Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for an Endowment for Prof R Narasimhan Memorial Lectures

Prof R Narasimhan worked at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) from 1955 to 1992 and made very significant contributions to computer science and technology during that period. This proposal describes an agreement under which TIFR has agreed to manage an endowment to commemorate his memory. This is an MOU between the donors: Mrs Sita Narasimhan, Ms Tanjam Jacobson (daughter of Prof R Narasimhan), and his grand-nephew Dr Krishna Bharat and the executor: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research for creating an endowment for Professor R. Narasimhan Memorial Lectures in India. The former party will be referred as Donors and the later will be referred to as Institute hereafter.

Initial endowment: Mrs Sita Narasimhan, Ms Tanjam Jacobson (daughter of Prof R Narasimhan), and his grand-nephew Dr Krishna Bharat will jointly contribute US$250,000.00 to the endowment.

Objective of the Endowment: This endowment will fund the expenses for selected world-class scientists working in computer science or technology to be at an international conference in the field to be held in India, to give a public talk under the name of the "Professor R Narasimhan Memorial Lecture". This talk shall be broadcast on the Internet and made available for subsequent viewing as well.

Terms of the Agreement:

1) The "Professor R. Narasimhan Awards Committee", chaired by Director, TIFR, will be the forum where decisions are made from time to time in regard to the management of income from the Endowment for the purposes described in this Agreement.

2) The Awards Committee shall select persons of eminence to give the Professor R Narasimhan Memorial Lecture, subject to the stipulations given below. The Committee will also be free to consult program committees of conferences in the field in regard to the selection of the recipients.

3) One award will be given annually in the field of "Computer Science and Technology" and will recognize advances in hardware, software, theoretical aspects of computing, or applications of computing.

4) At its discretion, the Committee shall also be free to transfer funds to the conferences selected for the presentation of the lecture, to allow them to handle the travel arrangements and accommodations of the specified invitee and the organization of the public talk or talks.

5) The award will recognize the achievement of younger professionals only and hence will be restricted to professionals up to the age of 40.

6) Recipients of the award should hold a degree from an Indian university, excluding honorary degrees.

7) The Award will be in the form of a scroll, with a trophy or plaque (rather than in monetary form), and an invitation to give a public talk titled the "Professor R Narasimhan Memorial Lecture" on the topic for which the recipient is being recognized. In cases wherein the recipient cannot attend the conference in person, arrangements will be made for the recipient to present the lecture through videoconference.

8) The Award will cover the expenses of the recipient to travel to the chosen conference in India and present the talk.
9) The endowment will be used to create and maintain a website dedicated to the award. The website will feature a biography of Professor R Narasimhan, the mission statement for the award, and video recordings of past award ceremonies and lectures. To the extent possible, the award ceremony and lecture will be broadcast live on the Internet to a global audience.

10) The Committee will make its best efforts to ensure that this endowment is recognized by the Government as an effort to promote scientific research and is therefore exempted from tax.

11) The endowment will be invested in a suitably mixed portfolio to counter the effects of inflation over time, to the extent possible under the law covering tax-exempt investments.

12) The accounts of this endowment will be maintained separately.

13) An audited statement of account will be sent annually to the persons creating the endowment, and to the Awards Committee.

14) The corpus of the endowment will not be used to fund the expenses of the Committee. However, a small fraction of the interest, dividend or other revenue arising from the invested corpus may be used to meet such expenses, when necessary. Committee members will not receive any other compensation for their service to the endowment.

Signed

DONORS

Sita Narasimhan: 
Place and date with Govt. ID
Silver Spring, MD, USA; 25/1/2011
US Passport 800237808
Witness: 

Tanjam Jacobson: 
Place and date with Govt. ID
Silver Spring, MD, USA; 25/1/2011
US Passport 448925418
Witness: 

Krishna Bharat
Place and date with Govt. ID
Palo Alto, CA, USA, 25/1/2011
US Passport 05431015
Witness: 

Institute

Mr. Barma
Director TIFR
(Prof. Muftstansir Barma)
Mumbai, Date:

Witness: RS Saparnabuddu