



**RESEARCH GRANTS  
OUSL STAFF 2018-2020**

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**

## Faculty Research Grant – 2018

Name	Faculty	Title
J. C. N. Pullenayegam	HSS	Developing writing competency of ODL ESL learners in a blended learning environment: Using the ‘Process’ Approach
Prof. W. T. A. Fernando	HSS	Media Socialization of Children on Eating Habits: A study of how television content nourish their lives
Dr. D. D. G. L. Dahanayake	Natural Sciences	A Comprehensive assessment of the tilapias and indigenous fish species diversity and their food niche segregation in reservoirs and riverine habitats of Kala Oya river basin, Sri Lanka
Dr. (Ms.) K. O. L. C. Karunanayake	Natural Sciences	Incorporation of selected essential oils into bio-safe fruit coatings to control anthracnose and enhance postharvest quality of mango fruit cv. Willard
Dr. N.N. Punchihewa	Natural Sciences	Investigation of species diversity and abundance of juvenile fish population in the Chilaw lagoon
Dr.G.P.Gamage Dr.H.M.C.J. Hearth	Health Sciences	Depression, Anxiety and Stress among Undergraduate Students in the Open University of Sri Lanka: A Cross-Sectional Study
Dr. K.A. Sriyani Ms. P.W.G.D.P. Samarasekara Mr. E.W.S. Chameera Ms. A.S.D. Wickramasinghe	Health Sciences	Research skills of undergraduates of three Health Sciences programmes in state universities in Sri Lanka
Ms. P.W.G.D.P. Samarasekara Ms. R.A.N. Dilsha Ms. K.D.S.V. Karunanayaka Ms. A.S.D. Wickramasinghe Ms. D.H. Pathirana Mr. H.A.D.B. Amarasiri	Health Sciences	Possible drug-drug interactions in the prescriptions of discharged patients at a selected Teaching Hospital in Colombo District
Prof. G.W.A.R. Fernando	Natural Sciences	Pressure – Temperature – time and fluid evolution of calc silicate rocks in southern and south – western part of Sri Lanka
Mrs. K. C. Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Distribution patterns and probable origins of coliform bacteria and faecal streptococci in Rawan Oya tributary.
Dr. C. Ranasinghe	Natural Sciences	Antioxidant activity of hypocholesterolemic Euphorbiaceous species and characterization of compounds isolated from hypocholesterolemic fractions of <i>Phyllanthus maderaspatensis</i>
Dr. R. Senthilnithy	Natural Sciences	Computational studies on the inhibition of epigenetic modifications of cancer codes
Dr S. Somaratne	Natural Sciences	Growth and yield performances of rice under treatment of nano-fertilizer-micronutrients: A case study of nano-ZnO
Prof. S. R. Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Biological responses and Expression of plant genes of Sri Lankan Rice ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.) varieties to different rhythmic sound patterns (Music and religious chants)

### Competitive Research Grants – 2018

Name	Faculty	Title
Prof. V.P.S Perera	Natural Sciences	Synthesis and characterization of Green Quantum Dots for solar Cell Applications (2016 – 2018)
Prof. S.R. Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Screening Hypocholestrolemic activity of plant extracts of selected plant species of the family Euphorbiaceae(2016 – 2018)
Prof. S.R. Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Sustainable Utilization of <i>Gyrinops walls</i> Gaetner (“Walla Patta”): Production of Agarwood type Fragrant Constituents using Calli / Cell Suspension and <i>in vitro</i> Plant Propagation (2017 – 2020)
Prof. Harshana Rambukwella	PGIE	The role of "Arts in Reconciliation".
Prof. H.T.R. Jayasooriya	Natural Sciences	Survey of Mosquito Fauna of Sri Lanka for the Assessment of their Current Bionomics and Genetic Diversity
Dr. G.D. Illeperuma Prof. V.P.S. Perera Dr. W.M. S. Wanasinghe	Natural Sciences	Promoting research, innovation & education by establishing a Fab Lab & commercialization of affordable scientific instruments through industry partnership

### Other Grants – 2018

Name	Name of the Grant	Title
Dr. R. Senthilnithy Dr. D. T. Abeysinghe Dr. C. D. Jayasinghe Prof. G. M. K. B. Gunaherath	AHEAD_Development Oriented Research	Engineering immobilized DNAzyme fluorescence sensors for environmental on-site monitoring of water bodies for metal contamination and exploring the metal-protein interaction on specific proteins in selected non-communicable diseases
Prof. S. R. Hettiarachchi	Special Cinnamon project - SP/CIN/2016/04	Identification of Biochemical Profile, Bioactive Compounds, and Pharmacological studies of Ceylon Cinnamon

## Faculty Research Grant – 2019

Name of Researcher	Faculty	Title of Project
Ms. T.M.D.N.T. Medagedara	Engineering Technology	Modelling Experimental Characterization, Improving of Chameleon – inspired Robot Locomotion Platform
Mr. D.R. Kulatunge	Natural Sciences	Bioassay Guided chemical investigation of a Medicinal Oil used for the Treatment of wounds in Indigenous Medicine
Dr. D.D.D.H. Alwis	Natural Sciences	Carotenoid analysis, phytochemical screening and Proximate analysis of <i>Clausena Indica</i> (Meegon Karapincha)
Dr. N. Nilakarawasam	Natural Sciences	DNA Barcoding of Selected Anti-hypercholesterolemic Plants of Family Euphorbiaceae
Dr. W.M.W. Nawarathne	Natural Sciences	Study on student attendance at day school and its links to academic performance in the B.Sc. Degree programme
Prof. S.R Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Development of a diversity panel (collection) of traditional rice accessions/varieties for association mapping of traits important to drought and salinity tolerance.
Dr. Saminda Fernando	Natural Sciences	Elucidating evolutionary affinities of Rattus species in Sri Lanka and their reservoir host potential with respect to pathogens
Dr. D.D.G.L. Dahanayaka	Natural Sciences	Survey of fishing gear and crafts of Sri Lanka
Ms. B.D.D.T.Bulathwatta Dr. G.P.Gamage	Health Sciences	Local Conceptualizations of Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown Etiology (CKDu): A Psycho- Social Analysis in Perakanaththa, Wilgamuwa, Sri Lanka
Dr. Kalavani Vivehananthan Ms Sajantha Thevashayinath Dr Indrika Abeygunawardena	Health Sciences	Screening and Detection of Biofilm Production in Clinical Bacterial Isolates from Indwelling Urinary Catheters
Dr. Lahiru Wijenayaka	Natural Sciences	Curcumin anchored Nano-Zno: A Novel Composite Nanomaterial with Synergistically Enhanced Photocatalytic and Antimicrobial Activity
Ms. K.H.G.B. Padmasiri	HSS	Agrarian reforms vs agrarian development. The sugarcane industry in the Monaragala District.
Prof. Anton Piyarathne	HSS	Moral Colombo: An Ethnography of Emerging Urban Religious Practices in Sri Lanka

### Competitive Research Grants – 2019

Name	Faculty	Title

### Other Grants – 2019

Name	Name of the Grant	Title
Prof. G.K.R. Senadeera Dr. N. Karthikeyan Prof. J.C.N. Rajendra Dr. A.K.L.A. Wijenayaka	AHEAD – World Bank	Engineering Nanomaterials for Photovoltaic and Environmental Remedial Applications
Prof. S.R.Hettiarachchi	Special Cinnamon project - SP/CIN/2016/04	Identification of Biochemical Profile, Bioactive Compounds, and Pharmacological studies of Ceylon Cinnamon

## Faculty Research Grant – 2020

Name of the Researcher	Faculty	Title of the project
Dr. H.L.D. Weerahewa	Natural Sciences	The Investigation on effect of partially burnt rice hull on growth of immature rubber plants, soil properties and cost effectiveness of application
Dr. U.K.G.K. Padmalal	Natural Sciences	The aspects of behavioural response of Red Wattled Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus indicus</i> ) in different environmental conditions: Urban, Semi-urban and natural
Dr. N. Karthikeyan Prof. S. R. Weerakoon	Natural Sciences	Growth and yield performance of rice under SMART-Nano Micronutrient fertilizers : A case study of Nano-CuO, Nano-MnO and Nano-ZnO
Dr. K.O.L.C. Karunanayake	Natural Sciences	Morphological and molecular characterization of foliar disease causing fungal agents of rubber <i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> : with special emphasis on identifying the newly recorded foliar disease causing agents
Dr. Kalaivani Vivehananthan Prof. S. Yamini Sudhalakshi	Health Sciences	Isolation and Molecular Identification of Endophytic bacteria from <i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> and <i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i>
Ms. R.B.J. Buddhika Ms. D.T.N. De Silva Dr. K.A.A. Dilhari	Health Sciences	A Preliminary Study of a Liquid foaming Formulation containing An Extract of <i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>
Dr. O.K.D.U.P. Nishshanka Ms. B.M.P.I. Basnayake	Health Sciences	Determination of Residual Amoxicillin in Selected Environmental Water Bodies using HPLC Assisted ZnOCNF Sorption Studies and its Effect on Bacterial Species
Prof. S.P. Karunanayake	Education	Implementation and Evaluation of Massive Open Online Courses for Continuous Professional Development (CPD MOOCs) on Adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices (OEP) – A Design – based Research
Dr. W.M.S. Wanasinghe	Education	Evaluation of Students Attendance in Accordance with the policy Guidelines Stipulated for GCE A/L Students in Colombo District
Dr. D.T. Wijeratne Ms. R.G.L. Rathnayake Ms. H.M.S.P. Hearth Ms. B.Y. Atigala	Health Sciences	Assessment of Change in Knowledge on Research Methodology among Students Conducting Research Project
Ms. T.M.D.N.T. Medagedara	Engineering Technology	Modelling, Experimental Characterization, improving of chameleon inspired Robot Locomotion platform

Dr. K.D.R.L.J. Perera	Education	Testing the Impact of Open and Distance Learning Material on Mindfulness Practices of Teachers
Dr. Lahiru Wijenayaka	Natural Sciences	Rice-hull mediated preparation of Si nanoparticles as a Novel Nano-fertilizer for <i>Oryza sativa</i> (rice): From ‘Waste’ to Sustainable Agronomy’
Dr. Yohan Mahagamage	CESSD	Persistent organic pollutants (POPS), Heavy metals and microplastics in surface water of the Kelani river basin, Sri Lanka

### Competitive Research Grants – 2020

Name	Faculty	Title

### Other Grants – 2020

Name	Name of the Grant	Title