Diversity Statement
Pramod Ganapathi

Here, I share my experiences and philosophy in equity and diversity. My philosophy is that every person irrespective of class, religion, caste, race, color, creed, power, sex, age, language, and place must be given an equal opportunity.

I have always recognized the difficulties faced by minorities and traditionally underrepresented groups. As a Teaching Assistant at Stony Brook University, I helped a female at-risk undergrad student who had extreme difficulty in understanding concepts and writing exams. So, following the Course Instructor’s guidelines, I sat with her multiple times and invigilated and graded her exams separately and liberally.

As a Research Assistant at Stony Brook University, I mentored two female master’s students on research projects. I spent more time with them and provided more mentoring. These students are now co-authors in a conference paper that is in preparation.

At Stony Brook, I was part of Host Family program, where, international students are associated with American families for friendship. There, I had an opportunity to meet students from different parts of the world such as China, Russia, Japan, Brazil, Norway, and Bangladesh. This program helped me immensely to understand the cultural and philosophical differences between students from different regions.

In the future, I would like to work with students from minorities and traditionally underrepresented groups to help improve diversity at the university. I will provide more mentoring and guidance to students who face difficulty in understanding and learning. I will pursue grants and funds to involve female and other minority students in the research projects in my research area to prepare them for good careers in a diverse society. I will involve students in collaborative projects, presentations, and activities to make them understand the importance of equity.