**Mr.Manil Jayesinghe**

Bill Gates once said, “***Success today requires the agility and drive to constantly rethink, reinvigorate, react, and reinvent***.” This quote is extremely relevant to us all as we strive to look beyond the ongoing crisis and adapt to the ‘new normal.’

As future accounting professionals, CA Students have a key role to play in driving forward the country’s vibrant business world when they are absorbed into it. Therefore, there is an increasing need to understand the importance of agility, innovation, as well as to rethink and reinvent if you are to be successful corporate trendsetters with the ability to go beyond conventional expectations.

Chartered Accountants don two key roles as drivers and gatekeepers of a business. They possess the unique ability to drive a business to success while safeguarding it. But, amidst increasing challenges, there is also a growing need for them to play the role of change maker of the organisation they serve.

Therefore, I am delighted that the CA Students’ Society has understood this importance and has decided to focus the 35th International CA Students' Conference on ‘*Break the Frontier- Be the Change*’.

Chartered Accountants are known for their revolutionary and multi-talented skills. They are identified as a brand of progressive professionals, and I am certain that the CA Students also understands the critical anchor role they will have to play in the years ahead as drivers and gatekeepers of businesses.

But success will not fall onto our lap. We must aim high to reach the top, but it takes skills, commitment and dedication to get there. So, as the future of our profession, I urge you to take on the challenges thrown at you, utilise your unique skills and step into those unchartered territories with confidence and be an important change maker in driving the corporate and county forward.

I congratulate the CA Students’ Society on reaching an important milestone this year as it celebrates its 35th Students Conference anniversary. This is a landmark achievement, and I wish the conference and the society all success.

**Manil Jayesinghe**

**President**

**CA Sri Lanka**