

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



It gives me a great pleasure to pen this message for the 13th Annual Research Sessions of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, themed on “Brace the Knowledge: Expanding Horizons: Unfolding the Future.”, which is unavoidable for the entire world, They determine the future of every society. I personally am a staunch believer that it is only the education which determines the progress of an individual and a nation.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the organizing committee for taking the challenge and organizing the 13th Annual Research Session in a very professional manner. The effort, encouragement and dedication of the postgraduate and undergraduate students had on the research work despite the crucial situation of the country would be highly appreciated. I have no doubt that Annual Research session will offer our university academia to share their international and national experience, latest research findings and insight with their colleagues in the different fields of interest.

I also take this opportunity to appreciate and thank Director/ CRKD and the Organizing Committee for their untiring effort to make the Annual Research Session a success.

I wish them success in all endeavours.

Professor M. Sunil Shantha
Vice-Chancellor
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR - CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



It is a great pleasure and honor to convey this message to the 13th Annual Research Session (ARS) of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (SUSL), which will take place on 13th December 2023. ARS is an annual event organized by the Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRDK) to provide a platform for the university academic community to disseminate their recent research findings while allowing postgraduate and undergraduate students to present their scholarly work.

ARS 2023 is centered around the theme of "Brace the knowledge: Expanding horizons: Unfolding the future" and includes oral presentations by academic staff members who have completed their postgraduate studies this year, recipients of university research grants, graduate students from the Faculty of Graduate Studies, SUSL, and poster presentations from the best undergraduate researchers representing all the faculties of SUSL. For the first time, we are proud to organize the Three-minute thesis competition (3MT) with permission from the University of Queensland, Australia. We believe that the 3MT competition will foster a culture of effective communication, encourage innovation in presentation skills, and enhance the visibility and impact of research across diverse audiences within SUSL.

We are more privileged to have Dr. Narendra De Silva, General Manager, Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) and Lanka Electricity Company Pvt Ltd (LECO) as the keynote speaker and his invaluable insights and experiences, will offer a unique perspective that bridges academia and industry.

As the Director, of the Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination of SUSL, I extend my sincere appreciation to the organizing committee, volunteers, keynote speaker, and everyone involved in orchestrating this event, ensuring its

success. Wishing you all an engaging and rewarding experience at the ARS 2023. May your time here be marked by insightful discussions, meaningful connections, and a wealth of knowledge that inspires your future endeavors.

Professor B.T.G.S. Kumara

Director

Centre for Research and Knowledge Dissemination

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR - THE 13TH ANNUAL RESEARCH SESSION

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



I'm very pleased and delighted to issue this message on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the 13th Annual Research Session (ARS) of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (SUSL). The ARS is a major event on the SUSL university calendar that fosters knowledge sharing across a wide range of disciplines, unfolding in a diverse array throughout the academic fields of the nine faculties in SUSL. ARS allows doctoral, postgraduate, and bachelor's graduates to present their scholarly work in one platform. Moreover, the conference offers a valuable opportunity for postgraduate candidates of the Faculty of Graduate Studies to present their ongoing research work and get comments and suggestions from senior academics of the university to make further improvements in their research.

The ARS conference has long been esteemed for its commitment to academic excellence, and this year's event promises to uphold that tradition with new additions. With a diverse range of research topics spanning various disciplines, attendees can expect a stimulating intellectual environment where the latest advancements are shared and discussed. Continuing its legacy, ARS 2023 is also comprised of presentations under three categories. 27 academic staff members of the university who conducted research studies and completed their doctoral and post-graduate degrees locally and internationally are included in the first category, "Professional Forum". The second category, "Graduate Colloquium" is comprised of postgraduate students from the faculty of graduate studies of the university, and it includes 25 abstracts. Finally, 41 undergraduates present their final year research studies on poster presentations. The "Best Presenter" is selected from each poster presentation session to admire the scholarly contributions of students.

A key highlight of the conference is the 3MT competition (three-minute thesis presentation), with permission from the University of Queensland. The 3MT competition format is a response to the evolving landscape of academic communication. It encourages researchers to convey the essence of their work concisely and compellingly, fostering efficient knowledge transfer. 12 contestants are beating each other at the competition, which would be vibrant and enjoyable for the scientific community of SUSL.

As the Chairman, I am grateful to Dr. Narendra De Silva, General Manager of the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) and Lanka Electricity Company Pvt. Ltd (LECO) for gracing the inauguration ceremony as the Keynote Speaker. His insights will undoubtedly provide a foundation for stimulating discussions on the practical applications of research in bridging the gap between theory and the real world. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Prof. M. Sunil Shantha, the Vice-Chancellor of SUSL, for his encouragement and presence at this event. Further, I extend my gratitude to Prof. Athula C. Gnanapala, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies for coordinating part of the the graduate colloquium. I also wish to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. BTGS Kumara, the Director of the CRKD, and its staff for their unwavering support to make this event a success. Finally, I would like to thank the conference committee including the Secretary, Co-chairs, Treasurer, and Faculty Coordinators, and those who have worked extremely hard to organize this event. Their teamwork is deeply appreciated. I wish all the scholars and participants an enjoyable and inspiring Research Session.

Dr. K.R.H.L Gunasekara

Chair

13th Annual Research Session (ARS 2023)

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN - FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



It is my pleasure and privilege to write this congratulatory message for the 13th Annual Research Session (ARS - 2023) of Sabaragamuwa University in Sri Lanka. This event is significant as it provides a platform for researchers, postgraduate and undergraduate students to share their research findings. The Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD) of Sabaragamuwa University in Sri Lanka is organizing this Annual Research Session on December 13th, 2023, with the theme "Brace the Knowledge: Expanding Horizons: Unfolding the Future."

The Annual Research Symposium (ARS) is an important event for the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS). FGS has the privilege of collaborating with the CRKD to organize the Graduate Colloquium - 2023, which is one of the main events of the ARS at Sabaragamuwa University in Sri Lanka. The Graduate Colloquium is an annual event that encourages postgraduate students to share their research findings and progress with a panel of experts. This helps them to improve their postgraduate studies. I am confident that this event will be immensely beneficial for the postgraduate students of FGS.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to the organizing committee for their excellent efforts in hosting the ARS – 2023 conference in a highly professional manner. I am confident that this event will provide an excellent platform for our university's academia and postgraduate

students to present and discuss their latest research findings and insights in a multidisciplinary forum with their colleagues and experts.

On behalf of the FGS, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Director-CRKD, Chairmen, Secretary, and all members of the organizing committee who have worked tirelessly to make this event a reality. Your dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed.

I wish all the participants an engaging, thought-provoking, and fruitful conference. Let us make the most of this opportunity to learn from each other and make new connections that will benefit our academic community.

Professor Athula C. Gnanapala

Acting Dean

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka