

Bio:

Manish Kumar is an assistant professor of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Engineering (by courtesy) at Penn State. He received his bachelors from the National Institute of Technology in Trichy, India in Chemical Engineering. He completed a masters in environmental engineering at the University of Illinois and then worked for approximately seven years in the consulting industry on applied research projects primarily centered around membranes for water treatment. He returned to Illinois to complete a PhD in the area of biomimetic membranes and then conducted postdoctoral research at the Harvard Medical School on the structure of water channel proteins, aquaporins. He works in the area of membrane protein biophysics, membrane protein enhanced synthetic membranes and on developing artificial membrane proteins and biocompatible electrical interfaces. His group also works on developing unique strategies to combat fouling of commercial water treatment membranes. He recently received the NSF CAREER award.