



‘The Untold Story of My Life’

- Said every College Graduate ever

By Chandan Kar & Ira Saxena

PREVIEW:

Three years back as an NSIT freshman, I wrote the following line which I believed would reverberate through my peers, juniors and people who have graduated before me. It was-

‘You step in the college premises as a boy and it makes you the man you would be for the rest of your life.’

Three years have passed since, and the above thought has gained truer meaning for me, and for every other fourth year.

The Warning:

The following piece isn’t just another over the top placement success story. This piece ahead wasn’t written with the intent of preaching what one must do to crack his/her ‘dream’ company. No, the following piece is a memoir. A single page, a chapter from a diary that recounts the true journey of the 7th semester. There are no rosy statistics, no kickass corporate brands, no high-rising numbers. This is the blatant truth and the characters involved in its intricate drama.

We played these characters, alumni before us played them and the freshers and sophomores to come will too adorn these characters’ scratched armour.

‘8 placed in Google with a 1.2Cr package’, ‘Bain is the best non-tech company’, ‘Everyone in COE/IT gets placed’.

The Grind:

Nobody ever comes to know what happened 3-4 months before the aforementioned accomplishments are accomplished or what the accomplishers go through to achieve the above. Come August and the heavy anticipation leads up to the jingling bells of the placement season and with it begins one of the most trying, testing, albeit rewarding, phase of your four years here. This is what it all boils down to, doesn’t it? Except, it doesn’t. Here is the truth, truth as black and white as possible, as bitter and sweet as it is.

Some are gifted, some have an innate smart ability to get the work done, some

work extremely hard, and for most, through their years in NSIT have found that balanced equilibrium in the “college triangle” of academics, sleep & social life. But everyone, however well prepared, goes through the **GRIND**.

The Grind, as we put it, is the real test of one’s mettle. With patience, hard work, and some good luck, one ends up with their first job offer.

one must go through, and one certainly emerges stronger and more mature to tackle what challenges life has to offer. The day-scholars have it hard too, of course. On a rejected day, to take the crowded metro home at 11pm, completely broken, having to show their face to their parents like the last week or the week before that, having no appetite for dinner, is a true test. There is no venting of frustration, or a much needed pep up talk as in the case of the



At the cost of sounding biased, the entire experience definitely becomes more profound if you are a hosteller. Being a hosteller, one may have to fight a lot more undesirable emotions during this strenuous period, but trust us when we say this, that this is a rite of passage

hostellers but the added pressure of getting up the next morning to change the ongoing chapter in their life. The pressure to finally be able to text normally to his friends, have a good peaceful sleep and smile back.

The Forgotten Thoroughfare:

Everyone forgets about the grind once those golden stats are accomplished, and those record packages are bagged. This thoroughfare is a meandering road with potholes and excessive traffic, and most of us find it happier to have forgotten it.

- Nobody tells you about the 80 companies that a lot of ‘someones’ sat for and were rejected. Nobody tells you about the daily grind that one goes through after every rejection in August and September. Nobody talks about the heavy lifting of the legs through the apparently ever increasing staircase to the auditorium for a presentation or an aptitude test. Nobody talks about the lack of appetite even after being hungry for most parts of the day. Nobody tells you about the everyday conundrum of which companies to sit for, and when that choice to ‘sit and crack the dream company’ becomes a desperate plea ‘koi to lelo’. Nobody talks about the tears when dreams are shattered, when your best friend next door makes the cut and you are down in the dumps in self doubt.

Nobody talks about how two species- “placed” and “unplaced” start living under the same roof, within the same four walls of your hostel/home.

- Few notice the sigh of relief on every placed person’s face and even fewer see the hunger of not getting that satisfactory job. Few understand the symbolic meaning of that formal shirt being torn. Few understand that hostile beating that is given again and again on every non-auspicious days to the

The First Week

I had just returned from a 2 month summer internship, which had taken most of my time and I was thus guilty of not preparing for the placement season as consistently as I should have. It was safe to say that I was underprepared. (**Note to juniors:** If you aren’t that well prepared before summer vacations, do not waste a second of your holidays, especially if you are inclined towards tech and core). So, obviously, I faced back to back rejections in the very first week of placements, and had to watch some of the most coveted companies just go by. It is not the best feeling in the world. Panic and paranoia set in. Am I not good enough? So did homesickness, which did not make any sense as my parents were not in town just for two weeks. It was not a good time, especially as I was living alone, because my barely-there roommate, didn’t decide to show up (naturally). I had shed more tears than SRK did in all his movies, collectively, and alienating myself from my friends and my seniors did not help either.

But the one thing that I did not give up on was doggedly studying for the next company. That was the only thing that kept me from thinking about rejections and my very uncertain future (or so I thought, at that time). Then came a point, where I just stopped thinking about what’s going to happen next. I am not exactly sure what brought that on, but I guess the knowledge of the very fact that being from NSIT, I was bound to get placed sooner or later and the vote of confidence from my friends and family really helped. And at the exact point of time, that I stopped fretting worrying and over thinking, I finally received my first job offer, right after the day my parents returned. They still don’t understand what the whole fuss was about. And to be honest, four months later, neither do I.

placed. Few know or notice that 10 hour long slumber that one goes in after all the excitement of getting placed. Fewer notice the quick exit of friends and foes from a happy gathering of the placed even though it just seemed like yesterday that the night would lead to crazy talks and more shenanigans.

- Everybody sees that beating near the college canteen. Everybody sees that placement interview in the dream company on social media. Everybody says ‘Well-deserved’ irrespective of their knowledge of what the other guy has gone through. Everybody sees the happy faces in the group outings. Everybody sees the Facebook updates. Everybody notices that trip to Mcleodganj, Kashmir, Goa and everywhere else outside the city. Everybody sees those big numbers and the faces of those whose names get printed in the paper.

The Intricacy (or I Just Wanna Run):

It is such an intricate time, and looks so shallow to the outside world. This makes it the most important and urgent reason to recount these stories in the most straightforward method possible. Is it really as simple as deciding what one dreams of and then following it? Even the best coder in my batch

had goosebumps for 3 months straight while waiting for his interview results from Google. But it is all reduces down to- ‘Bola tha na, tera toh Google hona hi tha.’

In truth, most of us hope, if not believe, that we would be placed by a given point of time – first week, first month, two months; when that doesn’t happen, you hit a mental barrier and are surrounded with thoughts ranging from ‘why him, why not me?’ to ‘I wish my percentage was a bit higher’. There is tremendous self-doubt, a test of patience and enough excuses that your friends tell you, your family tells you and even what you tell yourself. ‘The Luck factor’ is the excuse which is used so often that one starts to religiously believe it. Your company choices goes in the gutter owing to a cloudy judgement. The ironing of the shirt during the first week is replaced with crumpled formals that one gets his hands to first thing in the morning. That energy level dip is visible enough and if someone has a doubt about it then it’s cleared during the presentation when the Barclays guy says ‘Good Morning folks, looks like you all are extremely bored and tired’. Bored for Barclays! Right.

But that is not the end of it. Everyone, except your batch-mates, including the

professors, the xerox guy, the canteen guy, juice-wala, wear DragonBall Z scouters which are constantly judging whether a final year student is placed or not.

That mental fatigue is so obvious when you ask your unplaced friend which company he sat for that day and it takes him literally 5 minutes to figure out the name. Another true story, a friend mixed up Paypal and PayTm when he was sitting for a PayU interview! Sounds crazy, doesn’t it?

But eventually, the ones who never settled down and never lost confidence in themselves (despite tons of rejections) were the ones who clinched what they always wanted. Failure never got to the ones who didn’t let self-doubt get to them.

The Finish Line:

You need all the support you can get. You need your friends (they’re the family you have away from home). You need their ‘chappal love’ when the grind is over and only your shirt remains to be shred to bits. Its almost symbolic, like a formal end to the preceding frenzy. Your whole body is lathered with bashful beatings, with the only motive of making sure that you never forget that day or your roots.

The real roots are in the foundation of

friendship that has grown over the past few years, including the time that you were preparing for the placement season together. Bless those souls (placed and unplaced) who were the laughter and cheer in their friends’ placement celebration, which if we may add, was not just limited to hugging and congratulatory handshakes.

That day does come. Maybe a little sooner, maybe a little later, but it does. That feeling of accomplishment, the feeling of being back to your original group, the lifting away of the ‘alienation from the world’ cloak, the euphoric sense of joy and happiness and much more simply cannot be penned down on this seemingly blank sheet of paper.

Everybody has a different story and hearing their struggles and ambitions might just give you a different perspective and make you realize that the company you crack on-campus is not what will define you for the rest of your life. It is just a small fragment of a very big picture that is yet to form shape. Only those who have been on this hill top would understand, and only those who are on their way here will be inspired. But, assuredly, one will be man and a strong one at that, when this experience comes to an end.

To conclude this memoir, quoting a few magical words by Steve Jobs:

‘It was impossible to connect the dots in college. One can never connect the dots looking forward. One can only connect the dots looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will be connected somehow in the future. You have to believe in something, your gut, destiny, something. Only then will you have the confidence to follow your heart’.

And so we look back.

“
Personally, it was effort being directly proportional to the result. But, the drama for adding the unplaced people on the friends group or whether to say ‘All the Best!’ every day. It’s difficult to face your bestie & I can’t express the relief when we finally could talk like bros again.
Deepak Goyal

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It comes down to the day. That day when the company sees your CV. The CV is the culmination of not the 3 months before the season but everything you have done in college. One should know how to put it across.
Avinash Dangi

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One can never predict where you get placed. You can prepare for ages for your dream company, and see yourself not clear the written test, and sit for a really big company with no expectations and see yourself be called for an interview.
Vinayak Mishra

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Broken
By Nishtha Jain

There were a million unsaid words,
The silent cries did go quietly unheard;
As one stands alone in this pouring rain
One secretly wishes if ‘he’ could understand the pain

The broken promises and vows
One remembers it all, in the middle of a memory-browse
A journey where friends are the secret foes
What is hidden behind every mask, alas, nobody knows.

Relationships once like the spotless moon, were now morose,
Turns out were a bed of thorns hidden by a handful of roses,
Nobody knows if a mistake was made; who was the culprit
The bloody gashes remind me that hope was so dim lit

The optimism waned with each passing minute
Distances grew, oh so fast and timid
Now my expectations weren’t worth a cent,
I miss your words, those were my ointment

As you remain oblivious like always
This too shall pass, I pray, another phase
Hoping that one day my presence would matter
Before I completely shatter and we scatter..



CHOTI SOCH

Prejudice and Bigotry and their Genesis

By Gautam Kumar Sharma, Ipshita Chatterjee & Anshuman Chhabra

INTRODUCTION

“Be curious, not judgmental”

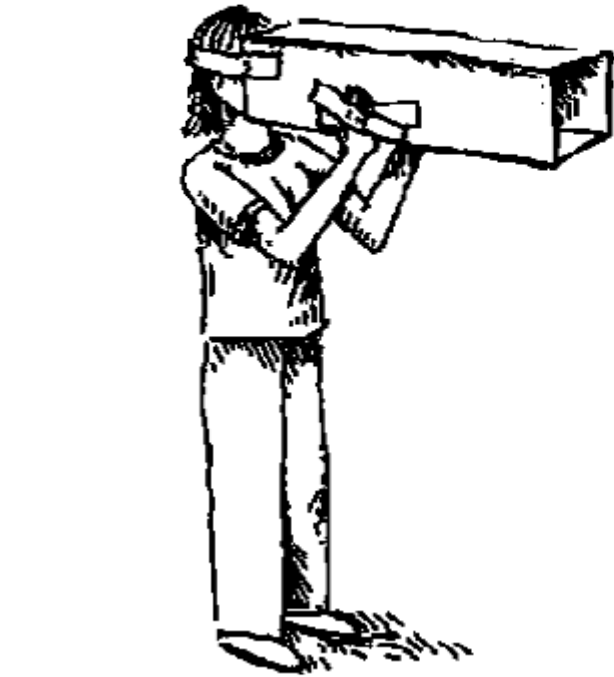
Walt Whitman, an American essayist and poet, aptly summarized the state of mind of a major portion of today’s society and gave us a truly invaluable advice. However, instead of abiding by his words, being judgmental comes as second nature to most. Generic examples are aplenty: From an Indian context, where comparisons are constantly drawn between “Sharma ji ka beta” and oneself, to say, Santa Claus judging children for “good” and “bad” behavior, to the way we judge each other on the sort of clothes we wear, to whether the girl next door eats too much or eats too little etc. Seeds of fault-finding are sown early in a person’s childhood, when anything out of the socially accepted behavior is frowned upon. Later on, in schools and college, it gains colossal proportions, often trapping people in a vicious cycle, where such hurtful and flippant remarks are easily passed off as opinion.

CHOTI SOCH IN COLLEGE

Having this nearsightedness in perception, all comes down to the mentality of that person. A narrow-minded person may judge others based on their habits, quirks, or well, anything under the Sun that they might find odd. However, this does not mean that the person being judged is being given a true portrayal by this stereotype.



Now, just because an individual likes listening to Hindi songs, (especially Bollywood or Punjabi music), we may deem him/her to have a backward taste in music. Or that, just because, a person is not well versed in English, he/she is not good enough to be made a friend. Or people could proliferate the stereotype that every Haryanvi guy drinks and isn’t interested in studies or academics but only in partying all the time. Or better yet, those who enjoy themselves and go out with friends on

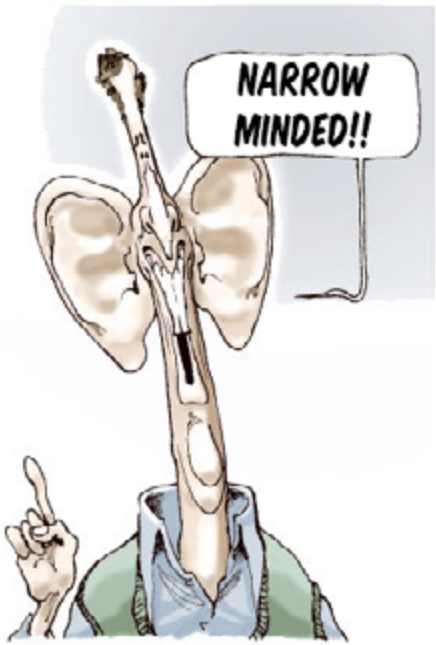


a regular basis don’t study, have lots of backlogs and are only in college to have a fun time.

If one keeps being judgmental and stereotypical of people, it will breed intolerance. In colleges, intolerance could then be associated with crueler forms of ragging and could manifest into aggression and violence as well. If a senior A dislikes a freshmen B because he looks studious and oils his hair, he might be harsher on him. This might have dire consequences for both the senior and the junior – with one or the other getting physically or emotionally hurt in the process.

Honestly, most of us have been prey to this sort of narrow mindedness mentioned above at some point in our lives, somewhere or the other. At times, this takes an even more vicious turn, and causes more emotional harm than it possibly should. Such is the case during placement season. Friends might no longer remain friends as everyone is vying to get placed whilst facing stiff competition from their peers. People become extremely secretive and in hopes of not mistakenly divulging details of preparation, start ignoring those same people on whose wrists they had tied “Friendship” bands for the past few years. All of this leads to an emotionally unhealthy and unnecessarily turbulent environment.

Although, students are not the only



culprits here. Even teachers succumb to this narrow-minded mentality quite often. Most teachers correlate the way a student is dressed to his/her dedication in academics. Right from long hair, to unkempt facial hair, to wearing slippers and shorts in class - nothing escapes scrutiny. In fact, most of the times, teachers judge students academically if they have come to college on a reserved quota or if they are repeating a year. All of these ideas are extremely archaic in nature and yet we see that they are still running rampant amongst us.

Your quota determines your suitability at several points. If you belong to the reserved category, even if you have a natural intellect, you are just here due to our category. You are dirty, dull and unworthy. That is how the stereotype places you.

THE ORIGINS

Almost all narrow-mindedness (especially judging others) stems from two things – our own insecurities and the antediluvian mindset that we have to trump each other at every step of the way to do better ourselves.

The traits or quirks of a victim which attract the ire of a myopic individual are often those stemmed by unfulfilled aspirations, shortcomings or failure which wasn’t dealt with gracefully. Instead of acknowledging one’s flaws and working towards improving them, such an individual constantly criticizes others who might exhibit similar traits. Such a vicious cycle is detrimental not only for the victim’s psychological and emotional growth, but also to that of the person.

The narrow-minded person is often just ignorant and doesn’t take any corrective action for the deficiency. This situation is further aggravated if the ignorant person considers himself to be the epitome of wisdom, and if, he is in a highly visible position, he can cause unnecessary harm to a larger audience.

IDIOSYNCRASIES OF PAROCHIAL PEOPLE

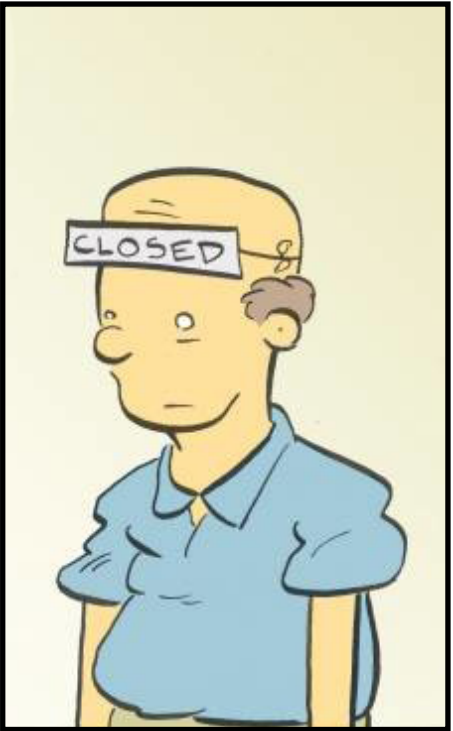
A myopic person adopts a policy of overt generalization. If a terrorist caught was

of Pakistani origin, then it does not take long for such a person to conclude that every Pakistani is a terrorist. Associating oddities of people from a particular state or community to all people hailing from it come naturally to a blinkered individual. For instance, if a Punjabi guy fights with someone, then all Punjabis are termed violent. The ability to judge anyone from a teacher to a non-living entity comes naturally to them. They don’t socialise well and remain with their gang of sycophants unless they want to spread their beliefs or want to make their voices heard. Even with their myopic vision, they can easily find the shortcomings in people and do not shy away at telling them that. Closed to new ideas, they are also closed to new sides to people. For example, once they find a flaw in their best friend, the list of their flaws go on. Disagreements with them never lead to discussions.

Such a rigid mindset combined with the want for control or a position of power are the root causes of all major social evils such as female foeticide, child marriage and honour killings. It is evident that such illiberal people may even have a fatal effect on others, some of whom may even be their loved ones and their kin.

INTO THE VICTIM’S MIND

Constantly being subject to criticism binds a person to the fetters of self-doubt and underconfidence. The person begins to believe that faults pointed out by a perpetual fault-finder are his/her true nature and incorrigible. Slowly this belief seeps in and leaves a devastating psychological impact on him. Already isolated and shunned by a few people, he grows quiet, while a storm keeps brewing inside him. When teachers/elders join his shunning, it becomes even more demoralizing. In some cases, this may even be fatal.



A victim may even harbour anger and resentment in his heart against his/her critic. While some may speak up against such unjust behavior, others are trapped in the vicious cycle of further criticizing others. He/she may violently lash out against the critic, leading to unnecessary altercations. All due to the rigidity of a few people!

TURN OF THE TIDE

Another interesting yet regressive perspective that being narrow-minded entails with it is being closed off to

other people’s points of views on topics of discussion and debate. All in all, there are more ways to be incorrect about something as there can only be one right answer. Hence, holding onto one’s own views dogmatically can be a very serious problem in a diverse environment such as college. NSIT, or any other college for that matter, basically readies students for their roles later on in life – to be mature individuals who can collaborate with others in a work environment and hold a steady job. Today, no job or qualitative work is the product of an individual’s thinking; companies utilize a vast multitude of people working together on a project and intakes the sum of their collective inputs for the final product. If we fall prey to being close-minded, we will never be able to appreciate another person’s input and hence, will

never be able to work with others and develop ideas as a team. Thus, being narrow-minded holds very serious problems that can plague the future career of an otherwise academically intelligent or gifted individual.

We have to understand, however, that both of these ideas are counterproductive. If we spend too much time finding faults with others and judging them, just to make us feel better about ourselves, we are essentially wasting precious time and energy that could be put to productive use. Also, by being narrow-minded we close ourselves off to meeting and indulging in new people who might have the potential to impact our lives for the better.

As for the mindset engrained in us that makes us ensure that we rid others of

opportunities so that we do better than them, is more of a double-edged sword. If we partake in say, being overtly secretive and competitive during placements, then we should be ready for our friends and peers to exhibit the same sort of behaviour unto us.

CONCLUSION

Blindly perceiving all narrow-minded people as petty or intolerant places one in the same sphere as them. Such people merely have a limited sphere of thinking. While some begin viewing the world and the people in it through parochial lenses after being exposed to harsh realities of life, others simply lack education, varied experiences and most importantly – unconditional acceptance and love they deserve. A restricted mindset is not something someone is born with nor is it a perma-

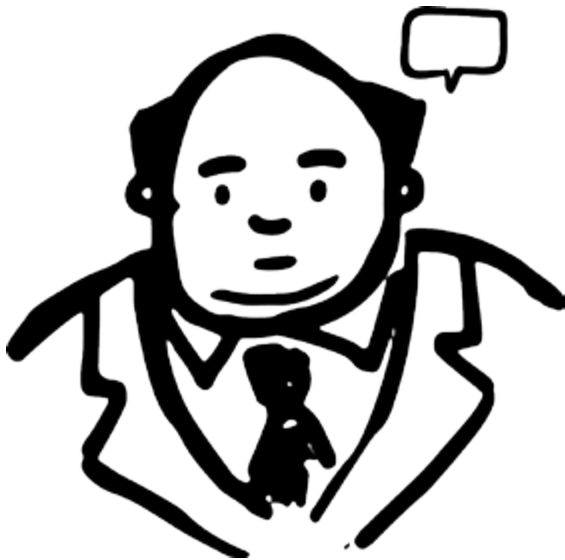
nent condition. The panacea is simply honest introspection and a gradual broadening of the mind, one tiny step at a time. It is important to realise that the world would be a much happier place if we worked together, rather than against each other and spent valuable time and energy in improving ourselves rather than in fault-finding. Each and every one us possesses the potential to be a better person: We can be understanding, accepting and helpful persons rather than judgmental, hurtful and conniving individuals.

Just as Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the nation, said -

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

Narrow mindedness has manifested itself multiple times in my (almost complete) tenure at NSIT. People needlessly compete on unnecessary and banal things to no end here. It’s a little disheartening to see this at times - especially when you see people close to you, your friends indulging in this inane competition. However, as I look back now, I believe in letting bygones be bygones. Being stubborn and unforgiving is in itself a form of narrow mindedness. Let go of this and voila! You’re going places.

Tanay Mahindru
ECE Batch of 2016



I sometimes get disheartened to see how competition can come in the way of friendship here at NSIT. I have personally witnessed many close friends part ways over something as silly as internships or projects. Sometimes it is how one friend doesn’t tell his best bud about one project, he took up with the professor secretly with some other partner or how one applied for a foreign internship alone, that same internship for which both of them had dreamt about. It will definitely do you no harm if you share this with your friends. You will just get their much needed support.

Sumon Hazra
ECE Batch of 2017

College life has made me realize why people usually consider school years as the best of their life. Students not sharing notes or disclosing the books they might have been studying from, attending classes in secret when they had already decided upon mass bunks is reflective of a “choti soch”. An indelible incident in my memory is that of a classmate begging for marks and trying out every trick under the sleeve when he knew he deserved no more. Astonishingly, he gets them increased twofold and then has the audacity to compare his so-called performance with others. I wonder how far this false sense of satisfaction that he derived from the inflated score would carry him forward in life.

Vidushi Vashishth
IT Batch of 2018



Professor’s Profile:

Dr. J. Jena

By Archita Goyal & Yashna Paliya

Dr. J. Jena has been a part of the Maths Department and been teaching here at NSIT for a very long time. As the new Dean, UG, he has brought about some new rules in the college recently. Read on to know about attendance rules, a new canteen, and more.

the faculty which is being brought to its heels.

faculty is also on the cards. We will try to ensure that it is the Permanent faculty that is taking classes for better dissemination of knowledge and better competency.

purposes, owing to the increasing number of students. Notice to allow carrying one’s own book in the library would be out soon. I encourage the children to give their recommendations to the library for any books they wish for. Not just course related but also recreational books like fiction etc.

We plan to bring in the concept of Finishing School for the academically weak students, to help them cope with college studies and pressure; and an Enabling Unit for the differently abled students which will be led by differently abled faculty. We believe in their empowerment. It has already started with ramps all over the campus and construction of new elevators in every building. I feel that these students need to be constantly motivated and any form of discouragement should be refrained from.

Q1. First of all, congratulations on becoming the Dean for the UG Department. We have already observed stringency and strictness in the college with respect to classes and attendance. Is it just a fly-by-night affair or would the fire last for long?

Ans. Last semester, there had been a lot of cases of short attendance, not even among the first and second years but also the among the final year students, a case of serious concern for me. I think, it wasn’t completely the students’ fault, even we-as the administration was at fault, laxness of rules to blame. However, this semester onwards we plan to call parents of the students, to not only inform them about the number of classes attended by their ward but also about his/her performance in college. The reputation of the NSIT with respect to studies isn’t being projected in good light and this worries me. This time, it’s not only the students but also

Q2. One of the major reasons for students not attending classes is their repulsion to the courses and syllabus being followed? Can we expect some changes with respect to the curriculum in the near future?

Ans. The new and revised syllabus is almost final. In fact, the next batch that is, batch of 2020 would be taught new courses, and of course relevant subjects, in accordance with their branches. We would be following University of Delhi’s CBCS (Credit Based Choice System), where in the 50-20-30% formula would be adopted, 50% credit to core department subjects, 20% to foundation courses (mathematics, chemistry etc.) and the rest as per the student’s choice. A wide range of electives would be offered to the third and fourth year students. We even plan to introduce new courses for the M.Tech students as well. Recruitment procedure for new

Q3. There have also been talks of expanding the infrastructure, starting with the new building near the workshop. What other advancements is NSIT expecting?

Ans. Infrastructure wise, you must have already seen, work is in progress. A new multipurpose hall with a seating capacity of 700-800 persons would be constructed, which would normally be used as classrooms with the help of separators. A new hostel for the girls within the campus premises and a new full-fledged air-conditioned canteen in place of Mic Mac is in prospect. It is a matter of great sadness for me that we do not have even a single Girls Hostel that was constructed as one. An extension to the present workshop is also being planned, along with construction of a multi-storied building for teaching

Q4. Do you feel the students have taken these changes well, a positive response has been observed?

Ans. The students are an important part of this college. We always strive to do what is right for the students. Right now some students may feel that these rules are too strict or extraneous, but in the long run it is for the betterment of our students only. What is our final aim? That our children excel in life. We may seem strict on the outside but that is only because we wish the best for you. When they do well and succeed in life and they come back to college, we feel that our job has been done.

LabVIEW: A LaurelledVIEW

By Deepika Naryani

Do you spend sleepless nights debugging and fiddling with your code and covet a language that is intuitive in nature?

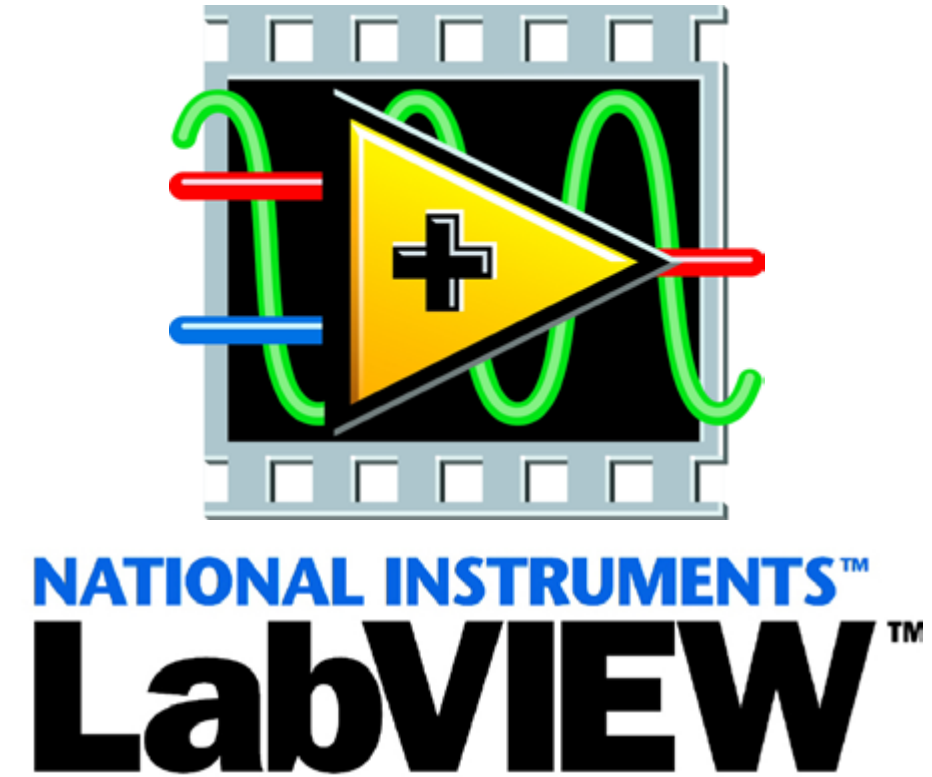
Are you in the quest of a language that makes you spend less time addressing text-based syntax?

Do you fancy a language with previously defined components that can be dropped in from menus to your code and feel that the graphical paradigm suits your software and products better than the textual one?

Here’s something that helps integrate graphical, text-based, and other programming approaches within a single environment to create custom software solutions.

LabVIEW or Laboratory Virtual Instrument Engineering Workbench is a system design platform and development environment for a graphical language named “G” from National Instruments.

It’s not only going to put an end to the tiring all-nighters. It’s going to revive the long lost interests in the very codes that consumed all your energy and took the patience out of you.



about R&D, graphical system design approach enables researchers to use the same technology in the deployment phase. This phase is related to industry, and, with graphical system design, researchers can easily transfer the technology to market, because the

to multiple targets from one location. You can start with a simple visual logger or a calculator. Other projects worth engaging yourselves in are:

- Building a Temperature Sensor
- Sound sensor (reads in sound intensity and displays corresponding message)
- Pencil sorter/ Crayon sorter (based on colour)
- LED colour mixer
- Servo motor
- Radar gun (To determine velocity of an object)
- Morse Code (to turn a user input into a corresponding sequence of sounds)

allows us to choose one of the displayed LabVIEW templates to use when building VIs. However, we might need to build a VI for which a template is not available and we can then customize a VI without using a template. We can use different controls and indicators to build or customize a VI. You can also set when a VI stops running and how to display the data.

LabVIEW contains a set of tools for obtaining, analyzing, displaying and storing the data. The code is written in the form of a block diagram. Graphs and LEDs can be used as indicators after building the User Interface.

There are built-in template VIs that further include the sub-VIs and front panel objects, along with structures and functions which you might need for building common measurement applications. Functions are basically the fundamental operating elements of LabVIEW and do not have front panels or block diagrams.

The block diagram contains the graphical source code, also known as G, which uses graphical representations of functions. Front panel objects appear as icon terminals on the block diagram and the functions help to control them. Data flows through the wires which are used to connect control and indicator terminals to the functions. This movement of data is referred to as dataflow programming. We can create shared variables to share data among the VIs or between locations in an application that we cannot connect with wires.

Important Terminology for LabVIEW:

Legend: Object owned by a graph or chart to display the names and plot styles.

Automatic Scaling: Automatic scaling helps to adjust to the range of plotted values and determining the maximum and minimum ones.

Block diagram: Pictorial representation of a program or an algorithm.

Virtual Instrument or VI: It models the appearance and function of a physical instrument.

Indicator: A front panel object that displays output like a graph or an LED.

Express VI: A sub-VI designed to aid common measurement tasks.

Wiring tool: It is used to define data paths between terminals.

Why LabVIEW?

Learning G code sounds easier to engineers and scientists as it becomes quick to grasp when they are already familiar with visualizing and diagrammatically modeling processes, in terms of block diagrams and flowcharts. A typical G program involves the flow of data and the steps involved in this program are easy to understand from a LabVIEW diagram.

LabVIEW isn’t as fast or efficient as C++, neither does it provide the range of mathematical operations as MATLAB, but it is a powerful tool for coding a piece of equipment quickly with an attractive GUI. You can also design the data acquisition and visualization in LabVIEW and the algorithm in MATLAB , merge them in LabVIEW. C is majorly used for lower level implementations of computationally intensive tasks, while LabVIEW tends to be better for high-level test, measurement, and control applications.

Scientists all over the world have applied LabVIEW and National Instruments products for research and development (R&D). Talking

same tools and platforms are used in both the research and development phase and the deployment phase. So, it is one tool for design, prototyping and deployment. Researchers are allowed to expand visualization functions by adding new toolkits to LabVIEW or creating their own functions in the G language or interfacing with third-party tools such as Inc. MATLAB® software. Connectivity with these third-party tools is successfully achieved through a LabVIEW Script Node.

With LabVIEW, you can target multiple Operating Systems to meet the needs of a test system. The real-time OS is used to run test applications requiring additional reliability. Apart from being multiplatform, it has a shorter time to prototype, time to discovery, time to deployment, and time to market which helps to develop faster algorithms.

Projects in LabVIEW for engineering students:

We can make projects in LabVIEW to build applications and shared libraries by bringing together LabVIEW as well as non-LabVIEW files and deploy files

LabVIEW (Laboratory Virtual Instrumentation Engineering Workbench) programs are called as virtual instruments, because their appearance and operation imitate the physical instruments, such as oscilloscopes and multimeters. LabVIEW contains a comprehensive set of tools for acquiring, analyzing, displaying, and storing data. In LabVIEW, a user interface, or front panel can be built alongwith controls and indicators. Controls are knobs, push buttons, dials, and other input mechanisms. Indicators are graphs, LEDs, and other output displays. After the user interface is made, we can add code using VIs and structures to control the front panel objects. The block diagram contains this code. The LabVIEW can be used to communicate with hardware such as data acquisition, vision, and motion control devices. LabVIEW is used for interfacing and online control of various systems. The simulation and validation of the systems is made easy. Basic programming in LabVIEW can be learned with the help of available online books and the software can be accessed at VICT Centre.

Prof. Vijander Singh



Software Overview:

LabVIEW consists of programs that are called virtual instruments or VIs. It

Myth Busted

Using sub-VIs doesn’t always slow down your code! Appropriate use of sub-VIs can help LabVIEW in efficient memory management.

Applications:

By enabling high level abstraction for sensor communication, obstacle avoidance, path planning and kinematics, LabVIEW helps in programming complex robotics applications. Apart from finding extensive use in high energy physics and particle physics, it is also used for validating and verifying medical devices, and that too at reduced costs because of virtual instrumentation. National Instruments is also a leading supplier of test, measurement, and control systems for aerospace, defense, and other government entities. Basically, NI offers a software-based measurement strategy which uses modular instruments and make it easy resolving to the latest audio and video requirements which results in an integrated test platform keeping in pace with new innovations.

The other side:

- At times, the code wiring in LabVIEW might get really complex and it becomes almost impossible to debug.
- There are quite a few bugs posted to the LabVIEW support forums and are yet to be fixed.
- It is proprietary as well as expensive.
- The compiled code wouldn’t download to any hardware other than the expensive NI hardware.

LabVIEW 2015:

LabVIEW 2015, the latest version, has speed improvements, development shortcuts, and debugging tools to enable the developers to interact efficiently with the software.

References:

You can choose from the several NI LabVIEW Application Development Training Courses which can be found here: <http://www.ni.com/training/labview/>
Also, NI has provided the following manual to get the hang of LabVIEW in a short time.
<http://www.ni.com/pdf/manuals/373427c.pdf>

Online tutorials:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOkoyuikj5Q&list=PLdNpofxltzmPvvK_yjX-XyYgfVW8WK4tu

LabVIEW training by NI:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqxStfwjQoQ&list=PLo85A358B79B37463>

Suggested reading material:

- LabVIEW 7 Express Student Edition, Author: Robert Bishop
- Digital Signal Processing System-Level Design Using LabVIEW, Author: Nasser Kehtarnavaz
- LabVIEW Digital Signal Processing, Author: Cory L. Clark
- Title: Analog Electronics with LabVIEW, Author: Kenneth Ashley

Certifications

The following are proven ways to boost career opportunities and provide competitive advantage after learning LabVIEW:

Certified LabVIEW Associate Developer (CLAD)

This is the first step towards LabVIEW certification and consists of an hour long written exam.

Certified LabVIEW Developer (CLD)

Advanced level expertise in LabVIEW is judged in a four hour long practical exam in this certification.

Certified LabVIEW Architect(CLA)

It signifies mastery of LabVIEW and is judged in the form of a four hour long practical as well as written exam.

Wanderers of NSIT: Sameer Rath

By Prithish Chatterjee

It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.
- Leonardo da Vinci

The golden era when art, music and science thrived, has been gone long and the people who had mastered these trades have been forgotten too, long enough for their lives' work to have found a place among the archives of the greatest libraries and out of the grasp of the general crowd. Geniuses like da Vinci have become personifications of mythicity while people these days, find pride in the fact that they can, apparently, multitask.

But, fortunately, there is hope for us yet. This generation has seen a resurrection of sorts. The revered *Renaissance man* or a multipotentialite, as Emilie Wapnick of Puttylike calls them, has once again found its way back into our society. These men and women of extraordinary calibre have time and again proved their mettle by excelling in various fields.

We at NSIT call these people 'Wanderers', and one such wanderer is Sameer Rath. A 4th year ICE student who is a founder of his own band, a writer and a painter at large. Here is a conversation he had with The Alliance:

Q1. How long have you been into singing and songwriting?

Ans. Well, I have always been into music. It has not been long with singing and songwriting. It started in January 2015 when I joined my band as a vocalist. Before that it was all at a personal level, humming and singing when no one's watching you. The writing is also a recent endeavor. I used to write broken shabby rhymes but it was all for myself. With the theme set in my mind, somewhere I knew I could write well and it came along eventually.

Q2.Would you like to share with us, the whole songwriting experience, right from the point of finding your muse till the point when all your thoughts morph into a coherent piece of music?

Ans. Initially, it was all about learning stuff. Grasping how things are made and done, looking at the musical covers, song structures etc.. With time, the theme I wanted to work on became clear, and so did the thoughts. Listening to different songs made it helped me in learning how things should be placed at different positions. And then it was all about putting it down somewhere,



with the instrumental, looking at how it works and changing it, if needed.

Q3. Which artists inspire you the most?

Ans. Well, I have no favorites as such. There are so many awesome artists that you can groove on. Different artists have different essences in their music. Sometimes a strong lyrical structure is there, sometimes a heavy music behind. Sometimes something soft and soulful intrigues me a lot. It all varies. Naming a few artists won't serve the purpose. It's always about exploring, not just the mainstream but the underground too. But in the end the thing that inspires me is when I listen to it and say "Shit, how did they come up with something like this? Totally Insane!"

Q4. What led you to forming your own band?

Ans. I always had an idea about it but didn't know where to start as such. Mysteriously, someone put up my name on B.A.D. page as a vocalist and a band contacted me. I gave it a shot and it worked out. Hence, I joined my first band, Diverging Dreams.

Lineups changed, people came and left. Though uncertain about the future, Karan Kumar (the band guitarist) and I started our own venture, Obelisk.

Q5. Why did you start a Heavy Metal band? Very few people are into heavy metal and related genres these days, so were you apprehensive about the crowds you'd end up singing for? And, any gigs in the near future?

Ans. I love a lot of genres, for different genres infuse different feelings in you.

Metal has always been a close acquaintance for me. It's so intense, raw and powerful. You can express a lot with just a few lines and apart from that singing is therapeutic as well. I never think about the crowd because you'll always find people who have similar preferences in music as you do. People you find at gigs are there to groove, head bang and support you. All you have to do is deliver your best and enjoy.

Obelisk is more of a studio project with only two people. I am not sure about live gigs but you might find a new single coming out in future.

Q6. How did you come up with the name 'Obelisk' for your band?

Ans. As a band, we changed and shuffled our lineup time and again and also there were a lot of name changes as well. It started off as Diverging Dreams when I first joined the band. As time passed, new people came in and by our first performance we changed our name to 'Decimate through Defiance'. And eventually we thought of making our own thing because of the uncertainty in commitment of others. It led to the inception of Obelisk. The name has no deep secondary meaning behind it as such. We wanted to give a little professional touch to it and a name which wasn't clichéd. Hence, Obelisk - an architectural design related to religious sites. Metal themes are related to religion a lot of times so the name suited it that way.

Q7. Apart from singing and songwriting, you happen to be involved in sketching and painting also, when did these hobbies of

yours develop?

Ans. Art has been with me since before music came along. I used to draw when I was a child, and I was sort of good at it. I never let that die because I loved it and with time things got better. I acquired better skills. There were a little pauses but everything resumed in time. I never used to go to competitions because I just cannot draw when I don't want to. So it was all about giving it time, and a little patience. I mostly do art with graphite but I really want to explore more and learn whatever I can.

Q8. Where does engineering stand in the whole picture?

Ans. Well, engineering was something I opted for by myself. It didn't come along as I had thought it would, but I don't hate it either. I have deep love and respect for science and exploring a lot of varied aspects related to it. Probably that led me to choose engineering. As far as career prospects are concerned, I might go into the core engineering field in the future or stick to my current placement, but as of now I am considering every aspect of it.

Q9. Does wearing so many hats take a toll on you?

Ans. Well, it sometime does, but in the end you have to manage it somehow if you really love them. Prioritize things and change them, as per the need of the hour, over time. There are a lot of things that I want to do apart from art, music and songwriting. And I am slowly striking off things from my never ending checklist.

Q10. What are your plans for the future?

Ans. Well I don't see myself becoming a musician or an artist for now, as these are the things I love to do when I want to do. I don't want to force myself to do those to earn a living. But things might just change with time. For now I consider them to be a part of my life and they will be a part of my life for as long as I live. I would never put a stop to the things I love to do.

Q11. Any advice for your juniors?

Ans. My advice would be don't stop. Do what you love to do, maybe not full time, but yeah don't hold it down. Taking out time, is something you have to do yourself, no one will help you on that front. In the end, what matters the most is how you manage your time and do the things which shape you as a person. In the end, there's no space for excuses. Somethings might take some time but eventually it will all fall into place. Last but not the least, I am happy to help. Anyone can contact me if they think I can help them out in something.



NSIT to Wall Street

DIARY ENTRY

It's a long road from NSIT to Wall Street, but the first step comes from deciding whether you want to be on that road or not. It seems rosy once crossing a milestone, but the indecisiveness that precedes is mind-numbing. This shoots a throwback to a time when life seemed simpler, when our main concerns revolved around mid-semester exams, attendance and lunch. It slowly dawned upon us that to get somewhere we're going to have to think bigger, leave our comfort zones and walk out into uncharted waters.

In the mental mayhem that precedes the placement season, here's a quintessential account of a third year student trying to make sense of the roads paved out in front of him.

Characters:

- 1. Raj sir (4th year)
- 2. Tamta sir (4th year)
- 3. Kullu sir (Raj sir's roommate)
- 4. Me (Just another 3rd year)

Scene: Goldmann-Stanley campus placement day, 10:30 pm

I was sipping my favourite Assam Tea with Aloo parantha at (my favourite restaurant in the world) McCain (erstwhile Jeetos). All was well till a goddamn bunch of rowdy 4th years broke my meditative

silence. I saw a crisp shirt being ripped off followed by a barrage of slippers being unloaded on the poor guy's chest. Instead of grimacing at every slipper that landed his chest, there was an exhilarating twinkle in Raj Sir's eyes. He had landed his dream Finance job, he was going to be an analyst at **Goldmann-Stanley**. He was going to make a lot of dough.

The beating ritual ended, and we all marched towards BH-3, Raj sir leading the pack. In came 3 cartons of **soda** and after a round of sodas, my **gyaan** session began. "Analysts don't analyse anything. They are slaves to a team of Investment Bankers, the men who do the negotiations and paper work", said a tipsy Raj Sir. Our very own Kullu sir, a to-be Trader at **Jhomura**, joined the chorus "Analysts photocopy, proofread, and assemble breathtakingly dull securities documents for ninety or more hours a week. But of course, I don't mind the money that comes with it"

"Wall Street should be the second most important road in the world, after Lover's Lane of course."

My sane state of mind struggled to keep up with the wildly oscillating thoughts of my much-too-happy-seniors.

"Have you seen DiCaprio's Wolf of Wall Street?" asked Tamta sir. "The entire hostel was gob-smacked by that movie. We were so inspired to venture into Finance, that even buggers like Mishra started doing Financial Accounting courses on Coursera and were reading Economic Times between classes. I am telling you this now, our Mishra is the next Wolf, Wolf Of **Witch Lane**...hahaha"

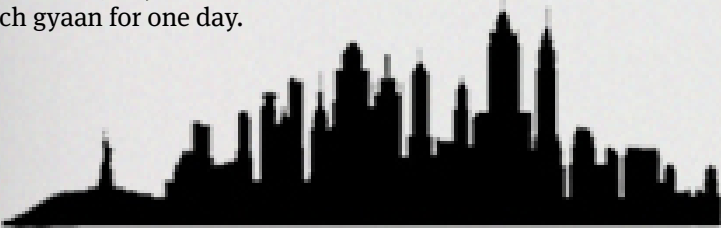
Raj sir had interned at IIM-A and met some rad MBA students there. His internship had taught him an disproportionate amount of worldly knowledge which he now unleashed upon us. "Most MBA students were lured into Analyst roles at goddamn Investment Banks. These students willingly signed on to give up their social lives, hobbies, friends and family for a few years in exchange for an accelerated launching pad. Not just IIMs, students in US use their economics degrees to get an analyst job on Wall Street; then use their analyst jobs to get into the Harvard or Stanford Business School; and worry about the rest of their lives later."

I was scratching my head now. Too much gyaan for one day.

"You know Sushant, the MPAE guy?" asked Kullu sir taking the last sip from his soda bottle "Umm..the FES guy" I guessed "Exactly. He lives in B-402, next to my place. *Ghissu* is slogging for CFA- Level 1 these days. Even you should prepare for the exam in your 7th semester, if you are serious about Finance." He said, reaching upwards to put a hand on my shoulders.

It was time for me to leave. I waved goodbye to a sleepy Raj sir and congratulated him again. As I walked towards my room, I started to think about my own upcoming placement season. I couldn't code so I wasn't going to sit for tech companies for sure. So, I asked myself: Can I do Finance? Do I want to make a lot of dough? Do I wish to work at Wall Street some day?

- * Any resemblance to students in batch of 2015 is purely intentional
- * The author was high on sitcoms set in New York last night. NSIT to Wall Street is just an excuse, he is just another Joey



The Basics of the Financial World

The world of finance comprises of things more than just crisp suits, firm handshakes and an unshakeable feeling of importance. While all of these things remain uniform across all jobs

in this sector, the jobs themselves are played onto varying levels of opportunity, skill and most importantly, money.

There are typically two sides in Finance, a buyer (who has the monies) and a seller (who wants the monies).

The Buy Side

It consists of institutions such as hedge funds, Private Equity firms, Venture Capital firms that are buying large quantities of securities for money management purposes. These are highly coveted profiles at leading B-Schools across the world.

The Sell Side

It is selling research, advice and securities it created to the companies and investors. Investment banking falls in the category of the sell side. (Good news for undergrads, there are plenty of sell-side profiles offered at NSIT!)

Sell Side Profiles

(All profiles mentioned below are offered at NSIT):



1. Futures First

Profile: Market Analyst, Intra-day trading

Traders participate in the financial markets by buying and selling stocks, forex and other securities, and closing out positions with the intention of making small, frequent gains. Poker players and Traders share skills! You make optimal decisions on the basis of incomplete information. Both are highly competitive and money driven.

USP: Buy a car by 23, become a millionaire by 25! (Not joking)
Skills Needed: Good with numbers



2. Barclays Capital & Nomura

Profile: Analyst Trader, Global Capital Markets

USP: Direct interaction with Traders and Business Heads based in New York and Hong Kong on a daily basis
High quality and engaging work, rare to find in the Non-Tech profiles offered at NSIT

Fun Fact: Nomura acquired Lehmann Brothers' India operations post its crash during Global Financial Crisis of 2007



3. JP Morgan

Profile: Junior Analyst, Investment Banking
a) Clinching Deals is name of the game. You compile pitchbooks, presentation on software such as PowerPoint, to assist in securing deals with prospective clients
b) Banking is a people's business. Bankers look for someone who's smart and willing to work hard without complaints.
USP: Onshore 3-month rotations to of-

fices in London/New York/Hong Kong every year. About half a dozen NSITans have converted full time positions without MBAs at the London Office itself!
Recruited an unprecedented 7 people from batch of 2015.

Fun Fact: Naveen Kasturia of TVF Pitchers fame landed a job at JP Morgan post his B.Tech from NSIT

Buy Side Profiles

(Typically offered at IIMs):



1. Hedge Fund Analysts:

Fun Fact: Rajat Gupta, Managing director of consulting firm McKinsey & Company, was sentenced to 2 years in prison for breaking boardroom secrets to hedge fund manager of the Galleon Group

What they do?

Hedge funds appeal to high net worth individuals (many require minimum

investments of \$250,000 or more). The focus of hedge funds is on maximum short-term profits.

USP: Hedge Funds are exclusive, there are fewer idiots here. You work with people who know a little math, a little coding, a little about investigating things, and on top of that, are quite adept at it.

2. Private Equity (PE) and Venture Capital (VC) Firms:

What they do?

Unlike hedge funds focused on short-term profits, private equity funds are focused on the long-term potential of the portfolio of the companies they hold. They primarily purchase private companies, improve the companies through management changes and streamlining operations, with the eventual goal of selling the company for profit

USP: Unlike banks, private equity firms have no need to hire an army of analysts to do grunt work. You work in small teams with high quality people.



Taming The Bull



Saurabh Kushwaha
Batch of 2011
Barclays – New York



Saumitra Dubey
Batch of 2012
JP Morgan - London



Tushar Arora
Batch of 2011
JP Morgan - London



Prashanti Uppulari
Batch of 2011
Nomura



Manav Gupta
Batch of 2012
Morgan Stanley - New York

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Q1. What’s a typical day like on the Wall Street?

Saurabh Kushwaha: Well, to start with, any day at Wall Street is not at all as vulgar or compulsive as you saw in Leo Dicaprio’s movie ‘The Wolf of Wall Street’. Life in Wall Street is simply unique. Every individual looks extremely confident and is impeccably dressed. Punctuality matters most, and subsequently everyone seems to be in a rush.

A typical day is spent tracking your market, staring at your Bloomberg, meetings, presentations, and brainstorming. I won’t deny that it gets quite stressful at times, but the good part is that you can relax after 5 pm, when most of the markets are closed. Most people are fitness freaks, and gyms become a buzzing networking spot.

Q2. What is it like working at JP Morgan, London? What exactly does your job entail?

Tushar Arora: Let me first step back and explain exactly what an Investment bank (IB) does. An IB has three main roles (apart from trading, hedging, etc.):

- Advising on Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A)
- Equity: Helping companies do an IPO (listing on the stock market)
- Debt: Helping companies raise debt for acquisitions, other expenditures

I work with the Leveraged finance team; we help corporates raise debt through bonds and loans. (So, I am basically in the third vertical debt). J.P. Morgan is globally undisputed in this segment. As for my role, I am an analyst, and still

INSIDER TIP #1

IPO Initial Public Offering

An initial public offering, or IPO, is the first sale of stock by a company to the public. A company can raise money by issuing either debt (see insider tip #2) or equity. If the company has never issued equity to the public, it’s known as an IPO.

at the bottom of the food chain. As an analyst one is involved in most of the ground work (models, market tracking, analysis, etc.) work. You do have good exposure with the client but the real task of getting new businesses lies with the seniors (VP and above).

Q3. How hard is it to make to Front Offices from India?

Saumitra Dubey: A great thing about

INSIDER TIP #2

Debt

An amount of money borrowed by one party from another. Many corporations/individuals use debt as a method for making large purchases that they could not afford under normal circumstances. A debt arrangement gives the borrowing party permission to borrow money under the condition that it is to be paid back at a later date, usually with interest.

working in JPMC is that it gives frequent opportunities to apply off-shore. Last I checked, there were 7 NSITians in the London Office (all without MBAs!).

It all comes down to market conditions, and filling interstices. In the last one year, we’ve had 30 converts out of a lot of 150 people in the CRG (Corporate Restructuring) team. This is about 20% these numbers are frankly quite inspirational.

Inter-mobility is really good within JPMC, you can easily move from IB to Treasury Banking to Corporate Banking. Talking about on-shore mobility, you can move to London, New York and Australia offices! That’s because the culture within the firm wants you to grow.

I can vouch for the fact there is no other company at NSIT that offers such good on-shore mobility. Even in companies like Bain Capability Center and McKinsey Knowledge center, chances of converting to front-end consulting profiles are extremely rare.

INSIDER TIP #3

Execution

Execution work is when a client mandates J.P. Morgan to arrange debt for them (could also be for an M&A, IPO) and this requires meeting investors, preparing legal documents and then eventually launching the transaction in the market.

Of course, this is a very simplified explanation but on the ground, you do everything by the book as well as improvise (read: jugaad) simultaneously to adhere to timelines.

Q4. What’s a typical day of work at a Front-End office?

Tushar Arora: Front-End Profiles can

be distributed into pitch based and execution based work.

INSIDER TIP #4

Pitching

Pitching is when we proactively assess our client’s debt requirements and explain why J.P. Morgan is best positioned to help them with their needs.

Q5. What prior knowledge is needed before applying to financial firms? What is a better certification, CFA or MBA?

Saumitra Dubey: Knowledge is a plus, but if you don’t have it, you shouldn’t worry much. I remember flying by through an entire interview just talking about market news and their behavioral patterns. At JPM, you deal with private data, information not available in public market. So, it boils down to basic aptitude and willingness, something an entrance test like the CFA exam won’t equip you with.

INSIDER TIP #5

CFA

The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Program is conducted by the American-based CFA Institute for investment and financial professionals. Hugely popular at IIMs, even you should take CFA level-I in your 4th year.

Manav Gupta: You need either an MBA or a CFA, but not both. I did an MBA with a dual specialization in accounting and finance. It was more than enough to prepare me for my current job which is accounting and finance-intensive. If you only have a B. Tech, and don’t want to pursue an MBA, then you will need CFA to learn about accounting and finance. I would still recommend MBA, since it provides much better networking opportunities.

Q6. Recently, there have been debates over long working hours in investment banking. Kindly comment on the burnout and survival at places like MS/GS in New York.

Manav Gupta: If you are only doing it for the money, then at some point your mind and body will give up, and you will burn out. I really enjoy what I do, and to keep my work interesting I have moved sectors within energy, I started with Exploration & Production, then did Chemicals and now I am working on Integrated Oil. If I had been working

within the same sector for the past 7 years, I might have quit by now.

It’s quite simple actually; both MS and GS are great places to work, but only if you are passionate about your work and adept at your job. Smart people work at both the banks and every day you learn something new and get paid at the same time.

Q7. What would be your advice for students at NSIT, interested in pursuing a career in finance?

Prashanti Uppulari: 1. Read a lot. The topics are quite interesting and forever relevant. Can’t stress this more: follow one of the newspapers Mint/Business Standard. The Economist is highly recommended

2. If you have absolutely no clue, then exams like FRM and CFA can be a good start. Most engineering students take the CFA level 1 exam before applying to show their interest and basic understanding of finance

3. Participate in stock pitching competitions, invite speakers from the field to the campus

4. Network with more alumni. Talk to them and get to know what they did and what their career options are.

Saurabh Kushwaha: NSITians are everywhere but I believe that the relative percentage is lesser in core banking and trading roles and that every NSITian is capable of making to the Wall Street. If you have deep interest in Numbers, Maths, Economics, Financial Markets, etc. then Finance is the right career path for you. I decided upon a career in Finance as late as 7th semester. I did my BTP in FMS which helped me understand various concepts. My advice is to start by reading online, talking to people about their day-to-day work and researching about the various roles in finance. After you decide that you want to pursue this career, I recommend starting early either by cracking a good finance role through on-campus opportunities or switching to a related role in your professional life as early as possible. MBA is an easy career switching option.

In my opinion, an MBA from a top US school, however, is more valuable than an MBA from a top Indian school due to lack of good opportunities available in India. But at last, your ambition should be very strong, your dreams should be powerful, and one should always remember that perseverance is the key to survival.

Read the complete interviews here:

- <http://alliancensit.com/nsit-to-wall-street-saurabh-kushwaha/>
- <http://alliancensit.com/nsit-to-wall-street-tushar-arora/>
- <http://alliancensit.com/nsit-to-wall-street/>



Of New Year's and New Beginnings

By Ipshita Chatterjee

‘Tis the season to be jolly! With Christmas and New Year cheer filling the air (or our smartphone screens), our subject, a regular college student, goes through all the routines which herald a promising year.

1. Party Planners and Poopers

In the run up to the actual celebrations, the subject has to bear the larger-than-life plans and bragging of their mates. “Bro, Coldplay is performing at my party!” Yeah, we believe you.

But if you actually get to ring in the New Year with a huge crowd of zanily dancing strangers, you are luckier than you think. The subject goes to one of these parties, hoping to meet the love of their life. Think When Harry Met Sally. The subject engages in a sparkling conversation. Come the Cinderella hour, the romantic beginning to the New Year goes for a toss, interrupted by “Let me update my status!” #NewYear-WithBae. The lovers of lore just turned in their graves and thanked their stars that their love was before the age of the Internet.

2. Season's Greetings

If Facebook statuses and WhatsApp texts radiated the warmth (or outright drudgery) with which they were typed, we'd surely be a people united by the Season's greetings.

In keeping with the social convention, the subject types out a suitably warm and generic greeting, to be sent to most contacts, posted on all obscure groups - the class group, the hostel group, the friends-only group, the secret agents group, the Dumbledore's Army group, and the like. Everyone must know that you wish to begin the New Year on a cordial note. God forbid you doze off before 00:00 a.m. It is the New Year! A 200 odd unread messages a minute later are ample proof of that. The subject gulps yet another cup of coffee and prepares for the attack.

3. “Kya hua tera wada?”

When it comes to making (and breaking) New Year resolutions, our subject can give any politician a run for their money. After all the niceties have been observed, finally to the all-important self-improvement.

January 1, 00:30 a.m.

The subject is full of zeal, enough to put any spectator of an India-Pakistan



cricket match to shame, and sits down to do the noblest of all deeds of the entire year – making New Year's resolutions.

January 1, 00:31 a.m.

A squeal of glee. “Ooh! Look at this” *scrolls down further and hits a few more ‘likes’ on random strangers’ statuses* Oh wait. The resolutions. Can't break ‘em before I have made ‘em. Repeats to self, “This year is going to be different. New Year, New Me” *grins in anticipation and satisfaction* Takes a pen and a pad of sticky notes and starts scribbling.

January 1, 00:45 a.m.

Looks like this is going to be the best year of the subject's majorly mundane life till now. Resolutions which make The Unbreakable Vows appear dull. The subject's study table and/or bulletin board is closely resembling an election campaign's war room, with each inch of hard surface covered with a sticky note. *clicks a picture and posts on Instagram* #NewYearNewBeginning #CozYOLO #CozEverythingLooks-

CoolerWithAHashtag

Resolution: The Marks – This is going to be THE game-changing semester. Full attendance in all classes. Notes to be maintained meticulously for all subjects. I will make the front-bench nerds want to rethink their very existence, this semester.

A semester later – Keep calm and say “Agla sem phod dunga!”

Resolution: The Diet – Goodbye all things fried and Maggi (glad that we had that period of trial separation to work on our relationship)! Ciao my food pilgrimage. My beloved brownie of McCain, you shall be missed.

Hello, my-not-so-loved sprouts and salads! Though the sight of you makes me miserable, I hope we get along well. Alas, societal pressure and great expectations.

A week later - *stares glumly at the severely dehydrated cucumbers in the mess* “Hey! It's Friday. Want to order

a pizza?” the roommate chimes. Eyes light up like a Christmas tree. Thank God for one-on-ones. After all, pizza is my only true soul mate.

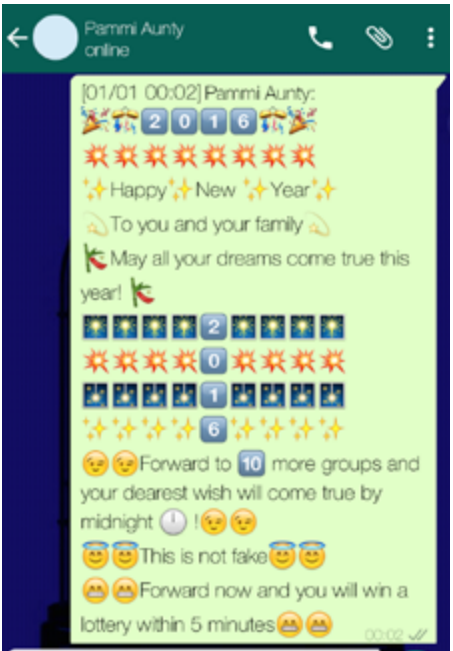
Resolution: The Exercise – State-of-the-art running shoes? Check. 100 alarm clocks strategically positioned to make sure that you are up and running at 6 a.m.? Check. Gym membership? Check. Ooh, those gym clothes look so flattering. Well, a little indulgence doesn't hurt now, does it? Plus the motivation. Oh whatever, check.

The next morning - *makes massive efforts to open eyes at the cacophony of all alarms going off at once* “Wasn't getting eight hours of sleep one of my resolutions too?” Rolls over and dozes off into a deeper slumber.

Resolution: The Internet Isolation – I will uninstall WhatsApp, deactivate Facebook and stay off the Internet. There is a life outside of the virtual world, people to meet, excellent conversations to make in person...

The next moment – My latest dp just got over 150 likes? Don't touch me, minions, I am a celebrity now! I'd like to thank filters, Photoshop, and the hours I spent editing my pictures! *clicks and uploads more celebratory selfies*

The subject waits until next year before riddling himself with the guilt of unkempt promises and wasted text messages. Meanwhile, we lost souls searching on for the true meaning of life in the barrage of our News Feed.



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