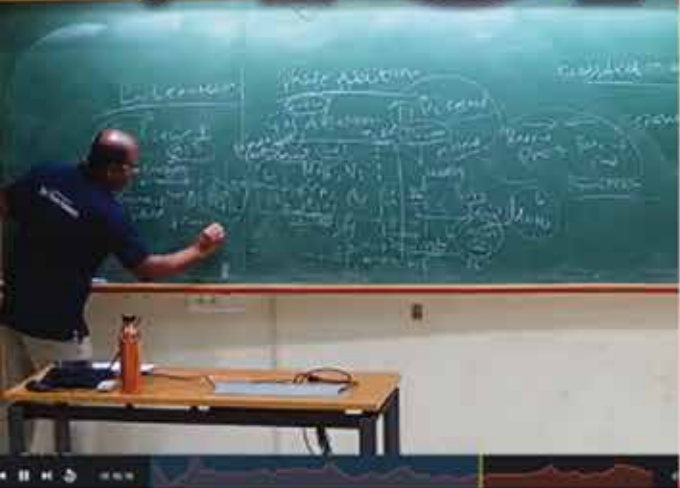




THE NEXT MORNING





From The Alumni Relations Desk..

Dear All,

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the 2nd edition of SNU Alumni Magazine – “The Next Normal”. The past several months have been extremely challenging for all of us: as individuals, and as a global community. My thoughts are with those who have been impacted or have suffered because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am proud of the way our SNU community has been able to adapt to these new circumstances and resolve these unprecedented times head-on.

We are also incredibly proud of our global community of alumni. Our alumni play an important role in enhancing the reputation of the university by helping to influence and shape the world in a good way. In this edition, we have shared some of these inspiring stories.

I want to thank each one of you who cared enough to think, research, write, rewrite, and submit their work for this magazine. I hope you enjoy reading this edition. I request you to keep in touch with us via the Alumni Relations Office. The Alumni Relations Office is also reimagining new and different ways of staying connected with you all.

Last but not the least, I want to congratulate the newest members of our alumni community - The class of 2020. Our young alumni have missed out on the joy of many key educational, professional, and ceremonial moments, but we must not let the pandemic rob us of the pride that comes from these milestones.

*Wishing you and yours health and prosperity in the New Year.
Take care of yourselves. Happy Reading.*

Best Wishes,

Anubha Bali

Director
Career Development Center and Alumni Relations Office
Shiv Nadar University



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Contributors

Despite the restrictions that come with working online, we are proud to bring out the 2nd Edition of Alumni Magazine for you all. We are grateful to all the people who helped us in creating this magazine - the Management Team, the Faculty members, the Student Coordinators, and all the CDC members for their invaluable inputs.

A special thanks go to our alumni who shared with us their inspiring stories, experiences, and works of talent. This magazine would not have been possible without your support.

Conceptualization:

Anubha Bali

Creative Directors and Copy Editors:

Shweta Tayal

Kritika Vij

Shweta Kataria

Some of the names we can't miss to mention: Paulami Ghosh, Radhika Tantia, Nitish Bharadwaj, Laxmi Sharma, Rohit Tiwari, Arnav Sinha, Jagriti Sachan and Poorva Srivastava.

Disclaimer: The stories and the photographs have been collected by the respective alumni. We have taken the necessary precautions to ensure the correctness of the data.



SNU NEWSFLASH!

Top Placement Partners 2020

While some students were joining us, others were leaving, and many of them left in style. CDC has always worked hard to match the young hopefuls emerging from SNU with their dream jobs. Even we were pleasantly surprised by the quality of response in 2020. Top recruiters included Goldman Sachs, Qualcomm, PayPal, Adobe, American Express, Viasat, Hewlett Packard, Samsung, Cadence, IBM and Larsen and Toubro. What was even more encouraging is that many of them are returning recruiters.



SNU and Dassault Systems launch a Center of Excellence

Shiv Nadar University and Dassault Systèmes have joined forces to launch a unique Center of Excellence - a platform that will help students and faculty develop real-life, sustainable solutions for the 21st century. Powered by the 3D EXPERIENCE platform from Dassault Systèmes. The center will foster research, innovation, design, and entrepreneurship, and nurture tomorrow's game-changers. It was launched on 3rd October 2020.



New Courses



► B.Sc. in Economics and Finance

The Economics Department has added a contemporary and innovative 4 year program: B.Sc. in Economics and Finance to be conducted jointly with the School of Management and Entrepreneurship. The course offers a diverse program that focuses on creativity, and entrepreneurship and will arm students with business skills required to work in a range of sectors. The course will provide a good foundation in Economics and empower the student to build a successful career in Business and Management.

► Data Science & Analytics for Business

Shiv Nadar University has launched a unique 5-month certificate program in 'Data Science & Analytics for Business', in collaboration with Jigsaw Academy, Bangalore. The program is designed to upskill students by teaching them how to read data, discover patterns in information, and utilize statistics. It will train students to use powerful tools and think strategically to gain business foresight, achieve operational efficiency, and drive organizational growth.



Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry UK



► Prof. Parthapratim Munshi, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry at SNU has joined the Royal Society of Chemistry, UK, as a Fellow

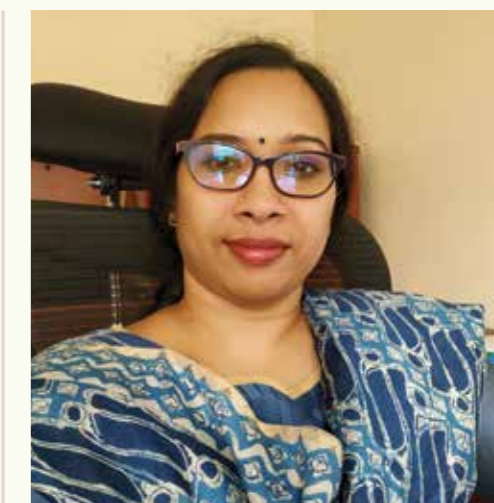
Prof. Munshi was invited by the world's leading chemistry community through its 'Leaders in the Field' scheme for his significant contributions in the chemical sciences, particularly in the area of organic multifunctional materials.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Munshi said, "It is a great honour for me to accept this invitation. I am excited to work with the world's brightest minds in the field of chemical sciences and to give meaningful support to the mission of the Royal Society of Chemistry".

Research to Reduce Plastic Waste

► Prof. Yamini Sudha Sistla Research - to reduce plastic waste

Prof. Yamini Sudha Sistla, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Shiv Nadar University, explains how the Shiv Nadar University- Dassault Systèmes Center of Excellence will enable interdisciplinary interaction and collaboration for her research on developing biopolymer-based, biodegradable solutions for various applications. Prof. Sistla's work will potentially help large industries reduce plastic waste from consumer goods packaging.



New Arrivals

There is always something new happening around the university.

The burgeoning infrastructure has become one of the key differentiators for Shiv Nadar University. Some new additions include the club house, the swimming pool, faculty housing, a golf course and 100 new cycles. So, come back soon and see how your campus has changed!

Thrilled to welcome new members of the SNU family to the campus. A turtle symbolising knowledge, wisdom, and longevity. Horses signifying power, freedom, and endurance. The green expanse of the campus is their perfect home, as it is for nearly 110 species of bird that start chirping before the golden sunrise. We are on course to achieve great things together, figuratively and literally.



SNU has recently released 100 bicycles to support an eco-friendly environment and make the SNU campus more eco-friendly. These bicycles are available inside the campus and anyone on the campus can use them.

Club House



Pantry



Meeting Hall



Restaurant



Golf Course



Our Frontliners

Even in these challenging times, these alumni are making a difference.

Neeraj Shetye is working with Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Centre for Social Justice, a joint venture between the University of Mumbai and the London School of Economics.

A 2019 graduate with a BA (Research) in Sociology, Neeraj Shetye now plays a key role in- “Khana Chaahiye” a Mumbai-based initiative that is conducting relief efforts during the lockdown. Throughout the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, he is helping to deliver cooked meals and grocery kits to the homeless and the vulnerable. He supported migrants in their efforts to leave the city. “In over 4 months of lockdown,” he says, “we served 45 lakh meals, distributed 14,000 grocery kits, and served over 5 lakh migrants on Shramik Expresses leaving Mumbai.” He is now supporting BMC in developing a crisis management tool for better preparedness in the future and is also advocating policy proposals. Neeraj is helping in data collection, and in developing the qualitative dimensions of the project. He is working with the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Centre for Social Justice, a joint venture between the University of Mumbai and the London School of Economics.



Neeraj Shetye
BA Sociology (2019)



Sabarish Shankar
B.Tech. ECE (2017)

Sabarish Shankar thinks he did very little!

When asked, the extremely modest Sabarish Shankar said that he has done very little. This is what he did. Firstly, he crowd sourced and created a COVID-19 educational resource repository on GitHub for public use: As a former teacher, he also recognized that his students were not only missing out on learning due to school closure, but that their families were also suffering economically. He encouraged fellow students to contribute, and raised funds for parents in need. As the head of education policy of the student’s association, he initiated a series of events called “QuarantinED” with people on the ground who looked at the effect of COVID-19 on Early Childhood Education, K-12 and Higher Education. According to Sabarish, there are three things that all of us can do to help today – volunteer to teach or assist at low income schools in our community, support funds that we believe are genuinely supporting those in need, and consider donating second-hand digital devices that we are no longer using to students in local schools.

Nandini Kaushik is giving our campus mascots a life of dignity

The campus dogs have been our mascots for many years. But most of us have been content to just love them. Nandini Kaushik, a student of Electronics and Communication Engineering, decided to take it a step further. She is now their local guardian and fiercest protector. She fixes their wounds, gets them neutered, and makes sure they get two square meals a day. Over time, 10 dogs became 50, and then 100, spread over Noida and Ghaziabad. She has even found a home for four of them, in Canada and New York. As she gets ready to move on, she is seeking a replacement. “I need someone to take this forward,” she says, “someone to love them as I did, or even more... someone to make them feel that this is just as much their home as it is ours.” It’s not a small responsibility. During the pandemic, she has sterilised more than 200 female dogs, gotten a few more adoptions done and rescued several emergency cases.



Nandini Kaushik
B.Tech. ECE (2020)



Saumya Bhatt
BA English (2018)

Saumya Bhatt started a company to help migrant workers

The pandemic caused terrible suffering for over one hundred million migrant workers. Many across India were moved by their plight. But Saumya Bhatt, who had done her BA (Research) in English with a minor in Sociology, and is now pursuing the law, did more than just express sympathy. She set up a company. With the support of the Atal Incubation Centre at Shiv Nadar University, she founded “HandWork Mart” a classic example of a scalable startup social enterprise. HandWork Mart connects workers with a particular skill set to companies or other entities who require that skill. With the current high demand for masks, for example, many workers with skills in stitching are being connected to companies that make them. Not only do the workers earn a livelihood, the companies enhance their capabilities. So, if you know of any potential buyers of such services – please let them get in touch with Handwork Mart.



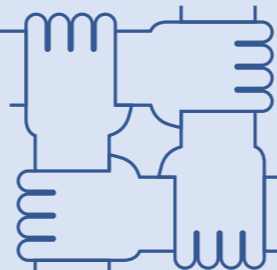
Ayush Jain
MA English (2018)

Ayush Jain has helped famous writers introduce some beauty into the pandemic!

As soon as the pandemic started, Ayush volunteered at the non-profit ActionAid India, contributing to the production and delivery of daily awareness messages. He has helped to drive not one, but three different initiatives, each important in its own way. During this time of uncertainty, rumours have been flying thick and fast. Given the life-threatening nature of the pandemic, each false rumour can cost many lives. Ayush was instrumental in creating and spreading a myth busters series, tackling misinformation head-on. His 150forRelief initiative was designed to create a community of donors and foster a culture of effective giving. It involved donations as little as 150 rupees or 2 US dollars. Perhaps his most interesting initiative was 'Imagining Together', in which he roped in award-winning, internationally famous writers such as Janice Pariat, Tishani Doshi and Giti Chandra, to help create and channel a space for reimagining and seeking some solace together through the beauty and power of language and stories.

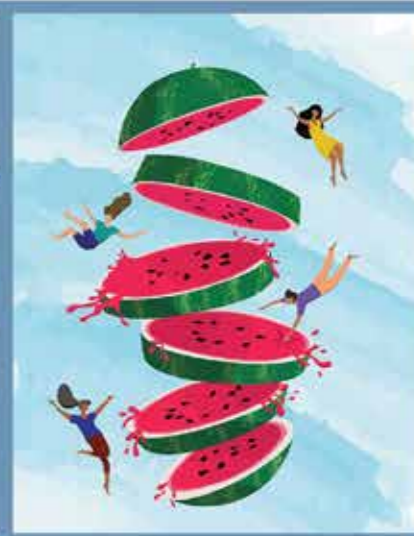
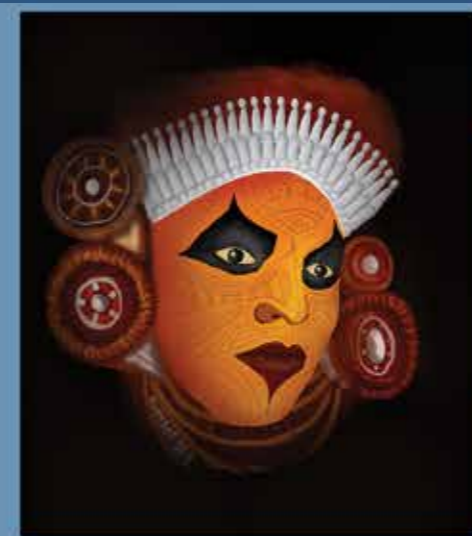
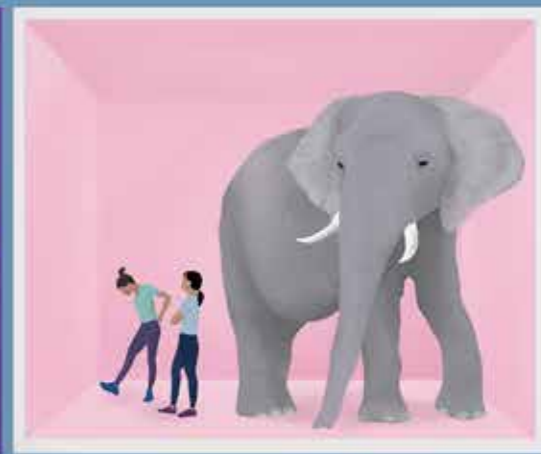
Alumni United

As the SNU family navigated its way through the pandemic, we realized the importance of having strong ties with our dear ones. Our gratitude to all those alumni who came together in these difficult times, and helped each other. It's good to see that the SNU spirit is alive and well. There are numerous stories of SNUites getting connected and helping each other. Whether it was raising funds for treatment or arranging for accommodation the SNU alumni worked together to solve the problem. They stood strong for each other during these trying times.



Artisans of SNU

Kavin D E
Class of 2016 - B.Tech. ECE



VarnikaMarwah
Class of 2018 - B.Tech. ECE

Graduation Ceremony, Class of 2020!

“What I missed during the last days of SNU was having breakfast in the C&D shops, to take 5 cups of tea a day to pass through my classes. From ditching the gym to going cycling around the campus to Mahesh for "usual" Maggi sessions. From organising hundreds of events to seeing the throwback stories on Instagram. SNU doesn't become a home until you go back to your actual home for a long time. It's like leaving a part of me and for everyone in the 2020 batch behind.”

Arjun Soni

“We left the campus as a student and now will enter as an alumni. This lockdown made me realize that no matter what, life goes on. Understanding the value of relationships in life has been the biggest learning for me from this pandemic and I hope that our connections with SNU stays forever.”

Rahul Goyal

“We all long for days when we could sit back and do everything at our own pace, in the comfort of our homes. Who knew that someday, we will actually get to do all this and then, we will terribly miss our Campus life; this lockdown, we all had our share of bitter-sweet moments. While the loss of farewell, convocation, after-parties cannot be compensated, the virtual farewell, graduation ceremony and lastly, endless zoom calls with friends made sure that we beamed with joy and laughed our hearts out. After all, all's well that ends well!”

Garisha Hans

No respite from the Covid-19 virus and the impending public health threats caused SNU to host their Class 2020 graduation in a virtual, online ceremony. The ceremony was premiered live on Shiv Nadar University's Facebook and YouTube Channels on 15th of July 2020, and the University became among the first in India to host a ceremony of this kind. The University awarded degrees to 601 graduating students, including 24 PhDs, from various streams of Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, Fine Arts, as well as Management.

Ms. Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Executive Director, and CEO of HCL Corporation and Trustee, Shiv Nadar Foundation, and Mr. Shikhar Malhotra, Pro-Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University addressed and congratulated the students.

Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh, Vice-Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University, said, “This has been a very challenging, yet special year for us as we pushed the envelope to find innovative ways to provide uninterrupted quality education to our students while ensuring their safety and that of our faculty and staff. This graduation ceremony is historic because it celebrates the culmination of the academic life at SNU of over 600 students after a very unusual semester, with the challenges of this pandemic forever uniting them as a Class.”

Despite the impending pandemic and a virtual ceremony, SNU experienced the same level of enthusiasm from graduates, family, faculty, and guests. The spirits of the students could not be hampered by the adversities of the time. We do hope that our batch of 2020 attains great heights in their careers, strives towards attaining excellence in their respective fields, and utilizes their expertise to make the world a better place. As our students set foot into the world outside the campus of SNU, at all times may they uphold the reputation of their university, and be ambassadors of the university, true to our motto.

“The most exciting semester of my college life felt ruined due to the lockdown. However, I felt comfortable at the hostel due to the friends I had made in my first year.”

Arvind K



Roshni Nadar Malhotra

in Conversation



- **Q1- Congratulations on your new role as the Chairperson of HCL Technologies. Mr. Shiv Nadar (Your father) has been a role model for many Indians around the world, for someone who's grown up with him what is that one life lesson you have learnt from him that you would like to share with us?**

There are many life lessons, I have learned from Mr. Nadar because he has lived such an illustrious life and with such varied avatars- in business, in education and in technology. If I were to narrow it down to one thing I can say that, he really values the excellence in execution. People can have amazing ideas, in fact there isn't a shortage of brilliant ideas in this world, but whether or not you make it, boils down to execution. That is something my father greatly values. If you look at names like Apple, Google and Amazon, these have become iconic because they executed the right ideas at the right pace and place. In life it isn't the idea but the fact that it was executed well which is very essential.

**Executive Director & CEO, HCL Corporation |
Chairperson, HCL Technologies | Trustee,
Shiv Nadar Foundation | Founder & Trustee,
The Habitats Trust**

- **Q2 - You are one of the few women leaders in the global economy who is leading a multibillion dollar organization. Can you please share some insights as to how things can be difficult for women in leadership, and what is that unique perspective that you as a woman bring to the table?**

I think the common thread across all women who have really made it is that somewhere along in their careers they had “great champions” standing beside them. These could either be in the family or at the workplace in the form of a mentor, someone who understood and pushed them to do better. Women play multiple roles in everyday lives and are able to do so because Women are superheroes. Women who end up becoming truly successful are the ones who have had a good support framework or had someone who supported them in their journey. When I reflect back, for a very long time my mentor was my father. I have been in situations where I've been the youngest in the room and was surrounded by people who were more senior and experienced than me. They've all played a role in teaching me, by giving me space to grow, and at the same time they have all been excellent mentors. At the end of the day, you want to be respected, and that's what the best reporting managers are able to do. They give you respect, your space and your responsibilities and place their trust in your ability to do good. I think what women really want, which men get and take for granted, is respect regardless of their age and experience.

- **Q3 - Roshni, our readers would really like to hear your thoughts on the global crisis the world is going through. What do you have to say about it?**

I think it's been a very difficult time for the whole world, and much more difficult for the have nots. It is time for some serious reflection. People need to reflect and think about how they would like to change the way they are in their environments: at the workplace, with their families and the way they are with themselves. I will not say that this is the new normal because the world keeps changing. Today, we are definitely in a crisis, but instead of saying it's a crisis we need to address it as a change

that's going to take place and think of how to keep evolving and how to keep adapting and adjusting. I think that's what the world is also trying to do.

- **Q4 - The pandemic would have touched HCL as an organisation. What sort of impact has it had till now? What are the long-term changing work practises that have to be dealt with in a global organisation?**

I think all businesses have been impacted very strongly. This is because it's not just about your own ecosystem of employees and work, but it's also that you service a lot of customers and clients and in turn these customers and clients come from varied industries. We were one of the earliest in our industry, at least in India, to shift to the work-from-home model and that really helped us. You know by way of having HCL Healthcare in the larger HCL Group and having a very agile workforce, I think that people have been quite productive. Even work-from-home has been great. However, human beings in general are social beings. So while work-from-home will carry on for a much longer time, I think even if it's in small pockets, people do want to come back to work. As an organization, we will ensure that all safety precautions are taken to allow our employees to come back to office when they choose.

- **Q5 - We have always known that the work we do, does impact the world we live in. Would you like to share some of the contributions and inputs HCL has been making to ensure the country emerges out of the pandemic stronger.**

At the beginning of the COVID crisis, there were a lot of pledges being made to the national funds, but HCL's strategy was based on responding to immediate needs through solid execution. So, instead of signing a cheque and making a donation, we decided to actually build a strategy and working with our NGO partners. We have over 200 NGO partners all over the country who are working in different geographies. For our COVID response work, we have been working with partners focused in the states of Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh which are severely hit but also in some of the other

states and using their network and their expertise during this crisis.

Our work has been in areas of complementing healthcare services by supporting with medical supplies, equipment & accessories, setting up dedicated COVID facilities to minimize disruptions in medical care and delivery of health services. To ensure the safety of our frontline workers and healthcare professionals, we have been supporting various states with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits. With technology as our core strength, we have helped set up and manage dedicated COVID command centres in Noida, Chennai, Bengaluru and Vijayawada to ensure timely response to all citizen queries. Given the reverse migration, loss of livelihood opportunities etc, a huge part of our initial efforts was on ensuring food supplies, including cooked meals, micronutrients and dry ration. Care for the most vulnerable including the elderly, children and most disadvantaged formed another pillar of our response work along with animal welfare initiatives both for abandoned pets and strays as well as animals in shelters.

Our strategy is still playing out with seven months into this crisis and things are beginning to get better with time. What has been most amazing is that over the past seven months all the partners that we worked with, including our own people on the ground from HCL Foundation, no one stopped working. Their commitment and dedication is amazing. I think that all the social workers in this country should be given huge credit because while we are trying to be safe working from home, they were out in the field to ensure that help reaches the people who need it the most. We, in turn, have focused on empowering them so that they continue doing the good work that they're doing, and that's very important because all those people who are beneficiaries of their work will need their support for a while longer.



● **Q6. As a trustee of the Shiv Nadar Foundation, how have you seen the institutions being impacted, especially how have the younger children in VidyaGyan and Shiv Nadar Schools adapted to this new way of learning and teaching?**

The pandemic is going to have a long-term impact on education, especially at the high school level. However, the beautiful thing about children is that they adapt, and they're also quite fearless. They've probably been the bravest and the most adaptable in this environment. As a parent of an eight-year-old and a five-year-old, I have seen them both take to online learning seamlessly and so have all our students across VG and SNS. Of course, there are technical lags and other issues and it's definitely not an ideal situation as kids need social interaction more than anything else, but they're doing the best they can.

I don't think the long-term impact is going to be as significant for the children as it's going to be for the parents. So I think parents just have to sit back and say that touchwood all children are going to live long healthy and happy lives even if one or two years get signed off in that bargain. I think given the limited social interaction for children right now, I would encourage parents to focus on ensuring good mental health by getting back to socialising, in small groups as that would be the best learning, they can have.

● **Q7. Moving on to the Habitats Trust and the important work it is driving in the conservation space. How have you seen the space and the work being impacted especially with funds being prioritised towards the COVID impact rather than conservation?**

I think one thing to acknowledge is that there are lots of videos going around about how animals have been exploring their natural habitats now that there are no humans to disturb them, but if you really look at statistics, COVID has been absolutely devastating for indigenous species and natural habitats.

This is because of the lack of monitoring and patrolling activities which has led to an increase in poaching. This may not be for the mega mammals like the Rhinos and the Tigers but for the ungulates for their meat are not so much for trade. Also, the pandemic has not helped because all of a sudden you have people blaming the bats and the pangolins for the pandemic leading to mass destruction of species, which is even more devastating for the NGOs.

I think funding sources for NGOs globally, including in India have dried up, primarily because the donors have seen their own businesses getting impacted. Additionally, working in the field has become that much more difficult and unsafe because when various lockdowns took place all the monitoring also stopped and the risks became higher given the increase in unlawful activities taking place. However, I do want to commend everybody working in the not-for-profit sector whether it's in the area of wildlife and natural habitats or even in other areas for the amazing work that they are doing, being in the field even during these difficult times. From a Habitats Trust perspective, we have been cognizant of the challenges being faced by our grantees and have decided to allow them the flexibility to tweak their work more towards dealing with COVID impact as opposed to the projects that the grants were initially given for.

I really hope that more and more people come forward to support causes related to wildlife and habitat conservation to help save the amazing flora and fauna that inhabits the earth. Imagine living in a world, where there are only humans, everybody looks like each other and behaves like each other...that can be really boring.

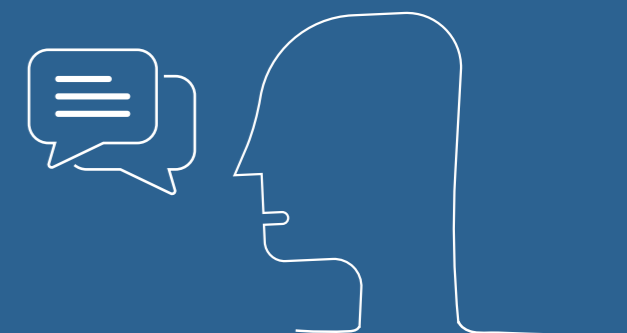
From a Shiv Nadar Foundation perspective, we are trying to inculcate a sense of responsibility towards the environment in our students across various institutions with the hope that they will also look to create a positive impact on our planet beyond gaining professional success. I would urge them to be kind, be gentle, be tolerant and be well informed. Don't be quick to form opinions,

read plenty and take it a little easy on social media...you don't gain anything by being trigger happy on your phones or otherwise in life. Like I said, I would love each of my alumni from the foundation to be avid lovers of natural habitats and animals, but then this is going to be their journey and they will need to find their calling. There is no dearth of good career options in this field, we only have one planet to live and we need to make sure that we don't destroy it for posterity.

● **Q8. Lastly, what is the one thing you're looking forward to doing once the pandemic subsides and what is it that you are going to miss which happened during the pandemic**

Let's be honest, I'm really looking forward to my children going back to school. I'm looking forward to traveling as well. I had signed up for two safaris this year which of course I wasn't able to do. In fact, I feel a safari is probably the safest place to be because you're in a remote place, you're not in contact with anybody else, but then to get there is of course an issue. So, I'm looking forward to travel and to my children going back to school.

However, I think I am also going to miss this amazing time that we've all spent together as a family and have sort of started taking for granted. Initially, one really valued the time being spent together but now since you see your family members around all the time, the initial enthusiasm has settled down. I think when life goes back to normal, I will miss these days and of course miss spending time with my pets...they have been in a total shock seeing us home for the last seven months!





Reliving SNU



Pandemic is tough. We have been tougher.



Amrish Tony
Director
Physical Education
and Sports

It has been an incredibly difficult year for the entire country - including the whole sports sector. It's no exaggeration to say that the pandemic has profoundly affected the sporting landscape, and will continue to do so for many months to come. So, now is the time when we need sport more than ever.

The first few days of the lockdown were really challenging when we had to shut off the sports facilities for the safety of our students. All internal and external tournaments and recreational activities got cancelled. This year was crucial for competitive sports at SNU as our teams were supposed to participate in various outstation tournaments. As the world started to revolve online, our expert coaches along with our student council sports committee, started connecting online with the students and rest of the community. We made sure people were exercising even during the lockdown without leaving the safety of their homes.

The much awaited, "Night of the Champions" the gala sports awards night also had to be organized online. Along with senior management and administration of the university we decided to open up few individual sports like badminton, cycling, squash & the pool for the faculty, staff and students (who could not exit the campus in time before lockdown). This was all done keeping in view the social distancing and other safety norms as per the SOPs.

The lockdown provided a good opportunity to look back at our sports programs, reframe and make interesting changes in events and practices for online and offline in future.



Anil Kumar Nair
Director Admissions
& Outreach

The rapidly evolving nature of the pandemic made us realize that novel problems require innovative solutions, and we could possibly not stick to the conventional admission procedure this year. As the effect of the pandemic started getting deeper, we knew that opening up of SNUSAT and APT testing centres was going to be delayed, so were the board exam results for Class 12 and for JEE exams (April). We quickly strategized and worked round-the-clock, and decided to conduct the exams online. In May, we announced an online admission test using an AI mechanism which is secure and remote-proctored. We were one of the first few Indian universities to do this. For courses in Schools of Engineering and Natural Sciences, students with a certain score range in JEE Mains (January) 2020 were exempted from taking the entrance tests. We also accepted college board, SAT and ACT scores this year. Shortlisted candidates were invited for online interviews, after which admissions were finalized. After the tests were conducted another major challenge was scheduling campus visits for the prospective students. As the safety and health of our students is of utmost priority for us, so we decided to conduct online webinar sessions for the candidates and their parents. We also promptly created multimedia content to enable students to virtually understand more about SNU, its strengths, the programs offered and give an overall campus experience virtually. During this time of adversity, we decided to defer the payment of our hostel fees for all the students, until they start or resume attending university physically. **We were one of the first universities to introduce deferment in lieu of the rough circumstances.**



Ashwin Ramanathan
Assistant Professor
Department of
Communication
School of Humanities and
Social Sciences

I taught two courses during the spring 2020 semester; one of them almost completely hands-on and the other is based on film screenings. But I already had a strong feeling by the end of March itself that this virus is not going to go away that quickly. So I started making arrangements. I needed two workstations for the practicals. The software was resource-heavy. We found just the software for the purpose. The next two weeks were spent on Teams teaching each student the software. The second course was simpler. Student participation in a large class is always a problem. But, I've found some students who don't normally speak up, during the online session do so because of the anonymity. They ended up doing quite well. But the personal interaction was badly missed. I've always maintained teaching is a bit of performing art and not using body language was a big challenge. One had to use one's voice. Modulation, pauses, topical questions to particular individuals, jokes, and light-hearted moments were what I used. Students are, I feel, getting used to our new process. I can actually see students (teachers too) looking at their lives very differently now. We work at the time we work best according to our diurnal rhythm. In most cases, the preparation time has gone up drastically. But in some cases, working within a familiar home environment has helped. We are no more slaves to the clock (at least, not as much). I, personally, would love to work in a hybrid environment where we could combine both. I can certainly get used to this.



Bimlesh Lochab
Associate Professor
Department of Chemistry
School of Natural Sciences

As the pandemic took hold of the nation the rules of the classroom changed. I am involved in research work. So, I usually teach in a blend mode i.e. using blackboard and PowerPoint presentation in the class. Research especially experimental (which I do) demands lots of interaction. Taking a presentation online gives you an idea about the progress of the work. However, when you physically see the reactions happening, you can guide more...it is the same as cooking food..... Teaching classes in a physical environment develops a student-teacher relationship which is unique, and also variant, as it differs from one student to another. This is currently completely missing!! Internet contains lots of material. However, it is not about the content but rather how it is been delivered to improvise students learning is a major game changer! In an online mode, this exploration window is very narrow and rather challenging. Nevertheless, it seems we all are adapting fast. It has taken a lot of time initially to understand the e-conversion of thoughts, but once it started it was a smooth ride with challenges of scribbling chemistry structures. In fact, the new AI mediated exam conducting software is also being used very effectively.



Kaushik Chaudhuri
Associate Professor
Department of Organization
Behavior and Human
Resource Management
School of Management and
Entrepreneurship

I work in the area of social sciences which involves field study, observations, interviews, and group discussions. The switch to Online Teaching was a new challenge which has been both enjoyable and frustrating as this happened all of a sudden. I miss the bright faces of my students, their expectations, the chalk dust, walking around in the classroom while having a dialogue with my students, and then over shooting my lectures (as I never complete my lectures on time). In an online platform, all this does not happen...However, now I am getting comfortable with online teaching and learning to talk to

computer screens with initials which occasionally blink and tell me- “I have network issues, my camera is not working” etc.... . I would like to mention here the extraordinary and exemplary efforts of my colleagues (Rajat, Sumel and Ashwin) and dedication of some of my senior colleagues - Prof. R.N. Biswas who devised online teaching of lab work, Prof. Jyoti Sharma and several other colleagues who made the courses meaningful and impactful for our students.



Madhur Deo Upadhayay

**Associate Professor
Department of Electrical
Engineering
School of Engineering**

I am taking all lectures, tutorials in online mode. My class has 194 students and managing their tutorial, assignment and other components is a mammoth task. Online classes are tougher than offline (in-person) classes. To update myself, I attended many national and international lectures, talks, and a week-long workshop. I converted my notes and course material into electronic form. I learned many software/tools for online teaching and evaluation. As I am doing research work, time management, and access to laboratories are the key challenges. We are using some freeware that does not give precision but they are temporary solutions. Development of prototype (working model) and testing work has been postponed for next semester. I feel that online classes are no replacement for traditional classes. Two important challenges are expressions and interaction. As an academician, I feel that institutions and faculty have the responsibility to develop sensible and educated humans, not robots. I observed that in the off-line class’s students interact with their classmates. But to meet the requirements and to beat the competitive world, one has to adapt to online learning. - survival of the fittest. In the current scenario of pandemic (Covid 19), online classes are the only way to continue the teaching-learning process at the cost of quality.



Ramesh Burela Gupta

**Associate Professor
Department of Mechanical
Engineering
School of Engineering**

Online teaching is a considerable amount of extra effort in terms of the preparation of materials like PPT, videos, etc. I have done this so that I am able to communicate from my end, but how much does the student comprehend I am not able to gauge properly. However, one good thing that I have done during the lockdown is I am able to connect with various people across the world. I am able to organize webinars, participate, and given talks without financial burdens in terms of TA/DA. Thanks, to various open-source software tools like Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, and others with audio and video features.

Luckily, for us, our research work has not got affected as our groups' major activity is in the computational domain. Personally, I have enjoyed every situation with the exploitation of new learnings, new connections, new opportunities, new participation, and many new things. The best part of online teaching is you can learn from anyone, anywhere, any subject if you have the will to do. However, online classes are a gap fill alternative for the current situation, but these are not viable for the long run.



Richa Priyadarshini

**Associate Professor
Department of Life Sciences
School of Natural Sciences**

“Remember That Learning Is A Human Interaction”- Willard Dix. At SNU, we have always believed in it. Our small class size provides the teacher with an opportunity to know students at an individual level. However, the pandemic required a profuse change in the teaching methodology. Changing the way, we teach and retrain for using online mode alone was a challenge and required a lot of introspection. For me personally, the biggest challenge was to create the classroom discussion as most of my lectures are based on questions and then discussion around it.

Another challenge for science teaching was to replicate the laboratory experience, as in microbiology hands-on learning is extremely important as lab experiments help to enhance sequential learning along with acquiring technical skills. In spite, of these challenges, most of the students have adapted quite well to online learning. There are occasional problems in connectivity and technical glitches but apart from these online classes are going on well. With online classes and videos, students are not restricted to a particular time of the class and can access the class materials as per their need. I do think that going forward a blend of both virtual classes and hands-on learning would be a good approach.



Sonia Khetrapaul

**Assistant Professor
Department of Computer
Science and Engineering
School of Engineering**

I am teaching programming course to a class of approx. 130 students and the UG Advisor of CSE. The biggest challenge of online teaching is to keep the students attentive throughout the lecture. I miss observing my students practice programming in labs. It gives me lot of satisfaction. The student teacher interaction is completely missing, I am teaching a new batch of students and I do not recognize them by face, so when in future if I teach them any other course it will be again a new starting for me. In spite, of these challenges every student has adapted to this new style of learning. Some students follow the online lectures and ask questions. Some others watch lecture recordings later, practice the questions, and ask their doubts through emails or during lab sessions. I would like to share some achievements of our students during the lockdown period. I mentored two SNU teams for Smart India Hackathon 2020. One of the teams (Team Cryptonite (VI year CSE students) won the SIH project with prize money of Rs. 100000. The other Team was EPOX (III year CSE students). It was really a memorable moment for me. I personally feel effective online teaching requires highly motivated, sincere students and teachers, and a good understanding among them.

Provided such commitment from both sides, for many CSE courses online teaching can replace classroom teaching.



Trishita Ray Barman

**Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
School of Humanities and
Social Sciences**

One has to be always ready for change, and learn to adapt. Things may not be perfect as we imagine them, but as teachers, we must be students always. This pandemic made me relook, relearn, adapt to a lot many things. Transition to a different system always takes some time and effort, but it has been relatively easy because of ample support from the University. The way the university offered help with MS Teams, evaluation software and training is noteworthy. However, the main challenge has been is to have uninterrupted space and time for my research work. An office space helped immensely earlier. Also, getting physical material - books, papers, boards - to work on my research is limited in the home environment as well as in the online way of operation. The saving on the commute time to the university is definitely there. But for everything else, I prefer physical classroom-teaching.





Rajesh Dawar

Head
Information Technology

The new normal has brought us entirely new ways of learning and working. We have witnessed several years' worth of digital transformation in just a matter of months.

SNU was one of the first educational institutes to transform into the online mode and resume classes even during the peak of the countrywide lockdown. The Information technology team launched several new tools and applications (mentioned below) to facilitate the online learning and research of the SNU community.

Collaboration Platforms

The faculty, staff, and students were provided access to collaborative platforms like MS Teams, Google Meet, and Blackboard Collaborate Ultra.



New services to aid remote-learning

Office 365 suite was launched for all SNU students and their Internet quota was also doubled. A genuine Windows 10 perpetual license was given to them free of cost, using the University's Campus agreement. The students were also provided remote access to the MATLAB Campus license. This software was also made available for installation on personal devices (using University credentials).

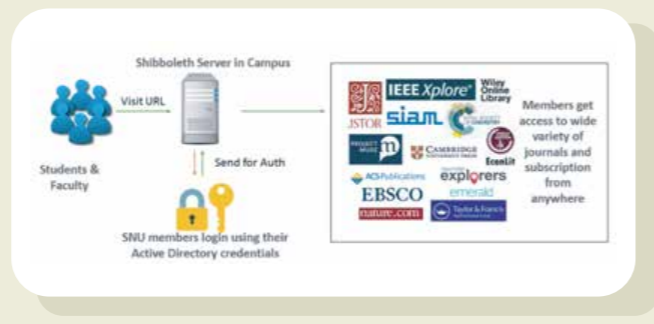


The faculty members were given Walcom tablets to aid their online classes and hands-on sessions on Collaborative platforms were conducted for all of them.



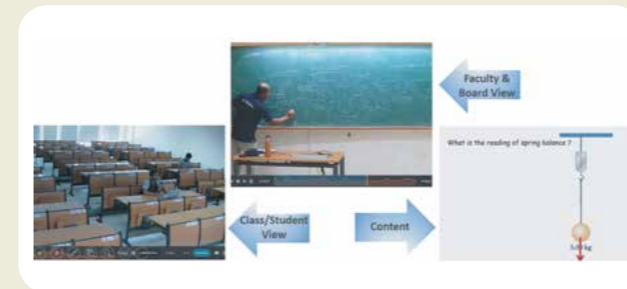
Library Resources

SNU implemented INFEED Shibboleth Federation servers in the campus which were integrated with the campus Active Directory. Students, faculty, and staff could access the Library journals and subscriptions from anywhere by just entering their NetID (ADID) credentials.



Lecture Capture and live classes

To support the need for Hybrid Learning, 25 classrooms on the campus were equipped with a Lecture Capture solution. This solution provides remote students to view the live or recorded lectures from different angles. Students have the option of multi-view and can either watch the faculty or content/board view as per their need. It also offers faculty members the necessary tools to edit & refine lectures for later viewing/archiving.



Remote Access to University resources

All the faculty members were provided access to SNU VPN. Using this, they could access virtually all IT resources from outside the campus. VPN access was also provided to several SNU students who required access to Lab Computers/software to complete their lab exercises or assignments.



Anubha Bali

Director
Career Development Center
and Alumni Relations Office

CDC being at the heart of the University has always been evolving. This year has been like no other and a difficult one at that. So, we had to re-engineer our processes. We started engaging with our clients months back through various webinars, presentations and expert interviews. These initiatives helped our students understand the industry better and prepare themselves accordingly. It also gave us a platform to build a long term association with our existing clients as well new ones. We planned and executed a two months long exhaustive training program for our final year students in the month of June and July. The program included training on Quantitative Aptitude, Technical Skills (Basic & Advanced) and Soft Skills. We ensured our students undergo multiple rounds of technical and personal interviews. All interviews were one on one and were followed by feedback. Students were also evaluated using rubrics. In order to help our students cope with these challenging times our CDC advisors are in regular touch with the students and help them at every step of the process.

Our biggest learning in all of this has been that the tide can turn in any direction. One we must be prepared for unprecedented situations. In case we are not, we should be able to adapt ourselves according to the changing situations and make the most of it.

Research Breakthrough



Prof. Subhabrata Sen
Department of Chemistry

A team of researchers led by Prof. Subhabrata Sen from the Department of Chemistry, Shiv Nadar University, India along with his collaborator Professor Ralf Jockers, Institut Cochin (INSERM, CNRS, Université de Paris, France), discovered a set of New Chemical Entities (NCEs) with the ability to cure Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) or Acute Lung Injury (ALI) induced by COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) or other Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), which are also caused by coronaviruses.

Here's an interview of Prof. Subhabrata Sen on his Research Breakthrough.

- **1. How did you come up with this study & what got you interested?**

I was working on an interesting hormone in the human body for quite some time. This hormone melatonin controls our circadian rhythm or the biological clock. It is secreted by the pineal gland and has been connected to various therapeutic implications in human beings, from cancer, diabetes, and many more. While screening various articles related to melatonin, I found a connection between melatonin and SARS CoV2, the virus which causes COVID 19. This evoked my curiosity and contrary to the general curiosity "that kills the cat", this absorbed me into the vortex of COVID 19 directed drug discovery.

- **2. What did you want to achieve with your research?**

Very simple! Discover a pharmaceutical drug that will be able to cure COVID 19 and I will ensure this drug will be available to each and every person on earth irrespective of their social and economic status.

- **3. Who were your collaborators on this work?**

Ralf Jockers, from Institut Cochin, Paris, France, and our own Dr. Kshatresh Dutta Dubey, Department of Chemistry, SoNS, SNU

- **4. What was your role in the work? What about the other collaborators?**

I conceived the project and also designed and generated the potential

drug molecules against COVID 19. The design of these compounds require special computational expertise which in technical lingo is called "molecular docking". Dr. Kshatresh Dutta Dubey is an expert in such docking exercises and he helped in that. Ralf is a molecular biologist who is helping to assess the effectiveness of my molecule against the SARS CoV2 virus.

- **5. What question or challenge were you setting out to address when you started this work?**

The main challenge against COVID 19 is the limited availability of a therapeutic solution against this disease. They are either a pre-emptive measure in the form of vaccine development which can only prevent a person from getting affected but cannot cure an affected person. Or existing pharmaceutical drugs meant for other therapies like cancer, aids, malaria, bacterial infections, etc. that are being repurposed against COVID 19. The latter is like finding a needle in a haystack. Unfortunately, the rational discovery of new molecules targeting specifically COVID 19 is only confined to few places on earth. We are proud to say that we are one such institution where rational drug discovery is happening against COVID 19.

- **6. What were the key findings that came out of the work?**

Sorry! cannot divulge that yet! But all I can say is it is promising!!

- **7. What are the future directions for the work?/What happens next in the process of discovery?**

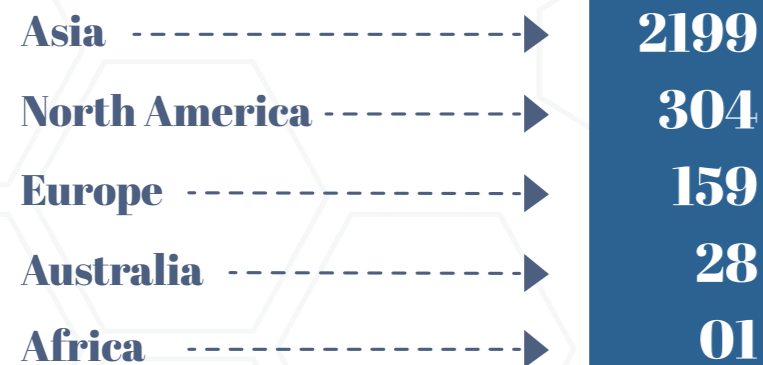
Based on the results from the animal study we can either take it forward for human trial or if the results are not promising enough then we need to take a step back to make more potent compounds and continue with the grind!! Let us keep our fingers crossed!!



A snapshot of the alumni community through facts and figures.

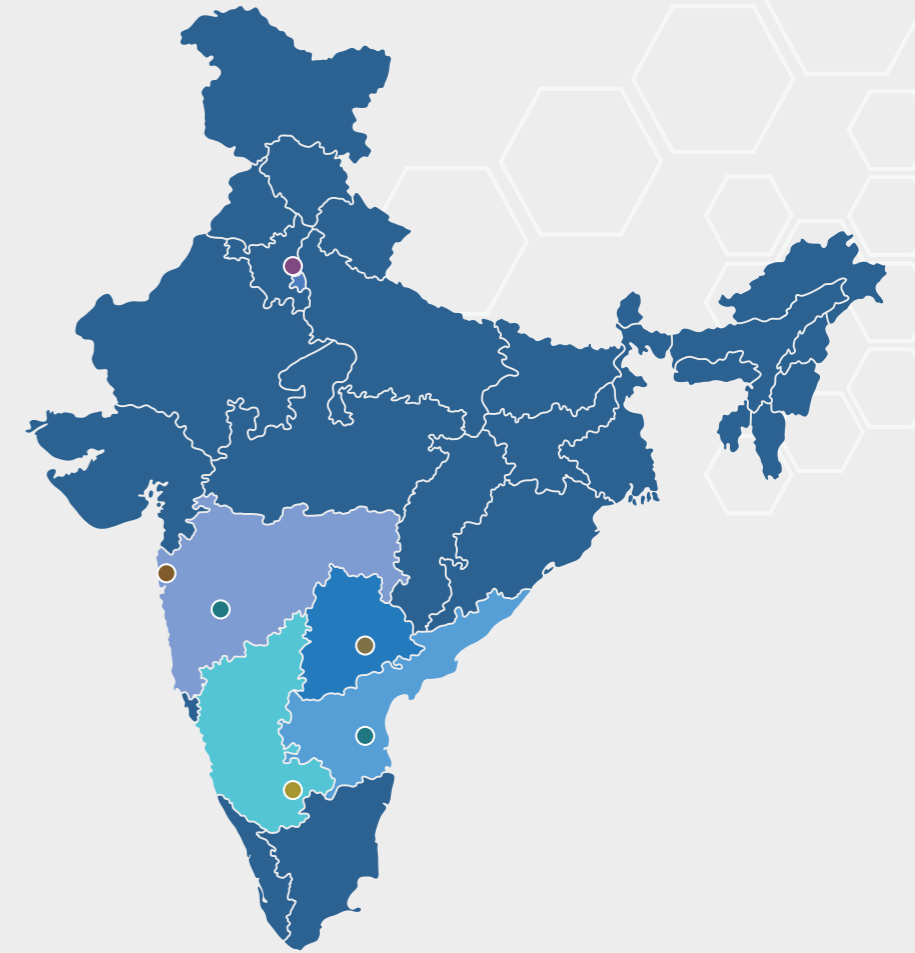
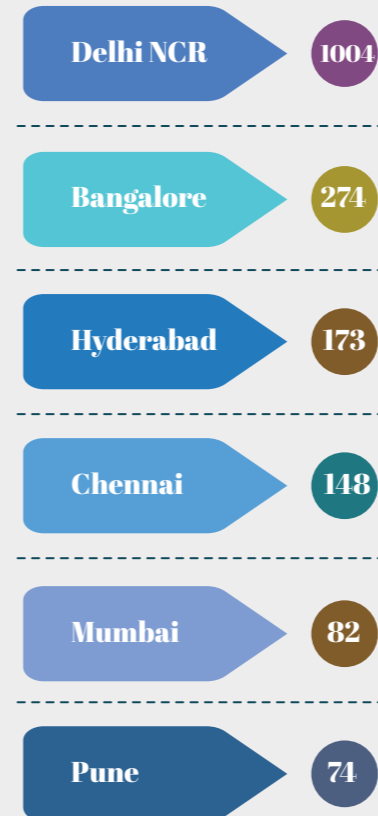
Across the World

SNU Alumni – 2691



Across India

India- 2163



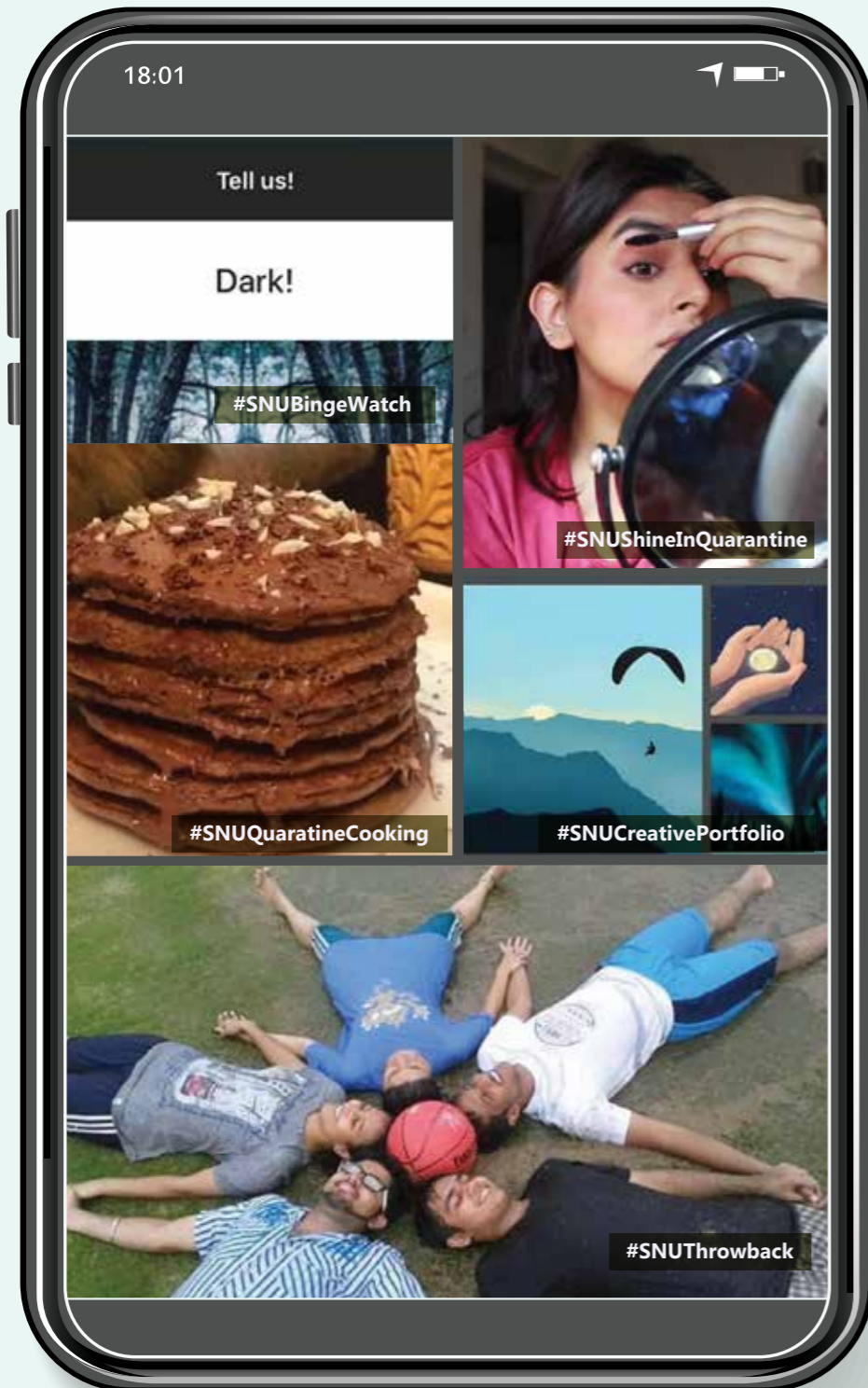
Alumni Overview

Male	1867	SOE	1900
Female	824	SNS	220
UG	2196	SHSS	339
PG	433	SME	232
PhD	62		

*The above mentioned data is till the class of 2020.

Bits and Bytes with Alumni

Social Media Engagement



The pandemic disrupted many alumni engagements. However, these hurdles could not succeed in tarnishing the spirit of the Alumni Meets. These meets are aimed at fostering future leaders who are stepping out of the University. These sessions are aimed at getting the current students guidance from the alumni who have vast experience and skills to share. In a recent virtual meet, our ex-students from the class of 2018 and 2019 working at Goldman Sachs shared their experiences of working there, and explained their work culture to the students selected this year. We also organised a talk series where the alumni guided the students about the admission procedure for international universities.

While we cater to specific topics in these Virtual Alumni Meets, we basically want to celebrate togetherness. With that in mind, we also organised Virtual Alumni Parties. Several activities and conversation sessions were held to keep the spirits high and our students charged up. That our alumni are superbly talented was demonstrated in a mesmerizing show consisting of an electrifying guitar performance and some soulful singing. With the hope that in-person meetings will soon come back, we continue to innovate methods to make our Virtual Alumni Meets a success.

Virtual Parties



Alumni & Freshmen



Alumni Talks



Alumni Stories

For four years, she has been helping creative people across the world.



Aishwarya G Gadodia
B.Tech. Computer Science (2017)

Currently a Senior Software Engineer, Aishwarya G. Gadodia has been working at Adobe since 2017. The first skill she acquired at work was a sense of responsibility. This has made her a very task-oriented individual, who takes responsibility for completing work by the given deadline, delegates effectively, and constantly seeks more efficient methods for completing work. Her proudest early moment was when she received a KUDOS award from her manager in her very first year. Today, she loves working in an organization where new ideas are welcomed positively. She also enjoys working with a diverse set of minds belonging to the technology, design and business fields. As for her life on campus, she loved every minute of it. The one thing she would do differently today is perhaps join more clubs. Today, during the pandemic, she has used her time productively to polish her cooking skills and catch up on her reading. Does she have any advice for students stepping into a post Covid world? “Create a good network, to ensure that you get to know what’s going on around the world. Seek more guidance from faculty and alumni. Improve your knowledge in your interest as much as you can, through online courses, internships and mentorships.”



Naveen Kumar M
PhD Electrical & Electronics Engineering (2019)

The secret to Naveen Kumar’s success? To Never saying ‘NO’.

Naveen Kumar is currently Senior Hardware Engineer (R&D) – Power Electronics at Valeo in Chennai, India. He is also already a senior member of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers), the world’s largest technical professional organization. According to him, he owes it all to Shiv Nadar University. “The major thing I learnt in SNU was how to be punctual and responsible,” he says, “It has helped me succeed in my professional career. I never said ‘no’ to any work, even if the work was not known to me. I inculcated this never-give-up attitude from my esteemed professors, Prof. Dinkar Prasad and Prof. R.N. Biswas.” His involvement with IEEE has also helped his personal development and professional reputation. He was introduced to it by Prof. Vijay Kumar Chakka, and rapidly rose to become student branch chair. He also had the opportunity to participate in various national level competitions at SNU, which taught him the value of teamwork. He has now become a Senior Member of IEEE, a recognition bestowed on only 11% of the membership worldwide. His advice to his juniors stepping into a new world? “Be dynamic. Always be innovative. Never say no to any work, even if it looks small. No work is too small to learn from.”



Piu Banerjee
B.Sc. Biotechnology (2017)

SNU prepared her for a PhD in Japan – right after graduation!

Piu Banerjee is currently in the fourth year of her PhD in Neurogenetics at the National Institute of Genetics, Japan. She is a recipient of the MEXT Scholarship, one of the most prestigious scholarships offered by the Japanese government. She sees the current pandemic as a time of opportunity. Some of the world’s most famous research conferences are now virtual. This enables participation at a nominal fee, without the heavy expense of travel. She also feels that it is an excellent time to hone skills, personal and professional, through online courses. What is her advice for others keen to pursue a PhD right after graduation? “Maintain a good GPA. Get as much hands-on research experience as you can. Intern with top institutes and make contacts. Maintain a good rapport with professors. Get guidance from PhD students on campus.” In her own case, the biggest factor was the OUR (Opportunities for Undergraduate Research) program. “I was able to do 3 research projects at the undergraduate level. This is what allows us to be at par with master’s students. My professors also got me an internship at DRDO which boosted my CV. Courses like ‘Academic Writing’ helped me to become a better science writer. I honestly don’t feel that any other place can prepare you for a career in research as well as SNU does!”

From a start-up to a top MNC, this is Chandni Aneja’s success story.

Recalling her days at SNU, Chandni Aneja misses the University time when they would sit for hours in the library studying, having fun and working on group projects. For her, the key learnings through such group activities were team building and finding multiple solutions to one problem. The professors, she says, were always there as a support system but their constant encouragement to become independent has proven to be beneficial. When she stepped into the professional world, her first job in a start-up demanded fair amount of research before introducing any new strategy. This is where the attribute of self-reliance learnt early in the University came handy. She is currently working at Boston Consulting Group as a Solution Delivery Analyst. Her switch from a small start-up to one of the biggest MNCs in the world, wasn’t a matter of chance. She prepared for the interview for six months. She revisited concepts, did extensive research, honed her skill sets and on the day of the interview remained confident and honest in all her answers.

To the students studying at SNU, she has a simple advice. She believes that, as the University provides ample opportunities and enough exposure, an aspiring mind should avail them as much as possible. Stating her own example, she recalls how she was introduced to the world of coding at SNU. She believes that everyone should find value in whatever they are doing. She started small, but made the most of it and stayed proactive by creating opportunities for herself. Sending a message of hope to all the graduates this year, she says that even when the current job market is not in good shape, one should continue to strive towards one’s true calling.



Chandni Aneja
M.Sc. Economics (2015)



Happy Moments

"Subha and I met each other in Aug 2019 and our families decided that 7th June 2020 would be the wedding date. We both were really looking forward to our big day but COVID-19 hit us unexpectedly. This left us with two choices – postponement of the wedding or getting married as planned. Going ahead meant a lot of re-planning. There were numerous challenges thrown our way like the marriage date, travel restrictions, choosing guests amongst relatives and friends due to limited headcount, difficulty in wedding shopping, and organizing the wedding requirements like catering, decorations, and photography. But, we were firm about getting married as planned. We shopped together, made wedding arrangements together, and did not let anything get in the way of our enjoyment. As only a handful of both our families were available to organize the wedding, both the families helped each other with their responsibilities and made this celebration a success and also developed a great bonding even before the wedding. To compensate for the absence of a large group of friends, we hosted a live relay of the wedding proceedings and shared them with our dear ones. This way they were able to be a part of the wedding and enjoy the occasion with us. The local authorities only allowed 50 people at a time to be present at the venue. Therefore, we divided our guests into groups and invited them to different events like mappillai azhaippu (like baraat), reception, wedding, nalanto, and housewarming. This way we could accommodate the majority of our family and friends. However, we missed our friends terribly whom we were unable to invite. We are extremely grateful to our parents who made this day so beautiful for us. For those few hours, we forgot about

everything and just had fun except for the fact that we had to put on a mask during our wedding and remove it to smile for the pictures every time. In the end, I would just like to say that life has become more wholesome and fulfilling for each of us than before. The lockdown provided us with substantial personal time which made us understand each other better and appreciate each other's taste, values, and perceptions."



Aadhithyan B (B.Tech. CSE, 2016)
and **Subhasree**



Akanksha (B.Tech. CSE, 2018)
Raubin Chaudhary
(MBA, 2017)



R.A. Vidhya Sagkar
(B.Tech. ME, 2016)
and **Surya**



Parul Mukherjee,
(MBA, 2017) Blessed with
a baby girl **ANAISHA**



Richa Varma
(B.Tech. ECE, 2016) and
Swapnil Khilariwal
(B.Tech. ECE, 2016)



Geethika Chandra,
(B.Tech. ECE, 2015)
and **Sidhartha**



Somya Agarwal
(MBA, 2019) and
Ravish Malik
(MBA, 2017)

Musings

From our alumni

The Covid Normal

The last few months were full of turmoil
All the dreams seem to shatter in the soil.
Each long-term plan started failing,
Markets fluctuating, hopes flailing.

Losing our interest for lack of time,
Now are sprouting back in life of mine.
It's a new opportunity granted to connect,
To rejoice every moment with all my friends.

Work from home and social distancing,
Masks and no travel, unless urgency!
Hand sanitizers are our new buddies,
Our saviors of times – home deliveries.

While virtual reality is becoming a new trend,
Some are losing jobs, some houses, some friends.
Each passing day of scare and stress,
Every moment is becoming our mistress.

A ray of optimism is keeping all intact
A look-out for each other is a way to protect
The love and laughter in public will resume
Soon a smiling sun will on our face bloom

Anisha Jain
B.Sc. Economics (2017)

6AM feels like 6PM

6 AM
feels like 6 PM

As the sun rises,
shadows sets in
Today blurs
into tomorrow, and

I ask –
What day is it?

Arushi Gupta
B.Tech. Computer
Science and Engineering
(2015)

Ye Waqt Itna Bhi Kharaab Nahi Hai

Aaj kal waqt ka kuch bhi hisaab nahi hai
Par ye waqt itna bhi kharaab nahi hai

Hum sab ghar pe hi reh kar subah se shaam kar rahe hai
Isi bahane mard bhi ghar ke kaam kar rahe hai

Kudrat ne bhi kuch dino se chain ki saans li hai
Ghar me rehne ko maano khud khuda ne aawaz di hai

Ped, podhe, pashu, pakshi sab jhoom rahe hai
kitna khoobsurat sa manzar hai,
Mandir, mazid band hai to kya hua humara khud
bhi humare ghar ke andar hai

Prakriti to humare bahar jane ke sakht khilaaf hai
Dekho na pradushan kitna kam hai, aasman kitna saaf hai.

Kuch unchahi cheezon se bhi doori ho rahi hai
Isi bahane kam se kam neend to poori ho rahi hai

Nuksaan pahuchane ka kisi ka irada nahi hai
Office ki tension bhi to zyada nahi hai

Sadko par log nahi hai , social distancing me dum hai
Chalo isi bahane sabhi sheher me apradh to kam hai

Kuch log ghar se door hai
Haalton se thode majboor hai

Unhe pata hai bahar nikleenge to kamayat hai
Vo bhi khush hai kyunki door hai to kya hua,
ghar wale sahi salamat hai

Aaj kal waqt ka kuch bhi hisaab nahi hai
Par ye waqt itna bhi kharaab nahi hai

Deepak Malhotra
B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering (2015)

My Nephew, his Friends and a Pandemic:

A day before the lockdown,
my nephew and his friends had played catch
in the evening after their school
while their mothers took to roofs to monitor.

They tossed the ball high up
and ran around in teams after it;

they bumped into each other,
some slipped and fell,
worrying their mothers for a second there,
got into muddy waters as it had rained the previous day
and caught the ball only after it had bounced twice.

An hour of screaming, shrieking and playing,
their mothers announced it was bathing time.

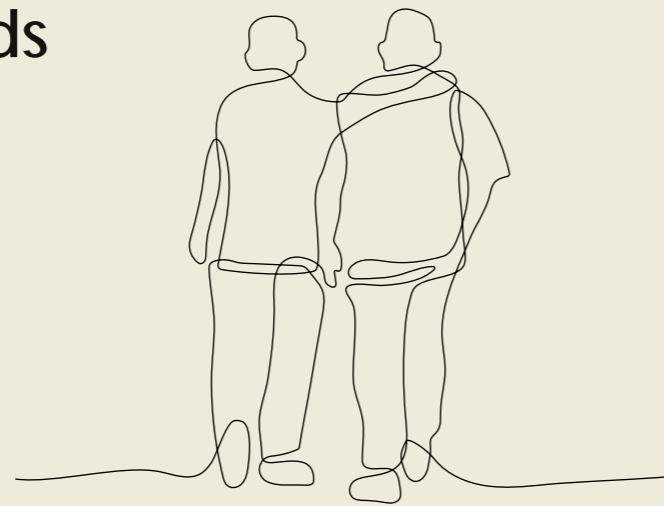
Someone was asked to remember the score.
I suppose they never did, the game ended abruptly;
someone won and the rest took pledge to beat them
the following day, they all went home.

For a few days after that,
The kids saw their friends and teachers
only on their parents' tabs, mobiles or laptops.
They weren't excited about the ambulance sirens
and masks anymore, they wished them away;

But within a month's time,
my nephew and some of his friends
have learnt to kite;
They team up to play COD mobile, Clash Royale;
They've started watching animated series
Black Clover, Demon Slayer, Dragon Prince.

They now have plans to play Badminton together
when it's alright to step out without a mask.

Harish Adithya
BA English & MA English
(2018 & 2020)



Path Of Pain

Path of pain what an indelible stain
It all began with an invisible strain
Went viral to shell-shock our lives mundane
Questioned existence as if all struggles were in vain

Path of pain all stress no entertain
Over a million perishing without a grain
As we turned away from their situation inhumane
Shunning those who built our shelter from the sun and rain

Path of pain even Gods are uncertain
The fate of that pregnant woman and her saree in bloodstain
Or the tears of that father who lost his newborn to this villain
They could neither bargain nor complain

Path of pain can we ever contain
Bringing people from a foreign terrain
Than reaching out to the needy who can barely sustain
Unheard and Uncared for shall they always remain

Path of pain once when we begin to sustain
Their grief would have piled up like a mountain
Their sorrow and curse like a deadly fountain
Drowning their faith in humanity as they won't return again!

Tejan Joshi
B.Tech. Electronics and
Communications Engineering (2019)

#Throwback





Neither the days will be any different nor the nights, but every time New year brings us fresh hope & joy, to leave behind the worries and steady ourselves for the adventures that lie ahead. We wish you all a prosperous & peaceful year filled with feelings of euphoria and jubilation.

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY

new year
2021

Get in Touch

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