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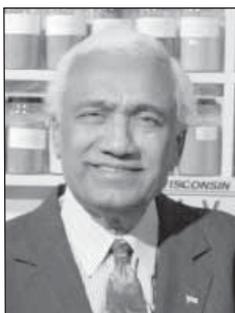
GLOBAL STUDIES INITIATIVES ACROSS CAMPUS AND ABROAD

Global Impact

Profile of Tarun Naik, Research Professor and Director, UWM Center for By-Products Utilization

By Thomas E.R. Maguire

Environmental conservation is counted among the critical global challenges for scientists and policymakers. The partnerships required in this endeavor are a priority that demands the coordinated efforts of industry, government, and the university. Within UWM's core missions of research and access, university-industry partnerships stand as a major initiative. One successful case in this regard is the work of **DR. TARUN NAIK**, Research Professor of Civil Engineering and Mechanics in the College of Engineering and Applied Science. Dr. Naik's internationally-recognized work sets a high standard for effective collaboration between the university and other sectors of society. It also represents an example of the hard work necessary to confront environmental degradation.

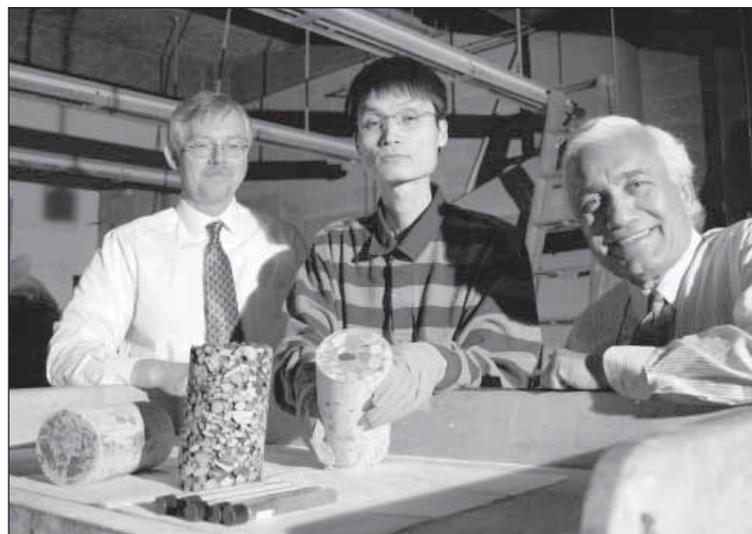


Dr. Naik is internationally recognized for his application of conservation principles and science to the construction industry. As the founding Director of the UWM Center for By-Products Utilization, Dr. Naik has witnessed the impact of his research in Wisconsin and throughout the world. According to the former dean **WILLIAM GREGORY** of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the UWM Center for By-Products Utilization is "committed to the use of technology to find environmentally and economically effective uses of by-products, not only from industrial processes but also from those generated by the public (i.e., post-consumer wastes)." The Center represents a model of how socially conscious scientific research can achieve maximum impact through private and public partnerships.

The Center's projects are numerous, and include the use of coal and wood fly ash (a waste product of coal/wood burning) as a component of high-strength concrete; tiny rubber fragments of pulverized tires to make asphalt more durable; and a variety of recyclable useful products, with chemical additions, that form "manufactured dirt," an application useful for many different

construction projects. In an effort to implement these projects locally, the Center partners with many foundries and pulp and paper mills throughout the state, as well as larger entities such as We Energies, the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The Center also supports various research programs, including the current Marquette Interchange reconstruction project.

Beyond its local impact, the UWM Center for By-Products Utilization is considered an international resource, attracting the attention of researchers worldwide. Dr. Naik, a committed environmentalist, is not content to limit his scope to a single academic field. Under his leadership, a committee of UWM faculty and staff has held a series of meetings since spring 2006 to discuss the formation of an interdisciplinary institute on global warming and climate change at the university. Recognizing the ominous indicators of global warming, Dr. Naik hopes to develop a holistic solution that taps the full diversity and expertise of



Dr. Naik (right) and colleagues showcase their work.



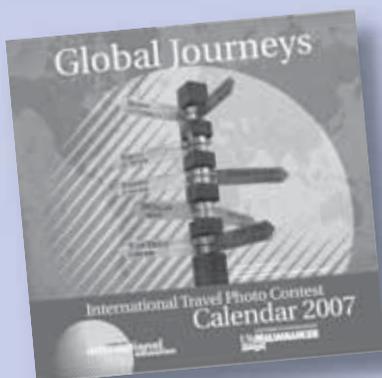
faculty and staff at UWM. Environmental preservation requires policy change, technological innovation, public education, and even cultural transformation.

The white paper outlining this proposed new institute declares that, “From the 12 schools and colleges of UWM, the following research clusters in global warming/climate change have been identified: Accounting and Finance, Architecture and Urban Planning, Atmospheric Sciences, Economics, Education, Energy, Engineering, Environmental Science, Geography, Health, Construction Materials, Nursing, Public Policy, and Technological Processes. Faculty from these and other academic areas will collaborate on basic and applied research, educational outreach, and implementation of research under the university-wide umbrella of a new institute for research on global warming/climate change.”

Objectives of the institute would include facilitating coordinated, interdisciplinary research, holding academic conferences on global warming and climate change, promoting K-12 education campaigns to increase public awareness and inspire the next generation of scientists and policymakers, and partnering with government and industry to develop meaningful responses.

The Center for International Education (CIE) is pleased to support this initiative. CIE is strongly committed to interdisciplinary research and teaching that provide a deeper understanding of the contemporary world. In partnership with Dr. Naik and the faculty and staff who are developing the institute’s agenda, CIE hopes to further its Global Studies mission by supporting campus and community dialogue on global environmental change.

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