**Dr. Aswini Pradhan**

Dr. Aswini Pradhan is a leading scientist in the field of next generation novel nanomaterials for energy, innovative electronics, and optics as well as biomedical applications. Dr. Pradhan has graduated the first Ph.D. student from Materials Science and Engineering program at Norfolk State University. Dr. Pradhan has established state-of-the-art laboratory at NSU and developed International research collaborations with Mexico, South Africa, Taiwan, India, Poland and Japan.

Dr. Pradhan is the recipient of the following NSF awards at NSU: a $ 5M, NSF CREST Center for Nano- & Bio-Inspired Materials and Devices (CNBMD); NSF-RISE project on Renewable energy-$1M; and a $530,000 MRI-NSF grant for the acquisition of an electron-beam lithography system for advanced engineering applications and education. Dr. Pradhan has also been awarded one research center grant Center of Excellence in Advanced Nanomaterials and Devices (CEAND)in the amount of $4.7 M from the Department of Defense (DoD). He is the Director of both the CREST and DoD Center. He has been a Co-investigator in other awards, such as NSF-IGERT ($3.2 M) and DoD basic research projects. These grants will boost the research capacity and infrastructure at NSU and will help the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) at NSU to accomplish its mission to become a “*Science and Technology Powerhouse*” in the region and to provide an opportunity for students with diverse backgrounds to pursue research and education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for high-tech careers.

Dr. Pradhan received NSU's Distinguished Faculty Award in Scholarship for 2010. He has also received prestigious Chandrasekhar award for Excellence in Science from government of India. Dr. Pradhan has been nominated as Associate Editor for World Journal of Condensed matter Physics. Dr. Pradhan has published more than 220 peer-reviewed papers in reputed world-class journals, more than 120 presentations in International Conferences, and several book chapters. Dr. Pradhan is supervising twelve graduate and several undergraduate students.