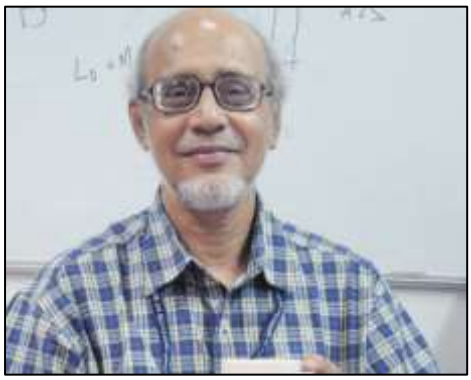
Partha P. Majumder

Distinguished Professor
National Institute of Biomedical Genomics; and,
Emeritus Professor
Indian Statistical Institute
INDIA



He is the Founder of the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics Institute. Currently, he is a Distinguished Professor in the Institute. He is also an Emeritus Professor of the Indian Statistical Institute. He is a Sir J.C. Bose National Fellow. He is an elected Fellow of all the three science academies of India, of the West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology (WAST), of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the International Statistical Institute. He is the President of the Indian Academy of Sciences and of WAST. He is a Member of the Organizing Committee of the international Human Cell Atlas consortium. He is the Indian National Co-ordinator of the International Cancer Genome Consortium. He has provided service to the UNESCO. He is a recipient of many awards and medals, including the TWAS Biology Prize, Golden Jubilee Commemoration Medal of the Indian National Science Academy, G.D. Birla Award for Scientific Research, Ranbaxy Research Award in Applied Medical Sciences, and the New Millennium Science Medal, Government of India.

Partha Majumder has made significant contributions to human genetics and evolution using statistical, molecular genetic and anthropological methods. He has devised innovative paradigms and statistical methods for solving biological problems related to modes of inheritance of complex human traits and mapping genes underlying such traits. He applied these methods to data on various common disorders, and their quantitative precursor states, that has resulted in a clear understanding of the genetic bases of such disorders. He was one of the early human geneticists to recognize the importance of studying genetic structures of ethnic populations using molecular genetic tools in order to discover genes conferring susceptibilities to various common diseases. This viewpoint has been widely accepted and, in fact, the current efforts for the study of common diseases have moved from the confinements of laboratories to villages of population isolates. His work on genetic diversity of ethnic Indian populations has resulted in a clear reconstruction of the processes of peopling of the Indian subcontinent, which have had major impacts on the design of studies for mapping disease genes. Since degree courses in human genetics are hardly available in Indian universities, he has immensely contributed to capacity-building in human and statistical genetics in India by sustained organization of workshops, summer and winter schools.

In addition to founding the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, he has initiated several large academic programmes in the Institute, including the International Cancer Genome Consortium-India Project, a large longitudinal population cohort study, multi-centric programmes on genomics of various cancers, host genomics of tuberculosis, systems medicine, genomics and epigenomics of pre-term birth, and genomics programmes with international companies such and Unilever and Genentech.