

## PGIA Promotes Postgraduate Research

### Research Publication Facilitation Fund (RPFF)

The PGIA has taken a policy decision to encourage the students to publish the finding of their research at the earliest opportunity in high impact journals and present them orally or as poster presentations at overseas conferences. The objective of RPFF is to improve and strengthen the quality of the research degree programs offered by the institute in order to achieve excellence in postgraduate research.

The PGIA has established two schemes to promote the publication and wider dissemination of research findings of its research students by providing financial assistance as subscription fees for the Publication of postgraduate research articles in high impact peer reviewed scientific journals and participation of postgraduate students at international conferences/workshops for oral/poster presentations.

In this year, the following students presented their research findings in international conferences using the RPFF

Ms. Gimhani Hemachandra, a student of the B/S in Agricultural Engineering attended the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Water & Flood Management (ICWFM 2019) held in Bangladesh on 2 - 4 March 2019 and presented her research findings on **Developing a composite map of extreme rainfall anomalies in Sri Lanka.**

Mr. S. Su-kirtharuban, a Masters student in Biotechnology in the Board of Study Agricultural Biology presented his research findings at the 35th TOCKLAI Conference, India held on 22-23 February 2019 as a poster presentation on **Determination of LD<sub>50</sub> of gamma rays *in vitro* mutagenesis of tea (*Camellia sinensis* L.)**

Ms. Amasha Withana a student of B/S in Soil Science participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Agriculture (AGRICO)2019, held on 22nd – 23rd August 2019 in Bangkok, and presented her paper on **Application of cattle manure affects phyto availability of Cadmium in Soil.**

Ms. Thilini Ranasinghe a student of B/S in Agricultural Engineering participated in the 10th International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management held on 12-14 December 2019 at Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy, Sri Lanka and presented her research findings on **Development of a composite construction material using post-consumer plastic wastes.**

Ms. Sandarenu Kodikara and Ms. Lakmini Dissanayake of the B/S in Soil Science published their research findings in the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the East and Southeast Asia Federation of Soil Science Societies conference held on 3-8 November 2019 in Taiwan on **Baseline concentrations, solubility and spatial variability of potential toxic trace elements in soils in up and mid country wet zone in Sri Lanka** and **Development of slow release fertilizer using rice husk biochar to improve NOE in paddy cultivation** respectively.