

## Message from the Chief Guest

### **Prof. Nimal Senanayake**

*“Research is something that everyone can do, and everyone ought to do. It is simply collecting information and thinking systematically about it”* wrote Raewyn Connell – Australian sociologist, former professor at the University of Sydney.

In the field of medical sciences, the process of diagnosis entails collecting information (by way of history, physical examination, and/or investigations) and thinking systematically about it (to find a meaningful interpretation in terms of pathophysiology and aetiology). Thus, research and the practice of Medicine are inseparable. That is why the student of Medicine must be oriented towards research from the very beginning. One might not find something startling every time one examines a patient or a microscope slide, but the mind trained in research will, from time to time, pick a new phenomenon that is of relevance to the entire scientific world. ‘Research is seeing what everybody else has seen and thinking what nobody else has thought’ – Albert Szent-Györgyi, Noble Prize Laureate.

I congratulate the PeMSARC for the initiative to found an Annual Research Conference in Medical Sciences. This is another milestone, and another first for the Peradeniya Medical School. I am happy to note students taking an active part in the organization of the event. I look forward to this opportunity of participating in the Faculty Research Conference.



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*PeMSARC'23*