

Dear OPEN Member,

We have heard from many of you that you would like periodic updates on highlights from across the OPEN network. There is tremendous energy and activity across our chapters, and at OPEN Global. We are pleased to roll out a quarterly newsletter. OPEN Global News will be sent to charter members and chapter leadership teams. We encourage you to share the newsletter widely.

This issue features:

- **OPEN Global Annual Retreat**
- **Charter Member News**
- **Chapter Highlights**
- **Chapter Growth**
- **OPEN Global Engagement**
- **OPEN Partnerships**

2016 Annual Global Retreat

Following the tremendous success of our 2015 retreat in Monterey, Calif., we are looking forward to the 2016 retreat July 29-31 at the **Lansdowne Resort** in Leesburg, Virginia.

Stay tuned for information on registration later this week via email.



Charter Members in the News

We would like to congratulate the following charter members for their recent outstanding accomplishments.

Ahmed Ali, Charter Member - Washington D.C.
CEO and Founder of TISTA
TISTA wins 1 of 21 awards of \$22.4B T4NG contracts by Veteran Affairs Department

Idris Kothari, Charter Member - Silicon Valley
Co-Founder at Vertical Systems Inc.,
Vertical Systems inc gets acquired by Uniguest



Rehan Jalil, Charter Member - Silicon Valley
Founder and CEO of Elastica
Elastica gets acquired by BlueCoat in a \$280M acquisition

Safwan Shah, Charter Member - Silicon Valley
Founder and CEO, PayActiv Inc.,
PayActiv Inc., secures \$9.2 million in funding

Riaz Siddiqi- Charter Member - Houston
Partner at Denham Capital
Covey Park, a Denham equity, acquires Haynesville and Bossier energy assets

If you have similar news to share, please let us know via this [form](#).

Chapter Highlights

Chapters will be hosting various events in the coming weeks. Hope you are able to join us if you are in the area.



Saturday, April 30 - [OPEN SV Forum](#), Silicon Valley
Saturday, April 30 - [OPEN Biotech Conference](#), Boston
Saturday, May 14 - [Turning Your Idea Into Reality](#), Washington D.C.

And finally, we would like to share with you OPEN Chicago's [Summer Internship](#) program.

Chapter Growth

We are excited to share updates on the new leadership at the chapter level. Please join us in welcoming the following leaders in the role of President to their local chapter:

[Faraz Iqbal](#) - President, OPEN Atlanta
[Haris Ahmed](#) - President, OPEN Chicago
[Manish Desai](#) - President, OPEN Houston
[Farooq Cheema](#) - President, OPEN Washington D.C.



We're particularly grateful to the OPEN Global Growth Committee for working with the Chicago team to help enable one of our most recently inducted chapters relaunch. Recent activity by OPEN Chicago can be seen [here](#).

OPEN Global Engagement

In the past few months, OPEN Global President Dilawar Syed has met with several chapters and participated in exciting speaking engagements promoting the OPEN brand. In December 2015 he visited OPEN Islamabad and spoke on the importance of building a global entrepreneur network and the role of Pakistan-based chapters. In April 2016, he stopped by **OPEN Atlanta** and **OPEN New England** to speak to members, particularly youth on getting more involved with OPEN. While in Boston, he also spoke at the Harvard Pakistan Forum. You can follow Dilawar on [Twitter](#).



Henna Imam hosted Dilawar and the OPEN Atlanta team.



Kausar and Imran Qidwai hosted Dilawar and OPEN New England charter members.



Kalsoom Lakhani of invest2innovate moderates a talk with Dilawar at OPEN Islamabad.

OPEN Global is also proud to announce that our new website is [live](#). Many thanks to Noman Ali, charter member of OPEN SV and Arfa Syed from DC for their role in launching the website.

OPEN Partnerships

OPEN has seen a tremendous increase in partnerships and collaboration at the global and chapter level. Exciting partnership updates are below.

Aman Foundation

The Aman Foundation partnered with OPEN Global to promote participation for their social venture competition. Thanks to OPEN Network support, they received 112 registrations from across the world. Please join the awards ceremony of the AmanClinics Accelerator Challenge on Saturday April 30, 2016 from 3:45 p.m. to 6 p.m. at IBA City Campus in Karachi. All charter members are invited and can [RSVP by email](#). Program info is available [here](#).

Muppies



Malik Ahmad Jalal, CEO of the Aman Foundation, invites you to the final event for

AmanClinics Accelerator

Saturday, April 30, 2016
3:45 pm - 6:00 pm
JS Auditorium | IBA City Campus

Several chapters are partnering with local **Muppies** chapters to co-host events. These events are a win-win for both organizations to increase brand exposure and cross-promote members. OPEN SV recently held a sold-out joint event with Muppies SF to host WhatsApp's Mubarak Imam and OPEN DC is currently partnering with Muppies DC for similar NGO event.

U.S. Tour of the MIT EFP Winners

More than 50 charter members the Silicon Valley, Boston and Washington D.C. chapters hosted the winners of the MIT Enterprise Forum Pakistan, Business Acceleration Program (MIT EFP). We thank you for support of this long standing collaboration between OPEN global and the MIT program in Pakistan. Info on the winners can be seen [here](#).

Help us Build the OPEN Narrative

The OPEN network has been supporting entrepreneurs for more than 15 years now. OPEN Global is aggregating the untold stories of our powerful global network and needs your contribution to collect the many behind-the-scenes stories of the value and impact OPEN has had.



[Please submit your response here.](#)

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The Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs (OPEN) Global is the world's premier entrepreneur network. Founded in 1998 in Boston, OPEN has grown to eleven chapters worldwide and membership boasts leading entrepreneurs, business leaders and corporate professionals.

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