



**Bellur S. Prabhakar, MSc, PhD**

Dr. Bellur S. Prabhakar is a Professor in the Departments of Microbiology and Immunology, and Ophthalmology, Senior Associate Dean for Research and Associate Dean for Technological Innovation and Training at the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine. After completing his Bachelor of Science in biology and Master of Science in medical microbiology degrees in India, he migrated to the United States in 1974 to pursue higher education. Dr. Prabhakar received his PhD degree from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and completed his Post-Doctoral training at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Subsequently, he joined the National Institutes of Health in 1980 as a Staff Fellow, and was promoted quickly to a Senior Staff Fellow position and then to a Tenured Senior Investigator position. He is a recipient of the NIH Director's award for his seminal contributions to immunology. In 1990, he moved to the University of Texas Medical branch in Galveston as a tenured Professor. In 1997, he was recruited to UIC as Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, a position he held through the end of 2017 academic year.

As head of the department, he was formally responsible for faculty development and promotion in the department. During his tenure as head of the department, the departmental research funding increased from approximately 1.27 million dollars in 1997 to 6.746 million dollars in year 2008, over a fivefold increase. He successfully negotiated retirement agreements with 8 tenured senior faculty members and recruited 11 new faculty members all of whom have remained extramurally funded and been promoted to tenured full professor. He extended his departmental reach through joint recruitments with the departments of surgery, medicine, ophthalmology and neurology, and the Immunology Center.

He has successfully mentored many graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and KO8 award recipients in the past and has an impeccable record of successfully training scientists. He has formally mentored 16 junior faculty members, 8 physician-scientists, 25 post-doctoral fellows and 18 PhD students. In addition, he has mentored a large number of visiting scientists. Most of the individuals he has trained over the years hold faculty positions in universities both here and abroad, work in government laboratories, or in biopharmaceutical industry.

As the Deputy Director, he worked with others in preparing and submitting a successful grant application that was funded by the NIH to establish and support the Center for Clinical and Translational Services (CCTS) at UIC, which is still active with a second renewal. As Associate Dean for Technological Innovation and Training, he developed an Innovation-Medicine (I-MED) track within the college of medicine that will allow medical students to pursue aspects of engineering, computational sciences, design, etc along with their medical school curriculum. More recently, he helped Dr. Jay Noren develop and lead another special track program namely Clinician Executive Medicine Program (CEMED) for the medical students. Additionally, in collaboration with the Office of Technology Management, he created a program to assist faculty members within the UICOM to submit invention disclosures and patent applications, with licensing agreements and in establishing faculty startup companies. He has been very actively involved in reviewing, selecting and funding early innovations through the UIC Chancellor's Innovation Fund Program managed by the Illinois Ventures. He has successfully participated in various fund raising efforts of the college of medicine.

As Senior Associate Dean for Research, he chaired the UICOM Research Strategic Planning committee. Through strategic planning, he has helped establish thematic programs that will not only bring current investigators with common and overlapping scientific interests together, but will guide future faculty recruitments in various departments. Since addressing most of the scientific and medical/clinical problems require a team effort with members of the team having complementary expertise, organizing the research programs thematically is essential. Under his leadership, beginning last year the UICOM graduate program, Graduate Education in Medical Sciences (GEMS) which was based in individual departments, was centralized and reorganized along thematic programs. Students decide on a particular theme and go through three laboratory rotations of 12 weeks each without regard to the department before they chose a mentor to conduct thesis research. He is currently chairing the UICOM Research committee (an elected body), UICOM Space Committee and the Research Strategic Plan Implementation Committee to complete the process.

At the national level, he has served on the Executive Committee of the American Association of Microbiology and Immunology Chairs. In the past, he has served as a member of the National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs that represents all the Basic Sciences Departments in the Colleges of Medicine in the United States. In the past, he served a two year term as the president of the Chicago Immunology Association. He has served and continues to serve on National Institutes of Health, Veterans Administration, American Heart Association, Wellcome Trust and other review committees, and on editorial boards of scientific journals.

**Complete list of Dr. Prabhakar's publications can be found at the following website:**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Prabhakar+BS>