

# FACULTY OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO



UOC

# MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



The University of Colombo, being the oldest, most eminent and foremost university in Sri Lanka has produced great academics, professionals, and leaders in diversified fields of study. The inspirational and dynamic academia from seven faculties and other institutions contribute towards moulding students who aspire to become future leaders of the country. Additionally they are much sought after by many overseas business and research and service organizations. The exceptional quality of teaching, globally recognized qualifications offered, and the vibrant research culture of the University makes it excel among other institutions. Students who seek knowledge and wisdom receive an enriching and holistic experience at this institution.

The Faculty of Medicine, is the oldest and leading Faculty in the University and in Sri Lanka and second oldest Medical Faculty in South Asia, which offers renowned undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes. It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Faculty of Medicine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lakshman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Senior Professor Lakshman Dissanayake  
Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo  
B.Dev.S (Colombo) PG Diploma (Colombo),  
MA (Brussels), PhD (Adelaide) FRSA (United Kingdom)

# OUR MISSION IN EDUCATION

To develop a graduate who will contribute to fulfill the health requirements of the individual and of the community with competence, compassion and care.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



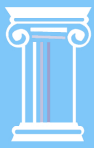
The Faculty of Medicine – University of Colombo is an institute with an outstanding reputation for gifting to the world many distinguished doctors. This state funded institution which is the second oldest medical school in Australasia selects students on a competitive basis from among the cream of high school students. The students pursue their studies with utmost dedication to reach the highest standards in their chosen career path. The unmatched clinical exposure provided by the teaching hospitals and the brilliant and committed academics and clinical staff are among the many strengths of this institution. Apart from the academic activities, Faculty of Medicine, is committed to providing the best learning environment that is conducive to training holistic graduates who can rise up to challenges with confidence. They are provided with training to practice the profession adhering to ethical norms and with commitment. They are provided with numerous opportunities to display and develop many talents through extra-curricular activities, ranging from sports, art, literature, photography through various clubs and associations under the guidance of Faculty.

The Faculty of Medicine has highly skilled academics who have received training in centers of excellence overseas. There are many collaborative research projects which are partnered by overseas and local universities which has reaped bilateral benefits.

Situated in the heart of Colombo the industrial capital of Sri Lanka, it is easily accessible to visitors. All are welcome to visit this hallowed institution and I extend an open invitation to all to collaborate with the final aim of creating a better world for all to live in.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Perera'.

Professor Jennifer Perera  
Dean & Chair Professor of Microbiology  
MBBS (Col), MD Microbiology (Col), MBA (Wales)  
Dip Women's studies (Col), DipMedEd (Dundee)



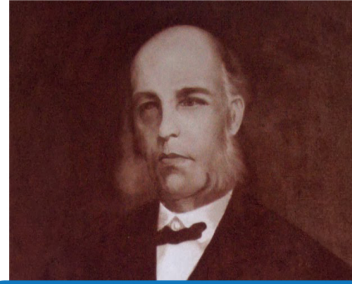
# HISTORY IN BRIEF...

1870



Colombo Medical School opened by Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Sri Lanka situated in the premises of General Hospital

1870



First Principal Dr. James Loos

1878



Third principal Dr. J.L. Vanderstraaten

1880



Renamed as Ceylon Medical College

1913



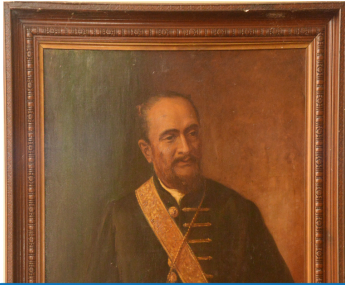
The Anatomy block was built, the oldest building at present

1921



The Ceylon University College was founded and entrusted with conducting the first professional examination to medical students

1875



Mudaliyar Samson Rajapakse gifted the land in which the present Faculty is located

1875



Second Principal Dr. E.L.Koch

1881



Koch memorial clock tower was built in memory of Dr. E.L. Koch, the second Principal

1892



Women were admitted to the School for the first time and the first woman licentiate was Miss Alice De Boer

1942



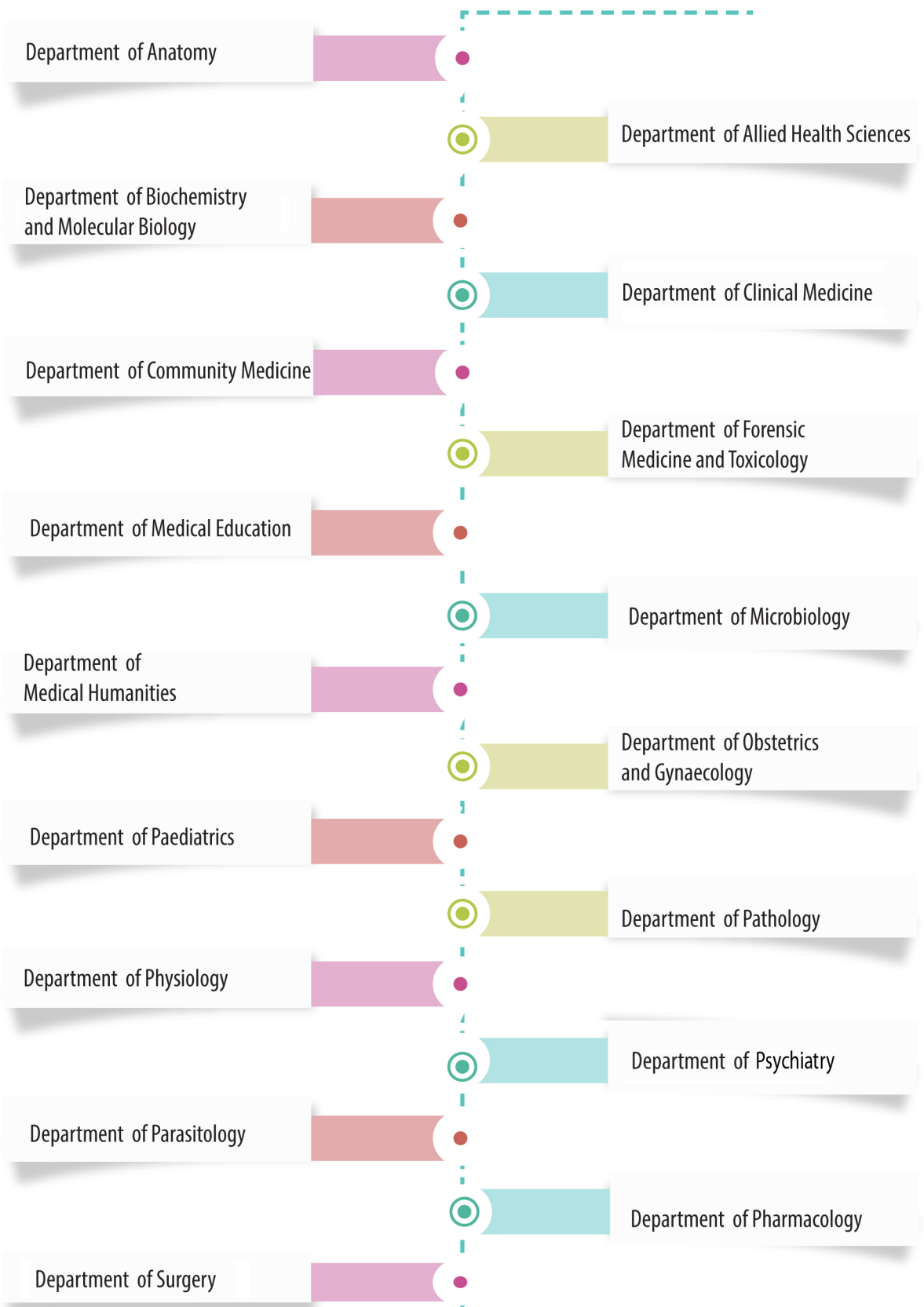
Renamed as Faculty of Medicine, University of Ceylon consisting of 6 Departments: Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Surgery

1967



Renamed as Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo

# TOGETHER TOWARDS EXCELLENCE...



## Audio Visual and Photography Unit

Support the medical undergraduate curriculum of the faculty, by means of producing audio and video materials to supplement the regular teaching and learning activities.

## Faculty Souvenir Shop

Offers mementos to visitors and alumni who would like to carry with them pleasant memories of the august institute.

## Language Unit

While the medium of instruction at the faculty is English, the majority of students have followed secondary education in either Sinhala or Tamil medium. The language unit was established to improve communication skills in these languages.

## Family Medicine Unit

This is involved in carrying out teaching activities, primary care research and clinical services to the community through community Family Practice clinics.

## Central Laboratory

Established with the objective of supporting the medical and allied health undergraduate curriculum and diagnostic screening.

## Virtual Learning Centre

The Virtual Learning Centre (VLC), with its own server, opened up new vistas for studying medicine.

## Distance Learning Unit

Programmes are designed to meet the educational needs of students whose circumstances prevent them from accessing courses on a regular basis.

## Health and Wellness Unit

Aimed to deliver the scientific knowledge about health and wellness to the community in order to make a healthy nation.

## Skills Laboratory

Standardized training on procedural and examination skills with stepwise progression of complexity; training of skills for which real-patient contact maybe infrequent.

## Ethics Review Committee

Established in 1981 to provide ethics review for biomedical research projects involving humans carried out in the UCFM. It was Sri Lanka's first institutional ethics review committee.

## Therapeutic Gymnasium

Provides rehabilitation services for disabled and elderly people

## Publishing House

Provides opportunities to students and academics to exhibit their talents in writing particularly in relation to health and health related subjects.

## Human Genetics Unit

Dedicated to providing clinical genetic services including cytogenetic and molecular genetic testing and genetic counselling. It was established in 1983 and serves as the National Referral Centre for human genetics in Sri Lanka.

## Medical Library

The Medical library of the faculty is one of the oldest in Sri Lanka. The library is fully automated and integrated with electronic security systems. As a result of new technology, literature reviews via internet, online database access and the access to E-books are now available.

## Curriculum Implementation Unit

This unit is responsible for overall management of the implementation of academic, administrative and logistics for the smooth functioning of the integrated MBBS program.



# THE ACADEMICS- GUIDING, NURTURING AND MENTORING...

## International Collaborations

MOU between International Medical University Kuala Lumpur and University of Colombo

The Diabetes Research Unit is a joint collaborative effort between the Department of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and the Oxford Centre for Diabetes Endocrinology and Metabolism UK.


The Snake Venom Research Laboratory and Herpetarium evolved from the Oxford Colombo Collaboration on research into snake envenoming & was established in 2002.

The Clinical Medicine department has established a Tropical Medicine Research Unit in collaboration with the University of Oxford and the Mahidol Oxford Research Unit.

The Children's Hospital and The Institute of Child Health Lahore, Pakistan and The University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Riga Stradins University, Finland, through Erasmus.

The Community Medicine Department is designated as the WHO collaborating centre for Training & Research in Occupational Health



Several departments provide high quality medical laboratory and genetic services to the Ministry of Health and the general public.

We attract over 100 foreign students annually from other countries such as Australia, France, Germany, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA etc., for elective programmes.





Faculty of Medicine has 146 members on the permanent academic staff, comprising of 10 Senior professors, 27 Professors, 04 Associate Professors, 55 Senior lecturers, 49 Lecturers and a Senior Research Officer.

The academics include 28 PhD 's and 86 board certified medical specialists in a wide variety of specialties. The extended faculty includes approximately 90 board certified consultants/specialists.

Academics of the faculty provide full time consultant led clinical services at the National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital and De Soysa Maternity Hospital. Over 50,000 patients are managed annually at these hospitals.

There were 23 Presidential Research Award winners for the Academic year of 2016.

The Human Genetics unit of the Faculty of Medicine together with John Keells Research, a unit established by John Keells Holdings PLC, sequenced the entire genome of goda wee – an indigenous rice variety successfully. This is the first time that such a feat in the field of science was achieved within Sri Lanka.

The University of Colombo ranks number 1 in Sri Lanka, 45<sup>th</sup> in South Asia and 1946<sup>th</sup> in the world according to the Webometrics ranking of World Universities.

# WE OFFER YOU...

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S)

Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy

MSc in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

MSc in Clinical Genetics

MSc in Genetic Diagnosis

MSc in Regenerative Medicine

MSc in Occupational Health and Safety

MSc in Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology

Postgraduate Diploma in Healthcare Quality and Patient safety

Postgraduate Diploma in Gender and Health



Postgraduate Diploma in Toxicology  
Postgraduate Diploma in Health Development

Diploma in Forensic Medicine and Science  
Diploma in Death Investigation  
Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety

Certificate in Human Nutrition and Dietetics  
Certificate in Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Research  
Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety

Certificate course for proficiency as pharmacists  
Certificate Course for efficiency as pharmacists  
Certificate course on Laboratory Animal Science

Online Diploma in Disaster Management  
Online Certificate in Health Programme Management  
Online Certificate course in Infection Prevention & Control

## **ELECTIVES IN A COUNTRY WITH TROPICAL DISEASES AND VERY GOOD HEALTH INDICATORS...**

The Electives Unit is responsible for coordinating the local and overseas elective appointments of our undergraduates. It also coordinates electives for overseas students who wish to do their electives in a tropical country.

All departments of the Faculty of Medicine offer elective appointments that are tailor-made as per individual student requirements. These are conducted in different settings, e.g. hospital, field, laboratory etc. and the period could vary from one week to three months. Assistance is provided by facilitating entry visa requirements.

**How do you contact  
the Electives Unit?**

**[overseaselectives@gmail.com](mailto:overseaselectives@gmail.com)  
<http://elective.med.cmb.ac.lk/index.php>**



**LIVING TOGETHER AND LEARNING TOGETHER...**



**GIVING BACK TO THE NATION...**

# LIFE IN A MULTICULTURAL SPACE...



# BEYOND BOOKS INVALUABLE CLINICAL EXPOSURE ...

## **The National Hospital of Sri Lanka**

### **Centre of Excellence in Health Care**

The National Hospital of Sri Lanka is unique in Sri Lanka in many ways such as being the final referral centre of the country, and the largest tertiary care hospital of Sri Lanka.

It is the training centre for undergraduates and postgraduate trainees of the Faculty of Medicine. It has a bed capacity of 3404 and over 7000 dedicated healthcare staff providing uninterrupted service. The hospital provides care for 240,000 in-ward patients and 2 million out patients annually.



## **The Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children**

The Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children is considered to be the largest children's hospital in the world with a bed-strength of over 900.

The hospital serves an average of nearly 2,500 to 3,000 patients a day, out of which approximately 250 to 300 are admitted daily for inpatient care.

It has more than 65 specialists with support staff who provide round the clock services.

## **Castle Street Hospital for Women**

It is the premier Women's Hospital in Sri Lanka. It currently has a strength of 442 beds, which provides comprehensive care for maternal, gynaecological and neonatal patients.

The hospital performs more than 16000 deliveries per year. It also has one of the largest neonatal units in Sri Lanka.

The Castle Street hospital has a 24h OPD with a number of specialized clinics for follow up visits for patients. More than 100000 patients visit the hospital clinics every year.



### **De Soysa Hospital for Women (De Soysa Maternity Hospital)**

The De Soysa Hospital for Women is the second oldest maternity home in Asia, which was established in 1879. It provides care for over 14,000 mothers annually.

DSHW was declared a “Baby Friendly Hospital” by the UNICEF and the Government of Sri Lanka in 1992 and received the “Taiki Akimoto 5S Award” in 2003 for the bet implementation of “5S” in the service sector.



### **National Institute of Mental Health**

The institute plays an integral role in Sri Lanka by providing specialized psychiatric services to the community with professionalism and care, and is Sri Lanka’s largest tertiary care institution caring for patients with mental illness.

It has a total of around 1500 beds. Annually over 8000 patients are admitted to NIMH and provides acute and intermediate care, as well as specialized services.

### **National Eye Hospital In Sri Lanka**

The leading tertiary eye care hospital in Sri Lanka, consists of an out patients department, 18 wards with 485 beds, one High Dependency Unit, 6 Operation Theaters with 12 operation tables.

There are 9 specialist eye surgeons working in the National Eye Hospital together with 2 anaesthetists, a physician, and a pathologist all from the specialist cadre.



### **The National Cancer Institute, Maharagama**

The leading hospital under the Ministry of Health dedicated to the management of cancer patients.

The National Cancer Institute of Sri Lanka provides its services to over 50,000 in-patients which include more than 10,000 new registrations annually referred from various parts of the country.

# WE WILL KEEP IN TOUCH...

## Welcome to the Faculty of Medicine

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, established in 1870 and considered the undisputed matriarch of medical education in Sri Lanka has been a leader in medical training and research not only in this country but also in Asia. Our teaching faculty in Colombo is comprised of some of the most accomplished, ambitious and dedicated scientists and medical professionals in Asia. Students always strive to grow and evolve and our faculty does provide them an innovative learning environment that imparts the refined skills of how to be compassionate and caring. This faculty is in the forefront of medical education and has central to its mission, a curriculum that melds the study of basic science, pathophysiology and mechanisms of disease and the clinical practice of medicine into a cohesive programme of learning.



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