

# EXEMPLIFYING EXCELLENCE



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



UNIVERSITY OF  
COLOMBO SRI LANKA



# EXEMPLIFYING EXCELLENCE

The University of Colombo has once again proven its excellence by securing the top position among Sri Lankan universities in the second edition of the Webometrics Ranking 2022 .



"College House" which was acquired in 1920,  
is the current Administration Building of the  
University of Colombo

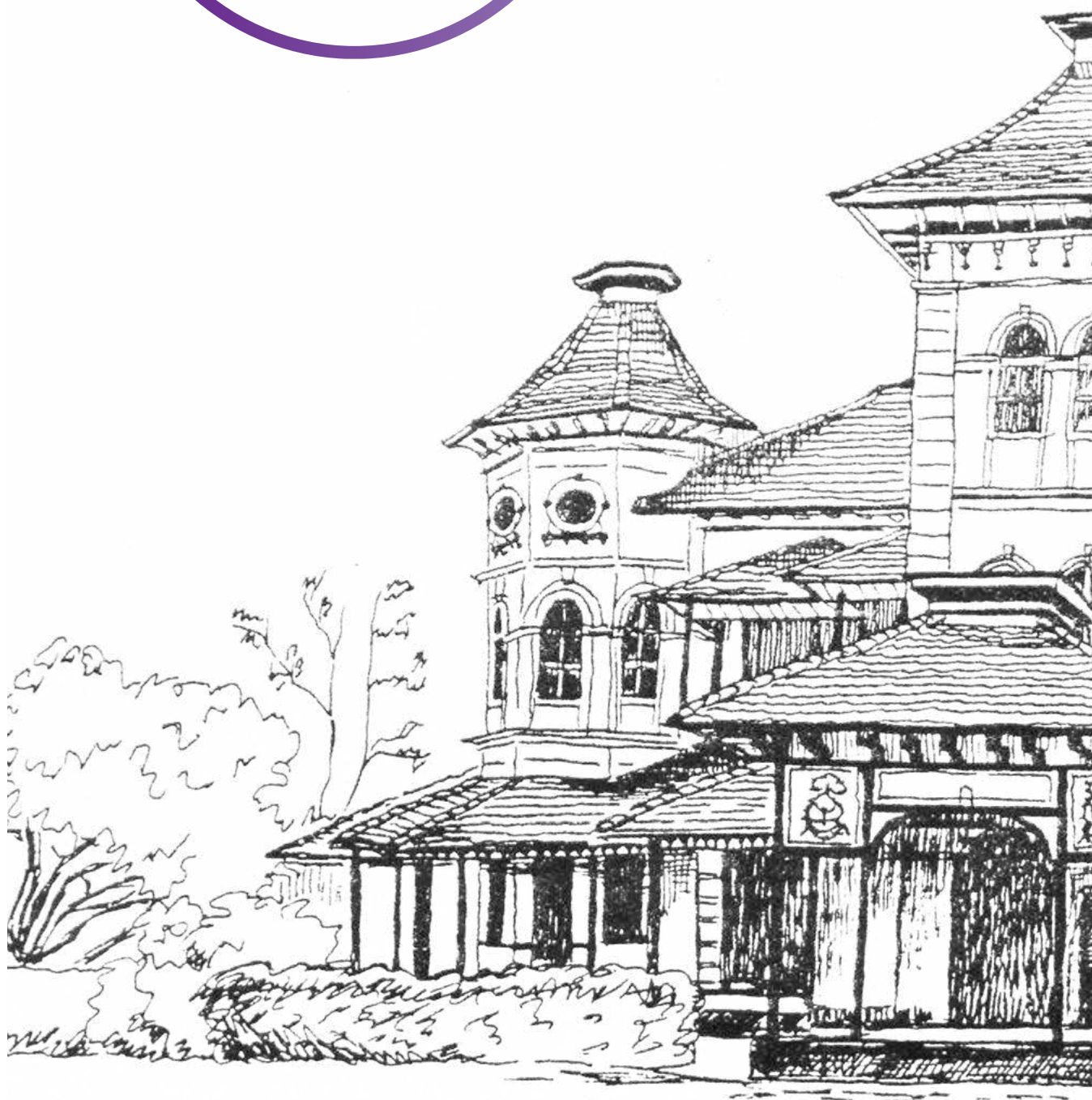






# 1 WEBOMETRICS RANKING 2022

Country Rank

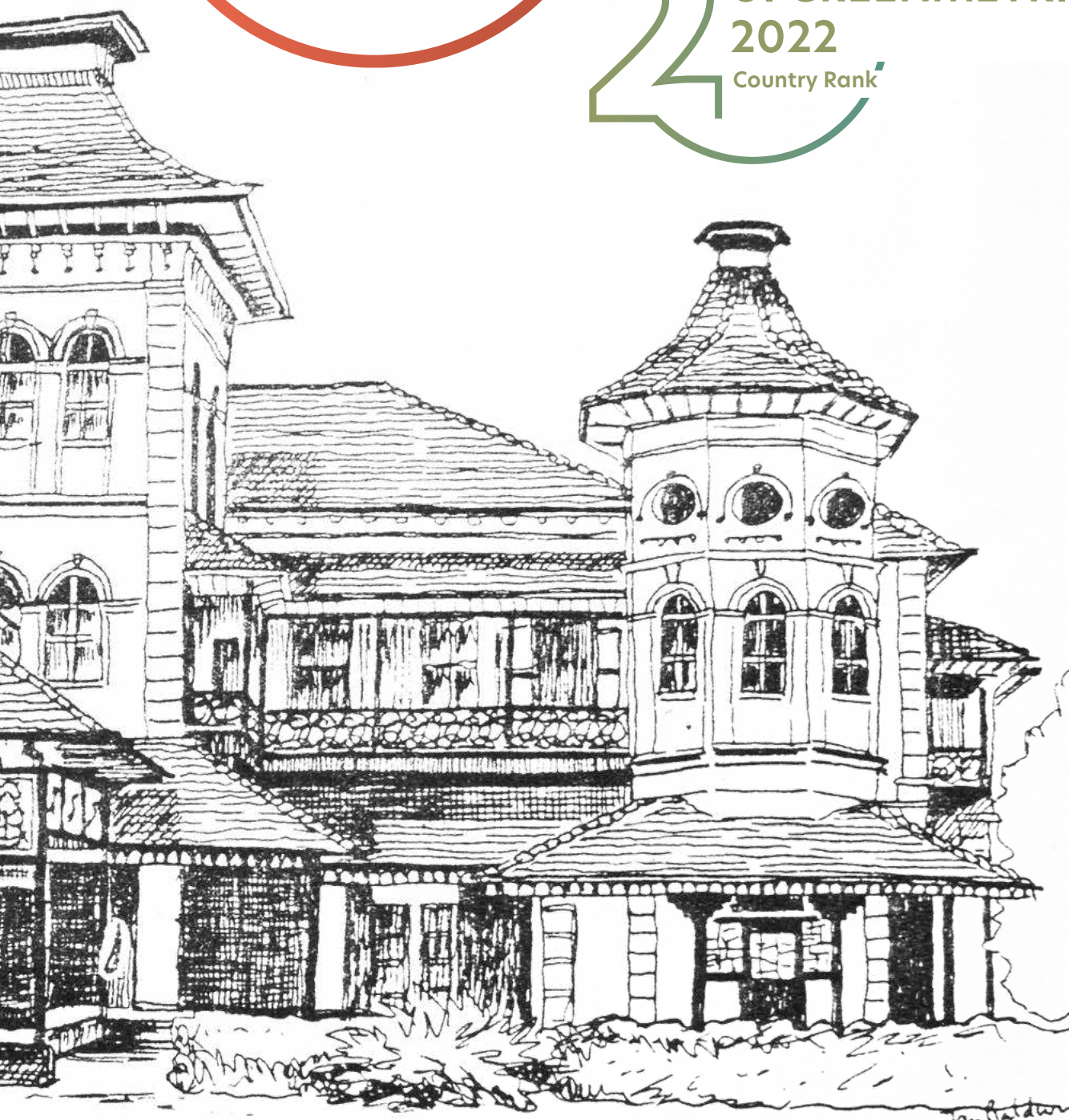


# 1 SCIMAGO INSTITUTIONS RANKINGS 2022

Country Rank

# 2 UI GREENMETRIC 2022

Country Rank

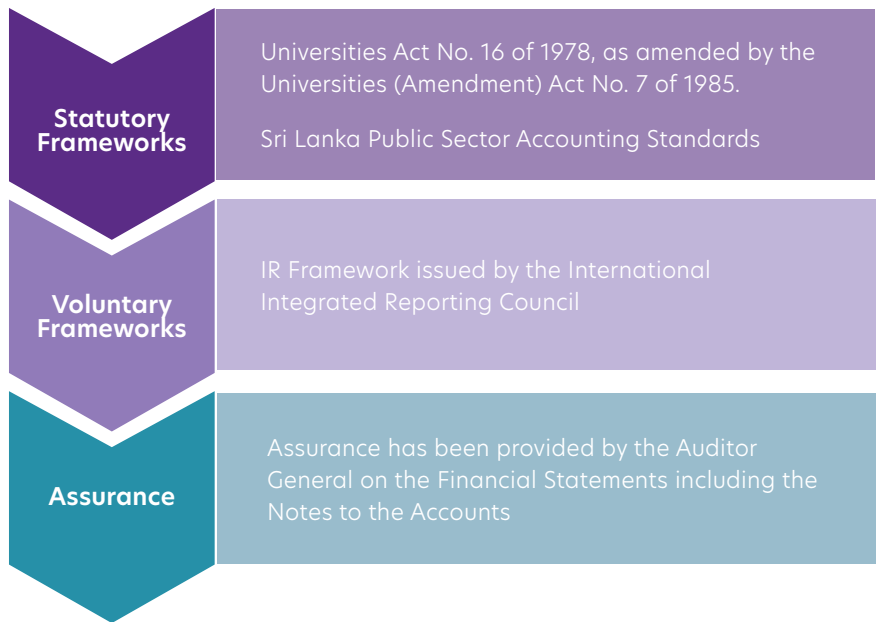


# General Information

We are pleased to present the second Integrated Annual Report of the University of Colombo which sets the performance for the financial year ending 31st December 2022. The report marks the Universities commitment to integrated reporting which is expected to lead to integrated thinking, optimizing value created to our key stakeholder and management of finite resources in uncertain times. The stakeholder focused approach adopted in reporting enables assessment of value delivered to UoC's key stakeholder groups ensuring that we remain focused on our strategic priorities.

## Frameworks Applied

We have applied the following frameworks in preparing this report. Collectively, they form the scope of this report, providing guidance on matters to be disclosed.



## Scope & Boundaries

This Annual Report presents financial and non-financial information relating to the University of Colombo, its Campus, Faculties, Departments, centres and Units. The activities of affiliated institutes are outside the scope of this report although their academic activities come within the purview of the Council, the highest governance body. The financial matters of the affiliated institutes are separate from those of the University of Colombo and do not form part of the financial statements of the University of Colombo. Consequently, the non-financial information pertaining to the same have also been excluded.

## Forward Looking Statements

While forward-looking statements have been included in this report relating to the University's future performance and prospects, significant uncertainties in the operating environment, stakeholder expectations and limitations in resources may result in actual performance varying significantly from our expectations. Such statements are not binding due to these reasons and readers of the report are urged to consider developments in both internal and external factors in assessing the accuracy of the same.

## Feedback & Inquiries

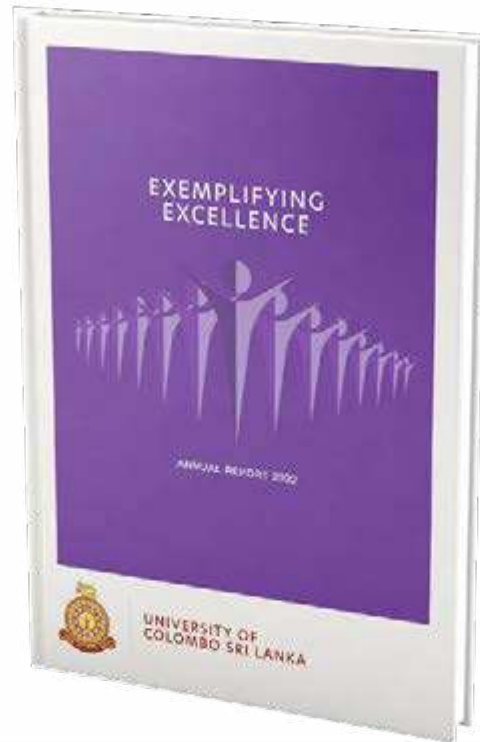
Please contact the following person for inquiries regarding the Annual Report: Mrs. Thanuja Dharmasena, Bursar/ University of Colombo

**Contact details:**  
Tel: 011 2 586 652  
Email: [bursar@cmb.ac.lk](mailto:bursar@cmb.ac.lk)





# Acknowledgement



The Annual Report 2022 prepared by collecting information from the Campus, Faculties, Centres and the branches, along with the Audit Report (recommended by the Audit Committee), Financial Statements (recommended by the Finance Committee) for the year ended 31st December 2022 was content reviewed and approved by the Council of the University.

The Council acknowledges its responsibility to ensure that the Annual Report provides a balanced view of its performance and that it addresses all material issues that may have impacted the University's capacity to create value over the short, medium and long term.



“

I am truly proud of students' achievements in studies, sports, performing arts and in community service alike achieved with discipline and dignity.

”

# Vice Chancellor's Message

I present the Annual Report of the University of Colombo (UoC) for the year 2022 with great pride. The year under review witnessed unprecedented challenges emanating from the economic coupled with the lingering impact of the pandemic which further hampered education for thousands of students across the country. The Higher Education sector in Sri Lanka was already facing a daunting task since the beginning of the pandemic and the economic crisis further prolonged the disruption, forcing students to revert to online schools as fuel and power shortages forced educational institutions to remain shut for period of time.

Online education became the default mode for the higher education sector to maintain consistency in education during this period, UoC displayed remarkable agility, backed by state-of-the-art digital tools and resources to ensure students were not affected adversely due to the circumstances. Despite the difficulties faced by our administration, we persevered in providing uninterrupted instruction to all UoC students. As a forward-looking professional university, we found solutions to the challenges arising out of the economic crisis to keep the pipeline of communication and instructions ongoing. UoC managed its finances with a strong focus on ensuring sustainability over the medium and longer term. We remained focused on creating new opportunities for students to deliver strong outcomes. Our staff and faculty was proud to assist our students and partners through the difficult months, providing them with the resources they needed to stay motivated and hopeful.

More importantly, amongst the adversity that characterised the year under review, UoC was ranked 1st among Sri Lankan universities throughout the 2022 in the Webometrics Rankings. The Times Higher Education World University

Rankings placed the University of Colombo within the top 601 – 800th Universities among 1799 universities in 104 countries. Additionally, the university was ranked within 301 – 400th Universities in Clinical, Pre-clinical and Health, 1001+ in Physical Sciences and 801+ in Social Sciences subject categories. I believe these accolades and the recognition that comes with them affirms our quality of education and the passion with which we deliver our vision to our 42,026 students who are presently enrolled.

Notwithstanding the shortages of fuel and power cuts, the University activities remained aligned to its goals by conducting 19 International Conferences successfully and publishing a total of 630 new research papers by the Campus/ Faculties/ Institutes during the year 2022 in order to disseminate research findings of the University. I must commend the resilience, fortitude and adaptability shown by our student community in embracing digitization and virtual learning to reflect how they have been shaped.

I am truly proud of students' achievements in studies, sports, performing arts and in community service alike achieved with discipline and dignity. Reiterating the student multi-faceted talents, the Men's team of the UoC won the overall championship in the Inter-University Games in the year 2022 and a student of UCIARS won first place in the University Student Startup competition organized by AHEAD operations together with ICTA to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week 2022. These and other accolades for all or stakeholders inspires us to further persevere in our mission to be a centre of global excellence which prepares generations of young minds to become successful global citizens.

UoC has played a key role in shaping the socioeconomic progress of our country as the premier seat of higher education in the country. Its

distinguished alumni and faculty members have served in key roles in the public and private sectors, shaping policy and performance across multiple industry sectors and disciplines in Sri Lanka and in other countries, upholding its reputation for producing professionals and academics who create value in their respective fields.

## Sustainability

University of Colombo adopted and promoted the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the year 2022. As per the 17th SDG Goal, UoC promoted partnerships with domestic and international Universities, Institutions, and multilateral organizations to strengthen its progress toward achieving the other 16 Goals. The University of Colombo also embarked on implementing the JICA Chair Programme in 2022, successfully elevating the status of the University by promoting research, improving research profile and involving community outreach and industry collaboration.

## Appreciation

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Council, the Senate, the Registrar, the Bursar and all the other staff of the University for making 2022 a very productive year despite all the challenges. Our nation is facing the grave crisis of the brightest talent leaving its shores for greener pastures. I believe UoC is playing a key role in spreading hope for the younger generation to receive global education that will prepare them to become successful professionals and enhance their prospects within our motherland.

**Senior Prof. H D Karunaratne**  
Vice Chancellor  
University of Colombo



