

**Abhay Deshpande** is a Professor of Physics and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Stony Brook University (SUNY). He also serves as a Senior Fellow and Deputy Group Leader for Experiments at the RIKEN BNL Research Center at BNL. Abhay's research has centered around exploring and understanding QCD through probing the proton structure, including in particular, the proton's spin composition in terms its components (quarks and gluons) and their dynamics. He has performed experiments at CERN (Spin Muon Collaboration), at DESY (ZEUS), and with polarized proton beams of RHIC at BNL. He is currently a member of the PHENIX collaboration at RHIC and some future experiments at the Jefferson Laboratory to explore possible physics beyond the Standard Model. Abhay has to his credit 300+ peer reviewed publications, has organized multiple national and international meetings, and edited multiple volumes of conference proceedings. Abhay is an active member of APS, AAAS and recently became National Academy's Education Fellow for Life Sciences for developing interdisciplinary course material for physics and cell biology. He serves on various curriculum development and certification committees, and Provost's advisory committees on STEM education at Stony Brook. Abhay received his Ph.D. in 1995 from Yale University in experimental particle physics. After spending four years at CERN, and a year at DESY on Yale fellowships, he came to the RIKEN BNL Research Center (RBRC) as a RIKEN Fellow in 2000. He moved to Stony Brook University in 2004/5 where he has been since.