

Akash Gupta is currently a post-doc at Massachusetts Institute of Technology where his research focuses on designing materials for nucleic acid delivery. He received his Integrated MSc in Chemistry from IIT (ISM), Dhanbad. In 2019, he received his PhD in Chemistry from the Department of Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where he worked on engineering nanomaterials for imaging and therapy of bacterial and biofilm infections.



Vincent Rotello is a University Distinguished Professor at the University of Massachusetts. He has received multiple awards including the Langmuir Lecturer and the Bioorganic Lectureship of the RSC, and is a Fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the RSC. He is recognized by Thomson Reuters/Clarivate as a "Highly Cited Researcher". He is currently the Editor in Chief of *Bioconjugate Chemistry*, and is on the Editorial Board of 14 other journals. His research program focuses on using engineering the interface between the synthetic and biological worlds, with over 550 peer-reviewed papers published to date.



Beena Kumari received her M.S in Applied Chemistry from DAVV, India in 2013. Currently, she is pursuing her Ph.D. at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar under the supervision of Dr Sriram Kanvah. Her current research focuses on design and synthesis of fluorescent probes for the imaging of biological systems and organoelectronics applications.



Jessa Marie V. Makabenta received her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of the Philippines Los Baños in 2013 where she worked on the encapsulation of astaxanthin for therapeutic applications under Professor Evelyn B. Rodriguez. Currently, she is pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts Amherst under the supervision of Professor Vincent M. Rotello. Her current research focuses on nanomaterial-based platforms to address difficult-to-treat infections including MDR bacteria and biofilm infections and intracellular infections



Dan Li received her PhD from Kyung Hee University, South Korea in 2015 where she worked on the development of sensors for biomedical applications. She is a visiting scholar in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst under the supervision of Professor Vincent M. Rotello since December, 2018. Her current research focuses on the synthesis and application of nanoclusters for imaging and sensing of bacteria and biofilm-associated infections.