

WAY FORWARD

A large, modern, multi-story building with a green roof and a courtyard, set against a backdrop of a dense forest and a large mountain. The building features a central courtyard with a green lawn and a stone wall. The architecture is contemporary with a mix of light-colored walls and dark window frames. The surrounding landscape is lush and green, with a prominent mountain in the background under a clear blue sky.



NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka welcomed the year 2021 with some celebrations organized at the University premises on 01st January morning under the patronage of Professor Udaya Rathnayake; the Vice Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. Welcoming a year full of diligence, the Vice Chancellor marked the commencement of the New Year officially by hoisting the National flag and the University flag at the university premises.

Faculty of Applied Sciences of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka welcomed the New Year with traditional celebration following “Kiri Ithirawima”, a ritual which took place at the auspicious time, wishing good fortune and success for the university in year 2021. Vice Chancellor; Professor Udaya Rathnayake the celebration with his participation. Dr. Rasangi Sabaragamuwa; the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, all the Heads of all Departments of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, academic and non-academic staff and some students witnessed the glorious event. Following the traditional ceremony to welcome the year 2021, a tree plantation ceremony also took place near the Faculty premises. Staff welfare society of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, brought blessings to the university for the New Year 2021 with a ceremony. The ceremony took place at the Professor J.W.D. Somasundara Auditorium of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka at 9.00am with the participation of Professor Udaya Rathnayake; the Vice Chancellor of the Sabaragamu-





wa University of Sri Lanka. After the welcome speech delivered by professor H.M.S.Priyanath; the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the President of the Welfare Society, religious leaders representing all the religions shared their blessings for a prosperous year ahead. The ceremony was witnessed by all academic, administrative and non-academic staff of the university. All the events were held adhering to the Covid-19 health guidelines.



MOU WITH LOOPS DIGITAL

Contemporary dietary trends and regimes such as vegetarianism and flexitarianism have triggered a massive demand worldwide for plant-based food products. Especially, the demand for plant-based meat alternatives is quickly growing globally, owing to the rising environmental concerns associated with livestock production and the perceived negative health impacts of red meat. Even though many people want to switch to plant-based alternatives or meat analogues, there are limited products that have similar taste, texture, and nutrition value to meat products. Products such as plant-based burgers are virtually non-existent in the Sri Lankan market, although such products are going mainstream in several countries currently.

Identifying this gap and considering the availability of a wide range of local raw materials for formulating such products, a team of undergraduates in the Department of Food Science and Technology came forward with a proposal to develop and commercialize a meat analogue using low-cost, locally sourced raw materials, with the guidance of the academic staff of the Department to conduct the research and development work. The project proposal has been granted Seed Capital from the University Business Linkage Cell (UBLC) and will be implemented in partnership with Loops Digital (PVT) Ltd.

Loops Solutions is an Integrated Agency with a globally-extended portfolio and expertise of being in the digital marketing space for well over a decade. The primary focus of Loops is on Dig-



ital Media and helping companies in the Digital Media space. Loops is working with over 60+ brands including several large Multi-National Companies and Fortune 500 companies, offering a wide range of services such as Advertising, E-Marketing, Social Marketing, Digital Marketing, Video Creation, Animations and IT Development. The management has a special interest in offering digital marketing services for products promoting a healthy lifestyle.

The MoU signing for the partnership took place on 7th January 2021 at the board room of the Vice Chancellor's office of the University. At this event, Loops Digital (Pvt) Ltd was represented by its Managing Director; Mr. Shehan Selvanayagam while Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was represented by Professor Udaya Rathnayake; the Vice Chancellor.

The event was coordinated by Prof. Indunil Dayarathne; Director, UBLC and Ms. Taniya Sankalpana; Cell Manager, UBLC. Academic advisers of the project; Dr. Rasangi Sabaragamuwa, Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Mr. A.LC.J. Liyanage; Senior Lecturer, Department of Food Science and Technology and members of the project team also participated in this event.



MOU WITH FONTERRA

Fonterra Sri Lanka has collaborated with Department of Livestock Production, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka for a new degree program on Livestock Production. This decision was taken at the discussion at the virtual meeting on 04 th January 2020 between the officers of Fonterra Sri Lanka and the university authority, including Professor UdayaRathnayake; the Vice Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Dr. M.M.P. Sumith; Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Dr. T.S.P. Jayaweera; Head of the Department of Livestock Production. This meeting took place as an outcome of the discussion previously held between the Fonterra Sri Lanka and the authorities of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.

At this meeting, the Vice Chancellor emphasized the value of this timely step taken by Fonterra Sri Lanka and stressed that the university appreciates the intention of Fonterra Sri Lanka to have collaborative activities with the Department of Livestock Production of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. Fonterra Sri Lanka assured that they will assist the proposed online degree program on Livestock production by mediating the affiliation of Massey University, New Zealand. Further they emphasized that they will donate Rs.600,000.00 to revamp the Dairy Unit of the Faculty Farm. By now, Fonterra Sri Lanka has sent the agreed fund to the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



MoU with the CGA

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA AND THE SABARAGAMUWA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

The Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka and the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with regard to the eqUIP internship facilitating the Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka's acceptance of undergraduates of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka students as interns. This program is an initiative of the Commonwealth Games Federations which aims at developing sustainable capacity in Commonwealth Games Associations and in this case Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka, in partnership with the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka for 4 years. The Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka expects to provide educational and professional training to the eqUIP intern with the aims of Developing, Promoting and Protecting sports as per Commonwealth Games Association guidelines. The program will seek to strengthen the capacity of Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka in their primary functional areas, by aiming which includes:

- Sport and team preparations for participation at a Game
- Sport development and peace initiatives - Marketing, communications, brand development and drivers of their economic engine
- Office operations, management of the business and good governance practices
- Membership development and relations

The Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka will provide the environment where change, development and learning can take place within the organization. The role of the intern in this Program is to provide assistance where capacity might be lacking. The intern should be engaged with the Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka for 12 months with paid an allowance during the in-



ternship. This internship will provide the knowledge and experiences of collaborating and co-operate to develop effective working practices, identify solutions, eliminate duplication of effort, mitigate risk and reduce cost. Communicate openly about major opportunities, issues or concerns. Share information, experience and skills to learn from one another. Act in good faith to support the achievement of the Key Objectives and compliance with these Principles. The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka at the request of Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka will carry out sport-related research which will benefit both parties for the common benefit of Sport in Sri Lanka.

GEOSYM 2020



The 2nd Undergraduate Colloquium, GEOSYM2020, of the Faculty of Geomatics, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (SUSL), was successfully held on 21st January 2021 at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Geomatics, the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. This forum provides the undergraduates of the Faculty the opportunity to share their research findings and discuss the implications of them with academics within and across disciplines, peers, and the greater community. From the colloquium, undergraduates were able to enhance their knowledge and soft skills that may be useful for their future career, and publish their abstracts in the GEOSYM2020 abstract book. In conjunction with the undergraduate session, a professional session is also introduced this time, especially as a means to research experience and the research culture with the novices.

Dr. Lal Muthuwatta; Snr. Regional researcher – Hydrological Modelling/RS International Water Management Institute (IWMI) honoured the event as the Guest of Honour. Professor Dr. Markus Gerke; Technische University of Germany graced the occasion as the keynote speaker and Adjunct Professor David G. Rossiter of Cornell University of United States honoured the event as the Plenary Speaker.

Professor Udaya Rathnayake; Vice Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Dr. H.M.I. Prasanna; Dean Faculty of Geomatics, Heads of Departments in Faculty of Geomatics, Coordinator of the Research Unit, Session Chairpersons and all staff participated at the event as invitees.

The student research symposium was a timely and virtual platform for young innovators to po-

sition themselves in the global field of research and academia. The initiative of GEOSYM enhanced the potentiality and innovativeness of the undergraduates by motivating them to engage in novel researches. This forum can be considered as a pinnacle of the undergraduate quadrennial period of learning and training. Six postgraduate students those who are about to finish their research work at different prestigious institutions in Germany, Sweden, Portugal, and China presented their findings at the professional session coming under GEOSYM2020. All five disciplines of the Faculty were covered through the session. Besides, sixty nine undergraduates had presented their research findings at the eight technical sessions of the colloquium.



LAB OPENING

Research and Innovation Commercialization (RIC) grants of AHEAD world bank funded project are known as one of the giant arm which come up to facilitate research, innovation and commercialization of the state universities. Development of novel beverage types with Ceylon Cinnamon, *Cinnamomum Zylanicum*" (AHEAD/RIC NO: 16) project is a competitive grant won by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. RIC Team 16 members are Prof. D.A.M De Silva (Coordinator), Dr. R.K.C Jeevanthi (Co Coordinator), Tharaka Weddagala and Janaranjana Ekanayke.

One of the key concerns of the project was to establish fully equipped laboratory which cater to the needs of the academics, researchers, students, farmers and SMEs. Aim of the establishment begins with the idea generation, filtering, prototyping, research, and commercialization.

The official opening ceremony of the Ceylon Cinnamon beverage development laboratory, took place on 19th of January 2021 at the Mungasthenna premises of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. Professor Udaya Rathnayake; the Vice-Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka graced the event as the chief guest. Professor Sumith P. Magamage; the Dean Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, and the academic staff of the Department of the Agribusiness Management graced the occasion with their valuable participation.



MEETING WITH INDIAN DELEGATES



Director General of National Informatics Centre (NIC) India.

The aim of the project actually goes beyond the Bandarawela city limits as they are planning to expand the project in future to cover the Local Governance Side altogether with Research and Development Side of Sri Lanka wrapping up every inch of land in Sri Lanka into the digitized environment facilitating the Smart Governance.



The Faculty of Geomatics of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka has taken a new innovative step to promote smart Governance by finally aligning Information Technology and Geomatics together. Faculty of Geomatics has initiated project “Info Bhoomi” under the funding of AHEAD grant. The aim of the project is to develop a Land Information System and here in the initial level, the system will be covering the Bandarawela city. It was hailed as a remarkable use of computer technology to deter bureaucratic interference and corruption in land record maintenance and governance.

Under the project “Info Bhoomi”, Faculty of Geomatics had been cooperated with National Informatics Centre (NIC) India; a Premier Science and Technology organization of the Government of India. NIC is in the collaboration with the Faculty of Geomatics, providing the technical cooperation for the Project “Info Bhoomi” to establish the Land Information System here in Sri Lanka. The decision was taken and the cooperation was made as a result of continuous discussions which took place from month of December 2020 to January 2021. The final meeting was conducted with the honourable participation of Professor Udaya Rathnayake; Vice Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and



Groundbreaking Ceremony

Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Proposed Faculty Building Complex of Faculty of Technology, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka



The Faculty of Technology of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka marked another milestone in its voyage of development by hosting the ground-breaking ceremony on Wednesday morning, 20th January 2021 to mark the commencement of the construction of the new Faculty complex for the Faculty of Technology at its new proposed premises at the Sabaragamuwa University Sri Lanka, Belihuloya.

Professor Udaya Rathnayake; the Vice Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri

Lanka participated as the chief guest, and all the Deans of the Faculties of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Heads of the Departments, Administrative Officers of the University, Officers of ICC – International Construction Consortium, academic and non-academic staff of the university and other distinguished guests were present.



Foundation stone laying ceremony for the proposed Faculty building complex of the Faculty of Technology of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 27th January 2021. This ceremony was graced with the honourable participation of Professor K. Kapila C.K. Perera; The Secretary of the Ministry of Education as the chief guest, Senior Professor Sampath Amarathunga; The Chairman of the University Grants Commission as the guest of honour, Professor Udaya Rathnayake; The Vice Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, all the Deans of the Faculties of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Heads of the Departments, administrative officers of the university, Officers of ICC – International Construction Consortium, academic and non-academic staff of the university, students and other distinguished guests. This event marked another milestone of the



Faculty of Technology. This new building complex which is located inside the university premises will be a salient asset to the Faculty and to the university as it enables the univer-

Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the Proposed Faculty Building Complex of Faculty of Technology, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Laying Foundation Stone



sity to provide the students with a world class learning experience that includes high end educational and recreational facilities and an environment that accelerate student creativity and innovative thinking. A meeting and a discussion about the approved building plan and construction process was done at the Mount Field Resort, Belihuloya.



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