Two Different Paths, One Goal
Helping the Jindal School in the Future

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT IS A PRIORITY OF THE NAVEEN JINDAL SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, and it takes many forms. With the ultimate vision to be vital partners for mutual success, the school is looking for new, innovative ways to connect with alumni through programming and events, as you will see in this issue of Aspire. Likewise, several alumni are finding their own innovative ways to give back to the school.

In just a few years since graduation, Deep Singh BS’09 MBA’11 moved from an entry-level marketing job to director of marketing at ZTE USA, a telecommunications company based in Richardson. Monica Scott BS’87 MBA’97 gave up the corporate world to own and operate her own Richardson-based custom promotional items firm, Logotology. Through different paths, both ensure their gifts will make an impact on the University in the future.

Monica Scott is widely involved in civic activities across Richardson. She is a member of, and in many cases serves in leadership positions with, the Richardson Chamber of Commerce, Richardson East Rotary Club and Leadership Richardson Alumni Association. In addition, she serves on the executive committee of the Richardson Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors. Her personal history is filled with giving back to the community.

She became a member of UT Dallas Legacy Society in 2015 by making a planned gift commitment to the Jindal School. The Legacy Society is open to any individual who makes such a gift. With that gift commitment, Scott intends to establish an Opportunity Fund for the Jindal School. (Opportunity Funds give donors the chance to benefit any part of the University through the creation of a permanent endowment.) Opportunity Funds are particularly useful for deans as they provide critical unrestricted resources to enhance programs, take advantage of favorable circumstances and meet unexpected needs.

“I loved my time at the University, learning from some of the most interesting and committed faculty. The school is such an integral part of the community I truly love, and it just made sense to give back to the place I learned so much from,” Scott says. The gift is a way Scott plans to be involved in

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Deep Singh, still in the early stages of his career, knew he wanted to give back. "There is a charity based in the United Kingdom called Everything’s 13, which means yours, or share information about their company, career or classes they took while students.

While the website serves a bit as a social networking site, its professional component is the service Miller is most eager to access. "I’m an active recruiter for my research team, so JindalConnect offers me the opportunity to learn more about recent graduates and new academic programs that might offer the type of talent I need on my team," she says. "We have a lot of enthusiasm from our alumni," Jeanine Carter, the Jindal School director of alumni relations, says. "Our alumni want to be engaged. This platform makes that easier.

JindalConnect features include:

- Search for alumni by degree, location or graduation year – or combinations of these attributes.
- Ways to connect with those offering to serve as a long-term mentor, giving access to your students and their company. Almost half of the current JindalConnect alumni have offered to help JSM students or alumni in a mentoring capacity. Even more have offered their students an internship at their company.

JSM development and alumni relations staff working to launch Giving Day, the University plans to hold another giving day in the future. "We are interested in seeing how this goes, and we will definitely do it again in the future," yaeger says.

New Website Connects Jindal School Alumni, Students

CONNECTING ON Facebook, Twitter or Instagram is a thoughtful click, but finding a professional contact online, especially among alumni, can be tricky. JindalConnect (jindalconnect.com), the private networking platform for Nexus Jindal School of Management alumni, students, faculty and friends, fills this void. This website, a bit like LinkedIn but more personal, gives members a way to engage with one another, build their careers, seek help from others who have volunteered to be a mentor, or share information about their company, career or classes they took while students.

E. Michelle Miller MS ’05 MBA’11 is the CBRE research operations manager for the Texas-Oklahoma-Arizona region. She joined JindalConnect as soon as she found out about it. "JindalConnect is a great way for me to stay current on alumni updates, events and campus developments," she says. "UT Dallas life is always moving too fast and in many directions so JindalConnect helps me keep up."

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“Your generosity truly makes a difference. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me” - Artie Goldman

“Words cannot express how thankful I am, but thank you, thank you” - Van Ong

“I am honored that you had the confidence to trust me with this award. I can assure you that I will pursue diligently as I work to complete my degree” - Florent Ndindjock

“Your contribution has lifted a huge weight off my shoulders” - Isabella Yang

“This scholarship makes it possible for me to focus on my work and family, and for that, I am very grateful to you” - Abraham Olalde

“This scholarship makes me free to focus solely on the most important aspect of school: learning” - Artie Goldman

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“With this support, my financial burden has been lightened, which allows me to focus on the most important aspect of school: learning” - Katherine Phung

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State Farm Invests in the Success of Jindal School Students

FOR JINDAL SCHOOL STUDENTS, State Farm is here to help with scholarship support and more. A momentous number of students will be the fortunate recipients of $1,000 scholarships from State Farm this fall. These awards come from a generous State Farm scholarship-endowment, as well as annual program-specific scholarships.

“Our core values at State Farm include helping build stronger, safer and better educated communities,” says Steve Jurovic, the company’s vice president for systems. Jurovic also serves on the dean’s Advisory council. “Our relationship with The University of Texas at Dallas and the Jindal School certainly speaks to that commitment.”

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State Farm executives visit JSOM students as part of the “State Farm Week." Students and faculty enjoyed dinner conversation with Pat and Heather McCown. "The thought leadership that people from State Farm, including Steve Jurovic, contribute to JSOM is invaluable," M.N. Nihal says. “The thought leadership that people from State Farm, including Steve Jurovic, contribute to JSOM is invaluable," M.N. Nihal says.

For his part, Jurovic sees his involvement and that of State Farm as a win-win-win—for students, the University and State Farm. The corporate-university relationships "rewards engaged students by offering them mentoring and networking opportunities with our employees, while working together for the betterment of the communities where we live, work and play," he says.

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"State Farm has found great success hiring our graduates. Making these scholarships available helps ensure students can continue their studies in critical areas such as IT and risk analysis.,” State Farm is involved with the Jindal School in other ways as well. Corporate experts in underwriting, claims and customer service have spoken with classes and mentored students. In addition, the company has provided support for the annual Information Technology and Systems Exploration Camp, held each summer for high school students.

“One of the reasons we selected the (Richardson) location for our regional hub at CityLine, was proximity to priority universities such as UT Dallas,” Jurovic says. "Aligning the school's academic excellence with the rich, mutually beneficial relationship.”

The corporate-university relationship also makes sense from the student’s perspective. "This idea is really simple. It just gives our hosts the this idea is really simple. It just gives our hosts the 

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