# Managing Alumni Relations

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## **Difficult of All???**

- \* Head of a Department
- Principal of a College
- \* Provost of the Students' Halls of Residence
- \* Dean of Alumni Affairs
- \* Engaging a LeAP Class!

## **Dean of Alumni Affairs**

- Managing students of all ages
  - \* More challenging than Adult Education even
- \* Managing students who do not have to pass
- \* Most demanding
- Most thankless job
  - Bad things come to you
  - \* Good things go to ...

## **Setting the Record Straight**

- \* Alumni: Male Plural
- \* Alumnus: Male Singular
- \* Alumnae: Female Plural
- \* Alumna: Female Singular
- \* Gender Neutral Term: Alumni/ae
- \* One of the distinguished alumnus/alumna
- \* One of the distinguished alumni/alumnae

## **Stakeholders**

- \* Students
- \* Faculty Members
- \* Staff Members
- \* Parents
- \* Employers/Professional Bodies/Industry
- \* Management/Government/Society
- \* Alumni/ae

## **Alumni of A.M.U**

- \* AMU has a rich legacy of its Alumni
- \* Founder: Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
- \* Issue of Seniority
- \* We have produced 2 Bharat Ratna (Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Dr. Zakir Husain), 9 Padma
   Vibhushan, 11 Padma Bhushan and more than 50 Padma Shri Awardees.
  - \* A book by Dr. Samina Salim, Houston.

## Why Alumni ???

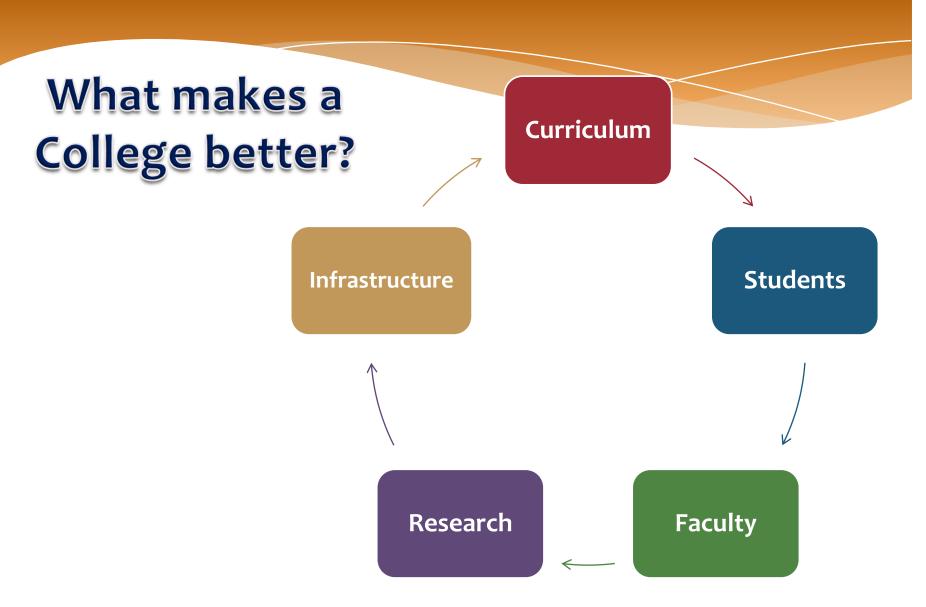
- Greatest test to the strength of the College's program
- Emotional attachment to the college
- Experience of industry & outside world
- A better understanding of College's need and requirements
- Ability to act as a bridge between institute & industry
- Every great University has a strong well connected Alumni network



## Why should they come forward?

- Tracing of old friends and fellow alumni
- To replicate the support which was provided to them when they were students.
- By helping the institution become bigger, stronger and more successful, alumni are also enhancing the value of their own degree qualification
- AMU is not just an institution, it is a MISSION.









# What can be the Role of Alumni/ae?



#### I. Building the reputation of the college

#### Problem

- Unfortunately AMU has always been at the receiving end from the Media. Many small incidents of the university are blown out of proposition.
- It creates a very bad illusion and reputation in public opinion; which needs to be countered for the sake of truth and correctness.
- Moreover, geographically the location of Aligarh isn't very good in terms of reach.

#### Effect

- The companies become uninterested in our students.
- Undervalued Ratings and Rankings
- Many good students may opt for other colleges.



#### Alumni's Role

- Alumni are the international ambassadors of their Universities. They take the knowledge of institute to their hometowns and countries & into their professional and social networks.
- Alumni can use their position and stature in building the reputation of the college and university.
- Alumni generate invaluable word-of-mouth marketing among their social and professional networks.
- Alumni can bring more companies for recruitment by convincing them through their positions.



#### **II. Helping in Research**

- The quantity and quality of research can be increased by aiding the institute with state of the art modern laboratory equipment.
- Alumni can contribute by sponsoring the research work of students, a positive environment can thus be created.
- It will also help in building the reputation of the college.
- The students can be assisted in their research work by technical assistance from esteemed personalities having good experience in research work.



#### **III. Helping in Collaboration**

- A number of companies carry on their research work in collaboration with universities and college.
- Alumni can use their position to have such collaborated work done with the students and faculties of University.
- Alumni are often in the position to engage the expertise of the institution in their professional lives.
- Alumni can help in signing of the MOU's between University and other institutes.



#### **IV. Sharing their Experience**

- Students can learn a lot from your experience and guidance.
- Their deeper knowledge about the requirement of industries can definitely help students while choosing their research and project work.
- A guideline about what to do and what not to do may illuminate them with a clear vision about their careers.
- Their experience can teach them a lot about how to achieve their goal with less difficulty.





- The establishment of a Student-Alumni mentoring program can be one of the most effective roles of alumni. All top Universities of the world have an excellent mentoring network.
- It will lead to perfect utilization of alumni's skills, experience and expertise.
- Need to streamline this.



#### **VI. Financial Assistance**

- Alumni are the most likely group to support as they have a sense of gratitude and want their institute to climb the ladders of success.
- One of the major hindrance in meeting the requirements of a top class institution like AMU is it's low budget allocation. This not only affects the infrastructure, but also the research and laboratory work of the college.
- Collective effort from the alumni can meet this challenge in very effective way.



There are a number of ways in which financial assistance can be provided. Some of them are :

#### **A) Building Infrastructure**

- The funds available to the institution are not enough to meet the requirements of modern day infrastructure. The institute lacks modern updated labs, smart classrooms and modern teaching tools.
- With the help of alumni these requirements can be met up to a great extent.



#### Continued

- Alumni can help by taking lead in infrastructure development of a particular field. Recently the Alumni Association of North America donated smart classrooms to the college. More such efforts are however needed.
- Moreover Alumni can negotiate with third party Suppliers about cost and equipment.

#### **B)** Fund Raising

- Alumni are the brand ambassadors of their institution. They can organize various fund raising programs for the institute & university.
- Moreover they also can help by spotting & searching for people who can support the institution and help in maintaining good long term relation with eminent business personalities.



#### **C) In Research and Projects**

- Alumni can help in funding ongoing research projects in the institute and by using their influence to negotiate with the third party suppliers.
- Alumni can play an influential role in helping the faculty and students bag good research projects associated with the industries.



#### D) Arranging Scholarship for needy students

- Alumni can help students who can't pursue their goals only because of financial limitation.
- There are a number of students who come from very poor background and lacks financial assistance to meet their daily requirement.
- A number of highly talented students don't go for costly courses only because of financial inability/difficulty.



#### E) Interacting with students

- Alumni can take out some time from their work and interact with the students to understand their needs and give remarks.
- Alumni are great role models for current students and are often well placed to offer practical support to students as they start their careers
- Alumni interaction with the students can raise their morale and make them more ambitious in their work.



#### F) Promoting Entrepreneurship by funding good business ideas

- Alumni in collaboration with the institution can organize various competitions on generating business ideas.
- Alumni can fund the students in developing their business model prototype.
- They can help in meeting students with angel investors who can fund the budding entrepreneurs during their initial stage



## Continued

- With their expertise and financial assistance they can help or can become partners in successful business ventures.
- Alumni having their own business firms can help these students in setting up of their business model.
- We have an active Entrepreneurship Development Cell, which has performed numerous activities in the last few years, primarily with the help of Alumni.



#### Issues with Alumni

- Dealing from an individual level to Associations or even Federations
- \* Federations are usually money-less and toothless
- \* How to recognize and control the associations?
  - \* A few alumni/ae to a huge-sized associations
- \* Registration of Alumni Associations
  - \* Holier than Thou
  - \* May become more powerful than the Alma Mater

## Multiple Associations in one place

- Issues in Gulf based Associations
  - \* All elections are banned there.
- \* Multiple Associations in one place
  - \* For more Chair positions
  - \* Distance-criterion?
- \* Our position: Recognize as many as are out there

#### **Alumni Committees**

#### \* Alumni Affairs Committee

- \* VC as its Patron and PVC as the Co-Patron
- \* Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other Members
- \* International and National Advisory Committee
- National Advisory Committee
- \* Senior, active and contributing alumni/ae
- \* Not necessarily the Association Chair Holders
  - \* No ex-officio members that way

#### Alumni Affairs Committee

 Role: To act as effective interface between the Alumni and AMU, so as to optimize the potential of the 'Alig' Fraternity as a key stakeholder in the future growth of the Alma Mater

#### \* Charter:

- \* Strengthen Alumni-Alma Mater Bondage
- \* Support Alumni Driven initiatives
- Facilitate student scholarships/sponsorships

#### Alumni Affairs Committee (contd.)

- Facilitate MoUs and collaborations with overseas institutions
- \* Facilitate Alig Academic Enrichment Program
- \* Maintain Alumni website and alumni data
- \* Monitor ongoing projects and provide timely feedback
- \* Coordinate the visits of Alumni to the AMU
- \* Organize Alumni Meets
- \* Facilitate other Alumni related programs

## Duties of Chairman of AAC

- The Chairman will be in charge of the office of the Alumni Affairs Committee and look after the day to day work of the Committee
- He will formulate plans for approval of the Committee and perform all other activities to further strengthen the bond between the University and the Alumni
- \* He will be the Convener and maintain all records related to the Alumni Affairs Committee
- Perform all other functions which may be delegated to him by the Vice-Chancellor

#### **Duties of Vice-Chairman of AAC**

- \* Will assist the Chairman and perform such other duties as assigned to him by the Chairman
- \* He will also look after the work of the Chairman in his absence.

## **Connecting with Alumni**

#### \* World Alumni Directory

- Issues with Contact Details
  - \* Unsolicited Calls
  - \* Spam emails
  - \* Emails in sensitive areas/countries
  - \* Calls/Emails for political purpose
- \* Gathering Alumni Data Through:
  - \* Google Form
  - \* MS-Word Attachment
  - \* Website forms

#### ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY ALUMNI DIRECTORY PROFORMA

Email*	ENROL. NO.*	HONORIFIC (Prof./Dr./Mr. /Mrs./Ms.)	NAME	GENDER (M/F)	HIGHEST QUALIFICATION FROM AMU*	LAST HALL ATTENDED*	FACULTY*
		-			×.		

YEAR OF JOINING IN AMU*	YEAR OF LEAVING FROM AMU*	CURRENT COUNTRY*	CURRENT CITY*	CURRENT DESIGNATION*	CURRENT COMPANY / FIRM / INSTITUTION*	PERMANENT ADDRESS*	MOBILE NUMBER

Note: (\*) indicates Mandatory field

Date:

#### **Online Platforms for Alumni Connect**

#### \* amudirectory.com

- \* Class-wise
- \* Hall-wise
- Location-wise
- Commercial ones
- \* Tailor-made: AligConnect.com
  - \* Web site, iOS and Android Apps
- \* Video on AligConnect

#### **Alumni Meets**

#### \* Founders Day Celebrations

- \* Sir Syed Dinner: Is that all?
- \* Alumni Meet adjacent or spaced?
- \* University Level Alumni Meet
  - Once every year
- \* Faculty/Department Level Alumni Meets
  - Conference
  - \* Jubilees

## Alumni Meet 2018

- \* Afternoon Session in respective Faculty:
  - \* Presentation on the Progress of the Faculty by the Dean
  - \* Interaction with the students
  - Interaction with senior and retired teachers
  - Discussions on the interesting anecdotes from their times.
  - \* Syllabus revision
  - \* Feedback Collection
  - \* Future plans and role of Alumni

## Alumni Conclave 2019

- \* Theme: "Roadmap to Centenary Celebrations"
- Two office bearers from each of the Alumni
  Associations from across the world were invited
- Participation will only be by invitation
- \* There was no registration fees
- \* We provided the local hospitality
- \* But the travel expenses were borne by the concerned person or Association.

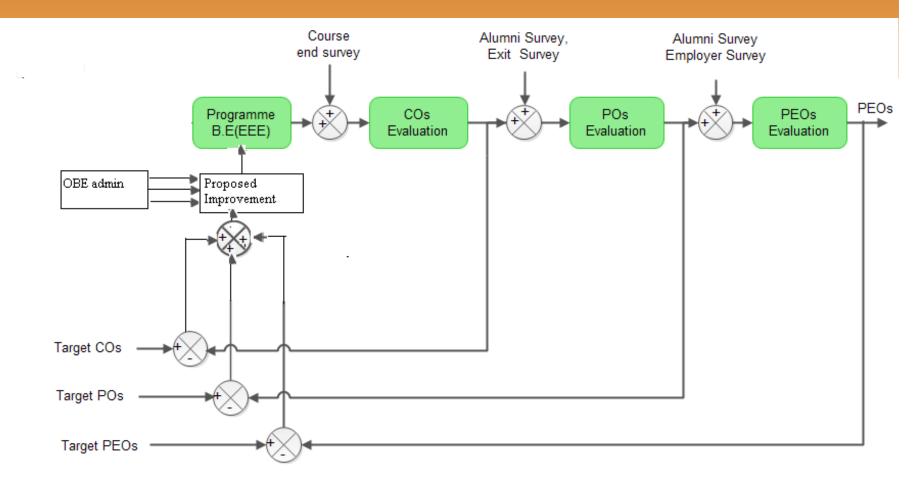
## **Good Practices**

- \* IIT Kanpur keeps sending emails
  - \* They find out missing emails from class mates
- \* IIT Delhi issues an I-card to every alumni
  - \* Can be used for their Library, Sports Facilities
- \* UC Berkeley supports my email address with them even today
  - Their I-card continues to be valid for the campus bus, Berkeley tower, etc.

## Alumni Feedback

- \* For Correction
- \* For Improvement
- \* For Accreditation
  - \* ABET, NAAC, NBA, etc.
- \* For Outcome-Based Education
  - \* Senior Alumni for Program Educational Objectives
  - \* All Alumni for Program Outcomes

# **OBE- Block Diagram**



## Children of Alumni Bonding Program

- \* Alumni/ae have the emotional connect life long
- \* We need to keep their children also attached
  - \* Alumni are better off than their parents
  - Their children can afford to study at better places/abroad
  - \* They want to change for wider exposure
- For Language Proficiency, Cultural Heritage, Community Work

# **KASHISH Program**

- \* Flexible in duration, timing and curriculum
- \* No credits as such
- \* No tuition fees, only the boarding/lodging charges
- \* Sports and curricular activities
- \* Residential Life
- \* Library, Labs and Classes
- Mentors assigned
- Certificates issues



#### **Bonding Programme** for Children of Alumni

Sir Syed Mission Awareness | Residential life in AMU Hall Urdu Proficiency Classes | Literary and Cultural Activities Games and Sports | Volunteer for Community Work

Drama | Debate | Baitbaazi & Mushaira | Film club | Litfest Eco club | Riding | Swimming | Hall week | Robo club Incubation Centre | Service at Adapted Villages Urban and Rural Health Centres | Tree Plantation

And a Lot More

**Flexibility to Choose :** One to Eight Week Course in **Faculty of Relevant Subject** 

For Further Details Please Log on to:

Contact at Tel. 0571-2700920 - Ext 4286 https://www.amu.ac.in/kashish.isp

# Alig Academic Enrichment Program

- \* Started by Canada alumnus as the Summer University
- \* At no cost to the University
- Whenever an alumnus is coming home, they can have the interaction with the students
  - Subject, Motivation, Counselling, Career Guidance or just for the Exposure/Experience sharing
- Can have online sessions too, but face-to-face is preferred

## Alumni Guest House

- Guest Houses have a priority for Conference
  Delegates, Official Guests or University Engagements
- Alumni are not able to find accommodation at their convenience
- \* Build an Alumni Guest House by their contribution
  - \* Individuals or Alumni Associations can contribute
  - Rooms are named after them
  - \* They have a priority in reservation
  - \* Can have the interiors according to their taste

## **Future Plans**

- \* Membership Fee Initial and Annual
  - \* What returns?
- \* Projects, Action Plans, Progress updation
- \* Alumni Achievements & Offers
  - \* What to include and what to leave out?
- \* Stronger Network
- Newsletter
- \* More Endowments
- \* Distinguished Alumni Awards

### **THANK YOU** for your *a*ttention!

