

## <u>Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – North America (CUFSAA-NA)</u> <u>Annual General Meeting Minutes, November 7<sup>th</sup> 2022</u>

The Annual General Meeting of the Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – North America (CUFSAA-NA) for the term 2021-2022 was held virtually via a ZOOM conference on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 2022, from 8:00 pm to 9:20 pm Eastern Time (**See Annexure 1** for the AGM Notice and Agenda). With the approval from the members, the AGM was recorded this year for future reference. A total of 47 members registered and 32 joined the conference (**See Annexure 2** for the list of CUFSAA-NA members participated at the AGM 2022).

## Call the Meeting to order

With permission from the members, the 2022 virtual AGM was recorded for future reference. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera, President of the Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – North America welcomed all members who have joined the meeting and called the meeting to order.

## Approval of the meeting Agenda

Dr. Vicumpriya Perera shared the agenda with the members. As no objections were received, the agenda was accepted as is proposed by Dr. Reshan Fernando and seconded by Dr. Chandana Goonetilleke.

## Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, via Zoom technology were distributed to the membership by the Joint Secretaries of the Association two (2) weeks in advance as per our by-laws and posted onto the CUFSAA website. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera thanked the previous joint secretaries Dr. Chandrasiri Jayakody and Dr. Randara Pulukkody for preparing the minutes well in advance to the executive committee for review. As we have not received any comments or concerns regarding the minutes, Dr. Perera asked that we approve these minutes without objection. With no objections, 2021 AGM meeting minutes were approved, proposed by Dr. Binodh de Silva and seconded by Dr. Lalith Perera. Dr. Reshan Fernando thanked the previous secretaries for doing a great job of summarizing the minutes.

## Welcome remarks and President's report

In his welcome remarks, Dr. Vicumpriya Perera highlighted the activities and projects that were successfully completed and implemented during the year from 2021-2022 by presentation of a video (see Annexure 3 - Link) to the membership. The video was created by Dr. Sumedha Jayasena and narrated by Dr. Randara Pulukkody. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera thanked Dr. Sumedha Jayasena and Dr. Randara Pulukkody for creating the video. During his address, Dr. Vicumpriya Perera introduced the founding president, past president, president elect and the three vice presidents to AGM participants. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera asked CUFSAA members to volunteer and be active in ongoing projects. He also encouraged CUFSAA members to suggest any new

projects if they have to the executive committee. The projects have to be in line with the vision and mission of CUFSAA and need to be approved by the executive committee. Once approved the members can join the sub-committees and be involved in the implementation of the projects. During his remarks Dr. Vicumpriya Perera mentioned that recently the executive committee approved the 100-year history project of the science faculty. CUFSAA will be seeking donations in the future and the book is expected to be released at the beginning of the next year. As an appreciation for your generous donations CUFSAA will give a copy of the book to the donors and encourage the members to reserve a copy of the book now by sending an e-mail to CUFSAA.

## Annual report presented by the Joint Secretaries

Dr. Harshica Fernando informed that the Annual Report for the period covering October 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 prepared by the Joint Secretaries Dr. Harshica Fernando and Dr. Wasundara Fernando was distributed to the membership two (2) weeks in advance as per our by-laws and the link was shared online on the chat box during the presentation. The Report summarized what we have accomplished during the term 2021-2022 (**See Annexure 4 Secretary's Report**). The joint secretaries described the projects that were completed and the ongoing projects to the membership. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera thanked the current joint secretaries and past joint secretary Pujitha Gunaratne for the work they have done for the organization. The Report was opened for any questions or comments from the members. Without any questions, objections, or comments, the annual report was accepted, proposed by Prof. L. M. V. Tillekeratne and seconded by Dr. Chandrasiri Jayakody.

## Treasurer's Report

Dr. Lalith Perera presented the Treasurer's Report for the period beginning from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. The Treasurer's report was also distributed among the members two (2) weeks in advance as per by-laws and the link was shared online on the chat box during the presentation. The account balance as of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 was \$28,654.12 (**See Annexure 5: Treasurer's Report** for details).

Dr. Lalith Perera thanked assistant treasure Ms. Sandya Liyanarachchi for preparing the report and doing the day-to-day activities. He also thanked Prof. Saliya de Silva, Dr. Vicumpriya Perera and Dr. Chandana Goonetilleke for keeping the books in order.

Dr. Vicumpriya Perera thanked the treasurer and the assistant treasurer for their time and commitment to the work. He also thanked the past treasurer Mr. Gajaka Weerasinghe for the work he performed during his time as treasurer. Prof. L. M. V. Tillekeratne also thanked the treasurers for keeping the book in order and mentioned that each dollar the members donated has been spent on projects on Science Faculty other than the administrative fees where money is needed for bank transfers.

The report was opened for any questions or comments from the members. Without any questions, objections, or comments, the Treasurer's report was accepted, proposed by Prof. L. M. V. Tillekeratne and seconded by Dr. Harshica Fernando.

## The proposed amendments to the constitution (By-laws)

Dr. Binodh De Silva, chair of the by-laws committee, proposed a few changes for approval and ratification. Most of the other items remained intact. Other members of the by-laws committee were Dr. Vicumpriya Perera, Dr. Nalin Samarasinha and Dr. Unil Perera. The proposed changes were also distributed among the members forty five (45) days in advance as per by-laws and the link was shared online on the chat box during the presentation. The changes will go into effect after two thirds (2/3) majority approve them at the 2022 AGM and some activities may not go into effect until 2023. Dr. Binodh De Silva mentioned that the membership has grown and expanded, and changes need to be implemented to the existing by-laws (**See** *Annexure* 6: Proposed by-laws changes). Dr. Vicumpriya Perera thanked Dr. Binodh De Silva for the detailed presentation and the changes were opened for any questions or comments from the members. Without any questions, objections, or comments, the amendments to the by-laws were accepted, proposed by Prof. L. M. V. Tillekeratne and seconded by Dr. Chandana Goonetilleke. Dr. Vicumpriya Perera also thanked other committee members Dr. Nalin Samarasinha and Dr. Unil Perera for their time in making amendments.

## **Open the floor for discussion/suggestions**

Dr. Vicumpriya Perera opened the floor for discussion and suggestions and the following suggestions were discussed.

Prof. L. M. V. Tillekeratne welcomed all the non-executive committee members who attended the meeting.

Dr. Chandrasiri Jayakody recognized the first joint secretary Dr. Hashini Munidasa was in the meeting.

Prof. Vicumpriya Perera announced that we are planning to have the TAMASHA 2023 in Canada around October 2023.

The organizing committee will be led by Dr. Hashini Munidasa and Dr. Mahinda Munidasa and members in Canada.

Dr. Kirthi Premadasa gave a brief introduction about "TAMASHA" to new members.

Prof. Vicum Perera introduced Vice President Dr. Sumedha Jayasena to the participants.

Many participants and executive members introduced themselves during the meeting.

Dr. Sachith Dissanayake announced that the next talk in the speaker series will be on November 09<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am Eastern time and the speaker will be Dr. Binodh de Silva. He asked the participants to spread the word and join the talk if time permits.

Dr. Kirthi Premadasa briefed about the STEP-UP program. He mentioned that so far we have sponsored six students and they were sponsored by CUFSAA executive members. The Exco members are hardworking and also generous and he thanked them for their support.

## <u>Adjournment</u>

With no other businesses to discuss, a motion to adjourn the AGM was proposed by Dr. Chandana Goonetilleke and seconded by Dr. Reshan Fernando.

The 2022 AGM meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm Eastern time

Thank you, Respectfuly submitted for CUFSAA-NA by Dr. Harshica Fernando and Dr. Wasundara Fernando (Joint Secretaries) 12/10/2022

## Annexure 1:

<u>Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association - North America</u> 2022 Annual General Meeting notice

- The Annual General Meeting of the Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association North America (CUFSAA-NA) will be held virtually at 8:00 pm Eastern Time on Monday November 07<sup>th</sup> 2022, via Zoom technology.
- Please use the Zoom link below to register in advance for the meeting: <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsdOCsqT4sGtWxOXxT0h-ii3yyW4dP91ix</u>
- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Registration is needed for participation in the meeting, and we hope that you will be able to join this meeting and support your association and its path forward. The AGM will be recorded for future reference. All financial reports of the association are audited and verified by an independent, certified auditor.

## Agenda for the AGM

- 1. Call the meeting to order
- 2. Approval of the Agenda
- 3. Approval of the minutes of the annual general meeting held on October 30<sup>th</sup> 2021: AGM minutes and Annexures to the minutes: **01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, and 08.**
- 4. Welcome remarks and President's address CUFSAA progress (2021-2022) video
- 5. Annual report (2021-2022) presented by the Joint Secretaries
- 6. Treasurer's report (Oct 2021- Sep 2022) presented by the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer
- 7. Proposed amendments to the constitution presented by the by-laws committee
- 8. Open the floor for discussion/suggestions
- 9. Any other business
- 10. Adjournment

## Annexure 2: List of CUFSAA-NA members participated at the AGM 2022

Number	First Name	Last Name	Email	<b>Registration Time</b>	Attended
1	Ashan	Ariyawansa	ashan 128@yahoo.com	11/7/2022 20:33	Yes
2	Saliya	de Silva	desilvas@montclair.edu	9/29/2022 18:03	Yes
3	Subashini	De Silva	subashinidesilva@yahoo.com	10/8/2022 15:23	Yes
4	Binodh	DeSilva	binodhs@hotmail.com	11/7/2022 19:43	Yes
5	Sagara	Dewasurendra	sagara.udew@gmail.com	10/17/2022 23:48	No
6	Sachith	Dissanayake	sachithd83@gmail.com	10/7/2022 23:15	Yes
7	Kumary	Dissanayake	dimushya@gmail.com	10/18/2022 14:30	No
8	Reshan	Fernando	fernando7433@gmail.com	10/6/2022 20:06	Yes
9	Harshica	Fernando	fernandoharshica@yahoo.com	10/9/2022 18:09	Yes
10	Wasundara	Fernando	wasufer@dal.ca	10/9/2022 22:18	Yes

11	Wasundara	Fernando	fernando.wasu@gmail.com	11/7/2022 5:10	Duplicate
12	Shanika	Gamage	shanikaperera285@gmail.com	11/7/2022 20:45	?
13	L.C.	Goonetilleke	lcgoon@yahoo.com	10/17/2022 22:21	Yes
14	Ramesh	Gunaratna	mart.gunaratna@gmail.com	10/8/2022 17:08	No
15	Pujitha	Gunaratne	pujitha.gunaratne@gmail.com	11/6/2022 19:35	Yes
16	angelo	gunasekera	angelo.gunasekera@stonybrook.edu	11/6/2022 22:57	Yes
17	Chandrasiri	Jayakody	chandrasiri_jayakody@yahoo.com	11/7/2022 0:36	Yes
18	Neranjaka	Jayarathne	neranjaka@yahoo.com	11/7/2022 20:04	Yes
19	Sumedha	Jayasena	Sumedhaj@yahoo.com	10/8/2022 16:32	Yes
20	Udhara	Kaluarachchi	uskalu@hotmail.com	11/7/2022 12:14	Yes
21	Dinesh	Kankanamge	dineshkankanamge@gmail.com	10/8/2022 17:31	?
22	Sumudu	Katugampola	skkatugampola@gmail.com	11/7/2022 20:23	Yes
23	Sunil	Koswatta	skoswatt@gmail.com	11/5/2022 13:22	?
24	Sandya	Liyanarachchi	sliyanarachchi@hotmail.com	10/8/2022 15:30	Yes
25	Jeevanthi	Liyanarachchi	jeevanthiliyanarachchi@gmail.com	11/7/2022 14:25	Yes
26	Indika	Mallawaarachchi	indik.ma@gmail.com	10/10/2022 9:04	?
27	Kanchana	Mudalige	kanchana@mudalige.com	10/8/2022 11:23	?
28	Mahendra	Munidasa	mahendra.munidasa@gmail.com	10/11/2022 14:16	Yes
29	Harshani	Munidasa	Harshanimunidasa@gmaol.com	11/6/2022 20:40	Yes
30	harshani	Munidasa	harshanimunidasa@gmail.com 11/7/2022 20:02		Duplicate
31	Kalum	Palandage	palandage@yahoo.com 10/10/2022 1		?
32	Vicumpriya	Perera	vicum_perera@yahoo.com	10/9/2022 10:11	Yes
33	Lalith	Perera	lalithmperera@gmail.com 10/17/2022 21:35		Yes
34	unil	Perera	phyuup@gmail.com	10/18/2022 16:34	Yes
35	Niroodha	Pitawela	nirodhainfo@gmail.com 10/10/2022		?
36	Chathuranga	Piyathilaka	cpiyathilaka.edu@gmail.com 11/7/2022 19:58		Yes
37	Kirthi	Premadasa	kirthipp@yahoo.com	11/4/2022 21:07	Yes
38	Chathu	Pulukkody	ac.pulukkody@gmail.com 10/19/2022 1		?
39	Oshadha	Ranasingha	oranasin@mix.wvu.edu	10/9/2022 9:51	Yes
40	Bemly	Randeniya	randeniya@gmail.com 10/10/2022 12:34		?
41	Kumuditha	Ratnayake	kumudithar@gmail.com 10/17/2022 23:12		Yes
42	Nalin	Samarasinha	nalin_s@juno.com 10/18/2022 21:08		Yes
43	N	Somasiri	nlsomasiri@yahoo.com 10/7/2022 23:27		Yes
44	Sachini	Thanthirige	sthanth@rockets.utoledo.edu 11/7/2022 14:19		Yes
45	Viranga	Tillekeratne	ltillek@utnet.utoledo.edu	10/17/2022 22:28	Yes
46	Lawan	Wijayasooriya	lawstc96@gmail.com	11/7/2022 20:03	?
47	Jeeva	Witanachchi	jeevaw@hotmail.com	10/8/2022 0:54	Yes
				TOTAL Attended	32

## Annexure 3 – Link

**Annexure 4 Secretary's Report** 

## **Secretary's Report**

## Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – North America (CUFSAA-NA) 2021-2022 Year

## **Executive Summary**

The 25-member CUFSAA-NA Executive committee was led by Vicumpriya Perera during this term as its President after the Annual General Meeting virtually held on October 30, 2021. The following are the activities that were accomplished or are being continued during this reporting year, **October 01, 2021 - September 30, 2022**.

## PROJECTS and OTHER ACTIVITIES

## 01. Medical Supplies Project

We initiated the medical supplies project in April 2022 in response to the critical shortage of life-saving drugs and equipment in Sri Lanka and donated critically needed medical supplies to numerous hospitals. (Raised: USD18,607.18 Disbursed: USD14,949.49)

## 02. CUFSAA-NA Distinguished Speaker Series

The Distinguished Speaker Series is organized in association with the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. To-date, three presentations have been completed successfully, representing various academic areas and departments at the University of Colombo.

## 03. E-book Subscription Service to Faculty of Science Library

CUFSAA worked with ELSEVIER on behalf of the Science Library and was successful in establishing an e-book subscription service to benefit faculty and students. (Disbursed: USD 4,376.00 pending donor contributions to offset the cost)

## 04. Printed Textbook Purchase to Faculty of Science Library

At the request of the Dean, Faculty of Science, CUFSAA is working with the library personnel to identify and purchase critically needed reference textbooks requested by multiple departments.

## 05. Donation of an oscilloscope to the Department of Nuclear Science

CUFSAA-NA received a request from the Head Nuclear Science Department, UoC, for a donation of an oscilloscope and is working to fulfill the request.

## 06. Covid Relief Project in Collaboration with the Faculty of Science\*

CUFSAA-NA has donated nearly USD 160,000 to purchase urgent life-saving medical equipment for hospitals around Sri Lanka since the inception of this project. (Raised: USD 158,008.90 Disbursed: USD 160,153.88) [NOTE: \* This project has been completed.]

## 07. Remote Learning Project

This project has continued since its inception a few years ago. During this reporting period, six (6) additional laptops were donated to students affected by financial difficulties. (Raised: USD 12,902.85; Disbursed: USD 11,721.66)

## Gold Medals and Scholarships

## 08. Student Assistance and Scholarship Program

CUFSAA created the "Step up" program in 2021 to provide financial-aid to these students by matching sponsors and to-date, six (6) students have benefitted from this life-changing program. Additionally, CUFSAA provided a scholarship for a PhD student to complete the overseas component of the dissertation, which was a mandatory requirement for graduation.

## 09. Professor MLT Kannangara Gold Medal and Memorial Scholarships

CUFSAA established two scholarships and a gold medal to honor Prof. M L T Kannangara, a former head of the department of Physics at the University of Colombo (UoC). A third-year Physics Special student was already awarded the first Prof. M. L. T. Kannangara Scholarship in September 2022 and the gold medal will be awarded to the most outstanding Physics special graduate with First-Class Honors at the Convocation. (Raised: USD 3559.32 Disbursed: USD 210.00)

## 10. Professor Valentine Joseph Gold Medal/Memorial Scholarship

Prof. Valentine Joseph's Gold Medal and Scholarships were continued in 2021 and 2022. In 2021, two scholarships were awarded to two students selected based on academic excellence and economic need and the gold medal was also awarded. Starting in 2022, two Gold medals and two scholarships will be awarded to students as part of this program. (Raised: USD 13,032.67; Disbursed: USD 4,582.77)

# 11. Professor L.M.V. Tillekeratne Gold Medal and Honorary Scholarship Awarded by Friends, Former Students, and well-wishers of Prof. Tillekeratne

A group of former students, friends, and well-wishers have come together and decided to establish a gold medal and an honorary scholarship to recognize our beloved teacher and friend, Prof. L.M.V. Tillekeratne. The gold medal and the scholarship were approved by the Faculty Board in August 2021 and the awards will be made during the academic year 2022. (Funds raised: USD 9,030.80 Disbursed: USD 1,871.05).

## **Detailed Report**

In this report, we outline the activities of the Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – North America (CUFSAA-NA) initiated, continued, or completed during the reporting period of October 01, 2021 - September 30, 2022. We also articulate the future vision and the aspirations of the Association.

The new 25-member "Third" Executive Committee of the Association was appointed and confirmed at the third AGM held virtually on October 30, 2021, for the term 2021-2023. Vicumpriya Perera, was elected as the President of the Association. The current Executive Committee members of the Association are Ashan Ariyawansa, Binodh

De Silva, Saliya De Silva, Sachith Dissanayake, Harshica Fernando – Joint Secretary, Reshan Fernando – President-Elect, Wasundara Fernando – Joint Secretary, L.C. Goonetilleke – Immediate Past President, Pujitha Gunaratne, Angelo Gunasekera, Chandrasiri Jayakody – Vice President, Neranjake Jayarathne, Sumedha Jayasena – Vice President, Sandya Liyanarachchi – Assistant Treasurer, Lalith Perera – Treasurer, Vicumpriya Perera – President, Unil Perera, Asoka Pinnaduwage, Kirthi Premadasa – Vice President, Oshadha K. Ranasingha, Nalin Samarasinha, L.M.V. Tillekeratne – Founder President, Gajaka Weerasinghe, Tharanga Wijetunge, and Jeeva Witanachchi. Gajaka Weerasinghe resigned from the Treasurer position in March 2022, and Pujitha Gunaratne resigned from the Joint Secretary position in August 2022 due to personal and work-related obligations not allowing them to spend adequate time working on the Association matters. The Assistant Treasurer Lalith Perera was appointed to fill the Treasurer position, and Sandya Liyanarachchi was appointed to complete the term of the Assistant Treasurer position for the remaining duration of the current executive committee. Wasundara Fernando was appointed by the Executive committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Joint Secretary for the duration of the current executive committee. The composition of the Third Executive Committee did not change due to these office-bearer resignations.

The executive committee continues to hold its regular monthly meetings via Zoom technology, typically on the first Monday of each month at 9.00 pm Eastern Time to discuss ongoing and future activities and the current state of the budget.

The association's online presence is through its website (<u>www.cufsaa.org</u> OR <u>www.cufsaa.com</u>) and social media accounts on Facebook (<u>https://www.facebook.com/CUFSAA/</u>) and YouTube Channels (<u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPkTE6AJBx-2L1O3uj\_t8nQ</u> and <u>https://studio.youtube.com/channel/UCGTaMw1XGqdNpD1F8eaM3MQ</u>)</u>. These facilities are being used for promoting fundraising activities, informing the membership of the association's achievements and ongoing projects, releasing regular newsletters, as well as to attract new members from all over North America under one umbrella.

At the end of the 2021-2022 term (Oct. 01, 2021 - Sep. 30, 2022), we were able to complete or continue to proceed forward with the following projects and programs.

## <u>Membership</u>

As of September 30, 2022, we have **570** members. We are encouraging past students, academic staff members, and especially junior alumni of the University of Colombo Science Faculty to join the association and support our mission by completing the online membership application posted on the website, <u>https://www.cufsaa.com/membership-form/</u>.

## **Fundraising**

Fundraising continues to be a vital component for CUFSAA-NA to ensure that we can initiate and support many projects, in line with our mission statement. CUFSAA-NA would like to thank all its members, friends, and well-wishers for their continued support in our efforts over the past years.

Our major fundraising events and projects for the year 2021-2022 involved the following activities.

## PROJECTS and OTHER ACTIVITIES:

### 01. Medical Supplies Project

We started the medical supplies project to help hospitals in Sri Lanka, in April 2022, after receiving requests that they have a critical shortage of life-saving drugs due to the economic crisis in Sri Lanka. We received lists of drugs and found that critically needed Cardiac and Oncology medicines (such as the chemo drug Paclitaxel, which we gave to the District General Hospital, Avissawella, and the mandatory anti-cancer drug Filgrastim, which we donated to the Teaching Hospital, Rathnapura) among the most depleted. Also scarce were anti-hypertensive drugs, drugs for diabetes patients, antibiotics, and anti-rabies injections. With the help of CUFSAA-NA members, their friends, and family, we raised over USD 18,500. We donated over LKR 5 million worth of medical supplies, approximately (Equivalent to about USD 14,950). Hospitals at Gampaha, Karapitiya. Homagama, Avissawella,

Rathnapura, Horana, Wathupitiwala, Kalubowila, and the Ministry of Health, Medical Supplies Division were our primary recipients. Dr. Asoka Ramanayake from Sri Lanka helped with coordinating this project for CUFSAA-NA. Thanks to her excellent support and coordination, we were able to deliver medicine as quickly as possible to the hospitals, which may have helped save patients' lives.

CUFSAA-NA was able to donate 300 triple blood bags to the Sri Lanka Blood bank at a cost of \$1950. The triple blood bags were purchased and delivered directly to Sri Lanka, at a crucial time when the country was facing a critical dollar crisis. The bags were delivered to the Sri Lankan Blood bank on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.

(Raised: USD18,607.18 Disbursed: USD14,949.49)

## 02. CUFSAA-NA Distinguished Speaker Series

CUFSAA Distinguished Speaker Series is organized by the Speaker Series subcommittee of CUFSAA-NA in association with the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. The inaugural talk of the Distinguished Speaker Series was delivered by Dr. Nalin Samarasinha on April 22, 2022. Since then, the series has featured three distinguished speakers representing various academic areas and departments at the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. The following are the details about the Talks completed and links to access the recordings of the talks.

**Talk 01: Dr. Nalin Samarasinha -** <u>Asteroid Colombounilanka and Contributions to Astronomy by University of</u> <u>Colombo</u> – *April 22, 2022:* <u>Abstract, Speaker Bio, and Event Flyer,</u> <u>*Click here to watch the full video of the event*</u> <u>from YouTube</u>.

**Talk 02: Prof. AP de Silva -** From Chemistry to Medical Diagnostics and Information Processing – July 07, 2022: Abstract, Speaker Bio, and Event Flyer, <u>Click here to watch the full video of the event from YouTube</u>.

**Talk 03: Dr. Jayeni Hiti-Bandaralage -** <u>A paradise on the iceberg – Entrepreneurship for innovators –</u> *August 28, 2022:* <u>Abstract, Speaker Bio, and Event Flyer, Click here to watch the full video of the event from YouTube.</u>

**Talk 04: Dr. David Hoskin -** Iron withdrawal by selective chelators for cancer treatment – September 20, 2022: Talk Abstract, Speaker Bio, and Event Flyer, <u>Click here to watch the full video of the event from YouTube.</u>

The recordings of the concluded talks are available on YouTube and Facebook. In addition to the CUFSAA-NA members, faculty and students from the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo, and members of other academic institutions in Sri Lanka also attended these talks.

The current program has two talks remaining which will be scheduled in the coming months. The next talk of the series will be delivered by Dr. Binodh De Silva on the subject area of Drug Discovery/ Pharmaceutical Industry. The talks are delivered via zoom technology and broadcast via YouTube and Facebook Live.

Please visit <u>http://www.cufsaa.com/speaker-series/</u> for additional details and information about upcoming talks. CUFSAA-NA is planning to continue the series on various topics throughout the year of 2023 on a bi-monthly basis.

## 03. E-book Subscription Service to Faculty of Science Library

The Science Faculty library of UoC has developed a plan to implement an e-book subscription service through ELSEVIER to bring the library and information services to the current standards and expand the student access to textbooks through their computer. The library has already started working with ELSEVIER to implement the e-book service through ELSEVIER's eBook on the ScienceDirect Platform and selected a list of the most critical books across all scientific disciplines to support the current degree programs. However, due to the current economic situation, the funding to the library has been cut significantly.

After hearing about this tragic situation and receiving a request from the Dean, Faculty of Science, CUFSAA

worked with the ELSEVIER on behalf of the Science Library and was able to work out a more favorable cost structure for the e-book subscription service. With unanimous support from the executive committee, CUFSAA has agreed to pay for this service (USD 4,376) directly to ELSEVIER so that the UoC students and staff can access this critical e-book collection as soon as possible. At present, ELSEVIER is working with the Science Library to implement the e-book subscription program. The list of e-books and their prices will be provided for our members to sponsor one or more e-books of their choice. The list includes a total of 29 e-books [consisting of 11 Chemistry books, 5 Mathematics books, 4 Plant science books, 3 Biochemistry books, 2 Physics books, 2 Environmental science books, and 2 Zoology books].

## 04. Printed Textbook Purchase to Faculty of Science Library

At the inception of CUFSAA, we established a "Take a Book Program", which entails the collection of useful new and gently used textbooks from our members and delivering them to the University of Colombo Faculty of Science library via CUFSAA members traveling to Sri Lanka for use by students and faculty. These books would cost hundreds of dollars to purchase and, in many cases, are unaffordable to the library due to their high cost. This program has been an enormous success over the years, largely due to the generosity of our members. Since its implementation, the program has successfully added hundreds of new and gently used textbooks in all disciplines of STEM, including Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics, Plant Science, Biochemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, and Zoology.

Currently, the 2022 academic year has started, and classes have resumed. However, there is an acute shortage of much-needed reference textbooks. The Science Faculty library is unable to purchase these textbooks due to the unavailability of funds for the library and the current shortage of dollars in the country. After hearing about this tragic situation and receiving a request from the Dean of Science faculty, CUFSAA has started working with the library personnel to identify and purchase the most critically needed reference textbooks requested by multiple departments, including chemistry, mathematics, statistics, plant science, biochemistry, physics, environmental science, and zoology. The current request includes 47 hardcopy reference textbooks at a total cost of ~USD 4,000.

### 05. Donation of an oscilloscope to the Department of Nuclear Science

CUFSAA-NA received a fully completed CUFSAA Resource Request from Head, Nuclear Science Department through Dean/Science for an oscilloscope. During the follow up discussions with Dr. M. Lamabadusuriya, Head of the Department and Dr. Chandana Sumithrarachchi (MSU/Nuclear Science Department) the following Oscilloscope has been identified as the best option (lowest cost) that meet the department needs, namely, number of channels, identify noise to optimize instruments (100 MZ is enough), study signal shapes for building new instrumentation, single generator to simulate entire DAQ system and diagnose faulty modules, This Rigold unit proposed below has three Instruments. scope, arbitrary function generator, and a logic analyzer and is cheaper than buying them individually.

Equipment: Rigol DS1104Z-S Plus 100 MHz Digital Oscilloscope with 4 Channels and 16 Digital Channels + 25 MHz Bandwidth with 2 Signal Source Channels

CUFSAA-NA is reviewing the options to purchase the equipment and ship it to Sri Lanka directly from the United States.

[Cost USD 699]

## 06. Covid Relief Project

On behalf of CUFSAA-NA, we express our profound gratitude for your contributions to stifling the impact of the COVID-19 menace in Sri Lanka. CUFSAA-NA has donated nearly USD 160,000 dollars to purchase urgent lifesaving medical equipment for hospitals around Sri Lanka. These equipment include ventilators, portable ventilators, high-flow oxygen machines, portable ultrasound scanners, multipara monitors, aspirators, ECG machines, pulse oximeters, laryngoscopes, bronchoscopes, cardiac defibrillators, digital blood pressure machines, and syringe pumps. The hospitals that benefited from these equipment included Colombo National Hospital, Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Marara, Dambadeniya, Kantale, Rathnapura, Laggala, Wathupitiwala, Biyagama, Chilaw, Welikanda, Badulla and Karawanella, We are also grateful to our alumni, Dr. Asoka Ramanayake, Sri Lanka for coordinating all these donations and to the Faculty of Science for the collaboration. We concluded this project in June 2022. However, there are still many requests for urgent medical equipment, and we plan to support those requests via the Medical Supplies Project.

## 07. Remote Learning Project

This fund was established to support the remote learning project during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project continued throughout 2022. In addition to previously donated twelve (12) new HP ProBook 450 G7 Notebooks with i5/iTB and 8GB RAM computers and six (6) refurbished laptop computers, two additional new laptop computers were purchased from the funds raised by CUFFSA-NA and donated to two freshman students attached to the Department of Zoology and Environmental Sciences. In the 2021-2022 period, we donated five (5) additional laptop computers for the use of students in the Faculty of Science.

## **Gold Medals and Scholarships**

## 08. Student Assistance and Scholarship Program

The Faculty of Science has identified students who are in dire economic need. In order to help these students, CUFSAA created the "Step up" program in 2021.

The following is how the program works:

**Step 1:** The Faculty of Science identifies a student in dire economic need and informs CUFSAA.

**Step 2:** A CUFSAA subcommittee reviews and approves the application.

**Step 3:** CUFSAA matches the student with a sponsor, with minimum financial assistance equivalent to USD 35 per month for at least a year. Once a match has been made, the sponsor coordinates with the student and continues the program.

CUFSAA is proud to say that during the year 2021-2022, six students have benefitted from this life-changing program.

During the Year 2021-2022, at the request of the Dean, Faculty of Science, CUFSAA reviewed and approved a scholarship for a PhD student to attend and complete the overseas component of the program to finalize the final dissertation.

## 09. Professor MLT Kannangara Gold Medal and Memorial Scholarships

CUFSAA established two scholarships to be given annually to two Physics special students from each year (a third-year scholarship and the continuation of the third-year scholarship during the fourth year), and a gold medal to be awarded to the most outstanding Physics special graduate with a First-Class Honors at the Convocation. The scholarships and the gold medal will honor Prof. M L T Kannangara, a former head of the department of Physics at the University of Colombo (UoC) who was an excellent instructor and who was also instrumental in establishing the UoC-Uppsala joint research project among various other services to the Physics program at UoC.

A third year Physics Special student was awarded the first Prof. M. L. T. Kannangara Scholarship in September 2022. Funds for the first six months at a rate equivalent to 35 USD per month were transferred with another installment pending for the year. The gold medal process is moving forward with the approval of the faculty board and pending approval from the University Senate. A lump sum of SLR 300,000 (approximately USD 1000) will be deposited as the endowment for the gold medal once the approval process is completed.

One of the emails from the scholarship winner says: "I have received the LKR 72, 848 scholarship fund on 20th of September 2022. I've been going through many struggles with the current situation in Sri Lanka and the poor economic state of my family with my elder sister ........ younger brother who will be sitting for the Advanced Level examination next year. I would like to give my sincere gratitude to you as it has been a huge support for me in this current situation and I will make sure to give my best to keep up the good academic work you expected from me."

(Raised: USD 3559.32 Disbursed: USD 210.00)

## 10. Professor Valentine Joseph Gold Medals/Memorial Scholarships

Professor Valentine Joseph was a prominent mathematician, noted for his excellent contributions to teaching at the University of Colombo. CUFSAA-NA honored him with the provision of two scholarships (LKR 5,000 each per month) to two final-year special degree students in mathematics/applied mathematics, taking both academic achievements and economic needs into consideration. In addition, two gold medals will be awarded in his name. The first gold medal and a cash award of LKR. 25,000 were awarded at the 2019 convocation to Mr. K.H.A.Praveen Niranda, a Mathematics special degree student of the Faculty of Science. From next year onwards, gold medals will be awarded with no associated cash awards. Prof. Valentine Joseph Memorial Gold Medal Winner for 2020 is Mr. Vindula Kumaranayake and for 2021 is Mr. Osanda Abhiru Illeperuma. The Faculty Board approval was received in August 2021 to award two scholarships, LKR. 5,000/month each, in addition to the gold medal mentioned earlier. The two scholarships will be awarded starting in 2022 annually. CUFSAA-NA thanks everyone who has made generous contributions to raise funds to establish these gold medals and scholarships.

(Raised: USD 13,032.67 Disbursed: USD 4582.77)

## 11. <u>Professor L.M.V. Tillekeratne Gold Medal and Honorary Scholarship Awarded by Friends,</u> <u>Former Students, and well-wishers of Prof. Tillekeratne</u>

A group of friends, well-wishers and former students of Prof. L.M.V. Tillekeratne have come together and decided to establish a scholarship at the Science Faculty, The University of Colombo, to honor one of the most beloved professors of our time, Professor L.M.V. Tillekeratne. He is an outstanding teacher, a profound leader, a visionary, and an extraordinary mentor. He has dedicated his whole life to teaching, mentoring, and student welfare. Prof. Tillekeratne made a profound impact on our lives when we were students at UofC, and even today, Prof. Tillekeratne continues to serve his alma mater, The University of Colombo, in numerous ways, engaged in student activities as an undergraduate, served as a lecturer teaching chemistry for decades, and worked as a university administrator for many years advocating for students. Even after he retired from UofC, he continued to serve his alma mater through the CUFSAA, a non-profit organization he founded in 2016 with the mission to unite all UofC Faculty of Science alumni scattered throughout the US and Canada under a common purpose to support our alma mater, Faculty of Science, UofC. He has served and shaped the organization as its founding president for the first two years and continues to play an important role as an active member of the current executive committee.

The gold medal and the scholarship were approved by the Faculty Board in August 2021. Funds have been disbursed to the Bursar of the University of Colombo for the gold medal, which will be awarded at the 2022 graduation ceremony. The selection of scholarship recipients will be from the rising 2<sup>nd</sup> year students, and the award will be made during the academic year 2022.

## Ear-marked Funds and Programs

## 01. CUFSAA-NA Student Assistant Account (The Benevolent Fund)

The Emergency Fund to help UoC Science Faculty students was initially started in 2016 to help students affected by unexpected flooding. This effort was strengthened by establishing an official emergency fund to support Science Faculty students who are in need of help during emergency situations.-

An amount of up to LKR 25,000 per student can be disbursed from this account as the need arises (without prior consultation with CUFSAA-NA). Financial assistance must be related to a student's educational needs, either for undergraduate education assistance or for higher education assistance. This fund was recently renamed as the Benevolent Fund. This fund is a stationary fund of the association and will be used continuously during the year 2021-2022 as well. The current balance of the fund is USD 1056.55.

## 02. Mentoring Program

CUFSAA-NA created this program early in its formation, and it is continuing to this day. It was established to provide guidance and advice to Sri Lankan graduates who are interested in higher education in the United States and Canada, as well as students who have recently graduated from the United States and Canada and are looking for employment opportunities. Many students were supported during the 2021-2022 year through our volunteer services. Other resources provided under this program included presentations by CUFSAA members to the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.

## 03. Take a Book Program

Take a Book Program is another successful project launched by CUFSAA-NA through the generosity of our members. This program has supplied numerous textbooks to the Faculty of Science. Under this program, CUFSAA-NA members who are visiting Sri Lanka for vacations take a book with them and hand it over to the Dean of the Faculty of Science. This program was also established early in its formation of the Association and is continued during this fiscal year too.

## Other activities of Importance

## Asteroid Colombounilanka is Named after University of Colombo

Earlier this year, the International Astronomical Union officially named the asteroid 607372 as Colombounilanka. CUFSAA partnered with the discoverers of the asteroid in the name selection process, and was also instrumental in initiating and facilitating discussions with the Faculty of Science and the University. CUFSAA is proud to have played a role in enabling the University of Colombo to join a select group of universities in the whole world to have an asteroid named after.

## Future Vision

Our future vision is to expand the activities we are already performing and take up new projects, challenges, and initiatives to benefit our Alma Mater.

CUFSAA is planning to hold the Third TAMASHA of the Association in Toronto, Canada, during the fourth quarter of 2023. It will be an exciting get-together for our members, friends, and well-wishers. Please mark your calendars to attend, enjoy, and meet old and new friends and participate in the Association activities and fund-raisers.

To continue the growth of the association and its mission, we encourage all alumni to join CUFSAA-NA and get involved with its activities. We need volunteers for leadership roles and to be active contributors to the association. If you are willing to share your talents, resources, and expertise to help the Association and its mission, please reach out to us. We would love to hear from you.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the membership for their contributions to achieving the goals of the Association to help our Alma Mater.

## <u>Thank you</u>

CUFSAA-NA Executive Committee acknowledges the support of many alumni and well-wishers who have contributed to these programs in various ways, including monetary contributions to make them successful.

Additional details for each of these activities can be found on our website, https://www.cufsaa.com/

Respectfully Submitted,

## Dr. Harshica Fernando and Dr. Wasundara Fernando

Joint Secretaries/CUFSAA-NA

## **Annexure 5: Treasurer's Report**

CUFSAA-NA Treasurer Report (10/01/2021-09/30/2022)								
Description	Opening Balance on October 01, 2021	Funds transferred from Completed Projects	Income & Donations	Expenses	Closing Balance on September 30, 2022			
Benevolent Fund	\$1,056.55				\$1,056.55			
Covid Relief Fund	-\$1,823.96		\$11,300.06	-\$10,121.08	-\$644.98			
General Fund	\$9,033.06	\$4,172.05	\$1,793.73	-\$10,554.14	\$4,444.70			
Medical Supplies Fund Prof V Joseph Gold	\$0.00		\$18,607.18	-\$14,949.49	\$3,657.69			
medal and Scholarship Fund	\$9,052.36			-\$602.46	\$8,449.90			
Prof LMV Tillekeratne Gold medal and Scholarship Fund	\$8,030.80		\$1,000.00	-\$1,871.05	\$7,159.75			
Prof MLT Kannangara Gold medal and Scholarship Fund	\$0.00		\$3,559.32	-\$210.00	\$3,349.32			
Remote Learning Fund	\$2,446.37			-\$1,265.18	\$1,181.19			
Total	\$27,795.18	\$4,172.05	\$36,260.29	-\$39,573.40	\$28,654.12			

## **Annexure 6: Proposed by-laws changes**

Proposed Bylaws Change – AGM 2022

<u>Constitution (By Laws) of the Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association – NORTH AMERICA</u> (CUFSAA, CUFSAA-NA)

### **Current Version**

### PREAMBLE

THE COLOMBO UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – NORTH AMERICA (hereinafter abbreviated as CUFSAA or CUFSAA-NA wherever appropriate) is constituted to bring together the past students and academic staff of the Science Faculty of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka who are presently living in the USA or Canada.

## **Proposed Changes**

### PREAMBLE

THE COLOMBO UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – NORTH AMERICA (hereafter abbreviated as CUFSAA or CUFSAA-NA wherever appropriate) is constituted to bring together the past students and academic staff of the Science Faculty of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka who are presently living in North America.

## **Current Version**

## **ARTICLE I**

#### NAME AND OFFICE

The legal name of the Association is "THE COLOMBO UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – NORTH AMERICA", abbreviated as CUFSAA and CUFSAA-NA, and will be hereinafter referred to as "The Association." The official websites of the Association shall be www.cufsaa.org and www.cufsaa.com. The Association will conduct its business using electronic means such as email and internet. The physical business office and the official Association web domains will be listed in the FIRST SCHEDULE to these bylaws and will be updated as needed.

**Proposed Changes** 

#### ARTICLE I NAME AND OFFICE

The legal name of the Association is "THE COLOMBO UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – NORTH AMERICA," abbreviated as CUFSAA or CUFSAA-NA, and will be hereafter referred to as the "Association." The official website of the Association is **www.cufsaa.org** and **www.cufsaa.com**.

The Association will conduct its business through in-person meetings, via electronic and/or using hybrid formats.

The physical business office and the official Association web domains will be listed in the FIRST SCHEDULE to these bylaws and will be updated as needed.

### **Current version**

#### ARTICLE II STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Association will be a Non-Profit organization. The purpose of the association shall be to create a social forum for the former students and academic staff of the science faculty of the University of Colombo to meet and foster fellowship among themselves, and to do charitable community work including promoting science education and scientific scholarship. The Association will further the said objectives in particular by supporting the science faculty of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and similar educational institutions by providing assistance to current and former students and staff at the science faculty of the University of Colombo for educational projects and developmental schemes, and by giving support to scientific

and educational endeavors in Sri Lanka and the USA irrespective of the recipient's race, sex, disability, political affiliation, retaliation for protected anti-discrimination activity, national origin, skin color, marital status, genetic information, religion, age, sexual orientation, and parental status.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### ARTICLE II STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Association will be a Non-Profit organization. The purpose of the Association will be to create a social forum for the former students and academic staff of the Science Faculty of the University of Colombo to foster fellowship among themselves, and to do charitable community work including promoting science education, research, and scientific scholarship. The Association will abide by the Federal and State laws related to the EEOC Title VII of the civil rights act of 1964 and any amendments thereafter.

#### **Current Version**

#### ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

**Membership Eligibility:** Any past student or academic staff member of the science faculty of the University of Colombo may apply for membership in the Association using the prescribed form more fully described in the THIRD SCHEDULE to these bylaws. There will be no membership dues to become a member of the Association. Members are expected to update the information provided in the said application, as and when necessary, by contacting the association secretary via email or postal mail or by updating the membership form posted on the Association website.

**Termination of Membership:** If the Executive Committee of the Association determines by a majority vote that a member has engaged in conduct that brings the organization in to disrepute then that person's membership shall cease to exist. Members whose memberships were so terminated by the Executive Committee may appeal to reinstate their membership at the Annual General meeting by majority vote. Members are free to withdraw or terminate their membership of the association by writing to the Association Secretary at any time.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

**Membership Eligibility:** Any past student or academic staff member of the Science Faculty of the University of Colombo residing in North America is eligible to apply for membership in the Association using the prescribed form described in the SECOND SCHEDULE to these bylaws. There will be no membership dues to become a member of the Association. Members are expected to update the information provided in the said application, as and when necessary, by contacting the Association Secretary via email or postal mail or by updating the membership form posted on the Association website.

**Withdrawal from and Termination of Membership:** Members are free to withdraw their membership of the Association by writing to the Secretary at any time. In the event a member has engaged in conduct that brings the Association in to disrepute then that person's membership shall be immediately suspended by a two-thirds majority (2/3) of the full Executive Committee, with the stipulation of termination of membership after the following Annual General meeting. Members whose memberships were so suspended by the Executive Committee may successfully appeal via the Secretary to reinstate their membership at the following Annual General Meeting by receiving a simple majority vote of those present for the appeal.

## **Current Version**

#### ARTICLE IV THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

An Executive Committee elected as stipulated below shall be responsible for the management of the Association. Members of the association who have contributed volunteer services to the association are eligible to hold office in the association.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### ARTICLE IV THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

An Executive Committee elected as stipulated below will be responsible for the management of the Association.

#### **Current Version**

#### Section: IV-A Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of twenty-five (25) members including: The President, The President-elect, The Immediate Past President, three (03) Vice Presidents, two (02) Joint Secretaries, The Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and fifteen (15) Members-at-Large.

The Office Bearers of the Association are: The President, The President-elect, The Immediate Past President, The Vice Presidents, Two Joint Secretaries, The Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### Section: IV-A Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of twenty-five (25) members including: The President, The President-Elect, The Immediate Past President, Three Vice Presidents, The Secretary, The Assistant Secretary, The Treasurer, The Assistant Treasurer, and fifteen (15) additional Executive Committee Members.

The Office Bearers of the Association are: The President, The President-Elect, The Immediate Past President, The Vice Presidents, The Secretary, The Assistant Secretary, The Treasurer, and The Assistant Treasurer.

#### **Current Version**

#### Section: IV-B The Election and Terms of Office

The first Executive Committee will be nominated by the interim committee of the Association which is fully described in the SECOND SCHEDULE and will be ratified at the inaugural meeting of the Association to be held on September 4th in New Jersey, USA. Thereafter, the outgoing Executive Committee by majority vote shall nominate members of the new Executive Committee to be ratified at the annual general meeting, at least 30 days before the expiration of its term of office. In the event of any particular nomination being objected to at the Annual General Meeting, and the objection receiving the approval of a two thirds majority vote, the ratification of the objected nomination shall be considered failed. The vacancy to the Executive Committee so created will be filled according to the Section IV-H below.

The term of the Executive Committee shall be two years.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### Section: IV-B The Eligibility, Election and Terms of Office

**Eligibility**: Members of the Association in good standing and have participated or intend to participate in the Association activities are eligible to be nominated to the Executive Committee by submitting the Nomination Form available in the THIRD SCHEDULE. The current Executive Committee will review and elect the new Executive Committee Members for the next term of the Executive Committee.

**Nomination Procedure**: A call for nominations to elect new Members to the Executive Committee will be sent out approximately ninety (90) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The nominees should complete and submit the Nomination Form to the Executive Committee forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General meeting.

The outgoing Executive Committee will nominate and elect the President-Elect, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer, and the Executive Committee Members for the next term of the Executive Committee. Out of the 15 Executive Committee Members, at least three (03) shall be new members.

All new Executive Committee members should be nominated and voted by Executive Committee at least 30 days before the expiration of its term of office. The new Executive Committee will be ratified at the annual general meeting.

**The Terms of Office**: The term of the Executive Committee will be two years. The President and President-Elect cannot serve two full consecutive terms. The Vice Presidents, The Secretary, The Assistant Secretary, The Treasurer, The Assistant Treasurer, and all other Committee Members may serve multiple terms.

In the event of any nomination being objected to at the Annual General Meeting, and the objection receiving the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, the ratification of the objected nomination will be considered failed. The vacancy to the Executive Committee so created will be filled according to the Section IV-H below.

#### **Current Version**

#### Section: IV-E Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee shall have regular meetings to accomplish the business of the organization. Meetings may be called for to occur through conference calls or by circulating items for vote by email.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### Section: IV-E Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee shall have regular meetings at least once in every ninety (90) days to accomplish the business of the Association. Meetings may be called for to occur through conference calls or by circulating items for vote by e-mail.

Minutes of all Executive Committee meetings will be sent to the members of the Executive Committee at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Current Version**

## Section: IV-H Removal / Vacancies

An Executive committee member shall be subject to removal, with or without cause, at a special meeting called for that purpose approved by a two third (2/3) majority of the executive committee. Any vacancy that occurs on the Executive committee, whether by death, resignation, removal or any other cause, may be filled by the remaining committee members. An Executive committee member elected to fill a vacancy shall serve the remaining term of his or her predecessor, or until a successor has been elected and qualified.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### Section: IV-H Removal / Vacancies

An Executive committee member shall be subject to removal, with or without cause, at a special meeting called for that purpose with the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Executive Committee.

An Executive committee member with three (03) continuous unexcused absences from consecutive Executive Committee meetings may be administratively considered resigned from the Executive Committee.

Any vacancy that occurs on the Executive committee, whether by death, resignation, removal, or any other cause, should be filled by the nomination and seconding followed by a two-thirds majority (2/3) vote of the remaining Executive Committee members within ninety (90) days of occurrence of the vacancy. An Executive Committee member elected to fill a vacancy will serve the remaining term of his or her predecessor, or until a successor has been elected and qualified.

### **Current Version**

#### Section: IV-I Ad Hoc Committees

The President in consultation with the Executive Committee may establish ad hoc committees consisting of members of the Association in addition to the standing committees of the Association listed in FOURTH SCHEDULE.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### Section: IV-I Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

The Standing Committees of the Association are listed in the FOURTH SCHEDULE. Each standing committee will be chaired by an Executive Committee member(s) who should report such committee findings at the Executive Committee meetings.

The President by an approved proposal of the Executive Committee may establish ad hoc committees consisting of members of the Association in addition to the standing committees of the Association listed in FOURTH SCHEDULE. The ad hoc committee duration will be no more than ninety (90) days from the date of the establishment, unless the duration is extended by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee.

#### **Current Version**

#### ARTICLE V POWERS AND DUTIES

**President:** The President will preside at all meetings, appoint special (select or ad hoc) committees and generally perform the duties of the presiding officer. A person shall not serve as President for TWO (02) full consecutive terms.

**Vice Presidents:** In the absence of or in case of disability of the President, one of the Vice Presidents nominated by majority votes of the executive committee shall assume his/her duties and in the absence of or disability of the President and the Vice Presidents, the Secretaries and the Treasurer may elect one of them to perform temporarily all the duties of the President.

**Secretaries:** The Recording secretary is to handle committee affairs and minutes while the Communication Secretary is to handle newsletters, surveys, websites, emails and other communication matters. The Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings and shall sign them after they are duly adopted and s/he will also give due notice of motions and meetings to the members and maintain the membership register.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall have full charge of the Association's funds and the checkbook(s) and the treasurer or another authorized person shall sign checks on the Association's bank account(s) and carryout other financial transactions as approved by the Executive Committee. The treasurer shall submit a statement on the funds at each regular meeting of the executive committee and submit a professionally audited audit report and a financial statement for distribution among the members fifteen days before the Annual General Meeting.

### **Proposed Changes**

#### ARTICLE V POWERS AND DUTIES

**President:** The President will preside at all meetings, appoint ad hoc committees and generally perform the duties of the presiding officer. The President will be the chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Membership.

**President-Elect**: The President-Elect will become the President for the term immediately following the conclusion of the current term. In the absence of or in case of disability of the President, the President-Elect will assume Presidential duties and that will not count towards the term limits. President-Elect will lead the social and fund raising events of the Association.

**Vice Presidents:** In the absence of or in case of disability of the President and the President-Elect, one of the Vice President's will assume Presidential duties and that will not count towards the term limits. Each of the three Vice Presidents will Chair the following committees: Project Evaluation Committee, Communications Committee, Membership and Outreach committee.

**Secretary:** The Secretary will handle Executive Committee affairs and minutes. The Secretary will keep minutes of all meetings and will sign them after they are duly adopted. The Secretary will also give due notice of motions and meetings to the members and maintains the membership roster. The Secretary or designate will be a member of Project Evaluation Committee, Membership and Outreach Committee, and any ad-hoc committee when directed by the President and will perform duties as the secretary of such committee.

Assistant Secretary: The Assistant Secretary will handle other communication matters such as surveys and emails and will

assist the Secretary as needed. The Assistant Secretary or designate will be a member of Communications Committee and any ad-hoc committee when directed by the President and will perform duties as the secretary of such committee.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer will have full charge of the Association's funds and the checkbook(s) and the Treasurer or another authorized person will sign checks on the Association's bank account(s) and carryout other financial transactions as approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will submit a statement on the funds at each regular meeting of the Executive Committee and submit a professionally audited audit report and a financial statement for distribution among the members fifteen (15) days before the Annual General Meeting.

Assistant Treasurer: The duty of the Assistant treasurer is to assist the Treasurer.

**The Immediate Past President**: The Immediate Past President will function in an advisory role and chair the Nominations Committee for the next Executive Committee.

#### **Current Version**

#### ARTICLE VII AMENDING BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended as needed at any Annual General meeting by a two-third (2/3) majority. Proposals for such amendments should be sent to the Executive Committee at least 30 days prior to an Annual General Meeting, and the committee should inform the membership of such proposals received at least 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Proposed Changes**

#### ARTICLE VII AMENDING BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended as needed at any Annual General meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all the members present at the Annual General Meeting.

Proposals for such amendments should be sent to the Executive Committee at least forty-five (45) days prior to an Annual General Meeting, and the committee should inform the membership of such proposals received at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### FIRST SCHEDULE OFFICIAL ADDRESS

The registered address of the Association shall be Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association, 15 Karnell Drive, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

The official web domains of the Association shall be **cufsaa.org** and **cufsaa.com**.

#### SECOND SCHEDULE MEMBERSHIP FORM

1. Name\*

2. Postal Address (Provide address or just the City and the State, if preferred.)\*

3. Telephone Numbers

4. Email Address\*

5. Nature of Association with the Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. (Tell if you were a staff member, undergraduate student, graduate student, etc.)\*

6. Duration of your Association with the Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. Please let us know the beginning and ending year of your Association. \*

7. References (Please name any CUFSAA member/ current or former Colombo University Science Faculty academic staff member we may contact as a reference to verify your stated association with the Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, if necessary).\*

8. Additional Remarks (if any)

Items with Asterisks (\*) on the form indicate required information.

**CUFSAA Privacy Policy: Any personal i**nformation collected through the Membership Form and other forms of the Association will be used exclusively for CUFSAA activities and will not be shared or sold to any 3<sup>rd</sup> party. Your information will be utilized only to reach out and promote CUFSAA events and activities.

# THIRD SCHEDULE <u>STANDING COMMITTEES</u>

The following are the standing committees of the Association. The first three standing committees will be chaired by one of the Vice Presidents who should report such committee findings at Executive Committee meetings each quarter.

## 1. Project Evaluation Committee

This committee is charged with evaluating new project proposals and on-going projects received by the Association and preparing a report to the Executive Committee who will take appropriate action by majority vote.

## 2. Communications Committee

This committee is charged with creating content for newsletters, website, and other social media communication instruments.

## 3. Membership and Outreach Committee

This committee is charged with membership drives, outreach activities, and member engagement.

### 4. Nomination Committee

The nomination committee will review applications to the Executive Committee Membership. The Nomination Committee will consist of The Founder President, The President, The President Elect and the Immediate Past President (Chair of the Committee).

## 5. Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee shall consist of the Founder President and no more than two Past Presidents other than the Immediate Past President, elected by the majority vote of the Executive Committee. If the Founder President is not available, there can be up to three Past Presidents, other than the Immediate Past President.

The Advisory Committee will be responsible for activities specifically charged by the President or Executive Committee. These activities may be tasks outside of the usual purview of the Executive Committee, such as but not limited to providing insights, guidance on trends in the community, sponsorship of the Association among similar Associations, mentorship of junior committee members etc.

## FOURTH SCHEDULE

Form for Nomination to the Executive Committee

CUFSAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM Nominations due to the Secretary by Month, Date, Year

**Eligibility:** Members of the Association in good standing and have participated in the Association activities are eligible to be nominated to the Executive Committee by submitting the Nomination form.

Terms: The Members will serve in the Executive Committee for a two-year term. At the end of the two-year term, the

committee member's term may be extended through a nomination followed by the vote of the current Executive Committee. The signature of the nominee in the form certifies the understanding of the time commitment and the willingness to participate actively in the Association and serve in this capacity.

### **Nominee Information**

- 1. Nominee name
- 2. Phone Number
- 3. Email Address
- 4. Position: Executive Committee Member
- 5. Nominee Bio (no more than 250 words) Please attach
- 6. Nominee Signature and Date

### <u>Self Nominations are perfectly fine and encouraged.</u> In that case, please disregard the following information. <u>Nominator Information (if applicable)</u>

- 1. Nominee name
- 2. Nominator Name
- 3. Nominator Phone Number
- 4. Nominator Email Address

The signature of the nominator in the form certifies that the nominee had been consulted and informed about the time commitment. It further certifies that nominee indicated the willingness to participate actively in the Association and serve in this capacity.

6. Nominator Signature and Date