

PROPOSALS

CHALLA SAI RAM REDDY 22CY10018 DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY VIDYASAGAR HALL OF RESIDENCE

Contesting for the post of:

General Secretary Students' Welfare Technology Students' Gymkhana Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (2024-25)

<u>Proposal 1: Adding Career Counsellors to the Counselling Centre</u>

Aim:

Students after coming to IIT generally don't have the sense of future opportunities they can explore until they reach the junior year. Some students who even manage to find their interests and the domain of work they want to pursue, end up needing clarification. To tackle this, I propose to have Career Counsellors who can provide professional guidance and help students independently navigate their careers.

Benefits:

Having career counsellors at IIT Kharagpur provides invaluable benefits to students. These counsellors offer personalised guidance, helping students clarify their career goals and align their academic pursuits accordingly. They assist in selecting the right courses, keeping students informed about job trends and opportunities, and providing support with resume-building and interview skills. Additionally, counsellors facilitate networking with alumni and industry professionals, offer emotional support for stress management, and guide students interested in entrepreneurship. Their insights into industry needs and post-graduation planning ensure that students are well-prepared for the workforce.

Implementation:

In the initial stage, a career counselling agency is contacted that can send career counsellors over the weekend to consult with students and help them with their career navigation. Depending on the response, a few on-roll counsellors will be hired. In consultation with these counsellors, we can work on building a repository of all the possible domains and opportunities.

Groundwork:

I contacted the Head Counsellor at the Counselling Centre, they expressed the need to have Career Counsellors as students often approach the counselling centre for career guidance and work management. I have also consulted with the Career Development

Centre(CDC) where I have been told the need for having a Career Counselling agency which can send counsellors over the weekend for counselling or an On-call Career Counsellor who can help the students during placements.

Proposal 2: Donation drive for final years

Aim:

I propose to create a platform where final-year students can donate valuable resources to their juniors. Alongside there will be a blood donation drive, clothing drive and other charity events organised encouraging final years to participate actively.

Benefits:

Often when final years graduate, they leave things behind and those things end up being sold outside by workers. These things might be useful for students still studying in our institute. Many juniors are reluctant to ask for things from their seniors, but this portal can bridge that gap and help students forge connections with outgoing students. This shall also provide the students the opportunity to experience the joy of giving.

<u>Implementation:</u>

This portal can be integrated on the ApnaInsti app which already has a buy/sell mechanism in it. Adding a donation portal in the same way shall provide the facility for students to connect with each other. The portal will open in March of every spring semester to give students adequate time to list and donate the things that they want to give away. A blood donation camp shall also be organised especially for final years as a part of this donation drive. This shall also bridge the gap between UG, PG and RS Communities. The charity events shall be carried out in coordination with various NGOs and this will help in building community and bringing people closer.

Groundwork:

I have talked to numerous seniors who said that they often want to give away things before they leave but there is no particular platform for that. Also in consultation with Developers' Society heads I was informed that the portal can be easily integrated on the ApnaInsti app as the feature is already available. There are multiple NGOs which are working constantly towards the upliftment of Kharagpur and its people.

Proposal 3: Postgraduate Mentorship Program

Aim:

I propose to extend the Student Mentorship Program to Postgraduate students.

Benefits:

Although PG students would have experienced college life prior to coming to IIT, it is essential to smoothen the transition that they face. PG students are often unaware of the numerous opportunities that they can avail at this institute. Having a mentor with experience on campus can be instrumental in identifying these opportunities and pursuing them along with their academic attainments. This program shall also help first year PG Students in selecting their guides.

<u>Implementation:</u>

The process is similar to the UG Student mentorship program. A senior mentor from the same specialisation(if not department) shall be allotted to 4-5 mentees. This shall present the opportunity for students to have first hand interaction with their seniors and build connections which could come in handy throughout their stay at IIT Kharagpur.

Groundwork:

I have contacted the PG Representative who conveyed the difficulties faced by PG students due to lack of guidance. Students are often unaware about the plethora of opportunities that are available on campus. Due to this, they limit their interaction to their

batchmates and wingmates. Also, this limits them from participating in various events and societies. I have also contacted several PG Students who expressed their interest in mentoring their juniors.