



**UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES**  
*In association with*  
**THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL**



• ERUDITE LECTURE •

You are cordially invited to join us for the  
Erudite Lecture by the eminent scientist



**Dr. Ajay Goel, M.S., Ph.D.**

Professor and Chair, Department of Molecular Diagnostics,  
Therapeutics and Translational Oncology, Beckman Research Institute,  
City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center in Duarte, CA, USA.

*Topic*

**'Non-coding RNA biomarkers in  
gastrointestinal cancers: Where do we stand?'**

on **18<sup>th</sup> February, 2020** (Tuesday), at **10:30 a.m.**  
in the Aryabhata Seminar hall, University of Calicut

**About the Erudite Program:** A program of Kerala State Higher Education Council, to invite renowned academicians and Nobel Laureates to deliver lectures and interact with students and teachers of Universities and research institutions to be a means to unite future entrepreneurship educators and scholars with established leaders and researchers in the field.

**Dr. Ajay Goel** is a professor and chair of the Department of Translational Genomics and Oncology at the Beckman Research Institute, as well as director of biotech innovations at the City of Hope, Medical Center in Duarte, CA, USA. The institute focuses on Cancer Biology, Cancer Immunotherapeutic & Tumor Immunology, Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases Research, Immunology, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Molecular Medicine, Molecular Pharmacology, Neurosciences and Virology. He has been recognized as an American Gastrointestinal Association Fellow (AGAF) for his research on colorectal cancer. Dr. Ajay Goel has spent more than 20 years of research on cancer. He has been the lead author and contributor to more than 300 scientific articles published in peer-reviewed international journals. He has also authored several book chapters and holds more than 30 advanced genomic and transcriptomic international patents. He has received many awards during his academic career from different learned societies and organizations; award for being the top reviewer for the Gastroenterology journal (2018), Podium presentation at the American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) 2018 annual meeting, Chicago (2018), American Gastroenterology association poster of distinction award (2018, 2017 & 2016), National Cancer Institute Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium U01 grant award (2017) etc.

Current research focus: As a noted expert in gastrointestinal and other cancers, Dr. Ajay Goel is currently developing early-detection blood tests for colon, pancreatic and ovarian cancers as well as a test for pancreatic cancer that can detect the disease seven years earlier than is now possible. Within the next few years, these tests are expected to become a simple and affordable part of everyone's annual health physical plan, just like tests for diabetes or cholesterol. He is also working with genomic-based precision oncology to provide answers to the question: Why do therapies work with some good candidates and not with others. His recent research provides detailed kinetics of aspirin-mediated inhibition of tumor cell proliferation, which supports the epidemiological data for the observed protective effect of aspirin in colorectal cancer patients.

Dr. Ajay Goel was born in India, received his Ph.D. in biophysics from Punjab University, completed his postdoctoral work at the University of California, San Diego and went on to a noteworthy 16-year career at Baylor Scott & White Research Institute in Texas. One surprising fact about Goel: In addition to his technological expertise, he finds wisdom in the ancient Indian medical system Ayurveda, which has given us such natural therapies as the proven anti-inflammatory agent in turmeric.

*For more details contact the Co-ordinator: Dr. B.S. Harikumar Thampi*, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, Department of Life Sciences, University of Calicut. Mobile: +91-9446439655, 9400169655 e-mail: drhari@uoc.ac.in

**Dr. B.S. Harikumar Thampi**  
Associate Professor  
and Co-ordinator, Erudite programme

**Dr. Sreekumaran E**  
Associate Professor  
and Head, Dept. of Life Sciences