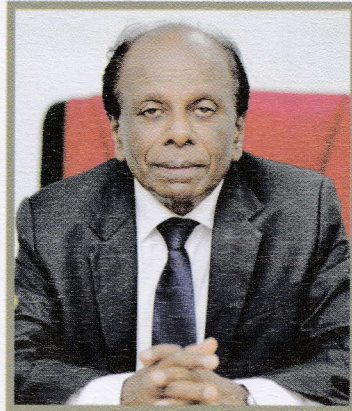


## RECTOR'S MESSAGE

IRIS offers a platform for creative writers to display their creative writing skills and sharpen their writing competencies. SIBA has a strong academic department for teaching of Communicative English. The Department of English & Modern Languages of SIBA does not promote an orthodox English literature learning model. Our mission is to promote English language learning for communicative purposes for the commercial, industrial and service sector organizations where English language skills are much demanded. SIBA assures that all our graduates are fluent in English, competent in Information Technology, filled with soft-skills and are smart. IRIS is yet another step towards boosting creative faculties in our undergraduates.



I hope this forum for creative writers will attract the attention from all interested young writers in higher educational institutes in the island. I encourage all young graduates to feel free to share their thoughts writing a poem, a short-story and express your feelings, ideas and creative thoughts.

Though SIBA is a small university college, our mission is clear; we promote quality education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and soon the employers will find out that the SIBA graduate has the type of personality that the employers wish to hire.

I congratulate all staff of the English and Modern Languages Department for making this happen. *Ms. Ruvini Wickramaratne*, the Coordinator of the Undergraduate Degree Program has been the one who spearheaded the process to get IRIS published as an undergraduate journal. However, all academic staff and the senior batches of undergraduates following B.A. General Degree, especially those who read for Communicative English as a subject, generously contributed towards the success of IRIS. Two of the senior English scholars *Ms. Kamala Wijeratne*, and *Mr. Vijitha de Silva* served as the Editors and their cooperation is much appreciated. *Ms. Buddhi Ariyaratne*, the Head of the Department of English and Modern Languages provided the leadership and the guidance to make this happen. I congratulate all of them. All those who contributed in many ways, including the writers who submitted articles are much appreciated.

**Upali M. Sedere, PhD (Iowa); PhD (MCU)**  
**Rector and CEO of SIBA University Campus**