

NEWSLETTER SUSL

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University Day 2022



The 26th University Day of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was proudly celebrated on 02nd February 2022 at the university premises in the presence of the Chief Guest Mr. Bandu Samarasinghe and other delegates. SUSL paid its tribute to renowned artist Mr. Bandu Samarasinghe for the benevolent service he had made to the country in his field. The University Day ceremony also ran with the sessions of awarding the best students, researchers, and other university employees who have displayed tremendous dedication to the betterment of the university in various ways.



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University Events

Badminton Tournament

Staff Sports Club of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka successfully organized the Staff Badminton Tournament on 25th, 26th, and 27th of January 2022 for the university staff. The teams representing 13 Men's Doubles, 06 Women's Doubles, and 10 Mix Doubles participated in this competition.



Human Library Project: Event 01

The first “Human Library Event”, organized by the main library, was held on 28th January 2022 at the SR2 conference hall, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. This project aimed at creating a learning platform; promoting active, open, and live discussions; and enhancing knowledge sharing and research culture among the university community. Senior Prof. R.M.U. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL was the first “Human Book” of the project.



Human Library Project: Event 02

The second episode of the “Human Library Project”, organized by the main library was successfully held on 30th March 2022 at the auditorium, Faculty of Geomatics. The famous folklorist and senior lecturer, The University of the Visual and Performing Arts, Mr. Mahinda Kumara Dalupotha was the “Human Book” with his thematic thoughts on “Sinhala - Tamil new year and challenges”. The Vice-Chancellor, the deans of faculties, the librarian and library staff, administrative officers, and other delegates of the university attended this event.



University Events

BOC Sponsorship

The Bank of Ceylon sponsored the 7th Student Research Session of the Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages and the Undergraduate Research Symposium of the Faculty of Applied Sciences. The sponsorship cheque was officially handed over to the university on 26th April 2022.



QA Workshop



A workshop organized by the Quality Assurance Council of the university was held on 24th May 2022 for the staff of SUSL.

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Inauguration of MSc

The inaugural ceremony of the MSc Ayurvedic Hospital Management Degree Programme (2021 intake), which the Faculty of Graduate Studies offers in collaboration with the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 22nd January 2022 at the Auditorium of Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment, Rathnapura.



Prof. H.M.S. Priyanath, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies; Prof. Athula Ganapala, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies; Prof. D.A.I. Dayarathne, Chairperson, Board of Study, Faculty of Management Studies; and Dr. Sarath Munasinghe, Head, Department of Tourism Management, attended the inauguration as special invitees. Dr. N.D. Namal Jayawardana, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo attended as the Keynote Speaker to dignify the inauguration.

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

AgInsight 2022

The 4th International Conference of Agricultural Sciences (AgInsight 2022) of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, was held successfully on 26th and 27th January 2022 under the theme of 'Empowering Research for Innovative and Sustainable Agriculture'. This virtual conference aimed at bringing researchers, professionals, policymakers, and undergraduates to a common platform and disseminating their research findings and scholarly knowledge at an international academic forum intending to broaden international networks while contributing to national and global development.



The inaugural ceremony of the event was held with the participation of the Chief Guest, Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, Chairman, UGC; the Guest of Honor, Senior Prof. Chandana P. Udawatta, Vice Chairman, UGC; and Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL. The distinguished guests including the Deans of the Faculties, Directors, Administrative Officers of the University, academia from other national universities, and the invitees from different industrial entities graced the event. Prof. Andrea Cupp, an eminent scholar from the University of Nebraska delivered the keynote speech.



Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Agri-Food Innova

The "Agri-Food Innova 2021" Competition and Exhibition, organized by the Department of Agribusiness Management under the AHEAD ELTA ELSE faculty development grant was held on 15th February 2022.



AgSURS 2022

The first undergraduate research symposium of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences was held virtually on 04th August 2022. The idea behind the symposium was not only limited to creating an arena for the graduates to share their new knowledge, but also to give them proper exposure to a symposium and uplift their level of confidence as fresh graduates. The keynote speaker of the event Prof. Ranjith Senarathna, the Chairman of the National Foundation addressed the gathering by making awareness of the Transformation of Conventional Agriculture into Tech-savvy, Circular Agribusiness. The Chief Guest Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, Vice Chancellor, SUSL and Prof. Asha Karunarathne, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences graced the occasion. The symposium was chaired by Dr. R.K.C. Jeewanthi, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

SUSL Biodiversity Icons

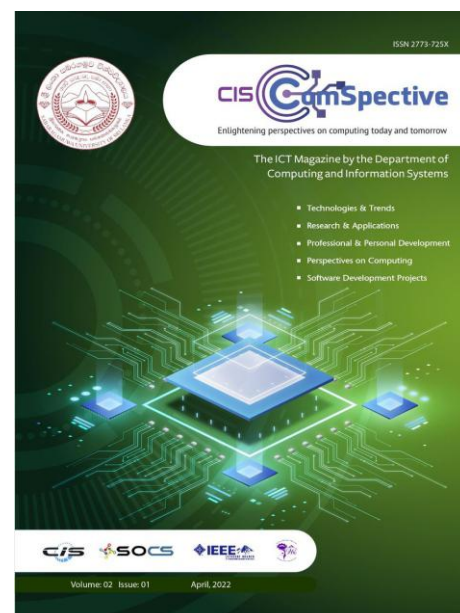
The official biodiversity icons of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka were declared at the “University Day” celebration held on 02nd February 2022. This event was coordinated by the Department of Natural Resources, Faculty of Applied Sciences for the University Day of SUSL. Accordingly, *Syzygium zeylanicum* (Yakada maran) was declared as the official tree while *Exacum trinervium* (Binara/Ginihirya) and *Pomaturhinus melanurus* (Sri Lanka Scimitar babbler/ De demalichcha) were declared as the official flower and the official bird of the university respectively.



ComSpective



The Department of Computing and Information Systems launched Vol. 01 (Issue II) and Vol. 02 (Issue I) of its biannual ICT magazine 'ComSpective'. These events were held on 13th February and 15th June 2022 respectively.



Conference in Computing

The Second International Conference in Advanced Research in Computing organized by the Department of Computing and Information Systems was held on 23rd and 24th February 2022 under the theme: towards a digitally empowered society. This conference aimed to encounter a wide range of research presentations and stimulating talks by leading figures from academia and industry on a single platform, allowing the attendees to explore contemporary discoveries, technologies, and trends in a variety of computing



Faculty of Applied Sciences

Leopard Conservation

Lanka Orix Leasing Company (LOLC) and the Wildlife & Nature Protection Company (WNPS) partnered with Prof. Enoke Kudavidanage, Department of Natural Resources for leopard conservation of Sri Lanka. This event took place in February 2022.

Capacity Building

A workshop on active learning, teaching, and assessment, organized by the quality assurance cell of the faculty was held on 30th and 31st March 2022 at the faculty. The workshop was conducted by Prof. Prasad Sethunga from the Department of Education, University of Peradeniya.

C2 SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2022

CONSERVATION/COVER CONTD. ECHO

To Save the Apex Predator

LOLC and WNPS partner up in leopard conservation

By SHANVIRA KADUPITTHAGE

Among the many elusive and exotic species that call Sri Lanka their home, none are as captivating as the leopard. Also known as the Sri Lankan leopard, this is an endemic cat species found only in Sri Lanka. These elusive creatures are the apex predators of the island's forest and are found from the cloud forests of the hills to the dry zone, the grasslands of the island's dry zone.

The Sri Lankan leopard may have established itself throughout some of Sri Lanka's many habitats, but these very lands are shrinking fast. With habitat shrinking, the leopards are in critical danger of becoming extinct. While conservation efforts do exist, it is the need for the protection of leopards, there is a need for a more organized, coordinated movement towards both research as well as conservation on the Sri Lankan leopard.

Solving with science

The WNPS is known for its valuable contributions to the conservation of wildlife and nature. Yet this may be one of its most ambitious projects yet. Partnering with the Wildlife and Nature Protection Company of Sri Lanka (WNPS) in a unique effort to rescue and conserve a species based on scientific research.



Prof. Enoke Kudavidanage



MD and CEO of LOLC, Kapila Jayawardena



Chief Operating Officer, Kishan Gunawardena



President of WNPS, Manoj Pillai



Prof. Enoke Kudavidanage

Research has been the only thing that these centres will be doing though. They will also serve as educational hubs to inform and educate local communities on the importance and value of leopards and their role in the ecosystem, as well as generating new means to mitigate the human-leopard conflict that is ongoing.

Partnering to protect

While the WNPS is a highly capable organization, a venture of this magnitude requires significant resources and backing, which is where LOLC steps into the picture. In LOLC's belief and long-term commitment to the environment, LOLC Holdings P.L.C. announced its partnership with WNPS for this initiative project, providing a significant contribution to financing the project.

The partnership was announced at the LOLC auditorium for the past 21 February with the presence of LOLC Group CEO Kapila Jayawardena and Chief Operating Officer Kishan Gunawardena together with WNPS President Manoj Pillai and Prof. Kudavidanage.

Speaking on the long-term strategy taken by LOLC to partner in the project, Jayawardena shared that "A comprehensive conservation project for the Sri Lankan leopard was an absolute necessity to protect this species for our future generations. We at LOLC, being an organization that looks to the future, thought that this

should definitely be part of our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to support the conservation of one of Sri Lanka's most iconic endemic species."

Taking initiative

The hope is that LOLC's initiative will inspire other commercial bodies and organizations to take action as well, reducing the burden on the already short staffed and understaffed Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC).

Increased enthusiasm in participating in conservation research and activities in wildlife, especially when it is spearheaded by one of Sri Lanka's top business groups, the LOLC, coming forward for a long-term commitment towards conservation, it sends a message to the rest of the country."

"By doing our own research and bringing them all the research that has been done, and in being these together, we aim to create a networked, unified conservation effort, which we will dedicate, we have a limited number of leopards in our country. The number that are reported are only the ones we know about. We need science, conservationists and people working together to protect the leopards and ensure a future where we have a healthy population of leopards in Sri Lanka," Manoj Pillai said.

Photo by Shanthi Kumari



New Faculty Complex

The Housewarming Ceremony of the new faculty complex of the Faculty of Applied Sciences was held on 04th April 2022 at the faculty complex.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

Ceremonial Opening

The opening ceremony of the new faculty complex of the Faculty of Applied Science was held with the participation of Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, the Vice-chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University on 06th April 2022.



APSURS 2022



The Applied Science Undergraduate Research Symposium (APSURS) 2022 was held on 06th April 2022 to provide a platform for undergraduates to share their research findings while showing their potential as researchers with extensive research capacity. Further, the symposium encouraged students to examine local and global trends in their fields of research and to share the developments, technology, skills, knowledge, and investments among others.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

Opening Avenues



The launching of the webpage of the Outdoor Recreation Centre of the Faculty of Applied Sciences took place on 06th April 2022 at the faculty premises. Promoting and developing the concept of “Outdoor Recreation” among the university and school communities was one of the main objectives of the event. In addition, promoting active learning through direct personal experience; and providing challenging experiences outdoors for the intellectual, physical, spiritual, social, and moral development of young and adult people were the other aims of the event.

World Food Day

A webinar organized by the Sabaragamuwa University Food Science and Technology Association to mark the World Food Day celebration was held on 07th June 2022. This event was conducted by Mr. Chamika Wimalasiri, Business Manager-Knowledge, SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd under the topic “Safer Food, Better Health-the role of certification”.

Social Welfare

The Faculty organized a number of social welfare activities for the community in the Balangoda area. These activities were held from January to June 2022. Recognizing the responsibility as an academic institution towards safeguarding and empowering peripheral communities at difficult times was the aim of this programme.



Faculty of Geomatics

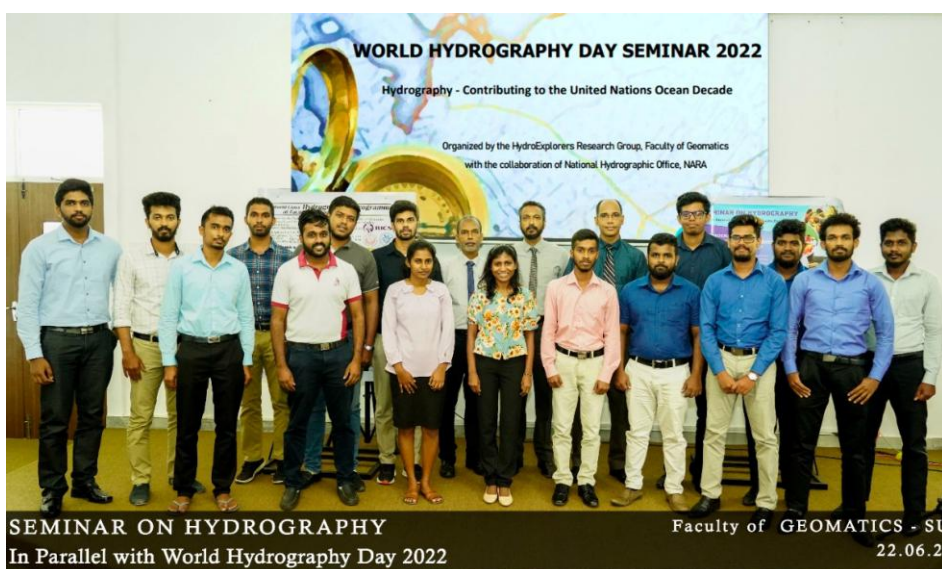
Land Information System

A workshop on "Establishment of a Land Information System for Informed Local Governance in Sri Lanka" was successfully held on 17th February 2022 at SLIDA, Colombo. This was organized by the GeoTech-Hub of Sabaragamuwa University for the RIC project of InfoBhoomi led by the project coordinator Dr. N.M.P.M.Piyasena under the guidance of Mr. P.G.V. Abeyratna, the Dean of Faculty of Geomatics.

Mr. R.A.A.K. Ranawake, the Secretary Ministry of Lands; Mr. W.M.M.B. Weerasekara, the Secretary of the State Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government Affairs; Mr. A. Dissanayake, the Surveyor-General of Sri Lanka; Prof. Walter de Vries, Technical University of Munich, Germany; Prof. Thomas Kolbe, Technical University of Munich, Germany; and Mr. Deepak Misra, National Informatics Center (NIC), India delivered their speeches physically and online. Main stakeholders including ICTA, IUCN, and business partners appreciated the outputs of the project presented by the research assistants of the project InfoBhoomi.



WHD Celebration



In parallel to the World Hydrography Day (WHD) celebration 2022, a hydrographic seminar was organized by the Faculty of Geomatics in collaboration with the National Hydrographic Office (NHO) of Sri Lanka. Several speeches were made by the experts with reference to the theme of WHD 2022. Further, an exhibition on hydrography was also held at the faculty to promote hydrography among the community.

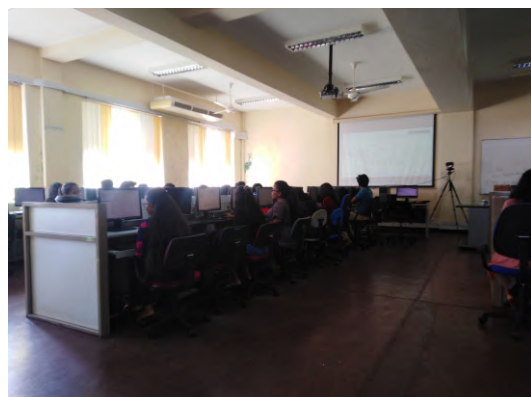
Industry professionals, university academics, current and prospective hydrographic specialization students, and hydrographic alumina of the university were the main participants of the event. This event was held on 22nd June 2022.

Faculty of Management Studies

Webinar for Students

A series of online lectures on "Accounting Standards", organized by the AHEAD project of the Department of Accountancy & Finance, was held on 03rd and 10th January 2022. Mr. W.A. Upendra Wijesinghe, Chief Executive Officer, Excellent Business School (Pvt) Ltd. and the Former Head of Technical, at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, conducted the lecture.

Meanwhile, Mr. Niluka Abeygunaratne, Senior Associate, Investment Research Division, Acuity Knowledge Partners, Sri Lanka conducted two lectures on 18th and 20th January 2022, under the topic "Verification of Assets & Liabilities". Another lecture on "Practical Aspects of Import and Export Business in Sri Lanka" was conducted by Mr. Tushara Jayalath, Assistant Director and Officer-in-charge, Central Provincial Office, Sri Lanka Export Development Board, Kandy on 30th January 2022. An online lecture aiming to enhance students' knowledge regarding risk management while providing awareness about advanced tools in risk management was conducted by Mr. K.G.H. De Silva, Director/Regional Financial Controller, DRH Logistics Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. on 28th February 2022. Further, a lecture on "Practical Aspects of Reinsurance Applications" was held on 24th and 25th February 2022. Ms. Champa Mellawa, Managing Director/CEO of Ax Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd. assisted with this event as the resource person. In addition, a number of webinars were organized by the AHEAD programme of the Department of Accountancy & Finance covering various topics including "Budgeting Process", "International Banking", "Using Smart PLS for Data Analysis", and "Data Mining".



Keynote Speaker

Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha, Department of Accountancy & Finance, was the keynote speaker of the "13th International Conference on Industry 4.0 & Key Drivers of Sustainable Global Business Practices", organized by the Prestige Institute of Management, Gwalior and Research Gwalior, India from 08th to 10th January 2022. Further, he also contributed to the "International Conference on Fostering Resilient Business Ecosystems and Economic Growth: Towards the Next Normal", organized by Dr. D. Y. Patil B-School, Pune, India in association with Dr. Soetomo University, Indonesia and AIMS, India from 27th to 29th April 2022.



Faculty of Management Studies

FMS Research Award Ceremony



The research award ceremony of the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 27th January 2022 for the year 2021. The event was held at the faculty auditorium with the participation of all academic staff members of the faculty along with distinguished invitees. The Research and Publication Unit of the Faculty of Management Studies organized this event to recognize the best research performers of the faculty during 2021. A number of academics of the faculty received research awards along multiple criteria of research excellence that they showed.



Disaster Preparedness

A webinar was organized to enhance the awareness of students on the methods of disaster mitigation practical applications and preparedness in small businesses on 29th January 2022. This event was conducted by Dr. Kalpana Ambepitiya, Senior lecturer from General Sir John Kothelawala Defence University.

**Ready... Set... GO!**
Disaster Preparedness for Small Businesses

**Dr. Kalpana Ambepitiya (Ph.D)**
Senior Lecturer,
General Sir John Kothelawala Defence University
ACMI, Certified trainer of Behavioural skill, Soft skill, Emotional intelligence, Leadership and Group coach

**29th January 2022**
**At 6.00 p.m Onwards**

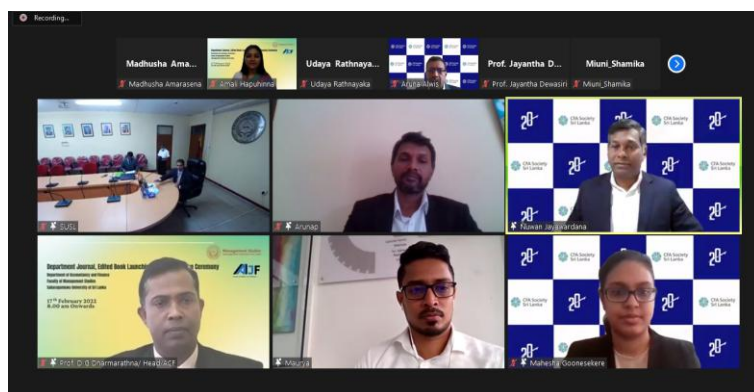
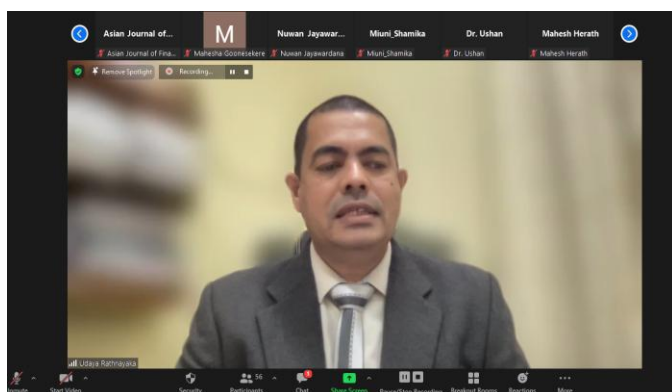
JOIN US ON
**zoom**

Organized by,
Department of Business Management
Faculty of Management Studies
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Faculty of Management Studies

More Opportunities for Finance Students

Launching of the book entitled “Contemporary Issues in Finance” and the “Asian Journal of Finance”, published by the Department of Accountancy & Finance was held on 17th February 2022. In addition, an MoU between the Department and the CFA Society Sri Lanka was signed to offer exemptions, scholarships, and industrial exposure.



New Intake

The inauguration of the 2020/2021 intake of the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 24th March 2022 at the Prof. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium.



Health Education



A virtual event on “Preventing and Dealing with Disability as University Students” was conducted by Dr. Gayani Amarasinghe, Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka to educate the freshers on knowing and dealing with possible disabilities within the faculty premises and get them prepared to eliminate such situations. The event was held on 08th April 2022.

Faculty of Management Studies

Sustainable Tourism

The Department of Tourism Management has partnered with the CESTour (Centres of Excellence in Sustainable Tourism to Boost Economic Development and Enhance University-Business Cooperation in Southern Asia) Project and conducted two successful multiplier events dedicated to sustainable tourism knowledge transfer and capacity building of stakeholders in diverse echelons with the contribution of Prof. Athula Gnanapala, Prof. Rangana Shalika, Mr. Namal Wijesundara, Mrs. Rudmi Jayawardena, Mr. Hiran Dinusha, and Ms. Chrishika Fernando. The events were held on 04th May 2022 and 29th June 2022 at the Staff Development Centre, SUSL and Elephant Trail Hotel, Udawalawe respectively.



CES Tour Project

Prof. Athula Gnanapala, Prof. Rangana Shalika, and Mr. Hiran Dinusha participated in the CESTour Project Management Meeting which was held from 09th to 11th May 2022 in Graz, Austria. The meeting proposed to establish a framework for collaboration and mutual consultation with the project consortium to disseminate and promote the project and its results; give input on local/regional initiatives in the project's field; and act as a multiplier to reach out to target groups. During the meeting, members discussed the importance of developing a social business model in tourism that will continue forever sustainably.



Faculty of Management Studies

Occupational Health & Safety

The Faculty Quality Assurance Cell successfully completed the Preliminary Audit in Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) in line with ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Standard on 04th June 2022 at the Faculty of Management Studies.



Mr. Chamal Indrajith, Health Safety & Environmental Professional served as the resource person for the event. In addition to the audit, an awareness session was conducted for the third-year undergraduates of the EcoBusiness Management and Business Management degree programmes, on OHS risk identification followed by a walkthrough assessment and discussion. Also, a student Emergency Management team was established as a requirement of the OHS system.

Coffee Evening

After a break of 4 years, the “Coffee Evening” took place at the university premises on 08th June 2022 which was organized by the undergraduates of the Department of Tourism Management. The lecturers of the Faculty of Management Studies were invited to enjoy a cup of coffee and to spend a relaxed evening. The objective of this event was to provide the undergraduates with the opportunity to enhance their skills and talents in diverse areas of managing, organizing, aesthetic skills, and creativity. The evening was brewed not only with coffee but also with live music, chit-chats, and laughter throughout.



Faculty of Medicine

Welcome Freshers



The inauguration ceremony organized to welcome the fourth batch for the Faculty of Medicine was held on 07th February 2022 at the faculty auditorium, Ratnapura. This occasion was graced by Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya participating as the chief guest. The Vice-Chancellor, SUSL; the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; Deans from the other faculties; the Director, Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura; Consultants; academic staff of the Faculty of Medicine; Registrar; Deputy Registrars; and Non-academic staff of the faculty also attended the inauguration.



Charter Installation ceremony

The first-ever Installation Ceremony of the Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Medicine for the induction of the President, Malka Shalindi and her board was held successfully on 20th February 2022 at the faculty auditorium. This event was graced by the Chief Guest for the day, Rotarian Charles M. Ravi and the Guest of Honor Prof. Nirmalie Wickramaratne.



Faculty of Medicine

An Awareness Programme

A Covid awareness programme for the plantation community residing in the estate sector in Ratnapura district was held on 12th and 13th March 2022. In addition to a Covid awareness campaign, dry rations to 76 families of low income in the Galthura and Paraketiya were distributed by the programme organizers. This event was arranged by the Rotaract Club, Faculty of Medicine, SUSL.



Speak Up

The Rotaract Club, Faculty of Medicine organized an event to develop the spoken English abilities of its members. This programme was held on 02nd April 2022 at the faculty premises.



Faculty of Medicine

Together as One

The Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Medicine, SUSL together with the Rotaract Club of the University of Moratuwa Alumni, and the Rotaract Club of Hatton Kotagala organized an awareness programme on nutrition intervention programmes and gardening techniques. School students, parents, and pregnant mothers of the Hatton kotagala estate were the target group of the event held on 22nd May 2022 at CP/N/Dayagama Tamil Vidyalayam, Dayagama.



Aththatu

A programme to motivate the students who are studying with a lack of facilities in rural areas was organized by the faculty Rotaract Club on 24th May 2022 at the R/Nivithigala, Doloswalakanda Vidyalaya.



Donating Health Equipment

The Rotaract Club, Faculty of Medicine donated essential medical equipment to the Unawatuna Mental Health Facility on 28th May 2022. The event organizers donated clothes to inward patients in addition to donating blood pressure meters and glucometers to the hospital.



Estrellas 2021



Estrellas 2021, organized by the students of the Aesthetic Society together with students of the third batch of the Faculty of Medicine was held on 28th April 2022 at Ratnapura New Town Public Library Auditorium. This talent show was intended to showcase the aesthetic talents of the freshers of the faculty and to build good interpersonal relationships between the senior and the junior students.



Faculty of Medicine

Human Values

An event organized to hand over necessities for the elephants at the Transit Home at Udawalawa was held on 29th May 2022 with the assistance of the Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Medicine.



Quiz Competition

The Prof. Anura Weerasinghe Memorial Inter Batch Quiz programme was held on 30th May 2022 at the faculty auditorium.



Nonim Paura

The Rotaract Club, Faculty of Medicine donated over 1500 brail books, more than 500 story books, office stationery items, other stationeries face masks, and sanitizing liquids to 56 students of Yashodara Vidyalaya in Balangoda. The event was held on 31st May 2022 at the school.



Faculty of Medicine

ඉසිවර ස්වර

ඉසිවර ස්වර 2021 the annual *Pedura* Musical Program was held on 28th June 2022 in the faculty premises. Strengthening the associations among the medical students of the faculty and the consultants of the Teaching Hospital Ratnapura was the main objective of the programme. This was organized by the Aesthetic Society, Faculty of Medicine.



More Donations

The staff welfare society of the Faculty of Medicine organized a charity work on 30th June 2022 at the Kosgoda Community Hall. Extremely poor pregnant mothers around Kuruwita were selected based on the recommendations of MOH and PHMs to bestow dry rations.



Faculty of Social Sciences

English Day

The Virtual English Day - 2022 was held on 03rd January 2022 with the assistance of Mr. S. Sivayesunesan, retired English Instructor, SUSL. This programme included two main objectives. First, the programme intended to expose students to authentic situations in their life where they are supposed to communicate in English. Second, it also enabled to create a platform for students to improve their English language skills by organizing items for the session writing scripts, communicating with each other, and solving problems they come across during the process.



Let's join the online
ENGLISH DAY
2022

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere"

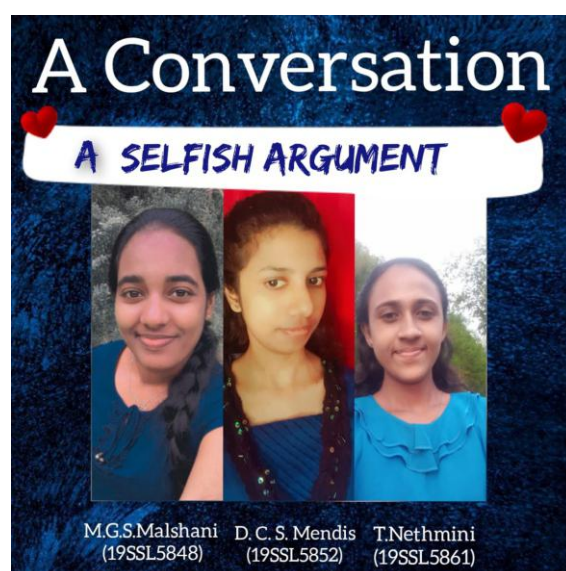
RESOURCE PERSON :
MR. SIVANO SIVAYESUNESAN

HE IS AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TEACHING WITH OVER 28 YEARS
OF EXPERIENCE AT SUSL.

From 09.00a.m
January 03, 2022
zoom

ELTA - ELSE FACULTY
DEVELOPMENT
AHEAD PROJECT

Department of English Language Teaching | Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages |
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



A Conversation
A SELFISH ARGUMENT

M.G.S.Malshani (19SSL5848) D. C. S. Mendis (19SSL5852) T.Nethmini (19SSL5861)

Intellectual Property Management

Prof. Indunil Dayaratne, Director of the University Business Linkage (UBL) Cell, conducted a webinar on "Intellectual Property Management" on 04th January 2022 for the students and the academic staff of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. The webinar was organized by the Business Linkage Cell of the Faculty of Social Sciences and aimed to increase awareness on the role of UBL Cell in the value creation process, intellectual property protection, IP commercialization, and artificial intelligence.



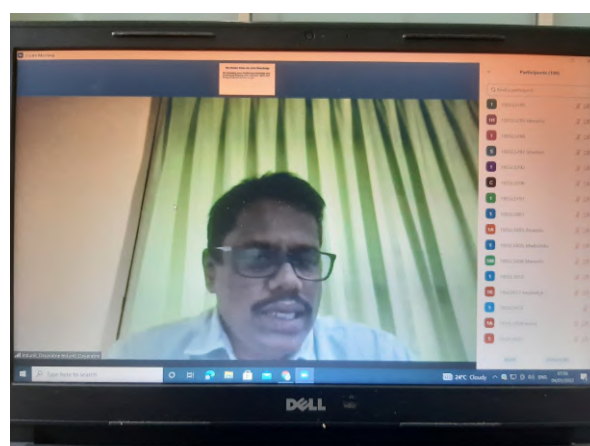
Role of University Business Linkage Cell and IP Trends in 21 Century

Professor D.A.I. Dayaratne
Director University Business Linkage Cell
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



Participants (58)

19SST5659 - Sachintha Sandee...
Hasanthi Kosgahakumbura...
Hashini Piyumali
Jagoda
Maduka Hansani
Mahesh Hapugoda
Malsha Muthumali
Manohari Udiporawa
Manoj Ariyaratne
Nethinie Vijebandara
Sajani Weerasinghe
Sakunthala
Sampath Fernando
Seems



Zoom Meeting

Faculty of Social Sciences

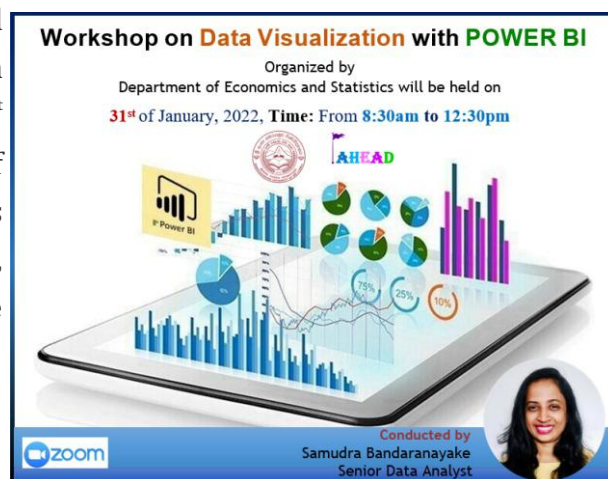
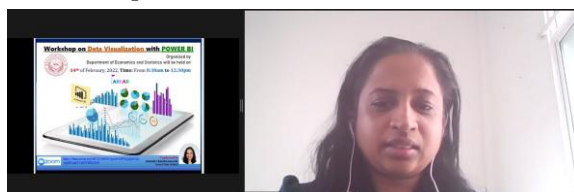
Towards Digital Era

An awareness programme on using the equipment installed in the newly established 'Skill Development Center' and the 'Digital LTA Center' was held on 25th January 2022. Metropolitan Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd. conducted this programme.



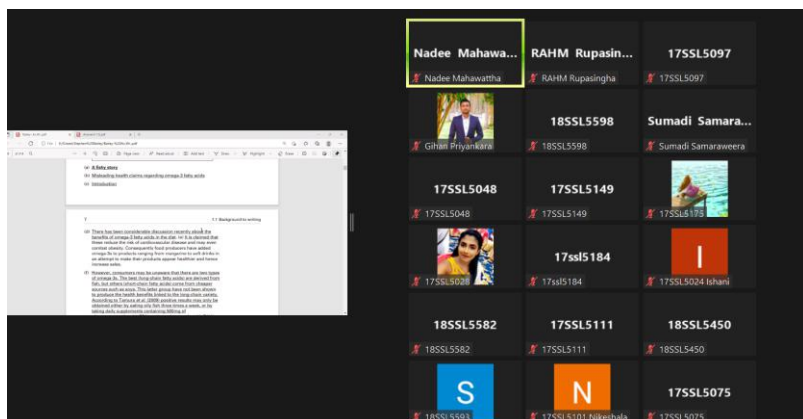
Data Visualization

The AHEAD project of the Department of Economics and Statistics organized an online workshop on “Data Visualization with Power BI”. The workshop was held on 31st January 2022. The academic staff of the Department of Economics and Statistics was the target group of this workshop. Ms. Samudra Bandaranayake, Senior Data Analyst, at Wiley Global Technologies participated as the resource person of the workshop.



Academic Literacy

A workshop on “Improving Academic Literacy in English” was held from 26th to 28th February 2022 for the undergraduates of the Department of Economics and Statistics to improve their academic literacy skills in English. Ms. Nadee Mahawattha, Senior Lecturer, SUSL, and Ms. Osanka Hansini Rathnasiri, Lecturer, University of Moratuwa were the resource persons of the event.



Faculty of Social Sciences

Silver Portal

The fourth and fifth episodes of "Silver Portal" were held under the topics 'Exploratory Conversation on the Economic Impact of Colombo Port City' and 'It's Time for Online Shopping' on 27th February and 26th March 2022 respectively. This event was organized by the Student Circle of the Department of Economics and Statistics. Sharing information regarding the issues in the Colombo port city, increasing awareness of the opportunities available for the general public, and current and future trends of E-marketing and online shopping were the main objectives of these two episodes.



Shaping Communication Skills

The Grand Finale and Awarding Ceremony of the Speech Craft Programme steered by Siyane Toastmasters' Club was held on 14th March 2022. The objective of this programme was to train academic staff members of the Department of Economics and Statistics to improve fluency in communication, presentation, and public speaking in English to enhance the quality of English medium studies in all degree programmes conducted by the department.



Faculty of Social Sciences

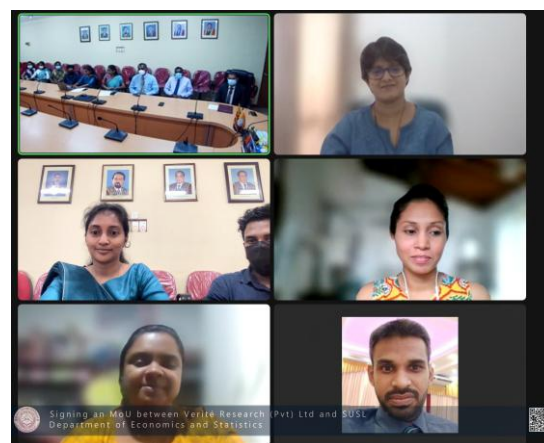
Chat with Alumni

Some more events of the discussion series on 'Our success stories - A Chat with an Alumni Member', organized by the Student Circle and Alumni Association of the Department of Economics and Statistics were held on 20th March and 29th May 2022. Ms. Mohamed Ansar Fathima Siyama, Research Assistant at Verite Research and Mr. R.A. Thejan Rathnayake, Statistician, Department of Census and Statistics contributed to the events by participating as the resource persons. Providing an opportunity for undergraduates who are willing to climb their ladder of success while learning from the experiences of the alumni members was one of the main objectives of this event.



Collaborate with Verite

The Department of Economics and Statistics (DES), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Verite Research (Pvt.) Ltd. on 01st June 2022. This MoU enabled the department to conduct collaborative research with Verite Research (Pvt.) Ltd. The initiative also provided the opportunity for the undergraduates of the department to have industry experience, participate in training programmes conducted within the organization, and take support from Verite Research (Pvt.) Ltd for field visits and other activities.



Faculty of Social Sciences

Professional Learning

University academics who teach Translation Studies at SUSL, University of Kelaniya, University of Jaffna, and South Eastern University of Sri Lanka attended a meeting on 'Professional Learning Community (PLC)' at Hotel Sigiriya Jungles, Kimbissa, Sigiriya. This event was held on 10th and 11th June 2022 and organized by the National Languages Equality Advancement Project with a view to discussing the present status of BA Translation Degree programmes, the Official Languages Policy, PLC Constitution, and its way forward.

Chinese Bridge

The 21st “Chinese Bridge” Competition, organized jointly by the Confucius Institute of the University of Colombo, Confucius Institute of the University of Kelaniya, and the Confucius Classroom of SUSL was held on 20th June 2022 at the board room, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo. This programme aimed at arousing the enthusiasm of students in various countries to learn the Chinese language in addition to widening the world's understanding of the Chinese language and its culture.

Launching SLJESIM



Launching of the Sri Lanka Journal of Economics, Statistics and Information Management (SLJESIM)–Volume I, Issue I took place on 28th June 2022. This triennial journal, published by the Department of Economics and Statistics provides academics, researchers, and professionals with a platform to share the latest developments and advances in Economics, Statistics, and Information Management.



Faculty of Technology

Soft Skills

A webinar organized by the Department of Biosystems Technology in collaboration with the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell on the theme of “Soft Skill Development” was conducted on 19th January 2022. The event aimed to enhance students' awareness of the significance of communication skills, presentation skills, and professional grooming in the industrial environment, prior to their industrial exposure. Mr. Madushan Keerage, a certified trainer, transformational coach, and HR & LEAN professional participated in the event as the resource person.

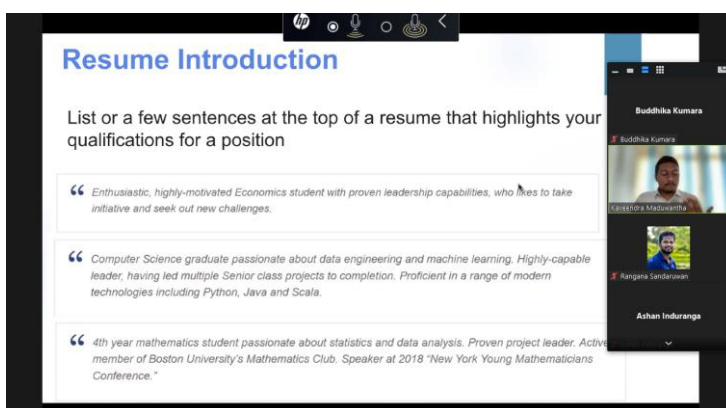


Get Ready for Your Resume

An online workshop entitled “Making a Professional Resume” was conducted by the Faculty of Technology on 23rd March 2022. The target audience for the workshop was the prospective industrial training batch (2017/2018) of the Faculty of Technology. The workshop was conducted by the academic members of the Department of Engineering Technology under the coordination of Mr. Vimukthi Vithanage.

Studying in Japan

The Sri Lanka Office of the University of Tokyo organized a networking and information-sharing session between the Study in Japan Global Network Project of the MEXT and the Faculty of Technology. This online session was conducted on 24th February 2022 under the coordination of Prof. K.R. Koswattage.



Faculty of Technology

Collaborating with AIT

The Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka; Asian Development Bank (ADB); and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) have started a joint programme called 'The Science and Technology Human Resource Development Project (STHRDP)' with a view of developing an educated and knowledgeable workforce to accelerate the economic growth. As an initiation of the project, AIT proposed a programme consisting of 10 Customized Instructor-Led Technical Education (CILTE) courses focusing on areas such as ICT, Biosystems, Agricultural Engineering, Tech Transfer, Data Science, Smart Agriculture, Incubator Facility, Mechatronics, Construction Process, Civil, and Nanotechnology for the Faculty of Technology. Therefore, a team from AIT visited and had a fruitful discussion with the academics of the faculty on 08th April 2022 to make arrangements to execute the project.



Discussions with Lanka Tiles

An industrial meeting between Lanka Tiles PLC. and academics of the Faculty of Technology took place on 28th April 2022 at the Lanka Tiles PLC., Ranala factory. The meeting was held to discuss future collaborations between the Faculty of Technology and Lanka Tiles PLC. Mr. Nuwan Tharinda, Manager, Quality Assurance and Research and Development, Lanka Tiles PLC; Prof. K.R Koswattage; and several academic members from the Faculty of Technology participated in the meeting.



The meeting concluded successfully and the company agreed to collaborate with the Faculty of Technology in future research projects while providing industrial training positions to technology undergraduates of the faculty.

An IET Chapter

An IET introductory session was successfully held on the 02nd May 2022 to support the establishment of an IET chapter in the Faculty of Technology. Ms. Thilini Wasundara and Mr. Priyanga Ambanwala participated as the resource persons of the session and the students were able to be educated about the benefits of IET membership. The resource persons also shared their volunteering experience of IET with the participants.



Faculty of Technology

Sewerage Treatment Plant



The Foundation Stone laying ceremony for the Sewerage Treatment Plant was held successfully on 05th May 2022 on the university premises with the participation of UGC Vice Chairman, Senior Prof. Chandana P. Udawatte; Vice-Chancellor, Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake; Project Director STHRD project Prof. Sujeewa Lewangamage; Dean, Faculty of Technology Prof. K.R. Koswattage; Deans of other faculties; Registrar along with academic and non-academic members of the university.



Gender Awareness



The Gender Equity and Equality Cell in collaborating with the quality assurance cell of the Faculty of Technology organized a one-day training workshop on “Creating Gender Awareness” with the objective of fulfilling the gender action plan of the STHRD project.

Faculty of Technology

The workshop was held on 05th May 2022 at the Staff Development Center and it was participated by the academic and non-academic staff of the Faculty of Technology and a limited number of academic staff from other faculties. Ms. Nadiya Najab, Senior Research Professional, CEPA and Mrs. Ranmini Vithanagama, Gender and Social Inclusion Consultant, SLRM, participated in the workshop as resource persons. This workshop was funded by the STHRD project.



A Warm Welcome

The welcome programme for the freshers was held on 09th May 2022 at the auditorium of the Faculty of Technology. The undergraduates studied virtually for almost a semester after the orientation held in August 2021 and this ceremony was organized to welcome their physical presence at the university. The occasion was graced by academic, and non-academic members of the Faculty of Technology.



Accreditation



An awareness programme on the accreditation process of the degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Technology was organized by the faculty Quality Assurance Cell on 18th May 2022. Dr. T.A Piyasiri, the UGC coordinator of accreditation for the Technology Faculties conducted the session as the resource person. This session aimed to review the status of the accreditation process of the degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Technology, SUSL and to discuss the updated concepts in the accreditation process of degree programmes offered by the technology faculties. The academic members of the Faculty of Technology attended this programme.

Faculty of Technology

Level-UP



The first workshop of the Level-UP Innovate series was conducted on 01st June 2022 at the main auditorium of the Faculty of Technology. This workshop series is specifically designed for the third year undergraduates of the faculty aiming to enhance their knowledge, skills, and attitudes towards the innovative thinking. Prof. A.W. Wijeratne from the Department of Agribusiness Management, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences contributed as the resource person of the workshop. Prof. Wijeratne shared his valuable experience in inventions with the participants. This workshop series was organized as a collaborative project with the Industrial Collaboration Unit and the Career Guidance Cell of the Faculty of Technology.

Tech Colloquium

The second workshop of the "Tech Colloquium" series entitled "How to be an independent professional in global market" was successfully conducted on 02nd June 2022. Eng. Adheesha Sooriyabandara, a design engineer, founder, and owner of SLMB design solutions (PVT) Ltd. participated in the workshop as the resource person. Mr. Sooriyabandara shared his experience in Freelancing and Gig Economy with the undergraduates.



Collaborative Research

An MoU was signed by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, Vice-Chancellor, SUSL and Prof. N.D. Gunawardena, Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa to conduct collaborative research on the topic of "Optimizing Mechanical Properties of Floor Tiles and Concretes Using Industrial Wastes" under the Asian Development Bank competitive research grant scheme.



Staff Achievements

University Day Awards

Prof. S.K. Gunathilake, Prof. R.M.K.T. Rathnayake, and Dr. S.S.R.M.D.H.R. Wijesekara from the Faculty of Applied Sciences received awards as “The most cited researcher of the year 2021”, “The best researcher of the Faculty of Applied Sciences 2021”, and “The best young researcher in the year 2021” respectively, at the University Day 2022.



Dr. H.M.I. Prasanna from the Department of Surveying and Geodesy has been awarded as the best researcher of the year 2021 from the Faculty of Geomatics. The awarding ceremony was held on “University Day” which took place on 02nd February 2022. Dr. Prasanna is a senior lecturer and the immediate former Dean of the faculty.



Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha, Department of Accountancy & Finance, was the grand winner of the Dean's Award for the best research performance of the Faculty of Management Studies for the year 2021. The research awards ceremony, organized by the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 27th January 2022.



Considering his tremendous contribution to the research and publication, Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha, Department of Accountancy & Finance, has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Emerald Publishing for its South Asian Region and as a Senior Associate Editor of the FIIB Business Review, published by SAGE Publishing in collaboration with the Fortune Institute of International Business (FIIB), India. In addition, Prof. Dewasiri has also been appointed as the Honorary Secretary of the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) from 29th March 2022.

Doctoral Degree Completion

Dr. Thuseethan Selvarajah, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Computing and Information Systems completed his Ph. D. in Information Technology at Deakin University, Australia.



Dr. P.H.H.G.R. De Silva, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Social Sciences completed her Ph. D. in Religious Studies at the University of Otago, New Zealand.



Dr. G.C.L. Pathirana, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Social Sciences completed his Ph.D. in Public Administration at Central China Normal University, PR China.



Student Achievements

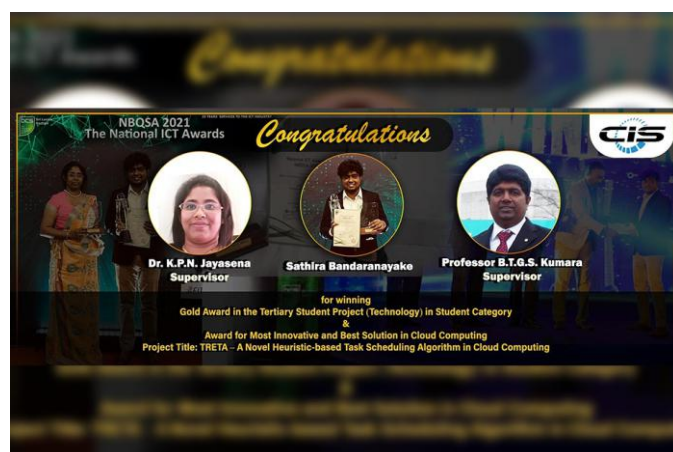
Winning Competitions

IMMINENT MARKETER 2021, the biggest inter-university marketing challenge organized by the Marketing Management Association (MMA), Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was held between December 2021 and April 2022 via Zoom for the fifth time in the university arena. The team 'SABRA SPARTANS', who represented the marketers of the Faculty of Management Studies, SUSL was able to win the 2nd runners up of this competition among more than ten state and private universities in Sri Lanka.



NBQSA ICT Awards

Sathira Umesh Bandaranayake and the team from the Department of Computing and Information Systems won the Gold medal for the best tertiary student technology project 2021 and for the most innovative & best solution for cloud computing 2021 at the NBQSA National ICT Awards 2021. The event was organized by the Sri Lanka Section of BCS and held on 21st January 2022. This teamwork was supervised by Dr. K.P.N. Jayasena and Prof. B.T.G.S. Kumara from the Department of Computing and Information Systems.



HackX2021 Championship

Five students from the Department of Computing and Information Systems (Team Les Pirates-Sabra) won the championship of HackX2021, the Interuniversity Start-up challenge organized by the Industrial Management Science Students' Association of the University of Kelaniya in June 2022. The awards were presented at the BMICH, Colombo during the ceremonial launching of the 17th Issue of Exposition Magazine. Mr. Kuhaneswaran Banujan, Mr. Janitha Liyanage, and Mr. Priyantha Gunawardena were gratefully acknowledged for their invaluable guidance in making this accomplishment.



New Appointments

Prof. K.R. Koswattage, Department of Engineering Technology, has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Technology.



Dr. G.S.N. Perera, Senior Lecturer, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS, has been appointed as the Head of the Department.



Dr. N.P. Liyanawaduge has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Engineering Technology.



Prof. R.G.U. Jayalal has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Natural Resources.



Dr. L.D. Lekamge, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, has been appointed as the Coordinator of the University Museum.



Mr. A.L.C.J. Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology, has been appointed as the Faculty Coordinator of the University Quality Assurance Cell.



Mr. M.C.N. Jayasooriya, Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology, has been appointed as the Chairman of the University Sports Council.



Prof. E.P.N. Udayakumara, Department of Natural Resources, has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Dr. K.D.C.A. Banagala, Senior Lecturer has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Anatomy.



Dr. W.G.M.S. Perera has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Biosystems Technology.



Dr. T.C. Kananke, Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology, has been appointed as the Director of the Centre for Gender Equity and Equality.



Dr. T.C. Kananke, Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology, has been appointed as the Faculty Coordinator of the University Business Linkage Cell.

Dr. S.M.W. Perera has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Biochemistry.



Promotions

Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, Department of Food Science and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Professor.



Dr. R.J.M. Uduporuwa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. E.P.N. Udayakumara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. R.G.U. Jayalal, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. E.P. Kudavidanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. S. Malavipathirana, Senior Lecturer, Department of Physical Science and Technology, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. R. M. K. G. S. P. B. Koswatte, Senior Lecturer, Department of Remote Sensing and GIS, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. R. Bandara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Surveying and Geodesy, was promoted to the post of Associate Professor.



Dr. R.S. Sabaragamuwa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Gr. I).



Dr. H. Baduraliya, Senior Lecturer, Department of Physical Sciences and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Gr. I).





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Deans, Heads of the Departments, Directors, all Academics & Administrative staff members and students are greatly appreciated for providing the information and pictures for this newsletter.

If you wish to publicize any significant news related to your Faculty, Department or Centre of the SUSL, in the Newsletter

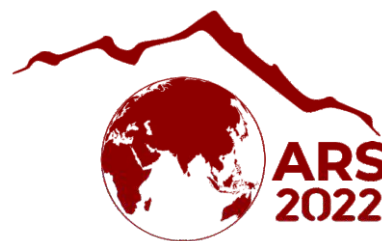
Please send us your news to Editor of the Newsletter, Centre for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD)

Email: newsletter@crkd.sab.ac.lk

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Annual Research Session

The Annual Research Session (ARS) 2022 of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka is a major event on the university calendar that allows the academic community of SUSL to showcase recent research in addition to the postgraduate and undergraduate students. The ARS fosters knowledge sharing across a wide range of disciplines. It also provides networking opportunities for young researchers in their fields. This year's event will be held at the university premises on 06th December 2022.



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