



Our department is deeply saddened to announce the passing of our dear colleague and friend, Gaurav Pandey. Gaurav emanated passion for science, energy for new challenges, and heartfelt commitment to mentoring students and trainees. After completing his PhD at the University of Minnesota and post-doc at the University of California Berkeley in computer science and engineering, he was recruited to Mount Sinai in 2011 where he established his research group focused on machine learning and computational biomedicine. A keen thinker and sharp scientist, Gaurav developed and applied machine learning-based computational methods for building predictive and network models of complex biological processes and diseases including asthma, diabetes, and cancer. His early research resulted in an impactful paper on the prediction of synthetic lethality, which was recognized as one of the breakthroughs in the field of computational biology in 2010. Gaurav's innovative research was supported by multiple NIH grants and featured by the media. He was an exceptional professor and mentor, directing data analytics, data mining, and machine learning courses for the Mount Sinai Graduate School for Biomedical Sciences in addition to mentoring over 30 trainees, from high school students to post-docs, who valued his high standards, rigorous thinking, and creative approaches. Gaurav was a strong advocate for advancing educational opportunities for trainees, readily using his booming voice at faculty meetings to offer his perspectives and spark conversation. He was a consummate collaborator and colleague, bringing fresh ideas and energetic commitment to research projects with a masterful ability to communicate and build bridges across multi disciplines. Science deeply and genuinely motivated Gaurav, and his zeal for discovery was uplifting to all who were fortunate to work with him. Gaurav was a principled, kind, and genuine friend, staunchly supporting colleagues through the challenges of work and life and creating opportunities to foster friendship and community outside of work. He was a loving husband, joyful father, and devoted brother and uncle who delighted in cooking, taking care of his baby daughter, and traveling to national parks. We will deeply miss our dear friend and colleague, Gaurav Pandey.