

Aveek Guha Memorial Lecture Prof. Sudhir Jain, Vice Chancellor, Benares Hindu University

Academic Excellence:
The role of alumni and external engagement

Tuesday, 7 Feb 2023 at 5 p.m. Lecture Theatre AG 66, TIFR

Lecture Theatre AG 66 TIFR

1-Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005



For an academic institution to achieve excellence, it must have a combination of top talent, generous resources, and a strong culture and governance system. The speaker believes that effective engagement with alumni and external partners can be a valuable source for all three of these components. He will draw from his extensive experience in raising funds for various initiatives, such as the establishment of the National Information Centre of Earthquake **Engineering at IIT Kanpur in the late 1990s,** his tenure as Dean (RPG) at IIT Kanpur from 2005-2008, and as Director at IIT Gandhinagar from 2009-2022. He will also share his observations on how U.S universities have developed a method for fundraising, and some of them have endowments as high as \$2 million - \$4 million (Rs 16 crores - Rs 24 crores) per student. The speaker will share his insights on how to replicate these successful alumni and external engagement models in Indian academic institutions.

Dr. Sudhir Kumar Jain is currently serving as Vice Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Prior to this, he served as the Director of the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN). He was on the faculty of IIT Kanpur prior to IIT Gandhinagar. Dr. Jain holds a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Roorkee, and Masters and Doctoral degrees from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena. He is recipient of Distinguished Alumni Award from IIT Roorkee (2019) and from Caltech (2022) and Life Fellow Award from IIT Kharagpur (2022). He has served as President of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering during 2014 to 2018. He was elected Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering in 2003, International Member of the US National Academy of Engineering in 2021, and was conferred Padma Shri by the President of India in 2020.

TIFR Alumni Association

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