

### HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERS ROUNDTABLE

Integrating Entrepreneurship Education  
with Academia for Enhanced  
Student Outcomes



## Session Overview:

**ObserveNow**, in association with **Wadhvani Foundation**, hosted an exclusive **Higher Education Leaders Roundtable Session on 21st February 2025** at the Eros Hotel, New Delhi. This high-impact forum convened top decision-makers, chancellors, deans, and institutional leaders from the Indian higher education sector to explore pressing challenges, collaborative opportunities, and cutting-edge trends shaping the future of education in India.

The session aimed to foster a rich dialogue around entrepreneurship programs, institutional innovation, and strategic partnerships. With a focus on actionable outcomes, the roundtable served as a platform to align leadership vision with the evolving needs of students, industry, and society at large.

## About the Organisers:

### **ObserveNow Media-**

ObserveNow Media is a B2B Media Marketing & Data Intelligence company that curates high-impact, thought leadership sessions. We specialise in organising closed-door Bespoke & Large Industry Events for our clients, connecting them to their relevant TGs and showcasing their products and services in the most efficient manner.

### **Wadhwani Foundation-**

Wadhwani Foundation is a global non-profit organization with a mission to accelerate job creation and economic development in emerging economies. Through its four strategic initiatives—Entrepreneurship, Skilling, Innovation & Research, and Government Digital Transformation—the Foundation empowers millions with access to opportunity, employability, and dignity.

## Event Overview:

**Organized By:** ObserveNow Media in collaboration with Wadhwani Foundation

**Theme:** Empowering Higher Education Leadership for Innovation and Impact

**Format:** Closed-door leadership roundtable

**Date & Time:** 21st February 2025

**Venue:** Eros Hotel, New Delhi

## Event Flow:

### 1. Entrepreneurship Programs & Trends

- Discussion on current initiatives shaping the student entrepreneurship ecosystem
- Open forum interaction with venture capitalists to share insights and feedback

### 2. Wadhvani Ignite Showcase

- Live demo and presentation of Wadhvani Ignite by Sujatha, Sriharsha, and Dayakar
- Dedicated Q&A session for VCs and academic leaders

### 3. Intent Gathering & Next Steps

- Strategic conversation on opportunities for institutional collaboration
- Identification of actionable next steps for pilot programs and partnerships

## Collaboration and Impact:

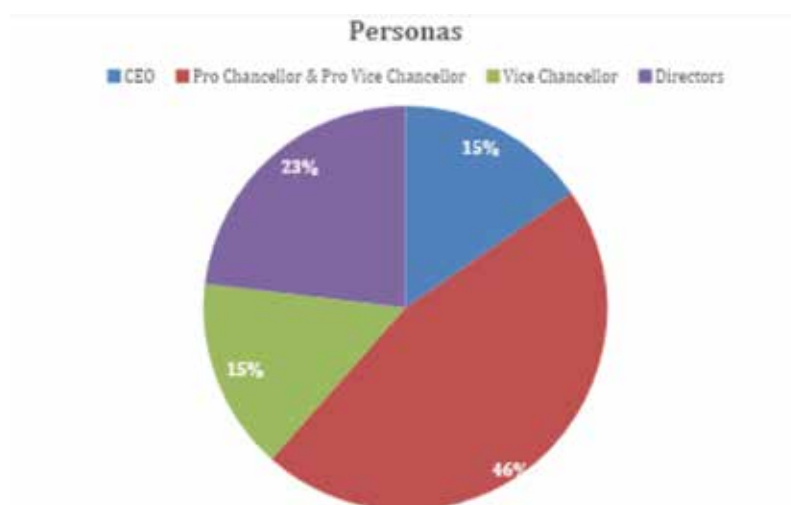
The leadership roundtable proved to be a powerful platform for sharing ideas and building meaningful collaborations across India's higher education landscape.

Some of the key moments included:

- Top university leaders coming together for candid, peer-to-peer conversations
- Lively discussions on how to scale entrepreneurship education and drive research innovation
- A strong push for aligning academia with industry needs and planning for the future

The session reflected a shared commitment by the Wadhvani Foundation and ObserveNow to equip academic leaders with the insights and strategies needed to shape the future of Indian higher education.

## Participating Leaders:



- **Dr. Amit Saxena** – CEO Education, Sparsh Group
- **Dr. Bhanu Pratap Singh** – Vice Chancellor, Maharishi University of Information Technology, Lucknow (U.P)
- **Dr. P.K. Gupta** – Vice Chancellor, Lingaya's Vidyapeeth
- **Maj. Gen. BD Wadhwa** – Pro Chancellor, IILM University, Uttar Pradesh
- **Dr. Pardeep Kumar** – Pro Vice Chancellor, Manav Rachna International Institute Of Research And Studies, Haryana
- **Prof. (Dr.) Ankit Gandhi** – Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Technology, Jaipur
- **Prof. (Dr.) John Finbe** – Pro Vice Chancellor, Glocal University, Uttar Pradesh
- **Prof. (Dr.) Rajender Singh Chillar** – Pro Vice Chancellor, OM Sterling Global University, Bir Hisar, Haryana
- **Prof. Parma Nand** – Pro Vice Chancellor, Sharda University
- **Mr. Manu Bhaskar Gaur** – CEO, Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- **Prof. (Dr.) Vikas Dhawan** – Director General, IMS Noida
- **Dr. Pratik Modi** – Dean (Director), School of Management, BML Munjal University, Gurgaon, Haryana
- **Dr. Sangeeta Maini** – Director, School of Management, IILM University

## Conclusion:

The Higher Education Leaders Roundtable proved to be more than just an event — it became a catalyst for institutional excellence and strategic industry alignment. By bringing together thought leaders, policymakers, and education innovators, ObserveNow and the Wadhwani Foundation ignited conversations that bridged the gap between academic vision and industry needs.

At its heart, this event was more than just a gathering — it was a space where industry leaders, decision-makers, and innovators came together to exchange ideas, challenge perspectives, and unlock opportunities in higher education. As ObserveNow Media curates platforms that foster authentic dialogue and meaningful collaboration, we are not only addressing the pressing issues shaping the sector but also strengthening a growing community of like-minded professionals committed to transformative change.

## Key Takeaways:

- Entrepreneurship programs must be agile, industry-aligned, and scalable
- Cross-institutional collaborations are critical for driving innovation  
Tools like Wadhwani Ignite offer a practical model for activating
- student entrepreneurship  
Higher education leadership must focus on outcome-based
- skilling and digital transformation  
Long-term partnerships can significantly enhance student
- employability and academic relevance.



## Event Glimpses



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