

PRESS RELEASE

IIT Alumni Council seeks technology proposals to control rogue technologies in areas like agentic AI.



Pune, April 17, 2025: The IIT Alumni Council's World Wisdom Workshop #1 of FY 2025-26 has highlighted an urgent need to accelerate technological developments to counter rogue technologies in areas like cyber, gene editing and agentic AI. In keeping with this identified need, a call for proposals is being released seeking proposals for knowledge and funding support from corporate members and companies promoted by individual members of IIT Alumni Council.

Solace2Self, a four-day workshop curated and conducted by Parag Shah brought together technologists, physicians, thinkers, and facilitators, alongside young IITians, Alumni Next, and IT professionals. Based on Shah's 25-year experience in conducting such workshops for enhancing inner clarity and cognitive renewal, the workshop methodology reflects his long-standing commitment to introspective learning and his personal pursuit to solving the inconsistency between quantum and classical mechanics. A Distinguished Fellow of the

Council and winner of the Global COVID Test Optimisation Challenge (2020), Shah is also remembered for his ability to play chess blindfolded during his IIT Bombay days at Hostel 8.

“The thought-provoking workshop drew on quantum science to explore the role of free will and destiny in human action. The consensus was clear: natural increase in entropy and conscious environmental apathy by some nations will compel other countries to implement new technologies to safeguard future generations. This includes urgent exploration of underwater and space habitats, net-zero technologies, micro-nuclear solutions, mass afforestation, and disruptive shifts in preventive healthcare”, said Swami Suryanil, a PhD in AI of 1993 vintage. His one-on-one sessions explored how consciousness may counter agentic AI and questioned humanity’s relevance in the broader cosmic context.

The 100-hour workshop was held at Jalmeen Orchard Hill—a serene, alcohol- and tobacco-free campus nestled in the Western Ghats, just 30 minutes from the Mumbai Expressway. With over 5,000 fruit trees, this picturesque campus will now serve as the venue for future Solace2Self workshops. Dr. Minakshi Borate, Chairperson of the Samarth Foundation and Campus Host at Jalmeen, shared her perspective as the owner and former lead physician of a 50+ bed ICU hospital: “There’s no point healing a headache with a painkiller that damages your kidneys or taking antibiotics which make you resistant. The component-based medical system has failed to retain trust of the patients. We need a hard reboot—of both brain and body. It’s time for a scientifically validated wellness system that blends ancient wisdom derived holistic medicine with cutting-edge technology—especially in the face of alarming rises in fertility issues, brain strokes, lifestyle diseases, developmental disorders like autism and degenerative conditions like Alzheimers.”

“As self-learning, self-programming machines become more pervasive, the human mind must reset and upgrade—enhancing it’s inherent capabilities through ancient wisdom and at the same time leveraging Assistive AI for productivity. The role of consciousness in the pursuit of innovation continues to be a mystery for science. The inconsistency between classical and

quantum mechanics continues to rattle the grandiose claims of western science”, said Dr. Srinivas Padmanabhuni, IIT Kanpur Fundaman and Distinguished Fellow, IIT Alumni Council. The Fundaman Club includes IIT Alumni who are VishwaGuru awardees, Padma Sri awardees, JEE top 100, silver/gold medallists and distinguished alumni.

“Technology is our best tool to manage rogue innovations. In the emerging world order, leadership in frontier technologies will determine national standing. Technologies that can nullify rogue technologies need to be more advanced than the rogue technologies themselves. The World Wisdom Workshops under the MegaSpheres initiative are modelled around this need. As a non-profit mobilising financial and technological resources for societal good, we view the accelerated development of such technologies as not just important, but essential”, said Ravi Sharma, President and Chief Volunteer, IIT Alumni Council.

“World Wisdom Workshops serve as entry points to MegaSpheres —a larger field of transformation. When curated with intention and depth, they go beyond offering insight—they activate our role in building what comes next. Through MegaSpheres, we now have a unifying framework that integrates reflection, innovation and commercialisation — with World Wisdom Forum serving as the annual launchpad. As we draw closer to the inaugural World Wisdom Forum, our alumni movement reaches a greater coherence — an inflection point, where intention, insight and innovation entrain to build a resilient and regenerative future”, said Satish Mehta, Convenor, IIT Alumni Social Impact Fund

Startups and eminent scientists working in this space looking for knowledge and funding support from Council members may write to applications@iitalumnicouncil.org along with details of their past experience, research papers and patents. Last date for receipt of proposals is April 30, 2025.

About MegaSpheres and World Wisdom Forum

The world stands at an inflection point—climate change threatens planetary balance, while technologies like AI and gene editing challenge the future of human agency. What we need is not another system tweak, but a new operating framework. MegaSpheres offers that framework — a quantum matrix for regenerative, ethical and future-conscious transformation – which could also be the greatest opportunity for creation of wealth in this century. The World Wisdom Forum is it's annual global summit—where vishwagurus gather to reflect, realign and develop new paradigms.

As the interactive layer of MegaSpheres, World Wisdom Forum is expected to set the annual compass and operates as a year-round continuum through World Wisdom Workshops for multiple subjects in multiple geographies. Through workshops and dialogical formats, these touchpoints translate vision into action, helping predict the future by inventing it.

About IIT Alumni Council

IIT Alumni Council founded in 2019, is the largest global body of alumni from all 23 IITs and partner institutes. It catalyses India's technological renaissance by advancing interdisciplinary research, innovation, and public initiatives in sustainability, human health, and frontier technologies. It drives tech-enabled solutions to societal challenges bridging knowledge, expertise, capital, and entrepreneurship. Unlike other alumni bodies which focus on giving back to the college and networking with other alumni, the Council is purely focused on solving technology problems at population scale for socio economic progress by using paradigms from the startup ecosystem.

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