

Charles Fernando

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Address (professional)

Faculty of Management / Public Admin.
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Nugegoda – 10250, Sri Lanka.
(*note: on sabbatical leave till Jan 2009*)
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Personal Details

Date of Birth 12th February 1944
Male. Married with one son and one daughter

Educational Qualifications (post-secondary)

1983	M.A. in Demography	(UCL, Louvain, Belgium)
1983	Certificate in Computer Programming	(KUL, Leuven, Belgium.)
1980	Diploma in Demography	(UCL, Louvain, Belgium)
1973	Licentiate in Sociology	(UCL, Louvain, Belgium)
1969	Candidature in Economic & Social Sciences	(UCL, Louvain, Belgium)
1967	Diploma in Theology	(National Seminary, Kandy, Sri Lanka)
1963	Diploma in Philosophy	(National Seminary, Kandy, Sri Lanka)

Languages: Fluency in Sinhala, English and French

Publications/Papers/Research Interests etc.

Continuing work: Website on Higher Education Renewal and Reform (www.sjp.ac.lk/careers)

Forming the Sri Lankan Graduate for Tomorrow. Paper presented and included in “Conference Proceedings – Fourth International Conference on Business Management 2007” published by the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. March 2007 pp.468-483 Further info: www.sjp.ac.lk/fmssc/icbm

Transferable Skills for Competitive Advantage in Entry to the World of Work – Resource Pack for use by undergraduates. 80 pages. Nugegoda: Author. 2002.

Sri Lanka: Transition Higher Education to Labour Market in Ehlert and Cordier (eds.) The Transition from Higher Education to the Labour Market – International Perspectives and Challenges, Peter Lang Publishers, Frankfurt, 2002.

Indirect Estimation of Infant Mortality Trends - Simulation Tests on the Feeney Method. Genus, Italy, XLI-3/4 1985 pp.65-88.

Regional Demographic Transition in Sri Lanka - A Methodological Contribution. (Masters Dissertation 1983, 187p. xeroxed)

How Buddhists and Catholics of Sri Lanka See Each Other - A Factor Analytic Approach. Social Compass, Belgium, XX.1973/2 pp.321-332.

Buddhists and Catholics of Sri Lanka: How They See Each Other (The Use of Factor Analysis in Sociology). (Licentiate Dissertation 1973, 172p. xeroxed)

Youth in Rebellion. Worldmission (New York) 22/4 1971 pp.39-46

Study and Research interests have been focussed for over 15 years on

- i) the meaning and purpose of Higher Education*
- ii) Employability issues particularly with regard to graduates*
- iii) the relevance of technology to the society of today ... with a gradual shift into the subject area identified as Organisational/Social Informatics.*

Recent Work Experience:

Full-time involvement:

1985 - Senior Lecturer in Computer Studies, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, SJP. *(Was a pioneer in pushing computer education particularly among management faculty staff and students ... empowering the latter reference employability. I have also borne responsibility (1986-89) as Head, Department of Public Administration, SJP and (1985-87) as Coordinator (Computing) & Lecturer, at the Postgraduate Institute of Management-PIM, SJP..)*

1998-2007 Founder-Director, Career Guidance Unit, University of Sri Jayewardenepura (SJP). *(Given a life-long learning approach I 'migrated' to the area of Career Guidance which is relatively new to Sri Lanka became accepted as a key resource person particularly within the University sector. Work done is nationally recognised as one adopting a holistic approach to Career Guidance, & as one pioneering and targeting the integration of Career Education and Career Management Skills within the curricula.*

Part-time involvement

2003-06 Academic Consultant – Imperial Institute of Higher Education (validated Centre of the University of Wales). *This follows a “validation” approach as distinct from the “franchised” at Informatics referred to below. I was responsible for the coordination and preparation of two new BSc programmes, and for validation and quality assurance aspects with regard to the University of Wales and indirectly the Quality Assurance Agency in the UK.*

1987-98 Consultant, Informatics Private Limited, Colombo. *(Was involved in planning, setting up and developing to position of market leader the private-sector higher education institute named Informatics Institute of Technology to offer franchised degrees in Computing and in Business from Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. The courses were of the sandwich type and outcomes driven with quality assurance mechanisms both inbuilt and external. Noteworthy was student involvement in course management. Was right through a member of its Board of Management, part-time Lecturer in Information Systems and Student Welfare Officer. Taking leave from the University, was the Institute's full-time Director in the 1997-98 period.)*

During this post-1985 period I have contributed in many ways within the university system as well as outside e.g. in technical committees of a Presidential Task Force on Education Reform, in the University-Academia Roundtable of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, in various Management Boards and Task Forces and in voluntary organizations. I have also functioned as consultant and trainer for state sector organizations such as the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Employment and Labour, and for a number of private sector organizations. I am a Trustee of the Shell LiveWIRE Trust of Sri Lanka promoting entrepreneurship among youth, and collaborate actively with Young Entrepreneur Sri Lanka (YESL) the Sri Lankan franchisee of Junior Achievement Worldwide. During the period September 2002 to January 2003 I was involved as the National Consultant on Curriculum Reform and Skills Development on the World Bank funded 'Undergraduate Education Project' of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Training. Having completed a 'Client Satisfaction Survey' for the EU/UNFPA project 'Reproductive Health Initiative for Youth in Asia (RHIYA)' am completing together with another academic the final report just now.

In summary: Having worked in the national and international arena in positions of responsibility particularly in the religious sector from 1967 to 1985, and in the Sri Lankan Higher Education sector from 1985, I am, and am recognized as, **typically a person with a vision, as well as a commitment to work, to people & to values.**