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**GOSUMEC Foundation**

(IRS 501(c)(3) Organization, Tax ID #: 36-4414583, Founded October 2000)  
P. O. Box 3801, Naperville, IL 60567-3801, USA, <http://www.gosumec.org/>



Dear GSMC/KEM Alumni:

In June 2000, Dr. Guru Shirahatti, then the Dean of Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital and Dr. Ravi Bapat visited the United States. Their primary mission was to invite all of US-based alumni to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of January 2001. In addition, they wanted to promote a fresh dialogue with hundreds of alumni here and to create an alumni organization in the USA to enhance the image and quality of the college and hospital.

Inspired by the Dean's plea and suggestions, a group of GS-ites who had gathered at Dr. Vijay Dave's residence in June 2000, pledged their support immediately and decided to form a tax-exempt entity. Dr. Nila Vora and Dr. Manu Vora spearheaded the project to form the GOSUMEC Foundation. It took countless hours of paperwork and efforts to get the By-Laws, Constitution and filing with IRS to get the tax-exempt status. Finally, in January 2002, IRS granted 501(c)(3) status to the GOSUMEC Foundation. Enclosed please see Dr. Shirahatti's letters supporting the GOSUMEC Foundation efforts.

During this time, Dr. Vijay Dave visited GS during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in January 2001. He donated his time and own money to start an Alumni Affairs Office at GS in a room called Nostalgia created in front of the Dean's office and equipped with a computer and alumni database. We emphasize that Nostalgia will be your place to visit next time you are at GS.

Another important development occurred during this time. Two YAG lasers worth \$49,000 were donated to the KEM Ophthalmology Department. This effort was organized by Dr. Manu Vora, President of Blind Foundation for India (BFI) in the USA. BFI provided \$16,000; \$8,500 came from Rotary Club of Cuff Parade, Mumbai. The matching fund of \$24,500 was received from Rotary International in Evanston, Illinois, through the help of Rotarian Mr. Godrej Billimoria of Wilmette Rotary Club.

Here is some additional information on the GOSUMEC Foundation:

**What Is GOSUMEC Foundation (GF)?**

The GOSUMEC Foundation is a Not-for-Profit, IRS 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Organization (Tax ID # 36-4414583) chartered in the State of Illinois. The mission of GF is to provide a forum for educational exchange and health care technology transfer to Seth GS Medical College and affiliated institutions in India.

**What is the Current Status of GOSUMEC Foundation ?**

We have formed a governing body with an initial slate of Officers and Board of Directors (elected every 3 years), plus Regional Advisors across the US. We have rented a Postal Box, created GF Letterhead and opened a bank account. The Directors have already contributed \$1,000 each and are working on creating a database and website.

**How Will Our Money Be Spent ?**

Initially, we want to collect a sizable amount to create an endowment. Then we will take on one or more projects using the interest money. At all times, we will entertain funds for specific projects by appealing to the alumni, charitable trusts, Rotary Clubs, matching grants from businesses, pharmaceutical companies here in the US and also in India.

***GOSUMEC Foundation is an Educational and Charitable organization.***

Letter Continued

**What About Alumni Back Home In India?**

In addition to Dr. Nilima Kshirsagar (the current Dean), we have established two India-based alumni as our liaisons. They are Dr. Lopa Mehta and Dr. Ravi Ramakantan. Dr. Lopa Mehta will be our single point of contact while Dr. Ravi Ramakantan will provide web-related support. We expect collaboration between GF and the India-based alumni will be very close and productive. We would also encourage US alumni to visit and monitor our projects' progress.

**Where Can We Get News on GS/KEM?**

Please visit the KEM web site (<http://www.kem.edu/>) and GF web site that is under construction (<http://www.gosumec.org/>), and share it with your friends.

**How Do We Communicate with and Get Update about the GF?**

We are working on our GF web site; until then you may call or write to any one of the Officers, Directors, or Regional Advisors of the GOSUMEC Foundation. Your constructive comments and suggestions are always welcome, as this is your alumni foundation.

**What do I Have to Do?**

You became a member of the GS-KEM Alumni as soon as you entered the medical school or started your internship or residency at KEM or affiliated hospitals in India. There are no membership fees to join the GOSUMEC Foundation.

We would like you to get involved to help your alma mater. Towards this goal, in addition to your monetary and moral support, we hope you will spread the word about the GOSUMEC Foundation to all your GOSUMEC friends both in your area and elsewhere. We welcome your participation in any and all activities undertaken by the Foundation. We will support you if you wish to take a more active role within GF.

**How Can I Contribute?**

You can send your tax-deductible contribution by sending a check for "GOSUMEC Foundation" at P. O. Box 3801, Naperville, IL 60567-3801.

**GOSUMEC Foundation Get Together at 2002 AAPI Convention in Chicago**

We have planned a get together of GS-ites at the upcoming AAPI Convention in Chicago on Friday evening, June 28, 2002. The Current Dean, Dr. Nilima Kshirsagar will be the Chief Guest at this get together. Look for further details when you arrive on site at the hotel.

We look forward to remaining in touch with all our GS-ite Friends.

Att:

Dr. Shirahatti's Letters

Sincerely,

Dr. Sunita Ginde, President  
On behalf of Officers, Directors and  
Regional Advisors of GOSUMEC Foundation

**June 2000**

Dear GS-ites:

I wish to convey greetings to you all on behalf of the staff of Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee Year. It is indeed my proud privilege to be associated with these great institutions during this momentous era. The Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated throughout this year, culminating on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2001, the 75<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day.

After being born as a result of proud nationalistic fervor, the Seth GS Medical College and the KEM Hospital have blazed a trail of glory in the medical history of our country. After the auspicious start 75 years ago, these institutions very quickly established a reputation that was to be the pride of its students and staff and the envy of other, older institutions. The position of pre-eminence won by dint hard work and sheer spirit of innovation has been jealously guarded all these years. Whether it was the first electrocardiogram machine in the Twenties, or the setting up of Neurosurgery Department in the Fifties, we have shown the way for the rest of the country to follow. These hallowed tradition of leadership and innovation have been difficult to establish and even harder to sustain. Unremitting zeal, devotion and adaptation of the new without discarding the old values have made it possible for us to reiterate our commitment to excellence.

However, in the last two decades, the emphasis of health care has shifted subtly from being merely skill-dependent to technology-dependent. I believe that this paradigm shift has already started eroding the position of pre-eminence that public hospitals in general, and KEM Hospital in particular have enjoyed for a long time. Competition from large trust hospitals that can modernize their equipment faster has emerged as a threat to hospitals such as ours. With no avenues for generating revenue, KEM Hospital is in real danger of being losing its position of leadership. This will tell on the training of graduates and postgraduates of the GS Medical College.

One of the ways to ward off this real threat is to solicit donations from charitable trusts and other similar organizations. We have been fortunate to be able to secure a donation of 17.5 million rupees from a charitable trust for equipping the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) of the KEM Hospital. The EMS, which will be the first in the country, will reconfirm the belief that our institutions will still show the way for the rest of the country to follow. We also have plans for upgrading and modernizing The Intensive Pediatric Ward through donations. I believe that there are donors in Mumbai who will not hesitate to finance such projects, once they are convinced about their visibility. There are several excellent plans that will enhance the image of our college and hospital. What we need are partners in our march to progress.

This is where I believe that you have a large role to play. Several of you have achieved positions of eminence and power. The success that you have achieved has been to a large extent due to your own brilliance and industry, but you will agree that the foundations for your enviable success were laid at the Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital. I am certain that you all remember your alma mater with affection and will spare no effort to help us maintain the position right on the top.

As you are aware, in Mumbai, more than 80% of people depend on public hospitals for quality care. Therefore, any help given to GSMC-KEMH will mean service rendered to the common man, the poorest of the poor, the "Daridranarayan". In addition, the reputation of KEM Hospital is a magnet that pulls poor patients from all over the country. Therefore, your munificence will translate itself into service to the nation. Also, please remember that the best young brains of the country vie with each other to secure admission to Seth GS Medical College. By upgrading the hospital, we will ensure that the training that these young brilliant doctors get shall remain of international standard, keeping pace with the rapidly changing medical scene.

The Platinum Jubilee of Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital is an occasion to look back and to look forward. This is the occasion to reiterate your love and commitment to your alma mater. This is the occasion to think big and act big. Your help will mean the greatest good to the greatest number. I am certain that you will do your very best for these twin institutions that have played a not insignificant role in your professional success.

With Best Wishes,

**DR R G SHIRAHATTI**  
**Dean**

E-mail: [gsite@vsnl.net](mailto:gsite@vsnl.net)

**May 30, 2001**

Dear GS-ites,

As you all are aware, our college and hospital have always been in the forefront of medical education and health care for the last three quarters of a century. Any new development in the last seventy-five years has seen our alma mater make a significant contribution to it. January this year was marked by the Platinum Jubilee celebrations that were very successful and heart warming. During the celebrations, we sorely missed the presence of all of you settled overseas. I believe that for the progress of the Twin Institutions, increased participation of the all the alumni all over the world is imperative. We have seen this sort of initiative from the other premier institutions of the country like the Indian Institute of Technology and AIIMS. The advantage of having the alumni participating in the progress is not merely to ask for donations, but also have your ideas and your experience play a part in building an ideal future for these institutions.

With the above in mind, I had met several GS-ites in Chicago and New York last year. After brainstorming, we decided that two trusts were to be set up, run by the alumni, one in India and the other, overseas. From the proceeds of the trust, we could plan the direction in which your institutions should progress. In this direction, Drs. Nila and Manu Vora along with more than 50 GS-ites in Chicago have formed a trust that has been registered with the authorities in the US. They have made efforts to get tax exemptions for the donations to this trust and will be getting the same within a very short time. The main corpus of the overseas trust will remain in the US while several projects here will be funded from the interest accrued. This will allow the trust to grow perennially.

I earnestly appeal to all the GS-ites to contact the Voras for further details. I want to assure all of you that the Dean and the faculty of GS are fully supportive of this endeavor. I know that you have reached positions of eminence due to your own brilliance and hard work. However, you will all agree with me that the foundations that were laid here have contributed in no small measure to your present status. Please remember that the worth and the well being of your alma mater rest on your involvement.

With Best Wishes and Warm Regards,

**DR R G SHIRAHATTI**  
**Dean**

E-mail: [gsite@vsnl.net](mailto:gsite@vsnl.net)