University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award (DAA)

to

Dr. Anil K Rajvanshi

Dr. Anil K Rajvanshi, the Director of Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) was conferred the highest award - the Distinguished Alumnus Award by University of Florida (UF) on 3 May 2014 in Gainesville, Florida, USA. UF is one of the top 12 public universities of USA.

Dr. Rajvanshi is the first Indian to be honored by UF. This news was extensively covered in mass media and some of the stories appeared in many news lines; Indian Embassy newsletter, American Bazaar, etc. The UF engineering put out a story on this award at their website. IIT Kanpur – Dr. Rajvanshi’s alma mater put the story on their website.

Dr. Rajvanshi was given this award during the commencement ceremony. His award acceptance speech is here (You Tube).

There is a tradition in UF Engineering that DA awardees are interviewed by the Dean of Engineering regarding their views on leadership. The interview (You Tube) can be watched here. The interviews of past awardees are at this site.

A cover story on this award in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (UF) Spring 2015 Newsletter is available here.

HOME

May 2014; revised October 2020
UFDA photos

AKR giving an after-dinner speech at President Machen’s house
AKR and Nandini with the Gator trophy at President’s house

Engineering Dean Abernathy giving AKR the Gator trophy
Please join
President J. Bernard Machen
and Mrs. Chris Machen
at the University of Florida
Spring 2014 Commencement Dinner honoring

**Distinguished Alumnus Recipients:**
Angelo Anaclerio
Willis Holcombe
George Kirkland
Anil Rajvanshi

and

**Distinguished Achievement Recipients:**
Samuel Hope
Nicholas Kontaridis
William Truettner

**Friday, May 2, 2014**
**7:00-9:00 p.m.**
**University of Florida President’s House**
2151 West University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida

Business Attire
RSVP: (352) 392-1311 or donnas@ufl.edu
Parking is available in the circular drive at the President’s House
ALMA MATER

Florida, our Alma Mater,
Thy glorious name we praise.
All thy loyal sons and daughters,
A joyous song shall raise.
Where palm and pine are blowing,
Where southern seas are flowing,
Shine forth thy noble gothic walls,
Thy lovely vine clad halls.
Neath the orange and blue victorious,
Our love shall never fail.
There's no other name so glorious,
All hail, Florida, hail!

College of Engineering

COMMENCEMENT

Spring 2014
PROGRAM

CAMMY R. ABERNATHY, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Engineering

PRELUDE

BRASS QUINTET

Gainesville Brass Quintet — William Dishman, Trumpet;
Joe Jamerson, Trumpet; Miranda Morris, French Horn;
Charles Propper, Trombone; and Kurt Ziegler, Tuba

PROCESIONAL

Brass Quintet

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Led by Lynnea Rhodes,
UF Student Double-Majoring in Business Administration and Vocal Performance

Brass Quintet

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean, College of Engineering

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA STUDENT AWARDS
Candidates Presented by Rahul Patel,
President, UF Alumni Association

Outstanding Four-Year Scholar Award
Cody Kunka, Mechanical Engineering

Outstanding UF Leadership Award
Megan Harmon, Industrial Engineering;
James K. O'Connell, Environmental Engineering

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING STUDENT AWARDS
Candidates presented by Angela S. Lindner, Ph.D.,
Associate Dean for Engineering Student Affairs

Outstanding Four-Year Scholar Award
Shannon Brown, Agricultural and Biological Engineering

PRESENTATION OF COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AWARDS TO OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF

Mark Law, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Engineering Academic Affairs

ADVISER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Nancy McElrath-Glanville, Engineering School for Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Sushar Yavuz-Kahveci, Ph.D., Computer and Information Science and Engineering

TEACHER/SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR AWARD
Fan Ren, Ph.D., Chemical Engineering

RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

INTRODUCTION OF AWARD RECIPIENT
Kirk Hatfield, Ph.D., Director, Engineering School for Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment

REMARKS FROM DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
George L. Kirkland, Vice Chairman of the Board at Chevron Corporation and Executive Vice President of Upstream

INTRODUCTION OF AWARD RECIPIENT
David Hahn, Ph.D., Chair, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

REMARKS FROM DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
Anil K. Rayavanshi, Ph.D., Director of the Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Jennifer Curtis, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Engineering Research and Facilities

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Subroto Bagchi, Co-Founder and Chairman, Mindtree

RECOGNITION OF ROTC STUDENTS

Capt. Carl Bush, Commanding Officer,
U.S. Navy, Navy ROTC

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REMARKS
Claudia Sotomayor, Materials Science and Engineering
James K. O'Connell, Environmental Engineering

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S DEGREES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean and David Norton, Ph.D.,
UF Vice President for Research

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION OF MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

RECOGNITION OF FIRST GRADUATING UNDERGRADUATE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING CLASS

Bruce Wheeler, Ph.D., Professor, J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean and
Angela S. Lindner, Ph.D., Associate Dean

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE GRADUATES

CLOSING REMARKS

Cammy R. Abernathy, Dean

ALMA MATER

Led by Lynnea Rhodes

Brass Quintet

RECESSIONAL

Brass Quintet

PHOTOGRAPHS — The university requests that all commencement guests remain in their seats while taking photographs. No guests are permitted in the graduates' seating area. Photographs of the graduates as they cross the stage are available through companies that have contracts with the university. Color photographs are available from University Photographs, PO Box 2454, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-2454, 205-391-9500.