



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
OFFICE OF ALUMNI & CORPORATE RELATIONS

CELEBRATING THE GENEROSITY OF



DR. NIRAV DESAI

*Impact
of your
giving
in*

2024

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

IIT Madras continues to retain her top position for the eighth consecutive year, in the National Institute Ranking Framework, thanks to the world-class research, unwavering dedication and creative mindset of its faculty and students. The contribution and support of Alumni and well-wishers like you have crucially helped this standing and stature. Our achievements in research, education, innovation, and entrepreneurship have also earned us the recognition of an 'Institute of Eminence' as well as the top position in the Atal Innovation Ranking from the Government of India.

IIT Madras is making an indelible mark in promoting and providing education to students from the length and breadth of India to areas beyond Indian territory, through her initiatives in rural developmental educational programs, international, interdisciplinary M.Tech courses, and online diploma courses. The popularity and reach of our online courses can be gauged by the fact that around 25000 students in ages ranging from 17 to 82, have enrolled for these courses across national boundaries, and about 30% are from rural India. The institute, in a first-ever initiative by an IIT, has consolidated its position on the world map by establishing her international campus in Zanzibar, Africa where about 45 students have been admitted to different programs.

Innovation and entrepreneurship are ingrained in all our endeavours – our ambitious ventures in rocket and space explorations, the development of lab-grown diamonds, hyperloop, the Brain Research Centre etc, are a testimony to this. The start-up ecosphere is also a reflection of this spirit, wherein last year, 70 startups came to fruition, successfully nurtured by our centres of excellence, the Centre for Innovation, Nirmaan – the pre-incubator, the Incubation Cell, technology centres such as 'IITM-Pravartak' at the IIT Madras Research Park and others. This year, our target is to incubate at least a 100 Start-ups in various sectors. It is expected that at least 20% of the passing out students will be proud CXOs of their own ventures! The year 2023 also saw 221 national and 105 international patents from our Institute and we are looking to closing this current financial year with 366 patents, to account for 'a patent a day'.

Towards promoting inter-disciplinary research and exploring new frontiers, a Department of Medical Sciences and Technology was launched in May 2023, a School of Sustainability in Oct 2023, a Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in Nov 2023 and a new Interdisciplinary Dual Degree program on Quantitative Finance in Dec 2023 through the synergy of the departments of Management Studies, Computer Science and Engineering and Mathematics. Our School of Sustainability has signed MoUs for collaborations with Tel Aviv University, Israel and Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, with the aim of being recognized as a leader for sustainability teaching and research in the global south.

Lofty ambitions and achievements are impossible without the deep-rooted faith and support of alumni and well-wishers like yourself. We are indebted to you for your bountiful, impactful contributions and the faith reposed on us. On behalf of IIT Madras, I express my deepest gratitude for continuing to strengthen the Institute. Together with your support, we are confident of building an IIT Madras that is more inclusive, diverse, and seized of tomorrow's needs to be nationally and globally relevant.

Thank you!



PROF. V. KAMAKOTI

Greetings from the Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations!

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the unwavering support you continue to provide to IIT Madras. Your generosity is the cornerstone of our success, and we are truly grateful for your commitment to the causes that are important to the students and faculty of IIT Madras. This report is a testament to the profound impact your contributions have had –by transforming the lives of students, supporting research, augmenting Institute infrastructure, enhancing learning or through supporting other myriad causes. Your trust in us propels our ambitions, and we are committed to ensuring that your donations are utilized to their fullest potential.

In a world evolving rapidly in science and technology, we have set ambitious goals for ourselves. Your enduring enthusiasm and support provide fillip to our efforts. IIT Madras stands as a beacon of diversity, sustainability, innovation and research excellence. While we have transformed over the years, our commitment to being a premier institute in the country and abroad, remains steadfast, attracting the brightest minds from across the globe. I cordially invite you to visit the campus, witness first-hand the salutary impact of your contributions, and observe the Institute's growth and evolution over the years.

Your generous gifts have made an incredible difference in our Institute's aspirations – Thank you! Your continued partnership is invaluable as we navigate the exciting journey ahead, shaping the future of India and the world together.



PROF. MAHESH PANCHAGNULA



DR. NIRAV DESAI

1978/BT/CH

Director, Cybernetik Technologies

Dr. Nirav Desai is a Co-Founder and Director of Cybernetik Technologies. For decades, he has worked in the field of powder and material handling systems. He's been instrumental in Cybernetiks international expansion. After his B. Tech in Chemical Engineering from IIT Madras, he went on to pursue Masters' and PhD in Chemical Engineering from University at Buffalo, New York.

SUMMARY OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



**1978 Batch Ruby
Reunion - Prakash
Faculty Externship**



**Engineering
Design Lab
ED106**

1978 BATCH RUBY REUNION - PRAKASH FACULTY EXTERNSHIP

The Faculty Externship Program is for the faculty who travel abroad for short durations to universities across the globe mainly for research purpose.

The Class of 1978 during their Ruby Reunion unanimously contributed towards this faculty externship program and named it “Prakash faculty Externship” in memory of their batchmate Prof. K. Prakash.

Objective of the Program

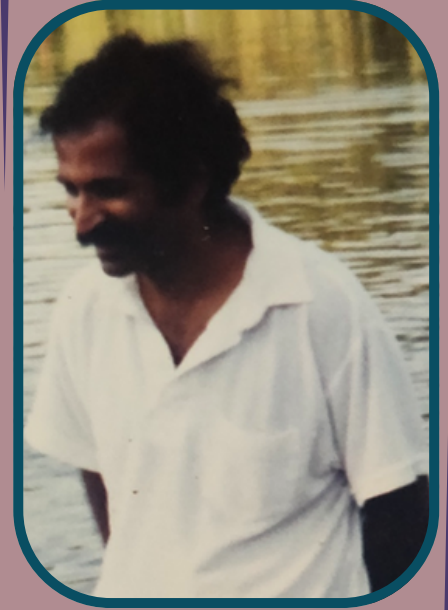
- ✦ A vital intention of this program is to enable a faculty member’s first visit to the world’s best research institutions abroad.
- ✦ To create a virtuous cycle by increasing collaboration, improving the quality of research.
- ✦ To improve the reputation of our faculty and institute by paving the way to attract new faculty and institutions interested in collaborating with IIT Madras in the future.

About Prof. K. Prakash

Prof. K. Prakash was from the Batch of 1978 of IIT Madras. He is addressed as 'An incredible human being'. Prof. Prakash was a faculty at the University of Kansas and for a very short tenure he was a faculty at IIT Madras. He has always been selfless and helpful. He was always admired by others for his kindness and compassion.

Support provided to the faculty

- ✦ This program will support expenses related to local hospitality as well as some local travel of the faculty.
- ✦ The cost of an externship per faculty will be between USD 6K to USD 8K depending upon the grant requested by the faculty.
- ✦ The interest from the endowment fund provided by the 1978 batch Ruby reunion will support some faculty members every year for their Externship in the name of "Prakash Fellowship".



Beneficiaries for the year 2023



Prof. K. G. Pradeep
Department of Metallurgical & Materials Engineering

He is scheduled to travel to Japan, where he will be engaged in activities related to isotope research as an enabler for thermomechanical processing of metallic materials especially steels via in-situ processing inside an electron microscope. The work will provide detailed understanding for sustainable processing of metallic materials, while controlling the microstructure evolution critical for mechanical strength and service performance.

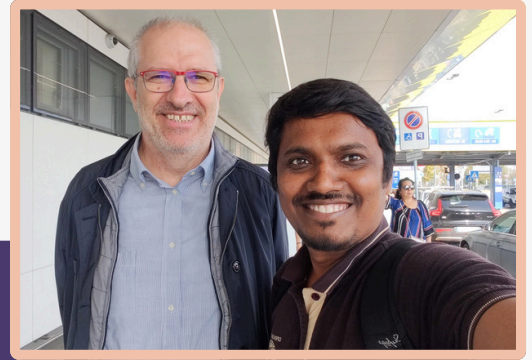


Prof. Shivananju Bannur Nanjunda
Department of Electrical Engineering

He will visit Stanford University and Inscopix in California, USA, to build on his skills in photonics, optical biosensors, optical fiber technology and nano-materials by obtaining training on implementing optogenetics and neural imaging. This will contribute to the growth of his research program in optogenetics.



Prof. Tarun Naskar
Department of Civil Engineering



Place of Visit

University of Pavia, Italy

Purpose of Visit

Quick Non-Destructive Seismic Tests to Evaluate Liquefaction Potential

Brief Note on the Experience of the Externship:

During my externship at the University di Pavia, I engaged in diverse experiences, including laboratory liquefaction experiments. A significant highlight was developing an analytical method with Prof. Carlo Lai for calculating the Jacobian of effective Rayleigh wave velocity, soon to be jointly published. I also created open sourced codes for field shear wave velocity, partial derivatives, and inversion of field dispersion curves, aiding research advancement. It was a highly rewarding experience, fostering valuable skills and collaborations.

Gratitude Note:

Dear 1978 Batch,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible opportunity you have provided me with through the Prakash Faculty Externship. Thanks to your generosity, I have been granted the chance to embark on an enriching journey at the University di Pavia and engage in exciting research activities.

This fellowship has not only enabled me to broaden my horizons but has also allowed me to delve into meaningful research at an esteemed institution. The experiences and knowledge gained during this externship will undoubtedly shape my academic and professional trajectory in profound ways. Your investment in my research and academic career is truly invaluable, and I am committed to making the most out of this opportunity.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support and belief in my potential. I am honored and grateful to be a recipient of the Prakash Faculty Externship.

The first beneficiary of this Faculty Externship Program was Prof. Anubhab Roy from the Department of Applied Mechanics and Biomedical Engineering. He visited ENS Lyon, France, which focused on collaborative research with Prof. Thierry Dauxois and his group at ENS Lyon.



To read the detailed report for the previous year



click here!

CYBERNETIK CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING DESIGN, IIT MADRAS

Mr. Mahesh Wagle and Mr. Nirav Desai, Founder Directors of M/s Cybernetik Technologies, Pune inaugurated the center in the presence of Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director, on April 29, 2022. The Cybernetik Center was established in room ED107, Department of Engineering Design. This is an air-conditioned facility and enabled as a smart classroom for handling classes, particularly those that involve team activity. This Center is also well used for hosting various events such as seminars, workshop, openhouse, Department Orientation, Department events, Student events, etc. The design and layout of this center provides a comfortable environment for effective interaction between the faculty and students. When classes and events are not scheduled, this room has also been enabled as a study room for students. Thus, the Cybernetik Center is well used for various academic activities.

The interior design of the Center and the idea of displaying student artwork are well appreciated by visitors. The Department of Engineering Design thanks Mr. Mahesh Wagle and Mr. Nirav Desai for enabling this multi-functional and aesthetically pleasing facility.



**Cybernetik Center was
inaugurated on
29.04.2022**

The Cybernetik Center has been used for conducting the following courses:



ED1031 - Creative Design



ED1034 - Form and Aesthetics in Design I

A few photographs have been included below that illustrate the effective use of this Center.





MoU signing of Ilayaraja Music Management (IMM)



WORKSHOP FOR THE NIT TRAINEES



We are grateful to you & your family

DR. NIRAV DESAI & DR. DIPTI DESAI

We express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued and generous support to IIT Madras throughout the years. We trust that you take great pride in your bond with IIT Madras and the unwavering dedication it has demonstrated towards academic and research excellence since the time of your association.

Your invaluable contributions, alongside the support of your family, have played a pivotal role in facilitating this remarkable growth. We are privileged to have you and your family walking with us along this journey. We extend our best wishes to you and your family. We thank you for your continued support to your alma mater



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