

A Brief Biodata of Prof. B. V. Chowdary

Boppana Veeraiah Chowdary currently holds the positions of Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Deputy Dean (Postgraduate Student Affairs and Research); Chair, Faculty Sub-Committee on Graduate Studies and Research; Member, Campus Research & Publication Fund, Head, CAD/CAM laboratory at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

Prof. Chowdary obtained his Ph.D. in Manufacturing Systems at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, India in 1998, his M. Tech. in Industrial Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, India in 1990 and his B.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering at Nagarjuna University, India, 1986.

He joined the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering in 2003 as a Lecturer and has also served as Senior Lecturer; Deputy Dean (Outreach & Enterprise Development) and Head of Mechanical and Manufacturing Department in the Faculty of Engineering. Prior to his joining UWI, he worked as Senior Research Associate, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor and Head of Mechanical Engineering Department at several institutions in India; and also worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher at University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands. Prof. Chowdary had rigorous industrial training in a Heavy Machinery Engineering Company where he was exposed to planning, scheduling and operations of various heavy & light machinery sections as well as operation of several metal casting and joining equipment. In addition, he worked as a Senior Workshop Superintendent for several years at an enterprise where he gained experience in managing a typical engineering workshop as well as several engineering personnel with different skill sets. Further, he was exposed to operations of industrial CNC Machining Operations at a state owned organisation, Torsional Spring Manufacturing Equipment, and operations of a Steel Manufacturing Company.

Prof. Chowdary has visited many leading academic institutions, such as Nyenrode University, Breukelen, The Netherlands; Stevens Institute of Technology, NJ; Wichita State University, Wichita, KS; University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, UK; Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK; University of Exeter, Exeter, UK, among others. He has also delivered seminars at some of these Universities.

His research interests include CAD/CAM, Rapid Product Development using Reverse Engineering, Re-engineering and Fast Prototyping Tools, Design and Simulation of Manufacturing Systems, Design of Virtual Cellular Manufacturing Systems, Manufacturing Planning & Control Practices, Neural Networks and Expert Systems.

Prof. Chowdary has skills in using CAD/CAM software packages: SolidWorks, and Mastercam; Reverse Engineering Equipment, Geomagic Studio and Geomagic Qualify Software; and Rapid Prototyping Equipment.

Prof. Chowdary has organized several public seminars and workshops in the areas of CAD/CAM, Advanced and Lean Manufacturing. He has also conducted several AutoCAD training sessions through the Engineering Institute to various organisations in Trinidad such as Housing

Development Corporation, Ministry of Works, WASA, Tunapuna-Piarco Regional Corporation, among others and generated revenues of approximately one million dollars to the UWI, St. Augustine campus.

Prof. Chowdary has executed several R&D projects: Integrated Manufacturing Technologies in the Caribbean Firms; CAD/CAM Support for the Development of Products in Trinidad and Tobago; Design and Development of Products Commonly used in the Caribbean; Design and Development of Bottling Unit Maintenance Spares. He has three peer reviewed book chapters to his credit and over 110 papers in various refereed journals and conferences. He is the Associate Editor of Global Journal of Flexible Systems Management and serves on the Editorial Boards of leading international journals.

Prof. Chowdary has served as a Core Member of National Technical Committee (NTC) on Metrology at Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS). He was a Member of Planning, Information, Knowledge & Operations Research programme at SOM Research School, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands. Prof. Chowdary was a recipient of a National award for the 'Best Case Study' paper published in Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering Journal on Integrated Manufacturing Performance Measure for Advanced Manufacturing Systems.