

## Report on the Book Launch Event: “A Transdisciplinary Systems Approach for Addressing Complex Real-World Issues: Sri Lankan Perspectives”

The image displays two promotional graphics for a book launch event. The left graphic is an invitation card with a white background and a blue header. It features the title "Invitation BOOK LAUNCH" in a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts. Below the title, it lists the book title "A TRANSDISCIPLINARY SYSTEMS APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING COMPLEX REAL-WORLD ISSUES: SRI LANKAN PERSPECTIVES" and the editors: Prof. Ranjith Senaratne, Prof. Dilanthi Amaratunga, and Prof. Charmalie Nahallage. It specifies the date as Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026, the time as 4:00 p.m. onwards, and the venue as Wimaladhamma Mansion, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. It also mentions sponsors (Pelwatte) and organizers (The Committee on Interdisciplinary & Transdisciplinary Studies (IDTDS) of SLAAS in collaboration with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka). A small image of the book cover is shown on the right. The right graphic is an agenda card with a white background and a blue header. It lists the event schedule from 4:00 PM to 5:45 PM, including welcome remarks, institutional address, a lecture by Prof. Matthias Kaiser, a keynote by Dr. Vinya S. Ariyaratne, the book launch, and a vote of thanks.

**Invitation**  
**BOOK LAUNCH**

A TRANSDISCIPLINARY SYSTEMS APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING COMPLEX REAL-WORLD ISSUES: SRI LANKAN PERSPECTIVES

Edited by  
Prof. Ranjith Senaratne  
Prof. Dilanthi Amaratunga  
Prof. Charmalie Nahallage

**Date:**  
Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

**Time:**  
4:00 p.m. onwards

**Venue:**  
Wimaladhamma Mansion  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Sponsored by  
Pelwatte

Organized by  
The Committee on Interdisciplinary & Transdisciplinary Studies (IDTDS) of SLAAS  
in collaboration with University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

**Agenda**

4:00 PM Welcome address and opening remarks  
Prof. Ranjith Senaratne  
Former General President of SLAAS

4:20 PM Address by Prof. M. M. Pathmalal  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Sri Jayewardenepura

4:30 PM **Scientists Need to be Ready for Radical Changes in the Science Model**  
Prof. Matthias Kaiser  
University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway

5:00 PM **Transdisciplinarity in Practice: Pathways to Sustainable Community Development**  
Dr. Vinya S. Ariyaratne  
Honorary President, Sarvodaya Sharmadana Movement

5:30 PM Book launch

5:45 PM Vote of thanks  
Prof. Charmalie Nahallage  
Chairperson, Committee on IDTDS

The book launch of *A Transdisciplinary Systems Approach for Addressing Complex Real-World Issues: Sri Lankan Perspectives*, edited by Prof. Ranjith Senaratne, Prof. Dilanthi Amaratunga, and Prof. Charmalie Nahallage was successfully held on Thursday, 22 January 2026. The event commenced at 4.00 p.m. and took place at the Sri Wimaladhamamma Mansion, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka. Considering that the most recent scholarly publication of SLAAS dates back to 2012, the launch of this volume as a SLAAS publication was of particular significance. The programme was jointly organised by the Committee on Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies (IDTDS) of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS), in collaboration with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The event was generously sponsored by Master Divers, and Pelwatte Dairy Industries.

The programme was designed to promote scholarly dialogue on transdisciplinary approaches to addressing contemporary societal challenges, with particular emphasis on Sri Lankan perspectives. It comprised keynote addresses delivered by distinguished academics and practitioners, culminating in the formal launch of the publication and a vote of thanks.

The event brought together a select and eminent group of participants, including keynote speakers, organisers, and representatives of partner institutions. The principal contributors were as follows:

- **Prof. Ranjith Senaratne**, Former General President of SLAAS, who delivered the welcome address and opening remarks.
- **Prof. M. M. Pathmalal**, Vice-Chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, who presented the institutional address.
- **Prof. Matthias Kaiser**, University of Bergen, Norway, who delivered a lecture via Zoom on evolving scientific paradigms.
- **Dr. Vinya S. Ariyaratne**, Honorary President, Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement, who spoke on the practical applications of transdisciplinarity.
- **Prof. Charmalie Nahallage**, Chairperson of the Committee on IDTDS, who delivered the vote of thanks.

## Images from the event



*Prof. Ranjith Senaratne, Former General President of SLAAS: Delivered the welcome address and opening remarks*



*Prof. M. M. Pathmalal, Vice-Chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura: Provided an institutional address*



*Dr. Vinya S. Ariyaratne, Honorary President, Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement: Delivered a lecture on practical applications of transdisciplinarity*





*Prof. Charmalie Nahallage, Chairperson, Committee on IDTDS: Offered the vote of thanks*





*Prof. Matthias Kaiser, University of Bergen, Norway: Presented a lecture via Zoom on evolving scientific paradigms*

