JOHNS HOPKINS
GUPTA-KLINSKY
INDIA INSTITUTE

Gupta-Klinsky India Institute
at Johns Hopkins University

Annual Report
2024

Contents

1

Message from the
GKII Leadership

❝ **With the support of our dedicated Gupta-Klinsky India Institute community, new and established advisory board members, faculty steering committee members, alumni and students, GKII launched several transformative initiatives in 2024, including the TB Free Schools Initiative, the India RISE Fellowship, the Center for Bioengineering and Innovative Design projects in India, and we continued our student and faculty grants program. We also launched our Inaugural conference in Washington DC convening thought leaders across government, academic, industry and civil society to dialogue about the importance of India and US collaborations. We are thrilled that through our expanding community and programs, GKII is emerging as a platform for people to come together and build meaningful solutions for India and the world.** ❞

Dr Amita Gupta
GKII Faculty Co-Chair

❝ **It's exciting to see how much growth the Gupta-Klinsky India Institute went through in 2024. Our continued development of flagship programs and investment in top thought leaders and researchers in India and the United States are leading to real progress in our core priority areas. It's validating to see how new collaborations being forged are leading to opportunities where we can create greater impact in global health, digital health, and Women in STEMM.** ❞

Dr Sara Bennett
GKII Faculty Co-Chair

From the
Executive Director's Desk

Dear Gupta-Klinsky India Institute Community,

Joining the Gupta-Klinsky India Institute as Executive Director during such a pivotal year has been both humbling and energizing. I'm deeply grateful to be part of this extraordinary community, committed to advancing bold ideas, meaningful partnerships, and impact between Hopkins and India.

This past year has been marked by major milestones. In November, Johns Hopkins University President Ron Daniels led a university-wide delegation to India, with representation from nearly every school and division. Across four cities in six days, we launched new partnerships to expand access to care, advance women in science, and accelerate infectious disease research. We met with leaders in government, academia, and philanthropy – and were continually reminded of the power of collaboration between Hopkins and India.

Among the most exciting initiatives to take shape this year: the TB-Free Schools Initiative, which focuses on tuberculosis in school-aged children through school-based screening, treatment, and prevention. This is the first large-scale effort of its kind in India and builds on a pilot program that saw an 85% reduction in TB cases. With support from Indian government agencies and nonprofit partners, this initiative is a bold step toward a future where no child in India is held back by a preventable disease.

We also launched the India RISE Fellowship, a new program supporting early-career women scientists across India through mentorship, leadership development, and immersive learning opportunities. This initiative seeks to tackle the leaky pipeline of women's participation in scientific research in India, while investing in future leaders who will drive scientific discovery, innovation, and economic growth across sectors.

These efforts are part of a broader arc of work for the Institute – supporting student travel to India, funding collaborative faculty research, connecting alumni networks, and hosting cross-sector convenings – that continues to grow in scope and ambition. At every turn, we are guided by a strong belief in partnership and long-term impact.

As you explore this year's annual report, I hope you'll see what I see: a community in motion, building bridges across institutions, disciplines, and borders to meet the moment. Thank you for your continued support and belief in this mission. I look forward to the work ahead – together.

Warm regards,

Kunal Pal
Executive Director
Gupta-Klinsky India Institute

2

Who We Are

New Advisory Board Members

Roopa Makhija
President and Co-Founder
GEP

Amit Mehta
Managing Member
Crestwood Capital Management

Neera Nundy
Co-Founder and Partner
Dasra, Board of Advisors

Alexander Triantis
PhD, Co-Chair of Board of Advisors;
Dean, Carey School of Business

Advisory Board

- **Ashok Agarwal:** BSPH'84, Trustee and Founder, Indian Institute of Health Management Research; Trustee of Johns Hopkins India Foundation
- **Gitanjli Arora:** JHU'98 BSPH'99, Asst. Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California
- **Ritu Chhabria:** Co-Founder and Managing Trustee, Mukul Madhav Foundation
- **Raj Gupta and Kamla Gupta:** Co-Chair of Board of Advisors
- **Steven Klinsky:** Founder and Managing Director, New Mountain Capital
- **Sunil Kumar:** President, Tufts University
- **Ellen MacKenzie:** Dean, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health *(served on the Advisory Board during 2024–25)*

- **Roopa Makhija:** President and Co-founder, GEP
- **Amit Mehta:** Managing Member of Crestwood Capital Management
- **Neera Nundy:** Co-Founder and Partner, Dasra
- **Deepak Raj:** Chairman, Pratham USA and Indian Philanthropy Alliance
- **Maureen Sherry:** Novelist & Screenwriter
- **Alexander Triantis:** Co-Chair of Board of Advisors; Dean, Carey Business School
- **Sunil Wadhwani:** Founder, Wadhwani Institute for Sustainable Healthcare (WISH) and the Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Intelligence (WIAI)

New Faculty Steering Committee Additions

Smisha Agarwal
PhD, MPH, MBA, Associate Professor, International Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health

Ritu Agarwal
PhD, Wm. Polk Carey Distinguished Professor, Carey Business School

Nilanjan Chatterjee
PhD, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health

Ellen Chow
MSW, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Johns Hopkins University

Somesh Kumar
MBBS, MScPH, PhD, Senior Director Jhpiego Global Health

Uttara Bharath Kumar
MPH, Associate Faculty Bloomberg School of Public Health

Anju Malhotra
PhD, Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Bloomberg School of Public Health

Shruti H. Mehta
PhD, Dr. Charles Armstrong Chair in Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology; Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health

Chirag Parikh
MD, PhD, Ronald Peterson Professor of Medicine; Director, Division of Nephrology, JHU School of Medicine

Nakul Singh Shekhawat
MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, JHU School of Medicine

Joshua White
PhD, Professor of Practice of International Affairs; Director U.S.-ASEAN and U.S.-Pacific Institutes for Rising Leaders School of Advanced International Studies

GKII Faculty Steering Committee

- **Smisha Agarwal:** PhD, MPH, MBA, Associate Professor, International Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Rina Agarwala:** PhD, Professor; Director of Undergraduate Studies, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences

- **Ritu Agarwal:** PhD, Wm. Polk Carey Distinguished Professor of Information Systems and Health, Carey Business School

- **Sara Bennett:** Professor & Vice Chair of the International Health Department; GKII Faculty Co-Chair

- **Robert Bollinger:** MD, MPH, Raj & Kamla Gupta Professor of Infectious Diseases; Professor of Medicine, Public Health, and Nursing, JHU School of Medicine

- **Rama Chellappa:** PhD, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor, Whiting School of Engineering

- **Nilanjan Chatterjee:** PhD, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Ellen Chow:** Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Johns Hopkins University

- **Amita Gupta:** Dr. Florence Sabin Professor in Infectious Diseases, Professor of Medicine and Public Health; Director, Division of Infectious Diseases; GKII Co-Founder and Faculty Co-Chair

- **Pravin Krishna:** PhD, Chung Ju Yung Distinguished Professor of International Economics and Business, SAIS

- **Somesh Kumar:** MBBS, MScPH, PhD, Senior Director, Jhpiego Global Health

- **Uttara Bharath Kumar:** Associate Faculty, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Anju Malhotra:** PhD, Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Vidya Mave:** MD, MPH & TM, Associate Professor, JHU School of Medicine; Director, Indo-JHU Research Program, Pune, India

- **Shruti H Mehta:** PhD, Dr. Charles Armstrong Chair in Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology; Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Kunal Parikh:** Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (JHU) and the Center for Bioengineering Innovation & Design in the Department of Biomedical Engineering

- **Nagpurnanand Prabhala:** Francis J. Carey, Jr. Endowed Professor in Business and Professor of Finance with the Carey Business School

- **Nancy Reynolds:** PhD, Professor and Associate Dean, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

- **Sridevi Sarma:** PhD, Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering; Vice Dean for Graduate Education, Whiting School of Engineering

- **Anita Shet:** MD, PhD, Director of Child Health, International Vaccine Access Center, Bloomberg School of Public Health

- **Nakul Singh Shekhawat:** MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, JHU School of Medicine

- **Sunil Solomon:** MBBS, PhD, MPH, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology; Vice Chair for Research, JHU School of Medicine

- **Joshua White:** Professor of Practice of International Affairs; Director, U.S.-ASEAN and U.S.-Pacific Institutes for Rising Leaders, School of Advanced International Studies

New Core Team Members

Arjun Chhetri
Administrative Manager

Srishti Kapil
Communications Consultant

Siddharth Mohite
Program Coordinator

Kunal Pal
Executive Director

GKII Core Team

- **Neetisha Besra:** Deputy Director

- **Colter Billings:** Communications Specialist

- **Molly Bowen:** Senior Communications Manager

- **Arjun Chhetri:** Administrative Manager

- **Jon Goldstein:** Senior Associate Director of Development, International Programs

- **Srishti Kapil:** Communications Consultant

- **Siddharth Mohite:** Program Coordinator

- **Kunal Pal:** Executive Director

- **Ira Pundeer:** Communications Specialist

- **Beth Romanski:** Program Manager

- **Meghashish Sharma:** Program Manager

- **Hunter Tereyla:** Budget Analyst

- **Leslie Tian:** Senior Financial Manager

- **April Wilson:** Administrative Coordinator

GKII Alumni Ambassadors

Indu Bhushan, MPH '93, PhD '95
PhD, MHS, CFA, Ex-IAS Officer ('83 batch) and Former CEO Ayushman Bharat Government of India

Anand Bang, BSPH '09
MPH, MBBS, Health Advisor, Tata Trust & Honorary Health Advisor to Chief Minister, Maharashtra

3

What We Do

GKII was established in 2020 to foster collaborations among JHU and India's leaders across government, academia, civil society, and the private sector. Our mission is to harness collective expertise and resources that advance human knowledge and cultivate innovative solutions that benefit the global community.

OUR APPROACH

Create Community

Coordinate Catalyze Convene

Communicate

We pursue our mission in three strategic directions:

1. **Creating opportunities & lowering barriers** for collaborative research, education, training, policy, and practice for social good

2. **Amplifying current strengths of JHU work with India** through targeted research initiatives that stimulate innovation, partnerships, and knowledge sharing

3. **Shaping the future through interdisciplinary scholarship and investment** in new areas of knowledge and application to practice in emerging or neglected fields of potential impact

We foster a sense of community across all audiences by raising awareness about our extensive activities and developments. We also convene events of stakeholders to maximize outcomes and share knowledge, promote collaboration, and build connections among individuals and groups at JHU who are interested in India. These efforts focus on initiatives that benefit JHU, Indian partners, and the global community. The GKII team is guided by a distinguished Advisory Board and a faculty-driven Steering Committee that represents JHU schools. The core team is based in Baltimore at JHU and in New Delhi.

4

Bringing Hopkins to India with President Ron Daniels

In November 2024, GKII organized high-level Johns Hopkins University delegation visit to India with stops in **New Delhi, Bengaluru, Pune**, and **Mumbai**. This week-long tour marked the announcement of major university investments in programs aligned with India's national priorities focused on accelerating tuberculosis elimination, advancing gender equality in STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine), and expanding palliative care access in rural communities. The visit garnered widespread media coverage and highlighted our mutual commitment to collaborating with Indian partners on global health.

New Delhi

NOVEMBER 17

On November 17, 2024, Johns Hopkins University (JHU) delegation led by **President Ronald J. Daniels**, met with **Union Minister of Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** to discuss transformative opportunities enabled by India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The discussion centered on fostering innovation and entrepreneurship through dual and joint degree programs, student and faculty exchanges, and advanced research in data science, artificial intelligence, and futuristic technologies. The minister welcomed JHU's commitment to partnering with top Indian Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and encouraged steps towards collaborative research excellence. The delegation also met with **Mr. K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary of Higher Education.**

Four New Initiatives Announced

1. The **TB-Free Schools Initiative** aims to combat tuberculosis among children by scaling up innovative screening, treatment, and prevention programs across Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.

2. The **India RISE Fellowship**, launched under the US-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment, will mentor early-career women scientists, fostering leadership and innovation in STEMM fields.

3. In partnership with Bharat Biotech, JHU established the **Ella PhD Scholarship in International Health**, supporting cutting-edge research in global vaccine science.

4. Through its **collaboration with the Ajit Isaac Foundation**, JHU is expanding palliative care services in underserved rural areas, ensuring compassionate end-of-life care for terminally ill patients.

JHU President Daniels meets with Indian Union Minister for Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan in New Delhi

GKII convened its **first in-person Advisory Board meeting in India, attended by JHU President Ron Daniels** and leadership from Whiting School of Engineering, Carey Business School, Bloomberg School of Public Health, School of Medicine, and School of Nursing. More than 30 delegates including distinguished alumni, faculty and representatives from Department of Alumni Relations also joined the meeting to advise on JHU's India strategy. **Dr. Ashok Agrawal**, GKII Advisory Board member hosted a welcome dinner for the JHU delegation at his brother **D.P. Agrawal's** residence.
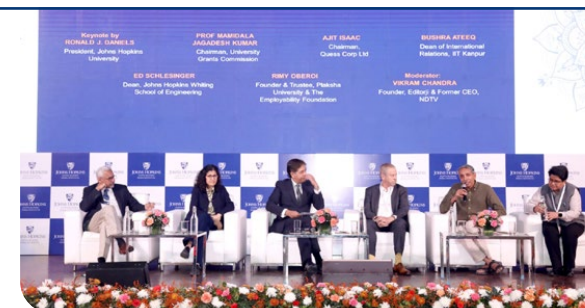

NOVEMBER 18

In an event co-hosted by U.S. Embassy at the American Center in New Delhi, **former U.S. Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti announced the launch of GKII's flagship India RISE Fellowship** to promote gender equity in science. The ambassador commended JHU's role in fostering global partnerships and reiterated U.S. support for initiatives that advance shared goals in education and healthcare. **Mr. Raj Gupta,** Chair of Advisory Board at GKII offered the vote of thanks and announced a **generous commitment of $500,000 towards the India RISE STEMM Fellowship.**

The event included a fireside chat with experts **Dr. Anita Shet**, Research Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health and Faculty Lead, India RISE Fellowship in conversation with **Dr. Kamini Walia**, Senior Scientist in the Division of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, Indian Council of Medical Research.

In an evening event bringing together more than 250 JHU community members and key Indian partners, **Dr. Urvashi Singh, Deputy Director General, Central TB Division, announced the TB Free Schools in India program** focused on AI-driven tuberculosis detection in schools.

At the same event, **University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Mr. M. Jagadesh Kumar** joined us for a panel discussion focused on higher education collaboration between India and the U.S. Moderated by **Vikram Chandra (Founder, Editorji; former CEO, NDTV)**, the panel discussed the potential for UGC to facilitate seamless partnerships, streamline regulatory processes, foster entrepreneurial ecosystems, and leverage AI for workforce readiness. Other speakers included **Dr. Ed Schlesinger (Dean, Whiting School of Engineering), Rimy Oberoi (Founder, Plaksha University), Ajit Isaac (Chairman, Quess Corp Ltd.), and Dr. Bushra Ateeq (Dean of International Relations, IIT Kanpur).**
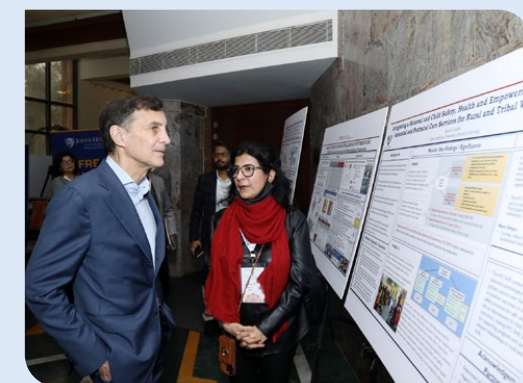

Poster Presentation Showcases Hopkins & India Work

GKII organized a poster presentation to spotlight JHU's contributions to addressing challenges in India. The event highlighted **30+ impactful projects** across public health, infectious diseases, governance, climate change, and more. These initiatives, led by faculty members from across seven prominent schools of Johns Hopkins, showcased how innovative research and cross-disciplinary efforts have driven real-world impact, reflecting the university's commitment to advancing solutions for pressing global issues.

Scan to read more

President Daniels with Dr. Bushra Sabri, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

NOVEMBER 19

JHU President Ronald Daniels inaugurated eSEVA (a one-stop center offering a range of services) at the New Delhi site for the **Blue Shed project, an initiative by YRGCARE** under the Abbott Pandemic Defense Coalition. Launched in 2023, the project was delivering healthcare, harm reduction, and basic services to marginalized communities, reaching thousands and treating hundreds of infections.

The same day, a JHU delegation comprising Mathuram Santosham, Somesh Kumar, Uttara Bharat Kumar, Bushra Sabri, and Meghashish Sharma met with **Secretary of Health and Family Welfare, Ms. Punya Salila Srivastava**, and other senior officials. The discussions revolved around Human Resources for Health training programs, Master Trainer Networks to facilitate peer learning and capacity building for nursing, paramedical, and allied health professionals. These initiatives align with India's "Skilling for the Globe" vision, emphasizing global standards for healthcare professionals. Additionally, JHU's expertise in digital health and artificial intelligence emerged as a critical area for collaboration, driving innovation in India's healthcare transformation.

Another JHU delegation comprising Sridevi Sarma, Hedy Alavi, Supriya Munshaw and Siddharth Mohite met with **Ms. Archana Thakur, Joint Secretary at the University Grants Commission** (UGC), to discuss opportunities for collaboration aligned with India's higher education priorities. Key areas of discussion included expanding student and faculty exchanges, launching joint degree programs, and fostering research collaborations between JHU and Indian institutions. Ms. Thakur highlighted UGC's role in ensuring the quality of higher education across India and suggested involving the U.S. Embassy in

Joint Secretary Thakur with JHU delegates Sri Sarma, Supriya Munshaw, Hedy Alavi and Siddharth Mohite

New Delhi or Washington, D.C., to streamline collaborations. The delegation showcased successful initiatives like the Whiting School of Engineering's Dean's Fellowship Program, which awards 20% of fellowships to Indian students, and ongoing partnerships with Indian institutions like Ashoka University, Vellore Institute of Technology, and the Indian School of Business. The meeting is expected to pave the way for formalized collaborations and enhanced visibility of JHU's offerings to Indian students.

JHU and **Bharat Biotech** launched the **Ella PhD Scholarship in International Health** at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, honoring Dr. Krishna Ella's legacy in vaccine innovation. The partnership supports PhD research in global vaccine science and includes joint efforts on pressing health challenges like cancer and non-communicable diseases.

*Under the leadership of **Dr. Judd Walson and Dr. Mathuram Santosham**, Bloomberg School of Public Health signed the MoU with Bharat Biotech in the presence of JHU President Daniels*

At a prestigious dinner event in New Delhi, **organized by the Ajit Isaac Foundation (AIF)**, JHU and AIF signed a Memorandum of Understanding to mark their partnership to enhance palliative care research in rural India.

President Daniels signing the MoU with Mr. Ajit Isaac to collaborate on Palliative Care work

On November 20, the delegation members met with **Dr. Rajiv Bahl, Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).** The discussions revolved around integrating JHU's research strengths with India's health research priorities. The discussion highlighted areas such as infectious disease research, vaccine development, and health systems innovation. The JHU delegation, which included Mathuram Santosham, Nadia Hansel, Amita Gupta, Judd Walson, Chirag Parikh, Kunal Pal, and Heath Elliot, explored ways to synergize their expertise with ICMR's mission to advance healthcare outcomes for India's diverse population.

Bengaluru

NOVEMBER 20

GKII facilitated the participation of JHU faculty at the **Bengaluru Tech Summit 2024** to showcase the university's commitment to advance collaboration in technology and innovation ecosystem.

Dr. Ed Schlesinger, Dean of the Whiting School of Engineering, delivered a keynote on "Technovations Disrupting Various Industry Sectors," highlighting

AI and data science's transformative role in solving societal issues like public health, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability. He introduced JHU's Data Science and AI Institute, underscoring the university's commitment to advancing cutting-edge research.

Dean Alex Triantis speaking on the panel at Bangalore AI Summit

Dr. Alexander Triantis, Dean of Carey Business School, discussed the critical role academia plays in fostering research, education, and technology for sustainable India-U.S. partnerships.

Dr. Ritu Agarwal, Wm. Polk Carey Distinguished Professor at the Carey Business School, participated in the panel discussion on "Deepening U.S.-India Tech Cooperation". This panel discussed AI's growing applications across enterprise and consumer sectors, explored academic and policy frameworks to promote sustainable AI innovation and emphasized academic spin-offs and their role in fostering digital ecosystem growth in India.

Dr. Sridevi Sarma, Vice Dean for Graduate Education and Lifelong Learning and Professor at Whiting School fo Engineering, explored AI innovation, workforce readiness, and academic-industry collaboration, reinforcing the summit's focus on deepening U.S.-India tech cooperation.

Keynote address by Dean Schlesinger at Bangalore AI Summit; Ritu Agarwal and Sri Sarma at their respective panels

NOVEMBER 21

In a session hosted by Indian Institute of Sciences **(IISc) Bangalore**, faculty members from both institutes explored collaborative opportunities, with an emphasis on leveraging expertise to address critical challenges in health and technology. **GKII Co-founder Raj Gupta**, opened the event by emphasizing the significance of U.S.-India partnerships. Presentations by JHU faculty members covered diverse topics, including data-driven public health interventions by **Dr. Judd Walson**, bioinformatics in addressing COPD by **Dr. Nadia Hansel**, and advancing precision medicine

in kidney disease by **Dr. Chirag Parikh**. **Dr. Amita Gupta** shared insights on leveraging big data for infectious disease clinical trials, while **Dr. Anita Shet** and **Dr. Shalini Singh** highlighted the intersection of public health and AI. These discussions underscored the potential for collaborative research to drive innovation and impact across disciplines.

Closing out Bengaluru was a visit to **Karunashraya – Bangalore Hospice Trust** by **Dr. Avani Prabhakar**, Assistant Professor of Medicine at JHU, to gain insights for the Palliative Care collaboration with Ajit Isaac Foundation.

JHU delegation hosted by IISc Bangalore leadership for faculty presentations and exploring research collaborations, organized by Isaac Centre for Public Policy

Pune

NOVEMBER 21-22

As part of its broader engagement with India to foster impactful partnerships in healthcare, education, and research, the JHU delegation visited key partners and collaborators in Pune. At **IISER Pune**, **Mr. Raj Gupta** and **Mrs. Kamla Gupta** (GKII Co-founders) along with **Dr. Robert C. Bollinger** and **Dr. Nikhil Gupte** (CIDI) toured the GKII-supported modular BSL-3 Facility – an advanced clinical research lab for cutting-edge tuberculosis studies. The group also visited the

proposed site for CIDI's upcoming state-of-the-art research building, reaffirming JHU's commitment to innovation in infectious disease research. At **Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical University (DPU)**, the delegation, including Drs. Nadia Hansel, Amita Gupta, Judd Walson, and others, reviewed ongoing collaborations since 2014. Later, a friendly match between JHU faculty, CIDI, and GKII teams added a lighthearted moment, building camaraderie and strengthening ties.

CIDI team organized a friendly cricket match among JHU and JHIPL colleagues in Pune

The day concluded with an **Symposium on "Infectious Diseases: The Past, Present, and Future," organized by CIDI.** Key presentations by **Dr. Sheela Godbole (ICMR-NARI)** and **Dr. Robert C. Bollinger (JHU)** highlighted decades of India–JHU collaboration in infectious disease research.

A panel moderated by **Dr. Vidya Mave (CIDI)** brought together experts from **JHU, ICMR, Serum Institute of India, and Cipla** to discuss India's progress in infectious disease and vaccine research, emphasizing the need for cross-sector collaboration and innovation to address global health challenges.

Jaideep Gogtay from Cipla, Umesh Shaligram from Serum Institute and ex-ICMR ID Head Raman Gangakhedkar spoke at the Scientific Symposium

Mumbai

NOVEMBER 23

In Mumbai, JHU delegation participated in **a roundtable co-hosted by Neera Nundy at Giving Pi (Dasra), GKII** and **ACT Grants,** which brought together leading philanthropists to reimagine the role of philanthropy in driving India's development as it approaches its centenary in 2047. Key discussions emphasized collective action and bold approaches to creating an equitable and prosperous future for India.

The visit concluded with a **farewell dinner hosted by Sunil and Anubhuti Sanghai, parents of Aarna Sanghai (WSE '27),** bringing together a distinguished group of leaders from industry, politics, healthcare, and academia to foster meaningful connections and strengthen JHU's ties with India.

Mumbai Roundtable: Philanthropy's Role in Shaping India's Path to 2047

Partnership Meetings with Academic and Research Institutions

The JHU delegation also engaged with leading academic and research institutions to explore synergies in advancing education and healthcare. These discussions emphasized shared goals in research innovation, curriculum development, and global academic exchange programs. Among the institutes engaged in these meetings were IIT Delhi; Ashoka University; Shiv Nadar University;

Plaksha University; Amity University; IISc Bangalore; Christ University, Bangalore; Symbiosis Pune; DY Patil, Pune; VIT, Vellore; AIIMS Delhi; IIT Chennai; Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai; Max Hospital, Mumbai; Birla Institute of Technology; IIT Madras; and VIT Bangalore. The JHU delegation's visit reinforces the growing strategic partnership between India and the US in education, research, policy and practice.

India Visit Takeaways: Hopkins Delegation on AI, Health, and Strategic Collaboration

"Our visit came at a pivotal moment—when ideas around education, healthcare, and digital innovation, particularly AI, are converging to shape the future. The alignment of priorities between India and the U.S. in this space is both striking and full of promise."

- Dr. Alex Triantis, Dean, Johns Hopkins Carey Business School; GKII Faculty Co-Chair

"This trip helped underscore the real opportunity for collaboration at the intersection of AI and healthcare. There's growing recognition of AI's potential to transform medicine — and a shared commitment between our communities to advance this work together."

- Dr. Nadia Hansel, Director, Johns Hopkins Department of Medicine

"One of the core pillars of our department is health systems. I think we've been successful in partnering with Indian colleagues to help generate new knowledge around health systems. Just as we see the Indian community delivering far better outcomes in the U.S. tech industry through partnership, I think we can also see better outcomes in India through these kinds of collaborations, where we bring diversity of thought and lived experience together to solve problems."

-Judd Walsont, Chair of the Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Public Health

"The synergy between India's priorities—like healthcare, sustainability, and agriculture—and Johns Hopkins' $2 billion investment in AI is striking. There's immense potential to align our work in data science and AI with India's national goals."

- Dr. Sridevi Sarma, Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Vice Dean for Graduate Education, Whiting School of Engineering

JHU DELEGATION

University Leadership

- Ronald J. Daniels, President of JHU
- Fritz W. Schroeder, Senior Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations
- Ed Schlesinger, Dean, Whiting School of Engineering (WSE)
- Alexander Triantis, Dean, Carey Business School (CBS)

Faculty and School Leadership

Judd Walson, Chair of the Department of International Health, BSPH | Nadia Hansel, Director, Department of Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital | Amita Gupta, Director, Division of Infectious Diseases, JHU School of Medicine (SOM) and GKII Co-Founder | Mathuram Santosham, Professor of Pediatrics and International Health, BSPH | Sridevi Sarma, Vice Dean of Graduate Education, WSE | Hedy Alavi, Associate Dean for Global Partnerships, WSE | Chirag Parikh, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Division of Nephrology, SOM | Supriya Munshaw, Associate Dean of Academic Programs, CBS | Ritu Agarwal, Wm. Polk Carey Distinguished Professor of Information Systems and Health, CBS | Andre Nogueira, Associate Faculty of Design Knowledge, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) | Robert Bollinger, Professor of Infectious Diseases, SOM | Uttara Bharath Kumar, Associate Faculty, BSPH | Anita Shet, Professor, International Vaccine | Access Center, BSPH, and Director of Johns Hopkins | Maternal and Child Health India program | Sunil Suhas Solomon, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology (SOM) and the Director of the Center for Infectious Diseases | Avani Prabhakar, Assistant Professor of Medicine at SOM | Bushra Sabri, Associate Professor, SON

Development and Alumni Relations

- Heath Elliott, Associate Dean of External Relations, BSPH
- Jon Goldstein, Senior Associate Director of Development for International Programs

MEDIA MENTIONS

1. **Johns Hopkins University Launches 2 Programmes in India to address Paediatric TB, Promote Women in STEMM**

   The Indian Express, November 20, 2024

   Read the article

2. **John Hopkins University and Ajit Isaac Foundation to establish 63-bed Palliative Care Centre in Tumkur**

   Economic Times, November 22, 2024

   Read the article

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to the GKII Board members **Raj and Kamla Gupta, Deepak Raj, Amit Mehta, Alexander Triantis, Ashok Agarwal, and Neera Nundy,** who traveled as part of the delegation and made critical connections and helped organize important events.

President Daniels with GKII advisory board members and YRGCARE team at the Blue Shed Project site in Delhi

5

2024 GKII Activity Highlights

In the past year, GKII has worked to strengthen the foundation of its operations at JHU and in India. In the past year, GKII has offered **3 research grants** and sponsored **6 student travel grants**, welcomed **2 new members** to the esteemed advisory board, added **3 core team members**, and reinforced a strong representation of JHU schools through its Faculty Steering Committee by adding **11 new members**. In 2024, GKII supplemented its 3 key pillars of Tuberculosis & Respiratory Infections, Artificial Intelligence & Digital Technologies, and Education & Training by creating several new projects in these areas through working groups constituted by JHU and India experts. GKII's key programs in 2024 include:

TB Free Schools Initiative

GKII collaborated with partners to announce pre-launch activities for the program. In April 2024, we hosted a national stakeholder consultation in New Delhi, bringing together experts, policymakers, and educators. In June and July 2024, we began community sensitization programs at our project sites in Pune and Satara, Maharashtra, to raise awareness about TB prevention and treatment. The initiative will also be supported by several non-profit organizations and CSR initiatives.

India RISE Fellowship (Research Innovation & STEMM Empowerment)

GKII announced a new fellowship to support early career researchers across India. The program is designed to strengthen technical research skills, offer mentorship, foster leadership, and provide experiential learning opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds pursuing careers in STEMM research. The pilot cohort of fellows will include up to 40 early career women scientists from qualified research institutions across of India, including several of GKII's institutional partners.

Sunil Kumar and Sumati Murali Student Training and Mentorship Fund

Thanks to an endowment fund, GKII offered two merit-based awards of $8,000 in the 2025 cycle year to annually support Johns Hopkins PhD students conducting India-focused research and fieldwork. Students from any JHU school or division are eligible. The funding supports research expenses and travel to India.

IAS Mid-Career Training Program

GKII collaborated with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) to host a third simulation training event for experienced IAS officers. Together, we're aiming to enhance systems thinking capabilities in public health and beyond and equip civil servants with the tools to deliver citizen-centric services at the highest standards.

Centre for Excellence in Palliative Care

With an MoU in place, GKII is establishing a Centre for Excellence in Palliative Care in partnership with the Ajit Isaac Foundation and the Palliative Medicine division at the JHU School of Medicine. The center will improve quality of life for patients with life-limiting illnesses by advancing research, delivering education and training, shaping policy, and sharing best practices in palliative care.

Johns Hopkins Center for Infectious Diseases in India

GKII is investing more than $4 M to support the establishment of a new infectious disease research and education center in Pune. This collaboration between GKII, JHU School of Medicine, YRG Care, and other Indian partners features advanced laboratory facilities and aims to become a leader in infectious disease research and training.

GKII also collaborated with CIDI and YRG to establish a new laboratory at the Suniti Solomon Center in Chennai, India. Made possible through generous contributions from GKII Advisory Board members Raj and Kamla Gupta, Maureen Sherry, and Steven Klinsky, the lab will serve as a pivotal hub for cutting-edge research on infectious diseases, driving innovation, and pioneering new prevention and treatment strategies. The lab will conduct groundbreaking research on viral discoveries, evolution, drug resistance, emerging variants, and pathogenesis.

Breakthrough Research Grants

In 2024, GKII partnered with IIT Bombay to co-fund research projects totaling $120,000. Two projects received the Breakthrough Grants Awards of $60,000, jointly funded by the two institutes. The projects focus on the development of digital interventions for addressing Infectious and noncommunicable diseases. In addition, GKII funded $45,000 for a joint research project between Bloomberg School of Public Health and Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, which explores India–U.S. collaboration within the Climate Change domain.

Girish and Himangi Rishi Student Travel Award

With support from JHU alumnus Girish Rishi and Himangi Rishi, these awards fund students traveling to India to promote global experiential learning. In 2024, 6 students traveled to India for Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP) projects. To date, this program has supported 22 students and 13 faculty-led projects.

6

Program Highlights

NEXUS AWARD RECIPIENT 2024

460+ Media Mentions

436,000+ Media Reach

1000+ Event Signups

40+ Events and Leadership Convenings

Students Travel Grants and Internships

06 STUDENTS Girish & Himangi Rishi Student Travel Grant

06 STUDENTS CBID Summer Immersion Program

03 GKII Interns

$71,000 Worth of travel awards offered

Research Grants

03 Research projects sponsored

03 JHU faculty supported

01 New research collaboration between JHU and IIT Bombay

$180,000 Worth of grants announced

Community Engaged

300+ Students

1800+ Alumni

300+ JHU faculty

100+ Partners*

02 MoUs Signed

Social Media and Newsletter

5000+ Followers

INSTAGRAM Launched

3600+ Newsletter Subscribers

~50% Open rate

Cumulative

35+ Training Workshops Organized

Public Health Training, July 2024

TRAINED 83+ IAS OFFICERS

at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration on Systems Thinking

Virtual Workshop on Faculty Healthcare Research, May 2024

Explored collaborative research and exchange opportunities with IIT Hyderabad

Faculty Knowledge Exchange, November 2024

Discussed interdisciplinary research opportunities and health interventions with IISc Bangalore

30+ Education Liasion Service Meetings

Facilitated collaboration with Johns Hopkins University, the Union Minister of Education and IIT Hyderabad

8 Conferences, Roundtables & Seminars Organized

November 2024, Mumbai

Philanthropy Roundtable with Dasra

November 2024, New Delhi

US-India Higher Education Partnerships Roundtable

November 2024, Pune

Symposium on Infectious Diseases

November 2024, New Delhi

30+ JHU Projects Poster Presentation

July 2024, Baltimore

Seminar with Health Minister of Tamil Nadu

June 2024, New Delhi

Women in STEMM Roundtable

April 2024, New Delhi

National Consultation Workshop on Pediatric TB

January 2024, New Delhi

Primary Healthcare Symposium
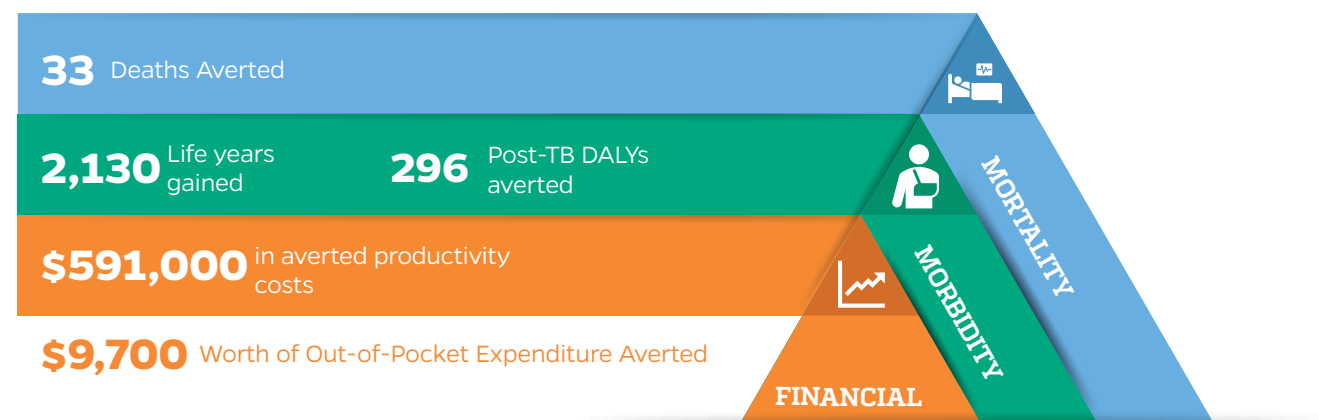
7

Current GKII Priorities

1. The TB Free Schools Initiative:
Healthier Children for a Healthier Future

Globally, active TB is the #1 infectious diseases killer and India accounts for 27% of the 10.6 million cases that occur each year. Furthermore, 1 in 4 (2 billion) people are estimated to be latently infected with TB and would benefit from preventive treatment. Estimating the true burden of latent TB infection in school-going children and adolescents is quite challenging due to the lack of large-scale epidemiological studies specifically in school-going children and the absence of school-based screening programs focusing on latent TB. Assessments from smaller localized studies undertaken in different geographies of India place the latent TB burden anywhere from 12-18%.
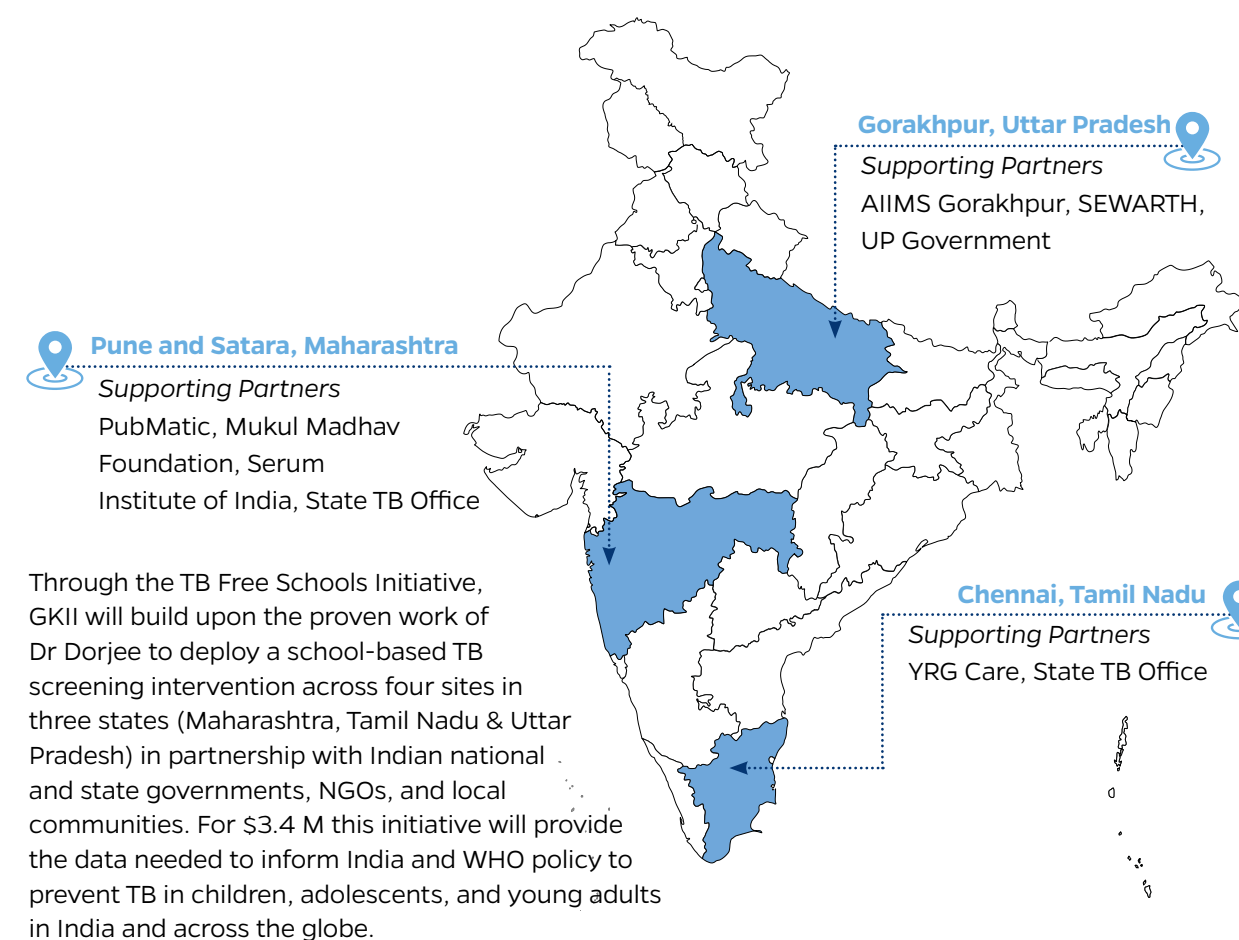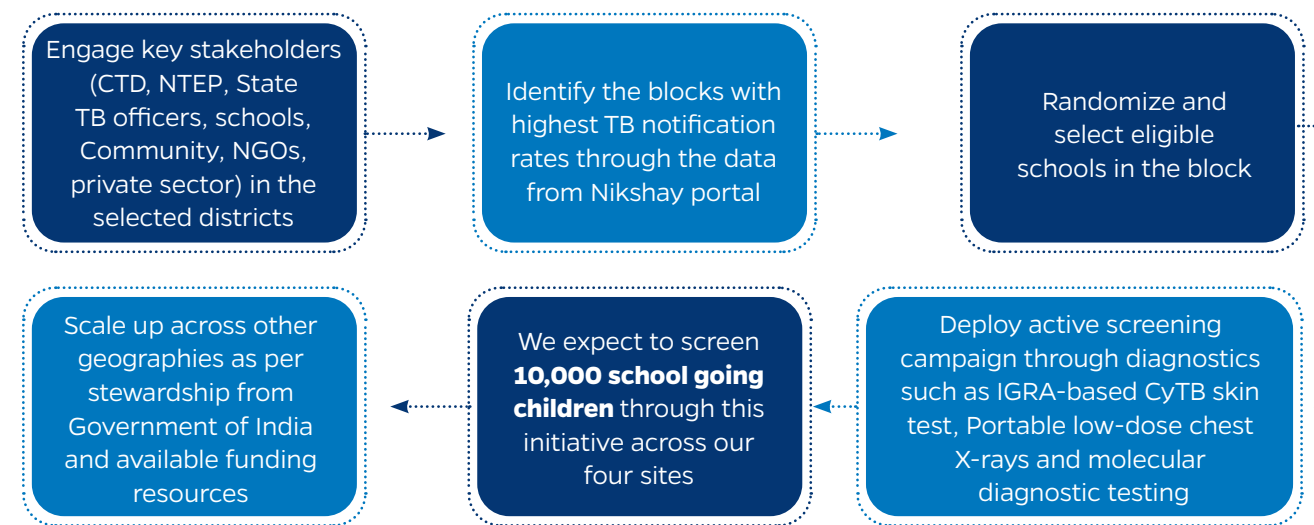
Johns Hopkins has led TB prevention therapeutics development. India and JHU TB research and care partnerships are longstanding and have helped to define WHO and India TB treatment and prevention policies. An India–JHU team led by Dr Kunchok Dorjee, reduced TB cases in schools in Dharamshala by 87% and showed it was cost effective[1]. GKII is prioritizing its research efforts in TB and respiratory illness for the next three years and had set a launch for the program in early 2025. This focus aligns with the WHO's Sustainable Development Goals to eliminate TB by 2030 and the more ambitious goal of the Indian government to eliminate TB by 2025.

Impact Pyramid
For every 10,000 school going children screened

33 Deaths Averted

2,130 Life years gained

296 Post-TB DALYs averted

$591,000 in averted productivity costs

$9,700 Worth of Out-of-Pocket Expenditure Averted

MORTALITY

MORBIDITY

FINANCIAL

1 Dorjee K, Topgyal S, Dorjee C, Tsundue T, Namdol T, Tsewang T, et al. High Prevalence of Active and Latent Tuberculosis in Children and Adolescents in Tibetan Schools in India: The Zero TB Kids Initiative in Tibetan Refugee Children. Clinical infectious diseases : an official publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. 2019;69(5):760-8.

Engage key stakeholders (CTD, NTEP, State TB officers, schools, Community, NGOs, private sector) in the selected districts

Identify the blocks with highest TB notification rates through the data from Nikshay portal

Randomize and select eligible schools in the block

Deploy active screening campaign through diagnostics such as IGRA-based CyTB skin test, Portable low-dose chest X-rays and molecular diagnostic testing

We expect to screen **10,000 school going children** through this initiative across our four sites

Scale up across other geographies as per stewardship from Government of India and available funding resources

Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh
Supporting Partners
AIIMS Gorakhpur, SEWARTH, UP Government

Pune and Satara, Maharashtra
Supporting Partners
PubMatic, Mukul Madhav Foundation, Serum Institute of India, State TB Office

Through the TB Free Schools Initiative, GKII will build upon the proven work of Dr Dorjee to deploy a school-based TB screening intervention across four sites in three states (Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh) in partnership with Indian national and state governments, NGOs, and local communities. For $3.4 M this initiative will provide the data needed to inform India and WHO policy to prevent TB in children, adolescents, and young adults in India and across the globe.

Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Supporting Partners
YRG Care, State TB Office

*The map above is only pictorial representation of India and the States of India and does not purport to be the political map of India or its states.

2. India RISE Fellowship:
Elevating Women in STEMM Leadership

US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti with JHU President Ronald Daniels at the launch of India RISE Fellowship in New Delhi
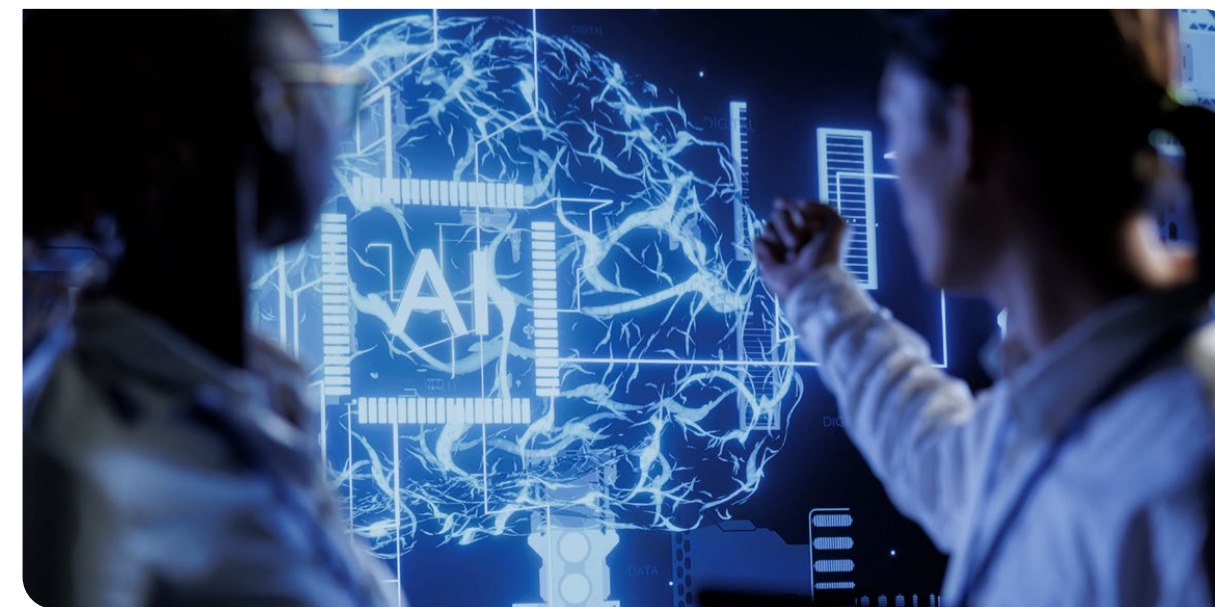
A signature initiative of GKII, the India RISE (Research Innovation & Empowerment) Fellowship is a longitudinal health research fellowship program to support early-career researchers across India through a 12-month immersive experience. The program works to develop technical research skills, cultivate leadership capabilities, and provide opportunities for experiential learning and networking to empower early-career Indian women researchers from across India to excel in STEMM research careers.

Despite progress in women's education, India continues to see low representation of women in STEMM careers. While women comprise 43% of STEM graduates, they represent only 19% of the research workforce, compared to the global average of 30%. Leadership representation remains limited, with less than 10% of women taking up leadership positions in STEMM academia and industry.

This fellowship employs a theory-of-change approach to address the unique challenges Indian women face in STEMM research careers. By intervening at the critical early stages, when women are most at risk of leaving the field, the program delivers targeted, evidence-based strategies to dismantle internal and external barriers. This includes personalized group and peer mentorship, specialized training to build advanced research skills, and leadership development to help participants overcome barriers to success. The program also expands professional networks to confront structural obstacles in the workplace and advocates for inclusive policies to foster broader cultural change.

3. Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Research & Fellowship
Training the Next Generation of Innovators

AI is transforming healthcare by enhancing diagnostics, predicting outbreaks, and optimizing health systems all of which can radically improve outcomes for underserved communities. India's vast health datasets and emerging digital infrastructure offer a unique opportunity for high-impact AI applications. Through GKII, JHU proposes the Data Science and AI (DSAI) Breakthrough Grants as an initiative to catalyze responsible and equitable AI solutions for health and social impact. With a powerful tri-party co-funding model, these grants will unlock $1 Million in funding to support 5–10 collaborative, high-impact projects over 24 months, each designed to generate peer-reviewed research, prototypes, policy insights, and tools that can scale and attract follow-on investment. This opportunity will bring together JHU faculty and experts from leading Indian institutions such as IIT Bombay, IISc Bangalore, and Ashoka University. By embedding early-career researchers and fellows within these collaborations, the program will seed a robust talent pipeline equipped with cutting-edge AI skills, ethical frameworks, and cross-cultural perspectives.

This initiative is not merely about research funding; it is a strategic investment in the Hopkins research enterprise and a signal of its commitment to global collaboration. By positioning JHU at the heart of India's AI and health innovation ecosystem, the Breakthrough Grants will strengthen institutional ties and demonstrate how AI can be harnessed responsibly to address urgent global health challenges.

To learn more about our projects, donate or explore collaboration opportunities, please reach out to jhii@jh.edu

8

Research

Breakthrough Grants

Breakthrough research grants are a flagship GKII program that supports early stage JHU faculty to collaborate with an Indian partner offering potential co-funding to pilot projects in multidisciplinary and urgent areas of research. GKII has launched two Breakthrough Research Grant challenges in the field of Digital Health, and one focused on Climate Change.

The Breakthrough Research Grants Program has provided funding for three different pilot projects led by faculty members from Johns Hopkins University and applicable partner institutions that involved interdisciplinary collaborations.

Digital Health with IIT Bombay

Project: Leveraging India's digital surveillance system for tuberculosis to assess the effectiveness and impact of novel interventions

JHU Investigator

Emily A. Kendall
Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, JHU School of Medicine

India Investigator

Mithun K. Mitra
Professor of Physics at the Department of Physics, IIT Bombay

"This GKII breakthrough grant will allow our team from JHU and IIT-Bombay to explore how routinely collected electronic health data from India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Program can be leveraged to amplify the impact of clinical TB research."

- Emily Kendall

Project: Development of a breast cancer risk prediction tool for the Indian population

JHU Investigator

Nilanjan Chatterjee
Bloomberg Distinguished Professor, JHU School of Medicine

India Investigator

Saket Choudhary
Assistant Professor, Koita Centre for Digital Health, IIT Bombay

"Breast cancer rates have been increasing in India over quite some time now. Our team, which includes faculties across IIT, Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital and Johns Hopkins, is really developing the firstever breast cancer risk prediction tool for Indian women and thus initiate more awareness about risks for primary and secondary prevention."

- Nilanjan Chatterjee

Climate and Health

Project: Policy actions for India-U.S. collaborations on climate and health

JHU Investigator

Gigi Gronvall
Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Health and Engineering. BSPH

India Investigator

विज्ञान एवं
प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

Regional Centre for Biotechnology
Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India

"Our team will work to identify projects already underway which could use more support, or areas where the US and India are working separately but would benefit from a joint approach."

- Gigi Gronvall

News Coverage

Johns Hopkins faculty are shaping conversations on healthcare innovation, infectious disease, and health equity in major Indian media outlets. In these authored op-eds and expert Q&As, they share science-driven solutions to some of India's most pressing health challenges.

1. The Role of AI and Technology in Innovating India's Healthcare

YourStory, January 15, 2025

Whiting School of Engineering Dean Ed Schlesinger discusses how physicians utilizing artificial intelligence and data science can democratize healthcare and make a more accurate, affordable, and equitable system.

Click here to read more!

2. Fighting Active and Latent TB in Schools: A Keystone in India's TB Elimination Strategy?

ET Healthworld, January 6, 2025

Director, Division of Infectious Diseases at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Amita Gupta, and Dr. Padmapriyadarsini Chandrasekaran, Director (Former), ICMR-National Institution for Research in Tuberculosis explain how focusing on early interventions could reduce TB burden, improve overall treatment outcomes and school attendance rates, and prevent progression from latent infection to active disease.

Click here to read more!

3. Bridging the knowledge vs access gap in nutrition and health equity

Economic Times Health, November 22, 2024

Dr. Judd Walson discussed how tackling undernutrition requires addressing infections, poverty, and hygiene alongside diet. He highlights the promise of probiotics and breastfeeding in fostering a healthy microbiome and improving outcomes.

Click here to read more!

4. How an Indian-American at Johns Hopkins University is planning to fight against TB in India

Forbes India, November 20, 2024

In the Forbes India article, Dr. Amita Gupta discusses her leadership in launching India's first school-based TB screening initiative through GKII at JHU, aiming to support India's national goal of eliminating TB by 2030.

Click here to read more!

9

Education and Training

Girish and Himangi Rishi Student Travel Award

The Girish and Himangi Rishi Student Travel Award (GHRSTA) aims to build future generations of thought leaders and researchers in India. Through the generous support of Mr. Girish Rishi, an alumnus of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and his wife, Himangi Rishi, the grant provides opportunities for Johns Hopkins students to conduct research and immersive field studies at JHU field placement sites established by the Center for Global Health.

GHRSTA employs a "twinning" approach, pairing students with faculty mentors and institutions in both countries to promote co-learning, shared leadership, and long-term impact. It includes standard operating procedures, peer mentorship, reflective tools, and structured reporting, enhancing both student experience and project effectiveness.

Evaluation data show strong outcomes: students report improved research skills, deeper cultural competence, and greater career clarity. Their work has contributed to peer-reviewed publications, field-level impact, and sustainable academic-community partnerships.

Over three years, the program has supported 22 students engaged in 13 faculty-led projects in India. In 2024, six Hopkins students were funded for projects spanning children affected by HIV and tuberculosis; primary healthcare and NCDs; and general maternal and child health.

GHRSTA IMPACT REPORT

"For ten years I've had the honor of mentoring JHU students through the GHEFP program. These students do more than fulfill academic requirements – they bring energy, compassion and innovation to our project sites. Their presence inspires underserved youth in India to dream bigger and uplift entire communities, leaving a lasting impact that extends far beyond their time on the ground."

- Dr Anita Shet, GHRSTA JHU Faculty mentor

01
Sahana Shekhar
Master of Science in Public Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Svea Closser
Theme: Maternal and Child Health
Project: Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT)

Sahana supported KHPT on implementation research to build institutional capacity and scale up the coverage and quality of Kangaroo Mother Care across selected districts of Karnataka. She contributed to evaluating MNCH interventions aimed at reducing stillbirths and neonatal mortality, while gaining insight into public–private partnerships and grassroots capacity building in India.

"Through this opportunity, I have been able to closely observe private-public sector relationships focused on knowledge empowerment and capacity building at the grassroots level. I work with qualitative researchers to evaluate MNCH interventions that aim to reduce stillbirth rates and neonatal mortality rates, which will further inform the conception of programs and policies scaled-up to the state and national levels."

-Sahana Shekha, MSPH BSPH

02
Katherine Lim
MSPH in Health Systems, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Krishna Rao
Theme: Health Systems
Project: India Primary Health Care Support Initiative (IPSI)

The initiative, spearheaded by JHU, in collaboration with AIIMS New Delhi and supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, works under the guidance of the National Health Systems Resource Centre to strengthen delivery and performance assessments of primary healthcare systems across selected Indian states.

03
Hrishikesh Sathyamoorthy
Master of Science Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Anita Shet
Theme: Children Living with HIV
Project: Positive Running Program

Hrishikesh worked on the Positive Running program, a peer-led physical fitness initiative to improve outcomes among adolescents and youth living with HIV. He assisted in the recruitment of new participants, developed nutrition-related guidance, and provided insights for scaling up the program

04
Autumn Tangney
MSPH in Health Systems, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Anita Shet
Theme: Children Living with HIV
Project: I'mPossible Fellowship

Autumn worked on the "I'mPossible Fellowship" project, that supports children, adolescents, and youths affected by HIV, addressing their educational, health, skills development, self-efficacy, and psychosocial needs.

05
JaeLynn Taylor
MSPH in Health Education and Health Communications, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Brian Wahl
Theme: Primary Healthcare, NCDs
Project: Supporting Equitable Wellness through Advanced Research and Training in Health (SEWARTH)

JaeLynn worked on the SEWARTH project, a collaboration between the Department of Medical Health and Family Welfare (Government of Uttar Pradesh), JHU and AIIMS Gorakhpur to partner in public health research and training. She supported the development of training modules to improve communication for efficient data collection under the SEWARTH-Health and Demographic Surveillance System.

06
Divya Rao
Master of Science Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

JHU Faculty: Kunchok Dorjee
Theme: TB Impact on Children & Families
Project: Zero TB Kids & Family

Divya Rao worked on the "Zero TB Kids & Family" project, a collaborative initiative between Johns Hopkins, India, and Nepal. The project leverages innovative technology, including AI-enabled x-rays, molecular diagnostics, and short-course preventive treatments to combat tuberculosis. Divya had the opportunity to engage in focus group discussions with the community, develop dedicated surveys, and help understand the factors that influence TB screening and therapy.

CBID Immersion Program and GKII

The Johns Hopkins Center for Bioengineering Innovation & Design (CBID) and GKII share a vision to develop impactful healthcare solutions that enhance the lives of patients, particularly in the context of India. Both organizations prioritize understanding patient and stakeholder needs, and fostering iterative co-development of solutions to ensure their relevance and viability within the Indian healthcare ecosystem.

Exploring Health Care Innovations at the Mitr Clinic

This year, GKII and six students from CBID met with staff and beneficiaries of Program ACCELERATE's USAID-supported Mitr clinic in Pune to discuss TB and infectious disease management for key populations and to explore innovations in health care. Mitr, meaning "friend" in Hindi, was established in Hyderabad in 2021 to provide lifesaving HIV treatment and counseling services to transgender people.

"CBID Design Teams seek to design and develop better solutions for important healthcare challenges around the world. Support from the GKII has allowed our students to connect to the incredible energy and creativity in India. Thank you so much to the Institute and your supporters for enabling an experience which will inspire and inform their professional lives, and help to create impactful healthcare solutions."

- Youseph Yazdi, Executive Director, CBID

Designing Real Solutions for Real Tuberculosis Problems

In January, the CBID team followed up on their India Global Health immersion with a trip to the Johns Hopkins Center for Infectious Diseases, Pune. Building on what they learned from their previous visit to India in 2024, the CBID cohort worked on improving the usability and accuracy of the CyTB test, a critical diagnostic in screening for latent TB. Their design solutions are currently in testing and are being assessed for efficacy in ex-vivo animal tissues with validation. They are now applying for ethical clearances to move ahead with pilot testing and to develop a digital application for the final design solution.

Combating Childhood Tuberculosis

In September, the same CBID team contributed to the TB Free Schools Initiative with an immersive experience in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. Collaborating with Tibetan Delek Hospital, the observed the Zero TB Kids program, which provides pediatric TB screenings at Tibetan Children's Village School and inpatient TB care at Delek Hospital. This work will aid the team and GKII design innovations for pediatric TB diagnosis and treatment and advance the TB Free Schools Initiative's mission.

Training Programs for Professionals

Through faculty and alumni-led workshops and training, GKII nurtures leadership excellence, enhances skills, and fosters collaboration among professionals in various fields, contributing to personal and career development.

Nurturing Leadership Excellence at LBSNAA

In July 2024, GKII, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) conducted the second iteration of the Friday Night at the Emergency Room (FNER) simulation as part of a public health training program for mid-career civil servants from 14 All-India services. The session engaged 83 IAS Officers who have completed 10-15 years of service across diverse sectors. This collaborative training was led by distinguished JHU alumnus Dr. Rakesh Gupta (IAS '97, BSPH '11), Additional Secretary to the Government of India, and Dr. Brian Wahl, Associate Research Professor in the Department of International Health.

Education Liaison Service

GKII established the Education Liaison Service (ELS) to supports faculty and divisions across JHU in their India-focused education and research initiatives. ELS further strengthens the strong relationship with India that Johns Hopkins University has fostered through decades of research collaborations, academic exchanges, and institutional partnerships.

GKII's ELS is a central hub, helping Hopkins faculty and administrators engage effectively with Indian institutions, policymakers, and students. The service provides insights into India's regulatory landscape, market trends, and partnership opportunities, ensuring JHU aligns its global education strategy with India's evolving needs. Faculty members receive tailored consultations, access to research, and networking opportunities that help them launch and expand collaborations. Additionally, ELS provides an opportunity for multidisciplinary educational collaborations for new academic programs and research collaborations led by GKII with India partners and Hopkins faculty.

ELS ACTIVITIES

In 2024, GKII conducted more than **20 External India Education consultations** in 2024, establishing a base for participants to share education trends and research, discuss student mobility data, review marketing and recruiting information, and establish best practices for student support.

In addition, **12 GKII-JHU India Education Opportunities Workgroup Meetings** were held, with participation from across Johns Hopkins, including the School of Medicine, Bloomberg School of Public Health, School of Nursing, Carey Business School, Whiting School of Engineering, Krieger School of Arts and Science and the Advanced Academic Programs, Undergraduate Admissions, and Academic Affairs.

> "I've been very impressed by the India Education sessions led by GKII. These discussions present both opportunities and challenges we should all be aware of"

-Dean Alexander Triantis, Carey Business School

> "India offers enormous opportunities for collaboration in research, education, and workforce development. Our goal is to create a more coordinated and impactful approach to JHU's engagement in India. By fostering a 'One JHU' approach, ELS streamlines resources and communications, provides strategic guidance, and connects faculty and divisions with Indian partners, thereby creating new opportunities for students, researchers, and institutional partners in India."

- Beth Romanski, GKII Program Manager

Education Initiatives by JHU Schools in India

School of Medicine Strengthening Physicians' Infectious Disease Treatments

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine convened a course in Chennai. Foundations in Clinical Infectious Diseases hybrid course focused on enhancing healthcare professionals' expertise in managing infectious diseases. Designed for primary care providers, emergency physicians, and public health practitioners, the course included eight online modules and a 2.5-day in-person conference. Topics covered HIV treatment, latent tuberculosis, antibiotic stewardship, vaccine updates, and management of sexually transmitted infections, and incorporated case studies and clinical exercises.

Exploring Engineering with WSE's HEEP

The Hopkins Engineering Exploratory Program (HEEP) offered junior undergraduates from around the globe a brief, immersive experience at the Whiting School of Engineering, combining engineering and STEM workshops, short courses, campus tours, lab visits, day trips, and panels on graduate school and engineering careers. In June, HEEP received more than 800 applications, with a significant number of participants from Indian universities. This opportunity allowed students to gain guidance on application processes and meet current graduate students while visiting departments of interest.

School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Cohort Explores AI Governance in India

The IDEV Practicum at JHU SAIS allows students to work directly with public, private, and nongovernmental organizations as a capstone to their graduate studies. In 2023, the India practicum featured two groups focusing on AI governance and US-India bilateral space collaboration. From January 3 to 12, the cohort led by **Dr. Joshua White**, visited New Delhi and Bangalore, engaging with stakeholders, researchers, and entrepreneurs in the AI and space industries. The students were hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs' New and Emerging Strategic Technologies division and the U.S. Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in Delhi. In Bengaluru, they interacted with students and researchers at the National Institute of Advanced Studies and held discussions at the Takshashila Institution, also connecting with innovative startups.

Bloomberg School of Public Health is Working with Local Leaders to Build Robust Strategies

The Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, commissioned BSPH and the Karnataka Health Promotion Trust to work with Gram Panchayats (local governments) to address the social determinants of health and enhance community engagement in Primary Health Care. Their goal is to strengthen Gram Panchayat Task Forces ability to connect community members, panchayats, and healthcare providers, while promoting grassroots convergence and increasing community ownership

of Health & Wellness Centers in rural areas. Concurrently, the Johns Hopkins Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Strengthening Support Project is also providing technical and advisory support in collaboration with UP-TSU partners in the areas of health systems strengthening, analytics and capacity building. Most recently, university leaders cemented a partnership between India-based Bharat Biotech and BSPH to boost vaccine science research in India through the establishment of the Ella PhD Scholarship in International Health. The scholarship supports doctoral students to advance vaccine science, develop new vaccines, conduct research on vaccine safety, and develop strategies for overcoming vaccine hesitancy and misinformation.

Carey Business School Focusing on Outreach and Connection in India

The Carey Business School (CBS) is actively engaged in outreach and networking in India. In November 2024, **Dean Alexander Triantis** and **Associate Dean for Academic Programs Supriya Munshaw** visited India with the GKII delegation and met with several partners and potential partner institutions to discuss collaboration opportunities including non-degree and dual degree programs. CBS has signed three formal agreements (with more on the way) with undergraduate schools enabling Indian students to transition into, and receive scholarships for, one of six specialized master's programs at CBS.

In addition, the Carey School faculty workgroup, led by Associate Professor of Practice and Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Supriya Munshaw, is focusing on efforts in India. Members of the taskforce include **Rick Smith**, Professor of Practice and Executive Advisor to the Dean; **Nagpurnanand Prabhala**, **Francis J. Carey, Jr.** (Endowed) Professor; **Ritu Aggarwal**, Wm. Polk Carey Distinguished Professor; **Sudip Gupta**, Associate Professor of Practice. The workgroup meets regularly to discuss current academic and professional connections in India and is evaluating opportunities for academic collaborations.

Innovating Digital Health with the Whiting School of Engineering

The Whiting School of Engineering (WSE) and Vellore Institute of Technology, Bhopal, jointly hosted a Health Hackathon, bringing together 2,600+ students to tackle real-world healthcare challenges. With the theme "Improving Health Through Accessible and Empowering Innovation," the event featured AI-driven healthcare, medical technology, and digital health solutions. The event deepens engagement with India through academic, research, and industry collaborations.

Engagements and Partnerships Through the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) is actively engaged in several collaborative projects in India. In partnership with the Christian Medical College Vellore College of Nursing, JHSON is co-developing a virtual mental health and wellness center. This project, which involves several graduate students, staff, and faculty, has successfully completed the delivery of four modules that have undergone review and revision. A manuscript detailing joint activities has been published, and faculty feedback indicates that the modules are beneficial for students, faculty, and staff. **Andre Nogueira**, who has spent the past five years collaborating with the Transform Rural India Foundation and various government agencies at the central, state, and local levels on rural development initiatives, has recently joined JHSON to integrate design knowledge with other disciplines to effect

policy and systems change. In this next year, he will be shaping research and capacity-building programs that bridge his prior work with the Hopkins agenda, leveraging design for policy and systems change. Associate Professor **Dr. Bushra Sabri** and JHSON have also developed the Women and Children Safety Health and Empowerment (WC-SHE) program, which provides antenatal and postnatal care services for rural and tribal women in India. The WC-SHE components contributed to a significant reduction in domestic violence, improved psychological recovery, and greater autonomy for women in ensuring their safety. The program also fostered positive post-pregnancy safety practices for both mothers and children, leading to measurable improvements in child health and safety outcomes.

10

Policy and Practice

PHC Symposium

JHU faculty and India-based project teams gathered in Delhi on January 18th and 19th 2024, for the PHC Symposium, featuring engaging panel discussions and a series of interactive sessions on emerging issues in primary health care in India and potential research and collaboration opportunities to address them.

Its purpose was to tackle challenges, foster collaboration, and identify future research areas and partnerships for Primary Health Care (PHC) initiatives in India, thereby shaping the future of healthcare in the country. Organized by GKII and the Health Systems Program – Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins

Bloomberg School of Public Health, this symposium led by **Dr. Sara Bennett**, served as a pivotal platform for faculty and researchers dedicated to PHC research projects in India.

The themes included finance and governance, meeting the needs of vulnerable populations, community engagement, integrated primary and secondary healthcare models in LMICs and leadership training initiatives, and health information systems. The discussions addressed emerging issues and challenges while exploring deeper insights into potential research areas and collaborations for future PHC initiatives in India.

Panel Discussions

Institutional Structures and Financing Models for Building Robust Primary Healthcare Systems

Speakers:

Dr Atul Kotwal
Executive Director, National Health Systems Resource Centre, New Delhi

Dr Rajani Ved
Director Health, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation New Delhi

Dr Aarushi Bhatnagar
Senior Economist Health, World Bank, India

Developing Inclusive PHC Systems for Vulnerable Populations

Speakers:

Dr. Somesh Kumar
Country Director, Jhpiego India

Dr. Devaki Nambiar
Program Director, Healthy Societies Strategy, The George Institute of Global Health

Meike Schleiff
Scientist, Alliance for Health Policy, and Systems Research, World Health Organization

Sessions

Community Engagement

This session focused on projects and research that foster deeper connections between healthcare providers and the communities they serve.

Speakers:

Shalini Singh
Senior Researcher, Johns Hopkins India (JHPIEGO Community Engagement Project)

Aditya Singh
Executive Director and Deputy Chief of Party ACCELERATE

Raghukul Ratan Pandey
Senior Research Officer, UP Project

Promoting Teamwork and Interlinkages across Levels of the System and Developing Capacity

This session explored integrated primary-secondary healthcare models in low- and middle-income countries and leadership training initiatives within India's healthcare system.m.

Speakers:

Zabir Hasan
Assistant Scientist, Health Systems, BSPH

Aman M Mishra
Team Lead, Public Health Management & Leadership-UP Project

Exploring More about PHC – Health information systems, evidence and evidence use

This session explored the intricacies of primary healthcare in India, with a specific focus on health information systems, evidence, and practical applications.

Speakers:

Subhash Ghosh, Project Lead (YRG CARE, ACCELERATE)

Akriti Mehta, Senior Public Health Specialist, India Primary Healthcare Support Initiative

Smisha Agarwal, Associate Professor, Director, Center for Global Digital Health Innovation, BSP

Swati Srivastava, Senior Program Officer, UP Project

To read the summary of the PHC Symposium click here or scan the QR code:

Welcoming the Health Minister of Tamil Nadu

On July 9, GKII and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health welcomed Tamil Nadu's Health Minister Hon. Ma. Subramanian, and Health Secretary Mr. Gagandeep Singh Bedi. In this exclusive seminar, Minister Subramanian shared insights into Tamil Nadu's groundbreaking "Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam" scheme, the first of its kind in India, aimed at reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases in the state.

Improving Women in STEMM Participation

GKII Deputy Director, **Neetisha Besra**, presented at the US-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment during the India Ideas Summit 2024 in New Delhi. As an anchor partner, GKII showcased the India RISE Fellowship, which promotes leadership, upskilling, and mentorship for women in India. This initiative, supported by USAID India, the U.S. Department of State, and USIBC, aims to break structural barriers and expand opportunities for women in STEMM. A subsequent roundtable discussed ways to foster collaboration between public and private sectors to advance women's economic participation. Participants included Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues and Alliance co-chair Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, Assistant Secretary Donald Lu, USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Änjali Kaur, and Deputy Assistant Secretary Nancy Izzo Jackson.

National Consultation Workshop on TB Free Schools Initiative

Dr. Anurag Agrawal, Dean of Trivedi School of Biosciences, Ashoka University speaking on the panel discussing pediatric TB along with Dr. Kunchok Dorjee, Dr. Amita Gupta, Dr. Shibu Vijayan, moderated by Dr. Vidya Mave

As part of a consultation workshop on pediatric TB, GKII and the Johns Hopkins Center for Infectious Diseases in India convened experts from academia, industry, government, and development sectors to explore scalable solutions. The workshop began with a panel discussion on research and innovation in pediatric TB, followed by sessions focused on clinical, programmatic, and technical aspects of the TB-Free Schools Initiative.

Participants engaged in brainstorming on key challenges such as treatment adherence, integration with national programs, AI-driven diagnostics, community engagement, and data-driven strategies for TB prevention and screening. The goal was to disseminate knowledge, exchange findings, and co-create a robust, scalable intervention. Experts from institutions including Johns Hopkins University, AIIMS Gorakhpur, AIIMS Rajkot, Ashoka University, Delek Hospital, PATH, Qure.ai, Intelehealth, IPE Global, and Khushi Baby contributed their insights.

"Pediatric TB diagnosis is challenging; however, in recent years, digital and AI tools, specifically X-ray reading AI, have emerged as key tools to enable faster decision-making and linkage to diagnostics or latent TB infection testing. Generating evidence of these new tools is of paramount importance for framing policies for scale-up."

- Dr. Shibu Vijayan, Medical Director, Global Health, Qure.ai

11

Community Engagement

Students

Welcoming the Student Community to the Second Annual Gathering

Ringing in the school year, GKII hosted the second annual event, bringing together 140 Hopkins students from or interested in India to meet alumni, faculty, and staff. New GKII Executive Director Kunal Pal, and GKII faculty co-chairs Amita Gupta and Sara Bennett, who spoke about GKII's dedication to India, the power of collaboration, and shared many opportunities for professional development and student mentorship. Student groups like JHISA, SAMSA, IGSA, HSC participated at the event. Several alumni also provided updates on their work post-Hopkins and shared collaboration and internship opportunities available.

A Trip to the United Nations

GKII and the Bloomberg School of Public Health Student Assembly sponsored 55 students on a visit to the United Nations headquarters in New York City on May 14. Organized by the **Johns Hopkins Indian Student Association** and the **Asia Pacific Public Health Network**, they learned firsthand about the organization's mission to foster peace, security, and development, and how the UN influences global health initiatives and international policy.

Student Spotlight Series

Ashok Kumar Kanaparthi
CBS/BSPH '25

"As the Student Assembly President representing over 5,000 students from 96 countries, I have had the privilege of working closely with a diverse student body."

Mohua Chakraborty Choudhury
BSPH '24

"My educational journey has been influenced by my hands-on experiences with rare disease patients, revealing the critical importance of equitable healthcare."

Student Publication Highlight

Students from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) were published in the *Indian Public Policy Review* for their article, "Decoding India's AI Governance Strategy and Its Implications for the U.S.-India Bilateral Relationship." The article explores India's distinctive approach to AI governance, its emerging leadership in multilateral discussions on responsible AI, and the potential impact of its policies on U.S.-India technology cooperation.

Mahaveer Singhvi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, GoI, briefs SAIS students on India's space and AI ecosystems, governance approach, and opportunities for India–US collaboration.

GKII Interns

Hayley Chu
WSE '25
Supported GKII social media to improve student engagement on popular platforms like Instagram.
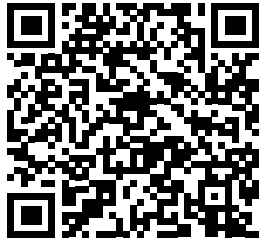
Yash Bagde
WSE '25
Supported analysis of grant database and generated insights for GKII's India operations.

Himalaya Kadari
WSE '25
Developed a database of 500+ research, fellowship and career resources for India RISE fellowship. Developed website wireframe for the program.

JHU India One Hop Mentoring

In April 2024, GKII launched the JHU India One Hop Mentoring Group, a vibrant online community of 100+ members created specifically for students and alumni with ties to India and the Indian diaspora. This initiative offers tailored individual and group mentorship experiences, providing participants with access to curated resources, educational materials, and professional development opportunities. Through first-hand connections with fellow students and accomplished alumni, members can expand their global networks and strengthen their career potential. The platform also serves as a hub for staying informed on JHU India news, career openings, and the latest research, policy, and engagement efforts from GKII and our partners across India.

Faculty

In 2024, GKII expanded its support for Johns Hopkins faculty working on India-focused research, education, and policy.

The **Faculty Steering Committee** played a central role in shaping GKII's strategic direction. This cross-disciplinary group guided efforts to grow high-impact collaborations between JHU and Indian institutions.

Through the **Breakthrough Research Grants (BRG) Program**, GKII provided **pilot funding** to faculty projects with India-based partners. These grants supported early-stage research in priority areas and helped build long-term, equitable collaborations.

GKII launched a **faculty project compendium** mapping JHU-led research and partnerships across India. The compendium highlights work in public health, climate, education, technology, and policy, and serves as a tool for engaging collaborators and funders.

GKII also hosted **four university-wide webinars and panels featuring Hopkins faculty.** These events showcased faculty expertise and created opportunities for knowledge sharing and public dialogue on critical global issues.

Dr. Nadia Hansel, Director, Johns Hopkins Department of Medicine, participates in GKII Symposium on Infectious Diseases: The Past, Present, and Future. She was joined by Drs. Amita Gupta, Sunil Solomon, and Vidya Mave.

Faculty Spotlights

Spotlight

Uttara Bharath Kumar
Associate Faculty, BSPH; Team Lead for India for the Center for Communications Programs (CCP)

"I have a passion for trying to write or communicate around things that make a change."

Nakul Shekhawat
Stephen F Raab & Mariellen Brickley-Raab Rising Professor of Ophthalmology

"Working with our collaborators at Johns Hopkins and in India, we can help reimagine healthcare delivery. Expanding access to eye care enables massive contributions to the well-being of humanity. That, I think, is the most exciting part."

Anju Malhotra
Distinguished Professor of the Practice

"If you are a woman from South Asia, awareness of women's unequal position is in your bones. Even though I grew up and lived in the US since age 11, growing up in India that first decade of my life has ingrained a deep sensitivity and desired to overcome the injustices women and girls and face everywhere, but especially in the Subcontinent. I can never forget that I was born in Kapurthala, the district with the worst sex ratio at birth in India."

Joshua White
Professor of Practice of International Affairs, SAIS Director of the U.S.-ASEAN and U.S.-Pacific Institutes for Rising Leaders

"This has been a very positive few years in the US-India relationship, and it's a relationship that's likely to continue being important to both governments. There's a lot of demand and interest, so I'm excited to keep working."

Alumni

Tapping into the Power of Our Alumni Network

In 2024, GKII strengthened its engagement with JHU alumni across India, recognizing their vital role in expanding the university's presence and impact in the region.

We began the year with a thoughtful alumni roundtable in New Delhi on March 30. **Damini Agarwal, Monika Kochar, Nishant Mathur, Bassem Zayed, Purvi Patel**, and **Vikrant Mitta** joined us for a candid discussion on building stronger alumni connections and leveraging collective expertise to support JHU's work in India.

On August 6, we hosted a second roundtable in New Delhi, bringing together senior alumni from diverse sectors including healthcare, technology, business, public policy, and entrepreneurship. The group explored opportunities for collaboration and shared ideas on how alumni can play a more active role in supporting JHU's engagement across India. We thank the participants who joined from Delhi and beyond: **Dr. Ashok Agarwal, Indu Bhushan, Ashima Munjal, Nitish Dogra, Nishant Mathur, Uttara**

Bharath Kumar, Damini Agarwal, James Abraham, Jayati Jain Aggarwal, Preyash Shah, Mohua Chakraborty Choudhury, and **Zahra M.**

On October 1, we convened a virtual consultation to explore the formation of a formal Johns Hopkins alumni association in India. Alumni discussed structure, naming, and governance, with strong support for registering the association as a nonprofit to promote transparency, accountability, and enable tax benefits for donors. They recommended an all-India structure with flexibility for regional or school-based chapters and suggested several names that reflect the Hopkins identity. Many also volunteered to support planning for President Daniels' upcoming visit to India in November.

These conversations reflect the energy, dedication, and shared purpose of a growing alumni community. Their insights and involvement continue to shape a stronger and more connected future for Johns Hopkins in India.

JHU alumni with GKII team to brainstorm alumni engagement activities in India

Alumni Engagement Highlights from President Daniels' Visit to India

During President Ronald Daniels' visit to India in November 2024, Johns Hopkins University hosted alumni gatherings in New Delhi and Mumbai, offering vibrant opportunities to reconnect and collaborate. In New Delhi, a panel on U.S.-India higher education partnerships and a gala dinner brought together alumni, faculty, and thought leaders, while a video spotlight on alumna Damini Agarwal showcased alumni-led innovation in global health technology. The Mumbai dinner further deepened conversations around advancing collaboration in AI and public health. Across both cities, alumni reaffirmed their strong ties to Hopkins and their commitment to driving impact across borders.

*JHU President Ronal Danield, JHU delegation and alumni met at a gala dinner hosted by GKII Board Member, Former JHU Trustee and BSPH Advisor **Dr. Ashok Agarwal***

Alumni Spotlight

Anand Kapai
CBS, '14

"After spending many years in the EdTech industry, JHU became the bridge that enabled me to pivot into the business of healthcare. From on-site healthcare consulting projects to collaborating with researchers on bringing new discoveries to market, and connecting with healthcare leaders, JHU expanded my understanding of the vast possibilities within the healthcare space."

Digvijay Singh
WSE '20

"Countries like India have already had widespread internet proliferation that have lowered costs of distribution. With a large young population entering the workforce, and a growing geriatric population in India and worldwide, the cost of both upskilling and skilled talent has lowered, opening opportunities for market sustainable service-based healthcare solutions."

Suruchi Gupta
BSPH '23

"For those with backgrounds like mine, pivoting from medicine to global digital health, I would advise keeping your feet rooted in the field, where health happens, and letting it inform your head, where it is designed."

12

EVENTS & CONVENINGS

Jan 18-19

GKII co-organized the **Primary Health Care (PHC) symposium** bringing together team members from faculty-led projects to connect, share experiences, and collectively envision the future of Johns Hopkins' PHC work in the country. Discussions focused on sharing perspectives, evolving evidence, strategies, and practices. *See page 42*

April 6

GKII convened a panel discussion on research and innovation in Pediatric TB, followed by a **consultation workshop** on clinical, programmatic, and technical aspects of the **TB Free Schools Initiative**, with representatives from academia, industry, government, and the research community. *See page 45*

May 14

As part of its Education Liaison Services, GKII **convened faculty from JHU School of Medicine and IIT Hyderabad** for a virtual healthcare research workshop to foster international collaboration and advance medical research. One notable outcome was the recruitment of Dr. Sri Amruthaa, a top graduate of IIT Hyderabad and recipient of India's Prime Minister's Research Fellowship, who is now advancing RNA therapeutics for pediatric brain tumors at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital.

June 25

Several JHU faculty members traveled to India in July for the inauguration of a new laboratory at the **YRG Care Suniti Solomon Center in Chennai**, co-funded by GKII Advisory Board members. The inauguration was followed by the Suniti Solomon Memorial Symposium, hosted by YRGCARE and titled "Lessons from COVID-19: Back to the Future," featuring JHU experts.

June 23

GKII hosted a **SME consultation with leaders from India's higher education sector** as part of the U.S.-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment by U.S. Department of State. The discussion focused on strengthening women's participation in STEM R&D and the role of India-U.S. academic partnerships in supporting women researchers.

May 29

At **Frontier Talks**, hosted by the Johns Hopkins Center for Bioengineering Innovation & Design (CBID), Dr. Amita Gupta and GKII Deputy Director Neetisha Besra presented the challenges of pediatric TB in India and globally, and GKII's plans to support school-based screening and treatment.

May 29

GKII hosted **Mr. Ajit Isaac**, Indian entrepreneur and philanthropist, at JHU to exchange ideas and explore potential **collaborations with the Ajit Isaac Foundation** and its partners in India. Faculty from Department of International Health, the Bloomberg School, and the Palliative Care Unit at the School of Medicine also joined the discussion.

July 3

GKII partnered with the Bloomberg school to conduct a **Friday Night at the Emergency Room (FNER) simulation training with LBSNAA**, the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, is a premier training institution for civil servants in India. *See page 37*

July 9

Tamil Nadu's pioneering "Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam" health initiative was spotlighted during a session held as part of the **Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma. Subramanian's visit to Johns Hopkins,** facilitated by GKII Faculty Co-Chair Dr. Sara Bennett. *See page 44*

September 11

GKII showcased the India RISE Fellowship at the first in-person gathering of the **US-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment**, organized on the sidelines of the India Ideas Summit 2024 by USIBC in New Delhi. *See page 44*

November18-23

GKII hosted JHU President Ronald Daniels and a high-level delegation during their visit to India. The trip featured several high-level events, including strategic discussions with government, industry, and academic leaders, and visits to key partners in Pune, New Delhi, and Bengaluru. *See page 11*

October 11

Johns Hopkins Whiting School of Engineering welcomed a delegation from **the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur**. The discussions focused on opportunities for faculty and student exchanges, joint research initiatives, and programs designed to drive advancements in engineering and technology.

October 7

GKII participated in a meeting hosted by Carey Business School Dean Alexander Triantis with **Karnataka's Minister for Industries, Mr. M. B. Patil**, to discuss higher education, workforce training, affordable education, and public health capacity-building in India.

October 4

GKII hosted 140+ JHU community members to welcome the incoming class of students from India, who were part of the Indian diaspora, or were just interested in learning about opportunities for students in India. *See page 46*

13. Key JHU Projects in India

Access a detailed compendium of all ongoing and completed JHU projects in India, highlighting the work of our faculty and collaborators across disciplines.

14. Indian Partner Organizations

Support Our Work

Select "Other – Please Specify" and enter "GKII Operating" or "GKII TB Free Schools."

To learn more about our projects and to contribute:
Contact: jhii@jh.edu

Sign up for news and updates:

Join the GKII India Alumni Network:

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