

Vish Prasad
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Vish Prasad is the Vice President for Research and Economic Development at the University of North Texas (UNT), the largest university in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and fourth largest university in the State of Texas, with 34,000 students. At UNT, Dr. Prasad is responsible for promoting the University's mission in research, original scholarship and artistic creativity, building a research park (UNT Discovery Park), and fostering partnerships with government agencies and various industries. He has spear-headed a cluster research program that is unique in its bottom-up approach that has generated proposals directly from the faculty. Recently, Dr. Prasad conducted a national search and hired a well-known leader in research park development to head UNT's Discovery Park. Also, Dr. Prasad is in the process of hiring a dynamic team of professionals to act as a Research Development Team and support UNT faculty in the development and writing of research, educational, and training proposals.

Prior to joining UNT in October 2007, Dr. Prasad served as the Executive Dean of Engineering and Computing (2005-07) and Dean of Engineering (2001-05) at Florida International University (FIU), one of the twenty-five largest universities in the US. At FIU, he also held the position of Distinguished Professor of Engineering. Under Dr. Prasad's leadership, the FIU College of Engineering and Computing experienced a phenomenal enrollment growth against the national trend – 40% at the undergraduate level and 280% at the doctoral level, and emerged as one of the top fifty producers of engineers in many disciplines. FIU also became the leader in graduating Hispanic Engineers with bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees among the fifty states, as well as one of the leading producers of African-American and women engineers in the country. Dr. Prasad was recognized as the Educator of the Year (2007) by HENAAC, a national organization that recognizes Hispanic engineering, technologists, and business leaders for their contributions in the US. During his time at FIU, Dr. Prasad also conceived and co-founded the Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI), and served as its first President (2003-04).

At FIU, Dr. Prasad led the creation of many new degree programs, departments, and centers/institutes, including: the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Motorola Nanofabrication Research Facility, IBM-sponsored Latin American Grid System (LA Grid), and Kauffman Foundation-supported Pino Global Entrepreneurship Center. He hired one-third of the engineering and computing faculty – one-half of them into newly created positions. During his tenure, both the research funding and endowment to the college almost doubled.

Before moving to FIU, Dr. Prasad served as the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Leading Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Stony Brook University – State University of New York (1993-2001). At Stony Brook, Dr. Prasad played a leading role in the creation of its MBA program and the Department of Asian and Asian-American Studies. Dr. Prasad started his career as an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Columbia University in 1984 where he was promoted to Associate Professor in 1987.

Dr. Prasad's research interests include thermo-fluid sciences, energy systems, electronic materials, and micro-electronics. He has published over two hundred invited and/or refereed articles, edited/co-edited several books and symposium volumes, and organized numerous conferences, symposia, and workshops. He serves as the lead editor of "Annual Review of Heat Transfer," and as a member of the editorial advisory boards of two other journals. Dr. Prasad is an elected Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). In the past, he has served as a member of the USRA Microgravity Research Council for a major NASA Program, as the Chair of several ASME Heat Transfer Division Committees, and as an associate editor of the ASME Journal of Heat Transfer. Dr. Prasad has served as a PI or Co-PI on grants of over \$15 million funded by NSF, DOD, DOE, and industry; built a DOD Consortium of academia, industry and federal labs to conduct research on semiconductor crystal growth; developed a state-of-the-art crystal growth research facility; and served as a Co-PI of an NSF Materials Center (MRSEC).