

Trustee



Sanjay K. Jha

Sanjay K. Jha is CEO of GlobalFoundries, a chip manufacturer headquartered in the Silicon Valley with manufacturing centers in Germany, Singapore, and New York. He and his wife, Fiona, are raising three adolescent boys who keep this highly respected leader in the technology industry busy with lacrosse, tennis, homework and various other school activities.

In 2008, Sanjay signed on as the co-chief executive officer of Motorola, then quickly became CEO for the Motorola Mobility Devices arm of the company. He stepped down after Google completed acquisition of Motorola Mobility in May of 2012.

Before joining Motorola, Sanjay was COO of Qualcomm and president of Qualcomm CDMA Technologies. He began his career at Qualcomm in 1994 as a senior engineer with the Qualcomm very-large-scale integration group working on the Globalstar satellite phone, and later on the first 13k vocoder application-specific integrated circuit, which was integrated into Qualcomm's MSM2200 chipset.

In 1997, Sanjay was promoted to vice president of engineering, where he was responsible for leading the integrated-circuit engineering group. He oversaw the development of five generations of modem and cell site chipsets, both digital baseband and RF (radio frequency), and system software. He was promoted to senior vice president of engineering in 1998, and became executive vice president of Qualcomm and president of Qualcomm CDMA Technologies in 2003. He was named COO in December 2006.

“Qualcomm has always been very involved at UCSD, of course, and until now, my experience with campus has largely been in hiring UCSD graduates; they’re some of the best.

“I think UCSD is an ideal example of academia interacting with corporations; I saw that at Qualcomm. I always felt that the industry-academic involvement model is a great model, and seeing how Pradeep [Khosla] is leading change, those things excite me.”

Before joining Qualcomm, Sanjay held lead design engineering roles with Brooktree Corporation in San Diego, and Hirst Research Centre in London. He was born in India and, at age 14 moved to Great Britain with his family, where he met his wife, Fiona. He earned a BS in engineering at University of Liverpool, and his PhD in electronic and electrical engineering at the University of Strathclyde. He and his wife moved to San Francisco in 1991.

He is also on the board of The Salk Research Institute and is looking forward to his influential position in the middle of La Jolla mesa biotech hub. “Both Salk and UC San Diego relate to innovation, forward-looking research. I’ve spent a lot of time with universities because I want to stay current with those at the forefront of engineering and biotechnology.

“UCSD is doing such incredible work. It will be wonderful to be connected to an organization that is transforming itself.”