

Message from Dean



The concept of empowerment first emerged in the 17th Century which had multiple meanings and one is 'to enable'. Information Technology plays a massive role in 'enabling' of multi-disciplinary fields. "Towards a Digitally Empowered Society", the first International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing (ICARC) will bring up recent innovations, trends, challenges and solutions in their digital journey to enable or empower the society 'to do things better'. Especially, in the field of education, technology-enhanced science education provides a holistic approach where these digital tools are utilized to improve the knowledge acquisition and retention in the learning process. Moreover, and most importantly the field of computing and information technology simply enables 'networking' the society which is one of the most vital things today.

I am delighted today to deliver this speech as the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, inaugurating the first International Conference of the Faculty, which is a limitless effort of few wonderful individuals. Let me offer my appreciation to the organizing committee of the conference, all staff of the Department of Computing and Information Systems; lead by Prof. Vasanthapriyan, the Head of the Department and Dr. Piumi Isanka, the conference chair. I am well aware that you all worked 'an extra mile' to make this happen today.

At the same time let me convey my gratitude to our key note speakers Prof. Meikang Qiu, Prof. C. Premachandra and special technical speaker Mrs. Dilrukshi Gamage for glamourizing this occasion with their presence and enlightening us with their knowledge sharing.

I believe that these two days of ICARC conference will contribute well to knowledge and application platforms in the related field, provide insights into the directions of empowerment in diverse fields, while offering 'know how' to the researchers in other fields to enable their research integrating computing and IT.

I wish you all successful two days with this research dialogue, congratulate the organizers for this intellectually glamorous event and wish ICARC will sustain successfully and achieve more in the years to come.

Dr. Rasangi Sabaragamuwa
Dean
Faculty of Applied Sciences
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka