

MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Peradeniya Economics Research Symposium (PERS) – 2013

The Peradeniya Economic Research Symposium (PERS) is first time organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Peradeniya to provide an immense opportunity for undergraduates and postgraduate students with academics jointly present their research activities and engage in intellectual discussions analyzing their research findings on themes of Economics. A total of 14 peer reviewed research papers will be presented and discussed at PERS-2013 and the extended abstracts of all research presentations and the Keynote address are included in the PERS-2013 proceedings.

The success of PERS-2013 mainly lies in the collaborative effort of the Organizing Committee, Reviewers of the abstracts, Editorial Committee and the authors of research papers and the presenters. As a coordinator for PERS-2013, I consider myself privileged to coordinate the organizing committee

I express my appreciation and gratitude to Professor Atula Seneratna, the Vice Chancellor, University of Peradeniya and Professor A. M. Navaratne Bandara, the Dean Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya for their cooperation and support extended to make this event a success. I also express my sincere thanks to Dr. Nimal Sanderatne, Former Senior Visiting Fellow, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya accepting the invitation to deliver the Keynote address. My heart-full thanks also goes to Dr. John Nigel, the Head of Department of Economics and Statistics and the Staff of the above Department for their fullest support and guidance made to make this symposium success and also extend my appreciation to Professor M. Sinnathamby (Former Head); and Professor (Mrs) A.S.P. Abhayaratne, (Former Dean, Faculty of Arts and Head, Department of Economics and Statistics) for accepting our invitation to chair the Technical sessions of the Symposium. I also wish to thank the members of the Editorial Committee; and Panel of Reviewers of the Abstracts for their untiring efforts in completing the Symposium proceedings. I would like to acknowledge the researchers and presenters those who share their research findings in PERS-2013 and the members of the Organizing Committee for their untiring work to organize this symposium. Especially, I would like to acknowledge the sponsors, Faculty of Arts - University of Peradeniya, CDCE, HDO, RDB, ISD, PALM and KCG (please see inside page of back cover for abbreviation) for their great contribution to this Symposium. Also I express my sincere thanks to Ms. A.V.K. Madhavi Herath for her support in finding a sponsor.

I also extend my thanks to the Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Arts; the Assistant Bursar, Faculty of Arts; the-Coordinator – Faculty Higher Degrees Committee, the staff of Postgraduate Unit and the staff of the Technical Unit, Faculty of Arts; and The Public Relation Officer, University of Peradeniya for the support extended for this symposium.

S. Vijesandiran

Coordinator, PERS - 2013

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