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Researcher's work with European Union gains international notice

By Andrew Call November 22, 2013



Pramod Anantharam is a Ph.D. student at Wright State's Ohio Center of Excellence in Knowledge-Enabled Computing (Kno.e.sis). He is currently a visiting doctoral student at the University of Surrey, where Anantharam will soon complete his work on CityPulse, a European Union project in which Wright State is a partner.

Pramod Anantharam recognizes the uniqueness of his opportunities. His professors recognize the uniqueness of his potential.

"Pramod's work can have broad implications for applying new technologies —from asthma mitigation to assessing the progression of Parkinson's disease, from predicting traffic delays to conserving energy," said Wright State professor T.K. Prasad, Ph.D.

Anantharam is a Ph.D. student at Wright State's Ohio Center of Excellence in Knowledge-Enabled Computing (Kno.e.sis). He is currently a visiting doctoral student at the University of Surrey, where Anantharam will soon complete his work on CityPulse, a European Union project in which Wright State is a partner. He has also been invited by the University of Debrecen in Hungary to present his research at a faculty seminar.

"In my experience, such opportunities are usually given to already wellestablished senior researchers." Anantharam said. "I feel honored."

Describing his work in the most basic of terms is difficult, but Anantharam's specialty is to develop the means to glean helpful nuggets from copious amounts of data.

His work on the CityPulse project can be applied directly to health care by collecting health-related events from informal textual streams (such as tweets). Anantharam is also researching the use of low-cost sensors and mobile devices to help understand how to more effectively manage asthma.

The same research, however, can also be used to help manage Parkinson's disease, vehicular traffic, and disaster response.



Anantharam will return to Dayton in January, submit his work as a journal publication, and resume his studies and research.

The idea of infusing intelligence into objects around us fascinates me," Anantharam wrote on his university web page. "Given that these objects may have sensors and are connected to the web has profound implications on their ability to integrate and process observations."

A native of Bangalore, India, Anantharam earned bachelor's and master's degrees there and worked as a software engineer at Hewlett-Packard before coming to Wright State.

"I knew there was a strong group working on Semantic Web with a diverse set of research projects," Anantharam said, "and I chose Wright

State hoping to work with that research group."

During a conference at the University of Madrid, Anantharam presented a tutorial on the Internet of Things. Faculty members from the Hungarian university attended that tutorial and, later, invited Anantharam to speak at their faculty seminar.

"It is very uncommon for a budding researcher to be invited to deliver a talk on a cutting-edge area such as data analytics for the Internet of Things," Prasad said. "This unique opportunity speaks highly of the contemporary significance of Pramod's work. It also underscores his ability to communicate and collaborate with his peers."

Anantharam will return to Dayton in January, submit his work as a journal publication, and resume his studies and research.

"He is a good communicator and pleasant to work with, which is a hallmark of a successful team player," Prasad said.

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