

### **Mr Suppiramaniam Shivasabesan (Sabesh)**

Sabesh has an MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management. He is also a Fellow of CPA Australia, Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (UK) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka.

Sabesh has worked as a director in economic policy areas at various agencies including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Finance, Productivity Commission, Australian Competition and Consumer Commissions and Australian Customs Service. Prior to joining the Australian Public Service, he worked for several multi-national companies in Australia and in Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Bahrain. He is retired now but does intermittent consulting to the Asian Development Bank. He is also a former National President of CIMA Australia.

Prior to becoming President, Sabesh was the Secretary of the Tamil Senior Citizens' Association (TSCA). He has been involved with TSCA since 2002 (he and his family have assisted the founders by contributing money to the building project, helping with fund raising activities, etc.)

### **Professor Kaliappa Kalirajan**

Professor Kaliappa Kalirajan, is an applied economist and policy analyst. He obtained a Masters in Mathematical Economics and Master of Letters in Econometrics from Madurai University, India, and Doctor of Philosophy in Economics from the Australian National University (ANU).

Before joining the Crawford School of Public Policy at the ANU, Professor Kalirajan was a Professor of International Economics at the Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development (FASID) and the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo. Prior to that he was Executive Director (and Deputy), in the Australia South Asia Research Centre at the ANU (1994-2000). He has taught in many Universities around the world and is currently serving in the editorial board of several journals.

Professor Kalirajan was the Vice-president of the Australia Tamil Cultural Society from 2009-2015. He is the grandson of Indian freedom fighter and leader of Indian National Congress V.O.Chidambaram Pillai (Kappalotiya Thamilan, 1872-1936). He has been a member of the TSCA management committee for several years.

### **Mr Mani Manivannan**

Mani is a Civil Engineer and expert project manager. He graduated from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He is also a Prince 2 Practitioner, a widely adopted certified and structured project management method. He is a retired International Civil Servant who has worked at senior levels for the UN agencies for more than 25 years. He has also undertaken short term consultancies after retirement.

Before retiring in 2018, Mani was Regional Portfolio Manager for Asia and Pacific for a trade support program for developing countries. In this role, he managed a Trust Fund and monitored and evaluated several projects. Before this, Mani managed multi sector development projects in several countries. Prior to joining the UN, Mani worked in Nigeria and Sri-Lanka as an Engineer in large projects.

Mani and his wife (Anusala) have been involved in community activities in Canberra and overseas for many years. They were also significant contributors for TSCA's building project and helped with fund raising activities.

### **Mr Diva Mahesan Divakaran**

Diva is a Fellow of CPA Australia and the Chartered Institute of Management Accounts, UK. He also has an MBA from the University of Colombo Sri Lanka. His areas of expertise are Financial and Management Accounting, Financial Management and Project Management.

Diva is a retired public servant and has served in the Australian Public Service over 25 years, mainly at the Director level at the Department of Defence and IP. Prior to migrating to Australia Diva held several senior positions at the Ministry of Finance, Government of the Seychelles and at a multinational company in Sri Lanka. He is also a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a member of the governing board of Companion House.

Diva has been associated with TSCA since 2014: initially as a volunteer and then Mr Diva Mahesan (from 2015) as a committee member. He has been responsible for modernising the accounting and management systems in TSCA since he became a Treasurer two years ago.

### **Mrs Saraswathy Mailvaganam**

Mrs Mailvaganam is the most energetic member of our Committee. This sprightly 88-year old is the live-wire of TSCA's social activities. She has been our social secretary since 1998, except for two years. In this role she coordinates weekly yoga classes, organizes the biannual excursions and other social events (including cooking delicious Sri Lankan food), runs the

annual BBQ and proactively liaises with members on various matters. She has also been a member of Housing Sub-Committee for several years representing community housing tenants.

She is a keen gardener and is actively involved in various religious and cultural organizations in Canberra. She recently participated in a 5 km walk in aid of cancer research. Independent and active, she is a model for many of our 'young seniors'.

Her late husband, Mr Mailvaganam, was one of the founders of the TSCA building project and was a pioneer of Community Housing in the ACT.

### **Mrs Ganesalingam**

Mrs Ganesalingam has been a Committee Member for about three years; and the editor of the Kavolai journal since February 2018. She obtained her BA (Hons) degree from University of Peradeniya and MA degree (Thesis: Tamil Scholars in the line of 'Arumuga Navalar') from University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. She also pursued further studies on 'Tamil Folklore' at the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Chennai India. She was an academic at the University of Jaffna and published three books and authored several short stories and articles.

After migrating to Australia, she was teaching at the Tamil school in Canberra and promoting (Tamil) culture and (Hindu) religion to youngsters. Her family has been long-term involvement with the TSCA: her husband, Dr K. Ganesalingam, is an Electrical Engineer and is a past President and a long-time active participant in TSCA matters; and their son Dr Pranavan was a contributor to the building project.

### **Mr Annasamy Parameswaran**

Param was a fellow of CPA Australia and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, UK. He was (former) the Financial controller of three US multi-national companies in the oil and Gas Industry.

In Australia Param lived in Perth and Sydney, before moving to Canberra. Param was the Internal Auditor of TSCA during 2018-19, helping to modernise its operations.

### **Mr T Indrasamy**

Indrasamy is a graduate of University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He taught Economics for high-school students in Sri Lanka and enabled many students to enter University. He migrated to Australia (Melbourne) in 1987.

He was a keen sportsman who represented the University and his school in soccer and won awards. He continued his sporting activities in Melbourne where he played soccer and cricket. He moved to Canberra with his family in 2009 and has been a member of TSCA for several years.

### **Mr Ragu Ragunathan**

Ragu is an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, UK and has a Graduate Diploma in Public Policy from the Australian National University.

Ragu worked as a senior manager at ACT Government's Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, where he oversaw budget management and policy review and analysis prior to his recent retirement. Prior to joining the ACT Treasury Ragu has worked in Management and financial accounting with government and non-government organisations in Australia, New Zealand and Botswana. In Sri Lanka, he worked in IT systems development, implementation and management.

Ragu and his family have been involved with TSCA for many years. He provided substantial funding to the building project and his wife (Kirupaa) initiated food sales to raise funds for the project. Ragu also helped the founders with accounting and finance work. His mother-in-law (Mrs Kumarasamy) is an active member of TSCA.

### **Mr Murugesu Ooruthiran (Mooru)**

Mooru is a Fellow of the Chartered Management Accountants (FCMA, UK). He headed the accounting departments of two large Government Business Enterprises in Sri Lanka (Ceylon Transport Board, which ran the bus network throughout Sri Lanka, and State Development and Construction Corporation). He moved to Nigeria and worked as the A/g Chief Accountant, Ogun State Water Corporation. He also held senior academic positions in Ogun state Polytechnic (Dean of the School of Business Studies; and Senior principal Lecturer and Head of Accounting Department).

Mooru assumed leadership of TSCA in 2015 and provided a steady leadership until August 2019 (a few months after he celebrated his 80th birthday). He will continue his good work at TSCA by being the elder statesman providing guidance and continuity. Unfortunately, his wife (73) passed away in December 2018 and they have four sons.