

Abridged Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name Preethi Vidya UDAGAMA
Current Appointment Professor in Zoology, Department of Zoology
Faculty of Science, University of Colombo
Date of Birth 27 February 1958 Citizenship: Sri Lankan

CONTACT DETAILS

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ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

BSc, MSc (Colombo), PhD (Colombo)

TERTIARY EDUCATION University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

1980 *BSc in Biological Sciences* (2nd Class Honours)
(Zoology, Botany & Chemistry)
1984 *MSc in Nuclear Science*, Faculty of Science
Thesis title - Radioimmunoassay of Alpha-fetoprotein for the diagnosis
of and monitoring of hepatocellular carcinoma
1990 *PhD in Immuno-parasitology*, Faculty of Medicine
Thesis title - *Plasmodium vivax* : Asexual Erythrocytic Stage Antigens

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Chartered Biologist of the Institute of Biology, Sri Lanka.
Fellow of the Institute of Biology, Sri Lanka

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

April 1990- March 1992 Post-doctoral fellowship
April 1992 - March 1994 Visiting fellowship
Both awarded by the Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada.
tenured at the Tree Physiology & Biotechnology Laboratory, Faculty of Forestry & Environmental
Management, University of New Brunswick, Canada

CHRONOLOGY OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Sept 2008 – to date *Professor in Zoology*
Sept 2000 – Aug 2008 Senior Lecturer (Grade I)
Sept 1994 – Aug 2000 Senior Lecturer (Grade II)
Department of Zoology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Feb.1990 - April 1994 *Postdoctoral Fellow & Visiting Fellow*
Tree Physiology & Biotechnology Laboratory
Faculty of Forestry & Environmental Management
University of New Brunswick, Canada
Jan.1985 - Dec.1989 *Research Assistant*
Malaria Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
June 1981- Dec.1984 *Scientific Officer*
Atomic Energy Authority of Sri Lanka
January - May 1981 *Teaching Assistant*
Department of Zoology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

AWARDS

2006		Excellence in Research - Merit award in Biotechnology for 2004 Awarded by the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka
2004 & 2006	}	Presidential Research Awards
2007, 2009,		Presidential Awards for Research Publication
2011, 2013		
2010		National Research Council Merit Award
2014		Award for Excellence in Research, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.
2014		Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, General Research Committee Award (Life time award for excellence in research carried out in Sri Lanka)

MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- *Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science*
1986 Member; 1994 Life Member (Member of the Environmental Committee of SLAAS – 1998/1999; 1999/2000; Asst Editor 2003/2008; Committee Member of Sections A & D 2007/2008; President elect section D 2009; **President Section D 2010**; General Research Committee member 2007, vice Chairperson 2008, Chairperson 2009; Elected Council member 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016; Ethics Committee member 2015/16)
- *Institute of Biology, Sri Lanka* 1996 Life member
(Joint-Secretary – 1999/2000; 2000/2001; **President 2001/2002**; Council member 2002/2003; 2005/2006)
- *Allergy and Immunology Society of Sri Lanka* 1999 Founder member
(Founder Council Member, 2000/2001; 2001/2002; 2006/2007; 2008/2009; 2009/2010)
- *World Allergy Organization -International Union of Immunological Societies*
- *Asia Pacific Association of Allergology and Clinical Immunology*
- *Federation of Immunological Societies of Asia Oceania* 2005 onwards Member
- *Third World Organisation for Women in Science* (Full Member)
- *Sri Lanka Federation of University Women* (Full Member)
- *Sri Lanka Association for Improving Higher Education Effectiveness*
Founder associate Member (Council member 2009/2010)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Immuno- & Molecular Epidemiology of *Plasmodium vivax* asexual stage vaccine candidates in Sri Lanka; Development of Immunologic and Molecular Diagnostics for the Weligama coconut wilt disease causing phytoplasma; Ecto- and endo-parasites of vertebrates of Sri Lanka; Screening of natural products for anti malarial, anti rheumatoid arthritic and immune-modulatory activity; Reproductive Immunology; Eco-Immunotoxicology; Association of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Oral & Oropharyngeal Cancer (OPC) in Sri Lanka; Deriving in house stem cell lines to assess proliferative, differentiation and toxicity of plant/ sponge extracts

As the Principal Investigator, I have received research grants amounting to approximately Rs 34 million for the period 1995-2018 from Harrison Zoological Museum, UK; the University of Colombo; the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka; the International Foundation for Science, Sweden; the National Research Council of Sri Lanka; Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network.

To date I have trained 5 PhDs, 7 MScs, one MD and supervised 36 undergraduate research projects. Currently, 4 PhD candidates and 2 undergraduates are undergoing training.

I have functioned as examiner of PhD and MPhil thesis and MSc dissertations of Sri Lankan state universities.

REVIEWER OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

I have participated in the review process of the following international journals: *Experimental Parasitology*, *International Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences (IJMMS)*, *Infection*, *Genetics & Evolution*, *Clinical & Experimental Immunology*, *Acta Tropica*, *Online International Journal of Medicinal Plant Research*, *Tropical Biomedicine*, *Parasites and Vectors*

10 SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- Wickramarachchi W T A, Premaratne P H, Perera K L R L, Bandara S, Kocken C H M, Thomas A W, Handunnetti S M and **Udagama-Randeniya P V** (2006). Natural human antibody responses to *Plasmodium vivax* Apical Membrane Antigen 1 under low transmission and unstable malaria conditions in Sri Lanka. *Infection and Immunity* 74 (1): 798-801.
- Wickramarachchi, W T A, Illeperuma, I, Perera, K L R L, Bandara, S, Longacre, S, Handunetti, S M and **Udagama-Randeniya, P V** (2007). Comparison of naturally acquired antibody responses against the C- terminal processing products of *Plasmodium vivax* Merozoite Surface Protein 1 under low transmission and unstable malaria conditions in Sri Lanka. *International Journal of Parasitology*, 37:199-208 .
- Premaratne P H, Aravinda B R, Escalante A A and **Udagama P V** (2011). Genetic diversity of *Plasmodium vivax* Duffy Binding Protein II (PvDBPII) under unstable transmission and low intensity malaria in Sri Lanka. *Infection, Genetics and Evolution*, 11: 1327–1339.
- Dias S, Somaratne M, Manamperi A, Escalante A, Gunasekera A M and **Udagama PV** (2011). Evaluation of the genetic diversity of domain II of *Plasmodium vivax* Apical Membrane Antigen 1 (PvAMA-1) and the ensuing strain-specific immune responses in patients from Sri Lanka. *Vaccine*, 29:7491– 7504.
- Dias S, Wickramarachchi T, Sahabandu E, Escalante A and **Udagama PV** (2013). Population genetic Structure of the *Plasmodium vivax* circumsporozoite protein (*Pvcsp*) in Sri Lanka. *Gene* , 518:381-387.
- Amarasekara S, Wijerathna S, Fernando C, **Udagama P V** (2014). Cost-effective diagnosis of male oxidative stress using the nitroblue tetrazolium test: useful application for the developing world. *Andrologia*, 46:73-79. (doi:10.1111/and.12043).
- Bamunuarachchi B A G S, Ratnasooriya W D, Premakumara G A S, **Udagama P V** (2014). *Artemisia vulgaris* L ethanolic leaf extract reverse thrombocytopenia/ thrombocytosis and avert end stage disease of experimental severe *Plasmodium berghei* murine malaria. *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases*. 51: 1-8.
- Priyadarshani S, Madhushani W A N, Jayawardhana U A, Wickremasinghe D D and **Udagama PV** (2015). Heavy metal mediated immunomodulation of the Indian green frog, *Euphlyctis hexadactylus* (Anura:Ranidae) in urban wetlands. *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*, 116: 140-149.
- Gunasekera S K, Perera K A, Fernando C and **Udagama PV** (2015). A shifting paradigm in the aetiology of oral and pharyngeal cancer in Sri Lanka: a case-control study providing serologic evidence for the role of oncogenic HPV types 16 and 18. *Infectious Agents and Cancer* 10:12 – 21. DOI 10.1186/s13027-015-0007-z
- Kanatiwela-de Silva C, Damayanthi M, de Silva R, Dickinson M, de Silva N and **Udagama P** (2015). Molecular and scanning electron microscopic proof of phytoplasma associated with areca palm yellow leaf disease in Sri Lanka. *Plant Disease* (First Look; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-01-15-0072-PDN>)

I have published to date 50 research papers, a majority in international journals (39), two book chapters, and 168 scientific communications presented at local(143) and international (25) conferences.