DEI Professor of Practice Leads High-Impact Session on AI and Cybersecurity

A vibrant and intellectually engaging session was organized by the Department of Physics and Computer Science on Wednesday, 16 July 2025, in the Faculty of Science, where students had the opportunity to interact with Prof. Pratul Kant, Professor of Practice at Dayalbagh Educational Institute. The session, titled "From Emerging Trends to Evolving Frontiers: AI in the Next Era of Cybersecurity," drew an enthusiastic and diverse audience from the B.Sc. Computer Science, B.Tech. (Specialization in Computer Science), M.Tech. Engineering Systems (Specialization in Computer Science), and M.Sc. Mathematics (Specialization in Computer Applications) programs.

Prof. Kant, an accomplished leader in Information Security, currently heads the information security function for a government agency in the San Francisco Bay Area, widely recognized as Silicon Valley and the global hub of technological innovation. An alumnus of DEI, he earned the B.Sc. Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering in 1994 and later completed a Master of Science in Information Systems from the University of San Francisco. With decades of leadership experience spanning academia, industry, and the public sector, he brought to the session a unique combination of strategic vision and real-world expertise.

Focusing on one of the most critical domains in contemporary technology, the session explored the evolving relationship between artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. Prof. Kant discussed how AI is redefining threat landscapes, strengthening cyber defence, and simultaneously introducing new vulnerabilities that challenge conventional security frameworks. He offered a panoramic view of current and emerging developments,

touching upon adversarial AI, autonomous systems, cloud security, and enterprise risk governance.

The interactive nature of the session made it particularly impactful. Students posed thoughtful questions not only on technical topics but also on career trajectories, industry readiness, and strategies for transitioning from academic training to professional roles. Prof. Kant's responses were practical, encouraging, and grounded in years of frontline experience.

For many participants, the session was a continuation of a meaningful academic connection. Several students had previously attended Prof. Kant's online sessions on Information Security conducted during the previous semester. This in-person engagement added depth and personal resonance to their learning experience.

The session underscored DEI's commitment to combining academic excellence with professional relevance and its dedication to providing students with exposure to global perspectives through the Professor of Practice initiative. The energy and engagement in the room affirmed the value of such interactions in preparing students to lead in the evolving world of science and technology.