## **Message from Head of the Department**

I'm delighted to open the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing (ICARC) of Department of Computing Information Systems of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. On behalf of Organizing and Steering Committees, it is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome you to this virtual online conference. Covid-19 disease presented a problem for almost all businesses and activities our civilization relies on. It is not different with the ICARC, but we are very proud that our 1<sup>st</sup> ICARC takes place even in these circumstances.

In this International Conference, our theme is "Towards a Digitally Empowered Society". In connection with the theme, we present several speakers as the main speakers who deliver material related to the main theme of this conference. Members of the Organizing Committee have been working very hard. I will like to thank them for their dedication, time and efforts.

I do hope through this conference we can share information about various strategies in order to improve the ability of researchers in research field and to implementation of the research results. In addition, through this conference should expect to create innovation and meet the demands of the development of science, technology and social culture, especially in computer field.

I feel that this is an exceptionally high quality technical event, but you must judge that for yourselves. I am certain that you will have an exciting, stimulating, thought provoking and productive conference and enjoy not only the technical programs but also the tremendous ambience of the Sabaragamuwa University, which just completed its twenty years of service to the nation.

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