



IIM T *Pulse* V1.3

An Alumni Canvas



Alumni Committee

Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli



Professors *Speak*

Prof. Apoorv Khare



Alumni are key stakeholders and flag-bearers of an educational institution. In many ways, they embody its values and represent it in outside world. Indeed, as integral part of IIM Tiruchirappalli's community, we share a consciousness, our tradition, our legacy and also have a sense of moral responsibility to each other.

As alumnus, you have greatly contributed to IIM-T's achievements in a short period of 8 years. I am sure that you will have a greater role to play in IIM-T's future.

Students and Faculties of IIM-T eagerly look forward to opportunities to connect with you, to know about your achievements, to share with you what's happening at IIM-T. I urge you to meet your fellow alumnus, help and guide your juniors and be connected to your alma mater.

With best wishes,

Apoorv

IIMT *Soars*

CFA Research Challenge 2019



IIM Trichy won the National Round of the prestigious Annual CFA Institute Research Challenge and have represented India along with teams from IIMK and IIFT-New Delhi in the Asia Pacific round which was conducted in Sydney, Australia on 28th March 2019. The team from IIMT comprised of Ashwini Goyal, Indraneel Pise, Jaskrit Kohli, Maruti Bhandari, and Rutul Shah who were adjudged winners at the National round, held on 9th February, 2019 at the Bloomberg office in Mumbai. The team won against institutes such as IIM Calcutta, IIM Raipur, IMT Ghaziabad, NMIMS, Mumbai and Flame school of Business, Pune in the finals. The team presented an equity research report on the given company "Britannia Industries Ltd." in front of an eminent panel of judges namely: Pankaj Tibrewal, VP at Kotak Mutual Fund; Jayesh Gandhi, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager at Birla Sun Life and Namit Arora, CFA, Managing Partner at IndGrowth Capital.

Inauguration of PGPM & FPM batch



IIM Tiruchirappalli inaugurated its ninth batch of Post Graduate Programme in Management and seventh batch of Doctoral Programme in Management in a ceremony held on 24th June, 2019. The occasion was graced by Chief Guest Shri Harsh Sachdev, Executive Director (Regional Services) Marketing Division, Indian Oil Corporation.

In his address, Mr. Harsh Sachdev emphasized that every destination is a doorway to new opportunities and the key attribute of success is GRIT which entails all the qualities of a great leader. He also encouraged students to sow seeds of health, sustainability, empathy and faith which would bear fruits in the long term. Shri Sachdev requested students to focus on values that define a leader and ended his address by quoting Robert Frost, "The woods are lovely, dark and deep, but I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep, and miles to go before I sleep."

7th Annual Convocation

The Seventh Annual Convocation of the Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli, to award degree for the first time to the students of Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGPM) and the Post Graduate Programme in Business Management (PGPBM), was held on Saturday, 30th of March 2019 at IIM Tiruchirappalli Campus.

Shri. M. M Murugappan, Executive Chairman, Murugappa Group was the Chief Guest for the convocation. Shri. Jalaj Dani, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Tiruchirappalli awarded the degrees to 169 graduands of Postgraduate Programme in Management (PGPM) and 41 graduands of the Post Graduate Programme in Business Management (PGPBM).



Alumni Badminton Tournament

A badminton tournament was organized between the alumni of IIM Trichy in Chennai on 1 st of May, 2019. Alumni from PGP as well as PGPBM batches participated in the tournament. Team B (Vijay Chauhan of PGP 2017-19; Aditya Jena of PGPBM 2018-20) emerged as the champions of the tournament in a close contest between 17 teams.



Nishtha-2019



IIM Tiruchirappalli (IIMT) conducted its annual management conclave “Nishtha” on 9-10 February, 2019. Nishtha is a two-day spearheading initiative that facilitates interaction among experts, academicians, business leaders, entrepreneurs and current management students. The event was inaugurated with lighting of lamp by the Chief Guest, Dr. Rohini Sridhar- Chief Operating Officer, Apollo Hospitals; Guest of Honour, Lieutenant General PR Kumar PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.), Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Trichy and Prof. Upam Pushpak Makhecha, Chairperson, Student Affairs.

Lieutenant General PR Kumar, the Guest of Honour infused courage in the students with his talks about the link between National Security, Armed Forces, and the common people and explained how internal conflicts impact corporates. He was assertive in stating that management and technology will be the game changers going forward. He spoke about the Armed Forces at length and deeply inspired students by the saga of courage, fortitude, and sacrifice. The session included a good blend of tips, tricks, and caveats pertaining to the stock market. He also explained about few prevalent myths and presented logical explanation about trading and stocks.

IIM T *Fresh*

Ridhi Kalra

Management Trainee, IDFC first bank

The moment a student turns alumnus is, I believe is a significant one, particularly because that degree brings with it a form of pride that did not exist in the same measure before. This pride has two faces. As humans, we tend to understand its responsibility, but occasionally do fall prey to the entitlement we think we deserve. To combat this, I tend to think of the ceremonial bow during convocation before the faculty and chief guest. That gesture was one that kept me grounded knowing that I was worthy to stand before them, but I had miles to go to get to their level.

To think back to how IIMT prepared me as I embark on my corporate journey, the first lesson would be the right manner to deal with peers elder to me on an even footing. Being a young fresher does occasionally invite sourness, particularly from subordinates who have been there, done that long before you. I was the youngest in my batch at IIMT and that meant that I had to learn to deal with people who were not just elder to me, but sometimes better than me in terms of their educational background and very different in terms of the cultures they came from. Also, during my training at my workplace, I realised that there were a lot of expectations from an "IIM Grad", and it's really up to you to decide how reasonable they are. Exposure to corporates over events at IIMT taught me how to interact with them in close quarters, because it definitely takes time for a fresher to understand how small gestures and few words make an impact at the workplace.

Staying in touch with batchmates becomes tougher outside the portals of the institute, but it has to be done, not just because it could mean potential referrals, but because genuine relationships help you grow as a person and give you perspective of how things work in different industries, and occasionally, make you realise that you are, for all practical purposes in a decent job.

Let's face it, in the first couple of months, it is likely that few management trainee programs treat you like royalty, but any job has its pros and cons. Or, it could so happen that you're a part of the company's actual functioning a lot sooner, and it turns out to be a lot less glamorous than you expected it to be. It's important to remain humble knowing that as you see your first paycheck after you pass out of this institute, you are privileged. It is up to you not to fall in with people who see negativity and believe that deep down you are exactly where you were meant to be.



Reeti Joshi

Senior Product Manager, Amazon Lending

Tell us about your current role?

I am a Senior Product Manager with Amazon Lending, we create financial products to serve working capital needs of Amazon third party sellers. I own the global product roadmap for risk and underwriting functions. To deliver this roadmap I work closely with the engineering, operations and research teams. A typical work day involves meetings to align on short-medium term deliverables, writing documents (we don't do power points) and passionate irreverent discussions about building the best customer experience. (Which isn't easy as most of us are extremely opinionated!)

How the journey has been for you an MBA from IIM Trichy to a product manager in Amazon?

Overall has been a fun and rewarding experience. Post MBA, I worked as a consultant at Cognizant leading process improvement and new product development initiatives. In 2017, had to reboot my career as I moved to the US. Finding a job wasn't as straight forward as few people knew about Indian MBA programs. Finally, ended up joining Amazon Lending as an analyst. In the last year, as I delivered key goals, my scope expanded into a product manager role.

What do you like best about your type of work?

I like being constantly challenged to innovate on behalf of the customer. I enjoy the level of ownership and control in defining and shaping the business. In addition, working cross-functionally with a diverse group of extremely talented individuals towards a common goal, is rewarding.

What skills or education are necessary to pursue this line of work?

Product managers set the long-term vision for a business, define and lead initiatives which deliver results. Being successful in this role requires the ability to influence senior executives, work across swim-lanes and have a perpetual willingness to learn. Having an MBA sets a good foundation as you are exposed to fundamentals of different functional areas and how they create success. In addition, staying informed of the emerging trends in the industry and ever-evolving technology space is always a huge plus.

What advice would you give to someone interested in pursuing this field?

In the work environment, there is always a bias to deliver on immediate priorities. However, it is important to take a step back and deeply understand what you are trying achieve and why. Then assess how the inputs drive the intended outcomes and make key course correcting judgement calls. It is this ability which sets apart good leaders.

How do people perceive IIM T then and now in the industry?

Beyond entry-level hiring, career progression is determined based on performance rather than pedigree. Outside of India few people know about the Indian MBA programs hence it's more important to build the right capabilities that help you succeed in any environment.

How did 2 years in IIM Trichy shape your career? How did you manage the hectic schedule?

Time spent at the institute in many ways better prepared me for the challenges ahead in terms of prioritization, working in groups and making data-driven decisions. Time-boxing different activities and making conscious trade-offs was something that helped me manage the workload better.

What is your opinion on clubs and committees and how they add value to an MBA student?

These provide opportunities to pursue your passions outside the classroom and help shape students into more well-rounded individuals.

A word to juniors?

- Set clear goals for yourself and don't lose sight of these
- Never shy away from asking questions these create the best learning opportunities
- Know your strengths, don't be overwhelmed by competition; the bar is intentionally set high
- Make friends and network. Leveraging experience is a huge simplifier
- In short- Work hard, have fun, make history