



2020 College of Engineering

Award for Excellence in Service

Dr. Minnie Patel

The Faculty Award for Excellence in Service - Recognizes faculty with exceptional service to students, a department, the college, the university or to the community.



Dr. Niranjani (Minnie) Patel joined SJSU in 2002. She always wanted to be in California near family members. "When I got an opportunity to join SJSU I did not need much time to make a decision," she said. "First, it was like a dream come true. Second, when I interviewed for a faculty position in the ISE department, I felt at home right away mainly due to collegiality and welcoming attitude of my colleagues-to-be, and I saw an opportunity to grow in the environment. Moreover, I loved the SJSU campus, the city of San José, and its friendly people."

Minnie enjoys spending a lot of time in self-development and trying to understand the ultimate reality of this world. "I engage myself in activities that promote this understanding such as attending retreats expounding Indian Philosophical scriptures in quiet places. I coordinate two South San José Philosophical Study Groups to study Vedanta. I regularly do yoga, meditation and



Dr. Minnie Patel, cont.

lightweight cardio exercises. I like to travel and explore places. I firmly believe that by serving others selflessly, purity of mind can be gained and this will help me understand who I really am and my relation to the world." Minnie is also currently developing her skills and knowledge in the area of data analytics.