

Vinayak P. Dravid is the Northwestern University President Abraham Harris Chaired Professor of Materials Science & Engineering in the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. Professor Dravid is the founding director of the [NUANCE Center](#), an award-winning microscopy and surface science research infrastructure resource used annually by hundreds of researchers from across myriad scientific fields. He also conceived and founded [Global McCormick Initiative](#), which provides strategic and operational support in sustainable global research and educational initiatives. He now serves as its co-director and a special advisor to the Dean for Global Programs. Professor Dravid received his Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech.) in Metallurgical Engineering in 1984 from [IIT Bombay](#), India. Immediately following receipt of his PhD in Materials Science and Engineering from Lehigh University, Dravid joined the Northwestern faculty in 1990.

Professor Dravid's scholarly interests are at the intersection of materials science with physics, chemistry, biology and engineering with implications for electronics, energy, environmental science and biomedicine. He has a diverse research portfolio encompassing advanced microscopy, nanotechnology, technology strategy, energy policy and emerging educational paradigms. He has authored over four hundred archival journal publications and book chapters, and he holds dozens of issued/pending patents. Many of his patents are licensed to start-up companies in nanotechnology, sensor/diagnostic systems. He is a co-founder of and closely affiliated with several high-tech stage start-ups related to his IP portfolio in nano-metrology, nanopatterning and bio-chem sensing.

Professor Dravid serves as a member or an executive officer at several world-renowned NU research centers, including: International Institute for Nanotechnology ([IIN](#)), Materials Research Science and Engineering Center ([MRSEC](#)), Center for Catalysis and Surface Science ([CCSS](#)), Institute for Catalysis and Surface Science ([IECP](#)), Chemistry of Life Processes Institute ([CLP](#)) and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center ([RHLCCC](#)). As the director of Global McCormick, Professor Dravid has helped launch many global research and educational initiatives across Asia (e.g., India, Singapore), Europe (e.g., UK, Germany), Africa (e.g., Egypt, South Africa) and South America, among others. Professor Dravid has served as consultant and advisor to metrology, bio-chem companies, IP firms, the Art Institute of Chicago and Museum of Science and Industry Chicago, among others. He advises NGOs, professional societies outreach programs, international organizations and the private sector about science, technology and policy. Professor Dravid is an avid follower of Chess and enjoys following GM tournaments online whenever possible. One of his passions is to enhance the societal and global appreciation for science and technology, through the beauty, complexity and elegance of microscopy & materials analysis.