

## R. A. R.C. Gopura (Ruwan Gopura)

Professor in Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

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**Research Interests:** Robotics, Biomechatronics

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### Education

- **PhD** in Robotics and Intelligent Systems, Saga University, Japan, 2009
  - **M.Eng.** in Manufacturing Systems Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
  - **B.Sc.** in Mechanical Engineering (Honors), University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, 2004
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### Current Roles

- **Dean**, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka (2024 - present)
  - **Professor**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa (2016 - present)
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### Previous Leadership Positions

- **Head**, Department of Medical Technology, University of Moratuwa (2021 - 2024)
  - **Director/Research**, University of Moratuwa (2021 - 2024)
  - **Head**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa (2017 - 2020)
  - **Chair**, IEEE Sri Lanka Section (2020)
  - **Chair**, IEEE Robotics and Automation Society, Sri Lanka (2017 - 2020)
  - **Secretary**, IEEE Sri Lanka Section (2015)
  - **Secretary**, IEEE Robotics and Automation Society, Sri Lanka (2013 - 2017)
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### Career History

- **Senior Lecturer**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, (2010 - 2016)
  - **Post-Doctoral Fellow**, Department of Advanced Systems Control Engineering, Saga University, Japan (October 2009 - March 2010)
  - **PhD Scholar**, Department of Advanced Systems Control Engineering, Saga University, Japan (2006 - 2009)
  - **Lecturer**, Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka (2004 - 2006)
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### Research Activities

- **Thesis Supervision (Completed Research)**  
PhD - 3      MPhil - 5      MSc - 6      MEng - 4      Undergraduate - 51
  - **Postgraduate Thesis Evaluations**  
PhD - 12      MPhil - 13      MSc - 15      MEng - 21
  - **Publication Metrics (11/03/2025)**  
Citations – 3011      h-index - 24      i10-index - 44 (Google Scholar)
  - **Publications**  
Journal Papers - 28      Book Chapters - 3      Editorial - 3      Conference Papers - 87  
Theses - 2      Magazine - 8      Abstracts - 33
  - **Patents**  
Granted - 5      Pending - 4
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### Awards

- **Best Conference Paper Awards in a Track**  
MERCon (2018, 2019, 2021, 2022), ICITR (2023), MIES (2016), ICIAfS (2008)
- **Best Presentation Awards in a Track - ICCAR 2017**
- **SUSRED Award** for Research Supervision, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka (2020)
- **Outstanding Research Performance:** University of Moratuwa (2012 to 2023, 12 times)
- **Most Outstanding Volunteer Award 2022** (Member category), IEEE Sri Lanka Section

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## Professional Involvements

- **Editorial Board Member:** *Journal of Applied Bionics and Biomechanics*, *International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- **Reviewer** for journals, including *IEEE Access*, *IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering*, *Mechatronics*, *Robotics and Autonomous Systems*
- **Guest Associate Editor** in Special issue on EMG/EEG Signals-based Control of Assistive and Rehabilitation Robots in *Frontiers in Neurorobotics*, Vol I, 2021 and Vol. II, 2023
- **Lead Guest Editor** of Special Issue on Robotic Prosthetic Limbs in *Journal of Robotics* 2018
- **General Chair** MERCon 2020
- **Regional Chair** ICCAR
- **TPC Chair** in a number of conferences

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## Major Projects and Grants

- **Collaborative Research with Imperial College London** - GBP 203,000 from National Institute of Health Research, UK (2022-2026)
- **Collaborative Research with Imperial College London** - GBP 217,000 from National Institute of Health Research, UK (2018-2022)
- **Development of a Soft Robot Gripper with Inbuilt Sensors for Deformable Object Grasping and Tactile Feedback** - NRC Grant, Sri Lanka (2018)
- **Intelligent Wheelchair Robot with Human-like Interactive Features for Domestic Environment** - National Research Council Grant, Sri Lanka (2017)
- **Design and Development of a Soft Orthotic Device for Lower Limb and Spinal Assistance** - National Research Council Grant, Sri Lanka (2017)
- **Design and Development of Detection and Extinguishing Systems for Forest Fire using Sensor Networks, Aerial and Ground Robots** - Grant from Ministry of Science, Technology & Research under Indo-Sri Lanka grant project (2017)
- **Development of Assistive Robotic Limbs** - National Research Council Grant, Sri Lanka (2011)

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## Keynotes and Plenary Speeches

- **“Engineering Solutions for Healthcare: Innovations in Biomedical Devices and Robotics”** Workshop on Biomedical Engineering, The Kandy Conference 2024 - Keynote Speech
  - **“The Evolution and Future Prospects of Biomedical Engineering in Sri Lanka”** Roundtable Discussion, 2024 AGM, IEEE EMBS Sri Lanka Section Chapter - Keynote Speech
  - **“Bionics Limbs: Innovations and Challenges in Robotic Prosthetics”** Annual Research Symposium 2024, Faculty of Technology, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka - Keynote Speech
  - **“Transforming Medicine: Unveiling the Potential of Medical Technology”** Inaugural Session of Medical Faculty Science and Technology Community, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo, Sri Lanka 2023 - Keynote Speech
  - **“Robotic Technology for Orthopaedic Rehabilitation in Sri Lanka”** Annual Academic Sessions 2023, Sri Lanka Orthopaedic Association - Plenary Speech
  - **“Robotic Prosthetic Limbs as an Advanced Medical Technology”**, KDU International Research Conference, Sri Lanka, 2021 - Plenary Speech
  - **“Uplifting Quality of Living of Physically Weak Individuals: Role of Power Assist Robot Systems”**, KDU International Research Conference, Sri Lanka 2018 - Plenary Speech
  - **“Development of Novel Mechanisms for Upper-Limb Prostheses”**, International Conference on Emerging Trends in Mechanical Engineering, India 2015 - Keynote Speech
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