

# Biographies

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## **SANJIV ARORA**

*Consul General of India, Houston*

Consul General Sanjiv Arora brings over 25 years of Indian Foreign Service to IACCGH's Board of Advisors. His wide range of experience includes dealing with India's foreign policy on issues including Counter-Terrorism, UN Peacekeeping and serving as India's principle official for the UN General Assembly Sessions from 2005 to 2008. He is an Associate of the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore and a Fellow of the Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies, Honolulu. Earning both a Bachelor and MBA from Panjab University, Consul General Arora also holds an Advanced Diploma (with distinction) in Arabic.



## **LATHA RAMCHAND**

*Associate Dean, Programs and Administration, Finance Professor*

Latha Ramchand is Associate Dean, Programs and Administration at the C.T. Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston. She oversees all of Bauer's academic programs. She is also a Professor of Finance and teaches in the areas of Corporate and International Finance and Risk Management. She received her PhD in finance at Northwestern University where she attended the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. She is a gold medalist in Economics from Bombay University where she graduated with a master's degree in Economics. Professor Ramchand has taught in the MBA programs at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University, the University of Houston and the Indian School of Business.



## **ASHOK RAO**

Ashok Rao is a Serial Entrepreneur with four successful high technology start ups, and now on his fifth as Chairman & CEO of Inlogy Inc. He received his BS in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Delhi, MS from Marquette University and Executive Diploma in Financial Management from the London School of Economics. Rao was the first Indian-American to take a company public on NASDAQ.

He received the 2008 George H. W. Bush award for Arts Achievement. He has produced three award winning feature films - "My Faraway Bride" and "Before the Rains" - now available on DVD. Rao is President of TIE Houston and a member of TIE's Global Board of Trustees. He is on the Board of the Jones Business School of Rice University, on the Board of Mentors of the University of Houston's Bauer School of Business and a Trustee of Franklin Pierce University.



## **PRADEEP GUPTA**

*President, Unique Industrial Product Company*

Pradeep Gupta has a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the UK and is President of Unique Industrial Product Co which was founded by him and his partner, Jugal Malani, in 1997. Pradeep is actively associated with the Indo American Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Board of the Houston Lighthouse for the Blind.

Unique imports, warehouses and distributes nationwide a large range of OEM products servicing the Plumbing & Drainage, HVAC, Gas & Electrical industries. In 2009 Elite Components was formed supplying Threaded Rod, Strut and hanger parts to the plumbing, electrical and fire protection industries. A newly formed company, Unique Valve & Instrumentation supplies Valves, Pressure gauges, gaskets etc. to the Petrochem and Oilfield industries. Unique Industrial and its associated companies maintain a large inventory in their 175,000 sq ft modern warehouse in Sugarland to supply product on a Just In Time basis. Currently the companies employ a total of 100 persons.



## **JAGDIP AHLUWALIA**

*Executive Director, IACCGH*

Jagdip Ahluwalia was the founding Secretary of the IACCGH which he currently serves as Executive Director. Mr. Ahluwalia has been actively working at the national level to create the Alliance of Indo American Chambers which has grown to ten Chambers. Most recently, he was recognized by the Greater Dallas Indo American Chamber and bestowed their Outstanding Leadership Award for his role in creating this Alliance. He has worked actively at forging local alliances with other chambers and economic development agencies and with sister chambers in India.

A graduate of Leadership Houston (Class XXVI) and American Leadership Forum (Class XXVII), Mr. Ahluwalia has more than 30 years of teaching, manufacturing, business management and consulting experience. He graduated with a degree in Production engineering from the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, India where he later served on the faculty.