

Alumni governs the Harvard University that's why it's always number one-said Dr Anand Bhalerao, Principal and President of alumni association, Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) College of Engineering, Pune at the 14th annual alumni meet

He said that at Harvard University, Board of Governance members meet the deans of respective faculty regularly to discuss and solve issues observed in regular feedback related to research, start up incubation, infrastructure requirement, industry institute interaction, product development and many such factors. The alumni personally strives to facilitate students in every way hence Harvard University consistently maintains its number one position he said. Further he said that alumni of BV(DU)COE can play a similar role in various areas like placement, consultancy, industry institute interaction, start up environment, improvising industry institute interaction, skill development of students and so on. Such involvement and contribution can help the institute achieve position in the first 50 engineering colleges of India from the current position in top 100.



He further elaborated on the how alumni can be associated with their alma mater for this vision. He said that alumni can **establish alumni chapter** in India and abroad so that the alumni round the globe can come together frequently to discuss and implement some student beneficial activities. He said that in the last 10 years there have been 1067 known entrepreneurs in the alumni i.e an average of at least 100 students every year become entrepreneurs. He mentioned that BV(DU)COE is best known for more than 80% students being placed, however he would like to see it rather being known for 80% students becoming entrepreneurs. Given this fact, he said, alumni can contribute considerably to create a **start-up conducive environment** in the institute so that there are more job creators than job seekers. Alumni can also come together to create a **endowment fund for the start-ups** Further he said that, not only start-ups, but alumni can contribute towards the improvement of employability of students by providing **mentorship and skill development training** to students This would not only help the students but also add to the credibility of the institute and alumni can have a satisfaction of giving back to the society. He also said that alumni can aid students development by helping **set up industry oriented laboratories with advanced equipments and processes** to bridge the gap between academia and industry. Along with these, alumni can also contribute towards **increasing the placement opportunities** to

students since they are renowned industrialists, entrepreneurs or officers at senior designations in renowned industries. Not only placement opportunities but they can **initiate and execute consultancy and research activities** for students and faculty of BV(DU)COE. He informed that recently BV(DU)COE started a unique engineering curriculum, BTech: Computer Science and Business Studies in collaboration with TCS. He said that, alumni can up with similar proposals to improve the industry institute interaction so that they can start **new industry oriented courses or give a industry oriented curriculum to the courses** being offered. He concluded his speech with an urge to the alumni to come forward and create opportunities for their younger brethren studying in the institute.

The 14th annual alumni meet of Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) College of Engineering, Pune was held on 20th April 2019. Mr Girish Malpani the alumni of 1991, Chemical Engineering alumni, Director of Malpani group of industries, presided the meet. He is a renowned young entrepreneur of Maharashtra and the recipient of prestigious awards like Yuva udyojak award, JRD Tata Udyog ratna award, and many more. Malpani group of industries is amongs t the top 12 industries in the country in wind and solar industries. He is also the backbone of Sharda Naagri Patsanstha, Sangamner.

In his speech, Mr Girish Malpani shared his memories and experiences with faculties during his study tenure at BV(DU)COE. He said that college had been a home away from home for him. He said that engineers have to be versatile problem solvers. He also said that along with knowledge and skills maintaining good relations with fellow colleagues and business acquaintances is also important.

Mr Sachin Bhavsar, 1999 Mechanical Engineering alumni, Manufacturing and Supply Chain Consultant at Jaguar Land Rover for Tata Consultancy Services, Birmingham, United Kingdom, was guest of honour for the meet.

In his speech, Mr Sachin Bhavsar said that today BV(DU)COE is keeping pace with the current technology progress and knowledge required and is also constantly upgrading its infrastructure accordingly. It is something that not only every students but also every alumni of BV(DU)COE should be proud of. He also said that currently there is a lot of requirement for engineers in block chain technology, IoT and data sciences. And if colleges groom students in these areas, their students shall be preferred by industry. He appreciated the activities carried out for skill development and knowledge base preparation at BV(DU)COE in this directions. He also said that there is lot of knowledge that resides with the alumni in the industry and that alumni are willing to give back to the college by n number of ways, in person or even remotely.

From this year, the alumni association will be conferring the best alumni entrepreneur award. Mr Milind Jagtap, Chief Mentor and Chairman, Softhard Automation Pvt Ltd., alumni of Electronics Engineering batch of 1990, was recipient of the first award this year, for his excellent journey in establishing Softhard automation. He is also the member of National board of Medium small and Micro Enterprises, Member of Board of Studies at Nanded University, MCCIA Pune. He established Softhard Automation Pvt Ltd in 1994 with an initial investment of Rs 20000 against all odds and no support and with no business background in family or acquaintances. Softhard Automation Pvt Ltd., is an ISO – 9001 2015 certified group of companies with 7 branches.

In his speech, Mr Milind Jagtap shared that when he decided to start his business he was discouraged from everyone and had no one to guide him or encourage him except the faculty at BV(DU)COE. However with his determination, hard work and knowledge, he has expanded his business now. He said that students need to believe in themselves. Not only money but knowledge and will power are also important to initiate and establish a successful start-up.

In the same program, several prominent alumni excelling in their field of work in reputed industries as well as their own business ventures were felicitated. Mr. Umesh Jagtap, Mechanical Engineering alumni from 1993, CEO at Ino-Solar Energy Pvt Ltd, Founder of Indian solar hub, Mr Ameeth Kkhaulgud, Chemical Engineering graduate from 1997,

Director in Technology Education, Mr Dinesh Dhadve, Civil Engineering graduate from 1993, Government evaluator and Chartered Engineer, Mr Nitin Gole, Production Engineering graduate from 2001, Founder of Sterling solutions, Mr Abhishek Ballah, Computer Engineering graduate from 2008, CoFounder of XtraEdge Software Pvt Ltd, Mr. Manish, Joint General Manager, at Larsen and Tubro, were felicitated on this occasion.

The alumni association also awarded sponsorship to student project on "IoT enabled industrial helmet" carried out by students of Production Engineering department for its social relevance. Prof Sachin Chavan, Secretary of the alumni association, presented the Welcome address and Prof. Sanjay Lembhe, treasurer of teh alumni assosiation presented the treasurer's report during the meet. Prof Shamla Shinde proposed the vote of thanks for the meet.

Release of the annual alumni report in the e-form.

From left to right : Prof Sanjay Lembhe, Mr Milind Jagtap, Mr Girish Malpani, Dr Anand Bhalerao, Mr Sachin Bhavsar, Prof. Sachin Chavan,