

**Gautam Pillay, Ph.D.**

**Vice President for Research, Marshall University & Executive Director, MURC**

### **Biography**

Dr. Gautam Pillay serves as vice president for research at Marshall University and executive director of the Marshall University Research Corporation. In this cabinet-level role, he is Marshall's senior research officer and provides strategic, financial, operational, and regulatory leadership for the university's research, scholarship, and creative enterprise.

Pillay brings more than three decades of leadership experience across higher education, U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories, and university-affiliated research organizations. Before joining Marshall, he served as associate dean for research in the University of Cincinnati's College of Engineering and Applied Science. There, he established the college's first Office of Research, expanded proposal development and research administration support, created undergraduate research opportunities, and helped grow annual sponsored research from approximately \$15 million in fiscal year 2019 to more than \$50 million in fiscal year 2025.

Earlier in his career, Pillay served as executive director and chief executive officer of the Inland Northwest Research Alliance and in chief research officer roles at four public universities. His work has consistently focused on connecting institutional ambition with the people, systems, partnerships, and disciplined execution required to turn ideas into funded projects and public impact.

Pillay earned his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Texas A&M University and his B.S. in chemical engineering, with high honors, from New Mexico State University.