

IN THIS ISSUE



SUMMER WORKSHOP; ASPIRE TO INSPIRE: BE THE CHANGE



SUMMER INTERNSHIP; 2016 & 2017 SCHOLARS



2018 SCHOLARS ADMISSIONS



SCHOLARS TALK



SUMMER WORKSHOP ASPIRE TO INSPIRE

Each year, the Vahani family welcomes the new scholars and gathers the old at the Vahani Workshop. This year, the workshop was held from 29th June to 1st July at Ansal University, Gurgaon. These three days unfurled extremely well, bringing together the scholars and mentors under one roof. We are extremely grateful to Sheetal Ansal and Mike Knowles for hosting us and to Ibadat Singh for the wonderful photography.

The sessions at the workshop offered a platform for the scholars to discuss topics related to their future goals and think outside of the confines of their textbooks. Roshni Misra (our youngest mentor), conducted a brilliant book reading session on *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio, following by a group exercise to inculcate the habit of reading. Our guest speaker Yashish Dahiya, CEO Policy Bazaar, gave an inspirational and passionate talk about his life's journey and on the power of integrity in running a successful business. We are thankful to Dr. Bhavna Bharmi for conducting a fun yet important session on mental health and encouraging us to speak openly about personal issues.

WHAT'S NEW?



INSTAGRAM INTRODUCED &
RUN BY SCHOLARS



VAHANI SCHOLARSHIP
BROCHURE

Pervin Malhotra, India's top career counsellor, provided an enigmatic open discussion on how to choose the right career path. Rakshit Tandon spoke with energy and knowledge on cybercrimes and internet safety and connected closely with the audience. We were extremely proud to see one of our own scholars Ritu Chauhan join the list of speakers and conduct a very important session on the importance of savings and mutual funds. The panel discussion on Artificial Intelligence with Rajeev Misra, Reeva Misra and Mike Knowles provided for an interesting debate on the implications of AI in different fields and of a change that is inevitable and essential.

We ended the days with light-hearted bonding activities with ice-skating on the first night and a cultural performance by Dastangoi on the second night. This was followed by an appetising dinner at Barbeque Nations hosted by Shalini Misra. On the final day, each scholar presented a three minute speech on 'Doing Good While Doing Well'. We were amazed by the passion, intellect and determination of each scholar. As we wrapped up, the scholars presented a surprise video and dance performance, which reflected their unity and love for the family. We left the workshop filled with newfound inspiration, motivation and love.



“Creativity involves breaking out of established patterns in order to look at things in a different way.”

SCHOLARS TALK



SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2018

An ideal intern is committed, creative, organised, ambitious, independent and able to crack a smile. All these qualities were exhibited by 25 Vahani scholars who successfully interned at the top companies of the country in various departments this summer. These internships not only provided the interns with real world experience and polished their skills, but also gave them exposure to successful professional and allowed them to start to build their career networks.

The scholars went through a whirlwind of emotions and new experiences. They learnt not just about the domain area but also about effective communication skills, how to interact with people from different backgrounds and office etiquette. The scholars left inspired and buzzing with new start-up ideas.

We are very proud that two of our scholars, Ritu Chauhan and Roma Singh were offered full-time jobs at their companies due to exemplary behaviour in their internships. Additionally, Ritu Chauhan and Shivam Sachdeva successfully cleared the Derivatives Examination after being skillfully tutored by their mentor Rohit Mongia, CEO Vedant Investments. These additional skills will add an edge to their CVs and open more opportunities for them in future. We are extremely thankful to the companies who provided the students with these unforgettable experiences.



2018 SCHOLARS ADMISSION

The months of May, June and July are the most hectic time for new students. Imagine after awaking from a nightmare and having to go to work with that unsteady state of mind. Well it's the same situation for the students who just finished their board examinations and are then struggling their way through admission deadlines and entrance exams.

To help the scholars in searching for admission procedures and deadlines, we guided them through top college choices and their application process. This year, we grew our team and were more closely involved than ever. From filling up forms, to checking documents and prepping for interviews. It was not only the mentors but also the senior scholars who guided and helped the new scholars with their admissions.

Nevertheless, the 2018 scholars faced newfound struggles that they had to deal with themselves. It wasn't an easy task for all, some struggled with arranging the documents, some with clashing entrance exams dates, and others with travelling from one part of the country to another in time to get to cut-offs in time. Yet, we did not see a single one of them give up.

If papers were missing they took an undertaking, if dates were clashing they did Inky, Pinky, Ponky.... no really ?? Just kidding, they discussed with their mentors and made a conscious decision of opting to appear for one of the two, three, four... clashing exams.

The students stood in admission lines for hours to days and did not leave until they secured their admission seat. For some, this process happened not once or twice but thrice; they hopped like a frog from one college to another until they settled for the very best.

Some aspirations were crushed when they did not get into the college of their choice, but this brought them close to reality and taught them that to build on what they have and persist. Our scholars have now all found their path and have begun their classes in full spirit. Above all, these young, bright and ambitious students have proved that they are ready to step into this new and exciting journey in their lives.



The hard work paid off! We were blown away by the 12th Board Exam results, with a cohort average of 93%!

After battling through the admissions bravely and patiently the scholars are now studying in prestigious colleges in the country. The scholars made it to the top 10 Delhi University colleges including Miranda House, KMC, Gargi, IP and Ramjas and are pursuing a range of subjects across fields. Among the tech scholars we have one studying at NIT Patna. 2 scholars are preparing for NEET at Allen Institute Kota, and 1 scholar has won a scholarship for NEET preparation at Dakshana Academy Pune.

We wish the scholars good luck as they embark on this transformative and important journey.



SCHOLARS TALK !

Being a part of the Vahani Family is very wonderful and exciting. I learned a lot of things from everyone. Especially Rakshit Tandon sir, who told us about internet safety measures. The story of Yashish Dahiya was very inspiring, it makes me believe that when something is important, you still do it even when odds are not in your favour. One could also learn from the ice skating activity how important the balance between your mind and body is, otherwise you will fall. The panel discussion between Rajeev Sir, Reeva ma'am and Mike Sir on AI was the best. Each and every second of the workshop was a learning experience for me."

Shivam Sachdeva 2017 Scholar

"The Vahani family has brought together 57 students from all over India and more than 100 people together as a family. It has brought smiles on the faces of the students and their families and has given them the confidence that they have a life worth living. Thanking is not enough for such a big deed. We as students have not only got the opportunity of studying at good colleges but for me personally, it has given me a family, a group of friends, whom I can approach anywhere, anytime for any help. But, being in different cities, it becomes difficult to meet all the people from the family. However, because of the constant efforts of our mentors even this impossible becomes possible"

Kaamini Godiyal 2016 Scholar

"Vahani workshops have always inspired me a lot through experiences of different

inspirational figures and our mentors. Every workshop brings a positive change in me. In just three days we get a chance to participate in activities that involve creativity, confident building, team building, leadership and have lots of fun. Evening are the most delightful part which includes extraordinarily fun activities and dinner at beautiful places in Delhi. It is full of amazing surprises and everlasting memories."

Himanshi Shivhare 2016 Scholar

"At the workshop, being exposed to new people, new experiences and ideas makes us learn and get better each time. It helps us to update our knowledge and develop a new bond between students belonging to different cultures, habits and thoughts. We come across a variety of information which helps us to get proper guidance of segmenting and prioritizing goals accordingly."

Dhaniksha Chaudhary 2018 Scholar