

Virtual Civil Alumni Meet (15.02.22) Report

The alumni meet has been a tradition conducted by RCOEM. In view of improving interaction with passed out students with their alma mater, a virtual alumni meet was organized by Civil Engineering Department on Feb 15, 2022 (Tuesday) from 4.00 p.m to 12. to 5.30 pm through online meet link <https://meet.google.com/axy-qrvb-ece>.

The agenda of the meeting was to have valuable inputs in the form of suggestions from our beloved alumni related to following points:

- 1) Suggestions regarding curriculum enrichment ie Improvement in curriculum, inclusion of latest demanding technologies in Civil Engineering.
- 2) Suggestions regarding improving demand of Civil Engineering in the current scenario
- 3) Suggestions for improving awareness and promotion of the scope of Civil Engineering branch.
- 4) Cooperation or Alumni assistance for the improvement in the Placement / Industrial training / Students Internship / Expert lectures / Students Mentoring.

In this meet, suggestions regarding improvement in curriculum / infrastructure / laboratory facilities / internship & placement / teaching-learning facilities etc. were received from different alumni. This may help in improvement and bridging the gap between the department and outside world.

About 35 alumni, registered for the meet this year. The departmental faculty members welcomed the alumni and interacted individually with them.

Information related to vision and mission of the department, academics and infrastructure were discussed.. The suggestions were also invited regarding the development of the Civil Engineering Department and program curriculum. The discussion was also extended by improving the database of the passed out students to enhance the alumni activity from the department. The alumni coordinator, Dr. T. B. Gupta from the department, requested the alumni present in the meeting to collect the details of their classmates and provide it to the department. Feedbacks were also collected regarding the organizational aspects of the meet and their suggestions for improvement in professional curriculum development. The Alumni meet closed at a very inspirational note.

Alumni suggestions:

- Mr Rahul Jain suggested that complete design of building, integrated structural design, beam technology to be included in the curriculum.
- Mr swapnil suggested that courses on live projects and field trainings to be included.
- Industry based electives to be added in the syllabus
- Mr Akshay Tejankar suggested that soft skills of students such as commercial, presentation, development, technical report writing etc to be improved
- Interdisciplinary courses and open electives to be included
- More Practical Approach, with guest lecture from industrial mentors would help a lot more.
- Promote students for research activities, IPRs, patents etc to be encouraged
- Department PR (Personal relation team) to be included to maintain relationship and interaction among alumni and teachers with almmater

- Mr Qutaubdin suggested that advanced surveying equipments should be used in practicals.
- Softwares like ARC-GIS, GIS, BIM etc to be included in curriculum.
- Mrs. Bharti Singh suggested that field based examples/case studies for design and analysis of projects to be provided to students. Visualization and feasibility of projects to be improved.
- Ms. Bharti Mothwani suggested to share more and more videos to students to understand and visualize in a better way.
- Mr Pravin Gupta suggested to focus on needs of students and present scenario.
- Mr Pravin Chauragade suggested that students should learn to solve complete industry problems, follow the process adopted in top universities.
- Mr Neeraj Agrawal suggested that outsourcing consultancy to be promoted to attract students in civil Engg.

Alumni suggestions regarding curriculum enrichment:

- 1) Introducing courses like Quantity survey, 2) QA/QC (quality assurance and quality control), which has good scope in market. 3) For girls introducing courses like auto-cad 2D 3D, Revit structure, architecture and other courses where they can build career in own field by working from office. 4) Drawing reading (2D) understand plan, section, elevation, notation, abbreviations, signs We have noticed over the years girls don't prefer or we can say they are not encouraged to work on field. There are many job opportunities and careers which there for above mentioned courses.
- Please make the course more practical than theoretical and both should go hand in hand. Please update the curriculum content of teaching.
- Need to add skills and softwares that are used currently in industry such as REVIT NAVISWORKS and other BIM softwares
- Should include industry dominant skills which are in demand for better job opportunities and prior exposure. Software skills must be included in the curriculum.
- One thing I liked about programs in the US was the internship opportunities that students got throughout their program. Doing internships should be encouraged so that students get access to different fields within Civil Engineering - Water resources, Structures, Transportation, Geotechnical etc.
- Please add BIM software and GIS software in the practical examination so that our student have some basic knowledge about it.
- Department try to involve the students in the activities which is actually going on the site so that they would get a basic knowledge about the site work along with gaining theoretical knowledge till they completion of the program. And this small small things matters a lot for the candidate to compete with other students (non-RCOEM'en)
- Student-Teacher Interactive Sessions and Training Programs have to be frequent
- Visualization and practical field based knowledge is to be incorporated more

Alumni suggestions regarding improvement to Department/College:

- Please provide more support for placements and entrepreneurship
- Field based study wherever possible would be added advantage to get familiar with on site situations and technical knowledge.
- Provide support to students in acquiring internship opportunities, so that they can take an informed decision while choosing their stream within Civil. Also, try to invite a variety of companies so that students have an option to choose between different specializations within civil. Also, give information to students about engineering licensure as means of furthering their career. Also, give the students to opt for the courses of their choice within Civil. Like do not make it mandatory for students to take steel design, concrete design, structural analysis, matrix structural analysis if the student is not really interested in pursuing a career as structural engineer. Give the students the flexibility to choose subjects, make a certain number

of core civil courses mandatory (basic strength of materials, transportation, geotech etc.) to give a flavor but let the student choose which stream they want to pursue. At the same time make participating in research in the department mandatory for the student at least for a semester. This will inculcate a strong sense of ethics, ability to work and research independently, analyze and draw conclusions, as well as professional writing (design reports, thesis), which will help in the future.

- Emphasis on core placement

Alumni suggestions for improving the demand of Civil Engineering in the current scenario:

- Skilled employees always have demand, hence ensuring the development of skills at college level.
- Unless the government works on the law and order of not allowing non tech people to the field, it difficult to change the scenario.
- Civil engineering has always been in demand. Adapting with the upcoming trends and providing the skills that are required in the market to students in their course itself will help them tremendously to get kick start in their career.
- Prepare students for their professional life with guidance regarding the various opportunities available. Help them make a informed decision about their future. Students join the industry with little to no knowledge about how things are actually executed which renders them unprepared. Having them prepared for what to expect when working for a structural design firm, a project management consultancy, geotech consultants etc. would help them in the long run. Also, having an optional class or special seminar on design using international codes would increase the employability of the students. Skill Lync (<https://skill-lync.com/>) provides such courses on design which are useful for professionals. The department can have similar electives so that students can portray their acquired skills.
- Please focus more on estimation and billing part in the syllabus.
- Industrial based training program to be more focused.
- Apart from giving theoretical knowledge i would like to suggest to get the students know about the actual working practice going on field. If students are allowed and provide for an internship for gaining some practical knowledge then that would be really beneficial for them.
- As civil engineering is very vast so we should have knowledge of each and every field related to civil so that each and every student have knowledge to fields and choose field according to their interest.
- More focus on practical aspects of the world
- Focus on skills, rather studying coding civil engineers must know there power.
- More opportunities should be there for students who passed their graduation in civil ENGG.
- More practical approach to be given in subjects
- Encouraging and support to students with startup ideas

Alumni Suggestions for improving awareness / promotion of scope of Civil Engineering branch:

- Personalizing the career options, understanding the interest of students and guiding them on there career.
- Awareness can be spread by letting people know that how much important it is get work only from a technical expert.
- We build the infrastructure which is the most basic things with regard to development of nation. Only thing students see as a barrier to take civil branch is lack of good paying job opportunities. Because it is dominated by IT sector in current scenario. For those who still think out of the box and don't want to go there are those who want to join the core fields. There are many PSUs, government sector where there is huge scope specially meant for core branches. Apart from that with advancement in technology, civil engineers can land

themselves in top companies that work on various softwares related to construction. So there is scope both on field as well as in office jobs. Entrepreneurship, higher studies, teaching are also other options for civil engineers.

- Inculcate a strong sense of pride about the profession. Educate about licensure requirements in India as well as for other countries and encourage students to be part of professional organizations. Have the faculty involved in competitions like bridge making, town planning, wherein students can apply actual principles of engineering rather than just going by trial and error, and learn from the experts. Have guest lectures about all the new advances that are taking place within the industry. Good guest speakers is key, who will engage the students. Maybe even using existing presentations from professional organizations would help, or at least guiding the students to such resources (See AISC webinars on YouTube, which are free). Speakers like Dr. Ron Ziemian and Duane Miller are people who are passionate about what they do and as such make for very entertaining presentations.
- Current industrial practices should be inculcated in syllabus
- Department should try to plan a site visit (atleast twice a month) starting from the 2nd year batch so that students can get to know how things actually works.
- Site visits and detailed discussion forums to be conducted frequently
- We should focus on skill development of students, specifically in online mode just passing the curriculum with good percentages is not the actual meaning of degree.
- Improve Technical knowledge required on site of students.
- More internships more exposure to the labs.
- Worldwide construction is going on so we just need to do publicity
- More frequent Career Orientation sessions to be organised

Online alumni feedbacks were collected using google form. The meet ended happily with formal vote of thanks!

Glimpse of Departmental Alumni Meet 2021-22 (15.02.22)



