



A POSITIVE CHARGE FOR Electrical Engineering

Alumnus Has Donated \$1.5 million for EE Fellowships

Deepening his commitment to the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, Mukund Padmanabhan MS '89, PhD '92 has brought his support for students in the Electrical Engineering Department to \$1.5 million.

In December, Padmanabhan made his third gift of \$500,000 to support the Guru Krupa Foundation Fellowship in Electrical Engineering. Padmanabhan started the foundation, which seeks to assist impoverished families and provide opportunities in higher education to those who could not otherwise afford it, among other goals.

Padmanabhan's own experience inspired the fellowships. He received a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur before applying for graduate studies at UCLA.

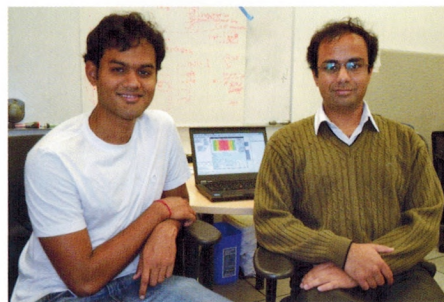
"My education at UCLA has served me very well. But it almost didn't happen," said Padmanabhan, a former researcher at IBM who now works for hedge fund management firm Renaissance Technologies. "It was only because of a last-minute award of a fellowship that I was able to attend UCLA."

The first two Guru Krupa Foundation gifts were directed toward students working in the areas of Padmanabhan's studies – integrated circuits and signals and systems.

Students in any electrical engineering discipline are eligible for the new fellowship.

"I set up the first two fellowships because I wanted to increase the odds of someone in my situation in India having the same opportunity I had," Padmanabhan said. "Since then, I've had an opportunity to see the working of the process and meet with some of the fellowship recipients, and I feel that the fellowships are having the intended impact." ■

Mukund Padmanabhan



Electrical engineering graduate students Anirudh Raju and Mihir Laghate, recipients of the Guru Krupa Foundation Fellowship.

