

# Graduate Attributes of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

Submitted to the Senate by  
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## Committee Members attended:

- Prof SJBA Jayasekera - Vice Chancellor
- Prof DPSTG Attanayake - Dean / Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management
- Prof EMP Ekanayake - Dean / Faculty of Applied Sciences
- Dr RA Ratnasiri - Dean / Faculty of Business Studies & Finance
- Dr MSW de Silva - Dean / Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries & Nutrition
- Dr Renuka Silva – Director, IQAU
- Mr BPA Jayaweera - Director / Staff Development Center
- Dr Chandana Abeysinghe - Director / Career Guidance Unit
- Prof JMPK Jayasinghe - Chairman / Senate Academic Development Scholarships & Ethics Committee
- Dr Sevvandi Jayakody – Senior Lecturer, Department of Aquaculture & Fisheries, Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries & Nutrition

## **Graduate attributes of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka**

This document provides an overview of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka (WUSL)'s Statement of Generic Attributes of Graduates which was suggested by a committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor. The Statement of Generic Attributes is based on a conceptual framework identified through stakeholders' discussions conducted by all four faculties of the University over the years. Based on this framework, the University has identified three encompassing graduate attributes- **Scholarship and Enlightenment, Skillfulness and Innovativeness, and Engagingness and Flexibility** – which reflect the teaching-learning, research and innovation and outreach-intensive nature of the University. These encompassing attributes represent combinations of clusters of more specific attributes, which can be interpreted or contextualised differently in different disciplinary domains. These graduate attributes are ultimately developed through students' engagement with the teaching and learning experiences of their disciplinary courses, and their participation in University life. The University's Strategic Plan commits to foster the development of graduate attributes using the learning experiences of their courses, research, outreach and diverse co-curricular and extracurricular activities.

### **Generic Attributes of Graduates of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka**

Graduates of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka will have a stance towards knowledge, skills, attitudes and mindset and ultimately serving the mankind, and be distinguished from other graduates in their lives and work.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP AND ENLIGHTENMENT - An attitude or stance towards knowledge:**

Graduates of the University will have a scholarly attitude to knowledge and understanding within the context of a rapidly changing environment. As Scholars, the University's graduates will be leaders in discovering and the generation of innovative and relevant knowledge and understanding through research, critical thinking, interpretation and synthesis. Graduates are scientifically, economically, politically, aesthetically, and culturally literate. They should have a sense of history and shared values, and a commitment to moral purpose and personal character.

#### **SKILLFULNESS AND INNOVATIVENESS - An attitude or stance towards skills:**

Graduates of the University will be accomplished with a wide variety of skills to perform well in their specific discipline. They will be curious, creative, and imaginative whatever they do. They will be able to apply their knowledge and communicate their knowledge confidently and effectively to solve imperative problems related to their speciality and to generate improvements in existing products, processes, and services, as well as invent new ones.

#### **ENGAGINGNESS AND FLEXIBILITY - An attitude or stance towards attitudes and mindset:**

Graduates of the University will be ethical and engaged contributors as 'change agent' to more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous communities. They will be flexible, adaptable and

receptive to change in an environment with multi-tasking challenges. The range and quality of their engagement and collaborations will produce mutual benefits for University and our communities.

Each of these encompassing attributes can be understood as a combination of three overlapping domains of **'knowledge', 'skills and competencies' and 'attitudes and mindset'**.

### 1. Knowledge

- **Subject specialists** - Graduates of the University will be able to understand and respect the values, principles, methods and limitations of their discipline(s). As Subject specialists, they possess a breadth and depth of knowledge within their disciplinary area(s).
- **Research and intellectual inquiry** - Graduates of the University will be able to create new knowledge and understanding through the process of experiment and empirical investigation, and apply a systematic and critical assessment of complex problems and issues.

### 2. Skills and Competencies

- **Independent and critical thinking** – Graduates of the University will be able to identify, define and assess complex issues and ideas in a researchable form. They will be able to apply creative, imaginative and innovative thinking and ideas to problem solving.
- **Thrive in team environment and excel as leaders** - Graduates of the University will be able to engage with the scholarly community and respect others' views and perspectives. They will be able to conduct themselves professionally and contribute positively when working in a team.
- **Communication and information literacy** – Graduates of the University will be able to express complex ideas clearly and confidently and negotiate effectively with others through formulating, evaluating and applying evidence-based solutions and arguments with respect to the needs and abilities of diverse audiences.
- **Resourceful and responsible** - Graduates of the University will be able to manage their personal performance to meet expectations and demonstrate drive, determination, and accountability.

### 3. Attitudes and Mindset

- **Lifelong learning** - Graduates of the University will have the ability and interest to continue to enlarge their knowledge, understanding and skills throughout their working lives.
- **Professionalism, ambitious and passionate** - Graduates of the University will be motivated, conscientious and self-sufficient individuals capable of substantial independent work. They will be able to demonstrate enthusiasm, leadership and the ability to positively influence others.

- **Ethically and socially aware** - Graduates of the University will have a practical and contemporary knowledge of relevant professional, ethical, environmental and legal frameworks. They hold personal values and beliefs consistent with their role as responsible and accountable members of local, national, international and professional communities.
- **Autonomy** – Graduates of the University will have a capacity to think independently, exercise personal judgment and take initiatives.

In addition, the Graduates of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka will have following attributes which arises across two or more domains.

- **Entrepreneurship** - Graduates of the University will be able to use their skills to bring that new business idea, venture, product or service to life. They will be prepared to take risk in order to achieve success.
- **Adaptability** - Graduates of the University will be able to demonstrate flexibility, perseverance and positivity in multi-tasking, dealing with change and meeting new challenges.
- **Ethical** - Nurturing a reflective awareness of ethical dimensions, and responsibilities to others, in work and everyday life.

The particular abilities and skills that comprise each of these three domains of abilities might be different in different disciplines. Therefore, it is envisaged that different faculties and disciplines will identify different specific attributes to include under each of these three domains.

Ultimately, the Graduates of the Wayamba University will be

**WELL-ROUNDED GRADUATES WHO CAN SERVE THE MANKIND.**



Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

**SCHOLARSHIP & ENLIGHTENMENT**

Subject specialist  
Research and Intellectual  
inquiry

Graduate Attributes

**ENGAGINGNESS & FLEXIBILITY**

Independent  
and critical thinking  
Thrive in team  
environment  
Communication and  
information literacy  
Resourceful and  
responsible

**Ethical**

**Entrepreneurship**  
WELL-ROUNDED  
GRADUATE  
SERVING MANKIND

**Adaptability**

Lifelong learning  
Professionalism,  
ambitious and passionate  
Ethically and socially  
aware  
Autonomy

**SKILLFULNESS & INNOVATIVENESS**

**WELL-ROUNDED GRADUATE SERVING MANKIND**