From academia to the federal government to the world of entrepreneurship, Dr. Srini Kankanahalli has developed a varied and successful career, paired with a history of charitable giving across the globe. Dr. Kankanahalli earned a BS in Electrical Engineering from Bangalore University and an MS in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology before pursuing his doctorate at NMSU. In 1991, he earned his PhD in Computer Science with a focus on Artificial Intelligence and Neural Networks.

As an associate professor of Computer Science at West Virginia University, Dr. Kankanahalli developed and published innovative research in artificial intelligence and system security. At the same time, he was pursuing entrepreneurial endeavors, and, in 1994, became one of the founders of CyberMarche, a custom software and consulting company. This was the first of three companies founded by Dr. Kankanahalli.

Currently, he is the chief technology officer of clearAvenue, founded alongside his wife, Harini Kankanahalli, which provides systems integration, software development and cybersecurity services to federal agencies. Dr. Kankanahalli also held a leadership position at the Department of Education focused on improving the cybersecurity of student loan systems.

Among other contributions to NMSU, he and his wife were the first alumni to significantly invest in the NMSU Google Campus, and Dr. Kankanahalli has returned to NMSU as a guest lecturer. Additionally, they helped establish an elementary school in rural India to provide free elementary education, and are dedicated contributors to the Akshaya Patra Foundation, which provides food to children in need in India.

Dr. Kankanahalli currently lives in Columbia, Maryland with wife, Harini. They have two sons, Srihari and Sriharsha Kankanahalli.