

**FRIENDS OF THE GRANT MEDICAL COLLEGE  
AND SIR J.J. GROUP OF HOSPITALS TRUST**

Regn. No.: E/24577 Mumbai dated 12 November 2007, Bombay Public Trust Act 1950



Mumbai,  
October 21, 2009

Dear Colleagues and friends of the GMC Alumnus,

Greetings and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all of you. The Trustees of the 'Friends of the Grant Medical College and JJ Group of Hospitals' were delighted that so many of you accepted our invitation to spend an evening over a contributory dinner, and be informed about our Trust and its activities so far.

This Trust was formed two years ago by seven Founder Trustees as we had felt that there was much that could be done to promote and support our *alma mater*. This was as we, (like many of you) had seen deteriorating standards of our Institute in many matters, like health care, education, campus environment, etc.

Whereas the main thrust in this effort would come from GMC alumni in the form of their participation in several ways, we would need help from other sympathetic sources such as Trusts, Corporate organizations, philanthropic individuals, especially to raise large funds. Hence the Trust is called "Friends" to be inclusive in the venture, and indeed one of our Trustees is a reputed Chartered Accountant.

As we informed you, currently the main thrust is to restore, renovate the severely neglected and endangered 165 year old Heritage Building of the Grant Medical College to make a modern medical college facility meeting today's needs, and also establish a 'History of Medicine Museum' as appropriate for such a heritage building.

If we are successful and our credentials are established with the Government, which after all is the owner of all within the campus, we can hopefully persuade the authorities to restore GMC/JJH to the prime status it once enjoyed as the most important Medical college and Hospital

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in Maharashtra, and indeed to an extent in India. An autonomous Institute of National Importance is the least that GMC/JJH should enjoy.

As we informed you that evening, after two years of long and patient negotiations Government of Maharashtra has agreed to give the Trust a fairly free hand to restore and reincarnate the GMC Building. A Government Resolution (“GR”) was issued to this effect on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and is on our website [www.grantmedicalfriends.com](http://www.grantmedicalfriends.com). A tentatively agreed MOU between the Government of Maharashtra and the Trust is waiting to be signed once the new Minister of Medical Education is in office and has been briefed about what has transpired so far. We are hoping this would be within the next month. And we will put it on our website for all of you and others who were not present that evening to view. ☺

**For all this we now need large funds initially Rs. Six crores for restoring the building and later more for the modern education facilities.**

Some of the ways in which our worldwide alumni network and friends could help the cause are by:

1. Substantial personal individual donation;
2. Contacting your old classmates and colleagues to spread the word and to go to the Trust’s website, [www.grantmedicalfriends.com](http://www.grantmedicalfriends.com)
3. Sending us their emails, postal addresses and telephone numbers so that we can contact them and get some of them to form a hub or hubs in the country where they are residing to further spread our endeavour.
4. Putting us in touch with persons you know through your medical practice who are associated with sympathetic charitable Trusts, Industrial Houses, Corporate bodies, etc. and recommending our vision.
5. Contributing your knowledge and know how about modern medical college facilities worldwide which you are associated with or visited.
6. Informing us about any administrator and architect or Trust whom you know, who has set up modern medical colleges.
7. Whatever other information you have which you think will be helpful.

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On a personal note, I have very late in life taken on this responsibility because I have, and continue to have deep attachment to GMC/JJH since I joined as a student in 1943 and continue to visit my old department there even now.

And I hope that the alumni will dig deep into their pockets and give till it hurts and participate in whatever way is possible. After all, what we are happily today is due to the education and love we received from our *alma mater*; and the happy memories of the years we spent there, are still fresh in our minds. I am somewhat encouraged with the response so far especially when one of our alumni has donated Rupees Five Lakhs and said to me “please don’t thank me for this, because I want to do it for my own sake”. I hope many more will feel like this. Alumni of the IITs and other medical colleges in the city have gathered large funds to support their respective institutions. Should we, who proudly call ourselves “Who are we – GMC” fail to rise now?

We thank all of you who came that evening and endorsed our effort.

With warm regards and every good wish,

Yours sincerely,



Noshir Wadia,  
Chairman