

PROGRESS

2022-2023

REPORT



Dr. Ram Kumar Distinguished Visiting
Chair Professorship

Mrs. Urmila Agrawal Distinguished
Visiting Chair Professorship



Summary



The Dr. Ram Kumar Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship and Mrs. Urmila Agrawal Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship were established in 2021 with endowments from Prof. Rakesh Agrawal, President and Founder of the Data Insights Laboratories as well as the President of the Professor Ram Kumar Memorial Foundation.

The Dr Ram Kumar Chair Professorship was established in memory of his father Prof. Ram Kumar, while Mrs. Urmila Agrawal Chair Professorship was established in memory of his mother.

Dr. Ram Kumar Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship

Dr. Ram Kumar Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship was established in 2021. The Chair will be awarded to distinguished scholars conducting frontier research in the science and engineering of computing.

About Dr. Ram Kumar

Prof. Ram Kumar was born on May 25, 1924 and obtained his B.Sc. from Allahabad University in 1943, followed by M.Sc. from Lucknow University in 1945. He was awarded Ph.D. in 1956 from the Lucknow University on the thesis 'Hankel Transform and Self-reciprocal Functions', and a Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in 1963 on the thesis 'Integral Transform and its Application to the Solution of Flow Problems.' His D.Sc. thesis won the Bonerjee Prize for best research production.

Prof. Ram Kumar's academic career spanned from 1949 to 1987, where he served as a faculty member in the Mathematics departments including at the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee (then known as the



University of Roorkee), Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad (then known as MNREC), and the University of Udaipur. He was also the Principal of the Meerut College as well as the Shyam Lal College. During his academic career, he published 25 research papers and supervised the work in more than 30 research papers. He authored many textbooks,

including on programming in ANSI C and Fortran 77 (one of the first textbooks written by an Indian faculty member).

While working as an Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the D.S.B. College, Nainital, Dr Ram Kumar joined IISc for a short period and worked under Prof. P. L. Bhatnagar on the application of integral transforms. During this period, he published a paper titled 'Propagation of small disturbances in viscous and electrically conducting liquids in the presence of magnetic field,' co-authored with Prof. Bhatnagar.

He was a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad and served as the Chair of the Board of Studies for various universities.

Always known to be a creative and wonderful teacher, he promoted applied mathematics and computing during its very early years. He established himself as a scholarly academician in the mathematical sciences, with more than 43 creative articles in Hindi Vishwakosh (Encyclopedia).

More details: <http://agrawal-family.org/ramkumar/bio.htm>

Nomination Procedure

- The Professorship will be a Division of Electrical, Electronics, and Computer Sciences (EECS) – level appointment with a specially constituted committee chaired by the Dean, Division of EECS.
- The Nominations in each cycle (once in each academic year) will be received from the Departments within the Division of EECS.
- There will be only one appointment per academic year. The same scholar can be appointed at most twice.
- The duration of the visit to IISc will be 4 to 10 weeks. This could be spread over two trips in an academic year.

2022–23 Dr Ram Kumar Visiting Chair Professor

Dr. Ingrid Hotz received her M.S. Degree in Theoretical Physics from the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, Germany and Ph.D. degree from the Computer Science Department at the University of Kaiserslautern, Germany.



During 2003–2006, she worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Data Analysis and Visualization at the University of California. From 2006–2013, she was the leader of a research group at the Zuse Institute in Berlin, Germany. From 2013–2015, she was the Head of the Scientific Visualization Group at the German Aerospace Center .

Since 2015, she has been a Professor in Scientific Visualization at Linköping University, Sweden and has an affiliation with the Center for Medical Image Science and Visualization in Linköping. More details can be found here: <https://liu.se/en/employee/ingho32>.

Mrs. Urmila Agrawal

Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship

Mrs. Urmila Agrawal Distinguished Visiting Chair Professorship was established in 2021. The Chair will be awarded to distinguished women scholars conducting frontier research in science and engineering.

About Mrs. Urmila Agrawal

Mrs. Urmila Agrawal was born on May 15, 1933. She was the wife of Prof. Ram Kumar and mother of Drs. Rakesh and Rajeev Agrawal. She championed education, particularly women's education, throughout her life. She often said – "Value Saraswati (Hindu Goddess of Knowledge) over Lakshmi (Hindu Goddess of Wealth)".



Nomination Procedure

- The Professorship will be an Institute-level appointment with a specially-constituted committee chaired by the Convener of the Divisional Deans and having the other Divisional Deans as members.
- Nominations will be received from the Departments and Centres within any of the Divisions of IISc. Only women are eligible for nomination.
- There will be only one appointment per academic year. The same scholar can be appointed at most twice.
- The duration of the visit will be 4 to 10 weeks. This could be spread over two trips in an academic year.

2022–23 Mrs. Urmila Agrawal Visiting Chair Professor

Dr. Graça Raposo-Benedetti received her Ph.D. in Immunology and Cell Biology from the Université Paris VII in 1989. From 1990–1995, she was a postdoctoral fellow in the Immunology Center, Marseille, France and in the Department of Cell Biology, Utrecht University, The Netherlands.



She is a team leader in the Department of Cell Biology and Cancer at the Institut Curie in Paris, France and also the Director of the Training Unit there.

Her distinctions include the CNRS Silver Medal, Special Achievement Award of the International Society for Extracellular Vesicles and the Miller Professorship Award, Berkeley University. She is a recipient of the Descartes Huygens Prize awarded by the Royal Dutch Academy and French

Academy of Sciences. She is a member of the Association for Cancer Research, EMBO and Grand Prix Raymond Castaing French Society for Microscopies.

More details can be found here: <https://science.institut-curie.org/research/multiscale-physics-biology-chemistry/umr144-subcellular-structure-and-cellular-dynamics/team-raposo/team-members/?mbr=graca-raposo-phd>

About the donor

Prof. Rakesh Agrawal is the President and Founder of the Data Insights Laboratories, San Jose, USA. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, both USA and India, a Fellow of ACM, and a Fellow of IEEE. He has been both an IBM Fellow and a Microsoft Fellow. He has served as a distinguished professor internationally (EPFL-Switzerland, Kyoto University, IISc-Bangalore, IIT-Bombay). He has published 200+ highly influential papers, including the 1st and 2nd highest cited in databases and data mining. They have been cited 130,000+ times with 35+ of them receiving 500+ citations and 3 receiving 8000+ citations. His papers have received six test-of-time awards from five conferences: SIGMOD (twice), VLDB, ICDE, EDBT, WSD. He has received the Innovation Awards given to the topmost researchers from two ACM-SIGs: SIGKDD and SIGMOD. Scientific American selected him in its inaugural list of 50 top scientists and technologists in 2003.



For more details visit

https://odaa.iisc.ac.in/ram_kumar/

https://odaa.iisc.ac.in/urmila_agrawal/

Contact

Office of Development & Alumni Affairs

odaa.iisc.ac.in

development.odaa@iisc.ac.in

+91 80 2293 3590/3591