



**NIRMA**  
UNIVERSITY

NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE

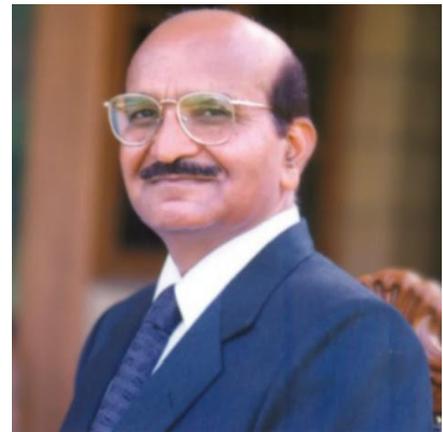


## Nirma University Alumni Setu : News and Views

The University has constituted **Nirma University Alumni Forum** with the objective to foster continuous engagement of the alumni with their Alma mater and to draw their expert knowledge in the relevant fields to further enhance, strengthen and reinforce the over-all quality of the constituent Institutes of the University.

# President's Message

Alumni are one of the most important stakeholders of Nirma University. Indeed, they are the greatest asset of the University. Our alumni are making an impact in different sectors of the society. Many of them have been recognized for their contributions nationally and internationally. Nirma University has several constituent institutions and they have their independent alumni associations.



Our alumni have imbibed the value of Nirma University's education and in turn have become our advocates and ambassadors. They have seen and experienced for themselves the great academics, the vibrant campus life and the opportunities for self-transformation.

With a view to add greater value to our alumni and to seek their help in institution building, we developed an idea to constitute a university wide alumni network. 'Nirma University Alumni Forum' was formed last year with the objective to foster continuous

engagement of our alumni with the University and to draw their expertise in relevant fields to further enhance, strengthen and reinforce the over-all quality of the constituent Institutes of the University. This Forum also gives our alumni a platform to network and to connect with the University, fellow alumni, students and well-wishers of the University. The Forum consists of a very extremely dedicated [Board of directors](#), who represent the University, Institute of Technology, Institute of Management, Institute of Diploma Studies, Institute of Pharmacy, Institute of Science and Institute of Law.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors of “Nirma University Alumni Forum” was held on the campus on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016. On 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2016 the first meeting of the Executive Committee was held. Today we have come out with the first edition of our E-Newsletter **Nirma University Alumni – Setu** to strengthen the bond between the University and its alumni.

**I would also like you get familiar with the Objectives of the Forum:**

- To establish and maintain contact between the past students of the University
- To pursue and sustain excellence in education by interaction between the alumni, the faculty and the present students of the University
- To strengthen Industry-Institute-Interaction and operate related activities for the benefit of the students of the University
- To extend all assistance and co-operation to the University in its endeavors for the growth and development of education and research in the field of Technology, Pharmacy, Law, Management etc.
- To institute scholarships and awards for deserving past and present students of the University for educational and research purposes as per the terms and conditions to be laid down by the Board of Directors
- To encourage and assist the students of the University in various academic and cultural activities
- To establish endowments by donation to extend financial and other assistance to deserving past and present students of the University for educational and research purposes as per terms and conditions mutually decided with the Board of Directors
- To establish endowments by donation to create Chair/s of Professor/s Emeritus in the University in professional and related areas
- To generate funds for conducting activities for achieving the objectives of the University

- To create fellowships for the Alumni to pursue post-graduate studies or research
- To project constructive activities of the University in India and abroad
- To provide a common platform for exchange of ideas and disseminating knowledge in professional areas
- To perform any other constructive activities leading towards the enhancement of the skill and knowledge of the members of the Association
- To conduct lectures twice or thrice a year to motivate the students of each institute
- To invite our alumnus to impart knowledge and encourage the students along with training them to pursue IAS and IPS

I hope that our alumni will welcome this initiative just as they have welcomed all the other initiatives of the University in the past.

Happy reading!

# Twenty - Second Convocation

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The Twenty Second Convocation of the University was held on October 21, 2016. Lord Bhikhu Parekh, the political theorist and labour member of the House of Lords was the Chief Guest for the occasion.

Lord Bhikhu delivered the convocation address and also presented scholastic medals to the students of the University. In his motivational address he reflected on the quality of our higher education; He concentrated upon the quality of scientific teaching in our Universities. He stressed on how Higher

education is not about rote learning or accumulation of knowledge. Rather it is about the cultivation of the capacity to think analytically and critically. He also emphasized that if India is to create world class universities and provide high quality education to it's students, it desperately needs to attract world class scholars and scientists, principally from abroad.

During the convocation, the students from the Institute of Technology, Institute of Management, Institute of Pharmacy, Institute of Science and Institute of Law were conferred degrees by Dr Karsanbhai K. Patel, the President of the University. In all 1797 students were awarded degrees and 41 students were awarded medals during the convocation. Dr Patel delivered the Presidential address on the occasion. Dr Anup Singh, Director General, Nirma University presented the concluding address at the convocation.

Watch Lord Bhikhu Parekh's convocation speech.

# Alumni Achievement

**Mr. Bhavin Dabhi**, did his Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from the Institute of Technology, Batch : 1996-2000.

He's presently working as Head, Machine Design at Universal Designovation Lab LLP, Rajkot. He won **iF**

**Design Award 2016 from Germany for Vertex Mammography Medical Device in Discipline Professional Concept.**

His was the winning entry from 5,295 entries by 2,458 participants from 53 countries: and evaluated by 58 member-strong jury comprised of international experts The awards are a true acknowledgement of the design excellence, innovation and originality of Indian Design. The iF Design Award Winner Logo is an internationally established symbol identifying outstanding achievements in design

Here's an excerpt from the conversation we had with him about his success story.



- **When did you realise your passion for mechanical engineering?**I have always had a keen interest in math and science and an urge to do something innovative that can improve the lives of people from all walks of life. Whilst I was doing my bachelors I was greatly inspired by the faculties at the Institute of Technology with whom I interacted.I particularly remember my final year project, which was an “Octagonal shaped solar concentrator” which was the first project to be manufactured in the workshop of the Mechanical Engineering Department in 1999-2000.

- **Was Nirma University instrumental in you achieving any of your career goals?**

The attitude I developed as a student at Institute of Technology helped me in my first job as a lecturer at VVP Engineering College. Am also thankful to the faculties who taught me basic applications, which was the foundation of the many award winning products designed and developed by me.

- **Any tips you would like to give to the current batch of Students on what should they focus on to achieve such success?** Always have an attitude of learning by practically doing the same. I believe there is a difference of 5 hours between the state of “I don’t know” and “I know”. Always be ready to give those crucial 5 hours for learning. I believe that, “It is never important what you know, but what you can learn and apply to improve one’s life”.

- **A mantra that you follow in your daily routine/ life that helped to be successful?** Always dream big and try to implement futuristic ideas in today’s world by creative thinking and innovative approach. Continuously learning new things and try to apply design thinking approach. Everyone always want to improve their life and it is duty of Design Engineer to make that happen fast and sustainable

- **What process / hardships you faced to attain the success you have achieved till date.**

It is common thinking that designing and development are costly and time consuming affairs and International R&D cannot be done at local levels. We are working very hard to change this mentality. We are applying product design with brand design strategy and trying to convert OEM to Brand Product Manufacturer. But we need to work hard to make people understand the power of design and innovation to create branding.

When we started Universal Designovation Lab LLP in 2012-2013 there was no start-up atmosphere in India. UDLAB was started without any investment from outside, we had received an advance of Rs.2,30,000/- for our first project even

before having a bank account in the name of our company. We faced many difficulties to get finance from banks as there are no banking finance policies for software purchase. We faced difficulty in opening a bank account in nationalised banks as UDLAB is LLP and many banks were reluctant to open an account for LLP in 2012-2013.

## NU played a vital role in my life and professional career

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Mr. Sachinder Bhinder did his PDGM from the Institute of Management, Batch : 1996-1998.  
He's the Executive Vice President & Business Head - Home Finance, Kotak Mahindra Bank.

## Recent Additions

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To achieve our quest to provide world class education to students Nirma University has introduced a few changes.

- A new Institute has been established under our aegis, “**The Institute of Commerce**”.
- Institute of Architecture introduced B.Plan programme from the academic session 2016-2017 and the Institute was renamed “**Institute of Architecture and Planning**”.

The orientation session of Institute of Commerce was graced by Mr. Sunil H Talati, a well-known Chartered Accountant and senior partner of the firm of chartered accountants, as the chief guest.

Mr. Talati talked about the importance of 4D's: desire, discipline, determination and dedication, required for success. He stressed on the need to develop requisite knowledge, skills, and attitudes in students to meet the challenges of the accounting, auditing, taxation, legal and BFSI sector domains. He advised the students to identify the root cause of every problem they will face and endeavor for innovative solutions.

## **MOU signed with ISRO**

Nirma University signed a MoU for Academic Research Collaboration with Space Applications Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad on March 14, 2016.

In line with this, ISRO would be setting up one of its communication receivers in the Nirma campus.

It'll be a collaborative interdisciplinary research project worth Rs. 16 lacs.

Title of Project: Determination of specific absorption coefficient for the dominant macro algal species of Indian coastal water- A step towards developing bio markers and pigments algorithm

Principle Investigator: Dr Priti J Mehta, Institute of Pharmacy, NU

Co-Investigator: Dr Sanjeev Acharya, Institute of Pharmacy, NU  
Dr Nasreen Munshi, Institute of Science, NU

Read more on the [SAC website](#)

