

## **PROF. V. RADHAKRISHNAN**

Prof.V.Radhakrishnan is a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from the College of Engineering Trivandrum. In 1961 he was selected by the Government of India to undergo Technical Teacher's Training Program at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for three years. During this period he took his M.Tech in Production Engineering from IIT Kharagpur.

Prof.V.Radhakrishnan joined Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in 1964 as Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He was in West Germany under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indo-German agreement for over two years and did his research at the Technical University Braunschweig, Germany. On his return he submitted his PhD work and was awarded PhD in Mechanical Engineering by IIT Madras in March 1970. He was appointed as Assistant Professor in May 1970 and as Professor in June 1977. He retired from IIT Madras in June 2002 after serving the institute in various capacities for 37 years.

His specialization is in Manufacturing and Metrology and he pioneered teaching and research in Metrology in the country. He showed exceptional competence and dedication to his area of expertise and proved himself to be an excellent teacher, an outstanding researcher, an able research supervisor, a competent consultant and an innovator. His multifaceted professional capabilities enabled him to publish over 250 highly acclaimed research papers, supervise 24 PhD theses and over 20 MS theses by research. He is internationally recognized for his research contributions in Surface Metrology and Grinding with over 1500 citations. His work has been widely quoted in many classical books in Surface Metrology and Abrasive Machining. His innovative and practical research resulted in eight patents of which one was commercialized.

He was instrumental in developing the state of the art laboratories in the areas of CAD, CAM, CIM, Robotics, Assembly Automation and Computer Aided Inspection with financial support from various governmental agencies and Indo-German Collaborative projects. Prof.Radhakrishnan through his initiative got "S.Ranganathan Building", the first building in IIT Madras, to be named as per the wish of the Donors – M/S Sundaram Clayton and Lucas TVS.

His exceptional ability in knowledge transfer and communication skills resulted in he being rated as the best teacher, many times by the students at IIT Madras. His organizational abilities resulted in having many National and International Conferences being held at IIT Madras in the broad area of Manufacturing. He initiated a new biennial conference in Precision Engineering, named COPEN, at IIT Madras in 2000 and the tenth edition of this conference was organized by IIT Madras in December 2017.

He is a German Academic Exchange Fellow and a Senior Alexander von Humboldt Fellow. Six of his research papers have bagged the best paper awards in Conferences. In 1996 he was awarded the coveted Alexander von Humboldt Research Award in recognition of his internationally acclaimed research and excellence in the area of Manufacturing. His invention of a Spiral Grooved Grinding wheel was awarded the top prize by NRDC in 1987 and this invention also got a silver medal at the International Exhibition on Ideas, Inventions and Novelties (iENA) exhibition at Nuremberg, Germany. In 1998 he was again awarded the top NRDC award for inventing the Fluidized Abrasive Polishing Machine. In 2005 he got the IET Achievement Award (Institution of Engineering and Technology, London) for his contributions to Manufacturing Process and Engineering. Other awards include AIMTDR Achievement

Award in 2004, Khosla National Research Award, IIT Roorkee in 2008, Innovative Academic Research Award at IMTEX (International Machine Tool Exhibition), Bangalore, in 2013.

He is the author of the Report on “Engineering Industries” under Technology Vision 2020, Chaired by Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam.

Prof.Radhakrishnan is an elected Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), the Institution of Engineers (India), the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), USA and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), London. He had been a Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.

Prof.Radhakrishnan’s administrative abilities and whole hearted commitment to the development of the Institute is highly commendable. He held several important administrative positions like Secretary-JEE; Advisor (Cultural) Students; Advisor Training and Placement; President, Alumni Association; President Staff Club; Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering; Dean of Industrial Consultancy and Sponsored Research and Member of the BoG of IIT Madras. As Dean IC &SR he introduced many pioneering schemes such as Research Based Industrial Consultancy (RBIC), Industrial Associate Scheme, Technology Appreciation Programs (TAP) and the newsletter “Newstech” to promote basic and applied research and to strengthen Industry Institute Interaction. He took the initial steps in realizing the IC&SR Building by getting the approval for funds and the selection of its location.

He served in many responsible positions in other Organizations and Government Departments. He was a member of the BoG of NITIE, Mumbai and NIT Surthkal, Karnataka. He served as a Member, Board of Directors, Advanced Training Institute, Guindy, Chennai; Member Technical Committee, Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI), Bangalore; Member Research Council, Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur; Member Engineering Sciences Research Committee, CSIR, New Delhi; Member Naval Research Board, New Delhi; Chairman Program Advisory Committee (PAC), Robotics and Manufacturing, DST, Government of India and International Council representative, IET London.

He has been a mentor for many academics both at IIT Madras as well as in the Country. His interaction with students, faculty colleagues and institute staff was always warm and cordial. His deep concern for their welfare in academic, professional and personal front endeared him. Even after his retirement he has been very active in both academics and research in the country. He served for three years as the Director (Engineering & Research), Amrita Viswa Vidyapeetam, Coimbatore, one year as INAE Distinguished Professor at the College of Engineering, Trivandrum, and five years as Emeritus Professor at the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Trivandrum. For the last three years he served as Advisor (Academic) at the newly established APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University, Kerala, Trivandrum. Currently he is an Independent Director, BrahMos Aerospace, Trivandrum Ltd, Chairman Project Review and Monitoring Committee, Machine Tool Development Projects, Department of Heavy Industries, Government of India, Member DST Panel on Advance Manufacturing Technologies, Member Academic Advisory Committee, IIT Palakkad, Member Academic Council, Amrita Viswa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore.

---