

inFocus



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YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



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Dear Friends,

As we welcome 2025, we are filled with gratitude and humility about the strides that FFE has made in the last thirty years, guided by a simple and clear mission, as envisioned by FFE's Founders, **Dr. Prabhu Goel, and Mrs. Poonam Goel**. The concept of transformative change within a single generation, driven by education and supported through merit-cum-means scholarships, has profoundly impacted over **38,000** lives over the past three decades.

We were fortunate to have celebrated the **30-year** milestone, with many of you participating in the events in Bangalore and the USA. The growth in the student body funded through scholarships has been possible, thanks to the enduring support of our numerous stakeholders who have nurtured and provided important and constant backing. FFE is **thankful** to its engaged stakeholder community — including **donors, volunteers, alumni, partners, and FFE's team** — all of whom are committed to unleashing the full potential of the students at the center of its work.

The flagship **scholarship program** serves as a foundational base on which FFE's skills program, mentoring, leadership, entrepreneurship and technical training, and other programs have been built. As you will read in this edition, our donors and partners have played a critical role in delivering important training opportunities to our large and diverse student body of budding Engineers, Doctors, and Lawyers. FFE's volunteer base of 4000+ individuals including Facilitators and Mentors play a critical role in the success of our programs. Volunteer Facilitators ensure students meet our critical eligibility criteria for scholarships while mentors contribute significantly to the holistic development of students, enabling them to transition confidently into their professional journeys and make meaningful contributions to society.

The role of **FFE alumni** in all our programs cannot be understated- as volunteer Facilitators, mentors, technologists, and donors, their contributions will continue to be critical as the organization transitions to the next phase of growth. More details of our skilling initiatives, and partner and alumni engagement are elaborated in this edition.

Our hearty congratulations to FFE scholars being awarded renewal scholarships. We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of FFE scholars into the FFE family- while we continue to seek new donors and partners to fund scholarships (at an astonishing **28,500** applications received) during this FY.

We remain committed to advancing FFE's mission with renewed vigour in the new year, maintaining a Student-centered focus while leveraging our stakeholder network for a deeper and more engaged partnership. Join us on this journey and refer others who might be interested. After all, together, we can create meaningful and positive change in the world.

Wishing you and your families a joyful, healthy, and prosperous New Year!



**Message from
Dr. Sudha Kidao,
Managing Trustee,
Foundation for
Excellence
India Trust (FFEIT)**

Dear Friends,

As we step into 2025, it fills me with immense pride to reflect on 2024, a truly **milestone year** for the Foundation for Excellence. Last year marked **30 incredible years of transforming lives through education**, a journey that has been nothing short of extraordinary. Crossing the **100,000 scholarships milestone** was a moment of deep fulfillment and gratitude for everyone who has been part of this mission.

What makes this milestone even more significant is the **shift in the trajectory of alumni involvement**. Our alumni are no longer just beneficiaries of FFE's programs—they have become mentors, donors, and champions for the next generation of scholars. Their growing participation is not just a reflection of gratitude but powerful evidence of the ripple effect of education and empowerment. At alumni meets this year, I witnessed their firm commitment to give back and their efforts to inspire scholars to dream big and aim higher.

We also took significant strides in **deepening the impact** of our work. Our **employability skills programs** have expanded to include advanced technical training, leadership development, and employment linkages. These initiatives are equipping scholars with critical skills and opening doors to transformative career opportunities. Despite the challenges of a competitive job market, the resilience and preparation of our scholars have led to **outstanding outcomes**, reinforcing the effectiveness of FFE's holistic approach.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are poised to enter a new phase with **exciting and impactful programs** on the horizon. From strengthening partnerships to introducing innovative skilling initiatives, the coming year promises to be one of growth and renewed focus on creating sustainable change. This wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our donors, partners, mentors, and team members.

Your belief in FFE's vision and committed support have brought us this far, and it is with deep gratitude that I thank each one of you for being part of this journey. As we step into the next chapter, we look forward to collaborating with you to continue transforming lives, one scholar at a time.

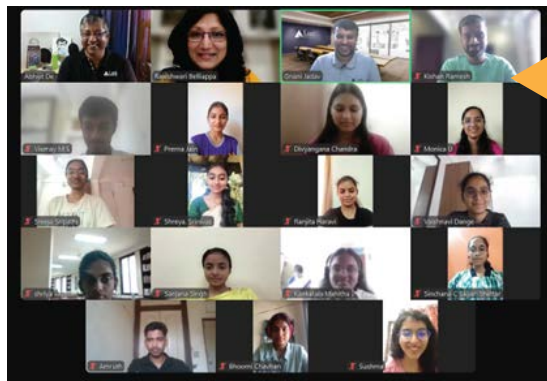
Wishing you all a **happy and impactful 2025** filled with opportunities to make a difference. Together, let's aim higher and achieve even greater milestones in the years to come.



**Message from Ram
Kolavennu, COO,
FFEIT**

A. DONOR-SCHOLAR ENGAGEMENTS

Donor-Scholar Meet of FFE-Lam Research India Cohort

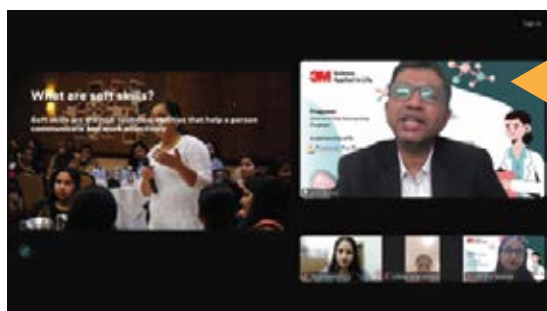


Virtual Interaction of FFE-Lam Research India Pvt.Ltd. Cohort

On September 28, 2024, Lam Research India Pvt. Ltd. hosted a virtual interaction with their cohort of 16 engineering scholars. Lam India representatives, including Mr. Abhijit De, Mr. Kishan Ramesh, and Mr. Gnani Jadav, encouraged scholars to focus on curiosity, personal branding, mentoring, and strong

communication skills. Scholars shared updates on academics, extracurriculars, and aspirations. A valued partner since 2019, Lam India has supported 23 scholars across five impactful projects, recognizing FFE's excellence in selection, skilling, and mentoring.

Donor-Scholar Meet Up with FFE-3M India Scholars, Session on Soft Skills in the Campus – A '3T' approach



Soft Skills Session for 'Pragyaan' Scholars by 3M India

On October 4, 2024, Pragyaan Scholarship Program scholars, supported by 3M India Limited, attended a transformative session on soft skills led by Mr. Amith Kumar, HR Specialist at 3M. Introducing the '3T Approach'—Time

Management, Teamwork, and Tenacity—Mr. Kumar shared strategies like the Pomodoro Method to enhance focus and productivity.

He emphasized the importance of soft skills in navigating today's competitive world, offering actionable insights for academic and professional success. Scholars left inspired to integrate these vital skills into their lives, ensuring they are well-prepared to excel in their endeavors.

Donor-Scholar Meet with- Donor, Mr. Shyam Murali



FFE scholars in Chennai connect with their donor for an inspiring session filled with guidance and encouragement

On 25th October 2024, FFE organized a Donor-Scholar meeting in Chennai with donor Mr. Shyam Murali and his scholars.

The session was filled with inspiring stories and

conversations, with the donor sharing invaluable insights and learnings, leaving a lasting impact on the scholars as they continue their academic and professional journeys.

Donor-Scholar Meet of FFE-GlobalLogic Scholars



FFE-GlobalLogic Scholars engage with GlobalLogic leaders for an inspiring session of guidance and encouragement

On November 27, 2024, FFE hosted a Donor-Scholar meeting for the third cohort of FFE-GlobalLogic Scholars, uniting 25 scholars with the GlobalLogic Leadership team. Ms. Monika Walia (Head CSR), Mr. Chanakya Vaid

(Lead CSR), Mr. Jakir Hussain (AVP - Engineering), and Mr. Swarnendu Biswas (Assistant Manager CSR), of the leadership team shared valuable career insights and guidance. The scholars were deeply inspired by their words of encouragement, igniting a renewed drive to excel in both their educational and professional journeys. This impactful session underscored the importance of mentorship and support in shaping the future of young talented individuals.

Mentoring Session for MBBS Scholars with donors

Dr. Deepak and Dr. Kiran Gangahar (USA) on 28th November 2024

On November 28th, Dr. Deepak Gangahar, a renowned cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon, and Dr. Kiran Gangahar, a respected cardiologist, hosted a virtual mentoring session for 28 FFE MBBS scholars in their 3rd and 4th year of study. The session, titled "Journey of Medical Practitioners in the USA and Opportunities for Indian Medical Graduates," explored pathways to practice in the US, with or without USMLE.



Dr. Deepak Gangahar and Dr. Kiran Gangahar inspire the next generation of medical professionals during an enriching virtual mentoring session with FFE scholars.

Dr. Kiran Gangahar discussed fellowship programs, specializations, and residencies, emphasizing the diverse opportunities available in the US for medical practitioners. She highlighted the importance of informed decision-making, long-term career planning, and maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

Dr. Deepak Gangahar shared his perspective on the humane side of medicine, underscoring the value of empathy, calmness, and connection with patients and families. He encouraged scholars to stay committed to their purpose and to remember the transformative role of compassion in healthcare.

The session began with scholars introducing themselves, sharing their interests and aspirations, and concluded with Dr. Deepak's best wishes for their future endeavors. The enriching discussion left participants inspired, offering them invaluable insights into clinical and personal success in medicine.

B. NEWS & EVENTS

FFE and Cognizant Foundation: Strengthening Partnership



FFE and Cognizant Foundation celebrate the approval of 200 new students, strengthening their transformative partnership in education

On October 14, 2024, FFE's leadership met with the Cognizant Foundation (CF) board to discuss their impactful collaboration and celebrate shared achievements in empowering students through education and skill-building. The CF board praised the tangible outcomes of their partnership, marked by the approval of scholarship support for a new cohort of 200 students. The meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), reaffirming a shared vision for transformative change. A ceremonial cheque presentation further emphasized CF's financial commitment to advancing FFE's mission of transforming lives through education.



Alumni Meet at Jamshedpur, 20 October 2024



FFE alumni with Head (Alumni Relations) at the meet in Jamshedpur

An informal meeting with 3 FFE alumni working at Tata Steel, Jamshedpur, was organized on 20 October 2024. This was the first in-person alumni meeting outside Bengaluru this year. The alumni, from graduating years 2019 to 2023, shared their journeys as alumni and evinced keen interest to stay connected with FFE and participate in the Circle of Giving.

Give Representative Visits FFE- Bengaluru for Due Diligence



FFE receives Give Gold Certificate FY 2024-25

On November 5, 2024, Mr. Sandesh Ramachandran, Manager of Non-Profit Partnerships at **Give**, visited FFE as part of their annual due diligence process. During the visit, Mr. Ramachandran engaged with FFE's leadership and team leads to review programs and processes, and also interacted with FFE scholars who shared their experiences.



Following this rigorous evaluation, FFE was conferred with the prestigious Give Gold Seal of Trust for 2024-25, recognizing its transparency, dedication, and impactful work in higher education. This milestone reinforces FFE's commitment to empowering students through scholarships, skill development, and mentoring.

Tesco Global Leadership Visit 6 November 2024



Tesco's Group CEO Ken Murphy and leadership team during the Global Leadership visit

During the recent visit of Tesco's Global Leadership team that included Group CEO Ken Murphy, FFE had the opportunity to present its project as one of Tesco's most impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. One of the highlights of the event was the inspiring interaction between Tesco's leadership

team and FFE scholars and alumni. These personal stories of resilience, growth, and success resonated deeply with the attendees, offering a firsthand glimpse into the far-reaching impact of Tesco's CSR initiatives.

FFE-TU CIBIL Open House Inspires Scholars and Alumni



FFE-TU CIBIL Open House, a vibrant gathering of Project Udaan Scholars and Alumni with TransUnion CIBIL leaders

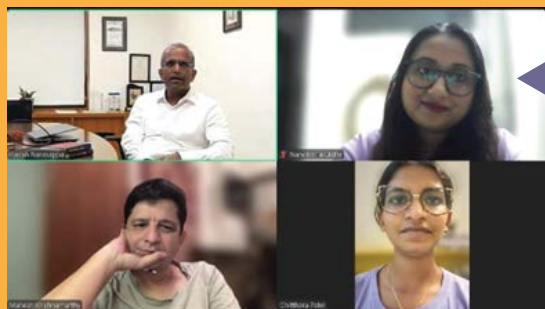
On November 7, 2024, FFE-TU CIBIL hosted an Open House for Project Udaan Scholars and Alumni, drawing over 500 participants. The event featured key representatives from TransUnion

CIBIL, including Mr. Amit Batra (COO), Kiran Suryawanshi (AVP CSR), Sanjukta Ghosh, Niharika Gupta (Assistant Manager CSR), and Jisha Franchis (Senior Manager, Learning & Development).

Ms. Jisha Franchis delivered an engaging session on "Mantras to Success," inspiring scholars to strive for excellence. Mr. Amit Batra's address emphasized perseverance, academic growth, and the importance of giving back to society, motivating attendees to seize opportunities for personal and professional development.

Scholars and alumni shared heartfelt stories, reflecting on the scholarship's transformative impact and reaffirming their commitment to the "circle of giving" and paying forward. The session strengthened connections among scholars, alumni, donors, and FFE, fostering a shared vision of creating opportunities and supporting future leaders.

Commemorating India's Constitution Day with FFE



Dr. Harish Narasappa, Senior Advocate at the Karnataka High Court, enlightens FFE's Law scholars and team members

On November 25, 2024, FFE hosted a special session to celebrate India's Constitution Day, honoring the adoption of the Constitution. Observed annually on November 26, this day

marks the adoption of the Constitution in 1949 by the Constituent Assembly.

The session featured Dr. Harish Narasappa, Senior Advocate at the Karnataka High Court, who shared his expertise on constitutional law and highlighted the Constitution's vital role in shaping India's democratic framework. FFE's Law scholars, team members, and volunteers engaged in enriching discussions on upholding constitutional values and their contemporary relevance.

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. Mahesh Krishnamurthy, FFE's long-time donor and volunteer, who emphasized the collective responsibility to foster a just and inclusive society. FFE is proud to contribute to deepening awareness of India's democratic principles through this insightful session.

Virtual meetings with alumni donors and students, November 2024



Virtual meeting of alumni ASP donors

Over the course of four weekends in November, six virtual meetings were conducted with alumni who have committed to the Adopt a Scholar Program (ASP) for the first time. More than 30 alumni attended these meetings, which were organized to help them understand their roles and responsibilities as donors and their ongoing relationship with FFE.

Visit by FFE Alumnus and donor, Dr. Badri Velamur Asokan



Dr. Asokan with Dr. Kidao at the FFE office

On 03 December, FFE alumnus and donor Dr. Badri Velamur Asokan (PhD —from Cornell University in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mathematics), Vice President at Two Sigma Investments, USA, visited the FFE office in Bengaluru to meet the FFE team and discuss ways to deepen his engagement. Dr. Badri was an FFE scholarship awardee from 1997 to 2000 and has been closely connected with FFE ever since. Dr. Badri was instrumental in facilitating contributions from M/s Raphe mPhibr Pvt Ltd. to FFE.

FFE's Leadership team meets the Firstsource CSR Team



Mr. Ram Kolavennu handing over the Certificate of Appreciation to Firstsource Team

FFE's Leadership team met the Firstsource CSR team, at their Bangalore office on 3rd December 2024 to discuss ongoing projects with a focus on collaboration opportunities in the future. The discussion covered internships and placements at Firstsource for FFE scholars, Mr. Ram Kolavennu, COO awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Firstsource in recognition of its remarkable and long-standing partnership with Firstsource since 2017.

FFE Honored with Most Innovative Award at SABERA 2024



Dr. Sudha Kidao, Mr. Ram Kolavennu, and Ms. Tanvi Rawat accept SABERA's Most Innovative Award on behalf of FFE

Foundation For Excellence India Trust was awarded the prestigious **"Most Innovative Development Sector Project"** award at SABERA (Social And Business Enterprise Responsible Awards) 2024 for the "FFE Scholarship & Beyond

Scholarship Program." The award ceremony, held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on Dec 11th celebrated organizations driving India's sustainable and inclusive growth.

This year's SABERA awards, centered on the theme "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India), recognized FFE's innovative approach to supporting deserving students through comprehensive scholarships and beyond scholarship programs. FFE's unique 'Circle of Giving' model garnered special attention during the award presentation, highlighting the organization's sustainable approach to creating generational impact.

FFE Leadership meets the Indegene Leadership



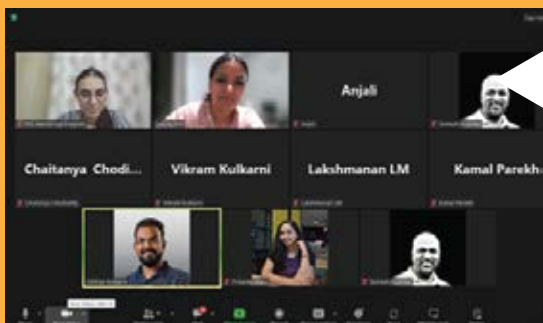
FFE Leadership awards Certificate of Appreciation to Indegene Leadership

On December 17, 2024, FFE Leadership met with donors Mr. Manish Gupta, CEO of Indegene, and Dr. Saurabh Jain, Vice President – Global Delivery Centers at Indegene's Bangalore office.

The meeting focused on potential opportunities to collaborate that would benefit FFE's Medical scholars, and also ways to enhance employee engagement between Indegene and FFE.

To commemorate the partnership, a Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Indegene's Leadership, recognizing their invaluable support and collaboration.

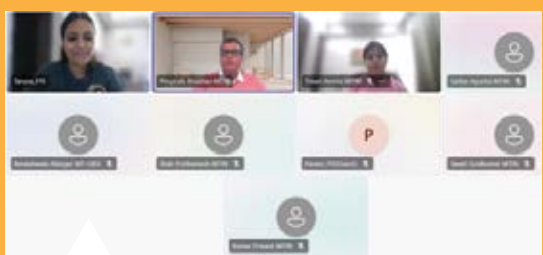
C. MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



Feedback session with o9 solutions

FFE's Mentoring program is specially curated for its engineering, BPharm, and Law scholars to enhance their career-relevant skills. This year the Mentoring program for Engineering commenced in June 2024 and is expected to conclude in January 2025, where over 2300 Engineering mentees have been paired with Mentors from over 60 Corporates. Mentors include 40 Alumni and 60 Individuals from various corporates.

FFE is thankful to 17 new corporates that joined the mentorship program this year namely: Akamai, Terrapay, Celebi Aviation, Money View, Uipath, S&P global, Truminds, Walmart, Clarivate (engineering batch), Google, Dell Technologies, Zscaler, Mettler Toledo, Salesforce, Tata Steel, and HDFC Bank.



Mid-Mentoring feedback session held with Mettler- Toledo Mentors held on 4th October 2024.

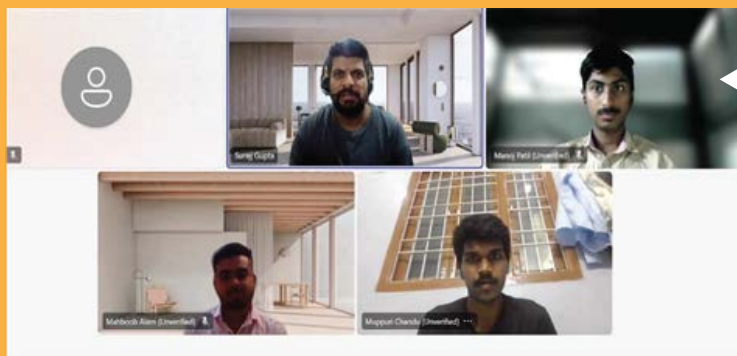
Last quarter, FFE held virtual feedback sessions with its corporate partners, individuals, and alumni Mentors to gain insights into their mentoring experience. With over 35 virtual feedback sessions held (mid-mentoring) in the last quarter, FFE gained valuable feedback from mentors including, concerns, and suggestions regarding the mentoring program

In November 2024, FFE expanded its Mentorship Program to include Law and BPharm scholars. The program has successfully paired 60 -LLB Mentees with law professionals. The law mentors included both returning lawyers from last year's mentoring cycle and enthusiastic new volunteers who have enrolled to guide the students.

Similarly, the 2024-25 BPharm Mentorship Program was launched for 75 third-year BPharm scholars. Mentors from leading companies including Novartis, Clarivate, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, and Biocon have enrolled. A comprehensive orientation session was conducted with each corporate partner, ensuring a seamless onboarding process for the volunteers.

FFE extends its gratitude to the corporate employee volunteers, FFE Alumni mentors, and individual contributors who make this unique mentorship initiative possible.

Microsoft's Giving Month 2024



Sessions on Career Readiness by Microsoft Employee Volunteers during Giving Month

FFE extends its heartfelt gratitude to 30 Microsoft employee volunteers who dedicated their time to mentor over 100 fourth-year FFE engineering scholars during Microsoft's "Giving Month Campaign 2024." From November 7th to 20th, these volunteers conducted 40 virtual sessions focused on Interview Preparation and Career Readiness skills, contributing over 40 hours of guidance.

The sessions offered students invaluable real-world insights, professional feedback, and practical tips to enhance their interview preparedness and career prospects.

FFE deeply appreciates the unwavering commitment of Microsoft mentors in fostering positive change and empowering the next generation of engineering professionals.



Ms. Nusrat Pathan, Head of CSR, addressing during the virtual launch of the FFE-HDFC Bank Parivartan Mentorship Program

On 5th December 2024, the FFE-HDFC Bank Parivartan Mentorship Program, designed specifically for 3rd year Law scholars, was launched virtually. HDFC's Senior leadership- Ms.Nusrat Pathan, Head of CSR, and Sharukh R. Taraporewala, Head of Partnerships and Communications, CSR & ESG, 18 HDFC Employee Mentors, Dr. Sudha Kidao- Managing Trustee, FFE, 3rd year Law students and FFE's Mentorship team participated in the launch event. The interactive and engaging session provided a forum where Mentors and Scholars shared their commitment, passion, and expectations from the mentoring program. FFE is thankful to HDFC and its Employee volunteers for participating in the Mentoring program and enabling students to acquire essential career-relevant skills for a strong foundation in their journey as law students.

D. MENTOR-MENTEE TESTIMONIAL



***Mentor: Sushanth Share
Senior Cloud Engineer,
Thomson Reuters***

"I am from Hyderabad and am currently Working with Thomson Reuters as a Senior Cloud Engineer. I chose to be a mentor because I struggled a lot to get a job after my graduation as I didn't know how to go forward, so I thought it would help others who are in a situation like me. Being a mentor is awesome. It feels good to teach/train people who are enthusiastic to learn about technologies and skills. As a mentor, I learned how the new graduates are and their thinking around technologies.

Being a mentor changed my personal and professional thinking on New Technologies and a student's approach towards a new skill set. I am genuinely interested in continuing my support as a Mentor in the future."

MENTEE TESTIMONIAL



***Podila Ruchitha Sri
4th Year,
Computer Science
and Engineering,
JNTU, University College
of Engineering, Nachupally***

"I had a great interaction with my mentor. I have learned many things as a mentee. Sushanth Sir had given many suggestions which would help me in my future. Interpersonal skills were most important for me.

Sir built confidence in me and I have learned to never give up from my mentor from his life story. I feel this mentoring session has helped me to boost my confidence and a route for my career. I recommend this program to other students as well.

I would also like to thank my mentor from the bottom of my heart and thank you to the FFE team for providing this mentoring program."

E. SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FFE's Skilling Development Program: Transforming Scholars into Industry-Ready Professionals

FFE's holistic employability skilling program is designed to prepare scholars comprehensively for their professional journeys, covering communication, technical, aspirational, and job readiness skills. Over the past seven years, the program has grown from just two offerings in 2017 to nearly 20 in the last fiscal year, impacting over **12,000** scholars annually. With initiatives ranging from English language proficiency and advanced technical training to leadership development and mental health support, the program ensures scholars are well-equipped to excel in today's competitive world.

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FFE focuses on enhancing verbal and non-verbal communication skills through targeted programs:

App-Based English Program:

1,900 Year 2 scholars are improving their English proficiency through self-paced lessons by English Helper and eAge Tutors.

Hi-Touch English Program:

787 Year 3 scholars receive personalized weekly training to address communication gaps identified in midline assessments

FFE's programs bridge academic learning and industry demands through practical and role-specific training:

Coursera Access: 1,869 Year 3 scholars are accessing top courses to enhance their resumes.

NPTEL Courses: 157 Year 3 scholars strengthen technical expertise via IIT Madras courses.

LearnTube: **385** scholars benefit from curated, self-paced technical content.

CRIO Technical Program: 20 scholars gain expertise in backend and full-stack development.

AWS Cloud Practitioner Course: 23 final-year scholars develop cloud computing skills with Ethnus.

Encouraging leadership and innovation:

“Finding the Leader in You” (FLY):

168 Year 2 scholars built negotiation and problem-solving skills over weekend and weekday workshops by CMI.

TiE Entrepreneurship Program:

43 Year 4 scholars learned to transform ideas into ventures with mentorship and hands-on workshops.

Wellness Program:

2,596 scholars participated in sessions on emotional resilience and mental health.

Global Leadership Program

35 scholars developed problem-solving and sustainability-focused skills with Rishihood University.

FFE equips scholars to excel in the job market through:

Employability Assessments (AMCAT):

8,600 scholars across various years refined their aptitude, communication, and data interpretation skills.

Resume Building and Mock Interviews:

Structured sessions help scholars prepare for industry demands.

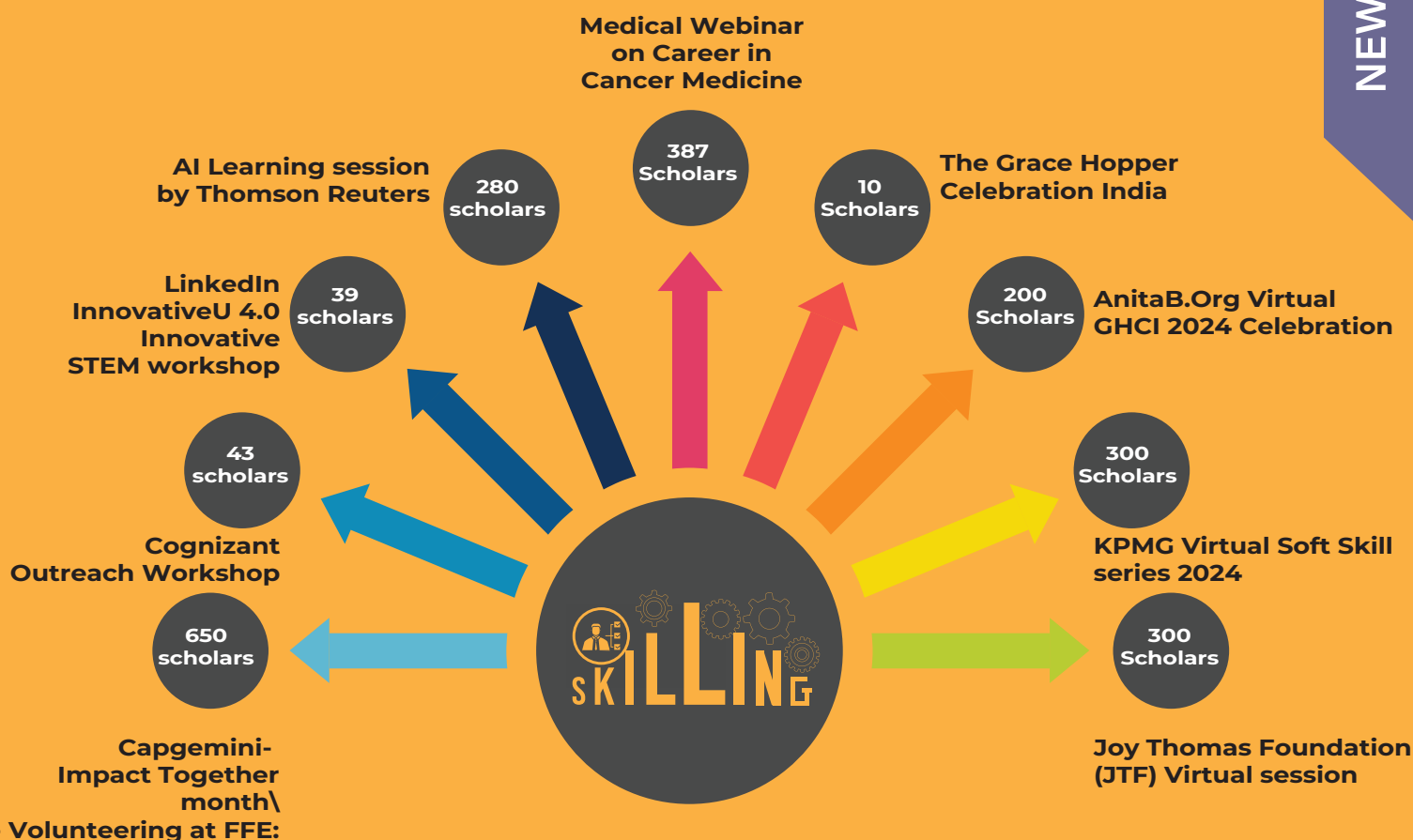
Medical Literature Searching:

169 medical scholars master research tools like PubMed and Mendeley.

BEST Program:

Two engineering scholars gain hands-on training in advanced manufacturing at leading institutes through Bajaj's six-month internship

Skilling Events: Fostering Growth and Industry Readiness



FFE organized a series of impactful events and workshops this quarter, aimed at equipping scholars with practical skills, career insights, and industry knowledge.

As part of Volunteering Impact Month, over 650 scholars participated in impactful virtual sessions held on October 15th and 17th. Led by industry leaders Chintan Gupta, Director at Capgemini, and Rakesh Boonila, Vice President at Capgemini, the sessions focused on essential career skills, including resume building and strategies to outperform in competitive environments. These interactive workshops equipped scholars with practical knowledge and actionable insights, empowering them to take confident strides toward achieving their professional aspirations.

Throughout November and December 2024, a series of transformative workshops and webinars enriched the learning journey of FFE scholars. From employability-focused sessions by Cognizant and KPMG to specialized skill-building initiatives by LinkedIn and Thomson Reuters, students were introduced to topics ranging from AI technologies to career preparation. Other highlights included sessions on opportunities in the semiconductor industry by Joy Thomas Foundation and a deeply inspiring medical webinar on career paths in cancer medicine. Events such as AnitaB.org's GHCI 2024 celebration and engaging mock interviews added significant value, fostering technical expertise, innovation, and diversity across disciplines. These initiatives collectively created a rich ecosystem for mentorship, skill development, and community impact.

October 15th and 17th



A virtual session on Interview preparation skills by the Capgemini team for FFE Engineering scholars

November 14th



A job readiness session held at the Cognizant workshop addressing the FFE scholars who participated in the session on the 14th of November

November 14th



Mock Interview session conducted during the Cognizant Job readiness workshop at the Bangalore office

November 25th



An Insightful workshop hosted at the LinkedIn office in Bangalore by the mentors and Engineering team for 3rd and 4th-year FFE Engineering scholars

November 22nd



An engaging Thomson I session by the team on the topic "Intro and 4 En" for Year 3 g scholars

Skilling Events: Fostering Growth and Industry Readiness

December 9th



A session conducted by Joy Thomas Foundation on Opportunities in the Semiconductor Industry; the session was presented by Mr. Tarique Chaudhari

December 2nd, 3rd & 16th



KPMG Soft skill series session on Interview skills presented by Mr. Kurush Dordi - Head of Talent Strategy for Rish Advisory & Corporate Functions at KPMG

November 20th- 22nd



Anita B. Org Grace Hopper Celebration 2024 from 20th to 22nd of November at Bangalore

November 24th



A webinar for all medical students by one of FFE's Alumni Dr. Somdeb Ball on the topic "Career in Cancer Medicine - A path less travelled but worth a shot"

"The English Bolo course was a transformative experience. The live, interactive sessions were expertly designed to improve spoken English, with a strong focus on practical conversations, pronunciation, and real-life scenarios. The structured lessons and regular practice made learning both enjoyable and effective. I'm grateful to FFE for this opportunity"



Susobhan Mondal
2nd year
B.E – Electrical Engineering
IIT BHU Varanasi

"The Coursera program allowed me to pursue my passion for machine learning through courses I couldn't afford earlier. I completed the first course on Supervised Learning. This course expanded my understanding of machine learning concepts like regression, classification, and algorithms, which are directly relevant to my future career in data science and AI. I am eager to explore more, thanks to FFE's support."



Kandula Sai Dhakshitha
3rd year
B.E. – Computer Science Engineering
VNR VJIE, Hyderabad



Aman Yuvraj Choudhary
LLB, 5th Year
National University
of Study and Research in Law,
Ranchi, Jharkhand

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Aman Yuvraj Choudhary, a final-year law student at the National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL), Ranchi, hails from Deoghar, Jharkhand. Life took a challenging turn for Aman when his father, the sole breadwinner of the family, passed away in 2019 after a brief battle with leukemia. His father's month-long treatment at Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai drained the family's financial resources, leaving them with no active source of income.

Aman now lives with his mother, a homemaker, and his grandmother, who provides for the family's basic needs despite her age-related health challenges. Despite these adversities, Aman remains committed in his ambition to pursue a career in law, inspired by his father's unwavering determination and resilience.

Aman consistently excelled academically, achieving 84.67% in his Class 10 examinations in 2017, 93.80% in Class 12 in 2019, and maintaining an average of 70.5% across all semesters of his BA LLB course. Aman demonstrated his dedication to law through remarkable achievements that highlight his academic and professional commitment. He interned with Axiom Law Chambers, a leading firm in Competition Law, and currently serves as a research associate to Mr. Rahul Rai, Partner and Co-founder of the firm.

Additionally, he coached teams that reached the semi-finals of the NALSAR Antitrust Moot and the quarter-finals of the First NLS-Fintech Moot, earning the Best Memorial (Respondents) award. His research contributions include publications in esteemed journals such as the Corporate and Commercial Law Review, where he authored "Employer-Employee Non-Compete Agreements: Time for the CCI to Examine Them as Vertical Anti-Competitive Agreements," the DNLU Student Law Journal (Vol. 3) with his paper "Penalties Calculated on Global Turnover: Transcending the Confines of Deterrence," and the 3rd NLUO Public Policy Post with "Geospatial Technology: Mapping the Regulatory Framework."

Aman says, "As a law student, I've noticed a gap between the theoretical English curriculum in legal education and the practical communication skills essential for lawyers. The FFE Development Programmes have bridged this gap by enhancing my spoken English, public speaking, and soft skills, fostering confidence and a polished professional demeanor. These practical tools have significantly enriched my personal and professional growth, equipping me for client interactions, court appearances, and networking in the legal field."

Driven by a desire to empower others, Aman aspires to become a pro-bono lawyer, championing the rights of those marginalized by financial and systemic challenges. His father's words, "Be the best at whatever you do," continue to inspire him as he works towards alleviating the struggles of those facing financial hardships.



Meghana Devaraj Poojary
Graduate of the 2017 batch
Software Engineer at Siemens
Technology and Services, Bengaluru

"I am Meghana, a proud member of the FFE family. I completed my BE in E&C stream in 2017, and I am currently working as a software engineer at Siemens Technology and Services, Bengaluru.

I come from a very humble family background. My father was a daily wage worker in the construction field and my mother was a homemaker. I completed my studies until Class XII in a small village in Udupi, Karnataka. After Class X, I was introduced to a regional non-profit organisation called Vidyaposhak, Yaksha Kalaranga, Udupi through my teachers. They used to provide scholarships to academically bright students who are from poor financial backgrounds. I was getting a scholarship until Class XII from this organisation.

With the help of my facilitators Ms. Saraswati Bhosle and Mr. Raghavendra Tikot, I was introduced to FFE in 2013. I applied for the FFE scholarship online with the help of my facilitators and was fortunately successful.

Getting a scholarship of Rs. 30,000 per year for my four years of engineering was not at all a small amount for a student like me. It was nothing less than a lifesaver. If today I am in a position to make a good living for myself and my family I proudly say it's only because of FFE. I will remain very grateful to the extended FEE family all my life.

FFE didn't only help me financially but also gave me a variety of academic support. I attended the residential camp conducted by FFE during my 3rd year of B.E., where there were many corporate-ready sessions conducted by different corporate employees and skilled trainers. This helped me a lot in cracking interviews during my 7th semester. I got selected by Bosch India, Bengaluru in 2017 during the campus interview conducted by them at our college campus. I joined Bosch in August and worked there for around 5 years in an IOT-based home appliances domain. In 2022 I switched to Siemens.

One of the unique features that I like about FFE is its self-sustainability through the Circle of Giving. I am proud to be a part of the Circle, and it is a source of great satisfaction that I am now supporting an FFE scholar under the Adopt A Scholar Program (ASP). Let's continue to expand this circle with whatever support that we can provide from our side once we are capable of doing so and help the upcoming brilliant minds of India. This is my small message to all my fellow FFE alumni and scholars:

I feel very grateful and proud to be here as one of the alumni and donors of FFE today. We all know how challenging it is to pursue a higher education amidst all financial hurdles. You students are very lucky to be part of this family. The only responsibility that you all have now is to make use of this opportunity, study well, secure a good position, and make the best use of this opportunity to give back to society."

I. DONOR FEATURE



Ms. Shahina Helal
Director, Human Resources,
Celebi NAS Airport Services India
Private Limited

“ CelebiNas takes immense pride in its ongoing partnership with the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) through the FFE-CelebiNas Scholarship Program. Over the past two years, this collaboration has emerged as a shining example of the impact that meaningful partnerships can achieve. FFE’s transparent, and highly professional approach to project management has been incredible. Their unwavering dedication and relentless efforts have played a pivotal role in creating life-changing opportunities for academically talented students who face financial hardships.

In the financial year 2023-24, Celebi extended support to 30 students through this program and is delighted to enhance its commitment by supporting 35 additional students in FY 2024-25. Beyond financial support, Celebi has actively involved its employees in the program, with team members participating in the Mentorship Program. These mentors play an invaluable role in equipping students with the skills and guidance they need to become job-ready, bridging the gap between academic excellence and professional success.

This partnership reflects Celebi’s steadfast commitment to fostering education and empowerment, ensuring that every deserving student has the opportunity to realize their dreams and contribute meaningfully to society.”

J. FACILITATOR FEATURE



Mr. P. S. Rajarathnam
Mysore, Karnataka



Ms. P.S. Rajarathnam was awarded a "Certificate of Appreciation" by Dr. Prabhu Goel at the 30th Year Anniversary Celebration

A retired General Manager from Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Mr. P S Rajaratnam has been a volunteer facilitator with FFE for 30 years. A Mechanical Engineering graduate from the University of Mysore, he is one of Karnataka's most experienced FFE facilitators. His late wife, Dr. V. Nagarathnamma, served the society for over 50 years, and his two sons work as software engineers.

During a 1998 visit to his son in the US, Mr. Rajaratnam's one-dollar bus ticket led him to an unexpected encounter at a library. There, he met three gentlemen discussing FFE, which was seeking US-based individuals designated "coordinators" with family in India. This chance meeting resulted in his son Vijay becoming a coordinator while Mr. Rajaratnam began his journey as an FFE facilitator in India.

He fondly remembers the times when he used to scout for various colleges, talking about FFE to spread the mission. Over his long association with FFE, Mr. Rajaratnam has identified and mentored more than 200 scholars, witnessing their journey to success. He has seen FFE's evolution from paper applications to today's digital processes with online submissions and virtual verifications. Now in his seventies, he remains an active FFE volunteer while also serving as a trustee at Pragathi Institutions, Mysore for the past 25 years.

In his own words, "FFE is on the right trajectory and is one of the biggest organizations helping students complete their higher education. I wish Dr. Prabhu Goel and the entire team the very best. FFE will always be in my prayers to continue the good work of the society."



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