

AlmaMatters

The Planet-1 Newsletter



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¹ VOLUME 5, ISSUE 12 DECEMBER 2025 IIM INDORE ALUMNI OFFICE

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Editor's Desk

Dear Alumni,

As we draw the curtains on another remarkable year, it gives me immense joy to connect with you through this December edition of our Alumni Newsletter. Each month, this platform reaffirms a simple truth: the strength of IIM Indore lies not only in its academic excellence, but in the vibrancy, achievements, and collective spirit of its alumni spread across the world.

This past month has been exceptionally memorable for all of us, especially because it brought with it one of our most cherished traditions: Footprints – the Annual Homecoming of IIM Indore alumni.

Footprints 2025: Where the IIM Indore Family Comes Home:

There is something profoundly special about watching our campus come alive when our alumni return. This year's Footprints was a celebration of memories, milestones, and the enduring connection that binds every graduate to the hillock. The laughter echoing through the corridors, the familiar warmth of old friendships, and the joy of rediscovering corners of the campus that shaped your journeys—Footprints 2025 was a beautiful reminder that IIM Indore is not just an institution, but a shared home.

The meet was graciously inaugurated by our Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai, who not only celebrated the many accomplishments of our alumni but also shared the institute's evolving vision—our expanding academic offerings, growing global partnerships, deeper focus on societal impact, and initiatives aligned with sustainability and inclusive development. His keynote, urging each of us to define our own version of success and lead with courage and compassion, set the perfect tone for the day.

Our Alumni Talk Series "Wisdom" (प्रज्ञा) continued its impactful journey, with insightful sessions that reflected the thought leadership and professional excellence of our alumni community. Each talk strengthens the bridge between current students and the accomplished professionals who once walked the same pathways.

We also take immense pride in the achievements of our alumni across sectors—new leadership roles, global recognitions, and personal milestones that continue to elevate the IIM Indore legacy.

This month also showcased IIM Indore's rising global presence as we hosted the 18th Eduniversal World Convention 2025. We witnessed inspiring moments that reflect who we are—an institution committed to purpose-driven leadership, global engagement, and societal impact. Welcoming over 150 deans and directors from 50 countries, we showcased not only IIM Indore's growing global stature but also our holistic philosophy of education—one that blends ancient wisdom with contemporary relevance. The discussions on ethical leadership, sustainability, internationalization, and social impact resonated deeply with our institutional values.

Nominations for the Alumni Awards 2025 are now open, and we invite you to help us celebrate the remarkable individuals who reflect the spirit and impact of the IIM Indore community. Whether you know an alum whose achievements deserve to be recognized or believe your own journey merits acknowledgment, this is the perfect moment to step forward. Detailed information on eligibility and the nomination process is available on the <u>Institute website</u>, with submissions accepted until January 7, 2026.

As we step into a new year, I encourage you to stay connected, stay inspired, and stay involved. Whether through mentorship, collaborative initiatives, thought leadership, or attending our programmes, reunions and chapter activities, your participation enriches the entire ecosystem. Our alumni network is one of our greatest strengths—and your success continues to uplift the institute's legacy.

This make resolution register the Alumni Portal new vear let's a to on (https://alumniportal.iimidr.ac.in/) and also become a member of the IIM Indore Alumni Association (https://iimidr.ac.in/alumni/iimiaa-membership-contributions/). Being a registered member unlocks a host of benefits including access to exclusive alumni events, networking opportunities across batches and geographies, career advancement support, mentoring initiatives, and updates from the institute. Join us in building a stronger, more vibrant alumni network—register today!

On behalf of the Alumni Office and the entire IIM Indore community, I extend my warmest wishes for a meaningful, successful, and fulfilling year ahead. May you continue to lead with integrity, curiosity, and heart—the timeless hallmarks of an IIM Indore alumnus/alumna.

With warm regards,

Manish Popli Chair, Alumni IIM Indore

To read earlier editions of the newsletter, please visit https://www.iimidr.ac.in/alumni/newsletter/

Alumni Talk Series

Alumni Talk Series "Wisdom" (प्रज्ञा)

The Alumni Talk Series "Wisdom" (प्रज्ञा) – an invaluable and transformative initiative by the Alumni Office. It brings together the rich tapestry of experiences, insights, and innovations of our esteemed alumni, illuminating the path to success for the IIM Indore community. This series is not just another set of lectures; it's a gateway to the future. We are privileged to have our distinguished alumni return to share their remarkable journeys, shedding light on the innovations they've crafted, their trailblazing work, and the reimagining of business models. This is the essence of "Wisdom" - a repository of knowledge and inspiration. We are committed to preserving these pearls of wisdom for posterity. Each session is meticulously recorded and made available on our YouTube Channel. This repository is a treasure trove of knowledge, accessible to all who seek to learn and grow. For recorded alumni talk series videos, visit: https://iimidr.ac.in/alumni/alumni-talk-series-wisdom-viville

Latest "Wisdom" (प्रज्ञा) Alumni Talks:

Alumni Talk No. 52



Speaker:
Parikshit Deshmukh
Alumni: PGP Batch 2016-2018
Group Brand Manager, Asian Paints
Topic: The Why Behind the Buy: Decoding Consumer Psychology in
the Age of AI
Date and time of the talk:
Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 4:00 pm (IST)
Link to the recorded version of the talk:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oMwKOcRP0g

Alumni Talk No. 53

Speaker: Utsav Thapliyal

Alumni: IPM Batch 2014-2019

Assistant Vice President ConveGenius.AI

Topic: Management Consulting in Social Impact

Date and time of the talk:

Sunday, November 23, 2025, at 4:00 pm (IST)

Link to the recorded version of the talk:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1ihrtPaFfI



Alumni Achievements



Rajnish Sharma (EPGP 2002–04)

Heartiest congratulations to our alumnus Rajnish Sharma on joining Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) as Business Head – Beverages & Projects.

The IIM Indore community congratulates him and wishes him continued success.

Manish Jha (EPGP 2010)

We are delighted to share that Blue Star has appointed Manish Jha as Group President, Manufacturing. This prestigious leadership role is a testament to his expertise, dedication, and outstanding contributions to the industry.

The IIM Indore community congratulates him on this remarkable achievement and wishes him continued success in his journey.



Keerthy Pethaiyan (PGP 2010–12)

We are delighted to share that our alumnus, Keerthy Pethaiyan, has taken on a new leadership role as Business Director – IMEA at The Lubrizol Corporation. This achievement reflects his professional excellence and continued growth in the global business landscape. The IIM Indore community congratulates him and wishes him continued success.

Footprints 2025

There is something truly magical about watching our campus transform when our alumni return home - the laughter in the hallways, the warm hugs, the stories that bridge time!

15 November 2025: The Annual Homecoming was graciously inaugurated by our Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai, who expressed heartfelt pride in the accomplishments of our alumni and shared the institute's evolving journey.







Prof. Himanshu Rai, spoke about the new academic programmes, expanding infrastructure, and initiatives addressing income disparity, rural development, urban challenges, and environmental sustainability.

In his keynote, he encouraged everyone to continue leading with purpose: "Define your own success, craft a personal vision, focus on what you can control, learn continuously, and persevere fearlessly."

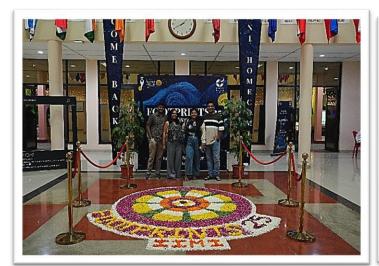
The day was filled with nostalgia, inspiration, and renewed connections: an affirmation that the IIM Indore bond only strengthens with time.







Footprints | What a joy it was to see the campus buzzing with energy and laughter for Footprints 2025! Truly, IIM Indore isn't just a campus; it's a lifelong home for connections, memories, and shared pride. Glimpses from the event!













Batch Meets

At IIM Indore, our executive education programmes continue to shape reflective, responsible, and purpose-driven professionals, strengthening our mission of learning, leadership, and nation-building.



02 November 2025: Glimpses from the batch meet held in Delhi for the participants of the EMP - MMS programme at IIM Indore.

Batch Meet | The growth of the IIM Indore community continues with yet another enriching gathering - the Executive Management Programme - Master of Management Studies (EMP-MMS) Batch Meet held in Bengaluru on November 15, 2025, in the presence of Prof. Nishit Sinha, Programme Coordinator.

15 November 2025: The evening was filled with engaging conversations, shared experiences, and reflections on learning beyond the classroom. Prof. Sinha emphasized how the programme has strengthened year after year, shaping leaders who combine managerial excellence with self-awareness, purpose, and resilience.

These batch meets are a meaningful way to stay connected with our expanding family of executive learners



and alumni across the country, celebrating their achievements and supporting their journeys.

At IIM Indore, we take pride in creating leaders who not only excel in their organizations but also contribute to the larger vision of nation-building. The enthusiasm and spirit of our participants inspire us to continue creating impactful and transformative executive education experiences.

Call for Nominations



News from the Campus

Rankings | We are delighted to share that IIM Indore has secured 4th place among the IIMs and 5th position nationally among 270+ B-schools in the BT-MDRA "India's Best B-Schools" survey 2025.

We are also proud to be recognised 2nd among the IIMs for forward-looking academic direction and an enriching on-campus learning environment - reflecting the strength of an ecosystem that shapes readiness for the world beyond classrooms.

Onwards and upwards!



5 Palms of Excellence | We are delighted to share that IIM Indore has received the prestigious 5 Palmes of Excellence in the Eduniversal Rankings, a rare honour granted to only 100 business schools worldwide.



11 November 2025 : Our Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai, received this award during the 18th Eduniversal World Convention 2025, which we had the privilege to host.

This recognition places IIM Indore among the most influential management institutions across the globe. It reflects our belief that true leadership grows when excellence is paired with responsibility, and when innovation is guided by integrity and purpose.

Welcoming deans and directors from around the world made this moment even more meaningful.

Together, we celebrated a shared vision of business education that serves organisations, society and the planet.

We at IIM Indore are dedicated to nation-building by nurturing leadership & driving transformative public governance. Continuing this commitment, we have signed an MoU with the Sardar Patel Institute of Public Administration (SPIPA), to jointly organize the Capacity Building Training Programme in Public Policy & Management.

18 November 2025: The MoU was signed by our Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai, and Mr. Hareet Shulka, IAS, Director General, SPIPA, in the esteemed presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel.

This partnership brings IIM Indore's academic strength and people-first approach to public governance. Together, we aim to build a system that is more effective, empathetic, and citizenfocused.



"This MoU with SPIPA marks a significant step towards enhancing capacity-building in public policy and administration for officers of the Government of Gujarat".

18 November 2025: An official statement said on Monday that an MoU between SPIPA and IIM Indore was signed during the workshop. Under the MoU, SPIPA and IIM Indore will jointly organise capacity-building training programmes in public-policy management on 11 subjects. The fellowship was launched in 2009 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to harness youth innovation in governance while he was the chief minister of Gujarat. Read More

EWC2025 (10 to 11 November 2025) | It was an absolute honour to inaugurate the 18th Eduniversal World Convention 2025 at IIM Indore, a truly global gathering of more than 150 deans and directors representing over 50 countries, right here in the heart of India.

The opening day of the Eduniversal World Convention 2025 at IIM Indore felt like stepping into global classroom where ideas, cultures and intentions met with curiosity and warmth.



10 November 2025: The day began with a deeply grounding keynote by Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore, who drew from the Vedas to remind us that education is a sacred responsibility.

He spoke of leadership as an inner journey shaped by courage, compassion and clarity of purpose, and of knowledge losing its meaning when separated from integrity. His words resonated across the auditorium, creating a space where ancient wisdom and modern challenges could speak to one another.

Throughout the day, conversations during the panel discussions unfolded around how business schools can meaningfully nurture social impact, not just as a chapter in the curriculum, but as a way of life. Delegates reflected on the need to infuse sustainability, equity, and humanity into the way we teach and learn. Stories from campuses around the world reveal how stepping into living communities - ranging from entrepreneurial hubs to remote mountain regions—can transform students into empathetic, grounded leaders.

Another keynote by Dr. Virginijus Kundrotas invited us to think about leadership with conscience, urging institutions to help students grow not only in skill, but in spirit. His reflections echoed the shared belief that management education must serve society in ways that uplift people, protect the planet, and honour purpose.

We are sure that the conversations that took place here on the first day, will travel onward, shaping classrooms, guiding boardrooms and helping build a world led by wisdom, responsibility, and heart.



10 November 2025: Hosting this convention on our vibrant campus, embraced by the warmth of Indore, the cleanest city in India and a shining example of what collective spirit can achieve, fills me with immense joy.

During keynote address by Prof. Himanshu Rai on, "Ethical Leadership: Lessons from the Vedas," he reflected on how education must go beyond success. Our true mission is to shape leaders who act with courage, compassion and clarity of purpose. Knowledge without integrity holds no lasting value. Business education must serve as a force for good, one that bridges purpose with performance, wisdom with innovation.

Prof. Rai said, as we celebrate these four days of dialogue and discovery, I am confident that the ideas born here will help us reimagine management education not merely for profit, but for people, planet and purpose.

It was deeply inspiring to hear the insightful reflections of Mr. Martial Guiette, Founder and CEO, Eduniversal; to listen to Dr. Aneeta Madhok, Eduniversal Scientific Committee Member for Central Asia, beautifully frame the essence of this year's theme; and to witness my friend Mayor Pushyamitra Bhargava share Indore's remarkable journey of transformation and collective achievement.

EWC2025 | The second day of the 18th Eduniversal World Convention, hosted by IIMIndore, was all about big questions and bold ideas!

11 November 2025: From leading with trust in uncertain times to navigating global geopolitics and reimagining internationalization, the conversations during the keynote address and panel discussions were deep, engaging, and full of fresh perspectives.

Business schools came together to reflect, collaborate, and chart a path toward a more connected and resilient future.



EWC 2025 | Have you ever seen Deans and Directors sprinting across a football field, calling plays with the same confidence they bring to their institutions?

11 November 2025 : At the 18th Eduniversal World Convention 2025, Team IIM Indore and Team Eduniversal did just that in the spirited Leadership Cup.

What followed was pure delight smart passes, surprise goals, loud cheers, and plenty of good-humoured competition. The match became a celebration of friendship, teamwork and shared purpose, proving that leadership also thrives in moments of play.

An unforgettable evening where passion scored higher than points.



EWC 2025 | A moment worth revisiting from the 18th Eduniversal World Convention hosted by IIM Indore - a rejuvenating Yoga session led by Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore, along with instructor Akash Borasi.



10 November 2025 : The session was further elevated by an inspiring performance from young practitioners who mesmerized everyone with their stunning Yoga asanas and discipline.

The experience beautifully reflected IIM Indore's commitment to holistic development and well-being, reinforcing that leadership thrives when mind, body, and spirit are in harmony.

EWC 2025 | The Best Practice Case sessions at the Eduniversal World Convention captivated delegates as IIM Indore showcased three of its most distinctive learning initiatives.

10 November 2025: The presentation on The Art of Mithila: Culture and Symbolism revealed how the rich visual language of Mithila painting becomes a powerful medium to explore strategy, storytelling, and sustainability.

Equally inspiring were the Best Practice Cases on the Himalayan Outbound Programme and Rural Engagement Programme, where the deans and directors from across the globe experienced how leadership is forged through immersion. The Himalayan programme builds



resilience, teamwork and self-awareness by placing students amidst the realities of the mountains, while the rural initiative deepens empathy and policy understanding through village-level problem-solving.

These unique approaches, widely admired by Eduniversal delegates, reaffirmed IIM Indore's belief that impactful management education emerges when learning connects mind, heart and community.

EWC 2025 | Hosted by IIM Indore, the 18th Eduniversal World Convention welcomed over 120 Deans and Directors from nearly 50 countries, who had the opportunity to explore the institute's vibrant campus - from its world-class sports facilities and inspiring academic environment to the breathtaking, lush green landscape that makes it truly unique.



The experience extended beyond the campus as delegates also visited Maheshwar, immersing themselves in the cultural heritage and spiritual essence of one of Madhya Pradesh's most iconic riverfront towns - a journey that beautifully blended reflection, history, and connection: A powerful reminder that education thrives where nature, culture, purpose, and people come together.

At IIM Indore, physical fitness and holistic development are part of who we are. This was evident as IIM Indore community participated in Runveer 7.0 — the Infantry Marathon honouring Infantry Day, Operation Sindoor, and the indomitable spirit of the Indian Army.



14 November 2025: Our running club, Runner's High, formed the second largest contingent with 181 runners, reflecting our respect for the Infantry and our shared values of resilience and service.

Prof. Himanshu Rai had the honour to flag off the 5-km run, setting the tone for an inspiring morning of national pride.

This year also saw a remarkable rise in women participants, with 71 runners showcasing the strength of our student community.

Seeing students, staff, and faculty run together reaffirm our belief that leadership is learned through action. At IIM Indore, we continue to run, grow, and serve with purpose.

Research Seminar | What drives firms to make large, infrequent adjustments rather than gradual changes? Why does it matter for the economy at large?

Exploring this compelling question, IIM Indore had the pleasure of hosting Prof. Sisir Ramanan, Lecturer in Economics, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow, UK, for a research talk under the IIM Indore Seminar Series on November 25, 2025.

His talk, titled "Lumpy Adjustment: New Evidence and Aggregate Implications," offered fresh empirical insights into how firms' decision patterns shape macroeconomic outcomes and inform policy understanding.



The session was coordinated by Prof. Radha Mukesh Ladkani, Faculty in the Finance & Accounting area at IIM Indore.

At IIM Indore, we continue to foster meaningful academic dialogue and global research exchange through the Seminar Series.

Executive Education | Empowering teams, inspiring leaders.

06 November 2025: The Management Development Programme on Integrated Leadership and Team Management at IIM Indore, concluded with its valedictory on November 06, 2025, in the presence of Programme Coordinator, Prof. Jatin Pandey.

Designed to strengthen team synergy and leadership effectiveness, the programme offered participants cutting-edge tools, reflective insights, and collaborative strategies tailored for today's dynamic organisational landscape.



With initiatives like this, IIM Indore continues to foster leadership excellence and strengthen organisational impact through transformative learning experiences.

Executive Education | The Executive Certificate Programme in Strategy & Leadership for Senior Professionals at IIM Indore concluded with its valedictory on November 06, 2025.



06 November 2025: The ceremony was graced by Prof. Manoj Motiani, Associate Dean (Executive Education), along with Prof. Nishit Kumar Sinha and Prof. D. L. Sunder, Programme Coordinators.

Designed to shape visionary leaders, the programme empowered senior professionals with strategic insights, leadership frameworks, and decision-making tools for complex business environments.

Executive Education | The future belongs to those who prepare for it.

19 November 2025: The valedictory of the Accelerated General Management Programme for Aspiring Leaders was held on November 19, 2025, in the presence of Prof. Ranjeet Nambudiri and Dr. Amitabh Deo Kodwani, who congratulated the participants for completing the course. Our batch is now ready to navigate challenges across management functions and lead with confidence.



Discover IIM Indore's Executive Education programmes and accelerate your journey to leadership excellence.

Executive Education | Leadership is not given; it is honed.



19 November 2025: The valedictory of JSW Energy Ltd's Leadership Development Programme on November 19, 2025, witnessed Prof. KAJARI MUKHERJEE and Prof. Dr. Shubhabrata Basu (FRSA) celebrating participants who transformed insight into action.

From strategic thinking to motivating teams, they are now poised to drive meaningful organizational change.

Do you wish to upskill, too? Accelerate your leadership journey with IIM Indore's Executive Education programmes

Executive Education | Every great leader starts somewhere, and this batch started strong.

20 November 2025: At the valedictory of our Leadership Development Programme for First-Time Managers on November 20, 2025, Prof. KAJARI MUKHERJEE applauded participants for embracing the challenges of leadership with confidence and curiosity.

Equipped with practical tools and fresh perspectives, they're ready to inspire their teams and create impact.



Step into leadership with IIM Indore's Executive Education programmes and unlock your potential today.

Executive Education | Congratulations to the participants of the Executive Certificate Programme in General Management on the successful completion of their learning journey.

29 November 2025: The valedictory ceremony was graced by our Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai, who encouraged the participants to realise their true potential by defining their own aspirations, needs, and definition of success; to never let others dictate what they should dream or believe they can achieve; and to always look at failures as opportunities to learn and grow.



Associate Dean, Prof. Manoj Motiani, also congratulated the cohort and appreciated their dedication, enthusiasm, and commitment to continuous professional development. We congratulate every participant on becoming part of the IIM Indore Executive Education Alumni community, and we look forward to the success and leadership they will continue to demonstrate. Want to upskill?

Announcement

Call For Papers | International Conference on Youth for Impact: Social Innovation & Inclusive Leadership

We, the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, in collaboration with the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, invite submissions for our International Conference on Youth for Impact.

This three-day event provides a platform for researchers, practitioners, and youth entrepreneurs to share original research papers, case studies, conceptual articles, and practice-based insights on youth-led innovation, inclusive leadership, and social transformation.

Key themes include:

- Inclusive Leadership & Social Impact
- Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Health, Well-being & Resilience
- Youth as Catalysts: Identity, Equity & Ethics

Engage with national and international experts, contribute to global discourse, and help strengthen youth participation in leadership and social change initiatives.

Submit your paper: Link



Upcoming Executive Education Programmes

IIM Indore is at the forefront of providing carefully curated programmes that cater to the needs of executives. We help executives gain new perspectives in an increasingly complex business environment. Our courses deliberate relevant real-world business challenges, and we keep on evolving them with world trends. We impart learning which provides immediate value and impact on the organisations. Executive Education Programmes at IIM Indore consist of a wide array of offerings carefully designed to meet your specific needs. The programmes are conducted at our campuses in Indore and Mumbai, online through technology-enabled platforms, and at specified client locations. We have a diverse portfolio of on-campus and online Executive Education Programmes for working professionals at different levels. Please explore the programmes listed below to find the program that suits your requirements.

Degree and Diploma Programmes

Short Duration Certificate Programmes

Long Duration Certificate Programmes

International Programmes

For more details, visit: https://www.iimidr.ac.in/executive-programmes/

For more information or assistance, please contact:

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