



A Letter from Alumni

Dear CEO Sir and my dearest Teachers and Coaches,

I wish I had the chance to say a proper Thank You in person but I am hoping I can share my gratitude and a few good news of my progress since I left JIRS with you all.

As I sit on the verge of completing my Master's degree, I can't help but go back and reflect on where everything changed and when my mind starts to wander, it comes down to my time in JIRS that has shaped me up to be where I currently am. **This May I will be finishing my Master's Degree in Manufacturing Leadership from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) with a cumulative GPA of 3.80 out of 4.0 (~95.00%).** This is a huge personal accomplishment for me because I was able to complete my Master's Degree in a two year period while also working full time as a New Product Development Design Validation Engineer at Keurig Green Mountain in Boston, MA. Additionally, I was also **nominated as the Program Delegate from the Kate Gleason College of Engineering at RIT** and will be representing and leading the graduates during the commencement this May.

I was also recently recognized and awarded with the **"Outstanding Adult Student Award"** from 3000 students being able to excel academically and professionally while being committed to the community.

Lastly and most importantly starting next month, I will be starting my **PhD in Business Management focusing on Strategy and Innovation from George Washington University, DC** while continue to grow and work with my professional role at Keurig Green Mountain in Boston, MA.

In all the busy lives we sometimes tend to forget the impact people have made on us. And I wanted to use this opportunity to not only share my progress but more importantly thank all my teachers, coaches and the JIRS leadership team for everything they have done to shape me to be able to tackle the world and grow.

At JIRS a teacher wears many hats – a teacher, a parent, a role model, a savior and a friend. A teacher can compel a student to have a lifetime hunger for knowledge. A teacher can inspire values for compassion, philanthropy, hard-work, bravery, integrity, and commitment. A teacher can do and be anything, and often they are.

Thank you. Thank you to all the teachers reading this because they know they are making a difference in this world. Thank you for molding young minds like me. Thank you for overcoming the daily struggles of a complicated education system, and still dedicating yourselves to achieving as much as possible for your JIRS students. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for the kindness you showed to us as little ones. Thank you for the guidance you gave us as we were learning to grow. Thank you for swallowing every negative generalization people may make about teachers, and knowing in your hearts that what



you accomplish in school is worth it all and then some. Thank you for giving young adults like myself the confidence and courage to follow our dreams. Even on the difficult days, remember that you are never forgotten.

I carry what you taught us in our minds, and also in my heart, for the rest of our lives and will forever be grateful to JIRS and its entire staff.

Yours Sincerely,

Thanks,

Parth D Shah

BS in Mechanical Engineering Technology - Class of 2014 (RIT)

MS in Manufacturing Leadership - Class of 2016 (RIT)

Quality Engineer (New Product Development) - Keurig Green Mountain

PhD in Engineering Management - Class of 2019 (George Washington University)