

Dr. David Parekh
Corporate Vice President, Research, and Director, United Technologies Research Center



Biographical Profile

As Corporate Vice President, Research, and Director, United Technologies Research Center (UTRC), David Parekh provides global leadership for United Technologies Corporation's (UTC) central research organization. In this role, Parekh develops technology strategies in anticipation of future trends, and aligns the Research Center's breakthrough innovations for transition to UTC's business units to enable their growth. He also leads UTC's Innovation Business Development (IBD) group whose mission is to monetize UTC technology and intellectual property in non-core markets and to develop business innovations for core markets.

Prior to joining UTRC in 2007, Parekh served as Deputy Director of Georgia Tech Research Institute and Associate Vice Provost for Research at the university. While there, he founded Georgia Tech Ireland and established the Georgia Tech Fuel Cell and Battery Center. Early in his career, he led various advanced research programs at Boeing Phantom Works and McDonnell Douglas Research Laboratories.

A Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), Parekh is also a member of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE) and chairs the Research Advisory Board of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. He sits on the board of the Connecticut Technology Council and the advisory board of the Georgia Tech College of Engineering. He previously served on the National Research Council's Aeronautics Research and Technology Roundtable and Defense Science Board's Task Force on Department of Defense Energy Strategy.

Parekh has more than 75 journal and conference papers and book chapters to his credit, primarily in the fields of fluid dynamics, aeroacoustics, fuel cells and propulsion.

He earned a doctorate in mechanical engineering and master's degrees in mechanical and electrical engineering from Stanford University, Stanford, California, as well as a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.