

**IGS Scholar's Name: Rahul Kishor**

**Research Centre: Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute**

**1. Your current employment details (Designation, name of company, country and scope of work)**

**Designation-** Research Associate

**Name of company-** Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

**Scope of work-** Working on developing integrated microfluidic systems using optics and acoustics for biomedical applications

**2. What motivates or trigger you to pursue a doctorate?**

- The passion to do research, and pursuing a PhD was the first step to this wonderful career.

**3. Why or how did you decide to apply to IGS or the interdisciplinary route of research?**

- My project was purely interdisciplinary in nature, consisting of acoustics, electrical, optics and fluidic designs. Hence there couldn't be any better school than IGS to pursue such a research work.

**4. What is your thesis about?**

- Developing an integrated microfluidic system for biomedical applications. The system involves microfluidic actuators using acoustic wave technology, sensing using optoacoustic methods.

**5. Why did you choose this topic and how does it benefit people or industries globally or internationally?**

- My project was steered towards the ultimate goal of developing a point of care medical device, I believe such research works could bring about a radical shift in the field of healthcare and hence cause a huge positive impact on human life.

**6. What kind of interaction did you have in IGS? How did that help you?**

- Interacting with professors (supervisors and co-supervisors) from different departments made it easier to understand different disciplines involved in my research work.
- IGS students seminar were quite information, where I got to know about various works and instilled me to new research areas.

**7. What are the challenges you faced during the candidature and how did you overcome it?**

- Working in multiple fields (such as microfluidics, acoustics etc) though I came from an Electrical and Electronic Engineering background.

**Solution:** I attended courses offered by various departments such as MAE and CEE and further discussions with professors from different disciplines in NTU had helped me to understand the domains to the level that I could carry on my research work with confidence. Also, collaborations and discussions with researchers from multiple disciplines helps to understand new things easily.

**8. What was your proudest moment or fondest memories over the years of candidature? E.g awards, overseas conference, patent, published papers, etc.**

- Attending my first overseas conference at IEEE Ultrasonic Symposium in Tours France, where I could meet the pioneer professors in my research area and learn from their lectures.

**9. What do you think are the attributes for PhD students to successfully go through the 4 years?**

- Hard work.
- Developing an interest in our research topic, which according to me grows while we understand more fundamentals about the research area.
- Willingness to share and discuss with fellow researchers.

**10. Please share 1 key motivational/ key take away message with your juniors?**

- Hard times might come but understand that they are just momentary, and perseverance helps to overcome these situations.

**11. How does it feel like when you received the scholarship offer?**

- I was excited and felt proud to be a part of IGS.

**12. Share with us some memorable photos you've taken with 1 line description of each photo. (e.g. Overseas conference, interactions in IGS, etc)**



Infront of the Vinci convention center , Tours France – venue for the IEEE ultrasonic symposium



At the Gala dinner venue, in LA GRANGE DE MESLAY, one of the oldest fortified farms dating from the 13th century

**13. What will you miss after graduating?**

- Though I haven't spent much time interacting with fellow IGS students, I enjoyed the informative seminars (both internationally renowned professors and also peer students), which was a way of learning new sciences unknown to me.
- Enjoying a cup of coffee in the evening with friends at IGS 😊

**14. What is your next adventure / challenge or any plans for the future?**

- I wish to pursue my post-doctoral study and further sharpen my skills and equip me for an exciting career.

**15. Is there anything you want to say to your family, supervisors, mentors, friends or anybody?**

- I owe you all a lot for that immense support and guidance.