



Silver Jubilee

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka celebrated its 25 years of excellence on the propitious day of 02 February 2021 at Prof. J. W. D. Somasundara Auditorium of the Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages in the presence of Hon. Tikiri Bandara Kobbekaduwa and the University community. The University marked its contribution to the earth by planting trees at Nonperial premises.



SUSL paid its tribute to the renowned artist Ms. Ramya Wanigasekara, for the benevolent service she had made to the country in her field. Meanwhile, the ceremony ran with the sessions of awarding the Best Student of the year 2020 from each faculty who proved their ability in the academic field and of course with staff appraisal in different categories, distinguishing academics, administration, and non-academics who are continuously performing a tremendous service to the University delivering their best towards the betterment of the students.



University Events

Awards at University Day

Academic, Academic supportive and the Non-academic staff who served the university for 25 years were appreciated with certificates at the University Day held on 02 February 2021. Mr. W.A. Jayasena received a Gold medal for 35 years of long service and Dr. J.K.C. Dissanayake, Mrs. K.M. Somawathie, Prof. D.M.A. Gunaratne, Mrs. M.R.N.P. Ekanayake, Prof. K.P.L. Nishantha received Bronze Medals for the long services they rendered at SUSL.

Mr. K. Sivayesunesan, Mr. W.A. Jayasena, Mrs. S.A.D.H. Miuriyel, Mr. A.M.S. Abeysinghe, Mr. H.M. Jayasena, Mr. W. Ariyadasa, Mr. O.G. Karunarathna, Mrs. P.G. Kusumawathi, Mr. M.N. Premalal, Mr. S.A. Gajaweera, Mr. J.M. Amarasinghe, Mr. E.M.S. Ekanayaka, Mr. M.L.M.S. Chandrasiri were awarded Gold Medals to appreciate their service at their retirement.



Prof. P.M.A.S. Karunarathna was awarded as the Best Researcher of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences while Prof. S.K. Gunathilaka and Prof. H.M.S. Priyanath were awarded as the Best Researchers from the Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages respectively. Prof. D.A.M. De Silva was the recipient of the highest amount of research grant in 2020.

Prof. S.D.A. Sandanayake was awarded as the most cited researcher in 2020 while Dr. R.M.K.T. Rathnayake achieving the Best Researcher (Junior) award in 2020. In addition, Dr. K.R. Koswattage received the Best Researcher (Senior) award. Prof. D.M. Anil Gunarathna received the award for the Most Outstanding Research Scholar of the University.



The best employee award for the year 2020 was awarded to Mr. S.M.D. Bandara of the Faculty of Management Studies. The Vice-Chancellor's special appreciation was awarded to Ms. K.M. Somawathie, and Ms. G.D.C.M. Nimalasooriya for their invaluable services.



University Events

Loops Digital

The University Business Linkage Cell of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka has entered into an MoU with Loops Digital Pvt. Ltd to commercialize the innovation entitled “A Meat Substitute Food Product”. The MoU was signed on 07 January 2021 at the university. This new product was invented by a research team of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Chanting Pirith

A pirith ceremony organized by the Maintenance Branch of the university was held on 01 February 2021 to invoke blessings upon the university.



Book Launching

A book launching ceremony organized by the university in parallel with celebrating the 25th Anniversary of SUSL was held on 02 February 2021 at the university premises.



University Events

A New Partnership

The University Business Linkage Cell of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka is passing a new milestone with its effort in exposing the university inventions to the external business stakeholders to build a network in an increasingly interconnected business world. In line with UBLC's continuous advancement as the linking partner of the university researchers with the industry, the university signed a licensing agreement with Food & Nature Pvt. Ltd to commercialize a "herbal low glycemic tea formulation".



The official ceremony of the event was held on 15 February 2021 with the participation of Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor; Prof. D.A.I. Dayaratne, Director - University Business Linkage Cell; Managing Director and Deputy General Manager of Food & Nature Pvt. Ltd; and the research team of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

Cooperate with Canada

The Canadian High Commissioner visited Sabaragamuwa University on 16 February 2021.



Best Annual Report

The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was awarded the "Best Annual Reports and Accounts Awards for Public Sector 2018" from the university category. This event was organized by the Association of Public Finance Accountants of Sri Lanka (APFASL), the Public Sector Wing of CA Sri Lanka on 22 February 2021.



University Events

Corporation with Hayleys

The University Business Linkage Cell, SUSL entered into another MoU with Hayleys Agro Farms Pvt. Ltd on 24 February 2021 at the University premises to establish mutually beneficial links through the research project with the aim of studying and identifying the opportunities of value addition of Potato grown in Sri Lanka.



The project will continue under the guidance and supervision of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and the Faculty of Applied sciences while Hayleys intends to support in the financial aspect to get a fruitful result from this research project. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, Vice-Chancellor; Prof. D.A.I. Dayaratne, Director - University Business Linkage Cell; Dr. Pushpa Malkanthi, Senior

Lecturer; and Mr. Siriweera Gamage, Director - Hayleys Agriculture Holdings Ltd. shared their views at this gathering.

MoU with Subash Gems



The University Business Linkage Cell signed an MoU with Subash Gems on 03 March 2021 to establish a business relationship through the research project entitled “Value addition and commercialization of low gem-quality corundum in Sri Lanka using innovative heat treatment technology based on physicochemical analysis”. The objective of this project is to commercialize the treated gems in the local and international market while establishing optimized heat treatment conditions for the value addition of Geuda varieties that were not properly examined in the past.

Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor; Prof. D.A.I. Dayaratne, Director - University Business Linkage Cell; Dr. Rasangi Sabaragamuwa, the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences; Mr. Subash Karunaratne, Chairman - Subash Gems; Mr. J. Kumara, Director - SSK Holdings (Pvt) Ltd; and Mr. S. Abeymanna, Chairman - Tradebay International (Pvt) Ltd were the key participants of this event.



Workshops from CQA

A series of workshops organized by the Centre for Quality Assurance, SUSL was held on 04 March, 06 March, and 08 March 2021 at the university premises. The first workshop was conducted by Mr. S.D.N.U. Senadheera, Senior Consultant, Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) targeting the administrative staff of the university while the second workshop was conducted by Dr. Vajira Dharmawardene, Consultant Psychiatrist, Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura on the topic: “University Mental Health and Role of Student Counsellors, SUSL”.



University Events

The workshop aimed at the audience consisted of student counselors and wardens in addition to the specially nominated academics by the university. The third workshop on “Quality Assurance in Postgraduate Studies” was conducted by Prof. N.W.B. Balasooriya, Department of Geology, University of Peradeniya. Postgraduate Students (by research) of the Faculty of Graduate Studies were the participants of this workshop.



Intellectual Property Rights

A workshop on “Intellectual Property Protection and Management” conducted by Prof. D.A.I. Dayaratne was held in the Staff Development Center on 23 April 2021. The workshop was organized by the Staff Development Center in collaboration with the University Business Linkage Cell with a view of enhancing the knowledge of the university academic staff members on the options available to manage intellectual properties.



Collaborating with Cap Organic

In line with UBLC's continuous advancement as the linking partner of the university researchers with the industry, UBLC has officially entered into a licensing agreement with Cap Organic Pvt. Ltd., a leading manufacturer of a sustainable 'end to end' value proposition for the development and production of Agri based organic products. The official ceremony of the partnership was held on 27 April 2021 at the board room of the Vice-Chancellor's Office. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor; Prof. D.A.I. Dayaratne, Director - University Business Linkage Cell; Mr. Ranjan T. Hanchapola, Managing Director of the CAP Organic Pvt. Ltd and his team; Dr. Rasangi S Sabaragamuwa, the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences; Dr. Namal Perera, Project Coordinator of the AHEAD Grant RIC No. 18 and his research team participated in the event.



University Events

Web Launching ICSUSL

On 21 May 2021, the website of the “8th International Conference of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (ICSUSL 2021)” was launched at a ceremony held at the Vice-Chancellor's office with the presence of Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor. This gathering was limited to 10 physical participants representing the conference organizing committee concerning the current COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the University community, including the academic, administrative, and non-academic staff members and students joined the ceremony through a live Zoom event.



Nature Conservancy

A “tree-planting campaign” organized by the university was held on 07 June 2021 at the main premises of the university.



Faculty of Graduate Studies

A New Journal

A journal launching ceremony of the Faculty of Graduate Studies was held on 24 February 2021.



Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Opening a New Laboratory

Development of novel beverage types with Ceylon Cinnamon, “Cinnamomum Zylanicum” project (AHEAD-/RIC NO: 16) is a competitive grant won by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. This World Bank funded project is conducted by a team including Prof. D.A.M. De Silva (Coordinator), Dr. R.K.C. Jeewanthi (Co-Coordinator), Tharaka Weddagala, Janaranjana Ekanayake, and a few other members.



One of the key concerns of the project is to establish a fully equipped laboratory which caters to the needs of the academics, researchers, students, farmers, and small and medium enterprises. The official opening ceremony took place on 19 January 2021 at the Mungasthenna premises of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL graced the event as the Chief Guest. Prof. Sumith P. Magamage, the Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, and the academic staff of the Department of Agribusiness Management were the witnesses of the event.

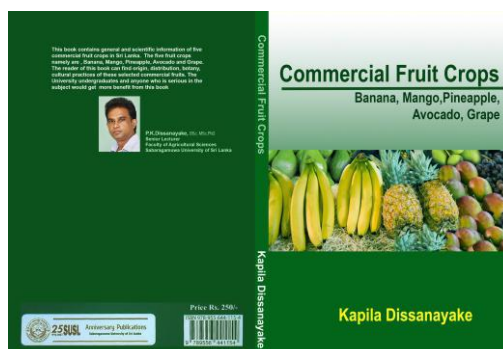
Strengthening Faculty Resources

A new tractor was received by the Faculty on 27 January 2021 under the AHEAD Faculty DP grant. Prof. Sumith P. Magamage, the Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences; Prof. D.A.M. De Silva, AHEAD Faculty DP team leader; and some other faculty staff members participated in the event organized for undertaking the tractor to the faculty. Strengthening the Agriculture teaching, providing training for students, transportation, and land preparation activities of the faculty farm will be assisted with this project achievement.



A Book Launching

A new book entitled “Commercial Fruit Crops - Banana, Mango, Pineapple, Avocado, Grape” was published by Prof. P. Kapila Dissanayake, Department of Export Agriculture. The book contains general and scientific information of five commercial fruit crops in Sri Lanka. This book was launched with parallel to the official ceremony organized for celebrating the 25th anniversary of SUSL.



Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Livestock Production and Processing Workshop



A training programme on “livestock production and processing activities” was organized by the Livestock Extension and Research Centre (LERC) of the Department of Livestock Production for the Advanced Level students from Ratnapura, Pelmadulla, Kalawana, Eheliyagoda and Balangoda areas. The event took place on 11 March 2021 at the Mungastenna Farm premises.

Prof. T.S.P. Jayaweera, Mr. D.D.N. Madushanka, Mr. C. Randika, Mr. M. Naveenan, Ms. M. Hasintha, Ms. C. Nadeeshani, Mr. I. Maduranga, and Mr. R. Perera from the Department of Livestock Production contributed as the resource persons of the workshop. The second year undergraduates of the faculty also assisted to conduct the training programme. The event was financially supported by the DP grant of the AHEAD project of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences.



Mobile Laboratory

An induction programme organized for introducing a mobile laboratory to the faculty was held on 08 April 2021. The faculty members including Prof. Sumith P. Magamage, the Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Prof. D.A.M. De Silva, AHEAD Faculty DP team leader participated in the event. This AHEAD project intends to be used for strengthening the Agriculture extension activities in addition to the training purposes of students.



AgInsight 2022: Website Launch



The official website of the “04th International Conference of Agricultural Sciences”, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (AgInsight 2022), was launched on 08 June 2021 by Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL at the Board Room of the Vice Chancellor's Office. Prof. Sumith P. Magamage, the Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and the members of the conference organizing committee graced this event.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

Erasmus Plus EU-SPIRIT Project

A consortium of 12 universities which is led by the European Commission to enhance the research in Sports Education in Sri Lanka, India, and Indonesia was initiated under the Erasmus plus (+) project. SUSL was partnering with the University of Peradeniya in this project to create a modular program for Sri Lanka in sports, physical education, and health sciences that contribute to the increase the recognition of the fundamental value of sports and physical activities for individuals and society. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the project was signed by Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL on behalf of the university on 01 February 2021.



ICARC 2021



"International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing (ICARC)", organized by the Department of Computing and Information Systems with the theme "Towards a Digitally Empowered Society" was held on 23 and 24 February 2021 at the faculty premises. The ICARC 2021 was an open forum for academics, students as well as industry professionals, to present the latest issues and developments in computing research.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

FoodTech Insights



The biannual magazine, "FoodTech Insights" was launched by the Sabaragamuwa University Food Science & Technology Association in February 2021. The Department of Food Science and Technology started this magazine with a view to providing an experience for students in preparing articles for a professional magazine. This initiative also aimed to stimulate undergraduates' critical and analytical thinking skills while improving their technical writing skills.

Enhancing Sports Facilities



The final year undergraduates of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education assisted Narada Vidyalaya, Parakaduwa, to establish new athletic facilities while refurbishing the existing sports facilities of the school. The event took place on 15 March 2021 under the direction of Mrs. L.R.N.D. Weeraratna, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education.

Renovating a School Library



Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education organized a programme to renovate the library of the Haloya Kanitu Vidyalaya, Hindagala along with a quiz competition for the school students. This programme was held on 19 March 2021 at the school premises with participation of the students, teachers, parents, and the organizing committee.

CAL-FIT PARK



"Calisthenics Park" is an outdoor gym built in an open space to promote structured outdoor physical fitness activities among the fitness enthusiasts. This project basically aims to provide an exciting and vibrant outdoor physical activity training experience for the university community. This offers massive benefits such as enhancing the physical, mental and social wellbeing with a view of promoting the quality of life. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL declared the opening of CAL-FIT PARK on 25 March 2021.



Dr. R.S. Sabaragamuwa, the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Mrs. T.S.H. Perera, the Head, Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education graced the opening ceremony. The organizing committee of the project included 22 final year students of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education under the supervision of Mr. D.S.L. Perera, Lecturer (prob.), Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

Community Service Project

A community service project organized by the undergraduates of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education was held in March 2021, for renovating school facilities at B/Kosgama Vidyalaya. Mrs. S.J.M.M.J. Samarakoon, Instructor in Physical Education, Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education guided this event.



FoodTechthon '21



The team who represented SUSL won the first runner-up place at the “FoodTechthon '21” competition, organized by the Society of Food Science & Technology, University of Peradeniya. To discover new possibilities in food science technology was the major objective of the event that lasted until 07 August 2021 from 30 April 2021. Mr. T. Batagoda, Miss. K. Alwis, Miss.D. Prasangika, Miss. A. Dhanasekara, and Miss. D. Wikramage were in the team on behalf of SUSL.



Gemmological Research Laboratory

The Opening Ceremony of the New Gemmological Research Laboratory of the Faculty of Applied Sciences took place on 05 April 2021 at the Faculty premises.



Faculty of Geomatics

Mi-Oya Flood Plain Survey

This project was completed in May 2021. “Mi-Oya project” was awarded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) of Sri Lanka and funded by the Climate Resilience Integrated Water Management Project (CRIWMP) of the World Bank. The aim of this consultancy project was to conduct surveys to gather cross sectional data of Mi-Oya and its flood plain.



The flood plain feature surveys, tank bed surveys, and river estuary surveys were conducted in order to develop a flood simulation model and early warning system. Dr. M.D.E.K. Gunathilaka, Mr. A.N.D. Perera, and Dr. P.G.R.N.I. Pussella were among the members of the project team to represent the Faculty of Geomatics.

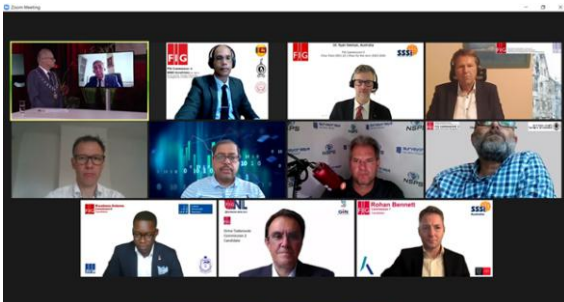
World Hydrography Day 2021



In parallel with the world hydrography day celebration 2021, an “online hydrographic seminar” was organized by the Faculty of Geomatics collaborating with the National

Hydrographic Office (NHO) of Sri Lanka. The programme was held on 21 June 2021 via online to maintain the social distancing due to the pandemic situation of the country. Several speeches were made by the faculty staff and industry experts supporting the theme: “100 Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography”.

Chair of FIG Commission 4



During the International Federation of Surveyors General Assembly 2021, Dr. M.D.E.K. Gunathilaka, Senior Lecturer, Department of Surveying & Geodesy was elected as the Chair for the Commission 4 (on hydrography) for the term 2023-2026. Dr. Gunathilaka already holds the position “Chair-elect” for the Commission 4 from 2021 to 2022. FIG is the largest global association representing the profession of surveying which was founded in 1878. It is also a United Nations recognized non-governmental organization consisted of national member associations; mapping agencies and ministries; universities and corporates from over 120 countries.

A Hydrographic Survey

The faculty undertook a consultancy project in assessing the feasibility of laying underground power cables across the Kelani River by Ceylon Electricity Board. The project team comprised Mr. A.N.D. Perera and Dr. M.D.E.K. Gunathilaka from the Department of Surveying & Geodesy. The team conducted a detailed sub-bottom profile survey across the river in order to investigate the possible depths to lay the power cables safely.



Further, a side scan sonar survey was also conducted to investigate the entire river bed area. This revealed the strength of the Faculty of Geomatics in addressing the current industry requirements in the hydrographic sector.

Faculty of Management Studies

Training on English Medium Teaching

A 14-day training programme on “Professional Training on English Medium Teaching” was held from 15 December 2020 to 07 January 2021 for 21 academic staff members of the Faculty of Management Studies. This online training programme was conducted by the Australian College of Business and Technology (ACBT) with the financial assistance of the World Bank through the Ministry of Education.



Enhancing the subject knowledge of undergraduates in English while improving skills in English medium teaching leading to the development of the quality in English medium degree programmes of the faculty was one of the major objectives of the training programme. In addition, obtaining professional training on Teaching Knowledge Test (TKT) and professional qualification of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) were among the other important objectives.



Level UP Unleash Your Potential

A series of virtual sessions followed by a mentoring programme organized by the Department of Business Management partnered with Airtel Lanka was held from 07 January to 01 April 2021 via Zoom virtual platform. The mentoring programme for 22 students supported by 11 corporate mentors aimed to prepare young graduates to take on challenges of the corporate world.

Chairing Evaluation Panels

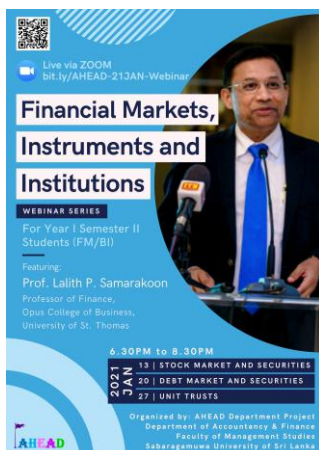


Mrs. K.L.B.G. Dharmaratne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Management served as the chairperson of the evaluation panel which was appointed for selecting the Sabaragamuwa province best entrepreneur of the year 2020. The Sabaragamuwa Chamber of Commerce and Industry together with the National Entrepreneurship Development Authority (NEDA); and the State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation organized this event and held on 09 January 2021 at the Grand Guardian Hotel, Kuruvita.

Faculty of Management Studies

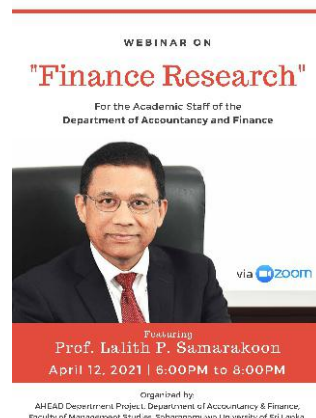
Webinar for Finance

Prof. Lalith P. Samarakoon, Opus College of Business, University of St. Thomas conducted a three-day webinar on "Financial Markets, Instruments and Institutions" on 13, 20, and 27 January 2021 for the Year I Semester II students of the department.



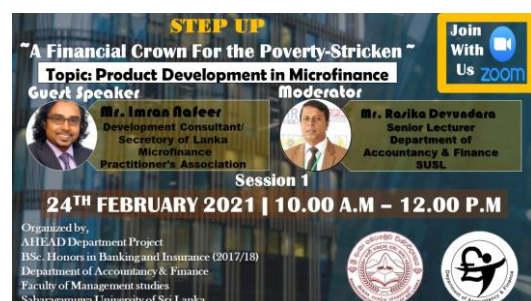
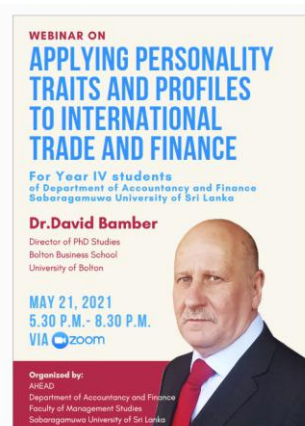
Mr. Sarath Rajapaksha, Director, Capital Trust Property Solutions (Pvt) Ltd. conducted a webinar entitled "Investment & Portfolio Management" on 07 April 2021.

Another webinar on "Finance Research" was organized under the AHEAD project of the Department of Accountancy & Finance. The webinar was conducted by Prof. Lalith P. Samarakoon on 12 April 2021. The academic staff of the department was the target group of this webinar.



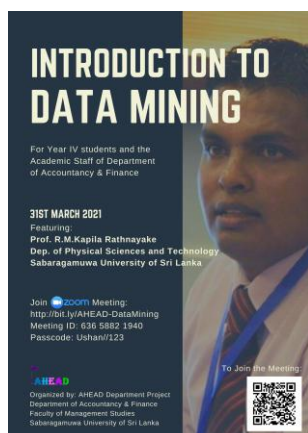
Meanwhile, a two-day webinar on "Financial Derivatives" was conducted by Mr. Maurya Padmasanka, Fund Manager, Comtrust Asset Management on 10 and 11 May 2021.

A webinar on "Applying Personality Traits and Profiles to International Trade and Finance" was conducted by Dr. David Bamber, Director of PhD Studies, Bolton Business School, University of Bolton on 21 May 2021.



Mr. Imran Nafeer, Secretary of Lanka Microfinance conducted an online lecture on "Product Development in Microfinance" on 24 February 2021.

Prof. R.M.K. Rathnayake, Department of Physical Sciences and Technology conducted a webinar on "Data Mining" on 31 March 2021 for the undergraduates and the staff of the Department of Accountancy & Finance.



A webinar on "Mentoring for Career Success" was conducted by Ms. Gayani De Alwis, Founding Chairperson WiLAT on 02 July 2021.



Another webinar organized by the Department of Accountancy & Finance under the departmental AHEAD project was held on 12 June 2021. The webinar was conducted by Mr. Thilan Perera, Head of Human Resources, Midas Safety Sri Lanka.

General Convocation



The 22nd General Convocation of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 02 March 2021 at the Prof. J.W. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium, SUSL. The Chancellor Prof. Ven Kamburugamuwe Vajira Nayaka Thero preceded the ceremony. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, distinguished invitees, deans, heads of the departments, members of the academic and administrative staff, and graduants participated in this event. Prof. Jayantha Lal Ratnasekera, Vice-Chancellor, Uva Wellassa University graced the occasion as the chief guest of the 22nd General Convocation.

Faculty of Management Studies

Graffiti



Dominic Chandrasali, a renowned spray gun artist in Sri Lanka made graffiti on 17 January 2021 at the faculty premises for the first time in the history of universities in Sri Lanka. This event was further supported by a zoom seminar entitled “The First Graffiti Design in the History of Sri Lankan University”. The seminar was organized by the Department of Tourism Management and held on 26 January 2021 to make the university community sensitive towards society by art.



English for Academic Writing

A two-day online workshop on “English for Academic Purposes” was held on 25 and 26 January 2021 to familiarize the students with academic writing. The third year students of the Department of Tourism Management were the target group of this event.



South Asian Journal of Tourism and Hospitality



The Faculty of Management Studies takes pride in launching its first-ever journal on Tourism and Hospitality on 26 January 2021. The journal entitled “South Asian Journal of Tourism and Hospitality” (SAJTH) is an open access, peer-reviewed, bi-annual journal which is planned to release its issues in January and July.

The ceremonial launch was held at the auditorium of the Staff Development Center, SUSL where Prof. Jayantha Lal Ratnasekera, Chairman - CVCD (Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors Sri Lanka); Vice Chancellor, Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka attended as the chief guests. The deans of the faculties, administrative officers, heads of the departments of the Faculty of Management Studies, academic and non-academic staff of SUSL participated in the event.



Faculty of Management Studies

Management Digest

The ceremonial launching of the maiden magazine of the faculty was held on 03 February 2021 at the auditorium of the Staff Development Center of the university. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL attended as the chief guest of the event while Prof. Nalin Abeysekara, the Head of the Department of Marketing, Open University of Sri Lanka and Mr. Roshan Fernando, the President, Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing attended as the keynote speakers. The magazine was launched in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the university.



AJMS Launching



Asian Journal of Management Studies, the official journal of the Faculty of Management Studies was launched on 24 February 2021. The articles published in the journal basically focus on contemporary issues in management while providing relevant implications to the practitioners, policymakers, and the general public.

Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL participated as the chief guest of the



event while Mr. Manil Jayasinghe, President, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka; Prof. Saman K. Herath, Dean, Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture, Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka; Prof. Athula Gnanapala, the Dean, Faculty of Management Studies; and Prof. M.S.M. Aslam, Editor in Chief of AJMS participated as the other distinguished guests. An MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka and SUSL was also signed to offer a gold medal to the best student of the Finance degree programme and for collaborative research.

Webinar on Energy Economy

A webinar entitled “Role of Wind Energy in Greening the Energy Economy”, organized by the Department of Tourism Management was held on 02 March 2021 via Zoom platform. The event was conducted by Mr. Chamal Indrajith, GWO Basic Safety Trainer (Wind & Energy), Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy Ltd.



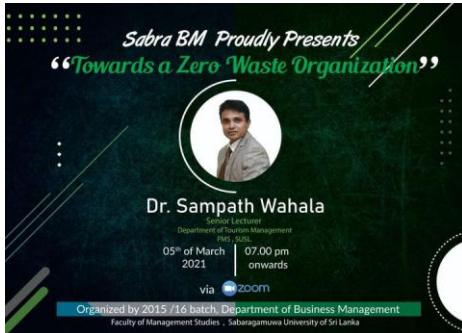
conference provided an opportunity for local and international researchers and academics to disseminate their research findings. In addition, to proceed with an international collaboration for uplifting the researchers' skills in the region.

IECBM

The first international e conference on “Advances in Business and Management”, organized by Shaheed Bhagat Singh College of the University of Delhi in association with the Faculty of Management Studies (SUSL), Emerald Publishing, and the University of Tehran was held on 04 and 06 March 2021. This

Faculty of Management Studies

Waste Management



A webinar on "Towards a zero waste organization" organized by the final year Business Management students for the subject: Contemporary Issues in Management was held on 05 March 2021. The event conducted by Dr. Sampath Wahala, Senior Lecturer, Department of Tourism Management, SUSL with a view to familiarize the undergraduates about the industry practices on reducing the environmental impact of waste management to become a zero waste organization. Also, to make them aware of how they can contribute to that as they are getting ready to step into the world of work.

Residential English Camp



A five-day residential English Camp for the second-year undergraduates of the Department of Accountancy & Finance was conducted from 09 to 13 March 2021 at the University premises with the assistance of the AHEAD Grants. Five English camp resource persons made the experience remarkable by conducting a variety of sessions throughout the days.

Environment and Coal Power

Mr. Chinthaka Dissanayaka, Civil Engineer, Ceylon Electricity Board, conducted a webinar on "Coal Power Generation & Best Practices to Mitigate Negative Environmental Impacts" on 18 March 2021 for the undergraduates at the Department of Tourism Management.



Curriculum Development



A curriculum development workshop was organized by the Faculty of Management Studies was held from 22 to 26 March 2021 at the faculty premises.

Personality and Professional Development



A workshop on "Personality and Professional Development" was held on 07 and 08 April 2021 at the Faculty of Management Studies. This workshop aimed to enhance the personality and professional skills of the students while training the academic staff to carry out the activities given in the drafted manual of personality and professional development. This workshop was conducted by Mr. Azmy Saly, HR Consultant from Fairfirst Insurance Ltd.

Faculty of Management Studies

A New Center

The foundation stone laying ceremony for the “Center for Idea Generation, Business Incubation & Socio-Emotional Development” of the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 08 April 2021 at the faculty premises. This project is funded by AHEAD in cooperating with the World Bank through the Ministry of Education.



EAP Programme for Students

An online workshop on “English for Academic Purposes (EAP)” for the Year II - Semester II students was held from 22 April to 30 May 2021. Familiarizing students with the basics of EAP, improving knowledge on basic essay structure, improving skills on effective writing techniques and academic vocabulary, and employing citation practices while avoiding plagiarism were the major objectives of the workshop. The faculty members who followed the ACBT CLIL programme conducted the workshop.

Curriculum Revision and Development



The Curriculum Revision and Development of the Faculty of Management Studies was successfully completed for the period 2021-2025. Internalization of the latest developments to the curriculum of the existing degree programmes by consulting all the stakeholders was one of the major aims of this process.

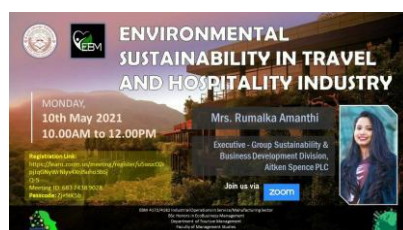


Filling the vacuum of the By-laws of each degree programme and developing policy documents for the faculty, accommodating the current recommendations of the Sri Lanka Quality Framework, strengthening outcome-based education and learner-centered teaching in the individual courses of each degree programme, and making required changes to industrial training components by identifying the needs of the graduate profiles were among the critical objectives of the programme. The process was initiated in May 2018 and concluded in April 2021.

EcoBusiness Management

A webinar on “Role of Sustainable Recycling Towards the Circular Economy of Sri Lanka”, organized by the Department of Tourism Management was held on 04 May 2021. This event was conducted by Mr. Pasindu Liyanage, an executive officer at Eco Spindles (Pvt.) Ltd.

Environmental Sustainability



Another webinar organized by the Department of Tourism Management on “Environmental Sustainability in Travel and Hospitality Industry” was conducted by Mrs. Rumalka Amanthi, Executive-Group Sustainability & Business Development Division, Aitken Spence PLC. The webinar was held on 10 May 2021.

Faculty of Medicine

Tree Planting Campaign



A “tree planting campaign” to celebrate the second anniversary of the Faculty of Medicine was held on 26 January 2021 at the faculty premises, Ratnapura. This event was organized by the Nature Society, Faculty of Medicine with a view of creating a beautiful and attractive environment in the surrounding area of the premises.

Curriculum Development

The inaugural meeting of the “Curriculum Development Committee” took place online on 04 February 2021. This initial meeting was intended to gather the responsible personnel to scrutinize, evaluate and finalize the curriculum of the upcoming academic programme of the Faculty of Medicine. The dean of the faculty, senior professors, subject experts, and the members of the curriculum development committee were the participants of the event.

Clinical Appointments

The clinical appointments for the first batch (2017/2018 group) of the Faculty of Medicine commenced on 02 March 2021 at the Teaching hospital, Ratnapura.

New Intake

The inauguration ceremony to welcome the new students for the academic year 2019/2020 was held at the faculty auditorium on 08 March 2021. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL addressed the students online and congratulated and welcomed them to the Faculty of Medicine. His inspiring speech was followed by the address of the dean of the faculty, Prof. Nirmali Wickramaratne. In her welcome address, she stressed the importance of adhering to the values and ethics of the institution and maintaining professional standards at all times during their stay in the faculty.



Geethayaka Arutha

The second batch of the faculty organized “Geethayaka Arutha” musical programme on 04 April 2021 to provide emotional relief for the students of the first and third batches during their quarantine period. Mr. Nishantha Sandabarana, Attorney at law, Chairmen-Lanka salt, contributed as the resource person of the programme.



Faculty of Medicine

Seth Pirith Programme

The Religious Society, Faculty of Medicine, SUSL organized a “Seth Pirith Programme” on 05 April 2021. Dr. Nilantha Gamlathge, the Senior Treasurer of the Religious Society steered the organizing of the event on behalf of the faculty. Wishing a speedy recovery for the people who were infected by the COVID-19 virus was the primary objective of the event. Ven.Uduhawara Indrasiri Thero conducted the Pirith programme.

Kavyamaya Dharmadeshana



A religious programme entitled “Kavyamaya Dharmadeshana”, organized by the Religious Society, Faculty of Medicine, SUSL under the guidance of Dr. Nilantha Gamlathge, Senior Treasurer of the Religious Society was held online on 28 May 2021. This event aimed to celebrate the Vesak festival and to improve the spiritual well-being of the university community. Ven. Siyabalagoda Nidharsha Sudhammadeepani Thero conducted the programme.

Online Poster Presentation



An “E-poster presentation (Human Genetics and Cellular Functions)” organized by the Department of Anatomy was held on 31 May 2021 to enhance the knowledge of students on the aspects of the genetics of the cellular division and chromosomal abnormalities.

Poson Bethi Gee

A “Dharma Deshana” programme and a “Poson Bethi Gee” presentation organized by the Religious Society, Faculty of Medicine was held on 25 June 2021 at Kossinna Yatawatta Purana Rajamaha Viharaya, Gampaha. Cultivating attitudes and building harmony among the students who were stuck at home due to the pandemic situation was the aim of the event. Ven. Thorapitiye Ananda Thero conducted this religious event.



Celebrating the World Ocean Day



A webinar on “World Ocean Day 2021” organized by the Nature Society of the Faculty of Medicine was held on 10 June 2021 to educate the students on the importance of protecting the ocean while revealing many hidden facts about the marine ecosystem. Dr. K. Arunlanathan, Head, National Institute of Oceanography & Marine Sciences, National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency conducted the webinar on the theme of “Ocean Dynamics and Biodiversity”.



Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages

CV Writing



An online workshop on “CV Writing” organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics was held on 10 January 2021 for preparing students for the world of work in both public and private sectors, by improving their skills of CV writing. Ms. Dilshi Vishara Liyanapathirana, Lecturer, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka participated as the resource person of the workshop.

Preparing Students for GCE (O/L)



A seminar series for the G.C.E. Ordinary Level (2020) students was held on 16, 17, 23, and 24 January 2021 covering the subjects: Science, Mathematics, Business Studies and Accounting, IT, and the English language. This online workshop was organized by the Student Circle of Economics and Statistics under the direction of Mr. W.A Senathissa and Mr. V.P.G Priyankara from the Department of Economics and Statistics.

This programme allowed the undergraduates of the department to improve their knowledge and skills on preparing reading materials and model papers for the G.C.E.(O/L) examination while enabling them to improve their presentation skills, group spirit, and problem-solving skills.

Business Communication Skills



A workshop entitled, “Improving Business Communication Skills in English”, organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics was held on 14, 15, 21, and 22 January 2021 to develop positive attitudes towards using the English language among the undergraduates of the faculty. Improving the students' skills of business communication was identified as a major requirement of their soft skills for preparing them for the world of work in both public and private sectors. Mr. Shehan Kumar, Senior Manager, Employer Branding Engagement from Pearson Lanka participated as the resource person of the workshop.

Talk with Alumni



The Alumni Association of the Department of Economics and Statistics conducted a discussion series on “Our success stories - a chat with alumni member” to motivate and allow undergraduates to learn from the experiences of the successful alumni members. Mr. Dimuthu Muthukuda, Executive Officer, Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC. delivered the first talk of the series on 20 March 2021 while sharing his career experiences as a successful graduate of the Department of Economics and Statistics.



The second talk of the series was delivered by Ms. Sureni Weerathunga, Research Analyst, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington D.C. USA on 23 May 2021 while Mr. Shamith Dayarathne, Branch Manager, Bank of Ceylon, Thaldudwa Branch contributed as the resource person of the third talk held on 20 June 2021.



Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages

Be an Export Entrepreneur



A workshop on “How to be an export entrepreneur” organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics was held online on 03 April 2021. Disseminating knowledge and improving awareness in export procedures of Sri Lanka and showing the pathway to the undergraduates to become winners in the Sri Lankan export market in the future were the main objectives of the workshop. Ms. H.R.N.R. Habaragamuwa, Research Assistant and Visiting Lecturer, Department of Economics and Statistics contributed as the resource person of the workshop.

Secure Investing

Mr. Rohan Fernando, Consultant Director, CT CLSA Securities (Pvt.) Ltd. conducted an online workshop on “How to Invest in Share Market” to provide sufficient knowledge on secured ways of investing in the share market. The event was organized by the Student Circle of Economics, Statistics and ICT of the Department of Economics and Statistics targeting all the undergraduates of the university. This workshop was held on 10 April 2021.



Student Counseling

The academic staff of the faculty participated in a workshop on “Student Counseling”. Giving the staff members a clear idea about counseling was the aim of the workshop. Providing adequate knowledge on psychological issues, mental health problems, and the reasons for students to develop these issues were the specific areas focused on by the event. In addition, providing theoretical and practical knowledge on managing the aforementioned issues and helping students to achieve their educational goals were discussed in the workshop. Mr. Bimal Rajakaruna, as an experienced and renowned counselor, conducted the event on 21 April 2021 at the Academy of Adventure (AOA), Kumbalgama, Belihuoya.



Social Media and Career

An online workshop on “How to use social media to advance your career” organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics was held on 01 May 2021. Expanding knowledge and improving awareness of the role of social media in career development was one of the main objectives of the workshop. Mr. Punsiri Abeywikrama, Chief Executive Officer, iLabs, participated as the resource person of this event.



Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages

Preparing Survey Data



Ms. S.T.C. Gaveshika, the Deputy Director, Department of Census and Statistics conducted an online workshop on “Cleaning and Imputation of Survey Data” for the undergraduates of the Department of Economics and Statistics. Improving the knowledge on handling survey data was the primary objective of the workshop while giving an especial emphasis on areas like data cleaning, and imputation. The event organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics took place on 06 June 2021.

Industrial Week

“Industrial Week 2021 - Undergraduates' Journey to the World of Work” was held online from 07 to 11 June 2021 for the second, third, and fourth year students of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. Providing the students with a real-world industry experience, improving understanding of the requirements of the current industry and developing essential skills in demand in the industry, obtaining input to align the academic output with the requirements of the industry, and changing the mindset of the students to get adopted to the world of work in both public and private sectors were among the primary objectives of this programme.



Dr. Upul Lekamge and Mr. Ravindu Sachintha from the Department of Social Sciences organized the event under the support of the AHEAD project. A number of well-known personalities with professional qualifications and many years of experience contributed to the programme.

Silver Portal

The Student Circle of Economics, Statistics & ICT of the Department of Economics and Statistics initiated a skills development and knowledge enhancement programme entitled “Silver Portal” to develop a positive and healthy relationship among the undergraduates of the department. Episode 1 of this programme with the theme “Let's connect with LinkedIn” was held on 19 June 2021 via Zoom with a view of improving awareness of the latest technologies and enhancing the soft skills of the undergraduates.



Faculty of Technology

First Earth Sod

A ceremony organized for cutting the first earth sod for the construction of the new faculty complex of the Faculty of Technology was held on 20 January 2021 at the construction site located close to the Faculty of Applied Sciences. Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, the dean and the staff of the Faculty of Technology took part in this event.



Foundation Stone



Laying the foundation stone for the new faculty complex of the Faculty of Technology was ceremoniously laid on 27 January 2021 at the university premises, Belihuloya with the participation of Senior Prof. Kapila Perera, Secretary to the Ministry of Education; Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunga, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Ratnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL; former vice-chancellors of SUSL; and the deans of the faculties. This special occasion was also graced by other staff of the university in addition to the officials from the Asian Development Bank; the deans representing the universities: Kelaniya, Rajarata, and Sri Jayawardanapura; and the Council members of SUSL.

Staff Achievements

Prof. Asha S. Karunaratne received a “Fulbright Visiting Scholarship” at the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at the University of Florida, the USA for three months.

Dr. H.U.S. Pradeep, Lecturer at the Department of Social Sciences completed his Ph.D. in International Politics at the Central China Normal University (CCNU), PR China.

Student Achievements

Best Athletes

The “Best sportsman/woman” of the University for making the university proud with their tremendous strength and efforts were awarded at the University Day on 02 February 2021. Mr. R.D.D. Ranathunga and Ms. A.P.M. Subhani Kaushalya Abeyrathan received awards for the Best sportsman and Best sportswoman respectively.

Best Speaker

Ms. Dunya Jayasekara, a third year undergraduate of the Faculty of Medicine received the “best speaker award” in the “Prof. Senaka Bibile memorial debate” organized by the 'Students involved in rational health activities Organization' (SIRHA) on 13 February 2021 at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. The debate took place between the medical students representing the eight state medical faculties of Sri Lanka.



New Appointments

Mr. P.G.V. Abeyratne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Surveying and Geodesy, has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Geomatics with effect from 26 March 2021.



Dr. R.M.K.G.S.P.B. Koswatte has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Remote Sensing & GIS.



Dr. H. Divithura has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Surveying and Geodesy.



Dr. G.U. Ramadasa has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine.



Dr. R.M.M.K. Namal Rathnayaka has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine.



Dr. K.M.G.M.K.K. Kulathunga has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine.



Dr. R.J.M. Uduporuwa has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages.



Dr. H.A.M.A. Hapugoda has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages.



New Appointments

Dr. Jayantha N. Dewasiri, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy and Finance, has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador-South Asia of Emerald Publishing, UK.



Prof. Saroj Jayasinghe has been appointed as a Consultant at the Faculty of Medicine.



Mr. I.D.K. Fernando has been appointed as a Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. II at the Main Library.



Mrs. M.R.M.A. Jayasinghe has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education, Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Mr. D.S.L. Perera has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education, Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Ms. J.D. Thilagam has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Biosystems Technology, Faculty of Technology.



Mr. E.P.R.H.H.W. Nilmalgoda has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Biosystems Technology, Faculty of Technology.



Mr. H.V.V. Priyadarshana has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Engineering Technology, Faculty of Technology.



Mr. W.H.H.A. Kariyawasam has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Engineering Technology, Faculty of Technology.



Mr. S.V.A.A. Indupama has been appointed as a Lecturer (Prob.) at the Department of Engineering Technology, Faculty of Technology.



Promotions

Dr. A.W. Wijeratne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agribusiness Management, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 08 August 2020.



Dr. P.K. Dissanayake, Senior Lecturer, Department of Export Agriculture, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 03 September 2020.



Dr. H.S.R. Rosairo, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agribusiness Management, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 15 September 2020.



Dr. R.K. Mutucumarana, Senior Lecturer, Department of Livestock Production, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 20 October 2020.



Promotions

Dr. T.S.P. Jayaweera, Senior Lecturer, Department of Livestock Production, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 08 December 2020.



Dr. S.H.P. Malkanthi, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agribusiness Management, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 22 December 2020.



Dr. R.M.K.T. Rathnayake, Senior Lecturer, Department of Physical Sciences and Technology, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 04 September 2020.



Dr. B.T.G.S. Kumara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computing and Information Systems, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 03 November 2020.



Dr. D.G. Dharmarathne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy and Finance, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. Jayantha N. Dewasiri, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy and Finance, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Dr. W.M. Ariyaratne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Languages, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 13 July 2020.



Dr. K.R. Koswattage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Engineering Technology, was promoted to the post of Professor with effect from 06 January 2021.



Mrs. K.M. Somawathie, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, Department of Food Science and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Gr. I with effect from 01 January 2019.



Mr. A.L.C.J. Liyanage, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, Department of Food Science and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Gr. I with effect from 01 March 2019.



Dr. L.V. Ranaweera, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Gr. I with effect from 01 November 2019.



Dr. U.P. Lekamge, Lecturer (Unconfirmed), Department of Social Sciences, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Gr II with effect from 05 March 2021.



Ms. A.H. Lareena, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Languages, was promoted to the post of Lecturer with effect from 02 January 2021.



Ms. S.P.S.P. Weerasinghe, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Languages, was promoted to the post of Lecturer with effect from 30 June 2021.



Advisory Board

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Prof. M.L.M.C. Dissanayake
Director,
Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD).

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, Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD)

Email: newsletter@crkd.sab.ac.lk

Tel- 045 2280013 |Fax- 045 2280013

The 8th International Conference of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (ICSUSL 2021), organized by the Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD) will be held from 01 to 03 December 2021 in hybrid mode: online and on-site at the university premises. The ICSUSL is a multidisciplinary conference with the theme of "Bridging knowledge and experience to combat global challenges", aiming to provide a platform for researchers in different disciplines, students, and industrialists to share knowledge and experiences while promoting future collaborations. The event of this time will also be incorporated with the 02nd China-Sri Lanka Communication and Cooperation Forum.



ICSUSL 2021
01ST - 03RD DECEMBER 2021
BELIHULOYA, SRI LANKA
The 8th International Conference of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka
"Bridging Knowledge and Experience to Combat Global Challenges"

Call for Extended Abstracts
Original contributions are sought under the following themes, but not limited to:

- ✓ Conquer the Challenges in Agriculture for Global Food Demand
- ✓ Applied Science Approaches for Combating Global Challenges
- ✓ Global Challenges, Geo-spatial Applications, and Sustainable Solutions
- ✓ Managing Global Challenges through Fostering Innovation and Creativity
- ✓ Indigenous Knowledge and Sri Lankan Models to Address Global Health Challenges
- ✓ Envisioning the Future of Social Sciences and Humanities
- ✓ Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Development

Important Dates

- EXTENDED ABSTRACT SUBMISSION OPEN: 30TH APRIL 2021
- EXTENDED ABSTRACT SUBMISSION CLOSE: 30TH JUNE 2021
- NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE: 01ST AUGUST 2021
- CAMERA READY SUBMISSION: 10TH SEPTEMBER 2021
- EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPEN: 15TH SEPTEMBER 2021
- REGULAR REGISTRATION OPEN: 31ST OCTOBER 2021
- CONFERENCE DATES: 01ST - 03RD DECEMBER 2021

Keynote Speaker
Professor Lim Pin Koh
Professor of Governance, Science, Technology and Policy,
Department of Biological Sciences,
The National University of Singapore
Nominated Member of Parliament, Singapore

Guest of Honour
Mr. Dilshan C. Fernando
Chief Executive Officer,
Dilshan Ceylan Tea Company PLC
Chair, Biodiversity Sri Lanka Platform

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