



# THE JOINING UP CONSTRUCTION CONVERSATION

## BIOGRAPHIES OF PRESENTERS

### LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Professor Srinath Perera, PhD, MSc(IT), BSc(QS)(Hons), FAIB, MRICS, AAIQS, ICECA, FRSN**

Srinath is the Director of c4SMC and holds a personal chair in Built Environment and Construction Management at the Western Sydney University, Australia. He is a coordinator of the CIB TG83 Task Group, e-Business in Construction. He is a Fellow of the prestigious Royal Society of New South Wales and is a fellow of the Australian Institute of Building (AIB). He is a chartered Quantity Surveyor and a Project Manager with membership of both the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), and Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS). He has extensive experience in doctoral student supervisions and examinations. He has over 150 peer reviewed publications and is co-author of the popular textbooks Cost Studies of Buildings 6<sup>th</sup> edition, and Contractual Procedures in the Construction Industry published by Routledge.



**Adjunct Professor David Chandler OAM, BSc(Bldg), FAIB**

David graduated in Building Science at UNSW. He has extensive construction industry experience across the Australian and Asia Pacific markets. David was a foundation member of the Project Management Institute in Australia. He has led a range of reviews and reports into construction in the Australia's construction industry. He was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 1989 for services to the industry. His interests follow developments in construction methods, innovation, learning, productivity and the effects of industrialisation and globalisation in construction across these markets. He is a leader of insights into Modern Methods of Construction and Enterprises. He is regularly engaged to advise on public and private project procurement and delivery. He advises enterprises and mentors young constructors on how they may prepare for and embrace the many new opportunities that the modern construction era will offer. He is the Industry Engagement Lead for the c4SMC initiative in the Construction Management program at Western Sydney University.



**Associate Professor Mary Hardie, PhD, BArch, BSc(Arch), RAI, FAIB**

Mary is a registered architect who has been involved in the construction industry for more than 40 years and has worked in 'Design and Construct' building companies as well as in building design. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Building and a member of the Australian Institute of Architects. Her research interests are construction innovation and sustainable construction. Mary was involved with several research projects with the Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation. The projects involved various aspects of the diffusion of construction innovations as well as waste minimization in construction. In 2011 she completed her PhD thesis which focuses on "Technical innovation in small and medium construction enterprises". She also has a strong interest in education for sustainable practice.



**Dr. Xiao-Hua (Sean) Jin, PhD, MSc, GCertEd, AIPM, CIB**

Sean is a Senior Lecturer in Project Management at Western Sydney University. He was a construction project manager in China before shifting to academia. His research interests include construction economics; project management; risk management; infrastructure procurement; relational contracting; ICT in construction; and sustainable built environment. Dr Jin has published over 80 technical articles, including those in internationally renowned journals. He received Building Research Excellence Award by the Chartered Institute of Building. Dr Jin has served as an expert referee for the Australian government. He also serves as an editorial panel member and a regular referee for internationally renowned journals.

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**Dr. Sepani Senaratne PhD, BSc, AIQS**

Sepani is a Senior Lecturer and ACA in Honours in Construction Management at WSU. She is a member of the leadership team at the C4SMS at WSU. She has diverse academic experience in quantity surveying, construction and project management disciplines, since 1999. She obtained her PhD from University of Salford, UK in 2005. Sepani is an active researcher and has widely published (100+ publications) in leading journals and conferences in the Built Environment. Sepani's work is internationally recognised by several research awards. She is actively serving the academic community as a paper reviewer, postgraduate thesis examiner and member of conference committees.

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**Dr. Yingbin Feng, PhD, BEng, MMgtTech, AIQS, CIB,**

Yingbin is a Senior Lecturer and a member of c4SMC leadership advisory team. He obtained his PHD degree in construction project management from National University of Singapore (NUS). Dr Feng is interested in applying anthropology, behavioural science, economics, systems engineering, resilience engineering, robotics, BIM, and other interdisciplinary theories and technologies to solve the problems of health and safety, productivity, sustainability, training and education, and effective organisations in the construction industry. He won the Premier Award at the prestigious Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) International Innovation & Research Awards 2014 for his research on construction health and safety economics.

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**Philip Love, MEd, MDesSc(Hons), BBuild(Hons), FAIB**

Philip was involved in building and property development for 15 years in the east coast cities of Australia, in a variety of roles including site administration, scheduling, estimation and project management. Since 1992, he has utilized this practical expertise in his role at Western and in particular the technical and managerial aspects of high-rise commercial, industrial and multi-unit residential construction and building services. He has a passion for educating the next generation of constructors and is excited by the unlimited, disruptive potential that smart modern construction brings to the industry.

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## ACADEMIC SUPERVISORS



**Dr. Payam Zekavat, PhD, MSc, BSc, AIQS**

Payam has completed his PhD in Construction Engineering and Management at the University of New South Wales. Payam's scholarly work revolves around the concept of understanding the performance of different pieces that shape construction ecosystem in interaction with each other. For example, his information-enriched site paradigm enables waste-free craning. Smart formwork is another exemplar project led by Dr Zekavat aiming at quality assurance through autonomous tracking of hardening process and signalling formwork's removal time. The list of innovative prototypes continues with guardian boot, site communication kiosk and road marking evaluator drone. In line with his interest in building compliance, Payam is actively engaged in delivery of Building Surveying Programs.

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**Dr. Robert Osei-Kyei, PhD, BSc (Hons),**

Robert is a Lecturer in Project Management at Western Sydney University (WSU). Before joining WSU, he worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Research Assistant and Academic Tutor at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong. He obtained his PhD in Construction Project Management, specializing in Public-Private Partnerships from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2017. He has a BSc degree (First Class) in Construction Technology and Management from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana. Robert is a recipient of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors' Best PhD Thesis Award 2017 and the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme 2014/15.

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## PHD CANDIDATES



**Navodana Rodrigo, BSc(Hons), PhD candidate**

Navodana is a PhD candidate of the Centre for Smart Modern Construction (c4SMC) at Western Sydney University. She has obtained a BSc first class honours degree in Quantity Surveying from University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. After graduation she rendered her service to University of Moratuwa as a Lecturer prior to commencement of the PhD. Her PhD project is on developing a methodology for estimating embodied carbon through a distributed ledger platform for construction supply chains (Project Zero). The expected research outcomes of the project are an accurate methodology estimating embodied carbon and a blockchain prototype system that estimates embodied carbon.

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**Samudaya Nanayakkara, MSc, BScEng, PhD candidate**

Samudaya is a Sri Lankan National Engineering Excellence Awards winner. He is a Gold Medalist in University Colours Awards and recognized in Dean's List for excellent academic achievements in his undergraduate degree. He gained the Master of Science in Computer Science degree from the University of Moratuwa. He has received his BSc Engineering (Honours) degree from the University of Moratuwa and the Bachelor of Information Technology degree from the University of Colombo. Samudaya has published a number of research papers in well-recognized international journals and conferences, and he has contributed in several research in national level. He has served dozens of large-scale ICT projects and voluntarily contributes to Open-source global projects. He is a Corporate Member of BCS, IEEE, ISOC, ACM, and CSSL.

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#### **Kasun Gunasekara, BA(Hons), PhD candidate**

Kasun is a doctoral researcher at c4SMC conducting his research on “Methodology for Analyzing Construction Effectiveness Using Non-Price Measures”. He is one of the youngest Chartered Quantity Surveyors in Sri Lanka having the Associate membership of Institute of Quantity Surveyors Sri Lanka (IQSSL). He has over five years’ experience as a Project Quantity Surveyor for a multitude of state sector clients as well as involvement in committees related to construction documentation and education. He was awarded the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) –Iwata Foundation Travelling Scholarship in 2015, among other notable achievements, within a short period since obtaining his Bachelor’s degree with a first class honours.

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#### **Priyadarshini Das, MCM, PhD candidate**

Priyadarshini is a Construction Management Professional having over five years of experience with Larsen and Toubro Constructions in Transportation Infrastructure Projects such as Highways, Runways and Elevated Corridors and a short stint with US based technology driven Construction Start Up Katterra. She holds a Masters in Construction Management from National Institute of Technology Karnataka, India. Her academic and professional pursuits have created the opportunity to understand the nuances of mega construction projects involving array of stakeholders leading to complex and interdependent uncertainties. She has presented papers at various International Conferences related to technology intervention in construction.

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#### **Buddhini Ginigaddara, BSc(Hons), CIMA, IQSSL, RICS, AIQS, PhD candidate**

Buddhini is a Quantity Surveyor with a first-class honours degree from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. She is a member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) – United Kingdom and is the Chartered Management Accountant, Quantity Surveyor and a Lecturer by profession. She also holds graduate membership in the Institute of Quantity Surveyors Sri Lanka (IQSSL) along with the student membership in the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS). She has experience in the construction industry during her post graduate time in leading construction organizations and has served many students of Sri Lanka as an exceptional lecturer.

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#### **Amer Ahmad Hijazi, MSc, PhD candidate**

Amer is a PhD candidate based on Western Sydney University, Australia and working Developing a Methodology for Integrating Blockchain Data with BIM for Construction Supply Chains as he awarded a full scholarship from Centre for Smart Modern Construction (C4SMC). Amer holds a MSc from University of the West of England, Bristol, United Kingdom in BIM, design construction and operation after he awarded a full scholarship from UWE Bristol -Millennium Scholarship (UK) based on his academic and research achievements in (BIM) and Smart Construction. He has worked in AEC industry since 2009 in the UK and MENA region with A&H Group (UK), Transport for London (UK), Omrania & Association (Jordan), and Royal Scientific Society, Building Research Centre (Jordan). He is a BIM Specialist for making the BIM business case and establishing the BIM roadmap planning implementation. Thus, He is within a research network in order to prepare a framework for the research agenda for Digital Built Britain (DBB) at University of Cambridge (Next Phase for DBB) to enable deliver and manage DBB through asset, infrastructure and service lifecycles in the face of changing contexts. Consequently, Amer published two papers covering smart construction and BIM level 3, and he was awarded Creativity Forum Award based on engineering field for two times (2016 and 2013).

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