

SCISCITATOR -2014

The Official Magazine of YRF

2014/ Volume 01



Young Researchers' Forum
Postgraduate Institute of Science
University of Peradeniya
Peradeniya

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Sciscitator – 2014/ Volume 01

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(yrfpgis@gmail.com)

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Young Researchers' Forum

Young Researchers' Forum (YRF) is the official consortium of the researchers registered for the postgraduate studies at the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya. The forum consists of full-time and part-time researchers who come from various fields to contribute to the empowerment of the empirical and theoretical research in Sri Lanka and thereby foster the development of the country. Currently the YRF members are involved in research dealing with the disciplines of Chemical Sciences, Geological Sciences, Computer Sciences, Plant Sciences, Environmental Science, Biochemical Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and other Multidisciplinary areas.

The forum was established in 2005 at the seminar themed "Challenges and Opportunities in Scientific Research for Young Researchers" aimed to bring up the young researchers to a collaboration where all the young researchers share their experience and knowledge to a common goal of enlightening the future of researchers who are at the early stage of their career.

Hence, the elite prime vision of the YRF is to

- Realize the potential of young researchers as the next generation of scientists.
- Interact and exchange information pertaining to scientific research in order to disseminate knowledge and extend collaboration among different groups (local and foreign) of similar interests.
- Generate a research climate that allows for creativity, open communication and free flow of ideas and talents.
- Create a platform to bring the attention of the authorities and government, the problem faced by young researchers in carrying out scientific research in Sri Lanka.
- Promote public awareness and importance of scientific research.

As for now, YRF is being the voice of young researchers as well as the strength of postgraduate students at the University of Peradeniya. Pre-eminent commitment of the all the committee members previous and current, indefatigable guidance of the staff members and invaluable support of the YRF members have paid off with a well-established forum to the dignity. The forum never hesitates to express their gratitude to everyone who contributed for the journey so far.

Following is the list of the committee members of the Young Researchers' Forum designated for the year of 2013/2014.

Yasoja Athugala (President)
Thanuja kulasooriya (Secretary)
Anushka Liyandeniya
Hasitha Dammika
Malaka Wijayasinghe
Mihira Wanninayaka

Pathum Chamikara
Nayana Wijethilaka
Piyal Karunaratne
Randika Rakmali
Sarath Kumara

YRF welcomes all the postgraduate students (Ph.D., M.Phil. and M.Sc.) registered at the Postgraduate Institute of Science, young scientists and university staff members who are active scientific researchers at the University of Peradeniya or other Universities and Research Institutes to come and join with us to make a noble impact to the research culture in Sri Lanka.

YRF President's Message

I am glad of being able to initiate the magazine of the Young Researchers' Forum (YRF), the Sciscitator. I make this very delightful situation, an opportunity to thank, first the Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), reviewers and the editorial board of Sciscitator, the committee members and all the members of the YRF.

The magazine of Sciscitator assembles the articles submitted by the researchers of YRF and the accepted articles are published both as a printed version and an online version which can be accessed via the internet. The aim of this magazine is to provide researchers in Sri Lanka with easy access media of publication. The magazine also facilitates the researchers to make their views and experiences with regard to current research in Sri Lanka to reach a wider audience. All the write-ups are more general in terminology so that everyone who is interested in current trends of research in the country can decipher the content with ease.

All the submitted articles were examined and reviewed by a well experienced Editorial Board which was composed of renowned researchers and senior academics from the University of Peradeniya.

I hope that the magazine acts as a bridge linking the general scientific community and the young researchers, bringing together the most vital counterparts for the development of research based knowledge in Sri Lanka.

Yasoja S. Athugala,
President,
YRF-Young Researchers' Forum,
Postgraduate Institute of Science

Message from the Director, Postgraduate Institute of Science

It is with great pleasure that I provide this message to mark the release of the inaugural issue of Sciscitator, the official magazine of the Young Researchers' Forum (YRF) of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya.

Any postgraduate student conducting research as a registered student of the PGIS is eligible to be a member of the YRF. The members of the YRF, with the leadership of its President, have taken various measures for the development of science, and to strengthen the research culture of the PGIS. Popular lectures by researchers, workshops on the improvement of soft skills and social activities, organized by the YRF, have provided a conducive environment at the PGIS for the members of the YRF.

Publication of a research magazine is an effective mode of scientific communication. I am glad to see that students of many Boards of Study of the PGIS have contributed to Sciscitator by providing scientific articles. I congratulate the YRF for its great effort in publishing Sciscitator. It is a coinciding fact that the YRF celebrates the release of the inaugural issue of its official magazine in the same year that the PGIS celebrates the record high number of graduates.

I have no doubt when the YRF would continue to expand improving its activities to shine it across the nation. I wish the YRF a great success.

Prof. H.M.D. Namal Priyantha
Director, Postgraduate Institute of Science

Message from the Chief Editor of Sciscitator

I am very pleased to see that the research students of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya, are launching their very first magazine today. Researchers enrolled for postgraduate degrees are immensely important to develop the research culture at the PGIS. Research publications results in from their research activities are undoubtedly help to get the national and international recognition to the PGIS.

This official annual magazine opens up a new avenue for the members of the YRF to share scientific knowledge. This inaugural issue consists of 27 articles written by postgraduate students of many scientific disciplines, and I appreciate the authors of all the articles for their contribution to make "Sciscitator" a success.

I congratulate the hard work, commitment and untiring efforts of the members of the YRF for bringing up the YRF to what we see today. I have no doubt that the YRF would continue to grow, and hope that the YRF will be evolved in the future to be an internationally recognized postgraduate research organization.

I wish the Young Researchers' Forum all the success.

Prof. Ayanthi N. Navaratne,
Department of Chemistry,
&
Coordinator /M.Sc. Programme in Analytical Chemistry,
PGIS

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M.P.J. Dharmaratne^{1,2} and P.C.M.A.G.E. Magedaragamage²,
¹Board of Study in Chemical Sciences,
²Ceylon Wildlife Agency

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