
Sci-ROI Annual Event 2018 Schedule

Venue: Biological Sciences Learning Center, The University of Chicago,
924 East 57th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

Day 1: Saturday, September 8th, 2018

(Young Investigators Meeting – Chicago; YIM-C)
Academic Research Opportunities in India (ROI)

8:30 am – 8:45 am **Dr. Bala Srinivasan**, Vice-President, Global Initiatives and Strategy and Senior
Associate Provost, The University of Chicago

8:45 am – 9:00 am **Prof. Aseem Z. Ansari** (Prof. University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA; Founder &
Director, Winstep Forward; Co-founder & Mentor for Sci-ROI) &
Prof. L. S. Shashidhara (Prof. IISER Pune, India; Mentor for Sci-ROI)

Session 1:

Research and Funding Landscape (9:00 am – 10:45 am) Each speaker 15 min

- **Dr. Meenakshi Munshi** (Adviser/ Scientist G, Department of Biotechnology)
- **Dr. Shahid Jameel** (CEO, Wellcome Trust DBT India Alliance)
- **Dr. Rajiv Sharma** (Director General, Amity Foundation for S&T and Innovation Alliances, Former-Secretary, SERB, Former Head Tech Missions -DST, Former Director IUSSTF)

Panel Discussion, Q & A 30 min

Poster Pitch-I (20 Presentations, 1 min each)

Break 10:45 am – 11:00 am

Session 2:

Public Institutions (11:00 am – 1:00 pm) Each speaker 15 min

- **Prof. Ajit Chaturvedi** (Director, IIT Roorkee)
- **Prof. Sourav Pal** (Director, IISER Kolkata)
- **Prof. M. Balakrishnan** (Deputy Director, IIT Delhi)
- **Prof. K.V. R. Chary** (Director, IISER Berhampur)

Discussion, Q & A 30 min.

Poster Pitch-II (20 Presentations, 1 min each)

Lunch 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Poster Session 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Session 3:

Private Institutions (3:00 pm – 4:45 pm) Each speaker 15 min

- **Prof. L. S. Shashidhara** (Professor IISER Pune)
- **Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya** (Director, Ashoka University)
- **Dr. Girisha. K.M** (Head, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University)
- **Ms. Raginie Singh** (Director, Strategic – HR, Amity University)

Discussion, Q & A 20 min

Poster Pitch-III (20 Presentations, 1 min each)

Poster Session & Coffee 4:45 pm – 5:30 pm

Session 4:

Parallel sessions (5:30 pm – 7:30 pm) Each speaker 15 min

I: Life Sciences

- **Prof. Suresh Subramani** (Global Director of Tata Institute of Genetics and Society, TIGS-UCSD & TIGS-India)
- **Prof. Sharmila Sengupta** (Director, National Institute of Biomedical Genomics)
- **Prof. Shekhar Mande** (Director, National Center for Cell Sciences)
- **Dr. Sudhanshu Vrati** (Director, Regional Center for Biotechnology)
- **Prof. Shinjini Bhatnagar** (Dean, Translational Health Science and Technical Institute)

II: Physical sciences and Engineering

- **Prof. Somak Raychaudhury** (Director, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics)
- **Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana** (Director, IIT Tirupati)
- **Prof. B. K. Mishra** (Director, IIT Goa)
- **Prof. M. S. Gaur** (Director, IIT Jammu)
- **Prof. P. B. Sunil Kumar** (Director, IIT Palakkad)

Discussion, Q & A 30 min.

Dinner 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Day 2: Sunday, September 9th, 2018

(Launch of Young Entrepreneurs Summit; YES)
Entrepreneurship and Industry opportunities in India

Session 5:

Broader Entrepreneurial and Industrial Landscape (9:00 am – 9.45 am) Each speaker 15 min

- **Mr. Adrian Mutton** (CEO, Sannam S4/ USIKE (US India Knowledge Exchange))
- **Ms. Shruti Chandra** (Senior Manager, Invest India; Startup India)
- **Mr. Jas Sidhu** (Executive Officer, Confederation of Indian Industries-CII)

Session 6:

Entrepreneurial & Non-Academic Careers in India (9:45 am – 11.00 am) Each speaker 15 min

- **Dr. Jugnu Jain** (Founder & CEO, Sapien Bio)
- **Mr. Balaji Viswanathan** (Founder & CEO, Invento Robotics)
- **Dr. Sharmila Mande** (Chief Scientist & Head, Biosciences R& D, TCS, Pune)

Panel Discussion, Q & A 30 min

Break 11.00 am – 11:15 am

KEYNOTE talk (11:15 am – 12:00 pm)

Dr. Bala Srinivasan- Introduces Mr. Khosa

- **Mr. Rattan Khosa** - CEO & Founder, AMSYSCO INC

Session 7:

Academic entrepreneurship (12:00 pm – 1:15 pm) Each speaker 15 min

- **Dr. Matt Martin** (Microbiome Innovation Lead, Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation)
- **Dr. Taslimarif Saiyed** (CEO & Director C-CAMP, NCBS)
- **Prof. S. Sivaram** (Honorary Professor, IISER Pune/Kolkata)

Panel Discussion, Q & A 25 min

Lunch & Posters 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Session 8:

Indo-US Partnership Models (2:30 pm – 4:00 pm) Each speaker 15 min

- **Dr. Chaitali Bhattacharya & Ms. Subhashree Basu** (Indo-US Science & Technology Forum)
- **Prof. Rohit Bhargava** (Director, Cancer Centre, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
- **Mr. Anant Sudarshan** (South Asia Director, EPIC-India)
- **Ms. Heidi Arola** (Managing Director, Global Partners, Purdue University)
- **Prof. Suresh Subramani** (Global Director of Tata Institute of Genetics and Society, TIGS-UCSD & TIGS-India)

Panel Discussion, Q & A 15 min

Break 4.00 pm - 4.15 pm

Session 9:

New Faculty perspectives & Transition to India (4:15 pm – 5:15 pm) Each speaker 15 min

- **Dr. Abhijit Majumder** (Asst. Prof., IIT Bombay)
- **Dr. Ragothaman M Yennamalli** (Asst. Prof., Jaypee University of Information Technology)
- **Dr. Bhavani Shankar Sahu** (Post-doctoral fellow, Recipient of Ramalinga Swamy fellowship)

Panel Discussion, Q & A 15 min

Sci-ROI Organization and Closing remarks (5:15 pm – 5:30 pm)

*(** Interviews/15-minute selected talks will be conducted in parallel to these sessions both the days)*

Prof. Aseem Z. Ansari

Professor, University of Wisconsin- Madison
Founder & Director, Khorana & S. N. Bose Programs

Prof. Aseem Ansari is a Professor at the department of Biochemistry and the Genome Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the Founder Director of the prestigious Khorana Program (2007), S.N. Bose Scholars Program, and WINStep Forward (WSF). He is also the co-founder and mentor (USA) for Sci-ROI organization. Khorana and Bose programs are funded by the Government of India (DBT & SERB) and were developed in partnership with the bilateral Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF), U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), and WSF. Aseem did his PhD in Chemical Biology at Northwestern University, with Dr. Thomas V. O'Halloran and was a Helen Hay Whitney Fellow at Harvard University with Dr. Mark Ptashne. The Ansari Lab at UW-Madison works on devising synthetic gene switches that control the fate of human embryonic stem cells and correct gene regulatory networks in neurodegenerative diseases. He is a recipient of a number of honors and awards, including Romnes Faculty Fellowship Award, UW-Madison - 2011, National Science Foundation CAREER award 2008-2013.

Prof. L. S. Shashidhara

Professor, IISER Pune

Prof. Shashidhara earned his PhD from the University of Cambridge, UK. After a brief post-doctoral work at Cambridge, he transitioned from plant genetics to animal genetics and developmental biology. After working at NCBS, Bangalore as a visiting fellow, he moved to CCMB, Hyderabad as a Scientist and Group Leader, where he built a strong developmental biology group. He then moved to IISER Pune as a Professor and Chair of Biology and has contributed to the growth of IISER Pune since its inception. For his contribution to basic and applied biology, Prof Shashidhara is recognized with Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award and JC Bose National Fellowship. He is a Fellow of Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences, and Indian Academy of Sciences. He has been elected as vice-president of INSA and Secretary General of International Union of Biological Sciences in recognition of his ability to understand the intricacies of science administration, policy and its social impact. He also serves as a member of various apex committees of Government and S&T organizations. He is a mentor (India) for Sci-ROI organization.

Ms. Heidi Arola

Managing Director, Global Partnerships, Purdue University

Ms. Heidi Arola joined Purdue's Office of Corporate and Global Partnerships in August 2015 after a 13-year career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer. In her last position, she served as Chief of the Department of State's Education USA network, overseeing 400 educational advising centers that promote U.S. higher education in 170 countries to millions of international students. Heidi has a B.A. in English with a French minor from Tulane University, and an M.Sc. in Foreign Service, International Relations, from Georgetown University where she was Editor-in-Chief of the Georgetown Journal of International Affairs. Following service in the Peace Corps in Cape Verde, West Africa, and work with the Hmong refugee community in St. Paul, MN, Heidi joined the State Department as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer. She spent 11 years overseas, nearly six of which were in Brazil where she was last Public Affairs Officer and Deputy Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General in Recife, Brazil. Heidi was also posted in Rio de Janeiro, Amsterdam and Montreal. In her current position, Heidi's main role is to help Purdue increase the impact, scale, and sustainability of its global partnerships. She is specifically charged with overseeing Purdue's comprehensive engagement with India, a country of strategic importance for the university.

Prof. M. Balakrishnan

Deputy Director- Strategy & Planning, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT-Delhi

Prof. M. Balakrishnan obtained his B.E.(Hons.) in Electronics & Electrical Engg. from Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani and Ph.D. from IIT Delhi in 1985. For the last 22 years, he is involved in teaching and research in the areas of digital systems design, electronic design automation and embedded systems. At IIT Delhi he has held many administrative positions including Head (CSE department) (2002-2005), Dean (Post Graduate Studies & Research) (2006-2009) and Deputy Director (Faculty) (2009-2012). He has been involved in many major initiatives to enhance research and support start-up ecosystem in the campus. He has founded several start-ups through the IIT Delhi technology incubator and been on the board of several companies. He is a founding member of ACM India and engaged with VLSI design conference and VLSI Society of India for two decades. More recently the focus of his work has been in development of affordable assistive devices for visually impaired. He is involved in a number of projects that can enhance safe mobility as well as assist in education. SmartCane is a very successful product from the ASSISTECH group that has reached 60000 users in India and dozen other countries. **Raised Lines Foundation** is a new non-profit startup in the space of tactile diagrams that is likely to significantly enhance access to STEM education for visually impaired in India.

Ms. Subhashree Basu

Associate Program Officer, Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF)

Ms. Subhashree Basu is an Associate Program Officer at the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) in New Delhi, India. She has previously worked as a Program Associate at the IUSSTF. Her work at IUSSTF entails strategic planning; interfacing with federal agencies, academia and industry in India and the U.S. towards conceptualizing and facilitating programs; implementing various programmatic activities; R&D Program management and conducting organizational outreach. In her roles at the IUSSTF she has designed, implemented, and monitored the Research Initiative for *Real-time River Water and Air Quality Monitoring (WAQM) Program*; various visitation/exchange programs for students and scientists envisaged to address the issue of skill-development and capacity-building namely *Bhaskara Advanced Solar Energy (BASE) Fellowship Program*, *Building Energy Efficiency Higher & Advanced Network (BHAVAN) Fellowships* and *Bioenergy-Awards for Cutting Edge Research (B- ACER) Program*. These programs encourage collaborative research and relationships between individuals and institutions in the United States and India. She received her BSc in Chemistry Honours from Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra in 2010 and her Masters in Biochemistry from Jiwaji University, Gwalior in 2012.

Prof. Rohit Bhargava

Director, Cancer Centre, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Prof. Rohit Bhargava is the Founder Professor of Engineering in the Department of Bioengineering and affiliate professor at Departments of Bioengineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Mechanical Science & Engineering, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Chemistry as well as the Carle-Illinois College of Medicine. He serves as the Director of the Cancer Center at Illinois. His research is focused on chemical imaging (infrared and Raman) and, more recently, on 3D printing. The major theme of his work is to uncover tumor-microenvironment factors in cancer progression using new technology. He received PhD from Case Western Reserve University in Macromolecular Science and Engineering. Subsequently, he was a Research Fellow at the National Institutes of Health and has been at Illinois since as Assistant Professor (2005-2011), Associate Professor (2011-2012) and as a Professor from 2012.

Dr. Chaitali Bhattacharya

Principal Science Officer, Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF)

Dr. Chaitali Bhattacharya is currently working as a Principal Science Officer at Indo-US Science & Technology Forum (IUSSTF) and is involved in administering programs which aims in promoting cooperation between India and the US, specifically to develop scientific, educational and entrepreneurial collaborations. Prior to joining IUSSTF she was Scientist, at Technology Development Board managing projects (technically and financially) under its loan and grant schemes. She has pursued her Master's Degree in Botany from Delhi University with specialization in Crop Genetics & Plant breeding. Thereafter, joined ARO, Volcani Centre, State of Israel for a Post Doctorate Research in Plant signaling studies with rhizosphere organisms, AMF & Orobanchae and plant signal molecules; Strigolactone. Her experience of over 15 years includes initial years of research into Plant Microbe interaction studies with special liking for Mycorrhiza, Strigolactone, Biofertilizer and Sustainable Agriculture. Thereafter in the last 5 years switching to Program Management by designing and implementing programs in various fields of Science, Technology, Innovation & Commercialization.

Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya

Distinguished Professor, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

C.V. Raman University Professor, Ashoka University

Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya is a physicist and his research interests focus on dynamical aspects of disordered condensed matter systems. He is a Distinguished Professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) and the former Director. He received his Ph.D. at Northwestern University in Physics. He conducted post-doctoral research at the National Magnet Laboratory at MIT, University of Rhode Island. He was at the University of Chicago as a James Franck Distinguished Fellow before joining the Exxon Corporate Research Laboratory. He subsequently worked at the NEC Research Institute at Princeton where he was the Chair of the NEC Board of Fellows. Bhattacharya currently serves, among other organizations, on the Editorial Board of the Reports on Progress in Physics, the Technology Advisory Council of British Petroleum, the IIT-Council of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the Council of IIT-Bombay and the Mentor Group of Presidency University, Kolkata. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. In addition to his research and academic involvement, he is interested in higher education policy in India, specifically in science and technology research.

Prof. Shinjini Bhatnagar

Professor & Head of the Pediatric Biology Centre, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)

Prof. Bhatnagar is a pediatric gastroenterologist and Fellow of National Academy of Sciences. Some of her work includes projects exploring poor intake of oral vaccines in developing countries, extent of celiac disease in India. Her research was recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO), and at 2nd World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition. She was awarded the Dr. ST Achar Gold Medal Award for Research in Child Health, and Hotam Tomar Gold Medal in recognition of her research in Pediatric Gastroenterology.

Ms. Shruthi Chandra

Senior Manager, Invest India

Ms. Shruthi Chandra serves as a Senior Manager at Invest India, New Delhi, which is a National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency of India, promoted by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. At invest India, she is responsible for investor

targeting effort for the United Kingdom and other European countries. She is also leading the Retail & E-commerce team, and in-charge of the facilitation and handholding efforts for all investors in the sector. She has also served as a consultant at C-Net Infotech Pvt. Ltd and as a senior analyst for PwC India. Shruti received her master's in International administration and management from the University of Sydney.

Prof. K. V. R. Chary
Director, IISER Berhampur

Prof. K. V.R Chary is the Director and Senior Professor of the Department of Chemical Sciences. He was a Senior Professor (I) at TIFR, Mumbai, India, and also served as Chairperson for Department of Chemical Sciences, TIFR from 2008 -2011 and as Dean, Natural Science Faculty (NSF), TIFR. His current research focuses on the investigation of 3D structures and properties of biological molecules, particularly proteins and nucleic acids, in atomic detail and their correlation with biological activity, protein engineering, and the development of NMR methodologies and algorithms for NMR assignments and 3D structural analysis. His research group has close links with the European Union Large Scale Facility for Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in life sciences (CERM) in Florence, Italy. He graduated from Osmania University with his PhD in 1983. Chary has taken leadership roles in outreach activities of Chemistry department and was nominated to the Board of Governors of the Parala Maharaja College of Engineering at Berhampur. He has been associated with the National Facility for High Field NMR since its inception in 1983, which caters to the needs of scientists from India.

Prof. Ajit Kumar Chaturvedi
Director, IIT Roorkee

Prof. Ajit Kumar Chaturvedi received the B.Tech., MTech., and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur. He served the Department of Electronics Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi from 1994 to 1996. Subsequently, he joined the faculty of the Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee. In 1999, he moved to the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur where he also held the positions of Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, Dean of Research & Development and Deputy Director. He is now serving as the Director of IIT Roorkee. His research interests are in Communication Theory and Wireless Communications. He was the Coordinator of the BSNL-IITK Telecom Centre of Excellence which has done a large number of projects for the Indian telecom sector. He is a founding member of the Telecom Standards Development Society of India (TSDSI) and the current Chair of the Joint Telematics Group which organizes the annual National Conference on Communications. Prof. Chaturvedi is recipient of the Distinguished Teacher award of IIT Kanpur and Tan Chin Tuan Fellowship of Nanyang Technical University, Singapore. He is also a member of the Nomination and Election Committee of IEEE Communication Society.

Prof. M. S. Gaur
Director, IIT Jammu

Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur assumed the charge of Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Jammu in June, 2017. Prior to joining IIT Jammu he was a Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT) Jaipur, India. He also served as Dean, Students Affairs and Head, Central Computer Centre at MNIT Jaipur and as Chairman, Senate UG Board at MNIT Jaipur. He completed his Master's degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and PhD from University of Southampton, UK. His current research areas include Computer and Network Security (Network Attack Models and Countermeasures), Mobile Platform Security, Cloud Security, Malware Analysis, Networks-on-Chip, and SDN. He has successfully completed several funded research projects

from various funding agencies like MEITY, DST, UKIERI, CEFIPRA. He has extensive international collaborations with universities in USA, UK, Spain, Germany, France, Italy, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. He has served technical program committees of many IEEE/ACM conferences and is a contributing reviewer of a number of ACM/IEEE/Elsevier/IET/Springer journals.

Dr. Katta M. Girisha

Professor of Medical Genetics, Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Dr. Katta M. Girisha is a Professor and head of the Department of Medical Genetics at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal. He received his Doctor of Medicine (DM) in Medical Genetics from Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences in 2005 and his Master's degree (MD) in Pediatrics from Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospitals. Girisha was a fellow at Cedar Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He is a clinician with a special interest in skeletal dysplasia and prenatal and postnatal dysmorphology. His research is focused on skeletal dysplasia and is a member of International Society for Skeletal Dysplasia where he serves as a member of nosology group. He is a founding member and current secretary of Indian Academy of Medical Genetics. He also serves as an associate editor for American Journal of Medical Genetics.

Dr. Shahid Jameel

CEO, Wellcome Trust/DBT-India Alliance

Dr. Shahid Jameel is Chief Executive Officer of the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance since April 2013. Prior to joining India Alliance, he was Group Leader of Virology at the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (New Delhi, India) for over 25 years. He has served on various review and advisory committees of the Government of India and World Health Organization (WHO). He is an International Senior Research Fellowship of the Wellcome Trust (UK) and received an International Research in Infectious Disease grant from the National Institutes of Health. Shahid received Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Medical Sciences, which is India's highest mid-career research award. He is also a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, the Indian Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences, India.

Dr. Jugnu Jain

Co-founder & CEO, Sapien Biosciences

Dr. Jugnu Jain is a molecular geneticist and cell biologist by training. She obtained her PhD from Cambridge University (UK), followed by a post-doc and Instructorship at Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School at Boston. Her area of research was cytokine gene regulation. After her post-doc, Dr. Jain joined Vertex Pharmaceuticals where she steered multiple drug discovery projects. She led Vertex's global Immune-Inflammation team, and has significant experience in cancer and diabetes. She returned to India to launch Sapien and Saarum along with her co-founders, Prithi and Sreevatsa. Founded in 2012, Sapien Biosciences - India's largest comprehensive biobank with a vision to be a premier global biotech firm that employs human translational platforms for the discovery and development of novel diagnostics, bio markers and drugs with better clinical outcomes. Dr. Jain pioneered the biobank revolution in India which are crucial to meet the ever-increasing demand for high quality, personalized treatments for diverse pathologies including cardiovascular diseases, cancer, obesity and diabetes.

Prof. P. B. Sunil Kumar

Director, IIT Palakkad

Sunil Kumar is the director of IIT Palakkad and has served as a faculty at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad. He has a PhD from Raman Research Institute, Bangalore University in 1994. He was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Raman Research Institute from 1994 to 1995, and then at The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai from 1995 to 1997, and Max Planck Institute for KG Golm, Germany from 1997 to 1999. He served as Assistant Professor at Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras from 1999 to 2004, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras from 2004 to 2006, Professor, Department of Physics from 2006 till being appointed to IIT, Palakkad. He has done research in biological physics and soft matter in the Department of Physics of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras in Chennai with current interests are in the fields of active systems, polyelectrolyte's, membranes and rheological properties of micellar solutions and worked in two groups which are closely related to the theoretical work in Dynamical Systems and Atomic and Molecular Physics.

Dr. Abhijit Majumder
Asst. Prof., IIT-Mumbai

Dr. Majumder is a young faculty at the department of Chemical Engineering, IIT-Mumbai. By training, he is an engineer and his research work focuses on understanding the mechano-sensing and the role of mechano-signals in determining stem cell fate, microfluidic design to study cellular behavior and adhesion and Soft Mechanics. He has a degree in bachelors from the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, and Masters from IIT, Kharagpur. He completed his PhD. under the supervision of Prof. Animangsu Ghatak and Prof. Ashutosh Sharma at IIT Kanpur. He did post-doctoral training at Prof. Jyotsna Dhawan's lab at Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (InStem), Bangalore and later at Prof. Jeff Karp's lab MIT-Harvard, Boston. He has received awards like TR-35 India Young Investigators Award, DBT-Wellcome Trust India Alliance Early Career Fellowship and Peeble Travel Grant Award and, Alan Gent Award.

Dr. Sharmila Mande
Head, Bio-Sciences R& D Division, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd.

Dr. Sharmila Mande is Chief Scientist and Head of the Bio-Sciences R&D Division at Innovation Labs of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Ltd, Pune, India. She received her PhD degree from Indian Institute of Sciences (IISc) Bangalore. She joined TCS in 2001 to start Life Sciences research activities after her post-doctoral work. She has more than 30 years of research experience in Life Sciences domain. Her major area of research focuses on understanding the role of the human microbiome in disease. She has a number of patented algorithms that address challenges faced by researchers in analyzing large-scale biological data and is a recipient of the TCS Distinguished Scientist Award.

Prof. Shekhar C. Mande
Director, National Centre for Cell Science

Prof. Shekhar Mande holds a PhD in Molecular Biophysics, from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He joined Prof. Wim G. J. Hol as Post-Doctoral Fellow at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands. He is a Structural Biologist and X-ray Crystallographer and work on the structural characterization of Mycobacterium tuberculosis proteins, computational analysis of genome-wide protein: protein interactions. He has been awarded with B M Birla Young Scientist Award, 1999, Wellcome Trust International Senior Fellow, 2003. Dr. Mande was awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology in 2005. He has been elected as a Fellow of National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, (2003); Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (2003) and Indian National Science Academy New Delhi (2010).

Dr. Matt Martin

Microbiome Lead, Polsky Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Matt Martin, PhD, is the Microbiome Lead for the Technology Commercialization team. In this role, he works with researchers and leads commercial development of discoveries from microbiome research at the University of Chicago and the Marine Biological Laboratory. He provides access to the broad set of Polsky Center resources including intellectual property development, venture creation and support, team building, and fund raising. He also identifies and develops partnerships with existing companies to take the next step in commercializing the breakthrough microbiome research. Matt began his microbiome commercialization experience leading both business and technology development for Electrochaea, a renewable fuel company. Electrochaea developed a proprietary microbe as an efficient catalyst for producing renewable natural gas and is building its first commercial scale facility in Europe today. He was also an entrepreneur-in-residence for Nidus Partners and has worked in several technology commercialization roles for both the University of Chicago and Northwestern University. He was trained as a physicist with postdoctoral research experience at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He earned a PhD in physics from Carnegie Mellon University and a BA degree from Goshen College studying math and physics.

Prof. B. K. Mishra

Director, IIT Goa

Prof. B. K. Mishra is the Director of Indian Institute of Technology Goa, since March 2017. Prior to joining IIT Goa, he was Director of CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar and Professor at IIT Kanpur. He obtained his Ph.D. degree from University of Utah, USA in the year 1990 and continued there for his post-doctoral research. In 1993 joined IIT Kanpur to start his teaching career. He is recognized for his contribution in the field of Extractive Metallurgy, Powder Technology and Mathematical Modelling. Prof. Mishra has taught in University of Utah, USA and Aston University in UK on sabbatical and has published over 240 SCI journal papers in minerals, metallurgy, and powder technology area.

Dr. Meenakshi Munshi

Adviser/Scientist G, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India

Dr. Meenakshi Munshi has served the Department of Biotechnology, in various leadership roles before she became the Director, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India (2012-2017). She has a PhD in Botany from Kashmir University and PG diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication from IGNOU, Delhi. She was the recipient of Fulbright-Nehru Environmental Leadership Program fellow where she led the project that emphasized on Bio-fuels in Environmental Management.

Mr. Adrian Mutton

Founder, Sannam S4/US-India Knowledge Exchange

Adrian Mutton is the founder and CEO of Sannam S4 and US Business centers. Established in 2008, Sannam S4 works with the world's leading corporates, globally ambitious small and medium sized companies, education institutions, non-profit, trade bodies and government agencies. As founder and CEO of Sannam S4 and U.S.

Business Centers, Adrian leads a team which assists international organizations establish, develop & build a presence in the Indian subcontinent. He worked with new entrants to the market as well as international organizations who have an existing local regional presence, but need support managing and it helping it achieve its full potential. As a part of Sannam S4, he assisted businesses of all shapes and sizes, universities, colleges and institutions, who are planning to enter the Indian subcontinent and need straightforward advice, practical support and a reliable service delivery partner and provide the key services any organization will need to establish and build a business in the local market.

Prof. Sourav Pal
Director IISER-Kolkata

Prof. Sourav Pal is currently the Director of Indian Institute of Science Education Research, Kolkata. He is one of the pioneers in the area of quantum chemistry. He is known as one of the leaders in the response properties using coupled cluster-based methods. He has also served as Director of National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune (2010-2015) and Head, Physical and Materials Chemistry, NCL (2002-2010). He has been a member of several national and international chemical societies. He is a recipient of Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar prize (2000) and several other awards for his research in quantum Chemistry.

Prof. Somak Raychaudhury
Director, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics

Prof. Raychaudhury is the director of Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune. He served as Professor and Head of Physics at Presidency University, Kolkata, and as the Dean, Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences till 2015. He is also affiliated to the Astrophysics and Space Research group, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. He is known for his work on stellar mass black holes and supermassive black holes. His significant contributions include those in the fields of gravitational lensing, galaxy dynamics and large-scale motions in the Universe. He is a member of the International Astronomical Union, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, and Fellow of the European Astronomical Society. He is a Life Member of the Astronomical Society of India, and is an elected member of its Executive Council (1998–2000). He has been very instrumental in establishing a LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) detector in India.

Dr. Taslimarif Saiyed
CEO & Director, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP)

Dr. Taslimarif Saiyed is the CEO and Director at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), NCBS-TIFR, Bangalore. He manages C-CAMP's technology platforms, growth strategies, strategic collaborations for new technology creation, education and training programmes, business and innovation accelerator unit. He also oversees Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office at C-CAMP. He holds a doctorate degree in Neuroscience from Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research, Germany. He has worked as a scientist at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and served as a Management Consultant with QB3 New Biotech Venture Consulting. He has received the National Entrepreneurship Award in 2017 that recognizes entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship ecosystem builders for their outstanding efforts.

Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana
Director, IIT Tirupati

Prof. Kalidindi N. Satyanarayana is currently the Director of IIT Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. He has been a Professor in the Building Technology & Construction Management Division of the Department of Civil Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, India. He received his B. Tech degree in Civil Engineering from IIT Madras. He received MS and PhD degrees with specialization in Construction Engineering and Management from Clemson University, USA. He has been a faculty member at IIT Madras since 1991. In 2009 he was a Visiting Professor at Iowa State University, USA.

Prof. Sharmila Sengupta

Director, National Institute of Biomedical Genomics

Prof. Sharmila Sengupta is the Director of National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology. She completed her Ph.D. from Calcutta University. Dr. Sengupta is working as a Professor at the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics and was formerly a Professor at the Human Genetics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India. Her international experience includes various programs, contributions and participation in different countries for diverse fields of study.

Dr. Rajiv Sharma

Director General, Amity Foundation for S&T and Innovation Alliances, Former-Secretary, SERB, Former Head Tech Missions-DST, Former Director IUSSTF

Dr. Rajiv Sharma has a multifaceted career spanning more than 32 years of conceptualizing, implementing and monitoring programs in the science & technology arena through various assignments during his tenure at the Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India. He has the distinction of being the first Indian co-chair of the Indo-German Science & Technology Centre and of the US-India Science and Technology Endowment Board. Dr. Sharma was also the Executive Director of Indo-US Science & Technology Forum (IUSSTF) for over 4 years and initiated two major programs: the Indo-US Joint Clean Energy Research & Development Centre (JCERDC) and the US-India Science & Technology Endowment Fund. He has also served as Scientist 'G' & Head of the Technology Missions Division of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India which implements Nano Science & Technology Mission, Clean Energy Research Initiative, Water Technology Initiative and the National Supercomputing Mission.

Mr. Jas Sidhu

Executive Officer, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Mr. Jas Sidhu serves as Executive Officer at the North America office of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He joined CII in 2010 and over the years has worked on a multitude of CII's initiatives. He is responsible for the management of the CII North America's operations, and handles policy work across several sectors to promote greater economic linkages between US and Canada and India. He plays a key role in CII's research projects, including leading the biennial "Indian Roots, American Soil" report that measures the economic impact of Indian companies' investments in the US. In addition, he is responsible for strengthening CII North America's corporate and academia partnerships to support and strengthen India-US and India-Canada business and educational linkages. He graduated from the University of Maryland-College Park with dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics from the College of Life Sciences, and General Business and Management from the Robert H. Smith School of Business. He also holds graduate certificates in Health Finance and Management, and Inter-Departmental Medical Science from John Hopkins University School of Public Health, and Drexel University College of Medicine respectively.

Ms. Raginie Singh

Director, Strategic – HR, Amity University

Ms. Raginie Singh is the Director, Strategic HR at Amity University, focusing on Manpower Planning, Talent Acquisition Strategies, retaining and developing talents for Amity Group of Institutions India and International campuses at Singapore, Dubai, Mauritius, US, UK and China. Providing strategic direction and leadership for the development & implementation of HR strategies, policies and procedures in line with the University's Strategic plan.

Prof. S. Sivaram

Honorary Professor & Senior Scientist, INSA

Prof. Swaminathan Sivaram is an INSA Senior Scientist and Honorary Professor at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, India. Prior to this, he served as the Director of NCL (2002-10) and as CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow (2010-15) and J.C. Bose Fellow (2006-15) at NCL. He received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Purdue University. He is a recipient of several prestigious awards including the Vishwakarma Medal (INSA), Silver Medal of the Chemical Research Society of India, Millennium Medal of the Indian Science Congress Association. He was conferred the coveted civilian honor, Padma Shri, in 2006 and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Chemical Society, 2015. Prof. Sivaram also serves as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee, Vyome Biosciences Ltd., New Delhi and Member of the Scientific Advisory Council of IOC R&D, Faridabad, Apollo Tyres, Gurgaon.

Dr. Bala Srinivasan

Vice President for Global Initiatives and Strategy and Deputy Provost, The University of Chicago.

Dr. Bala Srinivasan oversees the global engagement activities at the University of Chicago and management of the University Centers in Hong Kong, Delhi, and Beijing. He leads the University's strategic efforts with respect to the education of non-traditional students. He is also the interim head of the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, where he oversees the University's programs and partnerships in venture creation and education, technology commercialization, and business incubation. Prior to joining the University, Bala served as Managing Director of Och Ziff Capital Management, based in India and Hong Kong; Executive Director of Goldman Sachs Hong Kong; and Associate Director of Jardine Fleming in Singapore, Hong Kong, and Mumbai. He received a B.S. in mathematics from CalTech (1989) and a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Chicago (1995).

Prof. Suresh Subramani

Global Director of Tata Institute of Genetics and Society, TIGS-UCSD and TIGS-India

Prof. Suresh Subramani is Tata Chancellor's Endowed Professor and Distinguished Professor in Molecular Biology at University of California, San Diego. He received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from UC Berkeley. He was a Jane Coffin Childs Fellow at Stanford University. He is the recipient of a Searle Scholar Award, an NCI Research Career Development Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He served as the chair of the department of Biology (1999-2000) and as the Interim Dean of the Division of Biological Sciences (2006-07). He is a Fellow of the American Acad. Microbiology and the recipient of an NIH MERIT Award. He is currently a Distinguished Professor in the Section of Molecular Biology at UCSD and the Associate Dean for Operations in the Division of Biological Sciences.

Dr. Anant Sudarshan

Director, Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago

Dr. Anant Sudarshan is South Asia Director of the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC). EPIC aims to deliver access to reliable and affordable energy, while limiting its social and environmental impacts using its unique approach that translates cutting-edge research into real-world impacts through strategic outreach and training of the next generation of global energy leaders. As a part of EPIC, Anant worked on a diverse range of problems. Most recently he was involved in Lightening up Bihar: An initiative by the government of Bihar to address the issue of unmetered, unbilled or pilfered power which accounts to over 45% of total power consumption. He also actively contributed towards identifying the role of decentralized solar power in India's electrification. Anant got his Bachelor's degree from the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, followed by Masters and PhD from Stanford University, USA. Prior to EPIC, he worked at the Energy and resource Institute, New Delhi, Sequoia Capital and MIT energy Initiative.

Mr. Balaji Viswanathan

CEO, Invento Robotics

Balaji Viswanathan is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Invento Robotics. Started in 2016, Invento is a startup based out of Bangalore that specializes in Humanoid robots for customer interaction in malls, offices, banks, airports etc. Their robots identify customers through face, engage them through conversations, provide contextual recommendations based on their demographics and past interactions. Starting his professional career as a software engineer in Microsoft HQ at Seattle, he is one of the pioneers of MOOC (massive open online course) platforms - NalandaU - back in 2009 in India. He later cofounded a fintech company - Zingfin - that reached the finals of Y-Combinator's prestigious accelerator program. Following a brief stint with a productivity management app startup called Limitless, he permanently moved to India and started Invento in 2016. He has dual masters- a MS from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and an MBA from Babson college. He an avid writer and published with over 17 companies. He shares his ideas, thoughts and take on a variety of topics ranging from technology, history, politics, education, travel and sports on the popular social media platform Quora.

Dr. Sudhanshu Vrati

Executive Director, Regional Centre for Biotechnology

Dr. Sudhanshu Vrati serves as the Executive Director of Regional Centre for Biotechnology that is a part of the Faridabad Bio cluster of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). He also served as the Dean of the Translational Health Research and Technology institute (THSTI) and as a senior scientist at National Institute of Immunology (NII), New Delhi, and also actively involved with THSTI since 2005. Dr. Vrati did his M.Sc. in Microbiology from G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology in Pantnagar, DIIT in Biochemical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and PhD in Biochemistry from the Australian National University in Canberra. He did his postdoctoral research at CSIRO Molecular Sciences in Sydney. With rich background and deep biotechnological research experience, his present research interest lies in the area of RNA virus replication and vaccine development. His group at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Research Centre (VIDRC) within THSTI

focuses on key aspects of the JEV life-cycle like receptor binding and entry mechanisms, molecular mechanisms of virus replication and assembly and also involved in the clinical development of an oral rotavirus vaccine.

Dr. Raghu M. Yennamalli

Assistant Prof., Jaypee University of Information Technology

Dr. Yennamalli is an Assistant Professor (Grade II) at Jaypee University of Information Technology, Waknaghat. He completed his PhD in Computational Biology and Bioinformatics in 2008 from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He conducted postdoctoral research at Iowa State University (2009-2011), University of Wisconsin-Madison (2011-2012), and Rice University (2012-2014). His research Interests are in Cellulases for biofuel production, thermostability of proteins, Natural Product Biosynthesis, protein-ligand interactions, Elastic Network Models, Gene expression networks Molecular modeling techniques: homology modeling, molecular dynamics simulation (Gromacs, NAMD), molecular docking (AutoDock, DOCK, Gold, FlexX, Glide).

Dr. Bhavani Shankar Sahu

Post-doctoral Associate, University of Minnesota

Dr. Bhavani Shankar Sahu is transitioning to India as Ramalingaswami fellow in fall 2018. He is currently a Post doc at the University of Minnesota at the Department of Integrative Biology and Physiology. He did his PhD at IIT Madras 2007-2013 in Cell biology and Molecular Genetics and moved to Cambridge University, UK as a post doc where he worked on cellular trafficking in neuroendocrine cells. In 2016 he moved to University of Minnesota to study role of neuro-endocrine proteins in metabolic disease. His research interests are: Cellular trafficking, Metabolic diseases, neuroendocrinology, high accuracy proteomics. He strongly advocates science communication to public and was involved in the Cambridge science festival, Minnesota state fair Science booth. He also visits rural schools in less privileged districts of India in the states of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh to communicate science.

Sci-ROI Leadership Council/WINStep Forward Team



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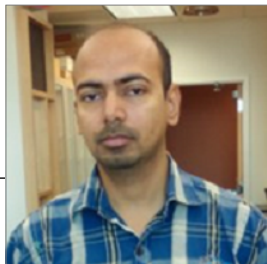


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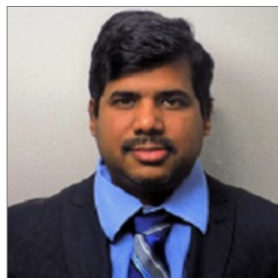


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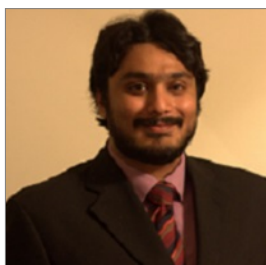


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