Distinguished Alumnus Award
Distinguished Services Award
Young Alumnus Award
Satyendra K. Dubey Memorial Award
The Distinguished Alumnus Award 2020

This is the highest award given by IIT Kanpur to its alumni in recognition of their outstanding achievements. Every year, institute honours individuals who have made a mark in their respective fields of expertise. Since 1989, this honour has been bestowed upon a total of 147 alumni for their Academic Excellence, Professional Excellence, Entrepreneurship and Management Excellence, and activities pertaining to the Service of Humanity at large.
Prof. C. Mauli Agrawal received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1982, and subsequently went on to work for an automobile company in India as an engineer. To pursue his passion for academics, he went on to obtain a master’s degree from Clemson University in 1985 and a doctorate from Duke University in 1989 in Mechanical Engineering.

Prof. C. Mauli Agrawal is currently the Chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He specializes in orthopedic and cardiovascular biomaterials/implants. He has published more than 300 journal articles and has 29 patents to his credit. In his illustrious career, Prof. Agrawal has served as the Interim Provost and the Vice-President for Academic Affairs at the University of Texas, San Antonio (UTSA). His UTSA bioengineering research group has been responsible for starting three companies in San Antonio. He currently also serves on the board of trustees of the Southwest Research Institute, and is a member of Biomed San Antonio, the Texas Research Park Foundation and the San Antonio Medical Foundation. Additionally, he also served as the president of the Society for Biomaterials in 2006. He has been on the editorial boards of various scientific journals, including the Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Tissue Engineering, the Journal of System of Systems, and the Journal of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine.

Prof. Agrawal is a Fellow of Biomaterials Science and Engineering, the National Academy of Inventors, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Honoring his stellar contributions as an academic administrator and innovator in the fields of orthopaedic and cardiovascular biomaterials/implants, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. C. Mauli Agrawal the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.

Prof. C. Mauli Agrawal (BT/ME/1982)
Mr. Ved Arya received his bachelor’s degree in Aerospace Engineering from IITK in 1979 and subsequently obtained an MBA degree from IIM Ahmedabad in 1981. Mr. Ved Arya is the Founder and former CEO of SRIJAN (Self-Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action).

Mr. Arya founded SRIJAN in 2000, a public charitable trust that features among the top non-profit organisations in India in the sustainable Rural Livelihood Management space and empowerment of rural women. Mr. Arya is also the Founder and Managing Director of Srijan Infratech & Development Services, which offers HR solutions and strategies to implement rural development programs of the Government of India. His passion for uplifting and enriching the lives of people led to setting up of the Buddha Fellowship Program in 2016. It is a unique platform that offers a complete ecosystem for young emerging leaders from India’s premier educational institutions such as IITs and IIMs, an opportunity to build development enterprises.

Mr. Arya has held Fellowships of Hubert Humphrey, United Nations Environment Program, Ashoka and Aspire.

Honoring his stellar performance in the field of enriching rural livelihoods and bringing rural development, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Ved Arya the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Mr. Batra received his bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1982, and subsequently obtained MS degree in Computer Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1983.

Mr. Batra is a Founder of Palo Alto Networks, the world’s largest independent enterprise security company. After founding Palo Alto Networks in 2005, Mr. Batra held many key positions in the company. He was the Member office of CEO and Senior Vice President of Engineering. In his illustrious career, he has also served as the Vice President of Engineering at Peribit Networks, which built industry leading products in the area of WAN Optimization and WAN Acceleration. It was acquired by Juniper Networks in July of 2005. Mr. Batra was also the Founder and VP of Engineering at Vital Signs Networks that was later acquired by International Network Services in 1998. Mr. Batra is also a chair of the Board of Visitors of the Computer Science Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Board Member of the University of Wisconsin Foundation and a Trustee of Honolulu Museum of Art.

For his entrepreneurial acumen, Mr. Batra was awarded the 2012 Entrepreneurial Achievement Award by the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Honoring his stellar performances in the fields of Cyber Security, WAN Optimization and WAN Acceleration, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Rajiv Batra the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Prof. Deepak Divan received his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1975, and subsequently obtained his MS and PhD degrees from the University of Calgary, Canada in 1979 and 1983 respectively.

Prof. Deepak Divan is a Professor, John E Pippin Chair, GRA Eminent Scholar and Director of the Center for Distributed Energy at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA, USA. Prof. Divan specializes in the areas of power electronics, power systems, smart grids, and distributed control of power systems. He works closely with utilities, industry and is actively involved in research, teaching, entrepreneurship and starting new ventures.

Prof. Divan has also served as the Founder and Chief Scientist at Varentec, in Santa Clara, and was the President and CTO from 2011-14, leading the company as it developed its suite of innovative distributed real-time grid control technologies. Prof. Divan has been at the forefront of founding or seeding several new ventures including Soft Switching Technologies, Innovolt, Varentec and Smart Wires, which together have raised more than $160M in venture funding.

Prof. Divan’s 40 years of illustrious career in academia and industry has brought him many laurels. He is an elected Member of the US National Academy of Engineering, member of the National Academies Board on Energy and Environmental Systems, a Fellow of the IEEE, past President of the IEEE Power Electronics Society, and he is also the recipient of the prestigious IEEE William E. Newell Field Medal.

Honoring his commendable work in the areas of power electronics, power systems and smart grids, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Deepak Divan the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Prof. Ashok Gadgil received his MSc degree in Physics from IIT Kanpur in 1973, and subsequently received his Doctorate in Physics from the University of California, Berkeley in 1979.

Prof. Gadgil currently serves as a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at University of California, Berkeley, and is also a Faculty Senior Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He has previously served as the Director of the Energy and Environmental Division for the period 2010-2015 at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

He specializes in heat transfer, fluid dynamics, and design for development. His work experience expands to technical, economic, and policy research on energy efficiency and its implementation, particularly in developing countries. His inventions, such as the Berkeley-Darfur Stove and UV Waterworks, a technology to inexpensively disinfect drinking water, have been used extensively in developing countries.

Prof. Gadgil has won numerous awards and honors for his cost-effective and environment friendly inventions, such as the prestigious Heinz Award for the Environment in 2009, Sustainability Pioneer Award from SAG/SAM of Zurich in 2010, The European Inventor Award, and the NCIA Lifetime Award for teaching innovation in 2011, and the Zayed Future Energy Prize, and the Lemelson-MIT Global Innovation Award in 2012. He was also elected to the US National Academy of Engineering in 2013. In 2014, Prof. Gadgil was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. The American Physical Society Forum on Physics and Society conferred upon Prof. Gadgil its Leo Szilard Lectureship Award.

Honoring his remarkable contribution in the fields of heat transfer, fluid dynamics, and design for development, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Ashok Gadgil the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Dr. Rajeev Gautam received his bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1974 and subsequently obtained his master’s degree from the University of Drexel and a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania in Chemical Engineering in 1976 and 1979 respectively. Dr. Gautam also earned an MBA from the University of Chicago in 2003.

Dr. Rajeev Gautam is currently the President and CEO of Honeywell Performance Materials and Technologies (PMT). He began his career with Union Carbide in 1978 and became part of a joint venture in 1988. Throughout his career, Dr. Gautam has championed innovative solutions for industry needs and has been responsible for the development and commercialization of a broad range of catalytic and separation applications for the refining, petrochemical and gas processing industries.

Prior to joining Honeywell as CEO, Dr. Gautam served as President of Honeywell Universal Oil Products and Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of PMT. Over more than 30 years, he has held key positions within Universal Oil Products, spanning research and development, engineering, and marketing, including vice president and chief technology officer of Universal Oil Products.

Honoring his stellar performance in the development and commercialization of a broad range of innovative catalytic and separation technologies to meet industrial needs, IIT Kanpur confers upon Dr. Rajeev Gautam the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Dr. Ashish Gupta received his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science & Engineering from IIT Kanpur and was awarded the President’s Gold Medal in 1988. He earned his Doctorate in Computer Science from the University of Stanford in 1994. Dr. Ashish Gupta is a well-renowned entrepreneur and known for establishing many start-up firms in India and in the Silicon Valley. He is currently the Co-founder and Senior Managing Director of Helion Venture Partners. He was inducted as Partner Emeritus by Prime Venture Partners in August, 2020.

Dr. Gupta’s entrepreneurial journey began in 1996 through Junglee. Junglee developed web data integration technology for comparison shopping. He was the VP in charge of engineering and operations, helped in fund raising as well as strategy as a member of the Board of Directors. Junglee was later acquired by Amazon.com for $230M in 1998. In 2000, Dr. Gupta co-founded another pioneering company, Tavant, a software solutions company specializing in mortgage lending and manufacturing. The company currently has over 3,000 people between its Bangalore and Noida locations. His exceptional entrepreneurial skills made him start a venture firm in India, Helion. He co-founded it in 2006 with about $140M from top university endowments and investors. The firm has raised a total of $600M to date. Helion was the first investor in several Indian Internet companies. The companies Helion has invested in have created over 50,000 jobs in India and contributed to the creation of the Indian startup ecosystem through an infusion of money and mentorship.

Independent of Helion, Dr. Gupta has been involved personally in many technology startups in India. He is among the first few investors in Indian-based technology companies, starting in 1999. He seed-funded Daksh in 2000 and joined its board; eventually Daksh grew to 20,000 people and was then bought by IBM. Companies that Dr. Gupta has invested in have created over 30,000 jobs in India. He has mentored several hundreds of technology entrepreneurs and about ten new venture funds over the past twenty years. He also has six patents to his credit.

Honoring his stellar contributions in the fields of engineering and entrepreneurship, IIT Kanpur confers upon Dr. Ashish Gupta the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Dr. Anand Jagannathan received his bachelor’s in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1974 and subsequently obtained his Doctorate in Computer Science from the University of Rice in 1978. Dr. Jagannathan is a serial entrepreneur, startup investor/ advisor and currently the Founder and CEO of Engage Social, a Silicon Valley-based company.

An experienced founder, CEO and technologist, Dr. Jagannathan was one of the first Indian-Americans to launch a successful IPO (Initial Public Offering) company, founding Banyan Systems in 1983. Banyan was a leader in enterprise networking and the solution of choice for Fortune 1000 companies. His second IPO company Responsys pioneered Software as a Service in 1998, emerged as a leader in interactive digital marketing and is now part of Oracle. Dr. Jagannathan’s other companies led innovation in workflow automation, online shopping and social media marketing. They have received several accolades including ‘Top 25 start-ups’ from Fortune magazine and ‘technology genius’ from the shopping network. He is very active mentoring IIT founders in building the next wave of Artificial Intelligence based companies in security, sales intelligence and insurance.

Dr. Jagannathan was recognized by Rice University for his entrepreneurship; he was the CFO and President of IITK Foundation, co-chair of IITK Golden Jubilee Celebrations in the Bay Area in 2000, and was selected as the Distinguished Alumnus of the West Coast Chapter, USA. Dr. Jagannathan has three patents to his credit.

Honoring his stellar contributions in founding successful startups and mentoring the next generation of AI companies, IIT Kanpur confers upon Dr. Anand Jagannathan the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Prof. Rupak Majumdar received his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kanpur and was awarded the President’s Gold Medal in 1998, and subsequently earned his Doctorate in Computer Science from the University of California, Berkeley in 2003. Prof. Rupak Majumdar is a Scientific Director at the Max Planck Institute for Software Systems, Germany. He also holds adjunct professor positions at the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of Kaiserslautern. He specializes in the areas of verification and control of reactive, real-time, hybrid, and probabilistic systems, software verification and programming languages, logic, and automata theory.

In his illustrious academic career, Prof. Majumdar has received many prestigious awards and honors, such as the Leon O. Chua award from UC Berkeley, an NSF CAREER award, a Sloan Foundation Fellowship, an ERC Synergy award on “Privacy, Accountability, Compliance, and Trust in Tomorrow’s Internet,” “Most Influential Paper” awards from Programming Language Design and Implementation and Principles Of Programming Languages, and several best paper awards.

Honoring his stellar contributions in the fields of programming languages and embedded systems, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Rupak Majumdar the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Mr. Radha Krishna Mathur received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1975 and subsequently obtained his M.Tech in industrial engineering from IIT Delhi in 1977. He has also earned an MBA degree from International Center for Promotion of Enterprises from Slovenia.

Mr. Mathur currently serves as the Lieutenant Governor of the union territory of Ladakh. Mr. Mathur is a retired 1977 batch IAS officer of Tripura cadre. His illustrious career as an IAS officer includes working as the Chief Information Commissioner of India (CIC), India’s Defence Secretary, Defence Production Secretary of India, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Secretary of India, and the Chief Secretary of Tripura.

Mr. Mathur has also served in various key positions for both Union and Tripura governments, like as the Chief Secretary of Tripura, Principal Secretary (Finance), Principal Secretary (Agriculture), Principal Secretary (Rural Development), Resident Commissioner of Tripura, Commissioner of Revenue, Commissioner of Panchayats, CEO of Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council, and as the District Magistrate and Collector of West Tripura district in the Tripura Government, and as the Union Defence Production Secretary, Union Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Secretary, Special Secretary in Ministry of Defence, Development Commissioner in Ministry of Textiles, and as the Chief Enforcement Officer in Ministry of Textiles in the Union Government.

Honoring his services to the people through the field of public administration in India, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. R.K. Mathur the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Mr. Neelkanth Mishra received his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kanpur and was awarded the Director’s Gold Medal in 1997. He currently serves as a Managing Director, India Strategist and Co-Head of Equity Strategy, Asia Pacific, for Credit Suisse. He has worked in Metals & Mining, Indian Pharmaceuticals, Taiwan IC design, semiconductor foundries and Asian tech strategy research, based out of Mumbai, Singapore and Taipei. Prior to joining Credit Suisse, he worked with Infosys Technologies and Hindustan Lever Limited.

For most of the last five years, Mr. Mishra has been rated as the best analyst in India by surveys like, Institutional Investor and Asia Money. Mr. Mishra is one of the topmost economic thinkers in India. He is currently part of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and has been an advisor to several important government committees like the 15th Finance Commission and the FRBM Review Committee. His research frequently shapes economic discourse in the country, as well as the strategies of some of the largest corporate houses, and sometimes drives policy changes too.

Honoring his stellar contributions in the fields of Economic and Policy Research, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Neelkanth Mishra the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.

Mr. Neelkanth Mishra (BT/CSE/1997)
Dr. Subrata Mitra obtained his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1988 and subsequently obtained his MS degree from the University of Delaware in 1990 and PhD from Urbana University, Ohio in 1994 in computer science. Dr. Mitra is a Venture Capitalist and currently serves as a Partner at Accel since 2008. He was the first investor in CasaOne, Curefit, Flipkart (substantially acquired by Walmart), Juspay, Moglix, Money View, Mu-Sigma, Mytria (acquired by Flipkart), Scripbox, Virident (acquired by Western Digital), WIBMC (acquired by PayU), and several other category leaders.

Prior to Erasmic, Dr. Mitra was the Managing Director of India operations for Tavant Technologies, Inc. Tavant was acquired by a U.S.-based mortgage solutions company in 2004. Dr. Mitra has also served as the Founder of Firewhite, Inc., which was acquired by Ubiquio, Inc., and later merged into Mobile Planet.

Honoring his stellar contributions in the fields of venture capital and entrepreneurship, IIT Kanpur confers upon Dr. Subrata Mitra the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Prof. Meenakshi Narain received her MSc degree in Physics from IIT Kanpur and was awarded the General Proficiency Prize for the Best Outgoing Student in 1984. She subsequently earned her Doctorate in Physics from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1991. She did her postdoctoral fellow at Fermi National Accelerator lab (USA) between 1991-1993 and was awarded the prestigious Wilson Fellowship at Fermilab (USA) following the discovery of the top quark in 1995. Prof. Narain joined Brown University as a faculty in 2007, having previously taught at Boston University.

As an experimental high energy physicist, Prof. Narain has dedicated her career to understanding the particles and their interactions during the early universe in order to characterize physics at the microscopic scales. She was instrumental in the discovery of the top quark in 1995, which is the heaviest fundamental particle and as heavy as an Osmium atom. In 2012, Prof. Narain’s group had significant involvement in the discovery of the Higgs Boson. Since 2007, Prof. Narain conducts her research with the CMS experiment at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN (Geneva, Switzerland), and has been a member of the DØ experiment at Fermilab (Batavia, IL) since 1991.

Prof. Narain is the elected Chair of the Collaboration Board of U.S. CMS. She created history by being the first woman to hold this elected position. She is a member of the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel which advises the Federal Government on the national program in high energy physics. In January 2020, she was selected to co-lead the activities of the “Energy Frontier” for the APS/DPF Community Planning Exercise to develop a 20 year future vision for particle physics research within the US.

Honoring her stellar work in the field of Experimental High Energy Physics, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Meenakshi Narain the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Mr. Gokul Rajaram received his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1995 and subsequently he earned an MS degree in Computer Science and Engineering from the University of Texas in 1996 and an MBA from MIT Sloan School of Management in 2001. Mr. Rajaram currently serves on the executive team at DoorDash, a logistics and food ordering service. Prior to DoorDash, he worked at Square, where he led several product development teams and served on Square’s executive team.

Mr. Rajaram was instrumental in building the first version of Google AdSense and grew Google AdSense to over $1 billion in revenues. He went on to found an Natural Language Programming company which was acquired by Facebook, where he then led the Ads Product team as Product Director, helping grow revenues from $0.75 billion to $6.5 billion, and helped Facebook transition its advertising business to become mobile-first. Mr. Rajaram also sits on the board of Coinbase, Pinterest The Trade Desk and is an advisor to over 50 startups.

Honoring his stellar contributions in the fields of digital advertising, product innovation and technical leadership, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Gokul Rajaram the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Prof. Mukul M. Sharma received his bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1980, and subsequently earned an MS degree in Chemical Engineering in 1981 and Doctorate in Petroleum Engineering from University of Southern California in 1985. Prof. Mukul M. Sharma is a professor and holds the W. A. “Tex” Moncrief, Jr. Centennial Chair in the Hildebrand Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. He has been a faculty member at the University of Texas for the past 34 years and served as Chairman of the Department from 2001 to 2005.

Prof. Sharma’s research interests include hydraulic fracturing, oilfield water management, formation damage and improved oil recovery. He has published more than 400 journal articles and conference proceedings and has 21 patents in his name. Prof. Sharma founded Austin Geotech Services, an ESP consulting company in 1996. He also cofounded Layline Petroleum in 2006 and Navidad Energy in 2017.

Prof. Sharma’s prolific career made him the recipient of many awards and honors. Apart from being a member of the US National Academy of Engineering, he is also the recipient of the 2017 John Franklin Carl Award and the 2009 Lucas Gold Medal, Society of Petroleum Engineers’ highest technical awards. He has also received 2004 SPE Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award, the 2002 Lester C. Uren Award and the 1998 SPE Formation Evaluation Award. He has served as an SPE (Society of Petroleum Engineers) Distinguished Lecturer in 2002, and on the Editorial Boards of many reputed journals.

Honoring his work in the fields of hydraulic fracturing and oil field water management, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Mukul M. Sharma the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Air Marshal Raj Karan Singh Shera (Rtd.) received his M.Tech degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1980. He is a retired Air Officer Commanding in Chief Maintenance Command, Indian Air Force. He previously served as the Air Officer-in-charge Maintenance of the Indian Air Force’s (IAF) Maintenance Wing and also as a Senior Maintenance Staff Officer (SMSO) at HQ Maintenance Command. Air Marshal RKS Shera is an alumnus of prestigious National Defence College (NDC), Fellow of Institute of Engineers, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication and Aeronautical Society of India, besides being the member of Computer Society of India.

Air Marshal RKS Shera was posted to a combat squadron, the first squadron to get converted to MiG-29. With his professional approach, he efficiently handled the complex task of setting up the first MiG-29 Squadron DSS. The proof of his efforts, especially in terms of planning and organising, was evident from the fact that within no time the squadron could commence operations in an organised fashion. He also was instrumental in the pioneering work of making 1st line servicing schedules and ORP procedures.

Honoring his stellar contributions in developing and implementing innovative modern techniques and procedures for servicing modern aircraft, including MiG-29 aircraft in the Indian Air Force, IIT Kanpur confers upon Air Marshal RKS Shera the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
Mr. Ranjan Tandon received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1972 and an MBA from Harvard School of Business in 1977. He is the Founder and Chairman of iBara Advisors LLC. Mr. Tandon has endowed Professorships at Harvard Business School in Leadership and at Yale University in Hindu Studies. He is on the board of New York University, Tandon School of Engineering, ArborGen Holdings Ltd, Vostok Emerging Finance Ltd, and Carl Schurz Park Conservancy.

Mr. Tandon is known for his philanthropy. He made a significant gift to the New York University School of Engineering to support excellence in Academics and to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. In recognition of the generosity, the school was renamed as NYU Tandon School of Engineering. Mrs. and Mr. Tandon have actively supported many institutions, including Lincoln Center and the Berkeley School of Music.

Honoring his stellar contributions in promoting and contributing toward the expansion of the field of Engineering and Philanthropic services, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Ranjan Tandon the Distinguished Alumnus Award of 2020.
The Distinguished Services Award

For alumni who have acted as IIT Kanpur’s goodwill ambassadors and have helped raise the stature of the Institute.
Prof. Rajendra Bordia received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1979 and subsequently earned his MS degree in 1981 and Doctorate in 1986 from Cornell University in Materials Science and Engineering. Prof. Bordia is currently the George J. Bishop, III Professor of the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Clemson University. Before joining Clemson University, Prof. Bordia was a faculty member in the Materials Science and Engineering Department at the University of Washington (UW). From 1998 to 2005, he was the Chairman of his Department at UW. He worked as a Research Scientist in the Central Research and Development of DuPont Co. from 1986 to 1991.

Prof. Bordia’s research work lies at the intersection of Materials and Mechanics and is focused on fundamental and applied studies in the processing and properties of complex material systems for energy, environmental, and medical applications. His research also focuses on ceramics, composites, multi-layered, and porous materials.

He has authored over 170 peer-reviewed technical publications and has presented over 250 invited lectures and seminars. His scholarly contributions have been recognized by a broad range of national and international awards and professional society fellowships.

Prof. Bordia has been a dedicated alumnus of IITK, who has contributed in a variety of ways, including mentoring IITK students and faculty, participation in joint research projects, and serving as a member of the IITK Foundation Board. The most significant contribution came in 2008 when he founded Kanpur IIT Research and Academic Alumni Network (KIRAAN). The goal and activities of this network have been to deeply engage a large number of IITK alumni, who are in research and academic positions around the world and IITK. The focal areas of this network are to support the recruitment of faculty members at IITK, provide mentoring and research opportunities to IITK faculty and students, and engagement of the KIRAAN members in research and teaching at IITK. The network currently has more than 100 members.

Honoring his dedicated and tireless service to his alma mater, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Rajendra Bordia the Distinguished Services Award of 2020.
Prof. Shivendra Singh Panwar received his bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1981 and subsequently earned M.S. and Ph.D degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1983 and 1986, respectively. Prof. Panwar is a Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the Tandon School of Engineering (Polytechnic Institute) of New York University.

He joined the Department of Electrical Engineering at the Polytechnic Institute of New York, Brooklyn (now Tandon School of Engineering, New York University). He is currently the Director of the New York State Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications, and the Faculty Director of the NY City Media Lab. He was a Visiting Scientist at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, in 1987, and has been a Consultant to AT&T Bell Laboratories. Prof. Panwar has also served as the Secretary of the Technical Affairs Council of the IEEE Communications Society. Prof. Panwar specializes in performance analysis and design of networks, cooperative wireless networks, switch performance and multimedia transport over networks.

Prof. Panwar has been a dedicated supporter of IIT Kanpur for more than a decade. He not just initiated the deliberation with respect to the NYU/IITK joint degree program, but was also instrumental in facilitating the entire process leading to the signing of this prestigious collaboration. He continues to remain deeply involved in making the research association between NYU and IITK a success by motivating various stakeholders to actively participate.

Honoring his stellar contribution for supporting the Institute’s efforts in fostering research excellence and in augmenting and supporting Institute’s efforts in its expansion and growth, IIT Kanpur confers upon Prof. Shivendra Singh Panwar the Distinguished Services Award of 2020.
The Young Alumnus Award

Aims to recognize our alumni under the age of 40 who have distinguished themselves in their chosen areas of expertise.
Mr. Abhiraj Singh Bhal received his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 2009 and subsequently earned a post graduate diploma in management from IIM Ahmedabad in 2011. He is the Co-founder and CEO of Urban Company (formerly known as UrbanClap) that was launched in 2014. It is the largest home services platform in India and UAE, with recent expansion to Australia and Singapore. The platform helps customers book reliable home services. Since its inception, Urban Company has delivered more than 14 million service orders across 22 cities through a fleet of nearly 30,000 service professionals. Prior to starting his own business venture, Mr. Bhal was a consultant with The Boston Consulting Group, advising Fortune 500 companies across India, Germany and South East Asia.

Mr. Bhal’s excellent entrepreneur leadership and skills have won him numerous awards, such as IIMA Young Alumni Achiever’s Award 2020 in Entrepreneurship, ‘The Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2020’ by NASSCOM Technology & Leadership forum, Fortune 40 under 40 (3 years in a row), Entrepreneur Magazine 35 under 35 for India in 2017 and GQ 50 most influential young Indians in 2017. He is the co-chair of the GI Ecommerce Council, on the investment committee of ACT Grants, on the governing council of the Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council, and part of various policy initiatives of the central government, particularly in the domain of skilling and entrepreneurship.

Honoring his excellent work in the field of Entrepreneurship, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Abhiraj Singh Bhal the Young Alumnus Award of 2020.
Dr. Barna Saha received an M.Tech degree in Computer Science and Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 2006 and subsequently obtained her Doctorate in Computer Science from the University of Maryland College Park in 2011. Dr. Barna Saha is an Assistant Professor in the department Department of IEOR (Industrial Engineering and Operations Research) at the University of California, Berkeley and an Affiliate Faculty at Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing. Before joining UC Berkeley, she was on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst from 2014 to 2019, and was a Research Scientist at AT&T Shannon Laboratories from 2011 to 2014.

Dr. Saha specializes in span algorithm design and analysis, discrete optimization, probability, and foundational aspects of large scale data management. She particularly enjoys working on problems of practical importance that can lead to the development of new beautiful theory. Dr. Saha’s dissertation research was on developing novel algorithms and probabilistic techniques for a class of resource allocation and scheduling problems. She is the co-founder of Theoretical Computer Science Women Organization and is an active proponent of diversity and equity in Engineering disciplines.

Dr. Saha is the recipient of many awards, such as National Science Foundations CAREER Award (2017), a Sloan Fellowship (2019), and a Presidential Early CAREER Awards for Scientists and Engineers (2019). Honoring her work in the field of algorithm design and analysis, discrete optimization and probability, IIT Kanpur confers upon Dr. Barna Saha the Young Alumnus Award of 2020.
Satyendra K. Dubey Memorial Award

Instituted by IIT Kanpur in the memory of its alumnus Mr. Satyendra K. Dubey who sacrificed his life while upholding the integrity and dignity of his profession. This award is conferred every year to any alumnus of any IIT who has distinguished himself or herself by displaying the highest professional integrity in upholding human values.
Mr. Kumar Ravi received his bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 2001. Mr. Kumar Ravi hails from Nalanda, Bihar and currently serves as the District Magistrate of Patna, Bihar. He has been the DM of Patna since January, 2018. He started his career as VLSI Engineer in Multinational Company, Transwitch India in New Delhi. He was then selected in Indian Revenue Services in Civil Service Exam 2003 and joined as Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax. Later, he was also selected in Indian Administrative Services, Batch of 2005 and joined as Assistant collector in Bihar Cadre.

Mr. Ravi has been instrumental in dealing with 2008 floods at Supaul district of Bihar. As a District Magistrate, Supaul, he ensured that all relief and rehabilitation schemes announced by the State government were implemented in letter and spirit. Mr. Ravi also ensured that elections- Assembly By elections 2009, Assembly elections 2010, Panchayat elections 2011 and PACS elections 2012 are held free and fair in Bihar. During his tenure as DM in Darbhanga district, he created a peaceful environment devoid of communal tension. Mr. Ravi was also posted in Gaya and helped in bringing normalcy in many violence hit areas of Gaya district. He was pivotal in handling flood situations with great ease in Patna. He also launched successful encroachment removal drives bringing paradigm shift in traffic management and infrastructure development.

Honoring his exemplary service to humanity and his unbending integrity in upholding human values while serving as a District Magistrate of Patna, Gaya, Darbhanga and Supaul districts in Bihar, IIT Kanpur confers upon Mr. Kumar Ravi the Satyendra K Dubey Memorial Award of 2020.