

Message from the Dean



It gives me great pleasure to provide this message to the FAuRS - 2021/2022 when we plan to celebrate our 75 years of contribution to the Country's higher education system. The Faculty's journey since its inception in 1948 has been marked by countless innovations that have drastically changed the trajectory of the Country's higher education sector, particularly in the agriculture and allied fields. Thanks to our forefathers for laying the foundation and creating a conducive culture that has become a breeding ground for scientific discoveries while gifting generations of scientists to society with an excellent aptitude for engaging in research, development and outreach.

A significant milestone of the Faculty was introducing the research component to the undergraduate curriculum in 1975, which allowed undergraduates to sharpen their research skills while grooming them as young scientists. Since then, a few academic Departments have organized research symposia at departmental levels to communicate student research findings, culminating in a faculty-wide undergraduate research symposium, *i.e.* the Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Research Symposium (FAuRS) in 2014. Since then, FAuRS has become a key event in the Faculty's calendar. FAuRS provides the Faculty's final-year students with a platform to showcase their research findings and helps them develop their confidence through engaging in numerous healthy competitions and sharpening their organizing skills by volunteering to be a part of the FAuRS organizing committee. The FAuRS - 2021/2022 has taken a novel step forward to widen its scope of student engagements by opening some contests to students of other local and foreign universities to further challenge our students and to make them more attuned to future challenges.

As the dean of the Faculty, I take this opportunity to congratulate the FAuRS coordinator and the Organizing Committee for making the FAuRS - 2021/2022 a great success amidst numerous challenges imposed by the Country's ongoing economic crisis situation. While inviting you to witness the talents of our students, I wish you all a Prosperous 2023 and a Happy Diamond Jubilee Year!

Professor Sarath S. Kodithuwakku

Dean

Faculty of Agriculture

28th December 2022