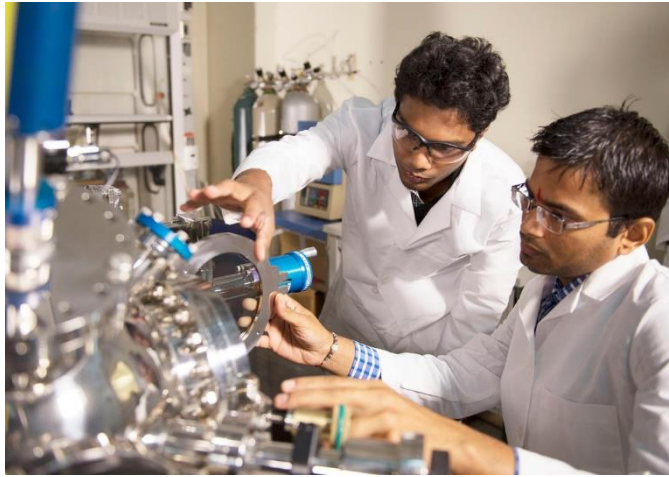




Alumnus recounts time at PSU ‘the most heart-filling moments of my life’



For many students, their experience at university can be counted as some of the best times of their lives. This is certainly true for Sanket Bhoyate, of India, and his time at Pittsburg State University. Bhoyate, who now works as an Application Scientist for Onto Innovation, said that his research and the people he met at PSU helped shape his life in a positive way.

“All my success belongs to my professor, and my lifetime mentor Dr. Ram Gupta's feet,” he said. “He is my research father, and every moment I am thankful to him for supporting

me to get where I am today. If it was not up to him, I cannot imagine my existence as a researcher.”

During his time studying Polymer Chemistry at Pitt State, Bhoyate was involved in numerous research projects at the Kansas Polymer Research Center (KPRC). He was involved in research such as the synthesis of novel reactive flame retardants for bio-based polyurethane foams, researching supercapacitors, and electrocatalysts for water oxidation. He was able to publish research articles for each project he was involved in and did more than 45 oral and poster presentations in his two years at Pitt State, including state and national level presentations.

According to Bhoyate, the work environment at the KPRC was “mind blowing.”

“KPRC has one of the most well-resourced infrastructures and a diligent team of researchers who are not only good with work but also good human beings,” he said.

Bhoyate’s time at Pitt State, however, was made up of much more than just research. At Pitt State, he was able to forge lifelong friendships and make memories that are still with him today.

“My PSU experience started with these fantastic people I met since my first day who enlightened my life and will always be in my heart,” Bhoyate said. “I was so scared and worried to be in an unknown country at unknown place but, when I reached Pittsburg, there were... smiling faces waiting for me.”

Bhoyate made friends from all over the world, including four friends, Manuel, Zion, Daniel, and Reid, who are “friends for lifetime” after meeting at PSU.

“The smile each and every one carried for the get-togethers and church visits near PSU were very good for making new friends,” he said. “I made friends from many different countries that I never thought about, the cookouts we had, parties we shared...every moment was precious to me, and we all PSU students are still in close contact with each other.”

Programs such as Pitt Pals and Friendship Families also created a lasting impact on his time in Pittsburg.



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“Cheers to "Patty Armstrong", she is my American Mom and Jonathan, my best friend and my brother always welcomes me with open heart,” he said.

Bhoyate continued on to the University of North Texas for his PhD in Materials Science and Engineering, but his time at Pitt State holds a special place in his heart.

“I cannot stop expressing myself, but I feel proud to be called Gorilla, and ‘Once a Gorilla, Always a Gorilla,” he said. “I wish I can have all of that again in my life, they were the most heart-filling moments of my life.”