

Dr. Mauli Agrawal, inventor, educator, entrepreneur

Recipient of BioMed SA's 2010 Julio Palmaz Award for Innovation in Healthcare and the Biosciences



Selection Committee rationale:

Our committee was struck by Dr. Agrawal's overall track record of innovation and entrepreneurship in terms of patents, publications, product development, and company startups. He has earned a reputation at the state, national, and international levels through his leadership of worldwide professional societies and his service on the Texas Emerging Technology Fund oversight committee. His leadership of the state's fastest growing engineering school at UTSA and establishment of a joint graduate program in biomedical engineering with the UT Health Science Center are key to producing the next generation of engineers, inventors, and entrepreneurs. – *Palmaz Committee Co-Chairs Ken Trevett and Elaine Mendoza*

Educational Leadership:

As Dean of the College of Engineering at UTSA, Dr. Agrawal leads what has become the state's fastest growing engineering school, where he serves as the Peter Flawn Professor of Biomedical Engineering. Prior to becoming dean in 2005, Dr. Agrawal established the joint graduate program in biomedical engineering at UTSA and the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, the first joint degree program between the two San Antonio institutions.

Professional Research Focus:

Dr. Agrawal specializes in orthopaedic and cardiovascular biomaterials, with primary interests in tissue engineering and drug delivery. During his professional career, Dr. Agrawal has authored more than 290 scientific publications, which have been cited more than 2,800 times by other researchers. In 2009, his research was cited, on average, more than once a day by other scientists worldwide. In addition, he has edited or co-edited four scientific books, served on the editorial boards of several leading scientific journals, and delivered more than 75 invited scientific lectures on four continents.

Entrepreneurship:

Dr. Agrawal's work has resulted in more than a dozen issued patents, with numerous others pending, spanning the development of orthopedic implants, regenerative medicine devices, diabetic foot products, and drug delivery stents. A serial entrepreneur, he helped form three biomedical startup companies in San Antonio and served as the CEO of Xilas Medical (now Diabetica Solutions), one of the first companies to receive funding from the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. Many of the products based on his medical innovations have contributed to a better quality of life for people around the world. Most recently, he was part of the team that founded GenOsteo, Inc., a UTSA spinoff company focused on regenerating long sections of bone to benefit wounded warriors and others.

Honors, Awards, and Board Service:

Dr. Agrawal is a Fellow of the International Union of Societies for Biomaterials and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He was elected 2006 President of the Society for Biomaterials, the world's most prominent society for implant materials with members from more than 25 countries. He has also served on the board of the U.S. Biomedical Engineering Society and is active in numerous other professional organizations. In 2007, he received the Chancellor's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Award from the University of Texas System and was named a Healthcare Hero by the *San Antonio Business Journal*. Locally, he serves on the boards of the San Antonio Clean Tech Forum, Keystone School, and United Way's Masters Leadership Program, and as a trustee of Southwest Research Institute.