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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
alum.tiss.edu/register/
Be a member of our dense and diverse Alum connect. Log on to the link to know more

TELL YOUR STORY
alumaffairs@tiss.edu
Want to be part of our next Issue? Write to us with your story.

TISSQuad seeks to serve as the quadrangle which has always acted as a link between the TISSians.
Any association with the magnum opus institute in our lives brings back memories that are hard to be cast away. My bread, butter and a never ending fruitful career of 47 years humbles me down. I can recall 2 May, 1977 very vividly when I graduated.
Behind the Scenes

INTRODUCING TISSQUAD VOLUNTEER HARSHALA SANGHVI

TISSQuad introduces its youngest Alum Volunteer Harshala Sanghvi from School of Social work 2019-21 Batch. She has been working with us since TISSQuad's inception and is the Creative Head and Editor of our Newsletter. She works in Gujarat as a CSR Fellow in Jubilant Bhartia Foundation where she is guiding and mentoring Rural youth and looking after various other development Projects.

An Alum Association is built by such volunteer work and alum participation stands as the backbone of its success. Participation from Alum becomes a deciding factor that makes or breaks an institutes alum connect. Harshala is one of the many young minds that have benefited from this institute and has decided to give back to the institute.

If you think you can contribute to Alum Affairs in any way, do reach out to us.

Why Alums and not Alumni?
Alums is a plural, gender neutral word for the graduates.
Achievements

RAJU KENDRE - FORBES 30 UNDER 30

We are pleased to announce that our Alum Mr. Raju Kendre has made it to the Forbes 30 under 30 list. Raju Kendre's Eklavya India mentors students to promote higher education and enables grassroots leadership of first-gen learners like himself. He's currently pursuing development studies at SOAS to hone his craft of making a difference.
Achievements

SOWMYA BALASUBRAMANIAM (2015-17)

HOOGA SEED_KEEPERS_COLLECTIVE (www.hoogaseeds.com) is a social enterprise initiated by Sowmya is a heirloom seed company in India working towards native seed sovereignty and agro biodiversity conservation in the context of climate change.

HOOGA is working with farmers, gardeners and interested individuals on native seed keeping with special focus on climate resilient seed varieties. HOOGA has a seed bank containing and conserving more than 200+ native varieties of vegetables. Those that will never be seen in the future if we don't multiply them now.

HOOGA is working on a collaborative participatory action research project with CLIMATE U network along with University of London and TISS, Mumbai. We also got selected for a large grant under the PUSA KRISHI ICAR UPJA 2022 incubation cohort recently and starting our phase 1 from July 2022.
Muthamizh Kalai Vizhi had been selected as one of the finalists for International Visitors Leadership Program Alumni award for Social Innovation and Change 2022 US Global ties, Washington DC. Out of 160 Nominations from around the world, she has made it to the Finalist.
What are the benefits of the alumni network?
The alum network offers students and colleges a host of benefits. Job hunts, business deals and funding prospects are now increasingly being facilitated over a previously overlooked advantage - the alma mater connect.

TISSQuad- Reaching Out
Formation of various Chapters and Navigation of TISSquad after pandemic

AUSTRALIA CHAPTER MEETING

The first official meeting of TISSQUAD-Australia was held on 20 May 2022, at Park Royal, Clayton, Melbourne. Prof. Shalini Bharat (Director, TISS) and Prof. Madhushree Sekher (Chairperson, Office of International Affairs) and Prof. Ashabanu Soletti (Dean, Students’ Affairs) introduced the Institute's vision to engage with alumni across the world through this new initiative. Some alumni were present at the meeting while some joined in online.

Through this meet, the Institute hopes to identify and map its alumni concerning their academic and career journey; and collaborate and engage with TISS alumni with regard to education opportunities, a financial contribution for scholarships, supporting student placements, and further research projects.
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UK CHAPTER MEETING

There was a meet-up of TISS alumni in the UK at London. Alumni from 13 programmes from #TISSMumbai and #TISSTuljapur connected in both the offline and online modes.

While TISS Director, Prof. Shalini Bharat and the Dean (Students’ Affairs), Prof. Ashabanu Soletti joined the Alumni Meet from Mumbai, the Dean (Academic), Prof. P.K. Shajahan, and Prof. Swati Banerjee (School of Social Work) were present at the Meet.

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CANADA CHAPTER MEETING

An online Alumni meet of the Canada Chapter of the TISS Quad was held on 29 April 2022, with 12 Alumni from Canada and the United States participating. Prof. R.S.S. Mani, an alumnus, explained to all present the genesis of the formation of TISSquad, an umbrella organisation which would encompass various alumni groups that exist all over the world and facilitate networking of alumni across batches. The alumni expressed that they would be happy to intellectually contribute to the Institute and support it by setting up endowments, free ships and scholarships. They also agreed to have physical meets in the near future. The meeting ended with everyone promising to remain in touch and continue to add more of their colleagues and classmates into the group. Special thanks to Dr. Rajan George and Dr. Sobhana Madhavan for their efforts in making this meeting a great success.

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Daadi, “when we look at the stars, we are looking thousands of years into the past.” A concept that my mind could not wrap around. On 2nd April this year, I decided to go to Mumbai and host a get-together lunch, and I welcomed some of my Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Classmates of the 1977-78 batch; I looked at the sparkling starry eyes of my friends. I was transposed back in time and four decades just glided by. We talked about our time in the Institute, in the hostel, the clothes we wore, the post-dinner walks, the laughter, the mischief and fun, the bunking of classes, and the shared expenses. I suddenly understood what my grandson was saying. Yes, I was looking 40 years and more into the past. The hotel staff seeing 60+ behaving as 20+ as though they were back in the Institute were so moved and happy that they baked two cakes saying “Happy Reunion” as a gift. We forgot our age and ailments and dug into the Cakes, and my friends went home smiling, lost in their own memories. Over the next two days, I visited friends who were unable to come for lunch due to other pre-occupations. It was a lot of fun tinged with concerns about their health and old memories.
Finally, I went to TISS; it was like walking back in time to the 70s. The Quadrangle, of national and international fame. This is where we all loitered, talked, and chatted during class breaks. We walked into the classrooms, which evoked memories of teachers teaching us, and sometimes, we jumped out of the famous large windows to bunk classes!! The Canteen, where we had tea and snacks, created memories that were fleeting through my mind over the years. The lunch room where my friends used to fight for the Sunday Special Sweets “Shrikhand” (which was never special to me) and the Bhindi Aloo Curry, Dal and many other delicacies have remained embedded in my memory. I was keen to take a picture near Prof. M.S.Gore Academic Block. He was my favourite Professor, who would respond by addressing every student on the campus by name during the post-dinner walks! These walks were mandatory for most hostel dwellers. I used to and continue to have high regard and respect for Dr Gore. I opted for almost all the courses he taught in the four semesters. I was happy to meet the present Director, Prof. Shalini Bharat, who welcomed us. It was nice chatting with her “Yehi Wo Jagah (room) hai”, where we were selected to study at the renowned Institute, and we are indebted and proud of it.
I remember my years at TISS, a long time ago – 1975-77 – I remember the chai cup – wet from washing, with a tiny saucer because it was more than chai. It held the best moments of our student life in its mostly cracked cup and saucer. It can be truly said that less is more, the less chai in that tiny cup and the more camaraderie it created. We had to buy coupons if we wanted tea, and I and my girl-friends rarely had them. So we were on the lookout for obliging young men who wanted to share a sip of tea with us and who gallantly gave us the half-chipped cup while they drank from the saucer. I take no names but they know who they are! Chai was twice in a day, mid-morning and in the afternoon. If you missed chai, well, you missed chai – there was no other place to get it on the campus. So you can imagine our anticipation when the chaiwala placed the cups on the table near what was the ladies common room in the quadrangle and that was a signal to my dear friends that chai was coming. Of course there was always the day we missed it, went running after the chaiwala –begging for that sip of tea in the tiny cup. Sometimes, we would find him next to the old library to our relief, where he would set up shop. Everyone poured out of their classes and the library for that chai and I with my girl friends was on the lookout (since we invariably forgot to get coupons!) for these chivalrous young men. May I say that in all my two years, I never bought a chai coupon, and I was never disappointed! And what I remember the most was the gupshup over that tiny teacup and saucer….. so what’s in a tea cup? You tell me!