

Journal of the Faculty of Graduate Studies



University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
Vol. 2, 2013



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Graduate Studies*



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The Faculty of Graduate Studies wishes to state that the views expressed in this journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions held by the Editorial Board or the members of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

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EDITORIAL

On behalf of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya, and my colleagues on the Editorial Board, I wish to thank all researchers, reviewers and contributors who have given of their time and effort to publish the second volume of the *Journal of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya*. I would especially like to thank senior researchers of our university system who gave valuable insights based on what they perceived as teething issues of volume 1, published last year. All feedback was most welcome, and accepted in the spirit of collaboration in which it was given.

This issue of the journal is based on presentations made at the 13th Annual Research Symposium, held in 2012. The theme of the symposium was the “Multi-faceted nature of research in the 21st century,” and the research represented in this volume certainly captures its essence. The range of topics, the multi-disciplinary approaches, and the diversity of the articles symbolize the multi-faceted nature of research in this century. In addition to theoretical discussions such as elements of judgment in scientific inquiry, we have studies of pedagogical interest such as musical interventions in the teaching of morphology and syntax.

The first paper in the collection is from the domain of the differently abled, with the researcher focusing on methodological issues of teaching children with learning difficulties. This is followed by a critical appraisal of research methodology in the Social Sciences, and two papers on making language classes more meaningful and lively through music and explicit instructional techniques. Striking a dramatic chord as it were, is the study of majoritarian discourse and masking in a discussion of the persona of the female suicide bomber in Sri Lankan English literature. The scientific analysis of sodium-ion batteries is interspersed between a discussion of kingship during the Kotte Period, and ceremonial dance rituals of Sabaragamuwa. The journal also includes a historical study of the tradition of donations ‘worth your weight in gold’ from the Anuradhapura period, to a description of user education programs launched by the University of Jaffna library, and the struggles faced by undergraduates groping with linguistic issues in the face of English medium instruction.

A highlight of this issue is the role played by the University of Kelaniya in the internationalization of tertiary education. This is symbolized in the research of international graduate students, mainly from Africa. In this issue, we have 4 contributions from the Nigerian students reading for doctorates at our university, in sociology, economics, political science, and business administration. The Nigerian postgraduate students have demonstrated a fresh approach to analysis and a critical awareness, which are the hallmarks of empirical research.

We hope you enjoy this multi-faceted approach to research, and the diversity of cultures it represents, and look forward to your contribution to the next issue of this refereed, peer reviewed, academic journal.

Manique Gunsekera,
Chair, Editorial Board,
Dean, FGS,
November 2013.

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