

## Fall 2025 Seminar Series

### Mahesh V. Panchagnula

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Indian Institute of Technology Madras

### Why the Future of Research Runs Through India

Thursday, October 16, 2025 | 3:00pm | University Church- Room 114

#### **ABSTRACT**

India's research and development ecosystem is expanding at an extraordinary (double digit percent) pace, with rapid growth in publications, patents, and both government and private research investments. The country is nurturing one of the world's largest pools of scientific talent, equipping it to play a transformative role in global innovation. Beyond these trends, India is poised to shape the future in **artificial intelligence, clean energy, healthcare, and advanced engineering**. This talk explores why the trajectory of global science and technology must run through India and why US and India are natural allies and partners in this journey. Come with your India questions and be ready for a lively discussion.

#### **BIO**

Mahesh V. Panchagnula is Institute Chair Professor in Applied Mechanics and Biomedical Engineering at IIT Madras. An alumnus of IIT Madras and Purdue University, he was recently selected as a **Purdue Outstanding Mechanical Engineering Alumnus for 2025**, for his exceptional contributions to research, entrepreneurship, and academic leadership. As Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations) from 2020–2024, he led India's largest higher-education fundraising campaign, raising over **\$175 million**, and helped transform IIT Madras' Incubation Cell into the country's premier deep-tech hub with cumulative over \$8 billion valuation of startups. His research in pulmonary fluid mechanics, aerosols, and crowd dynamics has produced impactful innovations, including a predictive model for stampede risks and a breath-based human identification algorithm. He co-founded Nirmaan and the Kotak-IITM Save Energy Mission, and created the Prof. Mahesh Podcast to inspire and mentor students. Mahesh has authored 150+ peer-reviewed articles and is a regular contributor of opinion and editorial columns in leading magazines on education, research, and innovation.

Some web links

[Head, Center of Excellence on Sports Science and Analytics](#)  
[Professor, Dept. of Applied Mechanics and Biomedical Engg., IIT Madras](#)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@ProfMaheshPodcast>  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mahesh-panchagnula-6a89118/>

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