FOUNDATION PROGRAM 2018

REPORT











INTRODUCTION

Foundation Program (FP2018) continued the IIT Gandhinagar tradition of welcoming the incoming B.Tech batch with an immersive 5-week non-academic learning program. This program was designed to serve the students who enter IITGN after a gruelling 3-4 years in preparation for the JEE, which leaves them fatigued and unprepared for the oncoming academic onslaught. The foundation program not only plays a vital role in reenergizing these students, but also trains them with skills that help them face academic, social and personal challenges.

The learning sessions were designed to fit broadly into five themes - Physical Fitness, Social awareness, Values & Ethics, Leadership & Team work and Creativity.

THE TEAM

COORDINATORS



UDDIPTA GHOSH



LESLEE LAZAR



POONAM MUTHA



MITHUN RADHAKRISHNA



MADHU VADALI

STAFF AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS



ARUMUGAM MUNISWAMY



PAYAL DAHIWALE



PRAJJWAL PATIDAR



RAHUL UPADHYAY



RASIK JAIN



RESHMA BABU



RISHABH ABHINAV



SAURABH SONI



SHARAD JOSHI



SHIV KUMAR



SHRUTI ADHIKARI



SHUBHAM SINGH



SUDESHNA DHAR



SUYASH GUPTA



VISHAKHA



P. R.VAIDYA-NATHAN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The entire IITGN community went beyond their call of duty to help us organize this event. The organization of an event of this scale cannot be possible without the support of administrative apparatus at IITGN. We would like to mention some of these people who were instrumental in organzing FP2018.

Ms. Sunita Menon, Coordination Officer,

Ms. Switi R. Parmar, Junior Assistant (Coordination)

Mr. Mukesh, Mr. Naresh, Mr. Dharmesh (Office Assistants)

Mr. Yashwant Chauhan, Manager, Hospitality Section

Mr. Shailesh Patani, Junior Assistant, Hospitality Department

Ms. Deepa Patel & Team (House Keeping team)

Mr. Dharmesh Kapadia (Classroom Assistance)

Mr. B. V. Puvar and Team (Security)

Mr. Biresh Chaubey, Assistant Registrar (Finance and Accounts)

Mr. Ram Babu Bhagat, Deputy Registrar (Materials Management)

We also thank the faculty and staff who took time away from their busy schedule to deliver a talk or conduct a session or workshop or help us in the backstage.

Dr. Sivapriya Kirubakaran

Dr. Kabeer Jasuja

Dr. Anand Sengupta

Dr. Sudipta Sarkar

Dr. Shanmuganathan Raman

Dr. Chetan Pahlajani

Dr. Ravi Hegde

Dr. Harish Palanthandalam-Madapusi

Dr. Jaison A. Manjaly

Dr. Pratik Mutha

Dr. Sudhir K. Jain

Dr. T. S Kumbar

Mr. Michel Danino

Mr. Krishnan Birman

Mr. Franklin Kristi

Student Clubs enthusiastically participated by conducting workshops. We are thankful to them.

One-minute video - 16 Pixels

Interaction with children - NYASA

Coding Club - Metis

Game Design - Digis

Special Mentions:

Bireswar Das

Conducted four sessions of Juggling Workshop

Manish Jain

Conducted "Building a Mechanical Arm" and "Maths with Toys"

Bhaskar Dutta

Conducted the "India Quiz", "Who stole my laptop" and coordinated the counselling sessions

Sharmita Lahiri

Conducted four sessions of "Creating a Story Session"

Arka Chattopadhyay & Umashankar Singh

Conducted four sessions of Writing Studio Sessions

Vaidyanathan P. R (MTech student)

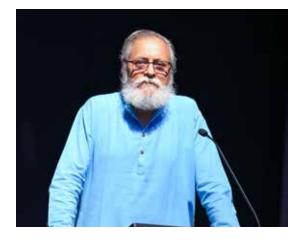
Conducted four sessions of "Brain Twister"

THE INAUGURATION

FP2018 was inaugurated on the morning of 23rd July 2018 by the chief guest Padmashri Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta from Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad). He is the founder of Honey Bee Network, a rural innovation network that connects innovators to rural unmet needs. He addressed the incoming students and urged them to create innovative solutions for the rural community. We also invited two of our alumni, Mr Yash Kotak of Myntra and Ms Kanchan Patel of Paytm to share their experiences with the students. They connected with the audience and shared their journey from the IITGN classrooms to becoming successful members of the community.

The inauguration program also saw talks by our Dean of Academics, Dr. Pratik Mutha and Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Jaison Manjaly. Finally, the director of IIT GN, Dr. Sudhir Jain spoke to the students and inspired them and also briefed the parents about the nature of education in IITGN.









LIST OF EVENTS

Physical Fitness	Social awareness	Values and Ethics	Leadership & Team work	Creativity	
Physical Fitness sessions (morning)	Interaction with kids - NYASA (IITGN Club)	Interaction with the Director - Dr. SK Jain	Theatre Workshop by Stefan Haves	Bollywood Dance - Kush Banker	
Sports Sessions (evening)	India Quiz - Bhaskar Dutta (IITGN)	Who Stole my Laptop - Bhaskar Dutta (IITGN)	Llbrary Visit Exercise -TS Kumbhar (IITGN)	Brain Twister - Vaidyanathan (IITGN)	
Self Defence Workshop - Sensei Haridas Govind	Tree Planting - IITGN	Talk on Ethics - Kabeer Juseja (IITGN)	IITGN Alumini Panel	Thinking about Sketching Workshop - Vishnupriya Narayanan	
Fun with Juggling - Bireshwar Das (IITGN)	Mental Health - PRIDE	Live life at Campus - Navniet Sekera	Bhave Theatre Workshop	Drum Circle - Rujul H. Vora	
Intramural sports tournament	Field Trip with NEEV	Gender Sensitisation - Dr Anjali Chabbria	What Makes a Person Successful - Lt Gen Vishwambhar Singh	Clay Model Making - Nehal Rachh	Warli Art Workshop - Arvindh Ghoshalkar
	Heritage Walk - Girish Gupta	IITGN Values - Harish Madapusi (IITGN)	Library Services Talk - TS Kumbar (IITGN)	Coding Club - Metis (IITGN)	Fun with Science - Manish Jain (IITGN)
	Women in Corporate World- Sridevi Khambhampaty	Discussion on Campus Philosophy	First Aid Training - Red Cross	Lego Workshop - Manas Jain	Creating a Story - Sharmita Lahiri (IITGN)
	Food Eat or Waste - Talk - Sivapriya		Leardership and Team Work- Rashmi Dutt	Game Design - Digis (IITGN)	Frugal Model Making - Frankiln Krisiti (IITGN)
	Kirubakaran (IITGN)				Writing Studio - Umashankar and Arka (IITGN)
	Communication with Comics - Sharad Sharma			Origami Workshop - Jeevantirth	Photography for Design - Bhaskarjyoti Das
	Cleanliness Drive with AMC			Math with Toys - Manish Jain (IITGN)	Calligraphy - Hiral Bhagat
				Warli Art Workshop - Arvindh Ghoshalkar	Saptak Music Session - Rajesh Iyer, St. Xaviers College
				Fun with Science - Manish Jain (IITGN)	Writing for Digital Space - White Panda

RATINGS OF EVENTS

Building a Mecl				
Antarchakshu V				
	hop by Stefan Haves 4.8			
Bollywood Dane				
Brain Twister	4.7			
	Sketching Workshop 4.7			
Interaction wit				
Interaction wit				
Who Stole my l				
Drum Circle	IT Services 4.6			
	del Making 4.6 Club - Metis 4.6			
	ence Workshop 4.6			
Talk on				
India Qu				
	n Juggling 4.6			
Lego Wo				
	Visit Exercise 4.6			
	esign - Digis 4.5			
	ive life at Campus	4.5		
	Origami Workshop	4.5		
	sender Sensitisation	4.4		
_	Nath with Toys	4.4		
	TGN Values	4.4		
_	ree Planting	4.4		
_	Warli Art Workshop			
	IITGN Alumini Panel			
_	have Theatre Workshop	4.3		
Fun with Science 4				
	Creating a Story		4.2	
	Discussion on Campus Philosophy		4.2	
	Mental Health Workshop		4.2	
	Frugal Model Making		4.1	
	Field Trip with NEEV		4.1	
	Writing Studio Workshop		4.1	
	What Makes a Person Successful		4	
	Photography for Design		4	
	Informaton about Scholarship		4	
	Calligraphy		4	
	Library Services Talk			3.9
	Saptak Music Session			3.9
	Heritage Walk			3.9
	Women in Corporate World			3.8
	Food Eat or Waste - Talk			3.7
	Communication with Comics			3.7
	First Aid Training			3.6
	Talk on Cosomology			3.6
	Leardership and Team Work			3.5
	Talk on History of Science			3.3
	Writing for Digital Space			3.2
	Talk on Indian Heritage			3.2
	Talk on Mastery			3.1











TOP 5 EVENTS

- 1. Building a Mechanical Arm by Manish Jain was a hands-on workshop to build a couple of robotic systems from basic mechatronic building blocks. This was a huge success and highest rated event.
- 2. Antarchakshu Workshop by Sam Taraporewala from Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC), Mumbai was a simulation workshop aimed at creating awareness and experiencing the world of visually challenged.
- 3. Theatre Workshop by Stefan Haves was a workshop based on theatre techniques for public speaking and confidence building. Mr. Haves was very popular with the students.
- 4. Bollywood Dance by Kush Banker was an energetic event where the students were taught the basic steps in Bollywood dance. Not surprisingly, this event was a big hit with the students.
- **5.** Brain Twister was a Rubik's cube solving workshop by our student Vaidyanathan, who not only was a TA for the program, but also conducted four sessions of this workshop with his team.



INTRAMURAL SPORTS TOURNAMENT

To add excitement to the daily physical education regime that students underwent, we organized a sports tournament for the FP2018 participants. Mr. Dinesh Parmar ran the entire sports sessions and efficiently conducted the intramural sports tournament. The students were divided into 4 teams and fought for the top prize in basketball, football, table tennis, badminton and athletics. There was also a cultural competition between the teams for the opening ceremony and Team Naag won the first prize. The overall first prize for the sports tournament went to Team Agni.









EUREKA

The FP2018 ended with "Eureka", a program that was entirely conceived and produced by the first year 2018 batch. They entertained the audience with dances, music, skits, poetry recital and displayed the artwork they had made during the various creative sessions of the FP2018. The students impressed everyone in the audience with their creativity, organizational skills and their social awareness.

CLEANLINES DRIVE WITH AMC

We organized a cleanliness drive in collaboration with Ahmedabad Municpal Corporation (AMC), where the students went to Old Ahmedabad and took on the role of AMC sanitation workers for a few hours. This was planned to give them an idea of the level of sanitation in the city and also to understand the difficulties of a difficult profession. The students participated enthusiasthically and were encouraged by the presence of the director Dr. S.K Jain and the AMC commissioner Mr. Vijay Nehra.





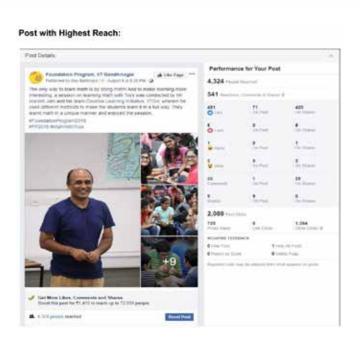




SOCIAL MEDIA

We had an active social media presence because of the Social Media Team of IIT GN - Mr. Devarsh Barbhaya, Khushbu Shah, Ms. Dhara Vora and Mr. Hatim Sham. We posted regular updates on each event on Facebook and Twitter about each event. We used the following hastags #FP2018 #FoundationProgram2018 The media coverage was also extensive and well organized. Many of the talks were videotaped and all events were photographed. Many thanks to the team and Mr. Gaurav Shukla

	Reach: Organic/Paid Post clicks Reactions, comment									
Published	Post	Туре	Targeting	Reach 1	Engagement	Promote				
25/08/2018 18:00	200 people beating drums together! What an exuberating	6	0	зк	585 199	Boost Post				
25/08/2018 14:59	The Drum Circle is back here at IIT Gandhinagar with	B4	0	2.2K	503 144	Boost Post				
24/08/2018 19:00	The Intra-Mural closing ceremony witnessed a	6	0	665	552 76	Boost Post				
24/08/2018 18:00	Foundation Program, IIT Gandhinagar hosted an	6	0	504	189	Boost Post				
24/08/2018 15:00	Professor Sudipta Sarkar took a session on History of	6	0	454	67 39	Boost Post				



INNOVATIONS

- 1. Training Sessions for Teaching Assistants (TA) and Staff We cannot overstate the importance of TAs in the success of FP2018. We had our first 'pizza lunch meeting' with all the TAs two days before the event, where we identified leaders and delegated work to each TA. We also had a minute-by-minute dry run of the inauguration. The staff member from Mechanical Engineering lab, Mr. Arumugam was also trained in office work like filling the travel forms, classroom booking and general bookkeeping. In this regard, training and work culture were the key to maintain energy and ensure smooth functioning of the team.
- 2. Biometric Attendance & Feedback automation In our opinion, this is the second most important contribution to the program. They eased the work of TAs and faculty coordinators, so we could concentrate on other issues. These systems were streamlined by TA, Mr. Shubham Singh under the guidance of Dr. Madhu Vadali.
- 3. Design language The organizers decided to give a design language for FP2018, which would be fun and easily identified in the clutter of events that happen on a weekly basis in campus. Dr. Leslee Lazar designed the visual language and implemented it on website, social media, flex boards, standees, stickers, banners, and mugs.
- 4. Student Kit We provided a kit, which included notebooks, stickers and a rain poncho. It was noticed that during the monsoons many studens might be inconvenienced by the rain. So we decided to provide rain ponchos to the students as part of the welcome kits. However, we found that many students did not utilize this.
- 5. Library session The library training session designed and conducted by Dr. Kumbar and his team was very useful. The exercises were designed to help the students get mastery over all the procedures and facilities in the library. We felt that this must be a regular and needed a special mention.
- 6. Engaging with Alumni We were keen for the incoming students to get in touch with our alumni. So, we invited them as guests in the inauguration. We also had an alumni panel to interact with the students for a three-hour session. Our almuni panel consisted of Manjot Saini, Assistant Manager, ITC, Shashank Heda, Associate Consultant, Bain & Company, Suraj Bhosale, ISRO, Rishab Anand, M.Tech Student, IIT Madras.
- 8. Mechanical Arm Workshop The mechanical arm in the workshop was initially designed by Dr. Madhu Vadali where he used a hydraulic actuated mechanical arm with syringe and tubes. The CLI motorized it and added electronic controls and used it in their regular workshops. We invited the CLI to conduct this workshop as this enables the students to learn with their hands.
- 9. Student Clubs Interactions We had invited the student clubs to set up tables on the first day to showcase their activities to the incoming students. This helped the students get an idea of the range of extra-curricular activities. Some clubs also recruited new students on the very first day.

- 10. NYASA We had invited the NYASA volunteers to conduct a session involving their students. These students are children of the construction workers in campus who are being taught by our student volunteers. The FP students formed groups and interacted with the kids and designed products that the kids would use.
- 11. NEEV We made a field visit to two villages near campus, Basan and Palaj. Here, the students interacted with the villagers and learned about their lifestyle, educational problems, infrastructure & amenities and waste management.
- 12. Gender Sensitization workshop with Dr. Anjali Chhabria was an interactive session with the psychiatrist from Mumbai. She has extensive experience in addressing mental, gender and sexual issues in youth. She answered queries on many important topics like gender, sesuality, suicide etc. This session was very useful and revelatory as students opened up and shared their experiences.
- 13. Mental health Workshop Keeping in line with the pro-active counselling services at IITGN, we had invited a mental health specialists from PRIDE, an NGO that specializes in mental issues for the youth to conduct a session on coping with anxiety, stress and depression.
- 14. Women in corporate world K. Sridevi Khambhampaty, Vice President of IN-TAS pharmaceuticals gave an enlightening session about the challenges faced by women and the stereotypes about women that are perpetuated due to lack of awareness.





RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. The registration and FP inauguration shouldn't be scheduled on same day as it caused a lot of confusions and problems with crowd control.
- 2. Confusions of TA allocation The TAs were allotted just two days before the start of the event. This was very late as we had started preparations months in advances. It was also not clear how many TAs will be alloted and there was much bargaining about this issue. It would be ideal to have a total of 15 TAs who are a mix of full time and part time preferably PhDs without course requirements.
- 3. Office Staff There should be one more staff member to help with the general adminitration. Although, the coordination office helped us with every step and we had a staff from the Mechanical engineering department for all the office work, it would be immensely helpful, if another office staff is alloted to Foundation Program exclusively.
- 4. We would recommend that the future teams make decisions about inviting speakers based on the ranking. We noticed that talks are always ranked lower than activities and we urge the speakers to not judge themselves harshly.
- 5. Interaction with Student Guides (SG) We found that the evening sessions by the SGs were disconnected with the rest of the FP program. It would be great if we can incorporate the SGs as part of the FP organizing team, so there is better communication and continuity between the morning and evening sessions.
- 6. Procurement of materials we found Ravi Stationery to be very helpful in purchasing and delivery of stationery and craft materials. Giri Communications was very helpful in the printing of publicity material like banners, mugs, stickers etc.
- 7. Storage of extra material We realized from previous FPs that a lot of material purchased were not fully utilized. This year, we conciously tried to purchase less, however, we were still left with a lot of material. So, we have stored in the storage unit in Building 9. These materials can be used for the foundation program next year.





THANK YOU

