



I, **Ariya Sumanasinghe**, graduated from University of Peradeniya with a BSc (Agric) degree with 2nd Class upper honors in 1976. After serving briefly at the TRI and then at The Department of Agriculture for 2+ years, I joined the university system in 1979 October. My Post graduate studies were at Penn State University, USA in securing MSc in 1983 and PhD in 1986 was promoted to Professor of Agricultural Biology in 2009. I conduct lectures in genetics and plant breeding disciplines and related subjects both at undergraduate and post graduate levels.

My early phase of research interests have been in isozyme analysis, phylogenetic studies and cytogenetics. Then I concentrated more on the area of Molecular Genetics and recently became inclined towards biotechnology applications. About 10 research grants were obtained and products of each of it were made to publications. I did supervise many MSc projects, produced 6 MPhils and supervised 3 PhDs.

My 1st sabbatical was in Japan conducting Gene Expression studies in Salinity of rice at JIRCAS-JICA, Okinawa. More recently I did embark on a Visiting Professorship at the SQU –Sultan Quaboos University in Oman for a semester in 2011.

My administrative experiences were being the Head of the department during 2005-2008 and serving in Board of Study, Finance committee and Management committee of the PGIA.