Department of Zoology

Faculty of Science / University of Peradeniya



Prof. S.H.P. Parakrama Karunaratne

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About Me

B.Sc., M.Sc. (University of Peradeniya), Ph.D, (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London); Professor Emeritus (since 2025), Senior Professor & Chair of Zoology (2009-2025), Professor & Chair (2001 - 2009); Deputy Vice Chancellor (2018-2021) and Dean, Faculty of Science (2007-2013) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; Director & Senior Research Professor/ National Institute of Fundamental Studies, Sri Lanka (2015 – 2018); Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka (since 2006) & Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society, London, UK (since 1997); Member of the DDT expert group, UNEP/WHO, Geneva, Switzerland (2015 – 2027); Chinese Academy of Science PIFI fellowship (2022-2023), Visiting Research Professor Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine UK (2001-2010), Visiting Research Fellow University of Wales Cardiff UK (1994-2000), Member of the Research Advisory Board, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka (2017-2020); Editor-in-Chief. Ceylon Journal of Science; more than 200 peer reviewed Research publications, **Google Scholar h-index of 40, > 4700 citations**; Several National and International prestigious Awards for Excellence in Research including National Educator Award (Gold Medal) (2025), SLAAS General Research Committee Award (2018), CVCD Excellence Award (2016), Indian Medical Council Vestergaard Frandsen Award (2011), SLAAS Bernard Soysa Memorial Award (Gold Medal) (2005), UGC Hiran Thilakaratne Award (2001), TWAS Young Scientist Award (1999); 17 Presidential Awards for research publications (1999-2019); Research interest: Mosquito control, Insecticide resistance in insects, Molecular mechanisms of insecticide resistance, Control of insect pests in agriculture, control of insect vectors of human and livestock diseases, DNA barcoding and phylogeny of insects, Antibiotic Resistant Genes, Microbial water pollution.

Higher Education Qualifications

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PhD	MSc	BSc
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, University of London England, UK (1994)	University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka (1990)	University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka (1983)

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Awards, Scholarships, Memberships & Fellowships

- National Educator Award (Gold Medal) (2025) in recognition of excellence in teaching, scholarly work and national contribution in the discipline of Applied Sciences, Sri Lanka Institute for Information Technology (SLIIT UNI), Sri Lanka
- Professor Lakshman Samaranayake Award for Research Excellence in Science (2023), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
- PIFI Research Fellowship, Chinese Academy of Sciences (2021-2023)
- General Research Committee Life-time Award (2018) for Excellence in Research, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS), Sri Lanka.
- SUSRED (Support Scheme for Supervision of Research Degrees) Award (2018) National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka.
- **CVCD Excellence Award** (2016) for the most outstanding senior researcher in the field of biological sciences including agriculture and allied sciences, Committee of Vice Chancellors and Directors, University Grant Commission, Sri Lanka
- **Vestergaard Frandsen Award** (2011) for outstanding research contribution, National Academy of Vector Borne Diseases, Bhubaneswar, Indian Council of Medical Research, INDIA.
- **Bernard Soysa Memorial Award** (Gold Medal) (2005) for Outstanding Scientific Research, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science.
- **Hiran Thilakaratne Award** for Outstanding Postgraduate Research (Natural Sciences), University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka (2001)
- **Young Scientist Award** (1999), Third World Academy of Science- Italy & National Science Foundation- Sri Lanka).
- **Wellcome Trust Research Award**, Welcome Trust, UK (2001)
- 17 Presidential Research Awards, National Research Council (1999-2019)
- NRC Merit Awards for Scientific Publication (2012, 2013), National Research Council, Sri Lanka
- **Best Research Award in Science** (2000), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- **National Science Foundation Merit Award** for the Best Scientific Research in Biology (1999), National Science Foundation- Sri Lanka
- **Research Development Award** in Tropical Medicine, Wellcome Trust, UK, (1994)
- **Wilson Peiris memorial Award**, Sri Lanka Medical Council (1989)

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Positions Held

- Deputy Vice Chancellor/ University of Peradeniya- (01st Jan 2018 to 31st Aug 2021)
- Director (CEO)/ National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS), Hantana, Kandy, Sri Lanka- (Oct 2015 to Dec 2017)
- Dean/ Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka- (April 2007 - April 2013)
- Chairman/ Board of Study in Zoological Sciences, Postgraduate Institute of Science, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka- (Oct 2004 - April 2007)
- Wellcome Trust Research Fellow, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Pembroke place, Liverpool L3 5QA, England, UK- (Oct 2002 – Sept 2004)
- Head/ Department of Zoology, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka- (Jan 2006 - April 2007)
- Visiting Research Professor, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine - (2004 – 2010)
- Visiting Research Fellow, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, Wales, UK- (1994 – 2001)
- Member, DDT Expert Group, UNEP/ WHO, Geneva, Switzerland- (2015-2028)
- Member, NSF Working Committee on Basic Sciences, National Science Foundation (NSF), Sri Lanka- (2017-2020)
- Member, Study Group on the Basic Science Research Policy, National Science & Technology Commission, Sri Lanka (NASTEC)- (2017-2020)
- Member, National Standing Committee on Science, University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka- (2007-2013)
- Member, National Committee on Basic Sciences, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka- (2008 - 2011)
- Member, International Advisory Committee, Zoological Society of India- (July 2012 to date)
- Member, Integrated Vector Management Committee, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka- (2012 to date)
- Member, Integrated Mosquito Control Programme, Central Environmental Authority, Sri Lanka- (2013 to date)
- Member, NSF Research Advisory Board- (2019-2022)
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My Teachings

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Research Interests (Research Fields/ Projects)

Mosquito control, Insecticide
resistance in insects, Molecular mechanisms of insecticide resistance, Control of insect pests in agriculture and insect
vectors of human and livestock diseases, DNA barcoding and phylogeny of insects, Insect ecology, behavior and molecular biology.

Ongoing Research and Projects

Dengue vector control in Sri Lanka

Occurrence of `kdr' type mutations and wolbachia in Aedes mosquito populations, and the effect of insecticide fogging on insect pollinators

Characterization of anopheline and culicine mosquitoes of Sri Lanka through DNA barcoding

Species diversity and the potential vector status of frog-biting mosquitoes in selected localities in the wet and dry zones of Sri Lanka

Repellant, Irritant and toxic effects of plant extracts on adult mosquitoes

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Key Publications

Science - (2010)

Pathogenomics of Culex quinquefasciatus and meta-analysis of infection responses to diverse pathogens.

Nature - (2000)

Insecticides and mosquito-borne diseases: Insecticide resistance in mosquitoes can also interfere with developing parasites.

Conferences

Nothing to show under this subheading !!!

My Publications

Please goto the website.

https://sci.pdn.ac.lk/zoology/staff/Parakrama-Karunaratne

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