

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Veranja Karunaratne, *PhD, FRSC, FNAS*



Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Knight of the *Order of Academic Palms* (Awarded by the Government of France) 2012.

### PERSONAL DATA

#### OCCUPATION

##### **Senior Professor**

Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

##### **Vice Chancellor**

SLINTEC ACADEMY (post graduate degree awarding institute in Nano/Advanced Technology. Nanotechnology and Science park, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama, Sri Lanka

Tel: + 94 114 650 502

Fax: + 94 114 650 532

Email: [veranjak@slintec.lk](mailto:veranjak@slintec.lk); [veranjak@slintecacademy.lk](mailto:veranjak@slintecacademy.lk)

### PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

#### EDUCATION

##### **Undergraduate & Graduate**

1980- 1985            Ph.D. in Synthetic Organic Chemistry - University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

1974-1978            B.Sc. Chemistry (Special) (First Class Honours), University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

## POSTDOCTORAL

- 1987 Visiting Fellow-  
(International Seminar in Chemistry, Uppsala, Sweden).  
Department of Chemistry, Mahidol University,  
Bangkok, Thailand
- 1988 **CIDA/NSERC Research Associate**  
(October-December) Department of Chemistry,  
1989 Oct- 90 May) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.
- 1990-1993 **Visiting Research Associate, Department of Chemistry,  
(In Prof. Chris Orvig's Laboratory)**  
University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver, B.C.
- 1993-1996 **Research Associate/Research Scientist  
(In Prof. David Dolphin's Laboratory)**  
Department Chemistry  
University of British Columbia & Quadra Logic Technologies  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
- 2001-2003 **Visiting Fellow (On sabbatical leave from the University of  
Peradeniya), (In the Laboratory of Prof. Val Stella)**  
Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry  
University of Kansas, KS, USA

## RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HELD

- 2003– **Visiting Professor**  
Department of Chemistry, Vancouver British Columbia, Vancouver, British  
Columbia, Canada
- 2005- 2008 **Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka,  
May 2005 to October 2008**  
  
Administrative Head of the Department of Chemistry Faculty Comprising  
of 15 Ph.Ds (Senior Professors, Professors, Associate Professors, Senior  
Lecturers & Lecturers) & 50 Technical and Administrative Staff
- 2008- 2014 **Science Team Leader**  
Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC), Biyagama Industrial

Promotion Zone (Moved to Nanotechnology and Science park, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama, Sri Lanka in 2012)

2014 –

**Associate Director Science & Strategic Relations**

Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC), Nanotechnology and Science park, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama, Sri Lanka,

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2009 - to date

Nanotechnology based solutions to slow release of fertilizer and biologically important compounds. Chemistry of endemic plants. Taxonomy and search for new lichen species from Sri Lanka. Development of a scalable process for production of TiO<sub>2</sub> from ilmenite sand. Natural polymers as substitutes asbestos. Extraction of Ti sponge from TiO<sub>2</sub> and rutile. Extraction of Thorium from monazite. Drug delivery systems containing liposomes, Nanomaterials and nanocomposites.

1996 to 2008

New prodrug option for the amide bond. Chemistry of endemic plant species. Isolation of biologically active natural products from tropical lichens and endemic plants. Semisynthesis of lichen substances. Taxonomy and search for new lichen species from Sri Lanka. Study of insect-lichen interactions. Synthesis of porphyrin photosensitizers and their application in the control of disease causing mosquito larvae. Application of singlet oxygen generators in the abatement of common pollutants.

1990-1995 Dec.

Synthesis of prodrugs for photodynamic therapy. Oxidation of 2-methyl pyrroles using perhalogenated metalloporphyrin catalysts leading to new technology in the assembly of dipyrromethane intermediates for the synthesis of tetrapyrrolic macrocycles.

New methods of synthesis of multidentate hydroxamate and thiazoline chelating agents for complexation with biologically active metals.

Synthesis of chiral, bifunctional reagents derived from organotin compounds.

1985-1990

Isolation of biologically active compounds from medicinal plants of Sri Lanka with particular emphasis on the family Celastraceae and Menispermaceae, Rutaceae and Lauraceae. Synthesis of sulphur containing potential antimalarial compounds.

1980-1985

Development of new donor-acceptor synthetic reagents based on 4-chloro-

2- (trimethylstannyl)-1-butene: application to the total synthesis of  
(±)-  $\Delta^{9(12)}$ -Capnellene and (±) – Pentalenene.

**AWARDS FOR RESEARCH OR INNOVATIVE PROJECTS  
(PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OR CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)**

1. Source: Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka  
(*RG/86/CI4*)  
Title: Bioactive Compounds from Sri Lankan Plants  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Period: 1986-89  
Funding: Rs. 380,000.00
2. Source: International Foundation for Science (*F/1294-I X*)  
Title: Isolation Synthesis of Anti-Microbial and/or Insecticidal compounds from Sri Lankan Plants  
Period: 1988-90  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: US \$10,000
3. Source: Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka  
(*RG/89/C/06*)  
Title: Synthetic Studies on Juvabione- a Sesquiterpene of Biological Significance  
Period: 1989-91  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 200, 00.500
4. Source: University of Peradeniya  
Title: Oxidation of Organic Compounds with Metalloporphyrin Catalysts  
Period: 1996/97  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 110,000.00
5. Source: Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka  
(*RG/96/C/04*)  
Title: Bioactive Natural Products from Sri Lankan Lichens. Culturing of the Mycobiont in the Laboratory  
Period: 1996-1999

- Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 930,000.00
6. Source: Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka  
(*RG/99/C/01*)  
Title: The Use of Phototoxic Compounds in the Control of Dengue Mosquito Larvae  
Period: 1999-2001  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 125, 0000.00
7. Source: Post Graduate Institute for Science, University of Peradeniya  
Title: Lichen Chemistry  
Period: 1998  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 75,000
8. Source: International Foundation for Science, Sweden (*RO/96/C/04*)  
Title: Bioactive Natural Products from Sri Lankan Lichens.  
Culturing of the Mycobiont in the Laboratory  
Period: 1999-2002  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: US \$ 9500
9. Source: National Research Council  
Title: Chemical Investigation of Sri Lankan Lichens: Isolation of Economically Important Compounds, Lichen Taxonomy and Biomonitoring of Forest Ecosystems.  
Period: 1999 Dec-2002 Dec  
Role: Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 6,767,400.00
10. Source: National Institutes of Health, USA  
Title: Bioactive compounds from Sri Lankan lichens  
Period: 1999 Dec-2002 Dec  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Funding: Rs. 1,100,000
11. Source: University of Peradeniya  
Title: Chemical Life Cycle of *Talicada nyseus*

- Period: 1999/2000  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 100,000
12. Source: International Foundation for Science, Sweden  
 Title: Bioactive Natural Products from Sri Lankan Lichens. Chemical biology of *Talicada nyseus*; Biomonitoring of Horton Plains using lichens  
 Period: 2004-  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Funding: US \$ 12000
13. Source: National Science Foundation  
 Title: Chemistry of endemic Annonaceae plants  
 Period: 2004  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 840,000
14. Source: National Science Foundation  
 Title: Biomonitoring of the Horton Plains National Park  
 Period: 2004  
 Role: Co-principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 440,000
15. Source: National Science Foundation  
 Title: Pharmaceutically Important Compounds from Sri Lankan Lichens  
 Period: 2005  
 Funding: Rs. 1,200,000
16. Source: National Research Council  
 Title: Chemistry of endemic Annonaceae plants  
 Period: 2005  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 11,300,000
17. Source: National Science Foundation  
 Title: Chemistry of endemic *Schumacheria* species  
 Period: 2011  
 Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 2, 2000,000

18. Source: National Science Foundation  
Title: Development of basic techniques for Nanoencapsulation of bioactive compounds.  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2010 -2013  
Funding: Rs. 2,016,258.00
19. Source: Higher Education for the Twenty First Century, Quality Innovation Grant W3. Ministry of Higher Education  
Title: Improving the bioavailability of natural bioactive compounds for drug and cosmetic based applications  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2012-2015  
Funding: Rs. 2, 680,000
20. Source: National Research Council  
Title: Nanotechnology to improve efficiency of Organic Bulk Heterojunction Solar cells  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2012-2015  
Funding: Rs. 3,550,000
21. Source: National Geographic  
Title: Lichens in Tropical Forests of Sri Lanka, Their use as Environmental Bioindicators  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2014-2017  
Funding: 20,000 US\$
22. Source: National Research Council  
Title: Investigation into Circulatory Un-metabolised Folic acid in Folic acid Supplemented Pregnant Women and their Offspring  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2015-2018  
Funding: Rs. 4,765,500
23. Source: University of Sri Jayewardenepura  
Title: Next Generation Nitrogen Nano-Foliar Plant Nutrient System  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
Period: 2016-2018

- Funding: Rs. 2, 800,000
24. Source: National Research Council (NRC), Sri Lanka  
 Title: Kinetic study of hydroxyapatite-organic hybrid system using Quarts Crystal Microbalance (QCM)  
 Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
 Period: 2016-2017  
 Funding: Rs. 5, 000,000
25. Source: National Science Foundation  
 Title: Design and Synthesis of novel pullulan and chitosan based nano-polyplexes for gene therapy  
 Period: 2017-2019  
 Role: Co-Principal Investigator  
 Funding: Rs. 1,528,099

### **M. Phil. and Ph.D. RESEARCH STUDENTS & TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS SUPERVISED**

1986-1989	Mr. C.M. Hewage (M.Phil)
1986-1990	H.V.K. Diyabalanage (M.Phil)
1987-1990	B. Dhanabalasingham, (M.Phil)
1986-1988	Mr H.S. Fernando (Technical Assistant)
1986-1988	Mr.S.V.P. Sandanayake (Research Assistant)
1986-1987	Mr. S.K. Meegalla (M.Phil.)
1988-1989	Miss. N. Dias (Technical Assistant)
1988-1990	Miss. D. Paranagama (Technical Assistant)
1988-1990	Miss. S. Pathirana (M.Phil.)
1996-2000	Mr. S. Mendis (Technical Assistant)
1996-2000	Dr. K. Bombuwela (Ph.D.)
1997-2001	Dr. R. Ratnayake (Ph.D.)
2000-2004	Dr. S. Kathirgamanathar (Ph.D.)
2000-2004	Dr. H.M.A.M.C. Herath (Ph.D.)
2001-2004	A. Weerasighe (M.Phil.)
2003-2007	Dr. V. Thadani (Ph.D.)
2005-2008	Mr. K. Puvanendran (M.Phil)

2005-2010	Dr. J.K. Jayalal (Ph.D.)
2009-2011	Ms. Imalka Munaweera (M.Phil)
2006-2011	Dr. Asitha Siriwardena (Ph.D.)
2006-2013	Dr. M. Peramunagama, Ph.D.
2011-2015	Dr. Chamara J. Bandara, Ph.D.
2011- 2015	Mr. S. Menikarachchi, M.Phil.
2011-2015	Dr. Geethi Pamunuwa, Ph.D.
2012-2016	Dr. Nuwanthi Katuwawila, Ph.D.
2012-2016	Dr. Sandhya Senevirathna, Ph.D.
2012-20017	Dr. Waranatha Abeygunasekara, Ph.D.
2013-2018	Dr. Irosha Nicholas P.hD.

Current:

2012-	Ms. Dilusha Wickramasinghe, MPhil/Ph.D
2012-	Mr. Gayan Piyadharshana, Ph.D.
2013-	Ms. Damayanthi Dahanayake. MPhil/Ph.D.
2015-	Ms. M S K R Rabindrakumar, M.Phil.
2016 -	Ms. Donisha Liyanagamage, M.Phil.
2016-	Ms. Nimshi Perera, Ph.D.
2016-	Ms. Janani Buddhika, MPhil/Ph.D.
2017-	Mr. Weranga Rajapakse MPhil/PhD
2017-	Ms. Samali Udara Liyanaarachchi MPhil/PhD
2017-	Ms. Madhavi Hewadikaram PhD
2017-	Ms. Upamalika Samanthi PhD
2017-	Mr. Kalindu Perera MPhil/PhD

## SCHOLASTIC AND ACADEMIC HONOURS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1986	<b>Exchange Fellow</b> - International Seminar in Chemistry, Uppsala, Sweden. Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand.
1988-90	<b>Research Fellow</b> - Canadian International Development Agency/National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Department of Chemistry, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
1998	<b>Best Paper</b> at the Annual Research Sessions, University of Peradeniya (Physical Sciences, Engineering Science and Technology),
1999	<b>Best Paper</b> at the Annual Research Sessions, University of Peradeniya (Biological

- Sciences)
- Best Paper** at the Annual Research Sessions, University of Peradeniya (Poster Session)
- 2002 **Best paper** at Annual Research Sessions, University of Peradeniya (Biological Sciences)
- 2001 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2002 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2002 **Fellow**, National Academy of Sciences, Sri Lanka
- 2003 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2004-05 **Member**, Editorial Board, Journal of the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
- 2004 **National Science Foundation**, Special Merit Award for outstanding research
- 2005-15 **Member**, Editorial Board, Journal of the National Science Foundation (Journal became indexed in ISI expanded list in 2008)
- 2005-07 **Member**, Research Committee on Fundamental Research, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
- 2005 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2006 **Member**, NSF National Task Force on Nanotechnology
- 2006 **General Research Award** by the Sri Lanka Association for Advancement of Science
- 2006 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2007 **Member**, NSF/UGC Committee for Quality Assurance in Research
- 2007 **Member**, Board of Study in Chemical Sciences, Post Graduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya
- 2008 **Member**, National Committee to formulate policy document in Research and

- Development
- 2009 **Fellow**, Royal Society of Chemistry
- 2009 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2010 **Member**, Ministry of Technology & Research Task Force to Develop Five Year Strategy for development of Science, Technology and Innovation in Sri Lanka
- 2010 **National Science Foundation Science & Technology Award**: "Best Innovation Having Commercialization Potential".
- 2011 - **Review Editor**, Frontiers in Ethnopharmacology
- 2011-12 **Member**, NSF National Committee on Advanced Materials
- 2011-12 **Member**, NSF National Committee on Research and Development
- 2011-12 **Member**, NSF National Committee on Mineral Resources
- 2011 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2012 **Member**, Cabinet Appointed Sub-committee for Manufacture of Chemical Fertilizer
- 2011 National Science Foundation Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees, *SUSRED award*
- 2012 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2013-12 **Member**, NSF National Committee on Food Security
- 2015 **Presidential Award** for Research Publications
- 2016- **Member**, Research Council, National Research Council
- 2016- **Associate Editor**, Ceylon Journal of Science
- 2016 National Science Foundation Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees, *SUSRED award*
- 2017 National Science Foundation Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees, *SUSRED award*

2018 National Science Foundation Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees,  
*SUSRED award*

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Undergraduate courses:**

- a. Organic Reaction mechanisms (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- b. Reagents in Organic Synthesis (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- c. Advanced Organic Synthesis (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- d. Conformational Analysis & Stereoelectronic effects (4<sup>th</sup> year)
- e. Industrial Organic Chemistry (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- f. Advanced Stereochemistry (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- g. Natural Products Chemistry (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- h. Problems in Organic Chemistry (4<sup>th</sup> year)

### **Laboratory Courses:**

- a. Functional Group Analysis (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- b. Organic Derivative Preparations (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- c. Organic Preparations and Natural Products (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- d. Synthetic Organic Chemistry (Special 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- e. Supervision 4<sup>th</sup> Year of Research Projects

### **Postgraduate courses:**

Organic synthesis

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2017 October - Vice Chancellor SLINTEC ACADEMY
- 2014 April – Associate Director Science & Strategic Relations, Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (on secondment from UOP)
- Nov. 2017
- 2008- Senior Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
- 2008 Dec –
- 2014 Mar Science Team Leader, Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (on secondment from UOP)

2006 May -2008 Oct	Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya
2000- 2008	Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
1996-2000	Associate Professor in Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
1992-1995	Senior Research Associate/Research Scientist, University of British Columbia & Quadra Logic Technologies, Vancouver, B.C. Canada
1990-1992	Visiting Research Associate, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Canada
1988-1990	CIDA/NSERC Research Fellow, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Canada
1987-1990	Visiting Lecturer, Graduateship Course, Institute of Chemistry (Ceylon)
1985-1990	Senior Lecturer in Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
1980-1985	Teaching Assistant in Chemistry, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Canada
1979-1985	Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya
1978-1979	Assistant Lecturer in chemistry, University of Colombo, Colombo

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### Invited Lectures/Workshops

2018	Invited Speaker, iNATCONPH, Current Scenario in Pharmaceutical Technology & Healthcare: A Move Towards Patient Centric Approach
2017	Invited Speaker, Annual Plastics Congress, Colombo
2017	Key Note Speaker, Wayamba University Research Congress
2016	Invited Speaker 6 <sup>th</sup> Plantation Symposium, Colombo

- 2016 Invited Speaker, Annual Plastics Congress, Colombo
- 2016 Invited Speaker, Institute of Chemistry, Annual Sessions Theme Seminar
- 2015 Key Note Speaker, First International Conference on Natural Products Genomics and Drug Discovery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2015 Key Note Speaker, Annual Research Sessions, Institute of Fundamental Studies, Hantane, Kandy, Sri Lanka
- 2015 Key Note Speaker, Annual Research Sessions, Uwa Wellassa University, Sri Lanka
- 2015 Key Note Speaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Polymer Science and Technology 2015, Sri Lanka
- 2015 Key Note Speaker, Annual Research Sessions, South Eastern University, Sri Lanka
- 2014 Plenary Speaker, 2nd Pharm Tech International IAPST Conference Jan. 2014, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- 2014 Invited Speaker, Medical Applications of Nanotechnology, Medical Applications of Nanotechnology, 127<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Medical Congress, July 2014, Colombo
- 2014 Guest Speaker, Sri Lanka Plast 2014 and Rubexpo 2014: Applications of Nanotechnology in the polymer Industry, August 2014, Colombo.
- 2014 Invited Speaker, International Packaging Congress, Nanotechnology in the packaging Industry, Nov. 2014, Colombo
- 2014 Keynote speaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Research Sessions, South Eastern University, Nov. 2014, Samanthurai
- 2013 Invited Speaker, 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Symposium in Medicinal Plants, Spices and Other Natural Products, Dec. 2013, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2013 Key Note Speaker, 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Sessions, University of Moratuwa

- 2012 Plenary Speaker, 1<sup>st</sup> Nanotechnology Conference in Sri Lanka
- 2012 Keynote Speaker, 34<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Advanced Networks Meeting (APAN), Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2011 Session Co-Chair on “Nanotechnology”, Global Forum of Sri Lankan Scientists
- 2011 Keynote speaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Research Sessions, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
- 2011 Member, Review Panel, Institutional Review, Uwa Wellassa University
- 2010 Keynote Speaker, "Nanotechnology in Sustainable Built Environment": Sustainable Nanotechnology, International Conference on Sustainable Built Environment.
- 2010 Invited Speaker, 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Symposium in Biotechnology: Nanobiotechnology – Country Report
- 2010 Chairperson and Keynote Speaker, International Symposium on Natural Products, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya
- 2010 Keynote Speaker, BICOST VI, Research and Development
- 2010 Invited speaker, Section F, SLAAS, Nanotechnology: Social and Sustainability Issues
- 2009 Invited Speaker, United Nations APCTT-ESCAP Consultative Workshop on Promoting Innovation in Nanotechnology and Fostering Its Industrial Application: An Asia-Pacific Perspective
- 2009 Professor S. Mageswaran Memorial Lecture, Department of Chemistry, University of Jaffna
- 2008 Invited speaker, ASOMPS XII, Hyderabad, India
- 2007 Plenary Lecturer, CHEMTECH 2007

- 2006 Invited speaker ASOMPS XI, Padang, Indonesia
- 2006 Coordinator, Workshop for Chemistry Teachers of the Central Province, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya
- 2006 Coordinator, **Second National Workshop on Lichens**, University of Peradeniya & Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya
- 2005 Invited speaker, National Symposium on **Mosquito Control**, Organized by the Post Graduate Institute of Science and National Science Foundation
- 2004 Invited Speaker, Workshop on **Lower Plants** Organized by the Ministry of Environment & Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya
- 2000 Invited Speaker, Training Programme for the Ethnobotanical Survey Team on **Medicinal Plant Specimen Collection, Processing, Identification and Storage** (Organized by the Board of Study in Plant Sciences, PGIS, University of Peradeniya)
- 2000 Member of Study Group viii of National Science & Technology Commission for **development of national R & D programme for herbal pharmaceuticals (NASTEC Publication I)**
- 1999 Coordinator, SLASS Seminar on **Biodiversity Conservation and Commercial Utilisation of Sri Lanka Flora** (organized by Section E-SLAAS) SLAAS Auditorium.
- 1999 Coordinator, **First National Workshop on Lichens**, University of Peradeniya & Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya.
- 1999 Invited Speaker, Mini Lecture Series (organized by the Section E-2 SLAAS), **On Learning, Teaching and Research**, Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo.
- 1998 Invited Panel Member Panel Discussion on **Natural Products for Industrial Development**, (Organized by the Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon).
- 1998 Organising Committee, **NMR workshop**, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya

- 1996 Organizing Committee: **Symposium on Bioactive Natural Products** (organized by the Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya)
- 1996-1998 Invited Resource Person on **Scientific Writing Workshop** (Organized by the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science- Section E2)
- 1996 Invited Lecture **Oxidation with Perhalogenated Metalloporphyrins. Synthesis of Expanded Porphyrins for Photodynamic Therapy**" Institute of Fundamental Studies, Hantane, Kandy
- 1996 Invited Seminar **Studies on Oxidation with Metalloporphyrin Catalysts. Application to the Synthesis of Third Generation Photosensitisers** (Organized jointly by Sri Lanka Association for Advancement of Science (E2) & Students Chemical Society, University of Peradeniya)
- 1986 Organizing Committee: **Workshop on Natural Products Chemistry** (Organized by the Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya)

#### **PARTICIPATION AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

- 2014 Medical Applications of Nanotechnology, 127<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Medical Congress, July 2014, Colombo
- 2014 Sri Lanka Plast 2014 and Rubexpo 2014: August 2014, Colombo
- 2014 International Packaging Congress, Nanotechnology in the packaging Industry, Nov. 2014, Colombo
- 2014 Plenary Speaker, 2nd Pharm Tech International IAPST Conference Jan. 2014, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- 2013 Waters Executive Technology Forum, Oct. 2013, Bangalore, India
- 2013 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Symposium in Medicinal Plants, Spices and Other Natural Products, Dec. 2013, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2012 1<sup>st</sup> Nanotechnology Conference in Sri Lanka

- 2012 34<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Advanced Networks Meeting (APAN), Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2011 Session Co-Chair on “Nanotechnology”, Global Forum of Sri Lankan Scientists
- 2011 4th International Conference on Nanostructures, Kasatsai, Kyoto, Japan
- 2010 Shimadzu High Technology Seminar Series: Nanotechnology-solutions for nanotechnology applications, NUS, Singapore
- 2010 International Conference on Sustainable Built Environment, Kandy, Sri Lanka
- 2010 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Symposium in Biotechnology, kandy, Sri Lanka
- 2010 International Symposium on Natural Products, Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- 2010 BICOST VI, Research and Development, Kandy, Sri Lanka
- 2009 United Nations APCTT-ESCAP Consultative Workshop on Promoting Innovation in Nanotechnology and Fostering Its Industrial Application, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2008 ASOMPS XII, Hyderabad, India
- 2008 Nanoscience Thailand, Bangkok
- 2007 CHEMTECH, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2006 ASOMPS XI, Padang, Indonesia
- 2005 Golden Jubilee Conference of the Malaysian Science Association, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2005 XVII International Botany Congress, Vienna, Austria
- 2004 AFASSA Regional Symposium on Natural Products Chemistry, Kandy, Sri Lanka
- 2002 33<sup>rd</sup> Higuchi Conference in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Lawrence, Kansas, USA.

- 2003 34<sup>th</sup> Higuchi Conference in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Lawrence, Kansas, USA.
- 2000 Gordon Research Conference, USA.
- 2000 ASOMPS X, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1998 Multidisciplinary International Conference on the Occasion of 50th Anniversary of Independence of Sri Lanka, Section G.
- 1996 International Symposium in Bioactive Natural Products, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
- 1992 American Chemical Society 203rd Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- 1992 75th Canadian Chemical Conference and Exhibition, Edmonton, AB
- 1987 The First Princess Chulaborn Science Congress on Natural Products Bangkok, Thailand
- 1986 Regional Symposium on Natural Products Chemistry, Kathmandu, Nepal

#### **UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS**

- 1999- 2001 Chairman, Senior Student Counsellors
- 1999- 2001 Chairman, Students Residence Committee
- 1999- 2001 Member, Arts Council, University of Peradeniya
- 1999- 2001 Member, Board of Discipline, University of Peradeniya

#### **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Ambassador, Mother ශ්‍රී ලංකා 2011

#### **SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

1. Piers, E. and Karunaratne, V. 1983. 4-Chloro-2-lithio-1-butene, a novel donor-acceptor conjunctive reagent, *The J. Org. Chem.*, 48(10), pp. 1774-1776.
2. Piers, E. and Karunaratne, V. 1983. Conjugate addition of Lithium Phenylthio- and cyano-

- [2-(4-chlorobut-1-enyl) cuprate to cyclic enones. An efficient methylenecyclopentane annulation process, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, pp. 935.
3. Piers E. and Karunaratne, V. 1984. Annulation via donor-acceptor reagents. An efficient total synthesis of ( $\pm$ )- $\Delta^{9(12)}$  Capnellene, *Can. J. Chem.*, 62, pp. 629.
  4. Piers, E. and Karunaratne, V. 1984. Methylenecyclopentane annulation: A synthesis of the Sesquiterpenoid ( $\pm$ ) – Pentalenene, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* pp. 959.
  5. Kaunaratne, V. 1985. *4-Chloro-2-lithio-1-butene, a Novel Donor-Acceptor Conjunctive Reagent: Total synthesis of ( $\pm$ )- $\Delta^{9(12)}$  Capnellene and ( $\pm$ ) - Pentalenene.* Ph.D. Thesis, University of British Columbia.
  6. Kumar, N.S., Herath, H.M.T.B., and Karunaratne, V. 1988. Arylalkanones from *Myristica dactyloides*, *Phytochemistry*. 27, pp. 465.
  7. Bandara, B.M.R., Hewage, C.M., Karunaratne V. and Adikaram, N.K.B., 1989. Methyl ester of *para*-Coumaric Acid: Antifungal principle of the rhizome of *Costus speciosus*, *Planta Medica*, pp. 477.
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