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# Pre-Conference Workshop on International Collaborative Research

## PGIS - RESCON 2022

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# About RESCON 2022

- ▶ RESCON 2022 is the annual research congress of the Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya.
- ▶ It features (mostly) postgraduate research from across Sri Lanka.
- ▶ Participation - postgraduate students and academic staff members (about 450).
- ▶ RESCON 2022
  - ▶ 9th installment of RESCON
  - ▶ fully online
  - ▶ 295 abstracts submitted
  - ▶ 28th – 30th October 2022

# Themes of RESCON

The abstract submitted for RESCON would come under five themes

- ▶ Earth and Environmental Sciences
- ▶ ICT, Mathematics, and Statistics
- ▶ Life Sciences
- ▶ Physical Sciences
- ▶ Science Education

This year's keynote will be from Science Education.

# The Idea

- ▶ We want to do a pre-conference workshop titled **Encouraging International Collaborative Research**
- ▶ Planned to be held on the 22nd of October 2022 - one week before RESCON 2022.
- ▶ Target group - postgraduate researchers/students
- ▶ We want to make it as interactive and as personal as possible in a virtual environment.


# Objectives of the Pre-Conference Workshop

1. Educate young researchers in Sri Lanka about collaborative research opportunities in other countries.
2. Explain the basic setup of international collaborative research and guide the participants on setting up international research.
3. Discuss the importance of collaborative international research in the country's current context and how such research can help.
4. Organize a setting where international researchers and RESCON participants can interact freely and easily.
5. Introduce the agencies/entities that administer collaborative research via an expo mode.

# Intended Outcomes of the Pre-Conference Workshop

Through the Pre-Conference workshop, the participants will be able to

1. Establish new-found connections with international researchers in their field of interest.
2. Join international research groups
3. find international co-supervisors for the degrees they do in Sri Lanka



To maximize the impact of such a workshop, it must be more **interactive**, fun, and **memorable**.

If we can get our partners' help, we plan to use a platform like Zoom-EVENTS for the workshop.



# Format of the Workshop

The workshop is divided into three sections.

1. Section 1 - Formalities and Introduction to Institutes/Entities/Communities that engage in collaborative research.
2. Section 2 - Sharing personal experiences on collaborative research, ending with the address by the Director - PGIS.
3. Section 3 - Expo – the interactive meetup with individuals.

# Section 1 - Formalities and Introduction to Institutes/Entities/Communities that engage in collaborative research


- ▶ Starts with the welcome address by the RESCON 2022 Chairperson - Prof. Sumedha Madawala
- ▶ Each partner institute/entity will get 15 minutes sessions followed by a 5-minute Q& A to introduce their work to the participants.
- ▶ During that time, they can touch on the following topics.
  - ▶ What is the institute/entity/community, and how was it established?
  - ▶ What kind of research is your focus?
  - ▶ What are examples of collaborative projects/research/programmes done with the Sri Lankan community?
  - ▶ How can a participant know more information about you?

## Section 2 - Experience Sharing through Sessions

- ▶ Will consist of parallel sessions participants can move in and out.
- ▶ Each session will be 15 minutes long, followed by 10 minutes of Q& A.
- ▶ In a single session, the resource person can mention their personal experience in collaborative research.
- ▶ After the sessions end, all the participants will be invited to the main lobby - the Director of PGIS will address everyone on the things that PGIS can do to encourage collaborative research.
- ▶ Please see the proposal for a little more detailed outline.

## Section 3 - Expo – Meet Potential International Collaborators

- ▶ Participants can freely move with the resource persons and network with them
- ▶ They can share interests, ideas and contact information if they like
- ▶ This would make the event more interactive and memorable, hence more impactful.



That's it!

We need more ideas and input, so let us discuss...