Abstract
Started in 2008, IIT Gandhinagar provides a unique opportunity to build a centre of excellence in research, teaching, and community engagement. The institute has already graduated three batch of students who have done exceedingly well. One of the critical pillars of IITGN is its highly accomplished faculty that the Institute has very successfully recruited. IITGN's five-week immersion foundation program, which focuses on creativity, ethics, social engagement, physical fitness, leadership skills, seeks to tackle some of the central weaknesses of incoming students. To promote critical thinking and an appreciation of the interdisciplinary character of knowledge, undergraduates (and MTech students) take almost 20% of the courses in the humanities and the social sciences. The Institute places great emphasis on globalization and diversity: nearly a third of IIT Gandhinagar's undergraduates receive study abroad experiences and almost 15 percent of its faculty every semester is visiting faculty, both from India and abroad. The Institute has eliminated departmental silos and developed distinctive centers and programs such as Archeological Sciences, Cognitive Sciences, Safety, and Society and Culture. A number of community outreach programmes at IITGN, including Nyasa for welfare of construction workers, have been well appreciated and recognized. The talk will highlight the innovations in curriculum and governance implemented at IITGN, and will also touch upon some of the challenges ahead.

About the lecture series
Making of a University is a new lecture series at IIT Kanpur. In this lecture series, we will invite distinguished individuals who have helped create or improve educational institutions. Such a lecture and the interaction with the speaker could potentially generate many ideas on what we could do at IIT Kanpur to achieve greater heights.

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