



23 November 2015, Auditorium, IIT Kanpur

# RSC – IIT Kanpur Symposium in Chemical Science

## Programme

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### PROFESSOR JITENDRA K. BERA

*Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur*

Professor Bera is an Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, IIT Kanpur. He is a member of various eminent Societies and organizations like the Chemical Research Society of India, National Organizing Committee Editorial Board of 'Resonance – Journal of Science Education'. He has received various awards and fellowships from organizations like Department of Atomic Energy, IIT Kanpur, National Academy of Sciences, Indian Academy of Sciences, Chemical Research Society of India, Department of Science and Technology. His research topics include Homogenous catalysis, organometallic chemistry, bifunctional activation, N-Heterocyclic Carbene, ON- Water Catalysis. Metal-Ligand Cooperation Strategy for Hydration, Oxygenation, Hydrogenation and Dehydrogenation



### DR. AMITAVA DAS

*National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India*

Dr. Amitava Das received his Ph.D. (Sc.) degree from Jadavpur University in 1989 on mechanistic studies in inorganic redox reactions. He worked as postdoctoral researcher first in the School of Chemistry of Birmingham University (1989-1990) with Nehru Centenary Fellowship and then as a SERC postdoctoral fellow (1991-1992) at School of Chemistry of Bristol University with Prof. Jon. A. McCleverty on polynuclear metal complexes, which had relevance to the broader area of molecular electronics. He then joined CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, where he was associated till March' 2013. He then moved to CSIR-National Chemical laboratory as Chief Scientist. He is also the fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences since 2010 and fellow of The National Academy of Sciences since 2012. In 2014, he was inducted as an editorial board member of RSC Advances and became the Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry. His research interests include synthesis of purpose-built molecules, molecular recognition, supramolecular chemistry and assembly, and interfacial electron transfer.





## DR. EVA MARIE HARTH

*Vanderbilt University, United States*

Eva was born in Cologne, Germany and studied chemistry at the University of Bonn and the University of Zurich, Switzerland. She obtained her PhD in 1998 for work in the area of fullerene adducts and polymers from the MPI for Polymer Research in Mainz. A postdoctoral fellowship with CPIMA (NSF-Center for Polymer Interfaces and Macromolecular Assemblies) brought her to the IBM Almaden Research Center, California USA, focusing on the development of new living free polymerization techniques and approaches to nanoscopic materials. In 2001, she joined XenoPort, Inc. as a Staff Scientist and started at Vanderbilt University as Assistant Professor with a primary appointment in the Department of Chemistry in 2004 and was promoted to Associate Professor of Chemistry in 2011. In 2007, she was awarded with the NSF CAREER Award. In the spring semester 2014 she was a visiting professor at the Université Paris-Sud (UFR Pharmacie), France, and the Radboud University, Institute for Molecules and Materials (IMM), Nijmegen, The Netherlands.



## SRIHARI KESHAVAMURTHY

*Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur*

Srihari Keshavmurthy is Professor of chemistry at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur. Srihari obtained his B. Sc. in chemistry from Vivekananda College, University of Madras, M. S. in chemical physics from Villanova University, and Ph.D. in chemical physics from the University of California Berkeley. After post-doctoral research at Cornell University he joined IITK in 1996. His research interests are in the field of chemical reaction dynamics with emphasis on the mechanisms of intramolecular vibrational energy flow, quantum control, and dynamical tunneling. The long term goal of his group is to establish the unreasonable effectiveness of classical dynamics in molecular systems using a classical-quantum correspondence based approach. Srihari received the Gopal Das Bhandari memorial outstanding teacher award at IITK in 2008 and the bronze medal of the CRSI.



### MAY COPSEY

*Royal Society of Chemistry, United Kingdom*

May is the Executive Editor for the General Chemistry Journals portfolio at the Royal Society of Chemistry. She leads a team who support the strategic development of *ChemComm*, *Chemical Science*, *Chemical Society Reviews*, *Faraday Discussions* and the chemistry section of *Royal Society Open Science*. Her team is also responsible for the organisation and development of the International Symposia on Advancing the Chemical Sciences (ISACS) conference series. She has 10 years' experience across a variety of roles at Royal Society of Chemistry, most recently leading the strategic development of our analytical science journals. Prior to working at the Royal Society of Chemistry, she completed a PhD in inorganic chemistry at the University of Bristol, and spent two years as a Post-Doctoral Associate at the University of Calgary in Canada



### ANIMANGSU GHATAK

Prof Ghatak is an engineer by training at IIT Kharagpur & Kanpur followed by a Ph D at Lehigh University. He did his post-doctoral studies at Cambridge University, UK & Harvard University, USA, 2003-2004. At present, he is the faculty at IIT Kanpur at Department of Chemical Engineering. His research interest lies in Adhesion and friction at soft interfaces, locomotion of soft bodied objects, fracture of soft gels nano-patterning of surfaces for crystallization of protein molecules.



### PROFESSOR UDAY MAITRA

*Indian Institute of Science*

After his BSc from Presidency College, Calcutta and MSc from IIT Kanpur, Uday Maitra got his PhD from Columbia University working with Prof. Ronald Breslow. Following a postdoctoral stay at the University of California at Berkeley with Prof. Paul Bartlett, he returned to India, and after a year at IIT Kanpur moved to IISc Bangalore in 1989. His research interests are in the Chemistry of Bile acids; Hydrogels, Metallohydrogels and Organogels; Dendrimers and Nano/hybrid materials; Enzyme sensing, etc. He is also greatly interested in Chemistry Education and is a regular participant in a variety of outreach programmes for high school and undergraduate students. He has received a number of awards and honours including the S.S. Bhatnagar Award in Chemical Sciences in 2001, and is an elected fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the Indian National Science Academy.





## PROFESSOR OREN SCHERMAN

*Cambridge University, United Kingdom*

Oren Scherman graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, with a BA in Chemistry in 1999. He then moved to Pasadena, California, where he completed a PhD in 2004 in the area of olefin metathesis and controlled polymerisation, under the supervision of Professor Robert H. Grubbs at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). After finishing his PhD, Oren moved to the Netherlands to work on supramolecular polymers with Professors E.W. Meijer and Rint P. Sijbesma at the Eindhoven University of Technology. In 2006, he moved to the University of Cambridge to take up an academic appointment as a University Lecturer and Next Generation Fellow in the Melville Laboratory for Polymer Synthesis in the Department of Chemistry. In 2012, he was promoted to Reader in Supramolecular and Polymer Chemistry and in March 2013, he was appointed as the Director of the Melville Laboratory; Oren was promoted to Professor in 2015. During the 2013-2014 academic year, Oren was on sabbatical at Tsinghua University as the Xuetang Visiting Professor in Chemistry. His research group is interested in dynamic supramolecular self-assembly at interfaces. Oren's current research projects include the application of macrocyclic host-guest chemistry using cucurbit[n]urils in the development of novel supramolecular hydrogels and microcapsules, drug-delivery systems based on dynamic hydrogels, the conservation and restoration of important historical artefacts through the exploitation of supramolecular polymer chemistry and sensing and catalysis using self-assembled nanophotonic systems.



## Y. D VANKAR

*Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur*

Y. D. Vankar received his PhD in 1976 from the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India. After post-doctoral works at King's College, London (Professor D. I. Davies); University of Southern California, Los Angeles (Professor G. A. Olah); and Rice University, Houston (Professor E. Wenkert) he joined IIT Kanpur as Lecturer in 1981 and became full Professor in 1991. In-between he spent a year (1990-91) as an Alexander von Humboldt fellow in the research group of Professor Richard R. Schmidt. His research interests are in the area of synthetic organic chemistry specially "synthetic carbohydrate chemistry" of biological relevance.



## RSC DELEGATES

### DAVID BARR

*Head of Memberships and Professional Practice*

David Barr is the RSC's Head of Membership and Professional Practice where he has senior responsibility for its member services, membership operations and qualifying activity.

He started at the RSC in 1999. Prior to that, he was Head of Chemistry at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge, having worked for 10 years as a lecturer in physical and analytical chemistry. His previous roles at the RSC were focused on managing its qualifying activity through accreditation, admissions and professional registers.

David became Head of Membership in 2013. Since that time his teams have been focussed on the development and implementation of a membership strategy which provides a renewed emphasis on collaborative working across the RSC and wider chemical science networks. This has resulted in membership growth of more than 10% within 3 years coupled with enhanced engagement across the chemistry community.



### DR. APARNA GANGULY

*Editorial Development Executive, India*

Aparna joined the RSC in December 2014 and has a Ph.D in Material Chemistry.

She worked as an Assistant Professor at Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer and as a Scientist at the Nanoscale Research Facility of IIT Delhi prior to this role.

At RSC, her role involves implementing the development strategies & supporting our publishing activities in India along with her colleagues in the UK apart from developing stronger collaborations with the author, editor and user community.







### **DR. DEEKSHA GUPTA**

*Editorial Development Executive, India*

Dr. Deeksha Gupta joined Royal Society of Chemistry in November 2014 as India publishing representative and based in Bangalore. She is involved in the development of journals, books and magazines in India. Deeksha obtained her Ph.D. from IIT Delhi in 2012 in the field of polymer-nanocomposite membranes and worked as post-doctoral fellow at GE Silicones, Bangalore (2012-2013) in personal care and paints and at City University of New York (2013-2014) for the development for greener solutions for oil spill incidences.



### **RAJESH PARISHWAD**

*India Manager*

Rajesh's responsibilities include developing and managing the RSC's strategic objectives and activities in India. He previously worked as a Senior Science and Innovation Advisor at the British Deputy High Commission, a role in which he was responsible for facilitating research collaborations between universities, research establishments and businesses between India and the UK. He started his career as a journalist and worked for leading media organizations in India, covering science, technology and business areas.



### **DR. ABHIRAM PRABHU**

*Memberships Executive, India*

Dr Abhiram Prabhu is responsible for RSC Memberships and Accreditation activities (including career support) in India. Abhiram has a career spanning 8 years across several diverse fields like University Teaching, Small Business Management, and Public Health Practice Management and not for profit management. Abhiram's keen interest for management led him to an MBA from Edith Cowan University in Perth Australia after his BDS, and his love for teaching led to a Cambridge University Certificate in English language teaching for Adults.



Abhiram loves to travel as well as play music, and organizes musical events for Community engagement in his free time.

## HILARY WHITE

### *Manager Memberships and Membership Operations*

Hilary White is the Manager of Membership and Membership Operations at the Royal Society of Chemistry. Hilary is responsible for managing the operations within membership, acting as secretary for the Admissions Committee and Member Grants Committee; and dealing with grant applications. She also works closely with managers in publishing and strategic partnerships on membership strategy, looking specifically at ways to increase the number of members from the Industry and Academia. Hilary is also a part of the roadshow steering group for universities that organises RSC Roadshows nationally and internationally.





