Curriculum Vitae

I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Name: Sunethra Dharmasiri **Title: Professor of Instruction**

EDUCATION

Degree	Year	University	Major	Thesis/Dissertation
Ph.D.	1995	Univ. of Hawaii	Plant Molecular Physiology	Molecular cloning and characterization of Nucleoside Diphosphate Kinase in cultured sugarcane cells
M.S.	1990	Univ. of Hawaii	Plant Molecular Physiology	Effect of salt on protein synthesis in cultured tobacco cells
B.Sc. (Hons)	1982	Univ. of Peradeniya Sri Lanka.	Botany	Investigation of vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizae in common tree species in the Gannoruwa natural forest, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

Faculty Positions	University	Dates
Professor of Instruction	Texas State University	2024 - present
Senior lecturer	Texas State University	2006 - 2024
Lecturer	Texas State University	2005 - 2006
Senior Lecturer Grade II (Tenured)	University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	1995 -1999
Assistant Lecturer (Tenure track)	University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	1983 - 1987
Assistant Lecturer (Temporary)	University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	1982 - 1983

Relevant Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Research Fellow	Indiana University, Bloomington	2002 - 2005
Research Scientist	University of Texas, Austin	2001 - 2002
Postdoctoral Research Associate	University of Texas, Austin	1999 - 2001
Graduate Research Fellow	University of Hawaii, Honolulu	1993 - 1994
Graduate Scholar	University of Hawaii, Honolulu	1987 – 1993
Research Officer	Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka	1983

II. TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT:

Texas State University	Functional Biology (BIO1430/BIO1330)	2005 - present
	Functional Biology (BIO1330) Honors	2018 - 2020
	Intermediate General botany (BIO2410)	2006, 2013 - present
	Modern Biology I (BIO1320) Honors	2019 - 2024
	Modern Biology I (BIO 1320)	2012, 2015, 2016, 2019 - present
	Modern Biology II (BIO 1421)	2005
	Plant Physiology (BIO3465)	2006
University of Peradeniya	Introductory Molecular Biology (1000 level)	1995 - 1998
	Biochemical Techniques (3000 level)	1997 - 1998
	Stress Physiology (3000 level)	1995 - 1998
	Recombinant DNA Technology (4000 level)	1995 - 1998
	Molecular Biology Techniques (graduate level)	1996
	Post-harvest Physiology (graduate level)	1997

Please note: For all entries, list most recent items first.

LABORATORY COURSES COORDINATED:

Texas State University	Intermediate General Botany (BIO 2410 lab)	2006, 2013 - present
	Plant Physiology (BIO3465 lab)	2006
University of Peradeniya	Biochemical techniques lab	1997 – 1998

COURSES PREPARED / CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:

At Texas State University
- BIO1320 Honors section. Developed Honors section curriculum in 2019
- BIO1330 Honors section. Developed honors section curriculum in 2018
- BIO2410 Intermediate General Botany. Updated the lecture course and prepared new labs, reorganized existing labs
- BIO1430 and Bio1330 – Updated the lecture course

At University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (1995 – 1998)
- Prepared Core undergraduate curriculum for a newly established Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- Prepared Majors undergraduate courses in Environmental Science
- Prepared Biology course for undergraduate non-science majors
- Prepared and taught freshman level Introductory Molecular Biology course
- Prepared and taught senior level Recombinant DNA Technology course, and coordinated the lab
- Prepared and taught junior level Stress Physiology course
- Prepared and taught MS level Post Harvest Physiology course
- Prepared and taught MS level Molecular Biology Techniques course

CO-CHAIR OF GRADUATE THESES COMMITTEE:

Student name	*Supervisor*	*Degree*	*Years*	*Title*
Emran Sajib	N. Dharmasiri S. Dharmasiri	MS	2022 - 2024	The role of IBR5 in auxin mediated protein degradation in Arabidopsis
Andrew Rodela	N. Dharmasiri S. Dharmasiri	MS	2021 – 2023	The role of calcium and calmodulin in auxin induced cell expansion in Arabidopsis

MEMBER OF GRADUATE THESES/DISSERTATIONS OR EXIT COMMITTEES:

Student name	*Supervisor*	*Degree*	*Years*	*Title*
Padam Bhatt	H. Kang	PhD	2021- present	Characterization of a chromatin-associated tRNA-derived fragment and its role in chromatin remodeling linked to biotic stress
Tanzila Choity	H. Kang	MS	2023 – 2025	Development of a transgenic system for overexpressing tRNA-derived small RNAs to enhance resistance in plants
Heshini Weerakkody	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2022 - 2024	The role of PIC5 in PIF4-mediated hypocotyl elongation in Arabidopsis
Dinesh Pujara	H. Kang	PhD	2017 - 2024	Small nuclear RNAs originated from tRNAs function as a positive regulator in plant immunity
Israel Arellano	N. Dharmasiri.	MS.	2019 - 2022	IBR5 mediated localization of TIR1 in plant auxin response
Ji-Chul Nam	H. Kang	PhD	2013 - 2020	Arabidopsis mediator complex 9, MORC1 interacting protein, is a positive regulator of plant immunity
O. Afolabi	H. Kang	MS	2019 - 2020	Identification of transcriptome dynamic patterns and their cognate cis-elements in defense genes in Arabidopsis
Rohit Katti	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2017 - 2019	The role of IBR5-AtNRPB4 interaction in plant growth and development

Timothy J. Cioffi	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2017 - 2019	The role of IBR5 in regulation of $SCF^{TIR1/AFBs}$ complex
Idrees I. Ahmad	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2017 - 2019	Interaction of IBR5 and small GTP-binding proteins in growth and development of Arabidopsis
Diana Digges	D. Lemke	MS	2017 – 2019	Vegetation survey of the Yegua Knobbs Preserve, Bastrop and Lee counties, Texas
Yogendra Bordiya	H. Kang	PhD	2013 – 2017	Characterization of chromatin dynamics under biotic stress in Arabidopsis
Nicholas Siepert	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2015 – 2017	Characterization of the IBR5-PAD1 interaction in Arabidopsis auxin response
Thilanka Jayaweera	N. Dharmasiri	PhD	2012 – 2016	Functions of IBR5 gene in plant growth and development (not completed)
April Bonnard	H. Kang	MS	2014 – 2016	Characterization of chromatin-remodeling factors in plant immunity
Prabesh Ghimire	N. Dharmasiri.	MS	2013 – 2015	Characterization of an IBR5 interacting protein, ARA2 in Arabidopsis auxin response
Damian Raymond	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2013 – 2015	Characterization of PIC30 homolog in Arabidopsis
Praveen Kathare	N. Dharmasiri.	PhD	2010 - 2015	Functional characterization of SAUR genes in plant auxin response
Lauren Minter	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2013 – 2015	Characterization of AFB5 in Arabidopsis auxin signaling
N. Karunarathna	N. Dharmasiri	PhD	2008 - 2012	Functions of IAA28 in growth and development in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
YuTing Hou	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2010 - 2012	Characterization of PIC7 gene functions in Arabidopsis hormone response
Thilanka Jayaweera	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2009 – 2011	Regulation of auxin receptor gene family by hormonal and abiotic stress
C. Siriwardana	N. Dharmasiri	MS	2007 – 2009	Characterization of two picloram resistant mutants from *Arabidopsis thaliana*

III. SCHOLARY/CREATIVE

PATENTS:

***EFS ID*:** 34366662 - Dharmasiri N, **Dharmasiri S** and Kathare P (2021) Development and use of modified plants and seeds that are resistant to picolinate herbicides and environmental stress.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS:

Dharmasiri S and Estelle M (2002) The role of regulated protein degradation in auxin response. Auxin Molecular Biology (Perrot-Reschenmann C and Hagen G, eds.) Agritech Publications, Shrub Oak, NY

BOOK REVIEWS: 2017 How Life Works (2nd edition) Morris et. al. W.H. Freeman Co.
2016 Biological Science (6th Edition), Freeman, S. et al. Pearson Publishers.
2010 Biological Science (4th Edition), Freeman, S. et al. Pearson Publishers.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS
(Link to Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=e1kn_GwAAAAJ&hl=en)

Kathare PK, **Dharmasiri S**, Arellano I, Dharmasiri N. (2020) Interaction of SAUR53 and its close homologs with Calmodulin may play a role in early development in Arabidopsis. ***Plant Mol. Biol. Rep***. **38(2)**: 343–351 DOI:10.1007/s11105-020-01199-x (featured in cover image)

Kathare PK, **Dharmasiri S**, Vincil ED, Routray P, Ahmad I, Roberts DM, Dharmasiri N. (2019) Arabidopsis PIC30 encodes a Major Facilitator Superfamily (MFS) transporter responsible for uptake

Please note: For all entries, list most recent items first.

of picolinate herbicides. ***Plant J***. DOI: 10.1111/tpj.14608.

Kathare PK, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2018) SAUR53 regulates organ elongation and apical hook development in Arabidopsis. **Plant Signal. Behav**. 13(10):e1514896. doi: 10.1080/15592324.2018.1514896.

Kathare PK, Cioffi TJ, Dharmasiri N, **Dharmasiri S** (2017) Auxin. In: **eLS (Essentials for Life Sciences)**. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd: Chichester, UK. DOI: 10.1002/9780470015902.a0020090.pub2

Jayaweera T, Siriwardana C, **Dharmasiri S,** Quint M, Gray WM, Dharmasiri N (2014) Alternative splicing of Arabidopsis IBR5 pre-mRNA generates two IBR5 isoforms with distinct and overlapping functions. **PLoS One** 9(8):e102301.

Dharmasiri S, Jayaweera T, and Dharmasiri N. (2013) Plant hormone signaling: Current perspectives on perception and mechanisms of action. ***Cey. J. Sci.(Bio Sci.)*** 1-17 (Lead article).

Dharmasiri S, Harrington HM, Dharmasiri N (2010) Heat shock modulates the phosphorylation status and activity of nucleoside diphosphate kinase in cultured sugarcane cells. ***Plant Cell Rep. 29:1305-1314***

Parry G, Calderon-Villalobos LI, Prigge M, Peret B, **Dharmasiri S**, Itoh H, Lechner E, Gray WM, Bennett M, and Estelle M (2009) Complex regulation of the TIR1/AFB family of auxin receptors. ***Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 106:22540-22545***

Torres CA, Bucio JL, Ramirez AC, Laclette EI, **Dharmasiri S**, Estelle M, Estrella LH (2008) Phosphate availability alters lateral root development in Arabidopsis by modulating auxin sensitivity via a mechanism involving the TIR1 auxin receptor. ***Plant Cell 20:3258-3272***

Dharmasiri N, **Dharmasiri S**, Weijers D, Karunarathne N, Jurgens G and Estelle M (2007) AXL1 and AXR1 have redundant functions in RUB conjugation and growth and development in Arabidopsis. ***Plant J. 52:114-123***.

Dharmasiri S*, Swarup R*, Mockaitis K*, Dharmasiri N, Singh SK, Kowalchyk M, Marchant A, Sandberg G, Bennett M, Estelle M. (2006) AXR4 is required for asymmetric localization of the auxin influx facilitator AUX1. ***Science. 312: 1218-1220.*** * Co-first authors

Parry G, Ward S, Cernac A, **Dharmasiri S**, Estelle M (2006) The Arabidopsis SUPPRESSOR OF AUXIN RESISTANCE proteins are nucleoporins with an important role in hormone signaling and development. ***Plant Cell. 18:1590-1603.***

Dharmasiri N*, **Dharmasiri S***, Weijers D*, Lechner E, Yamada M, Hobbie L, Ehrismann JS, Jurgens G, Estelle M (2005) Plant Development Is Regulated by a Family of Auxin Receptor F Box Proteins. ***Dev. Cell***. ***9:109-119***. * Co-first authors

Dharmasiri N, **Dharmasiri S** and Estelle M (2005) The F-box protein TIR1 is an auxin receptor. ***Nature 435: 441-445***.

Xiaoqing Yang X, Lee S, Soo J-H, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N, Lei G, Jensen C, Hangarter R, Hobbie L and Estelle M (2004) The IAA1 protein is encoded by AXR5 and is a substrate of SCF^{TIR1}. ***Plant J***. ***40:772-782***.

Dharmasiri N, **Dharmasiri S**, Jones AM, Estelle M. (2003) Auxin action in a cell-free system. ***Curr Biol. 13(16): 1418-22***.

Hellmann H, Hobbie L, Chapman A, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N, del Pozo C, Reinhardt D, Estelle M (2003) Arabidopsis AXR6 encodes CUL1 implicating SCF E3 ligases in auxin regulation of embryogenesis. ***EMBO J. 22(13): 3314-25***.

Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N, Hellmann H, Estelle M (2003) The RUB/Nedd8 conjugation pathway is required for early development in Arabidopsis. ***EMBO J. 22(8): 1762-70***.

Dharmasiri S & Estelle M (2002) The role of regulated protein degradation in auxin response. ***Plant Mol. Biol. 49: 401-409***

del Pozo JC*, **Dharmasiri S***, Hellmann H, Walker L, Gray WM & Estelle M (2002) AXR1- ECR1 dependent conjugation of RUB1 to the Arabidopsis cullin AtCul1 is required for auxin response. ***Plant Cell 14: 421-433*** *Co-first authors, nominated for Plant Cell paper of the year

Gray WM, Hellmann H, **Dharmasiri S** & Estelle M (2002) Role of the Arabidopsis RING-H2 protein RBX1 in RUB modification and SCF function. ***Plant Cell 14:2137-44***

Leyser HMO, Pickett FB, **Dharmasiri S** & Estelle M (1996) Mutations in the AXR3 gene of Arabidopsis result in altered auxin response including ectopic expression from the SAUR AC1 promoter. ***Plant J. 10: 403 413***

Moisyadi S, **Dharmasiri S**, Harrington HM & Lukas TJ (1994) Characterization of a low molecular mass autophosphorylating protein in cultured sugarcane cells and its identification as a nucleoside diphosphate kinase. ***Plant Physiol. 104: 1401 – 1409***

Harrington HM, Dash S, Dharmasiri N and **Dharmasiri S** (1994) Heat-shock proteins: Search for functions. ***Aust. J. Plant Physiol. 21: 843-855.***

Jordan BR, **Dharmasiri S**, Hopley J & LeFay J (1989) Changes in psaA and psbA transcript levels during wheat leaf development under different irradiances. ***Plant Physiol. Biochem. 27(5):769 - 776***

ABSTRACTS / POSTERS / PRESENTATIONS (LAST 6 YEARS):

Taylor C*, Hossen M, Dharmasiri N, Dharmasiri S (2025) Aspiring for better stress response: Investigating an ethylene insensitive mutant in the model plant Arabidopsis. *Heart of Texas Research Conference. Baylor University, Waco.*
**** Outstanding presentation award***

Opara I*, Weerakkody H, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2025) Surviving the stress: AFB4's role in the plant survival under salinity. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University.*
**** First place award in MS category***

Weerakkody H, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2025) Harmonizing to beat the heat: role of PIC5 in plant response to increasing heat. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*

Acharjya P, Arellano I, Sajib E, Opara I, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2025) Balancing the role: Function of IBR5 in plant auxin response. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*

Taylor C, Hossen M, Dharmasiri N, Dharmasiri S (2025) Coping with the stress and hoping for longevity. Characterization of *ein4*, an ethylene receptor mutant in Arabidopsis. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University.*

Weerakkody H*, Anderson C, Morales N, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2024) Reconciling with the changing environment: Role of PIC3 in plant response to increasing temperature. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*
**** First place award in MS category***

Opara I, Rodela A, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2024) Working together to control size: Roles of auxin and calcium in cell size determination in Arabidopsis. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*

Sajib E, Arellano I, Cioffi T, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2024) IBR5-mediated regulation of plant auxin response. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*

Weerakkody H, Anderson C, Morales N, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2023) Function of auxin signaling pathway on thermomorphogenesis of Arabidopsis. *ASPB (Southern section) Annual Conference, Fayetteville, AR*

Sajib E, Arellano I, Cioffi T, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2023) IBR5-mediated plant auxin response through the SCF^{TIR1} complex. *ASPB (Southern section) Annual Conference, Fayetteville, AR*

Weerakkody H*, Anderson C, Morales N, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2023) Auxin related mutants affect thermomorphogenesis of Arabidopsis. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*
****Honorable mention in MS category***

Sajib H, Arellano I, Cioffi T, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2023) The role of IBR5 in regulating the function of SCF^{TIR1} in plant auxin response. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium, Texas State University*

Arellano I*, Cioffi T, Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N (2022) IBR5 dependent regulation of auxin response. *ASPB (Southern Section) Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL*
**** First place award***

Arellano I, Anne S, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2021) Indole-3-Butryic acid Response5 (IBR5) activity is regulated by calcium and calmodulin. ***ASPB (Southern Section) Annual Conference (Virtual)***

Arellano I, Siepert N , Kathare P, **Dhamrasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2020) IBR5 interacts with a subunit of 26S proteasome to regulate Arabidopsis auxin response. *Department of Biology Research Colloquium*.

Cioffi T*, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2018) IBR5 affects steady-state levels of SCFTIR1/AFBs components to regulate auxin response. *ASPB (Southern Section) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA*
****First place award***

Ahmad I, Kathare P, Ghimre P, Lopez E, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2018) IBR5 interacts with GTP binding proteins to regulate epidermal cell patterning in Arabidopsis. *ASPB (Southern Section) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA*

Katti R, Seipert N, Kathare P, **Dharmasiri S**, Dharmasiri N (2018) IBR5-AtNRPB4 interaction suggests a role for IBR5 during heat stress. *ASPB (Southern Section) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA*

INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

Kathare P, Cioffi T, JArellano I, ayaweera T, **Dharmasiri S,** Dharmasiri N (2022). Auxin action in plants: simply complicated. University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS

Dharmasiri N et al. (2020) Auxin: A tiny molecule with a big role in plant life. How does it work? Dubuque University, Dubuque, IA

Jayaweera T, Kathare P, Lopez E, Ghimire P, **Dharmasiri S**, Lewsey MG, Ecker JR, and Dharmasiri N (2016) IBR5 is a central regulator of plant hormonal responses. ***ASPB Annual Conference, Austin, TX.***

Dharmasiri S, Kathare PK, Ginsberg E, Dharmasiri N (2015) Characterization of an Arabidopsis picloram transporter

and its tomato homolog for developing herbicide and drought resistance in crop plants. **42nd Annual Conference of Plant Growth Regulation Society of America, Kona, Hawaii, USA**

Dharmasiri S, Jayaweera T, Kathare PK, Karunarathna N, Hou Y, Hartgrove K, Albers S, Dharmasiri N (2011) Modulation of plant auxin response by environmental stresses. ***108th Annual meeting of Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, Corpus Christi, Texas.***

Dharmasiri S, Jayaweera T, Kathare PK, Karunarathna N, Hou Y, Dharmasiri N (2011) Plant auxin response: Opportunities for agricultural biotechnology. ***International Conference on "Biotechnology for Better Tomorrow 2011" Aurangabad, India***.

Dharmasiri S, Karunarathna N, Jayaweera T, Kathare PK, Hou Y, Dhanapala C, Song Y, Dharmasiri N (2012) Environmental regulation of plant auxin response. ***109th Annual meeting of Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, Birmingham, AL.***

Dharmasiri S, Jayaweera T, Kathare PK, Karunarathna N, Hou YT, Hartgrove KT, Albers S and Dharmasiri N (2011) Modulation of Plant Auxin Response by Environmental Stresses. ***108th annual meeting of Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, Corpus Christi, Texas.***

Dharmasiri S, Jayaweera T, Kathare PK, Karunarathna N, Hou Y, Dharmasiri N (2011) Plant auxin response: Opportunities for agricultural biotechnology. ***International Conference on "Biotechnology for Better Tomorrow 2011" Aurangabad, India***

Dharmasiri S, Dharmasiri N, Mooney S & Estelle M (2003) Auxin response is mediated by a family of related SCF complexes. ***14th International Conference on Arabidopsis Research, Madison, WI***

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Funded External Grants and Contracts:

Principal Investigator:

1996 – 1998 Development of molecular diagnostic tests for quiescent Colletotrichum infections in fruits and vegetables. Co-Investigator: Prof. N.K.B. Adikaram
Grant value: SL Rs. 7,46,000.00 Granting Agency: National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka

Co-Principal Investigator:

Forest Die back in Horton Plains National Park: Investigations into disease, Environmental stress, soil, nutrient factors, and plant animal interactions
Principal Investigator: Prof. NKB Adikaram, University of Peradeniya
Grant value: SL Rs. 23,16,765.00 Granting Agency: Wildlife Department of Sri Lanka

The testing of specific pre- and post harvest treatments for reducing the incidence of chilling injury in pineapples.
Principal Investigator: Prof. NKB Adikaram, University of Peradeniya
Grant value: SL Rs. 13,22,000.00 Granting Agency: National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka

Submitted, but not Funded, External Grants and Contracts (Co-PI):

2015: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department – Propagation and reintroduction of *Abronia macrocarpa* (with Dr. Paula Williamson)

2014: USDA – Functions of *SlPIC30* gene in abiotic stress and herbicide responses of Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*). (with Dr. N Dharmasiri)

Funded Internal Grants and Contracts:

2006: Functions of SAUR genes in auxin response. Research Enhancement Program, Texas State University. (with Dr. N. Dharmasiri) Grant value; $14,500

1996: A study of biochemical changes associated with internal browning in two local pineapple cultivars. University of Peradeniya Internal grant. Value Rs. 47,000

Submitted, but not Funded, Internal Grants and Contracts:

2017: Generation of herbicide/stress tolerant crops by using mutations in *PIC30* gene, Research Enhancement Program, Texas State University. (with Dr. N. Dharmasiri)

2016: Molecular basis of niche diversification at the seedling stage. Research Enhancement Program, Texas State University. (with Dr. Susan Schwinning)

2009: Characterization of MAPK signaling in plant auxin response. Research Enhancement Program, Texas State University (with Dr. N. Dharmasiri)

Fellowships, Awards, Honors:

2023 – CoSe College Achievement Award for Excellence in teaching –Texas State University
2006 - Cited among top ten papers in biology by Faculty of 1000 (Dharmasiri S. et al. Science).
2005 - Runner-up # 2, Breakthrough Research in the World in Science 2005, Science citation
2005 - Cited as number 1 paper in Biology by Faculty of 1000 (Dharmasiri N. Dharmasiri S and Estelle M. Nature).
2005 - Cited among the most viewed top ten papers in Biology by the Faculty of 1000 (Dharmasiri N, Dharmasiri S. et al. - Developmental Cell).
2005 – US permanent residence awarded in the "Outstanding Researcher" category
2003 – Cited among top ten papers in biology by Faculty of 1000 (Dharmasiri N. Dharmasiri S et al. - Curr. Biol).
1994 - Best PhD research presentation, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resourses (CTAHR) Research Symposium, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, USA
1994 - Best research presentation in Plant Molecular Physiology, CTAHR Research Symposium, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, USA
1992 - 1993 RCUH post graduate research fellowship, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, USA
1990 Visiting Scholar (post graduate), Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA
1987 - 1992 Postgraduate scholarship exclusively funded by US government, East West Center, Honolulu, USA
1982 – Highest GPA in graduating Botany majors, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
1972 - 1982 Government Scholarship for intermediate and secondary education, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka

IV. SERVICE

A. University:

At Texas State University:

2017 – present. Faculty Adviser for The Plant Biology Society
2017 – 2019 Honors thesis adviser for Elizabeth Sanchez
2014 Honors thesis mentor and second reader for Angelica Riojas
2012, 2013 H-LSAMP mentor for Angelica Riojas
2011, 2012 H-LSAMP mentor for Krystle Moore

At the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (1995-1998):

Convener/Secretary of the academic committee to develop the curriculum of Environmental Science as a major subject at the Faculty of Science, University of peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Member of the Board of Study of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Postgraduate Institute of Science, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Member of the academic committee (3 members) to establish and commence functioning of a new Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology at the University of Peradeniya.
Convener/Secretary of the Committee (3 members) for transition from term system to course unit system at the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
Member of the academic committee (2 members) for designing a Biology course for non-biology majors University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

B. Departmental:

At Texas State University:

2024 – Brian Wong Scholarship committee
2023 to date – Biology Greenhouse Committee
2023 – NLF annual evaluation committee
2010 to date - Adjunct doctoral faculty, Department of Biology
2017 – Science Education Senior Lecturer search committee
2011 - Functional Biology Senior Lecturer search committee
2010 - Microbiology Senior Lecturer search committee

At University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (1995-1998):

Curriculum development Committee in Cell and Molecular Biology

Secretary, Personnel Committee of the Department of Botany

C. Community:

2013 May -Volunteered at Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, Phoenix, Arizona.
2007-2016 Helped mentor the following high school students in summer research projects.

2016	Natalie Flores	(San Marcos High School)
2014	Felina Torres	(San Marcos High School)
2012	Fransisco Torres	(San Marcos High School)
2011	Haley Murauski	(Wimberley High School)
2009	Kurt Kotzur	(St. Joseph High School, Victoria)
	Shaleen Vasavada	(St. Joseph High School, Victoria)
2008	Weston Hearne	(San Marcos High School)
2007	Jessica Villareal	(San Marcos High School)
	Benjamin Williamson	(San Marcos High School)

D. Professional:

Reviewed journal articles for following peer-reviewed journals.

Plants
PLoS One
Plant Molecular Biology
Ceylon Journal of Science
The Scientific World
African Journal of Biotechnology
Tree Physiology

A. Organizations

1. **Honorary:** Sigma Delta Society, University of Hawaii
2. **Professional:** Member: American Society of Plant Biologists
   Member: National Association of Biology Teachers