

TOR for BCIS Director Research

Position Overview: The Director Education at the Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS) will lead the BCIS research team, be responsible for implementing the BCIS Research Agenda 2025-2029 and contribute to the intellectual direction of the organisation.

The Research Agenda 2025-2029 has been developed by the BCIS in consultation with the BCIS Academic Affairs Board and members of the BCIS Research Committee. It has prioritised some key areas and also highlighted the value of being sufficiently agile to deal with emerging issues in a constantly changing world.

The Director Research will report to the BCIS Academic Affairs Board (AAB) through the Executive Director, and will be a member of the BCIS Senior Management team with the Director Education, the Registrar and the Executive Director.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

1. Work with the BCIS Research team to implement the BCIS Research Agenda 2025-2029 and to deliver on the planned outputs
2. Actively engage in research that will contribute to the objectives and prioritised themes of the BCIS Research Agenda.
3. Ensure that the Research Agenda is regularly reviewed for relevance. Identify trends in the field of International Studies and adapt the research agenda accordingly and in consultation with the BCIS Research Committee and the BCIS Academic Affairs Board.
4. Mentor and develop a strong research team, fostering a culture of research and professional development among the research team. Ensure that the research team has an acceptable balance of research, teaching and public outreach in their portfolios.
5. Complement in-house BCIS research through partnerships and commissioned research
6. Ensure that BCIS produces research outputs and publications that meet quality standards, following the policies set out by the Research Committee. Ensure the publication of BCIS research in relevant recognised and peer-reviewed journals. Communicate research outcomes to stakeholders in a clear and accessible manner.
7. Establish strong collaborations and partnerships with regional and global institutions working in the field of international studies.

8. Work closely with the BCIS Library to ensure availability of resources to support BCIS research activities.
9. In collaboration with the Education Division and the Library, initiate and encourage public facing events that discuss and debate current and emerging issues, and issues that have been prioritised in the research agenda, making optimum use of the BCIS networks of alumni and partners.
10. Organise and lead research seminars, workshops and conferences.
11. Work closely with the Director Education to ensure synergy between the Education and Research divisions
12. Carry out any other tasks that may be required by the Executive Director or the Academic Affairs Board to support the functioning of the BCIS.

Candidate Profile

1. A PhD or equivalent in International Relations or related discipline and a minimum of 5 years in the knowledge sector (university, think tank etc), preferably in a strong research environment.
2. Proven capacity in carrying out research and developing and implementing research agendas.
3. An excellent command of the English language and the ability to work in Sinhala and/or Tamil. Public speaking skills are an advantage.
4. Experience in leading, managing and working with teams
5. Proven ability to act innovatively and to effectively troubleshoot
6. Disciplined and organised

Salary Scale: 250,000 - 20000 x10 – 450,000 (negotiable)