |
| 6. Prominent Alumni Rep: | Prabhat Hajela                        |
| 7. KGP Rep:              | Roy Da Silva                          |
| 8. BHU Rep:              | Manu Goyal                            |
| 9. Bombay Rep:           | Sandeep Pandya                        |
| 10. Guwahati Rep:        | Kiran Thota                           |
| 11. Delhi Rep:           | B D Goel - Not Present                |
| 12. Madras Rep:          | Sagar Pushpala – Not Present          |
| 13. Kanpur Rep:          | Priyank Saxena                        |
| 14. Roorkee Rep:         | Sanjay Keshwani – Not Present         |
| 15. Chapter Rep:         | Vacant                                |
| 16. Invitee:             | Sundi Sundaresh - Orientation         |
| 17. Invitee:             | Amit Kumar - PanIIT App               |
| 18. Invitee:             | Anil Saigal – Boston Conference       |
| 19. Invitee:             | Sky Basu – PanIIT Database            |
| 20. Invitee:             | Raj Laad and Ramesh Advani – on Phone |

## **MINUTES:**

Dec 2015 and Jan 2016 Meeting Minutes were confirmed.

### **Orientation – Sundi & Arjun**

Sundi welcome the new board members. He explained the set up of the Board and role of the executive team. The 2 goals of PanIIT USA – Alumni Services and Branding. Alumni Services to be offered to all 23 Chapters and 8 Campuses. The board comprises of 16 members including the Global Conference Chair. We have 8 Campus reps, 4 executive members – President, VP, Past President, Chapter’s rep and 3 DAs which includes the Chairman.

Sundi also pointed out the 3 major tasks for the new board -

1. Finding a sustainable financial model for Pan IIT
2. Promoting new ways of offering value adding services to the alumni
3. Rebranding by involving the legacy alumni

He also recommended to have 2 chapter representatives in the board – One representing a smaller chapter and other larger chapter like Bay Area, Houston, Washington DC or NY. He mentioned that we should organize various events at all the chapters engaging local alumni to participate.

Arjun presented the copy of the Annual Report 2014-2015 to all the board members. He explained the contributions made in the last 2 years which includes:

- Total Financial transparency
- Governance Structure in place
- Accountability
- Continuous value addition to the alumni services
- Board and EC members from larger demographics
- Creation of the database
- Finalization of the Website

### **President Welcome**

President welcomed all the board members and appreciated their passion to serve on the PanIIT board.

He presented the plans for 2016

First Six months

1. Create a Notable IITians list and get them engaged at the various levels
2. Integrate IIT Database with Social Media networking
3. Selection of the Chairman and Chapter Reps

First Year

In addition to the above initiatives, he asked the board to work on the following initiatives -

1. Branding & Marketing – PR and Media Coverage
2. Chapters Support – Encouraging various chapters to hold regular events, networking and getting them involved with the PanIIT goals.
3. Pan IIT Conferences and how we can make them better

### **Boston Conference 12-14 Aug 2016 in Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI**

Board discussed the MOU and it was agreed in principal but the final decision will be made at the next board meeting i.e. in March 2016.

Raj Laad explained that Registration will start in March 2016. They are expecting 1200 attendees and will target about 1500 or more. The registration charges will be \$299, early bird \$199 and Students \$199.00. The website [www.iit-2016.org](http://www.iit-2016.org) will be up by mid Feb 2016. The total projected cost is \$550k and need to raise \$400k. \$170k already raised by donations and sponsorship. They are sending biweekly email new letter to local community and emails to PanIIT chapters every month.

Ramesh Advani requested to know the PanIIT POC for the Boston Conference marketing purposes.

## **Branding**

1. Amit Kumar – Ex Delhi Rep. showed the networking app his company is in the process of developing. This app was specially designed for the alumni network and he was interested to offer the app to the PanIIT at no charge provided PanIIT is ready to host the PanIIT data on the cloud server managed by his company.
  2. Arjun Sen was requested by the board to review the app and see if it will have any effect on the privacy issue once the data base is shared with Amit Kumar's company and how good is this app for PanIIT usage before the next board meeting in March 2016. Manu Goyal and Priyank Saxena will work with him on that.
  3. Sky Basu showed the following concern with Amit Kumar's app
    - How we can control that no arbitrary messages are received by the random people
    - How safe it is to handover the database to the 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor.
  4. Notable Alumni (DA) Involvement at the Boston Conference by organizing an Annual DA meeting which should be very exclusive and casual.
  5. It was suggested to offer complimentary registration to all the 23 Chapter's presidents and request them to conduct their chapter meeting at the Conference venue.
  6. Priyank Saxena was requested to create a list of past president for various local chapters in the US.
  7. Suggestion to create a board of advisors comprising of Past Chairman', Presidents, DA reps and Conference Chairs. Also, the governance team headed by Kiran to advise the role of board of advisors.
  8. Education Initiatives were presented by Prabhat Hajela. He presented the following 4 areas for PanIIT board to consider working on the following -
    - Faculty Networking at the various Universities
    - Assisting to redefine the research structure at the various IIT campuses in India.
    - Identity Innovator in Education
    - Develop a panel of experts to work on 5 to 7 global challenges as defined by the UN.
- Priyank Saxena was requested to assist Prabhat with these academic initiatives.
9. Social Media – To start What's Up group for all the board members.

## **Governance**

Chairman Appointment should be deferred for 3-4 months and the past chairs should be involved in the selection process. Governance Committee to come up with the nomination team for selecting the chairman and the chapter's rep. The selection process should be completed before the Boston Conference.

Kiran Thota was requested to lead the nomination process with the help of Sundi Sundaresh. He was also asked to suggest how we can diversify the board and one of the examples given was by adding women to the board.

Finally board passed a motion to acknowledge the contribution made by Sanjiv Sahay – Past Kanpur Rep in putting up the nomination procedure for the selection of DAs.

The following individuals were added in the PanIIT Executive team

1. Shum Mukherjee – Co -CFO
2. Anand Chauhan – VP Social Media

### **Bay Area Conference – Financial Update**

An update was sent by Shum Mukerjee which showed that all the funds were deposited in the PanIIT Conference account. Board asked to request Shum to issue a check for \$54,545.90 and deposit into the PanIIT USA main account and a final check for \$1948.25 for the San Jose Conference account. Once the checks are cleared, it was decided by the board to close the PanIIT conference account.

Sandeep Pandya made a request to Sai Sandeep to change the Bay area conference financial page to the P&L format as done for the PanIIT financials.

### **Capital IIT Katrina Funds – Update**

Sundi was requested by the board to get in touch with CapIIT and expedite the transferring of the funds for the Chennai flood disaster.

### **Pan IIT Financial Update**

The following were sent to the board by Sai Sandeep – CFO

- P&L statement
- Balance Sheet
- Key Expenses for this Quarter
- Operational Budget – Approved by the board.

Board requested the breakup of the postage and mailing expense shown as \$6872.57 in the financial report.

### **General Discussion**

It was decided to host the next face to face meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May (Saturday) in San Jose, CA. Priyank was requested to get in touch with Southern California Chapter and find out if they are interested to host the next PanIIT Global Conference in 2017.