



July, 2009

A non-profit organization dedicated to the overall achievement and advancement of South Asian professionals.

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## About NetIP

The Network of Indian Professionals is a not for profit organization dedicated to the professional and cultural development, community service, philanthropy and the overall advancement of South Asian Americans and the communities in which we work and live.

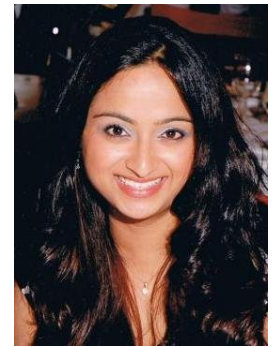
## Contact Us

<http://www.netipphoenix.org>  
[info@netipphoenix.org](mailto:info@netipphoenix.org)  
<http://www.netip.org>

**NetIP Phoenix**

## NetIP Phoenix Welcomes a New President

Recently, NetIP Phoenix's first President – Sri Narasimahan stepped down to pursue an educational opportunity in the Northeast. The NetIP Phoenix Board would like to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome **Rita Dangarwala** as our new President for the remainder of 2009. Rita was one of the original founding members of NetIP Phoenix and served as the chapter's Secretary since founded in April 2008. Rita brings with her a great level of enthusiasm and energy to continue helping NetIP Phoenix thrive and reach its full potential. Congratulations, Rita!!



We would also like to welcome **Jatin Shah** to the NetIP Phoenix Board, as the chapter's new Community Service Chair. Check out the Member Spotlight below to learn more about our newest Board member. Welcome, Jatin!!

## Get Involved: We're looking for a new Secretary!

Contact us at [info@netipphoenix.org](mailto:info@netipphoenix.org) if you are interested in playing an active and integral role on the 2009 NetIP Phoenix Board.

## Message from the President

"I am extremely excited to be nominated as NetIP Phoenix President. Unfortunate as we are to have lost Sri, I am thrilled to be taking over the role. NetIP Phoenix is growing exponentially and we are ALL a huge part of it. People ask, "What's your vision?". Having been on the Phoenix Board since day one, I have seen NetIP reach out to people in the Valley offering them the opportunity to make business connection, open up employment opportunities and importantly meet and make great friends. This is exactly the vision the board will thrive to keep going.

In the next six months this board is going to be working hard to serve our members needs and the community in which we live and succeed in. While the board represents our members well and always has great ideas on how to do this, we need you to let us know how to do it best. In these economic times, our members' and the community's needs are changing. The Board is always available at events, over email, through Facebook and on the phone to listen to our members' ideas. And don't forget there is also the opportunity for our members to become a committee member. Check out the Committee Chair contacts listed at the bottom of this Newsletter.

The great part of being a part of a National organization is resources are not limited to Phoenix. If you travel with work, find yourself moving or wanting to move to another of NetIP's 26 cities you can consider yourself an instant part of the community. You have unlimited connections with National NetIP Members. A great way to kick start this network is to attend the National NetIP Conference, this year held in Toronto! Speaking from experience this weekend is the best national networking opportunity you will have over the Labor Day holiday. I personally have attended the last two years and have had a thoroughly enriching experience (as well as a lot of fun!). See for yourself at [www.netipconference.org](http://www.netipconference.org).

As I take over the role for President, this opens up a great opportunity for one of you! NetIP Phoenix is searching for an enthusiastic and organized Secretary. As many of you know as Secretary I was a very active member of the board, planning events, helping with press releases and acting as a liaison with NetIP National - another great way to build your network. Please email me with any questions."

- **Rita Dangarwala**

## NetIP Phoenix Presents: Entrepreneurship 101

*We're excited to bring you a series of events aimed at anyone thinking about starting a business or just interested in the subject of Entrepreneurship!*

## 2009 Board

**Rita Dangarwala**  
President

**Poonam Patel**  
VP of Member Relations

**Onika Patel**  
VP of Events

**TBD**  
Secretary

**Meghna Chandra**  
Treasurer

**Monali Shah**  
Cultural Awareness  
Committee Chair

**Renuka Laddu**  
Professional Development  
Committee Chair

**Pooja Suresh**  
Social Committee Co-Chair

**Josh George**  
Political Awareness  
Committee Chair

**Jatin Shah**  
Community Service  
Committee Co-Chair

**Murugan Patham**  
Technology Committee  
Chair

Join us for a series of collaborative events featuring Lance Hashim (MBA, LUTCF) of New York Life, Kaplan, corporate partners, and professors from Arizona's Business Schools!

This series is for anyone interested in starting a business, or even thinking about it! This course will suit any industry and can be specified to your field! The first "course" is set for July 28<sup>th</sup> while the other 4 "courses" are currently being planned with details to come.

Course Overview:

<b>COURSE 1: July 28<sup>th</sup> - "Getting Started in the Business World"</b> <b>BIZ SCHOOL INSIDER at ASU Mercado, Downtown Phoenix, 6-7:30pm</b> Sponsored by Kaplan featuring representatives and MBA Students from the business schools of Arizona State University, the University of Arizona, and Thunderbird School of International Business.  See the <b>Upcoming Events</b> section below for more details on this event...
<b>COURSE 2: "Jump Start Your Business Dream"</b> *Your Business Idea *How to find your strengths *Planning for the future *Things to consider (what type of entity? LLC, PLLC, etc?)
<b>COURSE 3: "Business Toolkit and Resources"</b> *What is necessary to start your business (what tools/resources do you need or already have?) *How to prepare to start your own business
<b>COURSE 4: "Business Implementation"</b> *Contacts, Resources, Bartering, Networking, Capital/Overhead, and the likes. *Ironing it all out!
<b>COURSE 5: "Financial Planning and the future of your business"</b> *Managing your money and profits *How to protect yourself *Planning for your future and your family

To gain the maximum amount of value from this series, we will have worksheets and take home work after each of the "courses". If "students" complete all of the worksheets, they will have the opportunity to have a 1:1 session with a business advisor to further their development.

For more information or to request more information be presented in regards to a specific business field, please email [Entrepreneurship101@netipphoenix.org](mailto:Entrepreneurship101@netipphoenix.org)

## Upcoming Events

**Mark your calendars for NetIP Phoenix's future events!**

Check out the latest information on upcoming events on our **Website Calendar**, the NetIP Phoenix Group on **Facebook**, and **Twitter** (<http://twitter.com/netipphoenix>). Also look out for our monthly Events Bulletins!

### July

**Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> - Community Service Volunteer Event @ St. Mary's Food Bank** – Members and non-Members are invited to volunteer their time and give back to the community! If you would like to donate canned food, please bring them along with you.

**Time:** 11:45am

**Location:** St. Mary's Food Bank, 2831 N. 31st Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85009

Please keep in mind that, due to health code and safety concerns, the food bank has implemented a required dress policy: Closed toe shoes, Shirts need to be short or long sleeved (No tank tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts), Shorts are okay, Better to not bring purses or backpacks.

**Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> - Sand Volleyball Saturday** – Members and non-Members are invited to join us for a friendly game of sand volleyball. This will be a fun way to get to know one another and get some fitness in for the week. We will be playing Sand Volleyball and then going to dinner afterwards.

**Time:** Volleyball 5-7pm, Dinner 7pm-onwards

**Location:** Volleyball @ Tempe Town Lake Volleyball Courts (Court #1 located on the North Side of the Lake, east of Mill Ave. bridge)

Dinner @ Macayo's Depot Cantina (located less than 1 mile away on 300 S. Ash Ave, Tempe, AZ 85281)

**Cost:** FREE

For more information or directions contact Onika Patel – 480.233.5617

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**Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> – Entrepreneurship 101: Course 1 – “Getting Started in the Business World”**

Join NetIP Phoenix along with Kaplan test prep and Arizona's 3 largest Business Schools as we host “Biz School Insider”

**Time:** “Biz School Insider” 6:00pm - 7:30pm, Debrief Dinner 7:30pm-onwards

**Location:** “Biz School Insider” at ASU Mercado-Downtown Phoenix (Parking validation will be at the ASU lot on Central/Filmore, approximately 3 blocks from ASU center), Debrief Dinner at My Big Fat Greek Restaurant - AZ Center-Downtown Phoenix

**PLEASE RSVP BY EMAIL:** [Entrepreneurship101@netipphoenix.org](mailto:Entrepreneurship101@netipphoenix.org) to prepare for and provide you with your personalized portfolio (sponsored by Kaplan).

Kaplan's Business School Insider Seminar is designed to give prospective students insight into to the admissions process and the Business school experience. Each seminar begins with a one-hour panel discussion featuring a mix of admissions officers and alumni from a variety of Business schools. Admissions officers will discuss admissions trends and tips for applicants; MBA grads will offer advice and insight given their experience.

Topics will include school selection, the admissions process, crafting a stellar application, preparing for the entrance exam and succeeding in the first year.

The Panel Discussion will end with a Question & Answer session. Following the panel and a break to speak individually with students, we will host a presentation on preparing for the GMAT exam. These will be very informative events and will include panelists from ASU, UofA, Thunderbird, and MBA students.

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**August**

**Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – First Friday Artwalk**

Come join Netip Phoenix for an evening of art, culture, and networking in Downtown Phoenix at the First Friday Art Walk for August.

**Time:** 6-10pm.

**Location:** Downtown Phoenix, Meet in Tempe at Mill Ave Light Rail stop at 6pm or in Downtown Phoenix throughout the evening.

**Please RSVP** with Monali Shah at [monali.shah99@gmail.com](mailto:monali.shah99@gmail.com) or 480.216.4115 by Wednesday, August 5, 2009 so that we can get a headcount and plan accordingly.

For more information on the First Friday Artwalk check out the Artlink Phoenix website: <http://www.artlinkphoenix.com/>

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**Thursday, August 13 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays Networking Mixer and Business Card Exchange**

**Time:** 5:30pm-8pm

**Location:** TBA

**Cost:** FREE for Members

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**Saturday, August 15 – India Day Event**

The NetIP Phoenix Cultural Awareness Committee is in the process of planning an event in celebration of India Day, stay tuned for more details!

**Thursday, August 20 – Chai Chat Series**

Grab a bite, sip on some chai, chat amongst members and non-members, learn from subject matter experts, and network with other professionals in the Valley.

Topic of discussion to be announced, if you have an idea for a topic, contact Monali Shah at [monali.shah99@gmail.com](mailto:monali.shah99@gmail.com)

**Time:** Networking at 5:30pm, Discussion from 6pm onwards

**Location:** Udupi Café – 1636 N. Scottsdale Rd, Tempe, AZ 85281

[www.udupicafeaz.com](http://www.udupicafeaz.com)

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**September**

**September 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Annual NetIP Conference – Toronto**

Join NetIP members from across North America for NetIP's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada! The 2009 Conference aims to leave each participant inspired, empowered and committed to achieve excellence. From conception to implementation to execution, the conference ethos will consistently reflect its theme: **Believe! Create! Achieve!**

For conference details and registration visit the official conference website at

[www.netipconference.org](http://www.netipconference.org)

**Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays Networking Mixer and Business Card Exchange**

**Time:** 5:30pm-8pm

**Location:** TBA

**Cost:** FREE for Members

## Recap of Past Events

You can check out pictures of our past events on our website - [NetIP Phoenix Photos](#)

- NetIP Phoenix hosted a **Professional Development Event** on May 7<sup>th</sup> featuring keynote speaker Jaime Casap of Google at the jobing.com offices in Phoenix, thanks to all those that attended! Attendees headed over to The Merc Bar at the Biltmore following the event.

- We held our first ever **Member Appreciation Spring Picnic** at Tempe Kiwanis Park on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Members enjoyed an amazing barbecue lunch, sand volleyball, and a water fight. Thank to all the members that attended this first of many membership appreciation events!

- **May's Monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Networking Mixer** was held at Sutra Sushi at Barcelona in North Scottsdale on May 14<sup>th</sup>. It was great meeting everyone that was able to make it out!!

- Members of NetIP Phoenix volunteered their time at **St. Mary's Food Bank** in Phoenix on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who donated their time and energy to give back to the community!

- On June 7<sup>th</sup>, NetIP Phoenix in conjunction with the Association for India's Development (AID) hosted a **Fundraiser for AID's Jyoti Project** at Udupi Café in Scottsdale. The Jyoti Project's mission is to raise money to help provide Solar Lamps for 100 families in Orissa, India. We had a great turnout and thank everyone who attended for their donation!!

- **June's Monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Networking Mixer** was held at Sam's Café at the Biltmore on June 11. It was great meeting everyone that was able to make it out!!

- Our second event in the **Chai Chat** series was held on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Udupi Café in Scottsdale. We had a heated discussion where attendees got the opportunity to discuss various topics in regards to Healthcare. Keep your eyes open for the next event in the Chai Chat Series!

- **July's Monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Networking Mixer and Business Card Exchange** was held at Camarone's Restaurant in Chandler July 9<sup>th</sup>. It was NetIP Phoenix's first networking event in Chandler where we plan on hosting many events to come!!

## Member Spotlight: Jatin Shah

Every month, NetIP Phoenix will be spotlighting a different NetIP Phoenix member to get their insight into various topics.

**This month's Member Spotlight is on Jatin Shah, NetIP Phoenix's Community Service Committee Chair.**

Jatin was born and raised in Phoenix, and attended college at Arizona State University where he graduated in December 2004 with a Bachelor's degree in Accountancy. Soon after, he started working for a CPA firm in central Phoenix which specializes in governmental and not-for-profit auditing and consulting. He has been employed at the same firm for a little over four years as an auditor.



**Why did you want to get involved in NetIP Phoenix?**

I was excited when I heard about a NetIP chapter starting up in Phoenix and wanted to get involved in order to meet other South Asian professionals, network, share cultural experiences, and to make friends.

**What impact do you think NetIP has made on the Community since the Phoenix chapter was first established?**

NetIP has made a notable impact in Phoenix in the past year and several months since it was first established. For me personally, it has been a positive experience being able to attend and take part in the various events/activities, including happy hours, bowling, salsa dancing, Chai Chats, etc.

**What in your opinion are the strengths and weaknesses of Phoenix's South Asian Community?**

Phoenix's South Asian community is growing steadily year after year. I feel our community is welcoming, friendly, and proactive in terms of organizing various South Asian events, whether social, cultural, religious, etc. One does wish that our community was larger in size and events were organized more often, but that will all come in time.

**What does a typical workday for you look like?**

A typical work day for me starts around 8 am and usually ends around 5pm. One thing I love about my job is that I spend more than half my time outside the office performing audit field work at various locations, typically in the Phoenix metropolitan area. This helps take the redundancy out of my work. During our busy season, hours definitely increase. Another positive aspect about my work is that most of my co-workers are in my age range, and because we spend so much time together, we have become good friends.

**What is one piece of advice that you would give a recent college graduate getting started with their career in your current industry?**

Although the economy is currently in a recession, accounting is a great field to be in. With the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, accountants and auditors are in demand to ensure accurate spending of federal funds. Also, accountants can specialize in a variety of tasks, such as auditing, taxation, and working in private industry. My advice to recent graduates would be to get their Masters degree in order to fulfill the 150 credit requirement from the State Board of Accountancy, which is required if one wants to be certified as a public accountant in the State of Arizona.

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## Survey: We want to hear from you!

In order to better provide you with useful and fun events, we want your feedback on what NetIP Phoenix has been up to and what you'd like to see from us in the future!

Please take a few minutes to answer our quick 10 questions survey:

### NETIP PHOENIX SURVEY 2009

We thank you in advance for your time and valuable feedback!

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## Become A Member Today!

**The benefits of membership just keep getting better!!**

As a member of NetIP Phoenix, you will get free or discounted entry to many of our events, not just at a local level but on a national level as well! We are continuously working to provide our NetIP members VALUE to their membership!

As NetIP Phoenix grows, so do the benefits of becoming a member, with more frequent and diverse events, the networking possibilities (and savings) are endless!!

\*All NetIP Phoenix members receive FREE entry to our Monthly Social Networking Mixers! The math is simple - at \$5 per monthly social networking event, a \$40 membership saves you at least \$20 annually!

**COUPLES MEMBERSHIP RATES!!!** You and your spouse/domestic partner can become NetIP Phoenix members for a special rate of only \$70!

NetIP Phoenix's Annual Membership Fee is \$40/individual and \$70/couple.

Membership is open to all adults age 21 and over.

Go to [www.netipphoenix.org](http://www.netipphoenix.org) and click "Join Now!" to sign up.

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## Committee Spotlight: Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee's mission is promote the personal and professional development of South Asians in the Phoenix, AZ metropolitan area. The committee seeks to utilize our resources to provide opportunities for NetIP members and non-members to meet and learn about relevant development topics through the means of discussion panels and networking events.

In 2008, the Professional Development Committee put together a panel discussion in which two community members spoke about their industries, the topics of discussion included real estate and financial planning. Attendees of the event heard about the importance of saving and investing early, what to look for while purchasing a home, and other factors related to the current real estate market and financial planning.

Most recently, the committee organized a Professional Development event which featured keynote speaker Jaime Casap of Google. Mr. Casap spoke to members and guests about Google and how its applications are prevalent in business today.

The events planned by the committee are geared towards bringing together the South Asian community on a professional level. We also invite you to sit in on one of our committee meetings if you have some ideas for future events. If you have any ideas for possible future events, would like to get involved, or would like for the committee to advertise one of your professional events, please contact the Committee Chair, Renuka Laddu at

## Committee Involvement



### Want to get involved in NetIP Phoenix?

We have several committees that plan the various events that NetIP Phoenix hosts. For more information on the committees, meeting times, and how you can get involved, contact the following Committee Chairs:

- **Cultural Awareness Committee:** Monali Shah - [monali.shah99@gmail.com](mailto:monali.shah99@gmail.com)
- **Professional Development Committee:** Renuka Laddu - [renukaladdu@gmail.com](mailto:renukaladdu@gmail.com)
- **Social Committee:** Pooja Suresh – [poojasdds@yahoo.com](mailto:poojasdds@yahoo.com)
- **Political Awareness Committee:** Josh George – [joshgeorge83@gmail.com](mailto:joshgeorge83@gmail.com)
- **Community Service Committee:** Jatin Shah - [jatinshah116@hotmail.com](mailto:jatinshah116@hotmail.com)
- **Technology Committee** – Murugan Patham – [M\\_k\\_patham@yahoo.com](mailto:M_k_patham@yahoo.com)

## Corporate Partnerships



The Network of Indian Professionals – Phoenix Chapter is proud to partner with [Jobing.com](http://netipphoenix.jobing.com/) to provide you with the most comprehensive listing of employment opportunities throughout Arizona.  
<http://netipphoenix.jobing.com/>

**If you're interested in becoming a Corporate Partner of NetIP Phoenix, contact us at [info@netipphoenix.org](mailto:info@netipphoenix.org)**