

SYMBIOSIS INSTITUTE OF TELECOM MANAGEMENT



NEWSLETTER OF SITM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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Alumni Vision

The SITM Alumni committee shall create an engaging and mutually beneficial lifetime link between SITM and its alumni community.

Alumni Mission

The SITM Alumni committee is committed to keeping our alumni informed and involved vis-a-vis the alumni community and SITM, by offering services that stimulate interaction, maintain support mechanisms for Alumni networking and add value to the lives of Alumni while strengthening bonds with the Institute that would result in a life-long relationship. The Committee will facilitate the continued interaction of Alumni with the Institute in the interest of sustaining the Institute's ability to maintain a commitment to excellence and to the core vision and mission of SITM.

About Alumni Team

The Alumni Committee makes an effort to establish a meaningful relationship between the Institute and its alumni. It stands in its mission of integrating SITM's Alumni, well placed in industry in India and abroad, into the affairs of the Institute. The Alumni Committee has a well-defined charter of activities which include

conducting Alumni Meets at various places, updating the Alumni database, contacting Alumni on different occasions, sending birthday wishes and greetings on various occasions like new year, festivals etc. The committee also collects feedback from Alumni which helps the institute benchmark itself with the industry demands and stan-

dards. The Alumni Committee requests you to update the team on various fronts like receiving awards, achievements, and areas of contribution to the Institute as well as changes if any in your addresses, email, contact details etc. which will help us to serve you better.

Faculty Incharge

Prof. Yatin Jog

Prof. A. V. Chirputkar

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Communiqué from Director Dr. Sunil Patil



Dear Alumni,

I sincerely hope that you all must have liked the first issue of alumni newsletter. More is on the way. I appeal to all of you to mail your comments

and suggestions to the alumni committee. Alumni meet in Mumbai was an exciting event and soon we will get together in Delhi. I am sure you will turn out in large number.

I am in the process of forming a ‘Corporate Interface Team’ at SITM as I believe that branding of SITM must happen strongly and a focused approach and a committed team with the charter is very much required. This team will act as the front for the institute and will be responsible for several tasks such as branding of the institute, marketing of MDPs and executive programs, placements, holding industry specific events in the campus, collaborations with companies, etc.

In my previous communication to you, I had proposed to start a mentoring program at SITM. This program will be primarily owned and driven by SITM Alumni. I need at least 50 alumni to come forward to make it happen as each could mentor 3 students. Unfortunately, I have not received much of the response yet. I am sure you all under tremendous pressure at your respective work places but I believe mentoring is the best way to pay back to the alma mater or to the society. You will have to spend limited time on monthly basis with your mentee to guide him/her. I appeal to you all again to mail me names of those who are interested in participating in this program.

We have come to wind down 2011 and soon we will welcome 2012. I wish you and all your loved ones a very happy, prosperous, healthy, and joyous New Year.

Prof. Sunil Patil
Director - SITM
Email: director@sitm.ac.in

Message from Prof A. V. Chirputkar



Dear Alumni,

I am glad to know that we are connected with you through “SITM Collegian”. I believe that the true capital assets of SITM include our esteemed alumni spread

throughout the world. We want to vigorously reach out to you all and invite you to collaborate with us in as many ways as possible. Alumni can help the Institute by way of contributing to academics, sharing your experiences, guiding students in their research projects and as door openers in placement. You can join with the team to take the Institute on strategic path. Please reach out to us and send us ideas on the different ways the Institute and alumni can connect and interact.

In the future issues of SITM-COLLEGIAN we would also like to carry more stories about individual alumni, their thoughts, experiences, viewpoints, etc., and activities of the alumni chapters around the globe. We visualize our alumni as the brand ambassadors of the Institute and important assets. We also look at our alumni base as a repository of practice-based insights and wisdom – as a source of intellectual ideas that can support and enrich the students of the Institute.

Looking forward to your active participation in alumni activities and continuous communication -- so stay in touch!

Wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year 2012!!

Alumni Committee Message

Greetings from Alumcom, SITM.

SITM is an institute that is known by the achievements of its alumni and the difference they make to the world around them. In the last 15 years of its existence, SITM has developed a strong and influential network of professionals many of whom are in leading companies. They have made a mark for themselves and their alma mater and make SITM proud of their creed.

To strengthen the links and to build long lasting associations, we the Alumni Committee have devoted ourselves to the cause. The Alumni Committee which is totally managed by the current students are devoted to provid

ing a platform for meaningful interactions, thoughtful endeavors and relationship building.

We organize regular annual Alumni Meets at cities like Mumbai, Bengaluru, Delhi. During these meets, these managers go down the memory lane, enjoy together and strengthen bonding with the fun loving community. As a new initiative this year, we keep our alumni updated through a quarterly Newsletter.

We would like to thank you all for your continuous support and look forward to your support in bridging the difference between academic and corporate world!

Message Board



Keshie Singh

Alumnus of 2009-2011 batch

Probably, this will be the ultimate way to realize that Batch 2009-11, has passed out if the Convocation and the Black Robe did not help! The transition from the first year to been an Alumna in these two years has been a life changing one. The journey was made worth toiling for because of friends we made for life, the amazing campus , the faculty and those lectures, both we miss dearly. SITM Alumni Network has grown strong over the years, in terms of the Base (Obviously) Presence in Industry and Global exposure. It has been less than an year working in the industry, and the fact that we can solder on and meet the professional expectations created by our seniors speaks volume about the Values and Content imparted by our B-School with consistency.

Now, when the Eventful and etched in our memories "Year 2011" is about to end ("Friends Applaud, the comedy is over!!) , for Batch 2012 will join us soon on their new journey.

Wishing them nothing but the best, and a very Happy New Year to one and all! As we used to say in Alum Com- "Lets Reconnect! Stay Connected"



Farheen Quadri and Amiya Sinha

Alumni of 2002-2004 batch

When we were studying at SITM, there never used to be a dull moment. When we visit the campus now, or talk to students or the faculty, we see that its still the same. There is always some 'action' on campus. We continue to believe in out-performing the benchmarks that we only created! All credit to the faculty and each of the student committee members.

We have also learnt that every contribution by every alumna makes a huge difference. In fact it works both ways - not just do students learn from your experiences, but they also end up teaching you a thing or two. We are pretty confident that we'll keep ourselves closely associated with our alma mater.

Reconnect' 2011— Mumbai Chapter



Alumni meet - Reconnect'11 Mumbai Chapter was organized at Hotel Rodas, Powai on November 5th, 2011. The Alumni Meet was reasonably well attended by about 80

brant relation between them must be established and nurtured. The baton was carried further by Prof. Sujata Joshi who received a thumping reception from the audience for her emotional speech.



Alumni from a cross section of batches, starting from as early as 1998 to as recent as 2011. For the first time the meet witnessed the presence of the entire faculty which made it special. The air was nostalgic... the music in the background ecstatic and the ambience, absolutely a toast to the party.

The meet was kicked off by the Director, Dr. Sunil Patil addressing the gathering. He briefed the audience with the various alumni activities like Pre Placement Module and alumni newsletter. He emphasized that the alumni are the brand ambassadors of the institute and a very vi-



The ball was set rolling through a cake cutting ceremony for celebration of 15th year of existence of SITM. Reconnect 2011 – Mumbai Chapter also witnessed the launch of **SITM Collegian, the Quarterly Alumni Newsletter.**

Reconnect'11, Mumbai chapter was an endeavor to bond the SITM Family by giving the alumni from various batches a platform to interact and

intermingle.



Communiqué- 2011

Communiqué is the flagship event of Symbiosis Institute Of Telecom Management, which is one of the finest Telecom B-Schools in entire SAARC region. Since its inception in 1996 it has been presenting a perfect opportunity for eminent personalities from various telecom verticals to meet on common grounds to share their vision and reach a consensus on some of contemporary issues confronting the telecom industry.

An **"Idea"**: brought by **communicating** in a **unique** manner.

After conducting 12 National Telecom Seminars and 2 Asian Seminars, this year SITM took Communiqué to the next level by presenting first International Telecom Seminar which was held on 23rd and 24th September, 2011. This event increased both the magnitude and the scale manifold.

The theme for the seminar this year was **'Telecom Transformation: Envisaging the Next Wave of Growth'**.

Telecom Transformation describes the evolution of the telecommunications industry from a capital-intensive, technology-focused model to a user-centric, service-delivery model.

The event was inducted by our director Prof. Sunil Patil and Chief Guest Mr. Jangoo Dalal, MD and PRESIDENT, AVAYA, who welcomed the dignitaries and insisted to take maximum industrial values from the experienced leaders present there.

The two day event was gulfed into individual sessions and panel discussions. Topics involved stimulating issues like **"Cloud Connect"**, **"Leveraging Social Media"**, **"LTE-WIMAX: Deployment Options"**, **"OSS-BSS"**, **"Mobile Financial Services"** where each panel had a moderator and 7-8 speakers with immense experience and knowledge.

Speaking about the game changing technology, Cloud Computing, discussion was deepened on the pros and cons which brought up new revenue streams for Telecom service providers. **Mr. Vishal Jain** our esteemed alumnus of batch 2001, one of the speakers in the Panel Discussion drew an interesting point by emphasizing on the importance of an application or community that connects the larger mass consisting of semi urban and rural subscribers who are unaware of Facebook, twitter etc. who can be an assured revenue source.

Discussing further, the industry has responded with two new wireless platforms - WiMAX and LTE and their deployment options which give telcos new alternatives to meet the overburdened demand from consumers.

Success in a business environment is characterized by the ability to adapt to the changing profile and higher user expectations on the one hand and a rapidly changing technology environment on

the other. Hence next generation service delivery OSS-BSS was taken as the subject because the industry is moving to client centric support system.

Billing practice, CRM and revenue assurance were certain important aspects covered in the discussion. Mobile Financial Service which is a subclass of E-Commerce was also taken as the next generation of delivering client support as mobile technology and has been gaining popularity worldwide over banking transactions. Developing strategic partnership in the Mobile Financial Service Value chain & Innovative business models, educating employees, distribution channels and customers on these new products were some aspects discussed by the eminent speakers.

Communiqué 11 along with 600 students and faculties from different colleges witnessed diverse perspectives on the transforming nature of the telecom industry. The Seminar was also attended

by many of our esteemed Alumni. The grandeur of Communiqué 11 can be highlighted by its colossal media coverage. The event was broadcasted by Zee Business.

SITM's Annual Telecom Forecast magazine **'Prevision'** was unveiled during Communiqué 11. It is an initiative by the students of SITM, along with the guidance from our esteemed alumni to analyze trends across 10 diverse verticals and touching every part of the telecom value chain to keep abreast with opportunities and the threats that lie in the road ahead. Prevision which is revealed every year during Communiqué, has become a crowing jewel in the history of SITM. It is done under the leadership of Prof. Giri Hallur who is also an alumnus of SITM 2001 batch and is audited by Deloitte Haskins and Sells.

Mr. Karamvir Mankad, Solution Director, Huawei Telecommunications, India, Mr. Kuldeep Goyal, Executive Director, Radius Infratel, Mr. Anshoo Gaur, Country Head, AMDOCS, Mr. N.K. Goyal, President, CMAI, Mr. Gary Jackson, Vice President, Aruba Networks, Australia, Mr. Sheif Hamoudah, MD & VP (MEAP), Acision, Mr. William So, Managing Director, Power House Global Ltd were some of the eminent personalities amongst the 52 telecom leaders who graced us with their presence. Their presence gave inspirations to the young students who are looking forward to taking challenging errands in their forthcoming careers.

After a two day of informative interactions with the industry, Communiqué came to a grand end with an address by ITS faculty-in-charge Mr. Avinash Aslekar. He acknowledged and extended his gratitude to all participants and promised to come back next year with a greater episode.



Star Alumnus Awards - 2011

Mr. Rahul Bhagat
Batch: 1996-1998
Organization: Indian Police Service
Designation: Superintendent of Police



Mr. Ankur Singh
Batch: 1996-1998
Organization: Cognizant Technology Solutions
Designation: Country Manager



Mr. Kiran Sangoram
Batch: 1997-1999
Organization: Hughes Communications Limited
Designation: Sales Director



Mr. Sanjeev Narsipur
Batch: 1997-1999
Organization: Accenture
Designation: Senior Manager and VP



Mr. Yogesh Mathur
Batch: 1996 - 1998
Organization: Gemalto
Designation: Country Manager

Alumni Speak



Mr. Deepak Paragaonkar
Alumnus of 1997-1999 Batch
Director, Oracle

Looking back, what were your most memorable moments in SITM?

I was part of the second batch at SITM. The most memorable moments were our initial days of convincing each other about the decision of joining SITM being the right one. Many of us had the options of joining leading MBA colleges in Pune and Mumbai. But several of my friends and I took a call of doing something that is in line with times to come. We had a great pleasure of shaping our time at SITM. Establishing SITM identity to get corporates on campus and never ending brainstorming sessions around several ideas gave management experience right in the college itself!!!

How has SITM impacted your life and career?

Prior to joining SITM, I was an engineer aspiring to be a "Strategist" and "Management Professional". SITM made it happen for me. My management education and Campus recruitment helped me take the step in right direction. Post graduate education and the degree always help in corporate life. I too have been able to apply some academic basics and help build my career. Organizational structure, sales strategy, marketing strategy, competition, teamwork and leadership are some of the fundamentals that I studied at SITM and practiced in my career

You have been with Oracle for more than 10 years now, how has your experience been with the organization?

My overall work experience is 17 years. Oracle has been 10 years out of that, which makes it very substantial part of career till now. Experience with Oracle has been great. It is a very dynamic organization that cares for its employees and customers. I have been able to contribute and also get rewarded in my career progression at Oracle. Today I head the Applications Sales Consulting for Financial Services business in India. I have handled different roles during this tenure. It has been a competitive, challenging and rewarding journey.

In the fast moving life one has to deal with many pressures and deadlines at the workplace and at the same time one cannot ignore family commitments. How do you manage to maintain a work life balance?

It is very easy once you clearly identify what is important for you to lead a happy life. Work for me is very important as it helps me to meet my career objectives and gives financial stability. However, health is wealth. Without being healthy, any career objective cannot be met. I religiously find time to work out 3 to 4 days a week. My family is source of energy for me. Spending time with them recharges my batteries. In short, once you enjoy "Work" and "Life", these things do not appear as "Pressure" and "Deadlines". Rather it is "Fulfillment" and "Happiness". And is it difficult balancing fulfillment and happiness?

What are you passionate about?

I am passionate about my fitness and travel. Sport is the second nature. I love playing badminton and tennis. Nature of job in IT industry has helped me to live my passion for travel.

What do you like to do in your time outside of work?

Time outside work is dedicated to family and personal rejuvenation. Playing with my daughters is a refreshing experience. Personal rejuvenation comes from playing with friends

With the ever changing economic scenario, one cannot be complacent. As management students how should we prepare ourselves to take on the corporate challenges which await us?

First and foremost, Management is an Art and Science. Students at times ignore the "Science" part, which is academic excellence on the campus. SITM is the best place to get the fundamentals of management right. Do not ignore study component. Your learning attitude will always help you in managing challenges in corporate life. Corporate life is about being full of ideas, being great team player and having "Never Say Die" attitude. Make most of these two years. Learn as much possible. Start building good relationships. Knowledge and Attitude are the key ingredients of success.

Finally, a message from you for the students of SITM.

You are part of one of the best institutes. Each of us has a responsibility of building our brand. Live up to the expectations from teachers, fellow students and that of industry. Have a great time at SITM!!!

Events @ SITM

8th Convocation Connect

The 8th convocation ceremony of Symbiosis International University, set up in 1971 by Dr. S.B. Mujumdar, was held on 3rd December, 2011. Fresh graduates from all 21 Symbiosis colleges were present at Lavale campus to receive their graduation and post graduation degrees.

Befitting to this occasion, Mrs. Pratibha Patil, President of India was invited as a chief guest to felicitate the young graduates. It was the proud privilege and honor for the SITM students along with others to welcome the galaxy of luminaries who were present in the convocation.

The ceremony was started with lighting the candle followed by the welcome address by SIU's chancellor Dr. S.B.Mujumdar. Later ceremony was handed over to honorable Chief Guest to commend the young crowd.

Mrs. Pratibha Patil, in her valedictory speech to 4058 students, laid stress on single minded devotion, hard work and time management which would help in achieving the life goals. Further speaking to students she said not to be disheartened with failures because beyond the clouds there is the sun. She encouraged students to ask questions and make mistakes in life as it gives a great understanding.

She appreciated the comprehensive culture of SIU for giving opportunities, where students from different countries can study together. Focusing on educational impact on values she said that universities should be symbols of learning, humanism, tolerance and balanced reasoning. Later in her address

she said, "Eradication of social evils is yet another challenge which we are faced with. You are a part and parcel of society. So, never feel unconcerned about it." She ended her address by conveying best wishes to the faculty, chancellor, staff and



students.

The presence of such a distinguished personality will be a source of inspiration to SITM's bright young graduates poised to take up challenging careers.

On the occasion, 5 students were awarded PhDs. Prof Bertil Anderson, President of Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore and Sundeep Waslekar, President of Strategic Foresight Group, Mumbai, were awarded Doctor of Letters (D.Litt).

Devisingh Shekhawat, husband of President Patil, Rajendra Gavit, State Minister for Tribal Welfare, Vidya Yeravdekar, Principal Director of SIU, eminent Senior Journalist Dileep Padgaonkar, surgeon Dr K H Sancheti and Capt C.M.Chitale, HOD, Department of Management Sciences, Pune University were among the prominent dignitaries to be present on campus whose wisdom, vision and experience are the

source of strength and inspiration to the students of SITM.

Pre Placement Module (PPM)

Pre Placement Module (PPM) was conducted by the Placement Committee on 5th Nov 2011 for the senior batch (2010-2012) where in our esteemed alumni from the industry were invited as mentors to help the students prepare well for the final recruitment process.

The PPM was aimed at providing the students with an opportunity to prepare well for the D-Day and for the know-how of the actual recruitment process. Thereafter the students received valuable inputs from their mentors about the industry expectations and to where their strengths and weaknesses lie. It thereby benefited the students, sharpen their skill set and to know about their strengths and critical areas to work upon.

It was a daylong process which took the form of mock interview sessions with each student in person. Students were mainly adjudged on the following key areas

1. Technical Skills
2. Summer and Research Projects
3. Overall resume
4. Soft Skills etc

A formal feedback was given to each student at the end of the mock interview by the mentor.

The PPM thereby boosted the confidence in the students to achieve and excel in the D-day selection process and we hereby thank our esteemed alumnus to participate in this and thus help our students getting interviewed in a simulated environment.

Life @ SITM

It all started with the day I came to this serene Lavale campus for my GD/PI on Valentine's Day and just fell in love with the surrounding here, so beautiful, so lush, I just decided I need to come here. So simply resigned from my company, packed my bags and here I was gasping in the glory of being selected in Symbiosis Institute of Telecom Management and becoming a new member of this beautiful "Love-Le" campus.

As, always being at a new place encouraged me to meet new people, make new friends etc. But sooner or later I realized that this was a professional institution where one has many things to discover about oneself. That was the day I decided, what do I want to take from here, and the only ambition I had was to be a person who could talk in front of a crowd, be it of any number.

My background of being a software engineer had made me a reticent guy, and I used to get cold feet talking in front of a good and a knowledgeable crowd. So I was happy, I had a goal and today staring at the dream end of this course I can proudly say that whatever I did, I tried to achieve my ambition in that and yes I definitely tasted success of being patient and being focused.

I did almost everything here to develop my overall personality, studied hard, read a lot, participated in various competitions, lead a team, started new initiatives and what not.

Indeed I can say, these two years have been a journey of a life time for me where I proudly can say that I am content with the things I did, the choices I made.

So to conclude I would say that SITM has given me a lot in life and I would cherish these two years the most in my life.

Thank You SITM!!

— **Ranjan Sadana**
Batch of 2010 - 2012
Systems & Finance

— **Rohit Bajpai**
Batch of 2010 - 2012
Marketing and Finance

At times one wonders. How could a 19 month stint make so much of a difference in one's life? And then you realize that it does. It all adds up. The long walks in the moonlit nights, the tough tiring days when there is so much to do and so little time, the animated discussions, the hundreds of PPTs, cases and reports, the 48 hour days, the sports events, the placement days, sweat, toil, the wild parties. The lush green campus, the serenity just added to all this. Life at SITM, some would say involves only books, assignments, a commitment to excel in every sphere possible and single minded focus.

Yes life at SITM involves all of that but to say that it involves only that would be light years away from the truth. It is not uncommon to see a group of students rushing towards the morning 8 am class with toast in hand discussing about maybe some assignment which has been given in the previous class, an upcoming test, the latest piece of news in the dynamic world of telecom or maybe even the last movie they have seen. SITM teaches you everything. It may be a cliché but nothing suits SITM more than the work hard but party harder attitude. It is not surprising to find people who till morning looked like the perfect managers looking all prim and proper letting their hair down at hangover or silver spoon which are as much a part of SITM as the classrooms and labs.

SITM, where we learn it's never each man for himself and we always work in a team, where we learn it may be ok to fail once in a while in order to achieve the greater good, that money is not the most important thing in life but holistic development and satisfaction, where we not only make friends but build relationships for life, get an opportunity to have as mentors faculty who are more friends than teachers, develop skills to carry us through storms or smooth waters and a never say die spirit...That in essence is Life at SITM

Committee Profile



Standing (l-r): Shruti Bahuguna, Floyd Barretto, Chakshu Datta, Tanuj Tandon, Ranjan Sadana, Rohit Bajpai, Kushagra Bhatnagar, Ishita Giri (Not in the picture)

Sitting (l-r): Sidhartha Jain, Atish Nair, Bhavna Malhotra, Chaitanya Karmarkar, Niharika Banga, Priyanka Raina, Simran Jodka, Swapnil Thorat (Not in the picture)

“The second issue of **SITM Collegian** continues the journey that SITM Pune has embarked upon for strengthening its bond with you. We hope that you enjoyed reading this edition.

The Alumni Team awaits your valuable suggestions and feedback. Till then enjoy reading.”

Also, kindly share with us your experiences, achievements that you have made at a corporate or extra curricular level. We would be delighted to include them in the upcoming editions of the alumni newsletter.

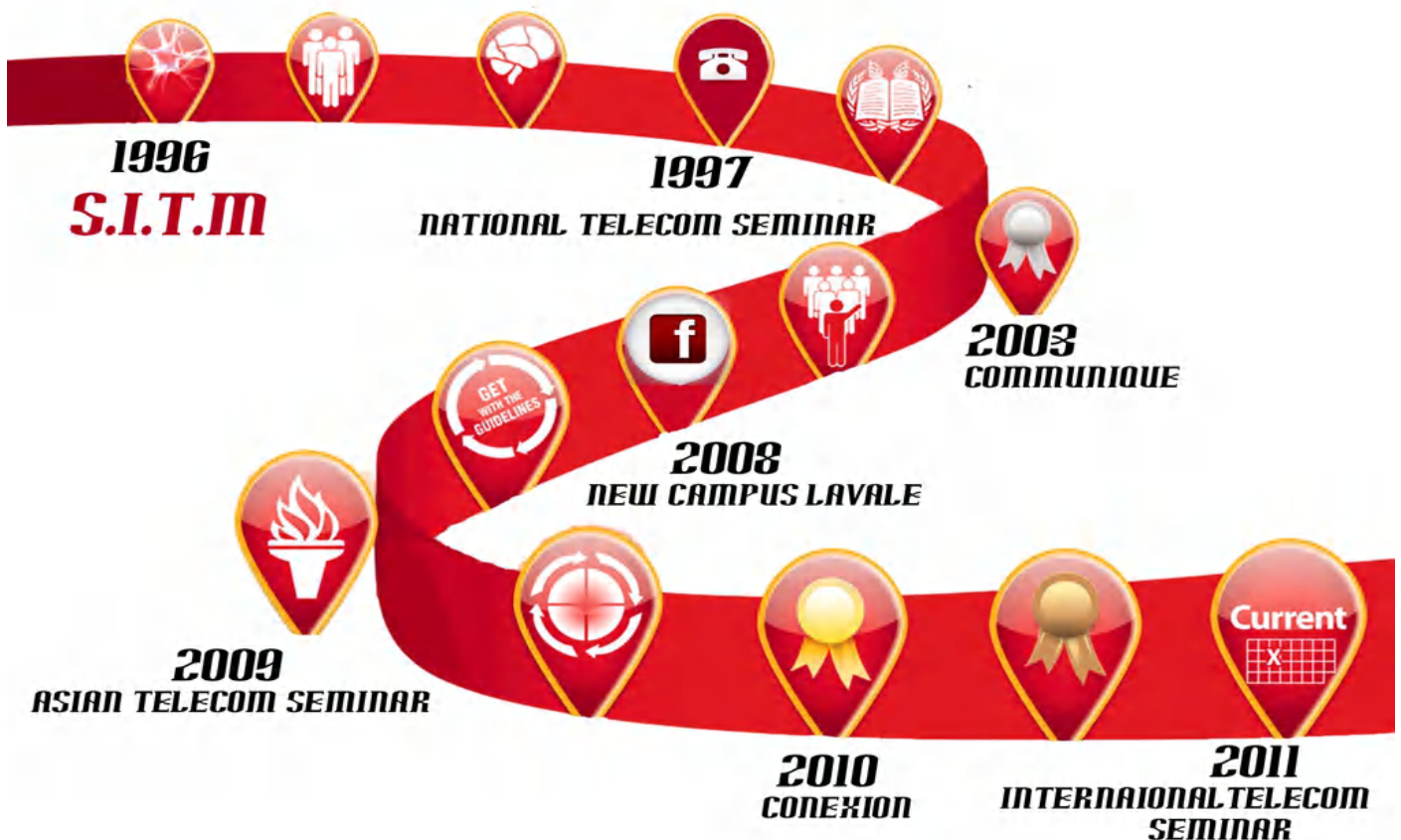
Alumni Committee - SITM

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**“GREAT THINGS ARE NOT DONE BY IMPULSE,
BUT BY A SERIES OF SMALL THINGS BROUGHT TOGETHER”**

– VINCENT VAN GOGH



**REACH US:
ALUMNI COMMITTEE
SYMBIOSIS INSTITUTE OF TELECOM MANAGEMENT,
VILLAGE LAVALE,
MULSHI TALUKA, PUNE-411042**

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