

University Day

The 27th University Day of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was celebrated with pride on 28th June, 2023 at the auditorium of the Faculty of Management Studies with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor, Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, distinguished invitees, Deans of the faculties, Heads of the departments, members of the Academic, Administrative, Non-academic staff, and the students. The university paid its tribute to the renowned artist Mr. Charles Dayananda, for the contribution he had made to the country in his field.







The university also acknowledged the contributions made by the members of the Academic, Administrative, and Non-academic staff for the betterment of the university standards and their sustainability. The awarding ceremony included Long Service Awards, Service Appreciation Awards, Appreciation Awards for the retired staff members in 2022, Vice-Chancellor's Special Appreciation Awards, Best Researcher (Senior/Junior) Awards, Most Cited Researcher Award, Research Grants Award, Best Inventor Award, Best Researcher Awards from the Faculty Level, Most Outstanding Artist Award, Best Student in 2022 Awards, and Best Athlete Awards.

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New Year Greetings

The university staff commenced the work on 01st January, 2023 with a ceremony presided over by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL. The religious leaders who participated in this ceremony blessed the university staff for a successful New Year. The Staff Welfare Society of the university organized the event.







5th Human Library



The fifth episode of the "Human Library Project", conducted by the SUSL Library was held on 24th January, 2023 at the auditorium of the Faculty of Geomatics. The award-winning writer Mr. Mahinda Prasad Masimbula was the resource person for the event. The occasion was graced by the Vice-Chancellor, the deans of faculties, academic staff, administrative officers, nonacademic staff, and the students of the university.



ANew Shelter

The inauguration of the recently established Examination Branch at Kinchigune took place on 02nd February, 2023, officiated by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL.



Life Skills



On 23rd February, 2023, the university organized a workshop on "Life Skills" for its staff.



SUCCESSFUL

A workshop titled "Sustainability and Climate Change Education in Sri Lanka for Systems Change and Futures Literacy" took place on 7th and 8th March, 2023 at the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with international scholars.



Fish Farming

A two-day workshop focusing on "Export Orientation of Ornamental Fish Farmers" was held on 11th and 12th March, 2023 at Sabaragamuwa University.





Awurudu Celebrations

The *Sinhala Hindu Aluth Awurudu* festival, organized by the Welfare Society of Sabaragamuwa University, took place on 28^{th} April, 2023 at the university premises.



MSc in Surveying

The inauguration ceremony of the MSc in Surveying Science new intake, organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in collaboration with the Faculty of Geomatics, took place on 14th May, 2023.





LQAC Events



An awareness session on "Library Quality Assurance" for the library staff was held on 23rd May, 2023 at the Staff Development Center, SUSL. The major objectives of the programme were to address the identified weaknesses through a library SWOT analysis, to enhance the quality attitudes to achieve the vision of the library to provide a better teaching and learning support, and to provide first-hand information to initiate and regulate the quality assurance functions in the library. The inauguration ceremony of the event was graced by the Librarian, the Director/CQA, and the Registrar of the university. Moreover, the inauguration closure was marked by distributing a performance evaluation book to each member of the library staff.

Awarding of Certificates

The certificate awarding ceremony for the "Induction Program for Academic Staff" took place on 08^{th} June, 2023 at the Staff Development Centre of the university.



A Visit to the Library

An awareness session and a library tour for the students and staff of the Hapugahakumbura Vidyalaya, Balangoda was held on 22nd June, 2023 at the Main Library, SUSL. The librarian, Mrs. T.N. Neighsoorei gave an introduction to the library and its functions. Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian explained and demonstrated the functions and services of the integrated library management system, novel library services, sections, projects, and effective use of social media to promote the library services.



Contributing to SLLA



Mrs. T.N. Neighsoorei, the Librarian, SUSL; Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian; and Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, contributed their intellectual capacity to the International Conference of Library and Information Science (ICLIS), organized by the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) on 27th June, 2023.

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Career Fair 2022

This event was organized by the Career Guidance Unit of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences in collaboration with the AHEAD programme of the faculty and the Department of Export Agriculture for the final-year students of the faculty. Allowing students to experience a real job interview before they reach out to the job market was the prime intention of this event. This event was held on 04th January, 2023 with mock interviews and a networking session.





This occasion was graced by the Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-chancellor, as the chief guest, and the Dean of the faculty, Prof. Asha Karunarathne. The newly established Industrial Collaboration Hub (ICH) of the faculty was officially launched by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL, at the inaugural. This turned the event into a remarkable one as it marked the SMART concept in a digitalized world while linking the industry collaboration to the university.

AgSURS-2023



The 2nd Undergraduate Research Symposium (AgSURS- 2023) was successfully conducted on 11th May, 2023 at the faculty premises. This year's event was a great opportunity for the undergraduates to showcase their outstanding projects to a wider research community. The symposium commenced with a keynote speech and included several panels for presenting research findings and discussions. Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL, was the chief guest of the inaugural ceremony. The keynote speaker, Prof. Saman K. Herath, Dean, Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture, Uwa-Wellassa University of Sri Lanka, delivered his speech on "Application of Ethics in Research and Publication". Dignitaries from related industries were also invited to the symposium aiming at networking within the industry and developing research careers of the undergraduates. In addition, a scientific photography competition; namely, "Image of Research" was opened for undergraduate researchers, highlighting the student talent in using visual resources in Science.

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Surasa

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences inaugurated a food stall named Surasa on 27th May, 2023.



Faculty of Applied Sciences

An MoU with PRI



The Department of Food Science & Technology signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Palmyra Research Institute (PRI) in January, 2023 for research and training collaboration, technology transfer, and student internships.

Improving Skills



The English Language Association of the faculty launched a Student Talk Series; namely, "Parts of Us, Apart from Us" to enhance the communication and language skills of students on other topics outside of their academic disciplines. The first event of the series took place in January, 2023.



FoodTech Insights

The second volume of the FoodTech Insights magazine was published in February by the Sabaragamuwa University Food Science and Technology Association. The online version of the magazine is available at www.sab.ac.Ik/app/foodtechinsights



Sankalana

'Sankalana", a talent and creative show, organized by the Students' Union of the Faculty of Applied Sciences was held on 31st January, 2023.



Training for Life Saving

Sri Lanka Life Saving (SLLS) conducted a First Aid Level 2 Certification Training for the students of the Department of Sport Sciences and Physical Education. The programme was held on 02^{nd} and 03^{rd} February, 2023.



Outdoor Recreation Center

The Outdoor Recreation Center of the SUSL was established in February, 2023 by the Department of Sports Science and Physical Education. Outdoor recreation is a type of physical activity that takes place outside or in natural settings and allows people to connect with the outdoors on an individual, small group, or community level.



Donations to Schools

The Department of Food Science and Technology donated books and stationery items to the students of R/Gataraluwa Vidyalaya in February, 2023. Dr. Rasangi Sabaragamuwa and her colleagues abroad contributed to this community services project.





Wildlife Conservation

The Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Tropical Biology & Conservation (ATBC) conducted a workshop at the Faculty of Applied Sciences in March, 2023. Dr. Lindsay Porter, Dr. Sabrina Ferdus, Mr. Sankha Wanniarachchi, and their colleagues presented interesting insights into leopards, elephants, and marine environmental conservation. The event was organized by Prof. Enoka Kudavidanage of the Department of Natural Resources.



A Conference on OR

"A new trend in Sri Lanka's operational research", an online conference on operational research presentation, was successfully conducted by the Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) of the United Kingdom from 06th to 13th May, 2023 with the participation of Sri Lankan action researchers. The Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education joined hands with the Erasmus SPIRIT project to provide a virtual platform for this Action Research Conference in collaboration with CARN. The committee selected 13 presenters to demonstrate their findings on 08th May, 2023. The conference was coordinated by Ms. T.P. Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education.



MoU with Universities

The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka signed an MoU with the University of Management and Technology, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 12th May, 2023. The Vice Chancellor of SUSL and the administrative and academic officials of the Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education attended the event remotely.





Another MoU was signed between the Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China, and SUSL on 18th May, 2023 physically, at the Vice Chancellor's office. Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics was represented by Prof. Sifeng Liu and Prof. Naiming Xie, while the Vice Chancellor of SUSL and administrative and academic representatives from the Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Department of Physical Sciences were present on behalf of SUSL.

ICAPS – SUSL 2023

The International Conference on Applied Sciences of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 30th and 31st May, 2023. This event was organized by the Faculty of Applied Sciences and carried the theme "Fostering Multidisciplinary Research and Innovation for a Sustainable Future" for the year 2023.



This year's programme was privileged to have the presence of Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL, as the chief guest and, Dr. Rohan Pethiyagoda, Prof. Toru Sasaki, Prof. Jyothi Dayanandan, Prof. Yuta Nishiyama, Dr. Adha Fatmah Siregar, Mr. Viranga Wickramaratne as the Keynote and Plenary Speakers. The conference was well attended by researchers as well as industry sector officials and was a platform for networking among academia, research organizations, and investors at both local and international levels.

APSURS 2023



The Second Applied Science Undergraduate Research Symposium was successfully held on 31st May, 2023 under the theme: "Empowering the Next Generation Leaders of Innovation". The event was graced by the presence of Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL, as the chief guest, Dr. Harsha Subasinghe, CEO of Codegen, and many other distinguished guests and speakers. The APSURS 2023 concluded to be a platform to promote academic and industrial research while providing opportunities for undergraduates to share the findings of their research with an extensive research community. Further, a start-up pitch competition was held in parallel to the APSURS for the first time in SUSL conference history that motivated young innovators and entrepreneurs towards successful business ideas.

Faculty of Computing

Launching of the Website

The official website of the Faculty of Computing was launched by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL on 02nd January, 2023 at the Prof. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium of the university. This website aims to enhance communication and engagement with the current students, prospective students, and the faculty, in addition to fostering transparency, supporting student recruitment, promoting research collaboration, and contributing to regional development through effective online presence and information sharing.



MoU with Industry

An MoU between the university and the Sri Lanka Association for Software Services Companies (SLASSCOM Sri Lanka) was signed on 01st February, 2023 at the Vice-Chancellor's Office. The MoU outlined the goals and objectives of the partnership between SLASSCOM and the Faculty of Computing, SUSL.





Fostering university-industry partnerships and advancing such collaborations was one of the foremost aims of this mutual agreement. Furthermore, enabling the faculty to realize its vision to conduct undergraduate and postgraduate Degree Programmes committing to produce talented employable graduates of a world-class standard having both technical and core professional skills was also among the major targets.

Faculty of Computing

ICARC 2023



The 3^{rd} International Conference on "Advanced Research in Computing", organized by the Faculty of Computing was held on 23^{rd} and 24^{th} February, 2023 to make a platform for researchers, a c a d e m i c s, and industry professionals to share the cuttingedge advancements and insights in the field of computing.



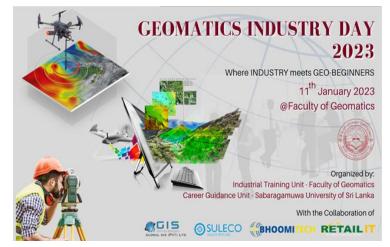


The conference featured keynote and plenary speeches from eminent scholars and industry experts, oral presentations, preconference workshops and tutorials, and public discussions to provide ample opportunities for discussion and knowledge dissemination in a wide range of disciplines in computing.

Faculty of Geomatics

Industry Day

The Geomatics Industry Day, organized by SUSL, was held on 11th January, 2023 at the faculty premises. The purpose of the programme was to provide a platform for the fourth-year geomatics students to learn about the latest advancements and applications in their field, particularly drone technology. The event was well attended by both students and professionals, making it a valuable platform for networking and knowledgesharing. Dr. P.G.R.N.I. Pussella, the Coordinator of the event welcomed the participants on behalf of the Industrial Training Unit of the Faculty of Geomatics.



The objectives of the programme were elaborated by Mr. P.G.V. Abeyrathne, the Dean of the Faculty of Geomatics. The session was handled by various companies such as Global GIS Pvt. Ltd., Suleco Pvt. Ltd., Bhoomitech Company Pvt. Ltd., and Retail IT Company Pvt. Ltd.

InfoBhoomi

The GeoTech-Hub at the Faculty of Geomatics hosted a momentous event on 26th April, 2023 at the Water's Edge in Battaramulla. The event was focused on the launch of InfoBhoomi Web, a revolutionary tool for Smart Local Land Management, with the participation of key stakeholders in both the local and foreign sectors. The event commenced with a welcome speech by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, Vice Chancellor of SUSL.





The keynote speech was delivered by Prof. Walter de Vries, Chair Professor of Land Management and Land Tenure at the Technical University of Munich. The highlight of the event was the launch of the InfoBhoomi Web by Dr. N.M.P. Milinda Piyasena and his team. This was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Vishaka Hidellage and a few presentations were also conducted by the Sponsors during this time. The event continued with an exhibition and a networking session, where attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the InfoBhoomi Web and connect with professionals from the industry.



Faculty of Geomatics

Best Researcher



Dr. P.G.R.N.I. Pussella from the Department of Remote Sensing and GIS has been awarded 'the best researcher' of the year 2022 in the "University Day" celebration held on 28th June, 2023. Dr. Pussella is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Remote Sensing and GI, Faculty of Geomatics.

Faculty of Management Studies

The Chiminiya

An entertainment and talent show named, "විමිනිය මේ අපේ විදියට" was organized on 04th January, 2023 by the undergraduates of the Department of Tourism Management.









Untired Service

A felicitation ceremony to appreciate the phenomenal service rendered by Mr. H.G. Piyasiri, Senior Instructor in English to the Faculty of Management Studies and the university for the unwavering three decades was held on 10th January, 2023 at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Management Studies.





Smart Marketing

A series of online knowledge-sharing sessions on "Creative Marketing" was held on 17th, 23rd, and 25th January, 2023 to familiarize the final-year Marketing Management Undergraduates with the real practices of creativity in the marketing arena.





The deliberations, experiences, and motivations of well-known business leaders and smart marketers in the industry shared their insights for the betterment of the students.

Green Talks

The webinar series, "Green Talks" was conducted from 30th January to 04th June, 2023 with the assistance of more than ten resource persons from both academia and industry. The webinar series is intended to provide knowledge and guidance for protecting the environment for a sustainable future while sharing real industry applications and practices.



Keynote Speeches

Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha, Department of Accountancy & Finance was invited to deliver the keynote speech at a number of conferences including, the 7th CIPM Research Conference, organized by the Chartered Institute of Personal Management; the International Conference on Management, Entrepreneurship, and Social Sciences at the University Business School, Maharaja Ranjit Singh Punjab Technical University, India; the International Conference on Innovations in Business, Trade, and Commerce at MIT-WPU School of Economics and Commerce, India; 11th Annual International Research Conference on Industry 4.0 at the Prestige Institute of Management & Research, India; and the International Conference on Gender & Politics in Media and Literature at the Amity University, India. The events took place between February to May, 2023.





CESTour Knowledge Hub

The grand opening of the Centre of Excellence of Sustainable Tourism (CoEST) of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka took place on 02nd February, 2023. The CESTour Knowledge Hub project is running under the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union and focuses on conducting awareness and training programmes on sustainable tourism; developing tourism policies, plans, and programmes; promoting sustainable resource consumption in tourism; innovating sustainable business models; and so on.

Work in Partnership

An MoU targeting bilateral cooperation for international higher education activities covering curriculum development, research, and student and staff mobility was signed by the Bradford University delegation and the local universities on 08th March, 2023 in a meeting held at the University Grants Commission, Colombo. This event was chaired by the Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Mr. M.N. Ranasinghe. Prof. Shirley Congdon, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bradford attended the event on behalf of Bradford University. Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, and Prof. Athula Gnanapala, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies attended the event representing SUSL.





Intake 2021/22

The inauguration session of the 2021/2022 new student intake of the Faculty of Management Studies was held on 20th April, 2023 via Zoom video conferencing platform.





auguration of the Academic Programme 2021/2022 Intake

Understanding Social Responsibility

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects of the students of the Department of Business Management took place under five team projects. The project named, "සිප් අහිමන්" was held on 27th and 28th April, 2023 at the R/Getaaraluwa Vidyalaya, Balangoda. The project donated laboratory equipment and books. The project "Helping Hands" helped 40 students who live in the Balangoda area with the assistance of the Parish Priest of St. Joshep's Church in Balangoda.









The project donated books, bags, and stationery items to the students on 01st May, 2023. The third project distributed coconut plants among some identified low-income families in the Balangoda area. This event was held on 01st May, 2023 at St. Joseph's Church in Balangoda with the great support of Rev. Father Emlin Fernando. The project named, "Kind Hands" donated essential items to 15 needy pregnant mothers in the Rathmalavinna area. The event took place on 03rd May, 2023. "Bebba" community project was held on 08th May, 2023. The project aimed to donate school equipment to 20 selected low-income family students in Horana.



Building Relationships



Prof. Athula Gnanapala, Prof. Rangana Shalika, and Prof. M.S.M. Aslam participated in the Erasmus+ Staff mobility programme held from 24th April to 03rd May, 2023 in O r a d e a , R o m a n i a , representing Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



Investors' Day

The "Investors' Day", organized by the Department of Accountancy & Finance was held on 16th May, 2023 at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Management Studies to enhance the awareness and knowledge of the university, school, and neighboring communities regarding the investment opportunities available in Sri Lanka. Building mutual relationships among potential investors in the Sabaragamuwa province and institutes of the financial industry was one of the prominent expected outcomes of the programme. This task was not only limited to contributing to uplift the standard of living of the neighboring community, but also indirectly subsidized economic development with the wealth of informed investors in the country.





Change Management

The Students' Mini Projects in Change Management took place in May, 2023. The main objective of this event was to enhance the change management skills of students by allowing them to engage in an actual change management process by identifying a need for a change, planning, implementing, and institutionalizing a change. These mini-projects were implemented concerning the subject of Change Management in collaboration with the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell.





Sharing Opportunities



The Department of Accountancy & Finance, SUSL signed two MoUs with CIMA Sri Lanka and the Eagle Insurance Brokers (Pvt) Limited on 16th May, 2023. Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL; Ms. Zahara Ansary, the Country Manager of CIMA; and Mr. Jayapragasam Niroshkanth, Director/Chief Operating Officer of Eagle Insurance Brokers (Pvt) Limited participated in this event representing the university and two external partners.



Publications

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN
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ISSN 2827-7341 (Online) Editor in Chief
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USSN 2027-7341 (Online) Editor in Chief Professor D.A.I. Dayaratne Co-editors Professor D.G. Dharmarathna Professor D.G.S. Musile Professor D.N. Japarsha Professor D.N. Japarsha Professor D.N. Japarsha Mr. A.A.M.D. Amarasinghe Mrs. A.W.G.C.N. Wijethunga

Magazines and Creativity



A book volume consisting of research papers authored by the undergraduates of the Department of Accountancy & Finance along with their academic supervisors was launched on 16th May, 2023.



The "Finance Mirror Magazine" was launched on 16th May, 2023. Enhancing knowledge of finance-related aspects by showing the innate capacities of creativity of the students and academics of the Department of Accountancy & Finance was the aim of this event.

An MoU with UMTE

An MoU between St. Petersburg University of Management Technologies and Economics (UMTE), Russia, and Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was signed on 19th May, 2023 at the Vice Chancellor's Office, SUSL. Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, and Prof. Athula Gnanapala, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies participated in the event representing SUSL, while Prof. Oleg Smeshko, Rector and Prof. Anna Rumyantseva, Vice-Rector, Research and International Affairs participated in the event on behalf of St. Petersburg University of Management Technologies and Economics.



Diverse Webinars

A series of webinars was organized by the AHEAD project of the Department of Accountancy & Finance with the assistance of some resource persons. One such webinar on "Technical Analysis" was conducted by Mr. Sarath Rajapakse, Director, Capital TRUST Securities on 19th May, 2023. Enhancing undergraduates' knowledge of the different aspects of Technical Analysis was the major objective of the webinar. A webinar on "CV Writing and Interview Skills", was held on 20th May, 2023. Mr. Janitha Chirath, Financial Controller, Prime Association Management Services, Dubai, United Arab Emirates was invited to conduct this webinar. A webinar entitled, "Contemporary Life Insurance Industry Behaviour" was held on 23rd May, 2023 to make the undergraduates aware of the Life Insurance Industry. Mr. K. W. Amal Sampath, Head - AIA Bancassurance, AIA Insurance Lanka Limited, contributed as the resource person of the event. Mr. Indika Dissanayake, Manager, Operations, Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka (CRIB) conducted another webinar on "Financial Discipline" on 27th May, 2023. In addition to this, a few more webinars including, "Financial Sector Risk Management", "Table Etiquette", and "Unit Trust" were held for the benefit of the undergraduates.

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Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO), Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, the Apex Body representing the Inbound Tour Operator Community in Sri Lanka organized "සංචාරක උදාව 2023" on 20th May, 2023 at the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Exhibition Halls, BMICH.

Mind to Mind

A programme to share the knowledge and expertise of the faculty members who have succeeded in the journey towards PhDs, Masters, and MBAs, motivating the young members to start their journey with a confident mindset, overcome challenges better, and strengthen the research culture and to gain insights for further career development was initiated

by the Faculty of Management Studies. Two sessions of this programme were conducted by Dr. Dinesh Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy & Finance, and Dr. L. Kalyani, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Management on 07th February and 23rd May, 2023 respectively.



General Convocation

The day one of the 24th General Convocation of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 25th May, 2023 at the Prof. J.W. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium, SUSL. The Chancellor, Prof. Kamburugamuwe Vajira Nayaka Thero, commanded the proceedings of the ceremony. The Vice-Chancellor, Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, distinguished invitees, Deans of the faculties, Heads of the departments, members of the Academic and Administrative staff, graduands, and their parents participated in the event. The convocation ceremony saw Major General (Rtd.) G. A. Chandrasiri, Chairman, Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited. Several medals were presented to the students at the event in recognition of their outstanding performances. .















DTHM Inauguration

The inauguration Ceremony of the 2023 intake of the Diploma in Tourism & Hospitality Management (DTHM) took place on 27th May, 2023 at the Faculty of Management Studies.





Software for Business

The Department of Accountancy & Finance organized a training session for the academic staff of the Faculty of Management Studies regarding the features of the SAGE 300 ERP system for business management. The event was held on 06th June, 2023 at the Computer Lab, Faculty of Management Studies.



CESTour

The CESTour Project Management Meeting was held from 05th to 07th June, 2023 in Milan, Italy to discuss the progress of the project and to allow the participants to have some experience in sustainable tourism projects that were already launched and implemented. Prof. Rangana Shalika and Mrs. Rudmi Sandaruwani participated in the meeting representing the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



BIZ Connect CEO Forum

An inaugural meeting aimed to lay the groundwork for a long-lasting collaboration between industry and academia was organized to foster a collaborative relationship between the Faculty of Management Studies and the industry by establishing a platform where industry stakeholders can cooperate with the faculty in a mutually beneficial manner. Chief Executive Officers of leading companies in Sri Lanka representing six sectors: Financial Management, Banking & Insurance, Marketing Management, Business & Operations Management, Eco-Business Management, and Tourism Management participated in the meeting held on 21st June, 2023 at the Water's Edge Hotel, Battaramulla.



Pedagogies and Literacy

A workshop on "Academic Literacy and Innovative Pedagogies" was held on 22nd June, 2023 at the Staff Development Centre of the university. The programme aimed to raise awareness of Academic Literacy and Innovative Pedagogies of the academics of SUSL. Dr. Romola Rassool, Director, Postgraduate Institute of English (PGIE), Open University of Sri Lanka, and Dr. Nadee Mahawattha, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management Studies, SUSL conducted the event.



To Head Table



Dr. Vilasini De Silva, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Marketing Management; and Ms. M.S.H. Rathnasiri, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Marketing Management were appointed as the Chairperson and Secretary of the 4th International Conference on Marketing Management (ICMM), organized by SLIM Research Bureau together with SLIM and Emerald Publishing.

Faculty of Medicine

Welcome Freshers

The Inauguration Ceremony, organized to welcome the 5th batch of students to the Faculty of Medicine was held on 23rd January, 2023 at the auditorium of the Faculty of Medicine. The Vice-Chancellor, SUSL; the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine with the Deans of other faculties; the Director of the Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura; Consultants; Academic staff of the Faculty of Medicine; Registrar, Deputy Registrars, and the Non-academic staff of the Faculty of Medicine participated in the event.





Estrellas 2022

The students of the Aesthetic Society along with students of the Faculty of Medicine organized "Estrellas 2022" on 08th February, 2023 at the New Library Auditorium, Ratnapura. Introducing and showcasing the aesthetic talents of the freshers of the faculty and building good interpersonal relationships between the senior and the junior students of the faculty were the objectives of this event.



Faculty of Medicine

Strengthening Unity

A Volleyball and Netball tournament between the students of the Faculty of Medicine, SUSL, and the students of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kalaniya was held on 26^{th} February, 2023 at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kalaniya. Thrimawithana' Memorial Cricket Trophy was held between the students of the Faculty of Medicine, SUSL, and the students of the Faculty of Medicine, WUSL on 05^{th} March, 2023.



New Year Celebrations

"*Isivara Wasantaya - 2023*", the New Year Festival, organized by the fifth batch of the Faculty of Medicine was held on 23rd April, 2023 at the Batuhena school grounds to celebrate the Sinhala and Hindu New Year festival.







Faculty of Medicine

VIVID DELIGHT 23'

The annual Medicos Art Exhibition intended to showcase the creative talents of the faculty staff, consultants, doctors, and medical students of SUSL was held on 27th May, 2023 at the auditorium of the Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura. The event was organized by the Photography and Media Society of the Faculty of Medicine.





Abortion: Topic to Debate

The Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics organized a programme entitled, "Should abortion be liberalized/legalized in Sri Lanka" on 01st June, 2023 to critically analyze the legal and moral aspects of abortion in Sri Lanka. Prof. Malik Goonewardene was the resource person for this event.



Prana'23



The annual blood donation campaign, organized by the Students' Union, Faculty of Medicine was held on 06th June, 2023. The programme aimed to donate blood to the inward patients of the Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura.

Curriculum Development

A residential workshop on "Curriculum Integration and Assessments" was held on 17th and 18th June, 2023 at Highlanders Holiday Complex, Belihuloya to review the curriculum and teaching/learning methods along with assessments based on the World Federation of Medical Education Guidelines. This two-day residential workshop was organized by the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell with the assistance of the Medical Education Unit.



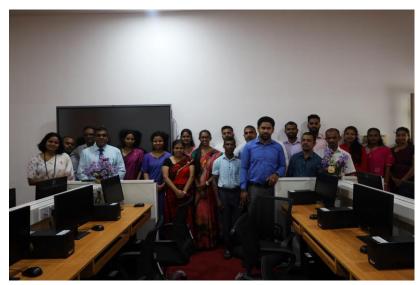
ICSSL 2023

The first International Conference on Social Sciences and Languages (ICSSL 2023) of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 11th and 12th January, 2023. The conference Inauguration Ceremony was held physically at the Professor Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium. The technical sessions were conducted virtually. This conference featured a range of presentations on multidisciplinary research activities in social sciences and languages. The conference was organized under the theme of "Enhancing the Quality of Life through Innovative Strategies for Sustainable Development". Dr. G.R.S.R.C. Samaraweera and Dr. R.A.H.M. Rupasingha were the Chair and the Secretary of the Conference Committee respectively. His Excellency Mr. Gopal Baglay, Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka was the Chief Guest of the inauguration ceremony.



New IT Lab

A new computer lab for the Department of Information Technology was declared open by Senior Prof. Chandana P. Udawatte, Vice-Charman of the University Grants Commission on the auspicious day of 26th January, 2023, at the invitation of Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayaka, Vice-Chancellor of SUSL.







Let's Meet a Foreign Expert

Maria Osterloh Mejia, Professor, and Researcher at the Centre for Asian Studies of San Marcos National University (CEAS), was invited to conduct an online session on "Evolution of Economic Relations Between Peru and China: 50 Years of Trade and Investment" to uncover new insights and hidden aspects of the long-term economic relationship between Peru and China concerning trade and investment. The event was held on 26th January, 2023. The next episode of the same discussion series took place on 21st February, 2023, under the theme, "Unlocking the Potential of ICT Startups". Prasanna Karmarkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Shivaji University of India, contributed as the resource person for the session. The series was organized by the Students' Circle of the Department of Economics and Statistics.



Stakeholder Programme

The Student Circle, Department of Economics and Statistics, organized two stakeholder programmes; namely, "How We Can Sell Our Skills on Fiverr" and "A Broader Discussion on the Intervention of IMF in Sri Lanka and its Workflow" on 31st January, 2023 and 09th May, 2023 respectively. Mr. Gihan Priyankara, Lecturer in the Department of Economics and Statistics, SUSL, and Mrs. Sureni Weerathunga, Senior Research Analyst at Verite' Research and former Research Analyst at IMF, Washington, DC contributed to the events as resource persons.







Article Writing



An article writing competition, organized by the Student Circle of the Department of English Language Teaching was held on 02nd February, 2023 to encourage students to excel in their academic pursuits by providing a platform to showcase their writing skills and knowledge.

Chinese Lantern Festival

The Chinese Lantern Festival was held on 07th February, 2023, with the presence of Mr. Zhang Yingbao, Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Sri Lanka; Ms. Li Qingrui, the First Secretary of the Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Sri Lanka; Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, Vice Chancellor of SUSL; Prof. Zhu Song, Chinese Director of Confucius Classroom at SUSL; and Dr. Sampath Fernando, Local Director of Confucius Classroom at SUSL. The festival was organized by the Confucius Classroom at SUSL in collaboration with the Department of Languages, SUSL, and the Chinese Society in the Department of Languages, SUSL.





Preparing for the TOEIC Exam



The third and second-year Japanese Language students participated in a guest lecture on "How to Teach English to Japanese Students in Order to Prepare Them for the TOEIC Exam". The event took place on 09th February, 2023 at the Japanese Lab, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. Prof. Kenchirou Izawa served as the resource person of the event preparing the participants for the TOEIC exam.

Chat with Alumni

Two episodes of the discussion series: 'Our success stories - A chat with Alumni member' were held online on 18th February and 23rd May, 2023. Mr. G.S. Krishantha Vitharanage who graduated with a B.A. Statistics from SUSL and currently working as the Head Statistician of the District, District Statistical Branch, Matara, and Mr. A.J.P. Amith who graduated with a B.A. Economics and the present Senior Assistant Director, Department of Supervision of Non-Bank Financial Institutions, Central Bank of Sri Lanka were invited as the resource persons for the two episodes respectively.







Postgraduate Programmes

The inauguration ceremony of the MA/PGDip in English and Education -2023 was held on 26th February, 2023 at the Auditorium, Faculty of Geomatics. This programme aimed at disseminating knowledge for teachers, teacher educators, ESL practitioners, and administrators in Education who are looking for higher degree qualifications in the field of English. The Degree programme is conducted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in collaboration with the Department of Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages.





Silver Portal

Three episodes of Silver Portal, organized by the Students' Circle of the Department of Economics and Statistics were held online on 28th February, 22nd May, and 06th June, 2023. This programme aimed to assist school and university students in understanding how to apply statistical methods in different business sectors, enhance their experience in coding, and to make them aware of hi-tech Agricultural applications.







Opening a Library



Prof. (Dr.) Ankuran Dutta, the Director of Swami Vivekananda Cultural Center, High Commission of India, Colombo, and Dr. Athira S., Assistant High Commissioner of India in Kandy visited the Department of Languages on 22nd March, 2023. The Indian delegates donated some books and paintings to the department library during this visit. They also participated in the opening of the K. Jayathilake Memorial Library.



Adulting

A webinar aiming to help students improve their time management skills to balance academic, personal, and professional commitments effectively, was organized by the Student Circle of the Department of English Language Teaching on 19th April, 2023. Dr. K.S.N. Prasangani, Ms. Hiranji Perera, and Ms. Ashani Maxworth of the Department of English Language Teaching were the Guest Speakers of the programme.



Launching LOGOS

The first issue of volume I of LOGOS, published by the Department of Languages, SUSL was released on 17th May, 2023 at the auditorium, Faculty of Geomatics. This first issue was published as a felicitation to Emeritus Prof. Rajiva Wijesinha, a well-renowned scholar in the field of English, who made a substantial contribution to the enhancement of the quality and standards of the Department of Languages, SUSL. Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL participated as the chief guest of the event while Prof. Rajiva Wijesinhe was invited as the guest of honour. Prof. Chithra Jayathilake delivered the Keynote Speech at the event.



Focusing Translation Studies

The Department of Languages collaborated with the National Languages Equity Advancement Project (NLEAP) to organize "In-Person Meeting of Professional Learning Community - May 2023", under Canadian Government funds. The representatives from the High Commission of Canada to Sri Lanka and Maldives, representatives from Alinea International, the Director and other officers of NLEAP, academics of BA (Hons) Translation Studies from SUSL, University of Kelaniya, University of Jaffna, Eastern University of Sri Lanka, and the Department of Official Languages participated in the programme.



This event was held on 18th and 19th May, 2023 at Olympus Plaza Hotel, Haputale. Focusing on crucial areas of Translation and Interpretation Studies in Sri Lanka, arranging effective internship programmes for the final year students who study Translation Studies, and designing the Curriculum of the Diploma in Interpretation offered by the University of Jaffna were among the main targets of this programme.

A Pedagogy Programme

An online programme on "Advanced Training in Translation Pedagogy Program (TTPP - / A) – 2021/2023" was held from January to June, 2023 to comprise lectures and practical work on theories of instruction and assessment and their application to translation teaching; teaching of specialized and literary translation, revision, editing, and post-editing; teaching of translation technologies; teaching of terminology and documentation research; and teaching of translation theory and research methods.



English and Education



A workshop on "Self-Motivation and Professional Development" for MA/PGDip in English and Education Students was held on 04th June, 2023 at the main auditorium of the Staff Development Center. This programme aimed to enhance the collaborative and communicative practices of ESL practitioners through an interactive and engaging approach.

Coffee Table

A coffee table evening gathering, organized by the Student Circle of the DELT was held on 06th June, 2023 to promote holistic development, including academic, personal, and professional growth of the faculty community.



Yoga for Humanity

The Department of Languages organized a Yoga event in collaboration with the Assistant High Commission of India to celebrate the 9^{th} International Day of Yoga. The programme supported students in understanding how to make their bodies more flexible after consistent yoga practice and how to develop a great sense of self-discipline and self-awareness. This event was held on 07^{th} June, 2023 at the Fitness Center of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.





Chinese Cuisine and Culture

The students and staff of the Chinese language at the Department of Languages participated in a Dragon Boatthemed painting competition and a learning event to make Chinese traditional Rice Dumplings (Zongzi). This event was organized by the Confucius Classroom at SUSL on 22nd June, 2023.



Promoting Chinese

An MoU between the Confucius Classroom at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and the Central College, Bandarawela, was signed for the establishment of a Chinese Teaching Branch at the aforementioned school. This event took place on 27^{th} June, 2023 at the board room of the Vice Chancellor's office, SUSL.





German for Tourism

A field visit to Southern Province tourism zones was organized by the Department of Languages on 28th June, 2023 for three days. Having a real-world experience of German language usage in professional contexts was the primary objective of this event. The participants also delved into the intricate underpinnings of the tourism industry and grasped the know-how of refining specific communication skills with German tourists and unraveling the operational intricacies of various hotels.





Faculty of Technology

New Faculty Complex

Phase I of the New Faculty Complex, Faculty of Technology was declared open by Senior Prof. R.M.U.S.K. Rathnayake, the Vice-Chancellor, SUSL and Mr. Chen Chen, the Country Director/ ADB Sri Lanka Resident Mission upon the invitation of Prof. K. R. Koswattage, Dean, Faculty of Technology on 26th January, 2023. Several laboratories were declared open for students including, Electrical Engineering Laboratory, Mechanical Engineering Laboratory, Bioenergy Laboratory, Microbiology Laboratory, Drawing Room, Pharmacology Laboratory, and Biotechnology Laboratory.



Faculty of Technology

Technical Workshops

A workshop on "Basic Lathe Machine Operations", organized by the Faculty Industry Collaboration Unit of the Faculty of Technology was held on 10th, 11th, and, 12th February, 2023, at the Mechanical Engineering Workshop, Faculty of Technology with the assistance of Mr. K.C.K. Deraniyagala, Technical Officer/Open University of Sri Lanka. The objective of the workshop was to familiarize the attendees with basic lathe machine control, operations, and safety precautions.





Join with Meiji



Signing an MoU between Meiji University, Japan, and Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 24th March, 2023. The objective of the MoU was to strengthen cooperation and to strive for the promotion of mutual exchanges between the Faculty of Technology, SUSL, and the School of Science and Technology, Meiji University, Japan.

Automotive Technology

Some staff members of the Faculty of Technology attended an international exposure programme on "Modern Automotive Technology", which was held from 18th to 29th April, 2023 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Main Campus, Thailand. This programme was designed to enhance the capacity of academic programmes and faculty members to modernize science and technology curricula, as well as to use innovative teaching and learning for programme delivery.



Staff Achievements

People's Choice

Ms. Choshani Dalukdeniya, a lecturer from the Department of Food Science and Technology represented the Team MindX Lab® of the University of Reading, UK won the People's Choice award, at the Young Entrepreneurs Scheme 2022 (YES22) held in January, 2023. She, along with her colleagues, pitched their idea for an alternative treatment of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. The treatment is embedded in a sustainable delivery method - a film that is absorbed in the mouth - which they found to cause fewer side effects and have significantly less environmental impact than traditional forms of antidepressant.



Vocational Excellence Award

Prof. Enoka P. Kudavidanage of the Department of Natural Resources received the Vocational Excellence Award from the Rotary Colombo East recognizing her contributions in protecting the wildlife and creating awareness on wildlife protection among the public. The Awards Ceremony took place in January, 2023.



A Plenary Talk

Prof. Udeni Jayalal, Department of Natural Resources, delivered a plenary talk on "Why lichens are suitable as bioindicators?" at the International Seminar on Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development, organized by the Department of Zoology of the Govt. V.Y.T. Post Graduate Autonomous College in Durg, India on 02nd and 03rd February, 2023.



Staff Achievements

Best Portfolio

Ms. M.S.H. Rathnasiri, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Marketing Management completed the Certificate Course in Teaching in Higher Education with a Merit Pass and won the Best Academic Portfolio Award of the Faculty of Management Studies.



Awards

Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha was awarded as the Best Researcher of the Faculty of Management Studies for the year 2022, during the University Day Awards Ceremony held on 28th June, 2023. In addition, Prof. Dewasiri was also awarded the Best Academic Portfolio of the CTHE Programme 2021-2022 and for the Best Teaching Practice of the Faculty of Management Studies. These were awarded on 08th June, 2023. Mr. D Jasingha, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing Management; Mr. P.J. Jayathilake, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Management; and Mr. R.A.G. Bandara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy & Finance were awarded the Long Service Award at the University Day Awards Ceremony 2022, for their commendable services to the university. Ms. S.D.I. Swaranalatha, Senior Staff Management Assistant, Department of Business Management was awarded for her 25 years of exceptional service to the university. In addition, Mr. H.G. Piyasiri Senior Instructor in English, Department of Accountancy & Finance received a special service award, for his commendable service to the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



Staff Achievements

Doctoral and Mphil Degree Completion

Dr. S. Othalawa, Lecturer at the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education completed his PhD in Sports Science and MSc in High-Performance Sports.



Dr. U.C. Edirisinghe, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Accountancy & Finance completed her PhD in Accounting at Murdoch University, Australia. Dr. Lal Gunasekara, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Tourism Management completed his PhD in Sustainable Supply Chain Management.



Mrs. W.A.W.S. Rupasinghe, Lecturer (Probationary) at the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education completed her MPhil in Sports Sciences.





Mrs. W.K.D.S.A. Wickramarachchi, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education completed her Masters at the UPM, Malaysia.





Mr. E.R.J.M.D.D.P. Wijesekara, Lecturer (Probationary) at the Department of Biosystems Technology completed his Masters at Technical University Berlin, Germany.



Student Achievements

A Book Launching

Manura Niyomal, a student of the Department of Sport Sciences and Physical Education authored a book titled, '*Helaye Aprakata Thorathuru*', inspired by his discoveries during the final year of research. He launched the book in February, 2023.

Asian Kho Kho Champs

MPIONSHIP MARCH, 2023 TAMULPUR, ASSAM



Kalana Kaushalya and Dilantha Aththanakola, two undergraduates of the Faculty of Applied Sciences participated in the Asian Kho Kho Championship, representing the National Kho Kho Team. The team was also represented by S.H.A.H.D. Kalupahana and D.D. Senevirathne, two alumni of the Sabaragamuwa University. The competition was held in March, 2023 in Assam, India. This team became the second runner-up in the competition.

Colours Awards

Thirty-five young talents from the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education were awarded at the SLUSA Colours Awards, which took place on 10th May, 2023, at Sri Jayawardenapura University of Sri Lanka.



New Appointments



Dr. H. Divithura has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Geomatics.



Prof. S. Vasanthapriyan has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Computing.



Prof. R. Bandara has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Surveying and Geodesy.

New Appointments



Dr. P. Nuwanthika has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Software Engineering.



Dr. L.S. Lekamge has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Computing & Information Systems.



Dr. U.A.P. Ishanka has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Data Science.



Ms. W. A. L. M. Bandara has been appointed as a Lecturer (Probationary) at the Department of Tourism Management, Faculty of Management Studies.



Prof. Dewasiri N. Jayantha, Department of Accountancy & Finance was appointed to the post of Vice President – Education & Research, Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing from March, 2023 to March, 2024. Prof. Jayantha was also appointed as the Brand Ambassador, Emerald Publishing, UK for the period of May, 2023 - May, 2024.

Promotions



Dr. T.C. Gamage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing Management, was promoted to the post of Professor.



Ms. A.W. Thiranagama, Lecturer of the Department of Business Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Grade II).



Ms. I.M. Katuwandeniya, Lecturer of the Department of Business Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Grade II).



Ms. P.L.G.S.D. Piumali, Lecturer (Probationary) of the Department of Marketing Management was promoted to the post of Lecturer (Confirmed).



Mrs. J. A. R. C. Sandaruwani, Lecturer of the Department of Tourism Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer (Grade II).



Mr. G. V. H. Dinusha, Lecturer (Probationary) of the Department of Tourism Management was promoted to the post of Lecturer.

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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: <u>newsletter@crkd.sab.ac.lk</u>

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The 9th International Conference of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (ICSUSL 2023), organized by CRKD with the theme of "Advancing Multidisciplinary Approaches for a Sustainable and Resilient Future" will be held from 06th December to 08th December 2023. This year conference



will be comprised keynote and plenary speeches from eminent scholars in addition to oral and poster presentations, pre-conference workshops, public discussions, and other parallel events.



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