Candidate for Executive Council Member
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Shourya Roy
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India

BIOGRAPHY

Shourya Roy is a Senior Research Director at Flipkart where he leads a large Data Science organization focussing on supply ecosystem of e-commerce. He has been a researcher and practitioner in NLP and DS for two decades leading to 70+ papers and 35 granted patents. He has done PhD, MTech, and BE from IISc, IIT Bombay, and Jadavpur University respectively.

Shourya has been serving as President of IKDD since 2021; during this period IKDD's footprints grew significantly. He is a member of ACM India ESP Selection Committee and Steering Committees of CODS-COMAD and ISEC. Shourya is an ACM Distinguished Member.

STATEMENT

Industry-academia collaborations are win-win partnerships through exchanges of knowledge, real-life data, and problems, career opportunities, financial incentives etc. While established entities in India have streamlined mechanisms, a large number of companies and institutions struggle due to lack of experience and connections.

If elected, I propose to form a program Connect - to strengthen and broaden the landscape of industry-academia collaboration through ACM India. The program's goal would be to facilitate high-impact collaboration between a wider range of institutes and organizations - through features such as industry-sponsored research grants, annual events, periodic seminars, knowledge repository etc.

Over the years, I have successfully driven several similar "growing the tent" initiatives:

1. Recently, I conceptualized and led a program called "Setubandhan" to address disparity in data science industry exposure for students from non-top tier institutes. [overview, experience].

2. In IKDD, we introduced a boutique internship program "Uplink" to enable students lacking access to world-class research ecosystem to work with eminent faculty members from top-tier institutes. Growing in popularity since inception in 2022, this year 900+ students from 100+ institutions applied for 15 positions!

3. I was a champion for focusing on diversity and inclusion in CODS COMAD conference and was a Co-Chair of the inaugural track in 2022.