

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES WCWS (2015)



1st World Conference on Women's Studies 2015 was successfully completed by The International Institute of Knowledge Management with the collaboration of University at Buffalo, USA. More than 30 participants from above 12 countries namely Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates, Australia, Taiwan, Italy, Iran, United Kingdom, USA, Philippines, Belgium, Thailand etc.

There were 26 oral presentations and 8 virtual presentations. Moreover there were some local participants who representing Sri Lankan Universities and other professional bodies. Primary objective of this conference was to create a premier forum for the local and international researchers, scholars and academicians to share their research results in the fields of women's studies and we believed that we successfully achieved this objective during the conference.

As per the schedule, conference was chaired by **Assoc. Prof. Barbara Wejnert**, Transnational Studies / Global Gender Studies Graduate Program, University at Buffalo, USA and three key note speeches were delivered by **Dr. Sepali Kottegoda**, Executive Director of the Women and Media Collective and Chair of Asia Pacific Women's Watch, **Mr. Alain Sibenaler**, Representative UNFPA Sri Lanka, Chair of the United Nations Gender Theme Group and **Mrs. Rose Wijeyesekera**, [LLB (hons), M.Phil, PhD.Candidate (Colombo)] Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Conference schedule divided in to 08 main themes namely,

1. Gender discrimination in the workplace
2. Religious discrimination and women
3. Human rights, women rights
4. Sexual oppression and women
5. Cultural and social oppression of women
6. Philosophy, Theology and Gender
7. Indigenous communities and women
8. Women, Art and Education

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In awarding ceremony best presentation award won by Dr. Jyoti Niswade, Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of Social Work, Bajaj Nagar, Nagpur/Rastrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur, Maharashtra State, India and best student presentation award won by Ms. Greeshma Naidu, Jain University, India.

We have established World Centre for Women's Studies 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2015 at the second day of the conference which is a huge step taken to encourage the women's studies around the world.

Ms. Thulakshana Dilrukshi

Conference Secretariat

WCWS 2015

The International Institute of Knowledge Management

