

Ketul Popat, PhD, serves as the Chair and Professor of the Department of Bioengineering at George Mason University. Dr. Popat is a distinguished researcher whose work in the Biomaterials Surface Micro/Nano-Engineering Laboratory focuses on using micro- and nanotechnology to design material surfaces that induce controlled, rapid healing in medical implants such as stents, heart valves, and joint replacements. His research aims to better understand the tissue-material interface to promote biointegration while preventing infection and inflammation. Prior to his appointment at George Mason in 2024, Dr. Popat was a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the School of Biomedical Engineering at Colorado State University for 16 years. His academic career is marked by a deep commitment to globalizing engineering education; he has established significant research and educational partnerships in Brazil, India, and South Africa. Dr. Popat has authored more than 180 peer-reviewed articles in high-impact journals, and holds an h-index of 55. A strong advocate for global engineering education, he frequently leads international collaborations and study-abroad programs aimed at solving complex biomedical challenges through a global lens. He earned his PhD in Bioengineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago, an MEng in Chemical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, and a BEng in Chemical Engineering from Maharaja Sayajirao University in India.