Nitin Agarwal is the Jerry L. Maulden-Entergy Endowed Chair and Distinguished Professor of Information Science and director of the Center of Social Media and Online Behavioral Studies (COSMOS) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Dr. Agarwal obtained Ph.D. in Computer Science from Arizona State University with outstanding dissertation recognition in 2009. He has a Bachelor of Technology in Information Technology from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, India. In 2012, he was recognized as one of 'The New Influentials: 20 In Their 20s' by Arkansas Business for being among creative and talented individuals who have found not only early success in their profession but also show future potential to step up as a leader in business or politics to highlight their accomplishments within their businesses, organizations or community. He was recognized with the University-wide Faculty Excellence Award in Research and Creative Endeavors in 2015. Dr. Agarwal received the Social Media 2015 Educator of the Year Award at the 21st International Education and Technology Conference, Cyberport, Hong Kong SAR, China, 10-12 April 2015. The Educator of the Year award recognizes Springer authors/educators who have made or are making a difference in the ICT Education/Research. Dr. Agarwal was nominated IARIA Fellow in Winter 2016/Spring 2017. IARIA is the International Academy, Research and Industry Association (IARIA). IARIA recognizes roughly 10 scientists world-wide for their outstanding scientific research results endorsed by international peers, exceptional scientific contribution to the IARIA events, and continuous leadership roles in IARIA conferences.

Dr. Agarwal's research interests include social computing, knowledge extraction in social media, (deviant) behavioral modeling, group dynamics, influence, trust, collective action, social-cyber forensics, health informatics, data mining, and privacy. From Saudi Arabian women's right to drive cyber campaigns to Autism awareness campaigns to ISIS' and anti-West/anti-NATO propaganda campaigns, at COSMOS, he is directing several projects with multi-million dollar funding from the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), U.S. Office of Naval Research (ONR), U.S. Air Force Research Lab (AFRL), and U.S. Army Research Office (ARO). Dr. Agarwal's research has made foundational contributions to computational social network analysis to study digital/cyber campaign coordination, identify powerful actors and groups, study propaganda dissemination, and monitor cyber threats through social media. The applicational contributions of his research include, but not limited to, digital campaign coordination, propaganda dissemination analysis, event analysis, monitoring cyberthreats through social media, social-cyberforensics, smart health and wellbeing, social media in learning environments, network and communication, and socially aware mobile networks. Dr. Agarwal's research efforts bring together researchers from various disciplines such as information science, social science, economics, political science, communication and organization science, and computer and mobile networks and practitioners including defense analysts from NATO, U.S. Naval Research Lab, Dillards, Acxiom, @WalmartLabs, and other organizations. The research has resulted in 5 books and over 100 peer-reviewed publications at various prestigious forums including journal articles, book chapters/encyclopedia entries, and conference proceeding papers. The research studies have resulted in Best Information System Publication of 2012 Award recognized by the AIS Senior Scholar Consortium, a few Best Paper Awards including two at IARIA's SOTICS 2015 and SOTICS 2016, and several best paper nominees.

U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and U.S. Army Research Office (ARO) awarded Dr. Agarwal multiple grants to extend outreach efforts to increase diversity and minority participation in emerging and interdisciplinary areas (such as, social computing) under Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Organizing the International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural

Modeling, and Prediction (SBP), is one effort in this direction. To foster an interdisciplinary collaboration and a synergistic environment, Dr. Agarwal has edited several books and journal special issues for IEEE, Elsevier, Springer, and Oxford. He has served as guest editor for IEEE Internet Computing magazine special issue on Social Computing in Blogosphere appeared in March-April 2010, Elsevier Journal of Computational Science special issue on Social Computational Systems appeared in August 2011, IEEE Communications magazine special issue on Social Networks Meet Mobile Networks in 2012 and a sequel in 2015, Springer's Lecture Notes in Social Networks Series special issue on Online Collective Action: Dynamics of the Crowd in Social Media in Fall 2013, Elsevier's Journal of Systems and Software special issue on Social Cyber Systems in 2014, and Oxford Journal's special issue on Social Computing and Its Applications in 2014. Dr. Agarwal currently serves as program chair and program committee member of several prestigious conferences and journals. He has served on the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) review panels and external reviewer for the U.S. Army Research Office (ARO), Canadian Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Saudi Arabia's King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST), and Hong Kong's Research Grants Council (RGC) review panels.

IARIA provides a platform for bringing together young as well as established researchers from a wide variety of disciplines in the rapidly developing research areas to interact, discuss and disseminate on research issues that are central to the progress and to encourage new collaborations that are essential to a steady development and healthy evolution of science. As a fellow, Dr. Agarwal envisions to advance these goals of IARIA. He aims to develop information solutions that address bleeding edge problems pertaining to the modern social information and communications systems concerning academicians, scientists, and practitioners alike, thereby supporting the mission of IARIA. Dr. Agarwal published two papers at the International Conference on Social Media Technologies, Communication, and Informatics (SOTICS) - an IARIA conference - in 2015 and 2016. Both the papers won best paper awards. He serves as program committee member for SOTICS and eKNOW. In future, he plans to help with organization of the conferences and organize tracks around emerging/special topics.

For more details please visit, http://ualr.edu/nxagarwal/.