

# Focus

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Mahatma Gandhi





Donor Scholar Interactions

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FFE Meet & Greet



FFE Scholars Visit KLA - Tencor Software India Private Limited

#### Dear Friends,

The new FY for FFE promises to be an important one as we plan the expansion of our programs and increase our reach, impacting more lives than ever before. Our journey so far has been possible, thanks to the unwavering support of all of youwho are aligned with the mission of the Foundation For Excellence. FFE's Founders, Dr. Prabhu and Mrs. Poonam Goel's vision to bring about transformational change in a single generation today touches youth across India. Through the support of FFE's mission, we have not only provided financial assistance but a robust support system to all our scholars - including skills for employability, learning opportunities (technical and soft skills), wellness support, leadership and a strong mentorship program. All these interventions have resulted in confident, self-resilient and goal-oriented students with high aspirations and a strong motivation to succeed! Thank you for being a part of their journey.

On behalf of FFE, I am pleased to announce that Ram Kolavennu has taken on the role of CEO of FFE India Trust, a position to which he brings deep passion, strong commitment and a wealth of experience in leading and managing programs and teams. We are excited to have Ram lead the organisation during its next phase of growth.

The last quarter witnessed many interactions between students and their sponsors. FFE's own outreach efforts to engage with our Institutional and NGO partners, alumni and students are highlighted in this edition.

We look to your continued support as we embark on another year of supporting gifted youth as they pursue their dreams of higher education.



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

#### **Dear FFE Community,**

As we reflect on the past quarter, I am excited to share that our team at the Foundation for Excellence has united around a bold and strategic vision for the future. We have developed a comprehensive plan to make a meaningful impact over the next 3-5 years, driven by our strong commitment to empowering deserving students to realize their dreams through education.

This year, we have set an ambitious goal to substantially increase the number of scholarships awarded. However, our focus extends beyond simply expanding access—we are equally dedicated to deepening the impact of our support. In particular, we are launching new initiatives in Engineering, Medicine, and Law to equip our scholars with the skills and tools needed to succeed in their chosen careers. These programs aim to foster holistic development and ensure our scholars are well-prepared to excel.

We are also witnessing a surge of interest from industry partners eager to engage with our scholars as interns and employees. To facilitate this, we are strengthening our connections with industry, creating opportunities for meaningful professional experiences that boost employability and support long-term career growth.

This quarter, we celebrate the achievements of our graduating students who are confidently stepping into new chapters of their lives. Their energy and gratitude are truly inspiring. On behalf of the entire FFE team, I extend heartfelt congratulations and best wishes as they embark on their professional journeys.

Looking ahead, the next quarter will see the launch of our scholarship application process. I encourage you to share this opportunity widely so we can support even more deserving students. Together, we continue to transform lives through education.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Message from Ram Kolavennu, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), FFEIT

#### **Dear Friends and Supporters,**

As we begin the first quarter of our new fiscal year, we are pleased to share a few exciting updates from the FFE community.

Our India team has sent out scholar assignment emails to donors—an important milestone for us and our supporters. We know how meaningful it is for each donor to connect with the student whose life they are helping transform through the Gift of Education.

This quarter also marked our first-ever virtual event, "Meet and Greet with FFE Founder Dr. Prabhu Goel." It was specially designed to introduce FFE to many of our new donors who joined over the past three years. We were thrilled to see strong participation from doctors across the country, who engaged directly with Dr. Goel and asked thoughtful questions about FFE's mission and impact.

We also had the opportunity to participate in the annual gathering of the **American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPIO)** in the Bay Area—a wonderful platform to connect with a new cohort of potential donors committed to education and equity.

As we continue to grow, we're proud to share that **FFE has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator** and **Platinum Transparency status from Candid Guidestar**—the highest recognition for nonprofit organizations in the U.S. These ratings reflect our strong commitment to accountability, transparency, and effective use of donor funds.

Looking ahead, we're excited to announce that FFE's **Annual Fundraiser Gala** will be held on **September 13th**. Our goal is to raise **\$1 million** and introduce FFE's mission to a wider community of supporters. We hope many of you will join us in making this evening a memorable and impactful one.

We're also placing special emphasis on organizing more **virtual donor-scholar meetings** with the support of our India team. These sessions give our donors a chance to personally connect with the scholars they support. You can read more about these inspiring interactions in this edition of the newsletter.

With your generosity and unwavering commitment, we aim to support **over 20,000 scholars** this year. Let's keep the spirit of giving alive and continue to spread the Gift of Education to every bright mind in need.

With gratitude,



Message from
Anil Kumar,
Executive Director,
FFEUS

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### Ram Kolavennu, CEO- FFE India Trust

We are delighted to announce the promotion of Ram Kolavennu to the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of FFE India Trust. Ram has been an integral part of FFE's journey during the past 5 (almost) years, having successfully led and expanded our programs and operations. His deep commitment to our mission, coupled with his collaborative and compassionate leadership style and programmatic insights, makes him exceptionally well-suited to lead FFE into its next phase of growth and impact. We look forward to this exciting new chapter under his leadership.

#### FFE Meet & Greet: Inspiring Stories and Community Connections, 31 May 2025







Donors, scholars, and alumni come together at the May 31 Meet & Greet to celebrate the transformative impact of FFE.

On May 31, FFE hosted a heartwarming Meet & Greet session on Zoom, uniting 42 participants, including 29 donors and prospective donors, 7 FFE team members, 2 volunteers, 3 scholars, and 1 alum. The evening celebrated the power of community and FFE's mission: Nurturing Brilliance, Transforming Generations.

A highlight of the event was the inspiring story of perseverance shared by Vinodhini Duraisamy, which deeply moved attendees and showcased the transformative impact of FFE's support.

A candid conversation between FFE Founder Dr. Prabhu Goel and Dr. Pankaj Bhatnagar offered valuable insights into the vision and values driving FFE's work. Adding to the evening's inspiration, three FFE scholars currently at Carnegie Mellon University spoke about their academic journeys and summer internships—opportunities made possible through FFE's mentoring and guidance.

The Q&A session, featuring Drs. Manish Garg, Randeep Juneja, and Pankaj Bhatnagar, explored ways to expand medical scholarships through alumni associations, building on successful collaborations with GOSUMEC and MAMCOAANA.

The event, skillfully moderated by Snehaswini, left participants feeling inspired and connected—reinforcing how shared stories and generosity create a ripple effect, shaping brighter futures for generations to come.

#### Mentoring Session with Dr. Deepak and Dr. Kiran Gangahar, 2 June 2025



Students engage in an enriching virtual mentoring session with Dr. Deepak and Dr. Kiran Gangahar.

On June 2, FFE hosted an engaging virtual mentoring session with Dr. Deepak and Dr. Kiran Gangahar, attended by 80 students. The session focused on the Importance of Physical Activity in Life and Managing Social Media in Students' Lives. The speakers emphasized the benefits of regular exercise for emotional and physical well-being and advised students on mindful social media use, including verifying sources. The interactive Q&A covered topics like memory retention, age-related cognitive changes, and career decisions between India and the USA, making the session a highly insightful and impactful experience.

#### **DONOR SCHOLAR MEETS**

#### GOSU-FFE Donor-Scholar Interaction, 26 April 2025





GOSU-FFE donors and scholars connect during a vibrant interaction on April 26, 2025

On April 26, 2025, FFE hosted a dynamic donor-scholar interaction with alumni donors from Seth GS Medical College (GOSUMEC) and the students they support. The event saw enthusiastic participation from over 80 donors and scholars. Donors shared their heartfelt experiences of meeting their sponsored students during recent visits to Mumbai, expressing how rewarding it is to contribute to their educational journeys.

Inspiring moments as donors share experiences and motivate medical scholars at the GOSU-FFE event

Dr. Sanjay Bindra highlighted FFE's transparency and efficiency, encouraging donors to share their stories with a wider audience. Dr. Prabhu Goel extended gratitude to GOSUMEC alumni for creating one of India's largest medical endowments. Dr. Sudha Kidao emphasized the importance of mentorship, urging doctors to take an active role as FFE expands mentorship beyond engineering students.

Scholars spoke about how the scholarship has eased financial burdens for their families, allowing them to focus fully on academics. The session concluded on an uplifting note, with many donors expressing interest in building personal connections with their scholars to offer mentorship and guidance.

### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Mr. Puneet Agarwal and Dr. Kamini Narang, 3 May, 2025



Mr. Puneet Agarwal and Dr. Kamini Narang in a warm, inspiring conversation with FFE scholars-sharing dreams, stories, and support.

On May 3, 2025, FFE hosted an engaging donor-scholar session with Mr. Puneet Agarwal, Dr. Kamini Narang, and a group of FFE scholars. Dr. Sudha Kidao opened the discussion by highlighting FFE's initiatives,

including free coaching programs and collaborations with grassroots NGOs. A memorable moment came when scholar Shweta Kumari shared her inspiring journey from a Navodaya school to NIT, resonating deeply with Dr. Kamini, whose father contributed to the Navodaya system. Mr. Puneet encouraged scholars to share their aspirations, while Dr. Kamini connected with their personal interests—reflecting FFE's mission of nurturing talent and building meaningful connections.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Xerxes Colah, 9 May, 2025



Dr. Xerxes Colah and Ananya Gaikwad engage in a meaningful conversation - bridging experience with ambition, and offering guidance with grace

On May 9, 2025, renowned orthopedic surgeon and FFE GOSU donor, Dr. Xerxes Colah, connected with scholar Ananya Gaikwad for a warm and insightful conversation. They discussed academics, medical

aspirations, and reflections on how the field has evolved over generations. A nostalgic moment arose when Ananya mentioned studying anatomy from B.D. Chaurasia, sparking memories for Dr. Colah. Ananya shared her NEET journey, family background, and dream of specializing in dermatology. Dr. Colah encouraged her with thoughtful advice, emphasizing perseverance over competition.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Ms. Vineeta Gulati, 13 May, 2025



Ms. Vineeta Gulati and scholar Vishalgiri share an inspiring exchange during the donor-scholar interaction.

On May 13, 2025, FFE hosted a meaningful interaction between donor Ms. Vineeta Gulati and scholar Gauswami Vishalgiri Vinodgiri, a medical student aspiring to become a neurosurgeon.

Vishalgiri shared his inspiring academic journey, recalling his intense NEET preparation—studying nearly 19 hours a day with guidance from a dedicated teacher. Coming from a farming family, his determination and love for learning shone through. FFE's Managing Trustee, Dr. Sudha Kidao, joined the conversation, discussing plans to expand mentorship across MBBS, Law, and B.Tech fields. Ms. Gulati expressed enthusiasm for supporting these efforts by connecting FFE with her wider professional network.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Bhakti Gidvani, 16 May 2025



Sai Biyani in conversation with his donor, Dr. Bhakti Gidvani – a moment of gratitude and encouragement.

On May 16, 2025, FFE facilitated a heartfelt interaction between Sai Biyani, an MBBS scholar from Seth GS Medical College, and his donor, Dr. Bhakti Gidvani,

a proud GOSUMEC alumna. Sai, who hails from a rural village in Maharashtra, expressed his deep gratitude for the scholarship that is helping him pursue his dream of becoming a doctor. He shared his academic interests, love for music and cricket, and mentioned his father's wish to thank Dr. Gidvani personally. Bhakti encouraged Sai to focus on his studies, reassuring him of her support.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Nzeera Ketter, 21 May 2025



Dr. Nzeera Ketter and Mayur Khodifad connect across continents - a conversation of shared roots, aspirations, and encouragement.

On May 21, 2025, FFE hosted a virtual interaction between Dr. Nzeera Ketter, a US-based donor originally from South Africa, and her scholar, Mayur Khodifad, a medical student from Gujarat. Mayur shared his

aspiration to specialize in cardiology, and Dr. Nzeera graciously offered her mentorship and support, encouraging him to seek guidance whenever needed. She also shared her remarkable professional journey, from working on infectious diseases to her current research on Alzheimer's and HIV. Her experiences, insights, and words of encouragement left Mayur inspired and motivated, reinforcing the power of mentorship in shaping the future of aspiring medical professionals.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Meenakshi & Dr. Jayendra Patel, 23 May 2025



Dr. Meenakshi Patel and her husband connect with scholar Aadesh Nichat — a touching exchange across generations, rooted in medicine and mentorship.

As part of the GOSUMEC-FFE initiative, retired physicians Dr. Meenakshi Patel and Dr. Jayendra Patel had a warm and inspiring interaction with their scholar, Aadesh Nichat. Dr. Meenakshi, a former

cardiologist, shared reflections on her medical career and the couple's lifelong commitment to healthcare and giving back. Aadesh expressed heartfelt gratitude for their support, crediting his father as his strongest motivator and sharing his dreams of becoming a compassionate physician.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Nischal Nadhamuni, 28 May, 2025

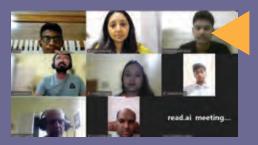


Nischal Nadhamuni with his supported scholars - an inspiring exchange of ideas, innovation, and encouragement for the next generation.

In a dynamic virtual session, US donor and Klarity Co-Founder & CTO, Nischal Nadhamuni, connected with his scholars for an inspiring conversation. Nischal shared his journey from MIT to co-founding

Klarity, highlighting the challenges and lessons that shaped his path. The scholars, Mohammad Umar and Riya Nandasana, introduced themselves—Umar spoke of his passion for software development and entrepreneurial dreams, while Riya shared her love for learning new languages. The discussion explored technology and Al's role in education, including the use of ChatGPT. The session underscored how mentorship sparks curiosity, innovation, and the drive to achieve ambitious goals.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Mr. Partha R. Sarathy, 2 June 2025



Mr. Partha R. Sarathy with his scholars - a conversation full of encouragement, achievements, and the spirit of giving back.

On June 2, 2025, FFE hosted a meaningful interaction between long-standing US donor Mr. Partha R. Sarathy and his scholars —Sampath Vinnay, Lakshmanan K, Ashok Saridi, and Shailesh Bhatt.

The session began with warm introductions as each scholar shared updates on their academic progress and future aspirations, reflecting their determination to succeed. Mr. Partha offered heartfelt encouragement, emphasizing kindness, perseverance, and the importance of staying connected. A highlight of the meeting was celebrating Lakshmanan K's graduation—a proud milestone for both scholar and donor.future of aspiring medical professionals.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Sanjay & Dr. Archana Bindra, 13 June, 2025



Dr. Sanjay and Archana Bindra connect with scholars Atharva and Ankit - an inspiring conversation grounded in empathy, experience, and encouragement.

On June 13, 2025, Dr. Sanjay Bindra (FFE-US Board Member) and Dr. Archana Bindra connected with their scholars, Atharva Shelar and Ankit Gusaiwala, under the GOSU-FFE Scholarship.

The discussion explored the students' academic journeys, with Atharva and Ankit sharing their growing interests in cardiology and neurology, along with the experiences shaping their medical aspirations. Dr. Archana emphasized the importance of maintaining balance, encouraging them to prioritize personal well-being while pursuing excellence.

#### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Dr. Meenakshi & Dr. Jayendra Patel, 25 June 2025

As part of the GOSUMEC-FFE initiative, a virtual interaction was held between first-year scholar Atharv Gore and his generous supporters, Dr. Meenakshi Patel and her husband, Dr. Jayendra Patel. The conversation was both engaging and inspiring, with Atharv seeking guidance on overcoming the challenges of his first academic year. Drawing on her medical career, Dr. Patel offered thoughtful advice and encouragement.



Dr. Minakshi Patel and her husband in conversation with scholar Atharv Gore - a meaningful exchange of guidance, curiosity, and shared commitment.

In a touching gesture, Dr. Patel expressed interest in sharing FFE's mission with friends, reinforcing the power of mentorship and philanthropy.

### Donor-Scholar Interaction with Mr. Jignesh Maganlal Thummar, 27 June, 2025



From scholar to donor - Jignesh Thummar and Nishanth Poovarasan share a moment that celebrates gratitude, growth, and giving back.

On June 27, 2025, FFE hosted an inspiring virtual interaction between alumnus-turned-donor Mr. Jignesh Maganlal Thummar and his scholar, Nishanth Poovarasan.

Mr. Thummar shared his remarkable journey—how FFE supported him over a decade ago and how a chance encounter with an FFE poster in the U.S. reignited his connection with the foundation, inspiring him to give back. Nishanth, a recent graduate, expressed heartfelt gratitude, acknowledging how FFE and Mr. Thummar's support shaped his academic journey and career aspirations.

#### **DONOR FEATURE**



## Ashika G Senior Specialist - Corporate Responsibility, Thomson Reuters

"Thomson Reuters is proud to have partnered with the Foundation for Excellence over the past five years, supporting more than 200 scholars to date. Our collaboration has gone beyond scholarships for meritorious students—we have consistently explored meaningful ways to leverage the expertise and passion of our employees to create a broader impact.Initiatives such as our mentorship program—

with over 100 mentors engaged across five cycles—the AI for Social Good sessions, and the IMPACTathon, which contributed to strengthening the organization's operations, are strong testaments to this shared commitment.

We look forward to deepening our partnership and creating even greater collective impact in the years ahead."

#### **VOICE OF SCHOLAR**



#### Vikash Kumar Mahato B.Tech, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Maharashtra

Vikash Kumar Mahato, a recent Civil Engineering graduate from VNIT Maharashtra, exemplifies resilience and determination. Hailing from Dhanbad, Jharkhand, Vikash grew up in a modest household—his father is a daily wage worker and his mother a homemaker—with a family income of just ₹8,000–₹9,000 per month. For him, pursuing higher education at a premier institution once felt out of reach.

With perseverance and the life-changing support of FFE, Vikash not only secured admission to one of India's prestigious engineering colleges but also graduated with an impressive GPA. His placement at Green Co. marks a proud milestone and a new beginning for both him and his family.

Beyond academics, Vikash actively engaged in extracurriculars, organizing technical events that brought together over 2,500 students, and participating in athletics and football tournaments. These experiences helped him develop leadership, teamwork, and interpersonal skills. A budding tech enthusiast, Vikash has also pursued web development courses and continues to enhance his coding expertise. Through the **FFE Mentorship Program**, he received valuable career guidance from experienced mentors, shaping both his personal and professional journey.

"I am deeply grateful for the scholarship you have generously provided me. Your support not only eased my financial burden but also motivated me to strive for excellence. Your belief in me has empowered me to focus on my education and growth, and I am committed to making the most of this opportunity. Thank you for believing in me." says Vikash

#### **NEWS AND EVENTS**

FFE Team Visits Keysight Gurugram Office to Celebrate Mentorship Milestone and Strengthen Partnership, 29th April, 2025



The FFE team visited the Keysight office in Gurugram on 29th April 2025 to showcase the FFE–Keysight Scholarship Program and conclude the 2024–25 mentoring cycle. The hybrid session was attended by mentors and several members of Keysight's board members. Mentors shared their feedback, and **Mr. Dinesh**, board member, kept the discussion lively with thoughtful questions and insightful feedback. Two Delhi-based scholars supported by Keysight also joined the session. The meeting concluded on a high note, with enthusiasm for the upcoming mentoring and scholarship journey.

### Cognizant Foundation Hosts Career Readiness Session for FFE Scholars with Expert Mentorship and Industry Insights, 9th May, 2025

On 9 May 2025, Cognizant Foundation hosted an engaging and impactful event for our scholars, featuring leaders from its AI and HR teams who shared valuable insights on careers in the IT industry. The scholars benefitted from one-on-one mentorship sessions with Cognizant experts, which included resume reviews and mock interviews.







FFE scholars engage in an enriching session with Cognizant Foundation leaders

A highlight of the event was the interaction with Mr. Deepak Prabhu Matti, CEO of Cognizant Foundation, who spoke about the importance of corporate social responsibility and encouraged scholars to pursue careers with organizations that are driven by a strong social purpose. Mr. Ramesh, Associate Nishanth Director Cognizant, provided guidance on the technical and soft skills required to thrive in IT roles. Ms. Aswathy Venugopal, Senior Director and Head Relations. shared Campus framework—Personality, Image, and Exposure, as a roadmap to building a successful career.

### FFE-Amazon Donor-Scholar Meet Celebrates AFE Impact and Scholar Journeys, 23rd May, 2025





AFE scholars and Amazon leaders come together in Bengaluru to celebrate stories of growth, resilience, and impact.

On May 23, 2025, the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) and Amazon co-hosted an engaging Donor-Scholar Meet in Bengaluru with Amazon Future Engineer (AFE) scholars and interns.

The event featured distinguished leaders from Amazon's Community Impact and University Talent Acquisition teams, including, **Prateek Aggarwal** – Senior Product Manager, **Akshay Kashyap** – Senior Product Manager, **Bettina Stix** – Board Member, Global (US), **Suman Yaadav** – Director, HR, **Ashhar Firdausi** – Product Manager, Avanti Joshi – HR Leader, **Veda Nadgouda** – University Talent Acquisition Recruiter.

These leaders connected with scholars during an interactive lunch session, offering valuable insights and encouragement.

Amazon leaders engage with AFE scholars

Since its inception in 2022, the AFE program has supported over 1,700 women engineering students from low-income backgrounds, providing scholarships, boot camps, technical training, and internship opportunities. During the event, scholars shared their inspiring journeys and aspirations, while Amazon leaders reflected on and appreciated the program's deep and meaningful impact.

### NBEF Milana 2025 Celebrates Scholar Journeys and Partnerships, 25th May, 2025



Scholars, alumni, and partners come together at NBEF Milana 2025

FFE's partner, NBEF hosted its Annual Event, NBEF Milana on 25th May 2025, bringing together supported scholars, alumni, their parents, and partner organizations, including FFE to celebrate progress and shared milestones.

The day was marked by inspiration as the remarkable growth journeys of scholars were celebrated. In this event, the scholars were recognized with program completion certificates that were awarded by FFE-NBEF mentorship partner, the School of Meaningful Experiences (SoME). FFE's CEO **Ram Kolavennu** addressed the gathering about the expanded partnership and synergies between the two organizations.

### FFE Scholars Visit Kla - Tencor Software India Private Limited Chennai for Industry Exposure During Global Volunteer Week, 13th June, 2025



Engineering scholars gain industry insights and career guidance during their visit to KLA's Chennai office.

On 13th June, 2025, 22 FFE engineering scholars visited the KLA office in Chennai as part of the Global Volunteer Week.

#### MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



FFE-NetApp India, Mentorship Closure session held in their Bangalore office on April 1st 2025



FFE-Wabtec Corp. Mentorship Closure session held in their Bangalore office on April 15th 2025



FFE's Mentorship cycle in FY 24-25 for Engineering students concluded in March 2025 drawing professionals from over 100+ corporations who provided mentoring and guidance to 2500+ FFE Engineering (BE/BTech) Scholars.

To express our gratitude to our corporate partners and their employee volunteers for completing another successful year of FFE's mentorship program, FFE conducted 33 Mentorship Closure Sessions across April-June 2025. These sessions were held at partner office in Bengaluru for Google, Capgemini Technology Services India Pvt. Ltd., Exxonmobil Services & Technology Pvt. Ltd., Wabtec Corporation, Musigma Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Terrapay Solutions India Private Limited, Synopsys (India) Pvt. Ltd. & NetApp India whereas Keysight Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. closure session was held in its Delhi office, Virtual sessions concluding the Mentoring Program were organized for Mercedes-Benz Research & Development India, KPMG India, IDP Education India Pvt. Ltd., Cognizant Technology Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Collins Aerospace, Tata Steel Limited, Thomson Reuters India Pvt. Ltd., S&P Global, Akamai India Pvt. Ltd, Clarivate, Dell Technologies, Microsoft Global Services Center India Pvt. Ltd., Microsoft India Development Center, Dover India Pvt. Ltd., o9 Solutions Management India Pvt. Ltd, Reliance Foundation, Hexagon, Indegene Limited Sez, Altimetrik India Pvt. Ltd., Salesforce, Zscaler, GlobalLogic India Private Limited, Mettler-Toledo India, Firstsource Solutions Ltd., TransUnion CIBIL.



FFE-Google Mentorship Closure session held in their Bangalore office on April 17th 2025



FFE-Capgemini Mentorship Closure session held in their Bangalore office on April 29th 2025



FFE-ExxonMobil Mentorship Closure session held in their Bangalore office on June 4th 2025



Virtual FFE-GlobalLogic Mentorship Closure session on June 12th 2025

During the closure sessions, FFE highlighted the program's achievements and impact, and expressed gratitude to employee volunteers for their participation, honouring 'Star' and 'Outstanding' mentors with certificates. The occasion also showcased the program's impact, gathered feedback from mentors and mentees, and awarded completion certificates to participants.

The ongoing Mentorship program for FFE's Law (LLB) started in Jan 2025 and will end in Dec 2025. Currently, 60 law Mentor-Mentee pairs are part of the program.

On May 11th, 2025, FFE hosted a Group mentoring session on 'Drafting and Pleading Skills' for law students, led by **Advocate Anupam Surve**, a seasoned lawyer and FFE's recurring mentor. The session drew enthusiastic participation from students across all years, with Mr. Surve sharing expert insights on clarity, precision, and legal acumen. He addressed student queries, stressing that consistent practice is crucial to mastering these skills. FFE is thankful to the speaker Advocate Anupam Surve for the interactive session which highly informative, leaving students inspired to explore the subject further.

FFE has initiated the Mentorship program 25-26 for its 3rd year engineering scholars. The registration window is now open for mentor and mentee enrollment until 30th July 2025. The mobilization, orientation and registration process for the program is ongoing. FFE is excited and looking forward to getting maximum students register for this very engaging and impactful program.

#### MENTOR-MENTEE TESTIMONIAL

#### **MENTOR TESTIMONIAL**



Mentor: Rakhi Gandhi Manager, Dell Technologies

"I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude to Foundation For Excellence, for providing an opportunity to serve as a mentor to a 3rd year engineering scholar. It's been a truly rewarding experience to witness my mentee's growth — a mutually enriching journey I'm grateful to be part of. My mentee's dedication, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn have been inspiring and I am proud of her progress. It has been a privilege to contribute to the growth and development of young minds, and I look forward to continuing to support and guide in any way I can.

Special Thanks to FFE, from the seamless coordination to the thoughtful assistance, in every aspect of the program reflected their commitment to excellence!"

#### **MENTEE TESTIMONIAL**



Vidya Bharti B.Tech. Year 3 Computer Science & Engineering, Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University, Lucknow

"It has been a wonderful experience that has helped me grow both professionally and personally. My mentor guided me in career planning, interview preparation, and future goals. Her advice gave me confidence and clarity about the steps I need to take for my success. The practical tips on resume building, workplace behaviour, "how to set clear goals" and work towards them with confidence. I have already started applying these lessons in my academic and personal life. During the placement season, I was very anxious but my mentor Rakhi Ma'am really helped me in boosting my confidence and sharing valuable tips on interview handling.

I highly recommend the FFE Mentorship Program to other students. It provides the right direction, knowledge, and support to grow in one's career. A big thank you to my mentor and the FFE team for their constant support and guidance."

#### **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.

#### Medical Webinar, 11th May, 2025



Dr. Samir Parikh guides 200 MBBS students on mental well-being.

FFE hosted a medical webinar on the 11th of May on the topic –The Champion Within – Navigating Your Success in the Field by Dr. Samir Parik, Renowned psychiatrist and Director, Department of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences, Fortis Healthcare. Close to 200 participants joined the interactive session that covered "How to maintain mental well-being during MBBS."

#### Financial Literacy Session, 16th April, 2025



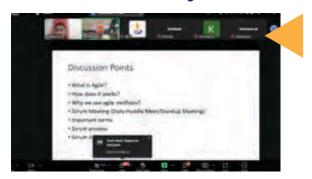
Financial literacy session by Preeti Chauhan, attended by 200 scholars.

A session on personal finance was conducted on April 16th by Preeti Chauhan, founder of mPower Girls India. The session focused on key aspects of financial literacy, including smart saving strategies, better saving options, understanding insurance, responsible spending, and managing debt. This insightful session was attended by nearly 200 scholars.

#### Thomson Reuters AI & ML Workshop, 10th June, 2025



#### **Technical Session by SAP**



35 scholars explore Al's impact at Thomson Reuters Bangalore workshop.

The Thomson Reuters AI & ML Workshop on June 10th was attended by 35 FFE Engineering scholars at the Thomson Reuters office in Bangalore. The workshop provided a high-level introduction to the role of AI in transforming industries and driving social good.

### 750+ scholars explore Agile and Coding principles in SAP's June tech sessions.

A series of technical sessions were planned by SAP from June-August 2025. The session held on June 13th was facilitated by Mr. Madhusudan Sahu, Engineering Manager at SAP Labs India Pvt. Ltd., while the June 27th session was conducted by Mr. Panneer Selvam, Corporate Learning Expert at SAP Labs India Pvt. Ltd.

#### **ALUMNI FEATURE**



#### Rashmi Bhat Al Engineer, Intern, CardiacIntel, Inc

"I hail from a middle-class family in Bengaluru, Karnataka. As a child, my aspirations were limitless—ranging from becoming an astronaut to a car racer, or even finding a cure for cancer. My parents, despite our modest means, encouraged every dream of mine. I scored 96% in my 10th board exams, 95.3% in 12th, and secured a KCET rank of 1471. I was eager to begin my engineering journey at BMS College of Engineering. However, life threw us a curveball. My father, the sole breadwinner, was cheated of his savings, leaving our family buried in debt. Affording three square meals was a

challenge, let alone my tuition fees. Quitting education was never an option for me, so I searched for scholarships—and that's when I found FFE.

Becoming an FFE scholar was a turning point. Beyond financial aid, FFE offered mentorship, workshops, tech courses, and mock interviews that honed my technical and professional skills. With FFE's support, I participated in hackathons, tech talks, and college clubs—from singing to Android app development and NSS. For the first time, I felt free from financial worry and could focus on learning and growing. In my final year, I interned at Cisco through campus placements and received a full-time offer, which I happily accepted—especially since my first visit to Cisco was through an FFE-organized workshop that left me inspired. Today, I am in the United States, working as an AI Engineer Intern at CardiacIntel, Inc.

FFE has transformed my life. Having once dropped out of school due to an inability to pay a few hundred rupees, I know the pain of financial hardship. FFE gave me the wings to fly, and I believe it's now my duty to give back. As Albert Einstein once said, 'It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it.' I urge all FFE alumni to contribute—no matter how small—to help others like me chase their dreams."











