

ARS 2021 - Sri Palee Campus, University of Colombo



Contemporary Media and Performing Arts: Approaches and Practices

22nd November 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR



I am delighted that the Sri Palee campus is organizing this Annual Research Symposium on the 'Contemporary Media and Performing Arts: Approaches and Practices' scheduled to be held on 17th November, 2021. We at Sri Palee aspire very strongly to expand our research and innovation horizon, especially in the niche areas of Mass media and Performing Arts disciplines. This conference is addressing some of the challenges and solutions in these vast fields. The forum is filled with expert keynote speeches, research paper presentations, and invited talks. This will go a long way in enriching the participants' knowledge in general and Departments of Mass Media and Performing Arts in particular, especially those in the field of linguistics and IT. I am delighted that international experts are attending the conference to present their papers and deliver keynotes and invited talks.

I want to congratulate the conference organizing committee for their commitment and outstanding drive in organizing this symposium. I am very confident that this occasion will provide a platform for strengthening our relationships in knowledge sharing. At the same time, it will provide the necessary thrust in joint research collaborations and product commercialization within the research society. I aspire that this symposium will be a foundation for the growth of new ideas towards a better tomorrow.

Last but not least, I would also like to thank The Vice-Chancellor, Senior Professor Chandrika Wijerathna, for the continued support and encouragement in every minute to Sri Palee campus. I am sure that the quest of making Sri Palee a top-class campus is not going to be impossible to achieve.

Thank you.

Dr. Prathibha Mahanama Hewage

Rector

Sri Palee Campus-University of Colombo

MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR



I take great pride in welcoming you to the Annual Research Symposium (ARS) of the Sri Palee Campus of the University of Colombo 2021, 'Contemporary Media and Performing Arts: Approaches and Practices.

This event is a scientific platform to share experience, foster collaborations through the research talks and presentation to put many thought-provoking strategies for discovering new ideas and new skills, in addition to exposing your capabilities and discoveries to many interested colleagues.

I fervently hope that all participants, students, experts, and policymakers will immensely benefit from this conference. I am looking forward to an exciting and informative meeting, to critical and above all stimulating deliberations, and last but not least, to getting to know many new insights in diverse fields.

This conference wouldn't have been possible without many individuals' remarkable and unstinted support, the Vice-Chancellor Senior Professor Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne and the Rector of Sri Palee Campus, Dr. Prathibha Mahanamahewage, are the pillars of our success. Their guidance and encouragement boosted the morale of both the presenters as well as the organizing team.

A very special token of appreciation goes to our Keynote Speaker, Prof. Daryl L. Harris, Theatre and Dance, School of the Arts, Northern Kentucky University, and the Plenary Speaker, Professor Maya Gunawardena, Assistant Professor in teacher education at the Faculty of Education, the University of Canberra for their contribution to this symposium. I wish to thank the co-chair, the secretary, the members of the organizing and academic committees, and most importantly, the Sri Palee Campus administrative staff for helping me realize this dream.

Finally, I would like to thank each of you for attending this prestigious conference and bringing your expertise to our gathering.

Dr. Jayantha Wannisinghe

Chair- Annual Research Symposium

Sri Palee Campus-University of Colombo

ORGANIZING COMMITTEES

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- Secretary – Ms. Anusha Sivalingam - Lecturer (Prob.), Department of Mass Media
- Co-secretary – Ms. Ruvini Batuwangala - Lecturer, Department of Performing Arts

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- Prof. Dharma Keerthi Sri Ranjan, Department of Mass Media
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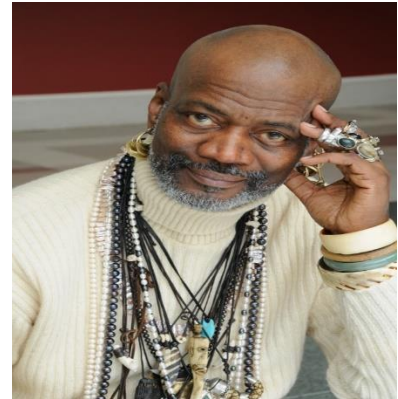
Ms. Woshika Ruchini, Instructor, Department of Performing Arts

Programme

Panel 01			
Time		10.00am- 12.00pm	
Venue		Research Conference Hall	
Chairperson		Prof. Ranjan Hettiarachchi	
Panel Member		Dr. Vasantha Dhanapala	
Panel Member		Dr. Kumudini Maddumage	
Panel Convener		Ms. Thisarani Kaluarachchi	
Technical Officer		Mr. Saman Kariyawasam/ Mr. Dhanushka Kalutarage	
#	Name of the Presenter	Title of the Abstract	Time
01	Dr. Jayantha Wannisinghe	Woman's calibre: A counter hegemony to hegemonic power structures	10.00am-10.20am
02	M.D.N.D.M.Bandara	An Investigative Study of the Cultural Politics of Gender in Sri Lankan Cinema	10.20am-10.40am
03	Anusha Sivalingam	Study on features of the Sri Lankan Tamil cinema to reflect the lives of the Sri Lankan upcountry people in the context of post black July 1983	10.40am-11.00am
04	H.P.Sajitha Lakmali	The Female Local Government Councillors and Space for Media Representation	11.00am-11.20am
05	K. D. W. Ruchini	Movement Experience of Disabled People in Contemporary Dance	11.20am-11.40am
	Q and A session		11.40am-12.00pm

Panel 02			
Time		01.00pm- 03.00pm	
Venue		Research Conference Hall	
Chairperson		Dr. Tudor Weerasinghe	
Panel Member		Dr. Jayantha Wannisinghe	
Panel Member		Mr. Bhageshri Fonseka	
Panel Convener		Ms. K.D.W.Ruchini	
Technical Officer		Mr. Saman Kariyawasam/ Mr. Dhanushka Kalutarage	
#	Name of the Presenter	Title of the Abstract	Time
01	P.T.K.I Dharmasiri	Association of Social Media on Work Life Balance in Pandemic Situation (Special Relevance to WhatsApp and the Employee in Radio Media Channel in Sri Lanka	01.00pm-01.20pm
02	P. Gamage	Online Newspaper readership during Covid-19 Pandemic period in Sri Lanka: Cases of Government Online Newspapers	01.20pm-01.40pm
03	S. A. N. P. Suraweera	The Impact of New Media Technology on Sri Lankan Rural Community in the dissemination of Development Information: Special Reference to Mawanalla Electorate, Sri Lanka	01.40pm-02.00pm
04	Prof. Ranjan C.K. Hettiarchchi	Social Media and Dialectal Variation among Youths in Contemporary Sri Lanka	02.00pm-02.20pm
05	Amila Lokumannage	A Study on the Effects of Television Exam Hosting Programs: Special reference to <i>Jathika Pasala</i> Program of Sri Lanka Rupavahini Cooperation	02.20pm-02.40pm
	Q and A session		02.40pm-03.00pm

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Biography and Abstract

Contemporary Approaches and Performance Practices: The Survival of the Fit

Adaptability is the hidden secret to the longevity of tradition. While the heart and soul of many traditional art forms across the globe have remained stable, their flesh and bones have grown and adapted with each passing century. Recently, the rate of that growth and development has accelerated. Each decade presents new challenges to survival and vitality in all areas of the arts. This atypically interactive speech looks at our “new normal.” It touches briefly on the necessity and effectiveness of new trends in digital-artistic marketing. Participants are encouraged to share what is working, and what is lacking in their home institutions. The primary focus, however, is on Innovative practices in language education and qualitative values in contemporary visual and performing arts. Dr. Harris’s “SIBA Initiative” --an ongoing program using theatre techniques to help English as a Second Language students to learn the language, and to speak it more confidently-- serves as a point of departure for the exploration of these topics, as well as the topic of creative arts and education in the new normal. What must we do to fit in this new normal? What must we do to remain fit? What must we do to survive?

D. Harris -Biography

Dr. Daryl Harris is a full professor in the School of the Arts (SOTA) Theatre and Dance Program at Northern Kentucky University (NKU). Harris has a BA in psychology and an MFA in theatre, both from the University of Southern Mississippi. He completed doctoral course work in theatre at the University of Victoria. He completed his dissertation, “New Orleans Mardi Gras Indian Chiefs and Their Costumes: Trans-cultural, Communal Icons,” in completion of requirements for the PhD in interdisciplinary studies at the University of Alabama. At NKU since 2003, he is an over 50-year veteran of traditional, alternative,

academic, and applied theatre. He has studied and worked throughout North America, Europe, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Australia. In addition to teaching diverse interdisciplinary theatre courses, and being the area coordinator for his program's Theatre in World Cultures undergraduate area of study, Harris also acts in, directs and costume-designs theatrical productions locally, nationally, and internationally. He is a member of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, and a 2010 recipient of President Obama's President's Call to Service Award, the highest level of awards recognizing and honoring volunteerism. Recently, as a Fulbright Specialist, he co-wrote, costumed, directed, and played a cameo role on Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy's world premiere English language production of the traditional Buddhist tale, *Sanda Kinduru*. This was the third in a series of initiatives using theatre techniques to help English as a Second Language students learn and confidently use the language. In 2019 he served as a faculty member for Semester at Sea's around the world voyage. The research for his MFA in Theatre and his PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies continues to fuel his primary passion: engaging scholars and communities transculturally and transnationally across disciplines.

Prof. Daryl L. Harris, Theatre and Dance, School of the Arts,
Northern Kentucky University

Plenary Speaker



Biography and abstract

The Multiple Dimensions of Critical Thinking: Teachers' Cognition, Pedagogy, and Assessment

Understanding and teaching critical thinking (CT) is arduous. Current research on CT has generated much debate and discussion as it is the most important skill for all individuals in the 21st century and beyond. University teachers seem to approach CT at their best based on their cognition of CT. However, research has shown that teachers often perceive CT as a product, not as a process. In her talk, Professor Gunawardena will propose practical and constructivist approaches for teaching CT skills and dispositions in tertiary education. She urges those teachers to create the environment for students to engender thinking by “uncovering the social at the heart of the individual, impersonal beneath the intimate, universal buried deep within the most particular” (Bourdieu & Wacquant, 1992, p. 44). CT learning outcomes will be much more attainable, once teachers regard CT as a by-product of a process to be scaffolded and ignited in teaching. It is time to focus on the learning game, not the final result. People with the right CT will form a sustainable egalitarian society where people make informed decisions for the wellbeing of governance, community, environment, and cultures.

Dr. Maya Gunawardena-Biography

Maya Gunawardena is currently an Assistant Professor in teacher education at the Faculty of Education, University of Canberra, and she formerly served as a faculty member at UNSW. She is interested in empowering teachers with the knowledge of ecologies and epistemologies of the science of learning. Her research includes topics such as teacher beliefs and application of their pedagogical content knowledge, learning experiences and materials design, scaffolding students' higher-order thinking, and practice of evidence-based and personalised learning. She has extensive experience in teaching in K-12 classrooms and tertiary institutes in Australia and Sri Lanka.

Dr. Maya Gunawardena

Assistant Professor in teacher education at the Faculty of Education, University of Canberra