

Institute Lecture

Turning Excellence into Impact

Prof. Satish K. Tripathi
President, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York

25th June 2016, Time: 5 PM, Venue: Outreach Auditorium



Abstract

For over a decade, universities around the world have been facing the dual challenge of competing for scarce resources and demonstrating their value and relevance to the society at large. Typically, faculty efforts and activities have focused on research and educational outputs as defined by traditional academic norms, such as prestigious publications and citations, with relatively lesser attention to their social impact. While some of this stems from inadequate communication about the broader impact of university research, it is also in part, due to our unwillingness to deviate from conventional approaches to the deployment of institutional resources in support of our research and educational missions. In order to be more socially impactful, the University at Buffalo has developed some novel and effective ways to invest its resources in pursuit of excellence, being both mindful and deliberate about academic, economic and social impact. Building on its distinctiveness, UB targeted its strategic strengths to grow and expand its research and educational capabilities. Since 2005, several investment models have been used to meet specific needs and goals. In reflecting over these experiences, we will share some of the lessons learned that have universal implications for academic leadership and university governance.

About the speaker

Prof. Satish K. Tripathi is the fifteenth president of the University at Buffalo (UB), the largest university in the State University of New York system and a leading U.S. public research university. The first non-U.S. born president in UB's history, he is internationally recognized as an accomplished researcher and transformative higher education leader. Prof. Tripathi joined the University at Buffalo in 2004, serving as UB's provost and executive vice president for academic affairs until his appointment as the president in 2011. Prof. Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University and holds a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto.

In 1978, Prof. Tripathi joined the faculty of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Maryland, where his nineteen year tenure included serving as chair of the department from 1988 to 1995. He also held visiting professorships at the University of Paris-Sud in France and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany. From 1997-2004, Prof. Tripathi served as Dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, where he nearly quadrupled the number of students, tripled the number of faculty, and led its rise from an unranked position to one of the nation's leading engineering graduate schools.

An active leader in the American higher education community, Prof. Tripathi serves on the boards of the Association of American Universities, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, and the Digital Preservation Network, as well as the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents Executive Committee. Prof. Tripathi was appointed by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo as co-chair of the regional economic development advisory council for Western New York.

A fellow of the IEEE and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences. He has been the guest editor of several scientific journals and is a founding member of the editorial board of IEEE Pervasive Computing.

Prof. Tripathi holds honorary degrees from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Ontario, Canada. In 2009, he was honoured with the Distinguished Alumnus Award by Banaras Hindu University.

Tea at 4:45 PM

All interested are welcome.

Amalendu Chandra
Dean of Research and Development, IIT Kanpur