

S K SOMAIYA COLLEGE
Somaia Vidyavihar University

BOARD OF STUDIES IN POLYMER SCIENCE



Padma Shri Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram (Chairman)

Honorary Professor and INSA Senior Scientist of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune

Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram is a polymer chemist by profession and a mentor as well as a science administrator of distinction. He is a former Director of the CSIR – National Chemical Laboratory, Pune (2002-10), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Fellow of CSIR and J. C. Bose Fellow of the Department of Science and technology. Currently, he is an Honorary Professor and INSA Senior Scientist of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. Dr. Sivaram is a highly decorated scientist with numerous awards and honours to his credit. He was conferred Padma Shri by the President of India in 2006. He is a recipient of the Gold Medal of the Chemical Research Society of India for his life-time achievements in chemistry (2019) and the International Award for distinguished contributions to polymer science, awarded by the Society of Polymer Science, Japan (2017). Dr. Sivaram earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Madras Christian College (1965) and is a distinguished alumnus of IIT-Kanpur (M.Sc., 1967). He earned a PhD in Chemistry and DSc (h.c) from Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana, USA. He is an elected Fellow of all the learned academies of science and engineering in India as well as The World Academy of Sciences, Trieste, Italy. He is a technical consultant to several reputed Indian companies and serves on the Board of Directors of many leading Indian companies dealing with chemicals and materials. He was a founder Chairman and director of Venture Centre, A Section 8 company, Pune one of the first science driven technology business incubators established in India in 2004. Dr. Sivaram's research interest concerns polymer synthesis, surface chemistry of polymers, porous polymers for energy related applications, biodegradable polymers, organic-inorganic hybrids, nanocomposites and structure-property relationship in polymers. He has authored over two hundred and forty-five papers in peer-reviewed journals, edited two books and authored one book. He is cited as an inventor in fifty-one issued US and European patents and fifty-two Indian patents. He has supervised the doctoral thesis of about forty students and mentored over fifteen post-doctoral fellows in a research career spanning fifty years.



Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai (Co-Chairman)

Vice Chancellor of Somaiya Vidyavihar University & Provost, Professor of Chemistry in Somaiya Vidyavihar and Somaiya Ayurvihar, Co-chairman BOS in Polymer Science, S K Somaiya College, Somaiya Vidyavihar University

Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai has been at the helm of affairs of many higher educational and scientific research establishments for the last 47 years of service as a teacher, researcher, professor and executive head of the Education, Science and Technology establishments in the country and abroad.



Dr. Virendrakumar Gupta (Co-Chairman)

Head R&D Polymer & Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Limited, Navi Mumbai

Dr V K Gupta is Head R&D Polymer & Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Limited, Navi Mumbai. He has 40 years Professional Experience covering Teaching, Petrochemicals Research, & Technology Development and Management. His significant and high impact technology development include concept to commercialization of Engineering thermoplastic and Catalysts to Produce Polyolefins. Dr Gupta is an inventor / co inventor of 200 patents and successfully commercialized 30 Technologies in Petrochemicals and Polymers in India. He has 80 Research Publications in Peer Reviewed Journals and 90 Invited and Contributed Presentations in International and National Conferences. Dr Gupta obtained Ph.D. from Banaras Hindu University. He also worked at Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodara and Gharda Chemicals Limited after Teaching and Research Assignment at University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA.. Dr Gupta is a recipient of VASVIK Award and 20 Technology and Product Development Awards including Two PC Ray Award for Development of Indigenous Technology by Indian Chemical Council. He is also an executive council member of different academic and industrial societies and boards.



Professor Dr. D. D. Kale

(Academician)

Chancellor, Polymerupdate Academy

Prof. D. D. Kale has obtained his Ph. D. from University of Salford, UK. He has teaching experience over the last 40 years. He is a member of the high power expert committee to the Government of Maharashtra on environmental issues. He was a member of a committee to define ‘Single Use Plastics’ set up by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India. He is also a member of a committee to evaluate the Centre of Excellence set up by DCPC. He has guided 28 Ph. D. and 65 Masters Students. He has published more than 100 papers in peer reviewed journals. He has one patent to his credit. His research interests are in polymer processing, rheology, product design and recycling. He has presented papers in many International conferences such as IUPAC and travelled widely. He has been a Visiting Professor in South Korea.





Mr. Swapan Ray

(Industry - Member)

Mentor, “Sustainability Team” at Reliance

Mr. Swapan Ray is Mentoring the newly formed “Sustainability Team” at Reliance since 2018. He was Superannuated from Reliance Industries Limited in 2016 as Sr. Executive Vice President after working in various capacities in Product Management for PP and PVC, Market and Business Development for Polymers, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs. At present He is mentoring the newly formed “Sustainability Team”. He has also worked with Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited from 1976 – 1993 where he was managing business for PE, PP, PVC, ABS (from ABS Plastics), Engineering Plastics (from GE Plastics), Product Development, Market Development, Logistic Management, New Projects. Supporting Indian Center for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE), a not-for-profit, non-partisan, technical body supported by the industry as its Hon. Secretary. He worked as past Chairman of the Governing Council of Indian Institute of Packaging, an autonomous educational institute in the field of packaging under Ministry of Textile and Commerce, Government of India. He is a Member of editorial advisory board of “Polymer Communique” a trade publication of the plastic industry.

	Dr. Achala Danait <i>(Industry - Member)</i>
	Executive Director, Clariant India Limited, a Swiss specialty Chemical Company
<p>Dr Achala Danait is a strategic and visionary leader with 30 years of varied experience in industry and academia. She joined Clariant, a Swiss specialty chemical company, in 2013, as Head of Regional Innovation Centre in India, pursuing research activities in chemistry and materials. She currently heads the Technology and Innovation function in Asia Pacific covering diverse segments such as home care, personal care, paints and coatings, industrial lubricants and Crop Solutions. Prior to joining Clariant, Achala was Technology Leader in Halliburton Technology Center Pune, from 2007 onwards, responsible for providing technology solutions to major oil companies in Asia Pacific, Middle East, Europe, Africa and Russia. She joined industry in 2002 as R&D Head of the Phthalocyanine pigments in Sudarshan Chemical Industries Ltd., Pune. Dr Achala started her career in academia in 1992, as a Faculty teaching UG and PG courses in polymer chemistry, in institutes affiliated to the University of Pune. During this time, she also led government funded research projects in polymer materials. Dr Achala has a Masters and Ph.D. in Polymer Chemistry from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mumbai. She has filed several US patents and co-authored numerous research publications. She has successfully completed business and organizational leadership development programs from esteemed institutions such as London Business School, U.K. and Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, USA. She is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt. She serves on the Industry Advisory Board of the Polymer Science Program of Somaiya Vidyavihar University in Mumbai, India. She has also been a member of the Board of Studies for Petroleum and Petrochemical Engg., University of Pune, during the period 2011-13. Dr Achala is presently the Chairperson of the R&D Subcommittee of Indian Chemical Council and a mentor at Aspire For Her, a social start up committed to changing the diversity equation in India.</p>	

	Dr. K Rajkumar <i>(Research Institute-Member)</i>
	Director, IRMRA, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry
<p>Dr. Rajkumar is Chairman of BIS- PCD 29. He is a member of various committees in BIS – PCD 13, BIS-TED 7, BIS – ME17, BIS – PCD 28 etc. He is also a Member of ISO TC 45 (international Standardization committee for Rubber and Rubber Products), Governing Council Member of Rubber Skill Development council, Member of AIRIA, Member of IRI. He has also acted as a Vice President of Quality Forum and a Member of ASM International (India Chapter). He was awarded with UPL Smt. Sandra R Shroff CHEMCON Distinguished Speaker Award 2019 from Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers and many other awards too.</p>	



Dr. Prakash Wadgaonkar *(Research Institute-Member)*

Emeritus Scientist, Polymer Science and Engineering Division CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune


Dr. Prakash P. Wadgaonkar, Emeritus Scientist at CSIR- National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune, brings 41 years of Research and Teaching experience in Polymer Science. Dr Wadgaonkar is a recipient of awards such as 'Scientist-of-the-Year' Award (2013-14), Prof. M. Santappa Silver Jubilee Award in Polymer Science for the Year 2006, Prof. Sukumar Maiti Polymer Award Foundation, CSIR Technology Award 2003, etc. He was invited as a Visiting Scientist, ESPCI, Paris, GE Corporate Research and Development, Niskayuna, NY, USA, Visiting Professor, Institute of Charles Gerhard, Montpellier, and University of Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France. Dr. Wadgaonkar has served as a Member of Board of Studies of several Universities in Maharashtra. Dr. Wadgaonkar was a consultant to industries which include: John F. Welch Technology Centre (GE, USA), Bangalore (2005), ABR Organics Limited, Hyderabad (2007), to name a few. Dr Wadgaonkar has to his credit 215 publications, 23 international and 2 Indian patents. 24 students completed Ph.D. degree under his supervision. He is a member of the Exciting Science Group of Science Outreach Program. Dr. Wadgaonkar has keen interest in providing quality education and promotes rural youth to take up a career in science, research and technology innovation, thus contributing to building the Science and Technology ecosystem in India.




Dr. Padma S. Vankar *(Research Institute-Member)*

Visiting Faculty -Polymer Science, S. K. Somaiya College, Somaiya Vidyavihar

Dr. Padma Vankar has Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry (IIT Kanpur), She has done one year's post doctoral fellowship at University of Konstanz, Germany (1990-1991). After Ph.D. she worked in Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur from 1987 -1989 and then 1992-2017 at various research scientist positions, finally she retired as Principal Research Scientist. She had handled 30 projects during my tenure at IIT Kanpur. She has guided 13 students for Ph.D. and also written 8 books and has published more than 175 research papers in reputed international journals. She worked in three main research areas—Structure elucidation of Natural products and their application on Textiles, Environmental pollution and its mitigation and Development of test methods. She has been awarded the DST- Lockheed Martin India Innovation growth Gold medal for my innovation. She has recently been awarded Atal New India challenge award, a grant of 98 lakhs to start as a startup company.

	Mr. Amish Shah <i>(Alumni , Industry Member)</i>
	CEO, Avviso Global
<p>Amish is a Chemical Engineer and has more than 20 years of regional and global experience in sales, business development, strategy, and business planning in leading companies. He is currently Founder and CEO of Avviso Global. Avviso Global is a marketing and indenting company for international trade in Polymers and Chemicals. Avviso Global represents many global suppliers of Polymers, chemicals, additives, recycles polymers for the India/global market. Before starting own venture, Amish Shah was Senior Vice President at Reliance Industries Limited. He has managed RIL Polyethylene business with P&L responsibility of USD \$ 1.5 Billion and was sales head for one of the largest Reliance polymer sales offices. Prior to RIL he held senior positions in Nalco Chemicals (Ecolab), ExxonMobil Chemicals and Pentair. He possesses a good understanding of integration of oil to chemicals, Petrochemicals, Polymers, speciality chemicals for oil and gas. Amish is an advisor on board of multiple companies and active in Industry associations.</p>	

	Dr. Nishamol Kanat <i>(Faculty Member)</i>
	Associate Professor -Chemistry, K. J. Somaiya College of Science & Commerce
<p>Dr. Nishamol Kanat did Ph.D. from Cochin University of Science and Technology in 2002. She completed her M.Phil. degree in the year 1999. She has authored papers in renowned journals She has completed many minor research projects funded by Mumbai University and UGC. Dr. Nishamol is delivering lectures to undergraduate and postgraduate students on topics such as Electrochemistry, Thermodynamics, Group Theory, Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy, NMR, Fluorescence spectroscopy. She also guided undergraduate and postgraduate students in their curriculum based projects.</p>	



Dr. Vandana Jamdar

(Faculty Member)

Programme coordinator & Assistant Professor-Polymer Science, S K Somaiya College- Somaiya Vidyavihar University

Dr. Vandana Jamdar is Ph.D.(Tech) from department of Polymer and Surface Engineering , Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai . She is currently serving as Assistant professor and programme coordinator of Polymer science programme at S K Somaiya college , Somaiya Vidyavihar University ,Mumbai. She is also a Research Guide in Polymer Science at Somaiya Vidyavihar University. Her areas of research are Polymeric waste recycling , Synthesis and characterization of various polymers and resins from bioresources,eco friendly coating ,Polymeric nanomaterials ,Sustainable polymers. Dr. Vandana also serves as Assistant Secretary , Society of Polymer Science India -Mumbai chapter. Prior to joining academics , she has 12 years of Industrial experience in Research & Development , Market development and technical support at Clariant India Limited (A Swiss speciality chemical company) and Indofil Industries Limited (An Indian speciality chemical company).



Dr. Vaijayanti Ghase

(Faculty Member)

Assistant Professor, Department of Polymer Science, K. J. Somaiya College of Science and Commerce Vidyavihar, Mumbai

Dr. Vaijayanti Ghase is Ph.D. (Polymer chemistry) from Department of Chemistry, University of Mumbai, Mumbai. She is currently working as Assistant professor at K. J. Somaiya College of Science and Commerce Vidyavihar Mumbai. She published 06 research papers in reputed national and international journals. Her research interests are light emitting polymer, conducting polymer, polymer nanocomposites, peptide synthesis, protection and deprotection of amino and hydroxyl groups for further reaction.



CA Monica Lodha

(Invitee)

Director, S K Somaiya College, Somaiya Vidyavihar University

CA Monica Lodha is a Chartered Accountant by profession. In a service of a decade at Somaiya Vidyavihar she has published and presented 14 Research Papers in State, National, and International Conference & Seminars. With her specialization in Accountancy & Taxation, Monica has also authored a book on Indirect Taxes. Monica Lodha is an Associate member at Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). She is active at various social forums.