

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE

10th Annual Convocation Distinguished Alumnus Award

Dr. Rakesh Agrawal, 1974 alumnus of the department, and presently Technical Fellow, the highest technical position in Microsoft and Head, Search Laboratories of Microsoft Research, United States, has been honored with the **Distinguished Alumnus Award** during the 10th annual convocation held on the 13th of November, 2010.

Dr. Rakesh Agrawal received his Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering from erstwhile University of Roorkee (now IIT Roorkee) in the year 1974 and M.S. & Ph.D. Degrees in Computer Science from University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA in 1983. He also holds a Masters in Industrial Engineering from NITIE, Bombay.

Prior to joining Microsoft in 2006, he was an IBM Fellow at the IBM Almaden Research. He started his professional career with B.H.E.L, India. After obtaining his Ph.D., he moved to the Bell Laboratories in 1983 before joining IBM in 1990.

Dr. Rakesh Agrawal is one of the leading Computer Science researchers. He is considered to be a founding father of the critically important and thriving field of data mining and is known world-wide for his groundbreaking research in the field of databases and data mining. Many of his papers, especially on association rule mining, are foundational and amongst the most cited papers in the field of Computer Science. He has been elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering (NAE) in recognition of a lifetime's worth of accomplishments. He is also a Fellow of ACM as well as a Fellow of IEEE.

Dr. Rakesh Agrawal has over 65 patents and 170 research papers to his credit. His work has had tremendous impact on a large number of disciplines in both academia and industry. He has received a large number of distinctions and awards which include the ACM-SIGKDD First Innovation Award, ACM-SIGMOD Edger F. Codd Innovations Award, ACM-SIGMOD Test of Time Award, VLDB 10-Years Most Influential Paper Award, ICDE Most Influential Award Paper Award, Computerworld First Horizon Award, IBM Corporate Award, IBM Innovation Award and IBM Outstanding Accomplishment Award, to name a few. Dr. Agrawal has been an Editor of many international research journals and Member of a large number of Professional Committees, Advisory Boards and Societies. In 2003, Scientific American named him in the list of 50 top scientists and technologists.

As a student at Roorkee, besides excelling in academics, he served as Secretary and then President of the Thomasonian Society, Secretary of Students' Council, Editor of Alumni Journal and Bhawan Leader of Ganga Bhawan.

Dr. Agrawal is very passionate of his association with Roorkee which is evident from the fact that he on his own initiative created and ran the University of Roorkee community web site for many years and provided support to a large number of Roorkee alumni and published "The Roorkeeite" for Roorkee alumni in the United States.