

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2024 REGION VIII OFFICERS 2023 ELECTIONS

Eligibility: Nominees must be research administrators from the Region VIII geographic area and current NCURA members. Nominees must have previous experience volunteering for Region VIII. Nominees are encouraged, if successful, to attend the NCURA Annual Meetings in Washington, D.C.

Process:

- Please **complete this form, attach a copy of your resume/CV and include a photograph of yourself**. This will be posted on the voting site
- Submit the completed form via email to Secretary, International Region (ncura.regionviii@gmail.com) by **20 August 2023**
- Two candidates will be selected for each position
- The National Office will send an electronic ballot of up to two candidates for this position to each member of Region VIII to cast their vote from late-**August 2023**
- The Chair of Region VIII will notify all the candidates of the results in October 2023 following the close of the voting period.

Select the position nominating (only one)

- Chair-Elect
 Secretary
 Treasurer-Elect
 Engagement Coordinator

Nominee information:

Name	Dr Pankaj Gupta
Title	Senior Program Manager
Department	Project Office
Organisation	Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS)
Address	TIGS, InStem Building NCBS campus, GKVK Post, Bellary Road, Bengaluru, India – 560065
Email address	pankaj.gupta@tigs.res.in

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Personal Statement (1-page maximum)

I Dr Pankaj Gupta (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/pankaj-gupta-b4b9689/>) privileged to present my candidacy for the position of Secretary of the NCURA Region VIII 2024 Executive Committee. This nomination reflects my unwavering dedication to fostering growth and progress within our Region VIII. I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to make a significant contribution to NCURA's mission and vision. My academic journey, from a Master's degree in Microbiology to a Ph.D. in Biotechnology, has enabled my transitioning from research-to-research administration. Drawing on over a decade of comprehensive research management experiences at esteemed Indian institutions, including pivotal roles at institutions such as Department of Biotechnology (Govt of India) and as Program Manager (Grants) at NCBS in Bengaluru, I have cultivated the skills to adeptly manage complex institutional programs involving diverse stakeholders on national and international levels. Currently, I serve as a Senior Program Manager at the Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (<https://tigs.res.in/>) (TIGS). Established in 2017 in partnership with the University of California, San Diego (TIGS-UCSD). In my role at TIGS, I manage and coordinate internal programs and collaborative activities, ensuring TIGS achieves its mission. I am an active participant in the India Research Management Initiative (IRMI), a project by the DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance aimed at enhancing research ecosystems in India. Over the past decade, I have collaborated closely with renowned international institutions such as the University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, KAVI, University of Nairobi, and have ongoing engagements with the University of California system (UC San Diego, UC Irvine, UC Berkeley), and the University of Maryland, enriching my global perspective. My involvement in international events, including the NCURA Contract Negotiation and Administration (CNA) workshop, NCURA 64th and 65th Annual Meetings, and INORMS conferences, has further broadened my outlook.

My commitment to NCURA is evident through my role as a volunteer for the NCURA Country guidebook for India (<https://www.ncura.edu/GlobalInitiatives/CountryProfileGuidebook.aspx>) and as a volunteer at NCURA AM65. I received NCURA's 2022 Catherine Taylor-Core Minority Travel Award at AM-64 and NCURA 2023 National Conference Travel Award at AM-65. I am eager to bring this dedication and experience to the role of Secretary. Serving as Secretary provides a valuable opportunity to deeply understand the operations of Region VIII (R8). This understanding will empower me to provide informed insights that positively influence the region's trajectory. Beyond geographical borders, this role connects me with professionals globally, fostering collaborations and enriching my personal and professional perspectives. As REGION VIII Secretary, my aim is to leverage my research administration expertise for meaningful contributions to discussions, policies, and initiatives enhancing our research community. If elected, I'll fulfill my responsibilities diligently. With a strong grasp of the role and ample experience, I'm well-prepared to excel as a REGION VIII office bearer. My plans include expanding R8 communities through initiatives in various regions, such as MENA, India, neighbouring countries, and beyond. This role provides a distinctive vantage point to shape Region VIII's direction based on my insights. Serving as Secretary for the 2024 REGION VIII Officers aligns with my skills and aspirations. I'm dedicated to supporting the Region VIII Executive Committee's administrative operations and collaborating closely with the Chair. My confidence stems from a robust research administration background, global exposure, and unwavering dedication to NCURA's mission. I'm eager to contribute these qualities to enrich the Executive Committee and the Region 8 community. Thank you for considering my nomination.

CURRICULUM VITAE

- 1. Name:** Dr. Pankaj Gupta
- 2. Present Designation and Address:** Senior Program Manager, Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS), inStem Building NCBS campus GKVK Post, Bellary Road, Bangalore 560065 Karnataka, India.
Tel: +91 80 6194 8158 (Office)
+91 97115 79476 (Mobile)
Email: pankaj.gupta@tigs.res.in

3. Educational Qualifications:

Exam Passed	Board/ University	Subjects	Year of passing
Ph. D.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, India	Biotechnology	2007
M.Sc.	Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati (MDS) University, Ajmer, India	Microbiology	2000
B. Sc.	University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, India	Zoology Botany, Chemistry	1998

4. Professional Experience:

S.No	Place of Employment	Year of Joining	Duration (in years)	Position
1.	Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS), Bangalore	April 2022	~1+ year	Senior Program Manager
2.	Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS), Bangalore	April 2018	~4 years	Program Manager
3.	Research and Development Office, National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bangalore	April 2014	4 years	Program Manager (Grants)
4.	Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL), New Delhi	April 2013	1 year	Project Officer
5.	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), New Delhi	Jan 2010	3+ years	Post-Doctoral Fellow
6.	National Institute of Immunology (NII), New Delhi	March 2007	2 years	Post-Doctoral Fellow
7.	Bharat Biotech Foundation, Bharat Biotech International Limited, Hyderabad	January 2002	3+ years	Scientific Trainee Officer
8.	Bhaskaraya College of Applied Sciences (University of Delhi), New Delhi	July 2021	~6 months	Field Investigator
9.	Division of Microbiology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, (IARI) New Delhi	July 2020	~6 months	Junior Research Fellow

5. Certifications:

DL-101 General Course on Intellectual Property certified by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 2017.

National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA); Certificate of Completion (CEU-1.4) for attending Contract Negotiation and Administration workshop from December 13-15, 2021, Austin, Texas, USA.

National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA); for participation in NCURA's 65th Annual Meeting from August 6-August 9, 2023, Washington, DC, USA. Certification pending.

National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA); Certificate of Completion (CEU-1.4) for participation in NCURA's 64th Annual Meeting from August 7-10, 2022, Washington, DC, USA.

6. Professional Summary:

- 11+ years plus of experience in scientific research project management and administration.
- Good knowledge of Indian funding landscape and related policies and norms of Government of India (GoI) and experienced working with global research institutions
- Good Understanding of organization, administrative structure, official work processes, and functioning of Indian research-based institutions.
- Good Knowledge of regulatory and biosafety norms and Handling of Regulatory compliance and ethics matters
- Experience of working with Interdisciplinary teams like, Purchase, Accounts and Finance, Internal and External Audits, HR, etc.
- Experience of research management collaboration renowned international institutions such as the University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, KAVI, University of Nairobi, and have ongoing engagements with the University of California system (UC San Diego, UC Irvine, UC Berkeley), and the University of Maryland
- Hand of experience dealing with partnership agreements like MoU, MTAs, NDA, import permits for biological samples from Indian Customs department GoI,
- Extensive experience of working with prominent international research institutions
- Currently member of IRMI, Indian Alliance, India and NCURA, USA.
- Invited member of an IRMI working group developing a curriculum for the Professional Development Program
- 6 years of post-doctoral research experience working with scientific problems, developing strategies, delivering instructions and managing multiple projects simultaneously in the area of bioprocess and pre-clinical development of malaria vaccine candidate and structural biology of seed allergen proteins
- Technical Expertise includes Bioprocess Development of Native and Recombinant Proteins, Chromatography Methods, Fermentation, Biochemical and Biophysical Characterization of Proteins, Molecular Biology Techniques etc
- Member Secretary of TIGS, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), and coordinating the formation of the TIGS Institutional Ethics Committee and Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC).

8. Research Publications: 8

1. Production of recombinant PvDBP-II, receptor binding domain of *Plasmodium vivax* Duffy binding protein, and evaluation of immunogenicity to identify an adjuvant formulation for vaccine development. Bhardwaj R, Shakri AR, Hans D, Gupta P, Chitnis CE. *Protein Expr Purif.* 2017 Aug;136: 52-57.
2. Functional characterization of a Thrombospondin Structural Repeat Containing Rhoptry Protein from *Plasmodium falciparum*. Siddiqui FA, Dhawan S, Singh S, Singh B, Gupta P, Pandey A, Mohammed A, Gaur D, Chitnis CE. *Cell Microbiol.* 2013 Feb 6. doi: 10.1111/cmi.12118
3. Identification of a Potent Combination of Key *Plasmodium falciparum* Merozoite Antigens That Elicit Strain-Transcending Parasite-Neutralizing Antibodies. Pandey AK, Reddy KS, Sahar T, Gupta S, Singh H, Reddy EJ, Asad M, Siddiqui FA, Gupta P, Singh B et al., *Infect Immun.* 2013 Feb; 81 (2): 441-51
4. Improved pregnancy outcomes in women exposed to malaria with high antibody levels against *Plasmodium falciparum*. Mayor A, Kumar U, Bardaji A, Gupta Pankaj, Jiménez A, et al. *J Infect Dis.* 2013 Jun 1; 207(11):1664-74. doi: 10.1093/infdis/jit083
5. Purification, identification and preliminary crystallographic characterization of a 2S albumin seed protein from *Lens culinaris*. Gupta P, Gaur V and Salunke D M. (2008). *Acta Cryst F*, 733-6
6. In vivo bioassay of recombinant Human Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF165) cloned and expressed in *E. coli*. Gupta P, Choudhary ML, Prameela Devi Y, Lakshmi Narasu M. (2007). *Indian Journal of Comparative Animal Physiology.* 25(1), 65-71
7. Identification, cloning, expression, purification and partial characterization of truncated hemoglobin from *Bacillus cereus*. Choudhary ML, Gupta P, Prameela Devi Y, Lakshmi Narasu M. (2007). *Journal of Comparative Animal Physiology.* 25(2): 46-53
8. Open reading frame yjbl of *Bacillus subtilis* codes for truncated hemoglobin. Choudhary ML, Jawaid S, Ahuja MK, Shiva NK, Gupta P, Bhuyan AK, Khatri GS, (2005). *Protein Expr Purif*, 41(2): 363-72

9. Patent: 1

Title: A Vaccine for Staphylococcal Infections (940/CHE/2005 A). Name of Investigators: Narayana Komaravelli, Pankaj Gupta, Manohar Lal Choudhary, Ravi Nagaraj Vellanki, Govardhanachary Maraju, Ghanshyam Khatri. Patented by: Bharat Biotech International Limited, Hyderabad, India. 27/07/2007, P 28715.

10. Awards:

- NCURA 2023 National Conference Travel Award at 65th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA on August 6-9, 2023
- Special Award by Director Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS) for the completion of 5 years at TIGS on July 21, 2023

- India Research Management Initiative (IRMI), DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance, travel grant 2022 to attend INORMS 2023 at Durban from May 30-June 2, 2023, and NCURA's AM-65 at Washington, DC, USA from Aug 6-9, 2023.
- NCURA 2022 Catherine Taylor-Core Minority Travel Award at NCURA's 64th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA on August 8, 2022.
- Travel grant from India Research Management Initiative (IRMI), DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance, to attend INORMS 2021 in Hiroshima, Japan (held online). Additionally, I participated in NCURA's workshop on Contract Negotiation and Administration from December 13-15, 2021.
- Staff awards for the year 2016-2017 by National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bangalore in recognition of extraordinary contribution to the work.