



2021



Name: Anish Kumar

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How long have you been at FRES?

1 year and 6 months

Have you worked at Penn in any prior roles? I was a visiting studio instructor several years ago and also occasionally served as a guest critic/lecturer in the Weitzman School.

Job title (and brief description of what you do at FRES):

MANAGING DIRECTOR, PENNOVATION WORKS: I am responsible for overall direction and oversight of the 23-acre Pennovation Works innovation campus, including implementation of the University of Pennsylvania's strategic plan for the site.

Have you or any family members attended Penn for classes or a degree (i.e. children, spouse)?

My wife, my daughter and I all attended Penn – my wife and I received our master's degrees and my daughter received her bachelor's degree from Penn.

What led you to this career?

I have a strong interest in improving the vitality of cities – making them better places to live, learn, and work. My role at Penn helps me strengthen the university's innovation ecosystem, which enables the city to attract new and more impactful jobs.

What three words best describe yourself:

Curious, thorough, tenacious.

What is your most favorable characteristic or trait?

I am always ready to meet new challenges.

What talent or power would you most like to have?

Teleportation.

What is the best lesson you ever learned?

Change is inevitable. Be always learning, open, and ready.