

Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Application

Name: Nikhil Goyal

Questions

1. **What are your short term and long term professional goals? (75 words max)**

Working on new business ventures energizes and excites me as I am afforded the opportunity to experiment, learn and grow. It's not that I refuse to work for someone else -- I think there is a lot to be learnt from others, but rather that I value novel ideas and the space to implement them. Therefore, whether working on an established business or a startup- I will apply the entrepreneurial skills I'm learning at Babson.

2. **Based on what you know so far, how do you think Alpha Kappa Psi can help you in your professional endeavors? (75 words max)**

Developing a lifelong bond with my prospective brothers will help me develop my critical thinking and collaboration skills – crucial in any workplace environment. I wish to better equip myself to tackle the forces that drive some of today's fastest growing world economies, both from a cultural and professional perspective. I will ask unusual questions, and relate different leadership experiences I undertake as a brother, to maximize my learning and preparation for the future.

If you were a brother of Alpha Kappa Psi, how would you contribute professionally to the brotherhood? (150 words max)

I am an intellectually curious individual who's desire to learn and share ideas is virtually limitless. As a tactile learner, I like to take what I learn in the classroom into the real world, where I can hopefully transform theory into tangible reality. Furthermore, being well-read on a variety of topics, both business and non-business related, I can strike-up a conversation about the most obscure of things. On a similar note, I have come to realize that the most important portion of achieving one's goal comes from the synergy of collaboration. As a brother of Alpha Kappa Psi, I want to become a global entrepreneur who creates jobs, stimulates economies, and fosters greater international cooperation and collaboration amongst the nations of the world. I also aspire to serve as a mentor to future generations of the fraternity and hopefully be in a position to help others maximize their professional goals.

Optional Submission:

Council of International Schools International Student of the Year Award details
(Credit: www.cois.com)

Nikhil Goyal, 18
NIST International School, Thailand
Project: "Om Gai" project and NIST Fair Trade Coffee



Nikhil has been a driving force behind a number of service projects at NIST IS including the "Om Gai" project and NIST Fair Trade Coffee, both of which have helped local communities in Northern Thailand and Cambodia further develop and gain income based on Fair Trade Coffee and water purification projects. These two main projects he has been involved in show his compassion and his ability to see the bigger picture. He has exemplified all that is good about students having the chance to interact with their host community and communities beyond the national borders. Nikhil has been a role model to the school community and has encouraged others to follow his lead in giving time, energy and enthusiasm to helping those less fortunate than himself in terms of opportunity and support for local communities.



NIKHIL GOYAL & FAIRNIST COFFEE

"For us as NIST students, being able to lead a project group of 30 students in a social enterprise is a great opportunity."

FairNIST Coffee is a student led social enterprise that offers premium grade coffee, built on the broader goal of improving and aiding Maeramt village in Orngoi, a remote part of Chiang Mai province. Every cup of coffee at our school is made from FairNIST coffee beans. One of the student leaders, Nikhil Goyal, offered his thoughts on the development of the group.

How did FairNIST start and what is its goal?

FairNIST began as an offshoot of the Maeramt Development Group after a needs analysis determined that Maeramt had a lack of agricultural income. We also found that the farming environment surrounding the village was ideal for growing coffee, mainly due to its dense mountainous forest, abundant shade and black, nutrient-rich soil. This made coffee an easy choice and perfect solution from an agricultural and business standpoint.

Our goal is to help improve the Maeramt community through raising money in the short term, while also aiming to invest and create a sustainable long term project for the benefit of the villagers. Once we have enough capital raised, we plan to train and supply the farmers with the means to secure their agricultural and thus financial future.

What is the motivation behind FairNIST?

Personally, as I'm also involved with the Model United Nations, I believe that it is important to get beyond the typical model of lots of talk, but not much actual work being done. FairNIST is a great opportunity for me to show that I truly understand the conversations within the Model United Nations by taking the initiative and tackling the problem head on. I'm very passionate about the chance to help run a social enterprise that directly addresses the problems raised by the Model United Nations.

What were some of the challenges you faced?

One of the big challenges was finding the right partners. We were very fortunate to find the right organizations after contacting numerous businesses and individuals, and also by attending tradeshows. Our partners, Roots and Thai High Coffee, have been extremely helpful not only in their service, but also through imparting their knowledge, skills and expertise.

For us students, we don't have M.B.A.s or management experience. But by having helpful business partners, it gives us a big advantage, as they are willing to help guide us. This is especially beneficial since the Thai coffee industry is very dynamic. It has its challenges, though it also has great opportunities.

What makes the coffee unique?

FairNIST coffee is made from a special blend that is exclusive to NIST. A lot of research and taste testing has been done to ensure that we can deliver the best possible cup of coffee. The blend is an aromatic, delicately roasted, chocolaty, full-bodied coffee that is roasted and processed professionally. A lot of care has been taken through every step of the way to ensure a successful product and successful project.