

Symposium

Researching within and across disciplines

During the latter part of the Covid19 pandemic, in 2021, while discussing ethics, the members of the Ethics Review Committee on Social Sciences and Humanities (ERCSSH) at the Faculty of Arts (including the current Assistant Editor of the *UCR*), exchanged several animated emails on the differences in research publications across disciplines. The idea to hold this seminar, ‘Researching within and across disciplines’, emerged through this discussion. The aim was to start a conversation on the connections as well as the differences within disciplines. The main objective was to gather scholars of different disciplines to one space, where they would make short interventions explaining some aspects of research in their disciplines: what are acceptable methodologies of research in your field(s)? What are typical output of your research? What are some threats?

This symposium section records the interventions that these scholars made, representing the humanities, sciences, performance studies, computer sciences, economics and social sciences, medical sciences, legal studies, and management and finance. Since the University of Colombo conducted much of its academic functions virtually at the time, the seminar was held via the Zoom platform. It was open to the public. To ensure that the discussions remained accessible later on, the video of the seminar is stored on the YouTube channel of the Faculty of Arts. The publication of this Symposium section is a further effort to take the discussion on inter-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary scholarly efforts forward. The interventions are presented close to their original style, hence the ‘colloquial’ flavor of these segments. To advance this discussion, we end the series of interventions with an invited response by Devaka Weerakoon. We invite our scholarly community to engage with these ideas in future issues of the journal.