

NEWSLETTER

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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University of
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The newsletter of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura
"Savidu" is a tri-annual newsletter carrying the vibrant academic, cultural and communal life of the
University of Sri Jayewardenepura

NEWS

Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda re-elected as the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences



Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda was re-elected for a second term unanimously as the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 23rd June 2022. His second term of office will be effective from the 1st of July 2022 for a period of three years.

During the tenure of Prof. Heenkenda from 2019 to 2022, the faculty strived towards enhancing the educational and learning opportunities of the faculty undergraduates. Some of the salient features in the progress of the faculty during his tenure include, and are not limited to, the introduction of new degrees to match the existing demands of the world of employment, the development and integration digital teaching and learning strategy, building on cooperation and partnerships with external stakeholders and research institutions worldwide. In his attempt to increase the employability of the undergraduates, several new centres and units were established to focus on developing the employability and soft skills of the students. Professor Heenkenda has also given a notable contribution to enhancing and developing the infrastructure facilities of the faculty.

Prof. Heenkenda, an alumnus of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Nagoya University, Japan, has also actively contributed his knowledge and expertise to several domains of higher education namely the Council Committee of the university, the Standing Committee on Humanities and Social Sciences, evaluation panels of state universities, etc. He is also an active member of the JASID (The Japan Society for International Development) research group. In addition, he has been actively contributing to the task forces of the Sri Lankan government.

The Department of Music and Creative Technology signs an MOU with Yamaha Music, Sri Lanka



An MOU was signed between the Department of Music and Creative Technology and Yamaha Music, Sri Lanka, on 8th August 2022, at the Vice Chancellor's Office, for Yamaha to market the product to be created by the Research Innovation and Commercialization (RIC) project (round 2) under the Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development Operation (AHEAD), headed by Prof. Dharshan Pradeep Ratnayake. This is a combined project by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and the Faculty of Technology of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This is funded under RIC STEM/HEMS projects of AHEAD operation.

On behalf of the University, the Vice Chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Senior Prof. Sudantha Liyanage, signed the document, flanked by Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda (Dean – Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences), Prof. Upul Subasinghe (Dean – Faculty of Applied Sciences), Prof. Harendra Kariyawasam (Director – OTS USJ) Prof. Priyan Perera (Director – UBL Cell) and Prof. Dharshan Pradeep Ratnayake (Project Coordinator and Head of the Department of Music and Creative Technology). Team members, Prof. Prasad M. Jayaweera, from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Senior Lecturer Priyantha Thilakasiri, Senior Lecturer Muditha Ruwan Arumawadu, and Mr. Jeewaka Amiththa Bandaranayake from the Department of Music and Creative Technology, were also present. On behalf of Yamaha Sri Lanka (MLC Caderamanpulle Pvt Ltd), the MOU was signed by Shane Joachim (General Manager, Yamaha), with Rusiri de Silva (Assistant General Manager, Yamaha), and Business Development Officers, Ruskshan Hapuarachchi and Thilan de Silva in attendance.

Dr. Senaka Amarakeerthi (Faculty of Technology) and Dr. MMPM Fernando (Faculty of Applied Sciences) are also a part of the seven-member research team

led by Prof. Pradeep Ratnayake with research assistance provided by Ms. Sankalani Fernando. This is the first time that three faculties come together to produce music software at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



Ms. Melanie Kanaka appointed as the President of CIMA – first Asian woman elected to the post



An alumnus of the Department of Commerce, Ms. Melanie Kanaka, FCMA, CGMA was appointed as the 89th President to shoulder the responsibilities of the world-renowned professional body, Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). She was appointed to the esteemed position at the AGM held in Birmingham, UK on the 22nd of June 2022 and this happens to be the first time in history that an Asian woman was appointed to the post of the presidency of this global body. She has served as the Vice President since 2020 and shouldered many other responsibilities, during her illustrious career at CIMA.

Ms. Melanie became a member of CIMA in 1992 and ever since then has followed her dreams in the spheres of finance. She is currently the Head of the Finance and Administration for the World Bank in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. She has immense experience in the corporate field with giants such as Bellsouth, Hayleys Group, MAS Holdings and DFCC Bank, SJMS Associates, and Rapier Consulting.

She obtained a first class in the Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Jayewardenepura after receiving her primary education from Bishop's College and secured her Master of Business Administration in International Finance and Corporate Strategy from Goizuetta Business School of Emory University. Ms. Melanie has been an all-rounder who excelled in both academics and sports. She was passionate about swimming and served as an officiating member at the 1996 Summer Olympics held in Atlanta.

(Source: News Links: <https://www.ft.lk/front-page/SL-s-Melanie-first-ever-Asian-woman-elected-as-CIMA-President/44-736557>
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/melanie-j-kanaka-fcma-cgma-bcom-hons-mba-us-14b5a84>

B.Sc. in Optometry offered for the first time in Sri Lanka by FAHS

Under the leadership of the Dean, Snr Prof. Sharaine Fernando, the Faculty of Allied Health Science at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has pioneered in introducing the first UGC approved BSc (Honours) Optometry Programme in Sri Lanka, with the aim to fill a long-standing vacuum in the field of Optometry. The first batch (56 students) has been enrolled and teaching activities commenced in June 2022.



We aim to equip the graduates with in-depth theoretical knowledge, core clinical skills and advanced professional training necessary to practice independently and successfully as eye care professionals or academics and/or researchers. Graduates in Optometry will be competent in examining, diagnosing, and managing a range of ocular conditions, in prescribing and fitting visual aids, and in developing and conducting research.

CONFERENCE & RESEARCH

MSF Asia Scientific Days & International Conference on Medical Sciences (ICM) 2022



The International Conference on Medical Sciences is an annual event of the Faculty of Medical Sciences organized by the Research Committee. The event was held with glamour in collaboration with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/ Doctors without Borders, an international independent medical aid organization.

MSF Asia Scientific Days & International Conference on Medical Sciences (ICM) 2022 was held on 3rd and 4th August 2022 at Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ as a hybrid event with the participation of nearly 300 participants, both local and foreign. It was the first event at FMS of this nature to be held in person, after the pandemic.

The inauguration ceremony was held on the 3rd of August 2022 with Chief Guest, Senior Prof. Sudantha Liyanage and Guest of Honor Dr. Farhat Mantoo, Executive Director, Médecins Sans Frontières-South Asia gracing the occasion. Faculty of Medical Sciences Oration 2022 - "Exploring medicine use in older adults: A personal odyssey" was delivered by Prof. Chandanie Wanigatunge, Professor of Pharmacology, FMS, USJ. This was an eye-opener at this time of financial crisis where the importance of safe and rational prescribing is felt more than ever before.

The expertise of professionals across the globe enriched the scientific program enlightening the audience on a wide range of topics from preventive and curative medicine to child abuse and climate change. Dr. Maria Guevara from Geneva, Switzerland delivered the keynote address on the timely theme of climate change. The sessions paved the way for nearly seventy young researchers to share their findings as oral and poster presentations. We are grateful to MSF for continuing the collaboration amidst numerous obstacles. The research committee is looking forward to another vibrant scientific session next year.



3rd Annual Conference on Business Economics



The 3rd Annual Conference on Business Economics, the annual research conference organized by the Research Center for Business Economics and Development Studies of the Department of Business Economics, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC), was held on 26th August 2022. The conference was the first event held in line with the 20th Anniversary celebrations of the Department.

The inauguration ceremony of the conference was held in the Senate Board Room of the University. The Keynote Speaker of the event was Prof. Shantha Devarajan, Professor of the Practice of International Development, Georgetown University, United States of America. Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge (Chairman, UGC) and Prof. (Chair) of Business Economics was the Chief Guest of the event. Senior Prof. MM. Pathmalal (Acting Vice Chancellor of the University), Prof. PD. Nimal (Dean of the FMSC), academic staff of the Department and the Faculty, alumni members and undergraduates and postgraduates of the Department graced the event with their presence.

Thirty selected abstracts of the postgraduates and undergraduates were presented at the conference and were published in the proceedings of the conference.



Econ Pulse'22

Econ Pulse'22, the first ever Economics Student Conference (ESC) organized by the Department of Economics, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was successfully held on the 29th of July 2022 at the university premises. This is the official academic conference of the Department of Economics, FHSS, USJ.

This conference consisted of a research poster presentation competition plus mini-contests



namely, an oral presenter competition, a Quiz competition, and especially the 'Budding Economist' competition. The Conference was a huge success with around 100 delegates participating. 20+ merit certificate awardees, 6 Medalists, and 3 special award winners emerged at the awarding ceremony organized at the end of the conference with the participation of Hon Chief Guest, Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The conference proceedings were published as an e-version.



Vidyodaya Undergraduate Research Day 2022

Vidyodaya Undergraduate Research Day 2022 organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences was held on the 18th of August 2022. The advisor of Undergraduate Research Day 2022 was Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Under his guidance, this year's conference was chaired by Dr. Shantha Gamlath, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Political Science with the support of the Secretariat Rev. Dambara Amila Thero, Senior Lecturer, Department of History and Archeology. Prof. Siri Hettige, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Colombo participated in the event as the Keynote Speaker.

WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

CV Writing Workshop

The Department of Commerce in collaboration with Hirdaramani Knits conducted a special two-day workshop on CV writing for the undergraduates of the Department for them to step into the corporate sector with more confidence. The session was conducted by Ms. Amali Ferdinandes – Senior Manager of HR & Administration and Ms. Isuru Perera – Manager Performance & Talent at Hirdaramani Knits, an experienced resource person who has served in multinational companies for more than 15 years. This interactive session facilitated the undergraduates to gain in-depth knowledge of CV writing which is an essential element to gaining opportunities in the corporate sector.



Essential leadership toolkit to breakthrough in 2022

Mr. Sachin Wijayasinghe, Lecturer (Probationary) of the Department of Commerce served as the resource person at the "Essential leadership toolkit to breakthrough in 2022" workshop organized by the Department of Commerce of Alethea International School. The workshop was conducted at the Alethea International School Auditorium on 15th of June 2022.



Participant for COMPBIO 2022 from Sri Lanka

Ms. RSK Himashi Samudrika Ferdinandez, a Ph.D. student, who is currently conducting her post graduate research at Department of Botany, Faculty of Applied Sciences, was selected to participate in the COMPBIO 2022, International Workshop of Computational Biology. It was 14 days of Cross-Disciplinary Training in Computational Biology for graduate students around the world, held in June 13-25, 2022 at Thailand Science Park, National Science and Technology Development Agency of Thailand (NSTDA), Thailand. The workshop was organized by the University of Montana, in collaboration with the University of Putra Malaysia, Perdana University in Malaysia, the National University of Singapore, the National Science and Technology Development Agency of Thailand, the Agency for Science, Technology, and Research of Singapore, and the National Supercomputing Center of Singapore. The workshop successfully covered topics in the analysis of sequence data, molecular modeling, molecular dynamics, and other current and advanced topics. Scientists from the USA, Europe, and Asia presented as resource persons at the workshop. Approximately 22 applicants from Asia and 22 applicants from the USA had been selected for the workshop and Ms. Himashi was selected as the candidate from Sri Lanka. Ms Himashi is a postgraduate student of Dr. Dimuthu Manamgoda, Department of Botany, USJ.



A workshop on academic accountability

The Quality Assurance Cell of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences organized a workshop on Academic Accountability for the academic staff of the faculty on 28th June (Tuesday), 2022 at 12 noon via Zoom. The resource person of the workshop was Prof. Rasika Perera, Professor in Clinical Biochemistry, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Dr. Asha Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Psychology moderated the workshop.



Two-Day workshop on 'Personality Development, Attitudes at the Workplace and Digital File Management System'

A two-day activity-based workshop on personality development and building work-friendly attitudes, and a digital file management system was held on the 16th and 17th of August at the EKHO Surf, Bentota for the non-academic and academic support staff members of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. This workshop which was organized under the guidance of the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, aimed at providing practical exposure to improving the productivity of the non-academic staff and increasing their engagement in tasks while boosting professionalism, motivation, and discipline.

The first day of the workshop was enriched by an awareness session conducted by a J'pura alumnus Mr. Lasantha Kariyapperuma who is currently working as a trainer & consultant at Senitmo Management Consulting Services. His talk and the discussion were centered around themes relevant to an office setting such as personal productivity, the Japanese 5S Concept, Kaizen (Continue Improvement), time management, and positive thinking. The Registrar of the University, Mr. AB Welivita provided introductory remarks at the beginning of the workshop.

On the second day, the team had the opportunity to participate in a session that focused on providing training on recording files on a digital platform and editing audio-video files. In addition, Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, the Dean of the FHSS, briefed the staff members on ongoing projects and initiatives that are to be taken in the future. Mr. Sarath Ananda, Senior Lecturer and the Head of the Department of English Language Teaching Unit also contributed to making the session more meaningful by conducting an interactive session which aimed at providing practical guidance on effective decision-making process and boosting employee motivation.

The workshop was sponsored by the AHEAD project and the development fund of the FHSS. The faculty coordinator of the AHEAD Project Prof. Sunetra Tennakoon also contributed to organizing the workshop. The deputy registrar Ms. Samantha Geeganage, and the lecturers who handle the skills development and training of the AHEAD Project also provided their support to make the workshop successful.



3-day workshop on 'Sign Language Interpreting'

A 3-day workshop on 'Sign Language Interpreting' was held from 16th to 18th August 2022 at the EST – 2 Hall, Department of Sociology in collaboration with the Career Guidance Unit and the Voice Area Federation.



Workshop for preparation of files related to course investigation

A workshop for the preparation of PR documents was held on 17th August 2022 at the Faculty Computer Center (CDEPD). Mr. Samitha Nanayakkara, Lecturer, Department of ICT, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura conducted the workshop.



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A special workshop on Student Entrepreneurship was organized by the Entrepreneurship Development Unit operating under the Digital Education and Professional Development Center of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on Wednesday 24th August 2022 at the Sri Sumangala Assembly.

'The Knowledge - Workshop Series', Stress Management Programme

The Association of Public Administration (APA) with a new initiative to enhance undergraduates' knowledge introduced the workshop series 'The Knowledge - Workshop Series' on 21st June 2022. The first programme of the workshop series was held under the theme of 'Stress WWH (What? Why? How?)' with the contribution of Mr. Indika Ramachandra, a renowned results coach and a turnaround expert. The event was successfully held via zoom platform with the participation of the academic members and the undergraduates of the Department.

'The Knowledge - Workshop Series', Career Development Workshop

The Association of Public Administration (APA) as a continuation of the workshop series 'The Knowledge', successfully held the second programme on 28th June 2022 under the theme 'Opportunity for the Sri Lanka Administrative Service' with the contribution of Mr. Udesh IW. Senevirathna as the resource person. Mr. Senevirathna is a Grade I officer of Sri Lanka Administrative Service. The objective of the event was to enhance the knowledge of the aspiring undergraduates on the possibilities of a career in the Sri Lanka Administrative Service. The event was successfully held via zoom platform with the participation of the academic members and the undergraduates of the Department.

CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

12000-year-old skeletal remains from Fa Hien Cave to FMS

The human skeletal remains that were excavated from Fa Hien Cave in 2012 and taken to Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Germany for further studies, were brought back to Sri Lanka by Dr. Oshan Wedage, Senior Lecturer, Department of History and Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura after archaeological research examination.

The skeletal remains were received by Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka, M.P., State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion



and were handed over to Senior Prof. Surangi Yasawardene, Chair Prof. of Anatomy, and Dr. Sajith Edirisinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS), University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 11th February 2022 at Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion for further conservation, exhibition and research under their direct supervision.

Mrs. KADR Nishanthi Jayasinghe, Secretary, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion, Prof. Anura Manatunga, Director General of Archaeology and Senior Prof. Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya, Prof. Alexandar Kapukotuwa, Professor and Head, Department of



History and Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and Ms. Reshani Dharmawardene Archaeological Research Assistant at Department of Archaeology participated in the event.

AWARDS

Most Outstanding Reviewer Award – 2022 Emerald Literati Awards

Prof. Nishani Wickramaarachchi from the Department of Estate Management and Valuation, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was awarded the Outstanding Reviewer in the "2022 Emerald Literati Awards" organized by Emerald Publishing. Prof. Nishani was given this recognition for her continued support given as a Paper Reviewer for the International Journal of Housing Markets and Analysis.

Emerald Literati Awards is one of the largest, independent award schemes led by a publisher. It has recognized the outstanding contributions of the authors and reviewers to scholarly research for over 25 years. The Most Outstanding Reviewer Award is presented to recognize the contribution made to ensure that every paper published makes a genuine impact to the academic field.

Link to the award details:

<https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/journal/ijhma/international-journal-housing-markets-and-analysis-literati-award-winners-2022>



Clash of Minds 2022

The Faculty of Medical Sciences was represented by two teams comprising the members of the ELA at "CLASH OF MINDS 2022" – the Local and International Inter-University Debating Competitions organized by "J'pura Voice" - the Official Broadcasting and Media Unit of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Team A emerged victorious at the English Debating Competitions, following a competition against the debaters from the University of Peradeniya at the finale held on the 18th of June 2022.

The Debaters of "Team A" are as follows:

1. Ms. Senara Vidanapathirana (29th batch) - Captain
2. Mr. Mirshan Sivakumar (29th batch)
3. Ms. Amirah Izadeen (30th batch)
4. Mr Chethanan Moka (30th batch)

[Reserves: Lakindu Weerabhahu (29th batch), Naveen Hewage (29th Batch)]

Team B made through as Semi-Finalists of the English debating competitions debaters of "Team B" are as follows:

1. Mr Jemini Wickramayake (28th batch) - Captain
2. Ms Lakshika Varatharajah (29th batch)
3. Mr. Dihan Wijayasinghe (31st batch)
4. Ms Minsandi Fernando (31st Batch)

[Reserves: Siyara Gunasekara (29th batch), Muthunu Sandumal (29th batch)]

Our talented debaters had managed to claim two out of the three special awards at the finale.



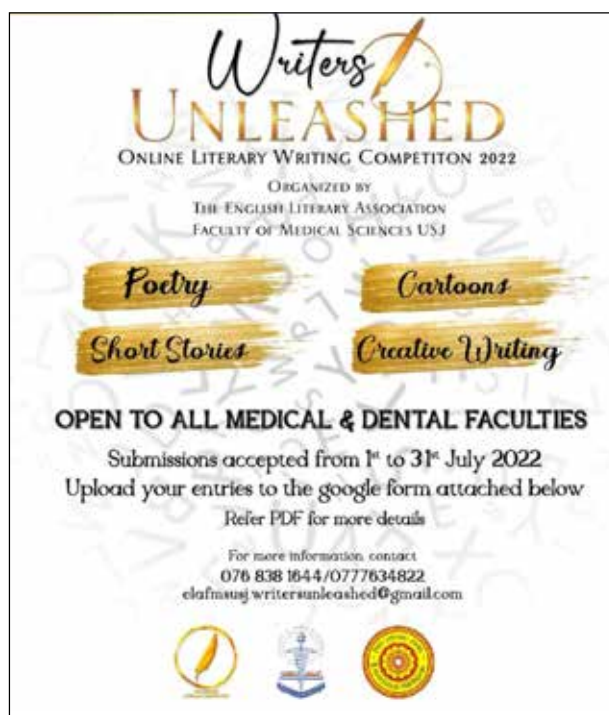
- The title of "The Best Debater" was awarded to Ms Senara Vidanapathirana (29th batch)
- The title of "The Best Point breaker" was awarded to Ms Amirah Izadeen (30th batch)

“Writers Unleashed” - the online literary writing competition 2022

“Writers Unleashed” – the online literary writing competition 2022 – is a creative writing competition organized by the English Literary Association of the Faculty of Medical Sciences at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The competition provides one of the most opportune platforms for all undergraduates enrolled in a Medical, Dental surgery or an Allied Health Science program in a state university in Sri Lanka to demonstrate their English language and literary skills.

The competitors will compete in four categories: Poetry, Short Stories, Cartoons-Digital and Hand drawn, and Creative Writing, each category will entail several themes. The competition was open for submissions from July to August earlier this year and was able to secure the participation of over one hundred competitors.

The organizers have recruited the services of a panel of distinguished professionals in contemporary literature to determine a transparent and impartial judgment in declaring the winners of each category. The organizers also hope to host an award ceremony in felicitation of the winners and the rest of the competitors for their dedication, support, and participation in “Writers Unleashed 2022”.



Imesha Lakmini Hettige receives Prof M. U. S. Sultanbawa Award 2022 for Research in Chemistry

Imesha Lakmini Hettige, a student of the Department of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura is the recipient of the Prof. MUS Sultanbawa Award – 2022, awarded by the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon. It was presented at the Inaugural Ceremony of the 51st Annual Sessions of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon on the 22nd of June, 2022 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute (SLFI). The award was presented to the paper titled, “Synthesis and characterization of platinum complexes with ethylenediamine and diethylenetriamine sulphonamide ligands towards biological applications”. Her work was supervised by Prof. Theshini Perera at the Department of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The research essentially concentrated on the synthesis of N-sulphonamide ligands and their platinum complexes, which would be useful towards anti-cancer and fluorescence imaging applications. This prestigious award is awarded to the best research paper presented at the Annual Sessions of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon, recognizing the unique, distinguished and significant contribution made to the cause of Science, Chemistry, Education and Research in Sri Lanka.

Chemistry Debaters of USJ placed 2nd runner-up at the Inter-University Chemistry Debate Competition 2022.

The Inter-University Chemistry Debate Competition, which is an annual competition organized by the College of Chemical Sciences and to which many undergraduates from different state universities take part, was held on the 12th of February 2022. Under the guidance of Prof. Theshini Perera, the USJ debaters began preparations with the division of members into 5 teams to face the battle against the College of Chemical Sciences, University of Jaffna, Peradeniya, Ruhuna and the South-Eastern University of Sri Lanka. USJ team comprised 7 members which included Manesha Fernando (captain), Buddhi Lekamwasam, Sandali Wijerathna, Shermi Maleesha, Govini Perera, Hirusha Liyanage and Dimithri Weerasekara.



During the recent 51st Annual Sessions of the College of Chemical Sciences, held on the 22nd of June, 2022 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, the team received its cash prize from the chief guest, Mr. Asoka Hettigoda, Managing Director of Siddhalepa. The team extends its heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Champa Jayaweera, Head of the Department of Chemistry and special thanks to Prof. Nilwala Kottegoda, former Head of the Department and Prof. SDM Chinthaka who assisted the team greatly in preparations, and to Prof. Theshini Perera, professor in charge of the chemistry debate team.

SPORTS

NCPBA All Island Badminton Championship 2022

Hasara Wijayarathne and Hasini Ambalangodage from the Badminton team of University of Sri Jayewardenepura became the runners- up in the Open Women's Doubles category at the NCPBA All Island Badminton Championship 2022 held from 30th of August to 4th of September in Anuradhapura. It was a level 1 national ranking badminton tournament organized by North Central Province Badminton Association affiliated to Sri Lanka Badminton. Hasara Wijayarathne is a 3rd year undergraduate of the faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, and Hasini Ambalangodage is a 2nd year undergraduate of the Faculty of Applied Sciences



Badminton Smashes Tournament 2022

The USJ badminton team has won the Smashes 2022 Championship tournament by defeating the University of Kelaniya by 3 to 1 in the finals. Badminton teams from 11 different universities including non-government universities participated in this tournament and NSBM (Green) University became the second runners up in this tournament.



EXTRAVAGANZA 2022 Badminton Championship

USJ badminton team has won the EXTRAVAGANZA 2022 Badminton Championship tournament by defeating Open University by 3 to 1 in the finals. 30 badminton teams from 12 universities including non-government universities participated in this tournament. SLIIT and CINEC universities have won the 2nd runners-up.

Student Activity Club of Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology has organized this tournament. Matches were held on 27th & 28th of August 2022 at Mercantile Badminton Association Indoor Courts.



AWARD CEREMONIES

Badminton Smashes Tournament 2022

USJ Badminton team has organized Badminton Smashes Tournament 2022 for the 8th time and hosted the tournament. The games were held between 13th -17th & 28th - 31st of July 2022 at the Mercantile Badminton Association Courts. In addition to Inter-University tournament, more than 1000 junior players all over the country participated in the Age Group Championships in Smashes 2022.



COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Scholarly Lecture by the Cultural Sub-Committee, FHSS

A scholarly lecture was held by the Cultural Sub-Committee of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura for Vesak Pun Pohoya in the year 2022 on 16th May 2022. A series of dhamma sessions was conducted by Venerable monks with regard to the importance of the Vesak Poya Day. The telecast of the program is attached on the faculty website.



Buddha Prabha Wesak Festival

The Commerce Society (COMSO) organized a special sermon on the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day on the 16th of May 2022 via the zoom meeting platform. The sermon was delivered by Venerable Galle Gnanobhasa Thero under the theme of the values that a nobleman needs to possess. This noteworthy sermon enlightened the audience on many aspects building a strong temporal discussion. A special 'Bodhi Pooja' was organized at Sri Wijayarama Rajamaha Viharaya, Udahamulla on the same evening from 5.30 p.m. where religious observances were conducted to invoke blessings for the future of the undergraduates, the Department, and the country as a whole.



STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

Supem Niwasa

The Commerce Society (COMSO) organized a special CSR project for differently-abled children at Wijerama, Nugegoda on the 15th of May 2022. The Society with the assistance of the academic staff and well-wishers were able to contribute dry rations, asbestos sheets, and financial assistance to maintain their well-being. The CSR project was organized in collaboration with the Buddha Prabha festival.



Annual General Meeting (2022/2023)

The Annual General Meeting (2022/2023) of the Commerce Society (COMSO) of the Department of Commerce was successfully held at the Prof. KA Munasinghe Hall on the 31st of May 2022. Academic staff members of the Department and undergraduates representing all four years attended this occasion. At the AGM, new office bearers of the Association were appointed for the year 2022/ 2023.



Methpini Warsha

The Commerce Society (COMSO) of the Department of Commerce organized a Bhakthi Geetha recital titled "Methpini Warsha" in commemoration of the Poson Festival in the "Hadhawila Elimahan Ragabima", the open theatre of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on the 15th of June 2022.

This was the first event that took place at the open theatre. The recitals were performed by undergraduates belonging to the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Technology and Engineering, and Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura under the patronage of the Vice-Chancellor Senior Prof. Sudantha Liyanage, Dean - Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce Prof. PD. Nimal, and Heads of Departments of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. The event was enriched by Harith Wijerathne "The Voice Sri Lanka 2021" winner who is a fourth-year undergraduate of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Also, reality stars Midori Karunaratne and Harsha Dhananjaya undergraduates of the university too shared the spotlight of this glamorous event.



"සද්ධර්ම ධක්ඛිණා" Dhamma Sermon in celebration of Poson Poya Day 2022

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized a Dhamma Sermon programme "සද්ධර්ම ධක්ඛිණා" in celebration of Poson Poya Day 2022. The dhamma sermon was conducted by Venerable Meegoda Madhubhani Thero of Maharagama Sri Wajiragnana Dharmayathana. The Dhamma Sermon was then followed by a question-and-answer session on Buddhist solutions for current issues. The Head of the Department, the academic members and the undergraduates of the Department of Public Administration took part in the programme.



" දන්සල" organized by Association of Public Administration

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized a Manioc cutlet and Bael fruit flower drink dansela " දන්සල" in celebration of Poson Poya Day 2022. The event was held in front of the main gate premises of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce and other distinguished academics and undergraduates graced the occasion.



Dream Student Support Program

The Equal Opportunity Cell of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences organized a program for the differently abled undergraduates of the faculty on 8th May 2022. The objective of this program was to support these undergraduates with monthly scholarship of Rs. 2000.00, presenting laptops, and donating deaf, blind devices to help their education or any other mode of support to uplift their future.



CIGNO '22- Another Milestone of the Entre Club, FHSS, USJ

The Corporate Skills Hub of the Enter Club operating under the Entrepreneurship Development Unit of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in the University of Sri Jayewardenepura organized a workshop series titled CIGNO '22 partnered with J'pura Voice, J'pura Flames and J'pura Media.

The first workshop of the CIGNO '22, Media Presenting Workshop partnered with J'pura Voice was held on 8th August from 8.30 a.m to 4.00 p.m at the Sumangala Auditorium in the University of Sri Jayewardenepura with 80+ participants.

The Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda was the Chief Guest and the Senior News Presenter of Sri Lanka Rupawahini Cooperation, Mr. Chaminda Gunarathna participated as the special chief guest of the CIGNO '22 Opening Ceremony.



MIC 2022 - පළමු වැඩමුළුව

The workshop, MIC 2022 was conducted prior to the start of this year's tournament with the aim of providing the necessary guidance to the students participating in the multifaceted intelligence challenge tournament organized by the Digital Education and Career Training Center for students studying in all years of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The workshop was conducted from the 14th to the 28th of August 2022.

CD EPD

MIC 2022
Brilliant Minds
Multiple Intelligence Challenge - 2022

MIC 2022 පළමු වැඩමුළුව
නව තේරුම් පුටුණා කමිටේ නිර්මිත
බුද්ධිමය අතිරේකයා ජය ගැනීමට සූදානම් ඔබට

Ms. R. M. K. G. U. Rathnayaka
Senior Lecturer
Department of Social Statistics
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

zoom
Meeting ID: 954 1916 9158
Passcode: 079338

01 Aug 06 PM

පිවිසෙන්න
<http://cdepd.fhss.sjp.ac.lk/>

පිටුපසට අධ්‍යයනය හා විශේෂීය සංවර්ධන මධ්‍යස්ථානය
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Entre Leadership Camp - ELC'22

Entre Leadership Camp 22, which was organized by the Entre Club of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is a leadership arm that is brought to the students of the university with the intention of developing their leadership skills and motivating them to create a better tomorrow as the future leaders of the country. This camp which was open to all members of Entre Club was a three-day event that was held on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of May 2022.

The opening ceremony of the Entre Leadership Camp'22 was held at the Sumangala Auditorium of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The event was graced by the presence of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Senior Prof. Sudantha Liyanage, Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, Director of CDEPD & Head of Department of Economics, Prof. (Mrs.) BWR Damayanthi, Lecturer in Charge Assistant Lecturer Pasan Wijayawardhana and Instructor, Mr. Pubudu Jayasundara.

The event was brightened with the presence of the Guest Speaker, Mr. Dian Baduge, a young entrepreneur with expertise in marketing, innovation, recruitment, publishing, and training. He is credited with building Sri Lanka's first-ever virtual exhibition platform, bringing 'Augmented Reality' for education needs, coding for children movement and initiating Sri Lanka's largest school career guidance network. As he shared his well-experienced knowledge and talents with the young, potential entrepreneurs of our university he boosted their motivation and interest in investing in this field.



Inner Life Restoration Session from Entre Club, FHSS, USJ

The Entre Club of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura organized an Inner Life Restoration Session with the key objective of providing psychological strength required for young entrepreneurs.

The keynote speaker of the session was Mr. Malik Ali who is serving as a Philanthropist, Motivational Speaker, and Life Coach in the USA. He is also the author of the world-famous Psychological Publication named 'Mask Off'.

The event happened at Sumangala Auditorium of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 8th June 2022.

A key contribution to this event was given by the Business Psychology Cell operating under the Entrepreneurship Development Hub of the Entre Club. It ended successfully with positive feedback from participants including both staff members and undergraduates.



Awareness Session on Audio-Book Reading

A Talking Book Project was organized by the University of Sri Jayewardenepura's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences where volunteer readers were invited to join hands with the social mission for print-impaired readers in the university system and outside the University. The first training session was held on 12.08.2022 via Zoom.

පොතක් කියවන ආසක් වන්න
AWARENESS SESSION
for the Audio-Book volunteer Readers
 Sinhala, English or Tamil medium

ශ්‍රී ජයවර්ධනපුර විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර හා සමාජීය විද්‍යා විධායක උපාධි ව්‍යාපෘතියේ කියවන්නෙකු ලෙස සාමාජිකයෙක් ලෙස සාමාජිකයෙක් ලෙස.

විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පද්ධතියේ මෙවන් සමස්ත ශ්‍රී ලංකාව තුළ විසිරී පැතිරී සිටින ප්‍රදේශීය කියවීමට නොහැකි (Print Impaired) පාඨකයන් වෙතුවෙන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරන මෙහෙයුරක් වන මෙහි ව්‍යාපෘතිය සමඟ සිටින්නන් අත්විඳිනු ලබනු ඇත.

සාමාජිකයෙක් ලෙස (Volunteer Reader) අප හා සම්බන්ධ වන්න 0 සිට සාමාජිකයෙක් 2022.08.12 දින පැවැත්වෙන පුහුණු සැසිය හා එක්වන්න.

12th AUG
 10.00 A.M.

Meeting ID: 958 9747 7125
 Passcode: 378755

සංවිධානය සමාජ අවධාන කේන්ද්‍රය මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර හා සමාජීය විද්‍යා විධායක උපාධි ව්‍යාපෘතිය

“Weralata Husmak” : Beach cleaning program by FAHS students

The 2019/2020 batch of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences successfully concluded a beach cleaning program named 'Weralata Husmak' under the guidance of Dr. Ranga Dissanayake, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, on 7th May 2022 at the coastal line of Wellawatta. This event was successfully launched with the participation of Senior Prof. DMS Fernando, Dean of Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, other academics, students from senior batches, and students of the organizing batch. It was indeed a very refreshing event especially because students initiated this program of gratitude to Mother Sri Lanka expecting nothing in return.



“Apeksha” Blood Donation Campaign - FAHS students

The 2019/2020 batch of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences successfully concluded a blood donation campaign, 'Apeksha' during their first year of study at USJ under the guidance of Dr. Ranga Dissanayake, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The blood donation campaign was held on 5th May 2022 at the Saagra building premises. A team of 16, including doctors and nurses from the National Blood Transfusion Center, Narahenpita participated and gave their valuable contribution in making this blood donation campaign a success. A total of 91 individuals donated blood at this event which was a great achievement. Necessary arrangements including refreshments were provided for all the participants. All blood donors were also awarded certificates of appreciation. The Vice Chancellor, Snr Professor Sudantha Liyanage, Dean, Snr Professor Sharaine Fernando, and academics of FAHS also participated in the opening ceremony to convey their blessings to this very thoughtful and generous cause.



INDUSTRY/COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Economic Forum on “Confronting the Economic and Political Crisis in Sri Lanka: Priorities for Transformation”



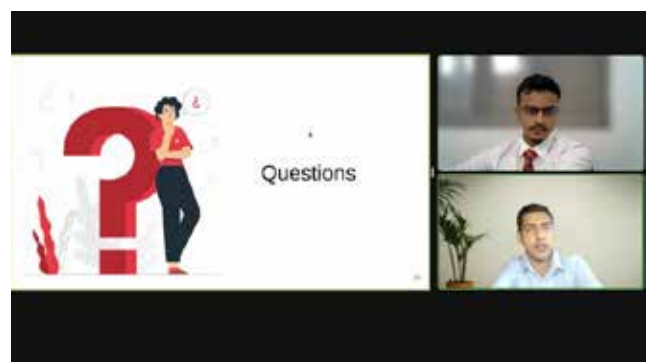
An economic forum was organized by the Research Center for Business Economics and Development Studies of the Department of Business Economics on the theme “Confronting the Economic and

Political Crisis in Sri Lanka: Priorities for Transformation” on 26th August 2022 virtually via Zoom.

It was the second event which was organized to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Department of Business Economics. Eminent resource persons addressed the theme from different perspectives. The panelists of the forum were Dr. Indrajith Coomaraswamy (Former Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka), Dr. WA Wijewardene (Former Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka), Prof. Premachandra Athukorala (Professor in Economics, Australian National University), Dr. Dushni Weerakoon (Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies) and Mr. Shiran Fernando (Chief Economist, The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce). Mr. Nisthar Cassim (Founder and Editor/CEO of Daily FT) moderated the economic forum. This forum was expected to enrich ongoing discussions on Sri Lanka's economic and political turmoil.

Workshop on Blockchain and web 3.0

Blockchain and web 3.0 are making their way into multinational companies and many related fields. To discuss this emerging importance, the Department of Commerce organized a workshop on Blockchain and web 3.0 giving a great opportunity for the participants to face corporate challenges in the future. The session was conducted by Mr. Pulasthi Ekanayake who works as a software engineer for Yaara labs and is a graduate of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa. He is the Co-founder of Cascadia Solutions (Pvt) Ltd. The workshop was conducted on the 1st of June 2022 via the zoom meeting platform where many important aspects were discussed at length.



Accounting beyond the Traditions

To discuss the importance of Cloud Accounting, the Department of Commerce organized a workshop titled "Accounting Beyond the Traditions" on the 2nd of June 2022, giving a great opportunity to participants to get familiar with sophisticated modern tools that would enable the students to face corporate challenges in the future. The session was conducted by Mr. Lasantha Gamage Partner, LWD Accounting & Business Services (Pvt) Ltd, Australia. The workshop was conducted via the zoom meeting platform where many important aspects were discussed. Among the key points, an Introduction to Cloud Accounting, SW in the market, MYOB Cloud software, and its key features were discussed.



Business Forecasting Under Economic Crisis

The Department of Commerce organized a guest lecture on "Business Forecasting Under Economic Crisis" via the zoom meeting platform on the 15th of June 2022. The key resource persons for the session were Mr. Shaheen Hussain – Delivery Manager, Acuity Knowledge Partners, and Ms. Hiruni Abeywickrama – Delivery Lead, Acuity Knowledge Partners. The guest lecture was a result of the MoU signed between Acuity Knowledge Partners and the Department which discussed a temporal matter at hand. The audience was able to understand the importance of forecasting in the corporate world and the significance of forecasting under an economic crisis.



Personal Branding through LinkedIn

The Department of Commerce organized a guest lecture, thereby providing a great opportunity for participants to get familiar with Personal Branding through LinkedIn. The session was conducted by Mr. Lasantha Gamage who has over 16 years of corporate experience both locally and internationally, on the 16th of June 2022. The session was held via the zoom meeting platform where many important aspects were discussed in length during the session on creating a LinkedIn profile, maintaining professionalism online, how to find suitable job opportunities and many other important aspects.



Guest Lecture on “In-depth analysis regarding the current situation of the Sri Lankan Economy and the Future of Banking Sector in Sri Lanka”.

The Department of Commerce conducted a Guest Lecture on the 18th of July 2022, in relation to the Banking Course Unit, via the zoom meeting platform on the topic of “In-depth analysis regarding the current situation of the Sri Lankan Economy and the Future of the Banking Sector in Sri Lanka”. The guest lecture was conducted by Mr. Lalith Fernando who is a Risk Management and Credit Consultant and also the former Chief Risk Officer & Deputy GM of Bank of Ceylon.



Guest Lecture on “The Listing Rules and Continuous Listing requirements of the Colombo Stock Exchange”

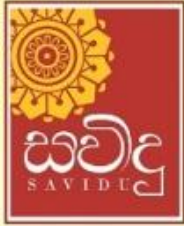
The Department of Commerce conducted a guest lecture on listing rules and continuous listing requirements of the Colombo Stock Exchange online using zoom on the 18th of July 2022. The guest speaker for the session was Ms. Nilupa Perera, Senior Vice President - Trading Operations, Market Surveillance & Corporate Affairs at CSE. During the session, Ms. Nilupa Perera explained and covered the listing requirements on the Mainboard and DiriSavi Board.



Guest Lecture on ‘Youth and its realities’

The Department of Public Administration organized a guest lecture for the students of the Department of Public Administration under the theme ‘Youth and its realities’ with the contribution of the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Mr. Saman Waduge as the resource person, on 5th July 2022. The session focused on discussing the issues the youth of Sri Lanka are facing and the challenges ahead of them.





NEWSLETTER

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