



NEWSLETTER

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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Snr.Prof Pathmalal M. Manage Appointed
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University of
Sri Jayewardenepura

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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

Appointment of Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage as Vice Chancellor Marks a New Chapter for the University of Sri Jayewardenepura



Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage was appointed as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura with effect from 28th July 2023 by His Excellency the Honourable President Ranil Wickremesinghe, a testament to his distinguished academic journey. Graduating with a first-class honours B.Sc. Special Degree in 1992, Snr. Prof. Pathmalal earned a Master's Degree (M.Sc) in Life Environmental Science in 1998 and a PhD in Microbial Ecology and Eco-toxicology from the Department of Life Environmental Conservation Science, Ehime University, Japan, in 2001. Snr. Prof. Pathmalal has been recognized as a Chartered Fellow (F.I Biol) since 2017. Snr. Prof. Pathmalal is an incumbent honorary fellow scientist of Robert Gordon University, UK from 2019, and Sydney University, Australia from 2021. He has held several post-doctoral fellowships, namely, at the Institute of Advanced Science and Technology (AIST), the Institute of Health and Safety Research (IHSR),

Tsukuba, Japan (2004-2005), the Department of Phototoxin, School of Pharmacology, Robert Gordon University, UK (2006), the Leverhulme Trust Post-Doctoral Visiting Research Fellowship UK (2007-2008), the post-doctoral research fellowship in Centre for Global Environmental Studies (CGES), Ehime University, Japan (2010), the Commonwealth Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship in Robert Gordon University, UK (2013-2014). Snr. Prof. Pathmalal was awarded a Fulbright senior researcher fellowship by Full Bright Commission, USA in 2022.

The leadership of Snr. Prof. Pathmalal extends to roles such as Senior Professor of Zoology (Carder Chair- from 2019 to date), Professor in Zoology (from 2013 to 2019), Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (2019-2023), a Head of the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences (2013 to 2019), and Co-chair Research Council (from 2016 to 2024).

Snr. Prof. Pathmalal M. Manage is a distinguished, highly cited researcher in eco-toxicology, water quality, bioremediation of natural and xenobiotic chemicals, and cyanotoxin, and have blazed a track record that speaks volumes of his dedication and achievement in the above-mentioned fields. His outstanding service in research and consultancy extends from national to international spheres, encompassing both government and private sectors. Snr. Prof. Pathmalal Manage has made significant contributions to numerous projects aimed at national development and finding valuable solutions to critical issues arising in various fields in water and environmental pollution. Snr. Prof. Pathmalal has published 140 index journal publications in SCI, SCOPUS and other indexed journals and 420 national and international abstracts and conference proceedings. He also has authored 07 textbooks and 04 laboratory and field manuals for university students and researchers, 31 international book chapters and 04 patents. Snr. Prof. Pathmalal is a recipient of many awards, including Best Professor of Zoology (Sri Lanka Leadership Award for Education 2018), Vice-Chancellor's Award for the Best Researcher (2016), six SUSRED awards by National Science Foundation Sri Lanka, Short-research scholarships for Academic Staff of Universities by the President of Sri Lanka (2005-2006), Environmental Award for Green Jobs-Education and Awareness Creation by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, seven National Research Council merit awards, the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors (CVCD) Excellence Award for the most outstanding senior researcher (2020) under the Category of Biological Sciences including Agriculture and Allied Sciences, the "Bronze Award" at the 'Innovate Sri Lanka 2019' for the domestic water filter to treat drinking water, Presidential awards for recognition of SCI high impact Index-Journal publications in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. The Research Excellence Gold Medal for his PhD from Ehime University, Japan (2001). In addition, Snr. Prof. Pathmalal has several new world-first records of bacteria for cyanotoxin degradation for drinking water treatment solutions.

Snr. Prof. Pathmalal has been a lighthouse to undergraduates under his tutelage, a beacon to the research students, and a dedicated teacher who always made time to teach even in administrative positions. At the postgraduate level, 03 MPhil theses, and 12 PhD were completed under his supervision as the principal supervisor, 10 MPhil theses, and 02 PhD were completed under his co-supervision and several MPhil and PhD studies are currently under his supervision.

Snr. Prof. Pathmalal has secured several competitive research grants from local and international donor agencies; namely, the Ministry of Water Supply, the Irrigation Department, the National Water Supply and Drainage Board, the National Science Foundation, the National Research Council, the Medical Institute Sri Lanka, the General Microbiology Society, International Development award UK, International Water Management Institute IWMI, Textile manufacture and the Hayleys Fabric of Hayleys group and the Research Triangle Institute USA and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council UK.

He served as a water and pollution prevention expert for many national development projects, namely; "Environmental Screening for Surveillance of COVID-19 Viruses in Surface and Groundwater", "Controlling of Pollution and Improving the Quality in Water Associated with the Diyawanna Oya", the pollution expert for the "Master Plan on Coast Conservation and Tourism Development within the coastal zone from Negombo to Mirissa in Sri Lanka", "Screening of pharmaceutical contamination status in environmental samples in Sri Lanka", "Prevention of waste disposal to the Kelani River and protection of the Kelani river lower basin", "Identification of pollution source, analysis of water quality and development of integrated management plan for the coastal zone, Sri Lanka" and cyanotoxin specialist number of newly constructed water treatments plants in Sri Lanka. Prof. Pathmalal Was the national consultant for the consultancy services for experts and special technical assistance for the Eastern province water supply development project as algae and cyanotoxin specialist for the JICA. Prof Pathmalal has served as a member of several Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports for the Upper Kothmale Hydropower Project, the Kukule Ganga Project, the Moragahakanda Project, the Umaoya Project, the Yan Oya Project, the Southern Highway Project, Central Highway Project etc. in the Country for national development. As he assumes the role of Vice Chancellor, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura anticipates a continuation of his commitment to academic and research eminence.

Certificate Course on Quantitative Data Analysis

On 22nd June 2023 the certificate course on Quantitative Data Analysis started with an enrolment of 39 students and Mrs. Dileepa Endagama serve as the course coordinator of this program.

It is designed for researchers, research students, and anyone who uses statistics in their employment or is interested in learning more about data analysis. The course covered the fundamentals of quantitative data analysis, including how to operate Excel, SPSS, and Minitab, introduction to statistics, sample surveys, inferential statistics, correlation and regression analysis, introduction to the Design of Experiments, and Testing Reliability and Validity.

Department of Economics Extends a Warm Welcome to International Students pursuing the Master of Economics Degree Programme

The first intake of Chinese students who have enrolled in the Master of Economics degree programme offered by the Department of Economics at the University of Sri Jayawardenepura has arrived in Sri Lanka. Their arrival, which took place from 28th July 2023 to 31st July 2023, marks the beginning of a new academic adventure for these aspiring scholars. The arrival of these students signifies a noticeable milestone in the growing educational ties between Sri Lanka and the globe. These students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich academic and cultural environment of Sri Lanka while pursuing their advanced studies in economics.



The Master of Economics degree programme offered by the Department of Economics, renowned for its comprehensive curriculum promises to equip these students with the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in the field of economics. By choosing to pursue their studies in Sri Lanka, these students have demonstrated their commitment to broadening

their horizons and embracing a global perspective. In an ongoing pursuit of excellence, the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is dedicated to cultivating individuals who possess a distinctive combination of theoretical knowledge and practical expertise. This unique blend of skills aims to set them apart from the competition in the realm of high-paying job opportunities, positioning them as genuine



contenders in the race for employment success. During their arrival, the Chinese students were warmly welcomed by the academic staff and officials. They were greeted with open arms and provided with all the necessary support to ensure a smooth transition into their new academic environment. As the students embark on this new academic journey, they will undoubtedly contribute to the vibrant academic atmosphere of Sri Lanka. Their presence will not only enrich the learning experience for their fellow students but also foster a deeper understanding of the Sri Lankan community, the country's historical landmarks, local cuisine, etc.

Book Donation by the Chinese Language and Cultural Centre to the Main Library of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Chinese Language and Cultural Centre donated books for the Main Library of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 22nd June 2023. The donation was presented by Ven. Satemannta, Nalandaramaya Buddhist Temple with the participation of Professor Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Nayana Wijayasundara, Librarian, Dr. Manoja Samaradiwakara, and Senior Assistant Librarian at the University premises. After the donation, Ven. Satemannta took part in a library visit with the team. Special thanks go to Ven. Sandamadulle Sumanasara for facilitating this donation for the University.



Legacy Preserved: Mr. H.P.B. Somasiri and Family's Generous Donation Enriches the Archaeology Museum of the Department of History and Archaeology

The Archaeology Museum of the Department of History and Archaeology of the USJ extends its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Mr. H.P.B. Somasiri and his family from Dodanduwa, Galle, for his thoughtful and generous donation of 28 artifacts to the Archaeology Museum, which they inherited from their ancestors. The aforementioned artifacts, such as porcelain objects, glass bottles, copper, and clay objects, seemingly belong to the colonial and post-colonial periods of Sri Lanka, and the donating family expects the objects to be securely exhibited and used for research purposes of academia.



Under the coordination of the Head of the Department, Senior Lecturer (Ven.) Dambara Amila and Prof. Karunasena Hettiarachchi of the Department of History and Archaeology, the Curator of the Museum, Mrs. Nilmini Netthasinghe, Senior Lecturer (Dr.) Oshan Wedage of the same department and Isuru Kodithuwakku, a fourth-year undergraduate who made contact with the donating family during his undergraduate research dissertation, participated in this artifact donation event on 24th July 2023.



Introduction of the New 'Python for Finance' Course

To address the evolving landscape of the finance field, the Department of Finance has taken a proactive approach by introducing a Python for Finance course within the BSc Honours in Finance degree programme. This significant initiative commenced with an introductory session on 11th August 2023. Through the incorporation of Python



programming into the curriculum, the department aims to bridge the gap between finance and information technology. This innovative approach seeks to empower finance undergraduates, enabling them to become catalysts for change within the finance sector. In essence, this course represents a forward-thinking strategy to prepare students for the future by harnessing the power of technology and fostering collaboration between disciplines.

Department of Public Administration Hosts Inspiring Meeting with Esteemed Alumni

A discussion on the future prospects and the current concerns of the Department was carried out with the proud alumni belonging to 1996/2000 batch on 5th August 2023 at the Old Faculty Board Room of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura. Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Dr. R. P. C. K. Jayasinghe, Head of the Department of Public Administration, Prof. M. H. A. Sisira



Kumara, one of the academic members of the Department of Public Administration representing the 1996/2000 batch addressed the gathering on the occasion.

Associate Prof. Patrick Faulkner of the University of Sydney, Australia, Donates Archaeological Field Equipment to the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ

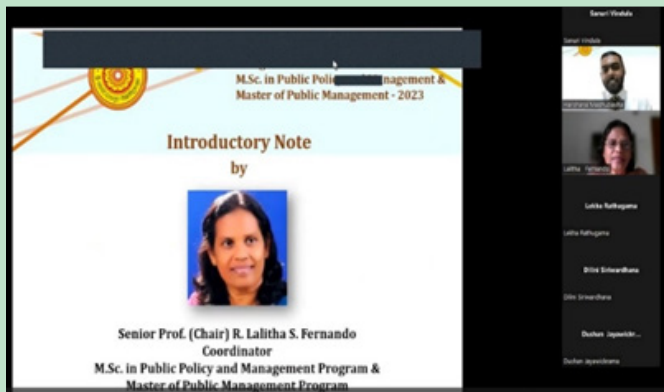
Associate Prof. Patrick Faulkner, a long-term research collaborator from the Department of Archaeology of the University of Sydney (Australia), who visited Sri Lanka for the second phase of the Bundala prehistoric research excavation project, generously donated archaeological field and laboratory equipment to the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ, on the 24th August 2023, at the Vice-Chancellor's Office of the USJ.

Accordingly, numerous archaeological field equipment including a total station, a dumpy level, and a microscope were donated to the department; resources that are highly important for the undergraduates who are following the Archaeology and History (Honours) degree programs. The event was graced by the Vice-Chancellor of the USJ, Prof. Pathmalal M. Manage, and the academic staff, non-academic staff, and the students representing the department attended to witness this handing over.

The staff and the students of the Department of History and Archaeology are immensely grateful to Associate Prof. Patrick Faulkner and the Discipline of Archaeology at the University of Sydney for this kind gesture, which will be a crucial assistance in upgrading the caliber of our undergraduates and the overall quality of the degree programs offered by the department.



Marking Milestones: Inauguration Ceremony for 4th Intake of Master of Science in Public Policy and Management and Master of Public Management Programmes



The Department of Public Administration successfully conducted the inaugural ceremony (4th intake) of the Master of Science in Public Policy and Management – MSc (PPM) and Master of Public Management (MPM) Programmes on 15th July 2023 through the Zoom platform. The keynote speech of the event was delivered by Mr. Austin Fernando, former High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in India, and the

former Secretary to the President of Sri Lanka. The Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jaywardenepura, The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, The Head of the Department of Public Administration, the academic members, non-academic members, and students took part in the session.

Sinhala and Tamil Audio Books Initiative Launched by the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo



The third-year undergraduates from the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo, handed over 06 audiobooks to the 'ABLE' online library of the FHSS on 02nd

May 2023, completed as a continuous assessment. They aimed to prepare audio books to make a service to those who have faced difficulties in reading books. Guidance and instructions for this initiative were

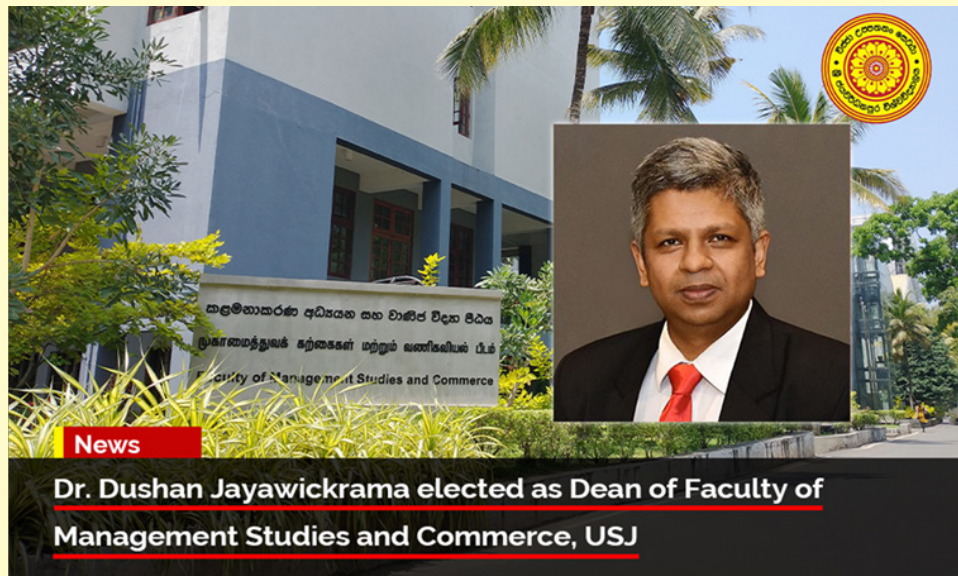


given by Prof. S. S. Nishantha Perera, Head of the Department, Dr. G. N. Karunathunge, Course Coordinator, Community Service and Dr. Anuradha Mahasinghe, Academic Advisor of the Project of the Department of Mathematics.

A new dean for the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama officially assumed duties as the new Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 29th May 2023. Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama completed his Bachelor of Science Special Degree in Marketing Management and

his Master of Science Degree in Management from USJ. He obtained his PhD from the Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia. He is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Marketing Management with over 15 years of academic and industry experience in marketing, branding and consumer behaviour.



CONFERENCE & RESEARCH

USJ Researchers Published 37 Scopus Indexed Papers in May and June 2023



USJ Research

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Researchers from the Faculties of Applied Sciences, Medical, Technology, Engineering, Management, and Graduate Studies published 37 research papers in journals indexed by Elsevier Scopus during the months of May and June 2023. Fifty-two researchers from different departments of USJ contributed to this achievement.

International Conference on Medical Sciences 2023



The annual research conference is the flagship event of the Research Committee of the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS) since its inception in 1995. This international research conference, "ICM" has always been an exciting time for researchers, clinicians and academicians to share their knowledge and expertise, have a strong scientific debate and discussion for advancement of health sciences. This year, ICM 2023 was held on 8th-9th June 2023 at the Anatomy Auditorium, FMS with the participation of renowned local and international speakers under the timely theme "Resilience. Remediation. Reinvention"

The inauguration ceremony was addressed by Prof. Varuni Tennakoon, chairperson of the Research Committee. Prof. Aloka Pathirana, Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and was followed by the prestigious FMS oration 2023 delivered by Prof. Manjula Weerasekera from Department of Microbiology on "Leptospirosis: Along the road to unraveling the enigma of host-bacterial interactions". It was an outstanding presentation of her work over the years understanding complex bacterial and host interactions in causing the disease. Dr. Nilanka Perera, Secretary of the committee acknowledged the contribution of everyone in making ICM 2023 a reality during her vote of thanks. The glamorous event finished with the cultural performance by the students of the faculty.



The academic program consisted of many timely topics relevant to the current challenges faced by

academics and health care providers in the country. Prof. Nalin de Silva, Chair Professor of Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo delivered an eye-opening keynote address on “Technology is changing the future of healthcare”.



It was well received by the audience. The first symposium was themed “Building resilience and adapting in crisis”. The speakers, Dr Ananda Wijewickrama, Dr Mahen Kotalawala and Dr Susie Perera did justice to the important topic by discussing how healthcare could adapt to the current crisis faced by the country. It was followed by a lively discussion with the audience. The second symposium was on oral health delivered by the speakers from Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



The last symposium was based on conquering clinical conundrums and two alumni of the faculty,

Dr. Nimantha de Alwis and Dr. Anushka Kotelawala Bagga delivered brilliant presentations on metabolic syndrome and sepsis. The last session was the plenary by Dr. Isabela Ribeiro, Viral diseases Cluster Director

of Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) on “Advances in clinical trial methodology: implications for drug development for neglected populations”. A much-awaited segment was the debate by students of the faculty on “This house believes that healthcare professionals leaving the country in the current context is justifiable”. It was a well-balanced presentation of facts by the student debaters and enjoyed by everyone in the audience.

The newest addition to the program was the “Rapid pitch thesis challenge”, a thesis competition which showcased six thesis presentations delivered in 3 minutes using a single slide. It was an interesting segment for everyone in the audience and the participants. Researchers were also given the opportunity to present their findings in the oral communications and poster presentations. Awards were distributed at the end of the conference.



ICM 2023 had an enthusiastic participation of 113 registrants and there were 140 abstract submissions. Research Committee would like to acknowledge the contribution of all committee members, academic and non-academic staff, and students for their tireless hard work and the generous contribution of the sponsors in making ICM 2023 a success!

4th Annual Conference on Business Economics: Fostering Intellectual Exchange and Innovation



In the pursuit of knowledge and fostering a deeper understanding of economic intricacies, the 4th Annual Conference on Business Economics unfolded its intellectual tapestry on the 16th August 2023. This annual research symposium, meticulously orchestrated by the Research Center for Business Economics and Development Studies at the Department of Business Economics, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC), University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ), marked a pivotal moment for academia and innovation.

The inaugural ceremony, a hallmark of scholarly gatherings, unfolded in the elegant embrace of the Faculty Board Room at FMSC. A distinguished figure, Ms. Sangeeta Menon, the Regional Publishing Manager at Emerald Publishing, India, graced the event as the Guest Speaker. The significance of the event was further underscored by the presence of esteemed individuals. Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), and the Professor (Chair) of Business Economics, radiated distinction as the Chief Guest. Senior Prof. M.M. Pathmalal, Vice-Chancellor of the University, and Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, Dean of FMSC, lent their gravitas to the gathering. Academic stalwarts, departmental faculty, alumni, and the vibrant student body comprising undergraduates and postgraduates added to the event's vibrancy.

The conference unfurled its intellectual canvas around the theme, "Enabling Resilient Growth and Embracing Change for Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth." This theme resonates deeply with the evolving economic landscape, underlining the importance of adaptability and sustainability in the face of change.

A core strength of this conference was its ability to draw together luminaries from diverse domains. Session chairs, renowned both locally and internationally, represented prestigious universities, the Central Bank



of Sri Lanka, and Sri Lanka Customs. This amalgamation of thought leadership created an enriching environment, where perspectives flowed and ideas intermingled.

The essence of any academic gathering lies in the presentation of ideas. In line with this, the conference provided a platform for twenty-seven (27) carefully curated abstracts. These abstracts, curated from the contributions of lecturers, postgraduates, and undergraduates, encapsulated a plethora of insights, research directions, and innovative approaches. The bestowing of these abstracts within the conference's proceedings ensures their longevity, contributing to a reservoir of knowledge accessible for generations to come.

As the curtains drew close on the 4th Annual Conference on Business Economics, the resonance of meaningful discussions, insightful exchanges, and the spirit of collaboration lingered in the air. This event served as a testimony to the power of intellectual engagement and its potential to fuel transformative change in the realms of business and economics. Beyond the confines of the conference room, the ripples of these interactions are bound to shape strategies, inspire solutions, and invigorate a collective pursuit of a more inclusive and sustainable economic future.



Undergraduate Research Conference 2023

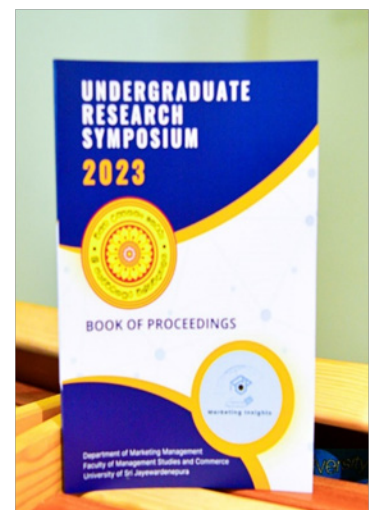
Undergraduate Research Day 2023 of the Department of Business Administration was held under the theme 'AI ha Golem: the crossroads of Humans and Machines'. The keynote speech was delivered by Mr.Nalin D. Jayasuriya, an Information Technology Consultant and Entrepreneur, based in Florida, USA.



Marketing Insights 2023: The 5th Undergraduate Research Symposium

The Department of Marketing Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura successfully hosted Marketing Insights 2023: The 5th Undergraduate Research Symposium on 11th July 2023, showcasing cutting-edge insights and innovations in the field of marketing. The event garnered overwhelming success, attracting enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and industry professionals alike. The Symposium commenced with an inaugural session and Mr.Sirimevan Senevirathena, Chief Marketing Officer, Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC delivered an inspiring keynote address during the inauguration session.

The Symposium featured three engaging track sessions, namely 'Track



01- Service Scape and Branding: Exploring Services Marketing and Branding Strategies’, ‘Track 02 - Insights and Influence: Exploring Consumer Behavior and Communication Strategies’, ‘Track 03 - ‘Sustainability and Digitalization: Navigating a Sustainable Future and Digital Strategies’, each dedicated to specific aspects of marketing. These sessions allowed attendees to delve deeper into diverse marketing themes, unveiling the latest trends and research findings that could shape the future of the industry.

The success of this event was made possible by the tireless efforts of the Chair of the conference, Ms. Pavani Lakshika, Senior Lecturer, and the Conference secretary Mr. B.T.K. Chaturanga, Lecturer (Probationary) with the continuous support received from the faculty members of the Department of Marketing Management.



WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

Academic Staff Gears Up for 'Self-Evaluation Report (SER) Writing' Workshop

The Quality Assurance Cell of the faculty has organized a workshop on 'Self-Evaluation Report (SER) Writing' for the academic staff on 12th May 2023 from 09.00 AM to 12.00 PM in the Boardroom, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Prof. Bilinda Nandadeva, Emeritus Professor, at the University of Kelaniya, was the resource person for the workshop.

Workshop on Best Practices in Educational Administration and Management

A workshop on Best Practices in Educational Administration and Management was held on the 30th of May at the Faculty Boardroom of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura for the Academic and Non-Academic Staff of the Faculty of Indigenous Social Sciences and Management Studies, Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine. This workshop which was organized under the guidance of the Dean of the faculty, Professor Shirantha Heenkenda.

As the resource person of the workshop, his talk and the discussion were centered on themes relevant to Leadership skills for Future Educational Administrators, Effective Communication and Collaboration in Educational Settings, Technology Integration in Educational Administration, Trends and Innovations in Educational Administration, Student Affairs and Campus Life and Professional Development and Career Pathways.



“Fluent and Fearless: Speak with Confidence” - A Workshop on English Public Speaking

A workshop on English public speaking named “Fluent and Fearless: Speak with Confidence” was organized by the Accounting and Financial Management Association (AFMA), the student body of the Department of Accounting with the aim of helping students let go of the stage fear and inferiority and to rebuild their confidence in English public speaking.

This interactive session was conducted by Dr. Madhubhashini Disanayaka Ratnayake, a Senior Lecturer at the Department of English Language Teaching, University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 11th May 2023 from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon at the Science Auditorium. Throughout the session, the students were enlightened about the importance of English public speaking skills and how to be confident when speaking in public, while providing the students with opportunities to express their views to the audience. Dr. Disanayaka also shed light on certain sensitive topics in society such as colourism and the stereotypes surrounding the English language which added even more value to the session.



Field Research 2023 – Department of Business Economics



A two-day residential workshop on conducting field research, held on the 26th and 27th May 2023 to enhance the research capabilities of the final year undergraduates of the Department of Business Economics,

University of Sri Jayewardenepura at Yagirala Forest Research and Conservation Centre with the presence of the final year undergraduates and members of the academic staff from the Department of Business Economics including the Head of the department Dr. Janaka Fernando.

On the first day, students collected data from the Yagirala village for their research, and by the next day, they were able to explore the fundamental principles of research design, methodology, analysis, and interpretation. This practical workshop allowed the undergraduates to develop their data analysis skills, enhance their critical thinking abilities, and optimize their research processes. Not only that but also the students got the chance to engage in some entertaining activities as well. By the end of the workshop, participants left with a deepened understanding of the research process, armed with valuable skills and practical tools to propel their academic and professional pursuits. This two-day residential workshop on conducting research was an enriching and transformative experience, setting the stage for participants to make significant contributions to their respective fields and embark on a journey of lifelong learning and discovery.



Skill Sprint 2023 - Mentoring Workshop of Department of Business Economics

The first mentoring workshop organized by the Department of Business Economics was conducted in collaboration with Mentorooft, with the intention of equipping the undergraduates of the department with the necessary employability skills that they would require to enter the corporate world as confident graduates in the future.

The workshop was conducted by Mentorooft and it was successfully held on 31st May 2023 from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. at the Senate Board Room of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura with the participation of Second- and Third-year Students of the Department.

Ms. Rushda Niyas, Ms.Sumudu Siriwardana, and Ms. Miriam Hyginus from Mentorooft were the facilitators of the workshop who fascinatingly conducted it and it was indeed an insightful session for all the participants.



Workshop for Evidence Collection and SER Preparation

The Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura hosted a pivotal workshop on 30th May 2023, dedicated into enhancing the art of Self Evaluation Report (SER) Writing. Renowned Emeritus Professor B.D. Nandadeva served as the workshop's resource person, with Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage, the Dean of FGS, and distinguished academics in attendance. This event is a testament to the university's commitment to maintaining and elevating academic quality and transparency.

Inception 2023 - Personal Grooming in collaboration with Dialog Axiata PLC



The Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura organized a workshop on the 25th of May 2023 in collaboration with Dialog Axiata PLC for the final-year undergraduates of the department under the 'Inception – 2023' intending to prepare the final year undergraduates of the department for the corporate world before beginning their internship. The programme covered the areas of Personal Branding – Brand yourself, Brand Management, Strategy and Research, Strategy Implementation and Operations, and Digital Marketing. The resource persons of the programme were Ms. Supuni Jayaweera, Senior Executive - Engagement and Monetization at Papare.com, Ms. Nimashi Herath, Marketing Manager - Brand Management, Ms. Shayana Kristeen, Marketing Manager - Brand Management, Mr. Aaqib Reyah, Marketing Manager - Master Brand and Strategy, Mr. Prashan Costa, Senior Manager - Marketing Operations, Mr. Muhammed Gazzaly, Head of Digital Marketing, Mr. Harsha Samaranayake, Vice President - Brand and Media, Ms. Ashani Senaratne, General Manager - Brand Management and, Mr. Biplav Majumdar, General Manager - Customer Value Management.



Monthly Public Lecture

On 30th May 2023, the monthly public lecture organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies was delivered by the guest speaker, Mr. Ananda Jayalath, the former Central Bank Governor. The topic of the lecture was "Sri Lankan Economy: IMF and Beyond." The lecture explained the gradual collapse of the Sri Lankan economy over time and how the IMF would provide funds, as well as the effects it would have on the economy.

Leadership Training Program – Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

The Leadership Training Program, catered specifically to the first-year students of the esteemed Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, concluded successfully on 22nd June 2023, on the spacious grounds of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This program was meticulously organized through a collaborative effort between the Physical Education Unit and the Sports Council of the University. Commencing the event, an invigorating aerobic session served as the initial warm-up activity, aimed at preparing the students for the activities that lay ahead. Following this, the students were divided into teams and presented with a diverse range of tasks.

These tasks were carefully designed to foster the development of strategic decision-making skills, as well as to cultivate leadership abilities within the teams, all while promoting a competitive yet instructive atmosphere. This programme continued until 4.00 p.m., with a subsequent feedback session facilitated by the Physical Education Instructors. During this session, the instructors shared valuable insights and guidance with the students, offering constructive feedback to aid in their growth. Simultaneously, the students themselves expressed their perspectives, emphasizing the significance of such events and the profound impact they have on their personal and professional development. Ultimately, the session concluded as a joyous and unforgettable experience for all the students and organizers involved in this commendable endeavour.



Leadership Program for the Faculty of Computing Candidates

The Physical Education Unit and the Sports Council of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura collaborated to organize a leadership program for the first intake of the newly established Faculty of Computing. Held on the 28th June 2023 at the University Upper Grounds, this event aimed to foster leadership skills and strengthen the bond among the students.

The program featured a diverse range of sessions designed to develop essential leadership qualities and empower the students to embark on a successful journey within their newly established faculty. The participants were provided with valuable guidance and knowledge that would contribute to their growth and enable them to start their academic careers on a positive note.

Throughout the event, the atmosphere was filled with excitement and enthusiasm as students actively engaged in various fun activities. These activities not only provided a platform for fostering leadership skills but also facilitated the formation of strong connections among the participants. The students had a fantastic time, fostering a sense of camaraderie and teamwork.



"ViduMini" Outbound Training 2023

"Vidu Mini Outbound Training" 2023 was a collaboration between the External Degree and Extension Courses Unit and the esteemed Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This exciting event took place on the 29th June 2023, creating an unforgettable experience for all participants on the grounds of the University Upper Ground.

The session was designed to foster a sense of teamwork among the students, featuring a variety of enjoyable and engaging activities. These activities encouraged active participation from each team member, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and effective communication.

With the overarching goal of nurturing friendships, building a strong network, and cultivating essential leadership skills, the event proved to be a resounding success.

Through interactive challenges and group exercises, participants learned valuable lessons in problem-solving, decision-making, and effective team work.



Faculty of Graduate Studies - Monthly Public Lecture

On 24th July 2023, the monthly public lecture organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies was delivered by the guest speaker, Prof. Ashoka Dangolla, Head of the Department, Department of Veterinary Clinical Science, University of Peradeniya. The topic of the lecture was "Tuskers in Wilderness and in captivity and their role in Sri Lanka." The lecture explained the evolution of elephants, their ecological and zoological behaviours, their cultural importance, and the threats they face in their lives.

Shaping the Future: M.Sc. Curriculum Revision Workshop

The curriculum revision workshop for the Real Estate Management and Valuation Master Degree programme was successfully conducted on the 27th and 28th June 2023, at the Anantaya Resort and Spa. This two-day workshop brought together senior academic members of the department, and its central focus was the advancement and modernization of the educational experience for students specializing in real estate and valuation. The core areas addressed during the workshop included the design of new course modules, fostering practical collaboration with industry stakeholders, integrating technology into the realms of real estate and valuation, and promoting research and innovation. Through this curriculum revision workshop, the department positions itself to excel in the ever-evolving fields of real estate management and valuation, ensuring that its academic programme remains pertinent and competitive within the industry.

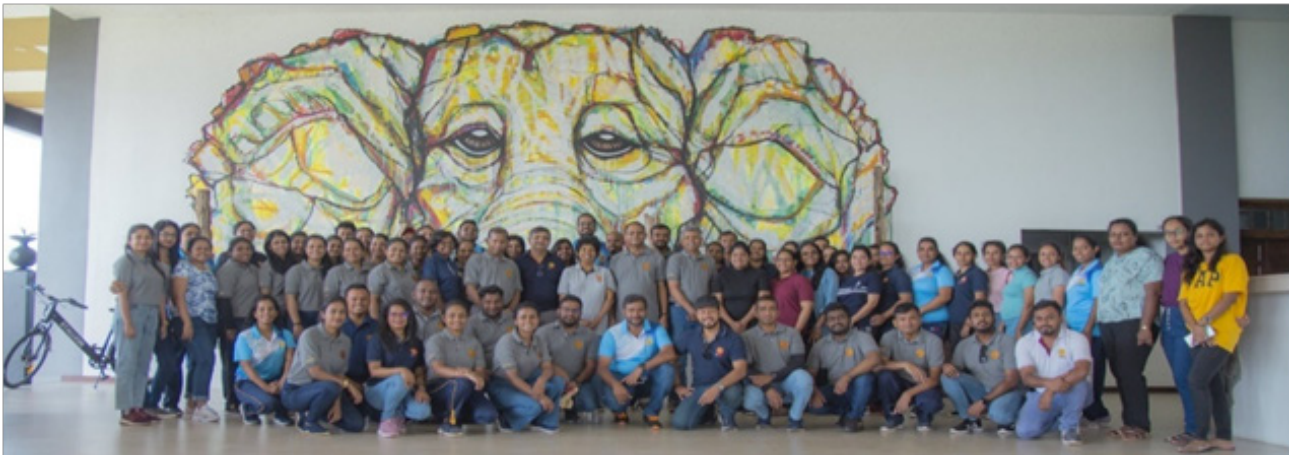
Mind Boosting Workshop Empowers Second-Year Undergraduates at the Faculty of Urban and Aquatic Bioresources



The Department of Urban Bioresources hosted a full-day workshop focused on “Mind Boosting” for second-year undergraduate students at the Faculty of Urban and Aquatic Bioresources. This event, held on 10th July 2023, aimed to equip students with essential tools to effectively manage their time and stress. Prof. Kanthi Yapa from the Department of Physics at the University of Ruhuna, graced the occasion as the distinguished resource person. Prof. Yapa, with a wealth of experience in coaching and training professionals, university staff, and students from various educational levels, brought a unique perspective to the workshop.

The interactive workshop facilitated a conducive learning environment, allowing students to explore practical strategies for enhancing their cognitive abilities and improving overall well-being. Prof. Yapa’s expertise guided participants through effective time management techniques and stress management strategies, providing invaluable insights that are essential for academic success.

Three-day Study Tour of MBA/M.Sc. in Management Intake 2020



A three-day study tour was successfully concluded with over 60 students of the MBA/ M.Sc. in Management Intake 2020 from 29th to 31st July 2023, at Aliya Resort, Sigiriya, and Heritance Kandalama, Dambulla.

The purpose of this study tour was to explore the history and nature while promoting independent learning among future management professionals. Helping students and Faculty to refresh and reflect in a quiet and reposed environment that promotes creativity in group settings and creating a space to network was the core objective of the tour. It was a break from the monotony of classroom learning, improved teamwork, social skills, and built lifelong memories among MBA students.



Prof. Aruna S. Gamage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, led a special workshop for students on the development of managerial skills. In this workshop, students



were able to improve their leadership, creativity, and social skills while students were able to individually engage, enjoy and energize. For students to release their stress and relax while also

expanding their networking opportunities, an entertainment event was organized at night. In order to learn more about environmental management and corporate sustainability, students had the opportunity to see Heritage Kandalama's most advanced water recycling system on the third day. The hotel visit and exploration both helped students to learn more on corporate environmentalism. Students had the opportunity to visit the Ritigala Archaeological Site and Strict Natural Reserve on the second day to observe flora and fauna, colourful butterflies, and ancient ruins.

This three-day workshop was graced by the presence of Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Prof. Wasantha Perera, Chairman, Board of Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof. SamanYapa, Chairman, Postgraduate Centre for Business Studies, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Prof. Sudath Manjula Amarasena, representing the panel of lecturers of the MBA programme, Prof. Kumuduni Sriyalatha, Coordinator, MBA/M.Sc. Programme, Ms. WRM Shehani Shanika, Assistant Coordinator, and Ms. Dilini Hiranthi, Senior Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce.

Crafting Digital Success: Department of Information Technology Hosts Workshop on Personal Branding and LinkedIn Strategies



Organized by the Department of Information Technology, A workshop on Personal Branding and LinkedIn Strategies for success was conducted on the 24th August 2023. This was conducted to enhance the knowledge of personal branding using the LinkedIn platform. The event was successfully carried out physically at the ITRC Lab 07 with the participation of the students and the staff members from the Department of Information Technology and the ITRC staff members.

The resource person for the workshop was Mr. Amithe Gamage, who is specialized in Personal Branding, LinkedIn Marketing and has taken up a career as a CXO coach, Sales Performance Evangelist and a Child and Youth Entrepreneurship Advocate.

Furthermore, Prof. Lasith Gunawardena on behalf of the Department of IT essayed the main role in providing this valuable opportunity to the students and the staff members.



GIS Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd. was invited to the Department of History and Archaeology for a Guest Lecture- 2023



After a short silence, the Department of History and Archaeology along with its Students Association resumed its Monthly Guest Lecture Series for the year 2023, with the title of 'Importance of Use of ArcGIS for History and Archaeology', on 14th August 2023 at Prof. Mendis Rohanadheera Hall of the department. The lecture was delivered by the guest resource persons from GIS Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd., Colombo 03, the sole authorized distributor of the 'Esri ArcGIS' product range in Sri Lanka.

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) have now become an imperative and trending tool for mapping and analyzing geospatial data in almost every industry in the world. Hence, the department identified the need to aware the undergraduates about the importance of GIS application in the fields of History and Archaeology, and GIS Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd., was invited in this regard given their vast experience in dealing with both the public and private sector in Sri Lanka. Accordingly, the students were introduced to GIS with their basic concepts and theories followed by several real-world applications in the fields of History and Archaeology.

On behalf of the staff and the students, the Department of History and Archaeology would like to extend sincere gratitude to GIS Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd. for their contribution to this guest lecture by sharing their valuable insights. Furthermore, the department looks forward to the possibility of future collaborations and to have the privilege of benefiting from their expertise once more.



Undergraduates of the Department of History and Archaeology represented at 'Uruma Samiksha-2023', an Archaeological workshop and exhibition conducted by the Nāgānanda International Institute for Buddhist Studies



Upon the invitation of the Department of Applied Archaeology of the Nāgānanda International Institute for Buddhist Studies (NIIBS), the undergraduates of the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ represented at 'Uruma Samiksha-2023', an archaeological workshop and exhibition, organised in parallel to the National Archaeology Day, at the NIIBS premises, on 4th, 5th, and 6th, July 2023.

Accordingly, the undergraduates of our department conducted a practical awareness session on the process of taking stampages from stone inscriptions, during the entire event. In addition, this event consisted of numerous practical awareness sessions such as preparing ola-leaf manuscripts, traditional paintings, brass work, stone carvings, etc. conducted by the Replica School of the Central Cultural Fund and other institutions. Furthermore, various artifacts had been exhibited as galleries and mobile museums by the Department of National Museums, while replicas and book stalls had also been installed by different institutions for the enthusiasts. This event was participated by the archaeology and other undergraduates from the Universities of Jaffna, Kelaniya, Peradeniya, and Moratuwa, and hundreds of school children from different areas of the country. Therefore, the undergraduates of the Department of History and Archaeology were able to acquire novel experiences and exposure during the entire event.

The Department of History and Archaeology would like to thank Prof. P.B. Mandawala, the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Nāgānanda International Institute for Buddhist Studies (NIIBS) and their Department of Applied Archaeology for the opportunity provided for the undergraduates of our department.



CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

National Train the Trainer Workshop in Clinical Pharmacy – A Once-in-a Lifetime Experience Hosted by the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura – A Collaboration for the future between USJ and ‘Collaboration of Australians and Sri Lankans for Pharmacy Practice, Education and Research’ (CASPPER)



The inauguration of the National Clinical Pharmacy Train the Trainer Program organized by the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences (FAHS), took place on 7th August 2023, at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in the presence of the Vice Chancellor, Senior Prof. M.M Pathmalal, the Dean of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Prof. Inoka Uluwaduge, Director of Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Dr.Sagari Kiriwandeniya, and other distinguished invitees.

This marked the beginning of a four-day workshop for trainers in clinical pharmacy (7th to 10th August 2023) in USJ and Colombo South Teaching Hospital resourced by seven eminent Australians led by Prof. Ian Coombes who represent the (CASPPER). The resource persons who participated in a volunteer teaching capacity were Prof. Ian Coombes – Director of Pharmacy Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Academic Professor School of Pharmacy University of Queensland (UQ), Associate Professor Griffith University and CASPPER Director, Dr Judith Coombes, Conjoint Pharmacy Educator Princess Alexandra, Brisbane, Australia, Senior Lecturer of UQ and CASPPER Director, Prof. Amanda Wheeler – Professor of Mental Health, Griffith University, Queensland Australia, Hannah Knowles, Senior Pharmacist Emergency

and Trauma Centre in Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital and Pharmacy Society of Australia Board member, Tara Van der Vliet, Clinical Pharmacist Princess Alexandra, Brisbane, Australia, Paul Firman, Assistant Director of Pharmacy and Society Hospital pharmacist of Australia, and YashaniAlgama, Clinical Pharmacist of Princess Alexandra, Brisbane, Australia.



Guided by the immense support of the Vice Chancellor of USJ and Dean of the FAHS, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura took the initiative to host this essential training program, offering a unique opportunity to Sri Lankan academics, and selected hospital pharmacists who are potential preceptor teachers for B.Pharm undergraduates. This was the third train the trainer program in clinical pharmacy organized by USJ in collaboration with CASPPER, 13 years after hosting the first train the trainer program in 2010, and a workshop for over 50 graduate hospital pharmacists in clinical pharmacy in 2022. This time the aim was to up-skill and update already trained university academics in teaching clinical pharmacy from all Sri Lankan Universities, and to orient selected graduate pharmacists working in hospitals to practice and support in teaching clinical pharmacy to undergraduates who come for training at their respective hospitals.

The event was a great success and a full-house of trainees attended this training program. The number of participants given this wonderful opportunity had to be limited to 20 participants who attended on an invitation basis. Academics representing the University Sri Jayewardenepura, University of Jaffna, University of Peradeniya, Sir John Kothelawala Defence University, and graduate pharmacists working at Colombo South Teaching Hospital, National Dental Hospital, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Apeksha Hospital, Base Hospital Wethara, Lanka Hospital, and Asiri Hospital were invited and participated. The training included class room type teaching, case-based discussions, participant presentations, training on giving and receiving feedback, mock ward teaching, and actual ward teaching.



This collaboration of CASPPER which is a not-for-profit organization, and University of Sri Jayewardenepura in upgrading and upskilling the pharmacy work force in Sri Lanka is an ongoing process and will continue with the goal of improving the quality of life for Sri Lankan patients. This Train the Trainer program has also enabled the initiation of further collaborative research to continue to demonstrate the positive impact of clinical pharmacists when added into the multidisciplinary team.

Laboratory Workshop for GCE (A/L) Biology Teachers



A laboratory workshop on Evolution and Diversity was held at on 05th August 2023, at the Department of Botany, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, from 8.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. The event was jointly organized by the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) Section D (Life Sciences) and the Botany and Plant Biotechnology Society, Department of Botany, USJP. This workshop inspired teachers to guide their students to explore the secrets of nature and its diversity further.

This session was be conducted by Dr Isuru U. Kariyawasam (PhD in Plant Systematics, Edinburgh, UK), Senior Lecturer, Department of Botany, USJP.



Leadership Programme

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Department of Estate Management and Valuation's EMV Crew successfully hosted the "STEP UP" leadership development programme on 17th and 19th August 2023, at A.E. Gunasinghe Vidyalaya in collaboration with "Sahodarathwaye Manudama," initiated and funded by the Bandula Abesundara Charity Trust. The first day of the programme catered to secondary students, while the second day was dedicated to primary students. The programme featured a range of engaging activities, including tree planting, interactive games, inspiring motivational speeches, and speeches by world-great leaders. This programme enables students to enhance their skills and abilities concerning social service and the programme underscores the department's commitment to social responsibility and community development.

"Thuru-Prana" Plant Distribution Programme



The Department of Commerce organized the "Thuru-Prana" plant distribution programme on 25th August 2023, at the department premises. This programme was a joint effort between the department's student society, academic staff, and members of Lion's Club Colombo Centennial. This initiative was a resounding success, reflecting students' commitment to environmental sustainability and community engagement. During the event, the team was

able to distribute a wide variety of native plants freely to our community members, students, faculty, and staff, with the aim of fostering a greener and healthier environment.



"Senehen Dothata" 2023

The Marketing Management Association organized a CSR project named "සෙනෙහේ ඳොතො", a Vesak celebration programme to extend a helping hand to individuals with special needs staying at, Pamunuwa, Maharagama. "Sucharithodaya" homes for approximately 100 individuals including children, the elderly, and individuals with special needs. The programme was held on the 27th May 2023 from 12.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. at the premises of the Sucharithodaya Home premises. The students started the day's proceeding by providing lunch to the individuals who were staying at the home and also the staff members. This was followed by an entertainment



programme where it was a pleasure to see how engaged the individuals including children, the elderly, and individuals with special needs were. The National Crafts Council of Sri Lanka also supported the initiative by having a session at the venue to announce the opportunities they can provide to develop their skills of them for developing crafts. The day ended with serving evening tea and snack which was followed by handing over the donations and gifts to the children.



“Nenasara”- Inspiring the Future for Higher Education



For many years, the Marketing Management Association of the Department of Marketing Management at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has been dedicated to nurturing the aspirations of school students and fueling their motivation for higher education. “Nenasara” programme, held consistently year after year, has become a beacon of hope for countless young minds.

One session of this remarkable programme unfolded once more at the university premises, orchestrated by the enthusiastic student association on the 16th of August 2023. The day was an unforgettable experience for the students who attended, as it offered them a glimpse into the world of academia and the potential that a university education holds.

The school students were treated to an enlightening journey through the university, where they visited various facilities, and had the chance to engage with students and faculty members. These hands-on experiences were not only educational but also inspiring, as they revealed the incredible opportunities awaiting them at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, graced the event with a powerful motivational speech. His words resonated with the young hearts, encouraging them to dream big and pursue higher education.

Snehadhara '22



The "Snehadhara '22" project, organised annually by the Students' Association of Finance as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility initiative, successfully concluded on 3rd May 2023, at Kuruwita Ekneligoda Vidyalaya in Rathnapura, Sri Lanka. This initiative was aimed at supporting school students who face financial constraints and limited educational facilities.



The project encompassed the installation of a water pump for a reliable water supply, the improvement of school washrooms and sanitary facilities, the renovation of school buildings and classrooms, the provision of computers and ICT equipment for E-learning, and the supply of stationery and educational materials. Additionally, the project included activities designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of school students.



AWARDS

Excellence Recognized: Medical Centre Earns Quality Management Certificate from Sri Lanka Standards Institute (SLSI)

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura as a premier University in Sri Lanka has embarked on the mission of standardizing its Academic and Non-academic services by international standards. As a first milestone of this mission, the Medical Centre of Sri Jayewardenepura University has obtained ISO 9001:2015 certification for its services. The simple ceremony, to hand over the standardization certificate by the Director General of Sri Lanka Standard Institute, Dr.Siddika Senarathne to the Vice-chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Senior Prof. M.M. Pathmalal, was held at the Senate board room of the University on 8th August 2023. Addressing the gathering the Vice-Chancellor, Senior Prof M.M. Pathmalal stated that the standardization of all the services of the University by International standards is one of his major objectives to be achieved during his tenure. The Deans of the Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Faculty of Computing, the Registrar, the Chief Medical officer, staff of the Medical Centre, members of the Academic and Non-academic staff, the Senior Manager and Systems Manager Information and Communications Agency in Sri Lanka (ICTA) were present on this occasion.



The Medical Centre was fully digitalised in 2021 and has been going paperless for the past 2 years. The software which is used at the Medical Centre is the Hospital Health Information Management System (HHIMS). The Dean Faculty of Computing, Prof. Prasad Jayaweera initiated this digitalisation. The software was given for free by the Information and Communication Agency in Sri Lanka (ICTA). The next phase of the development of the Medical Centre is the implementation of the ISO 9001:2015, Quality management system.

This is a significant achievement of our institution's Medical Centre. This accomplishment highlights



our Medical Centre's commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare services in line with the highest quality standards.

Quality management is a cornerstone of modern healthcare systems, playing a pivotal role in ensuring patient safety, improving service efficiency, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. The successful acquisition of the Quality Management Certificate from SLSI is a testament to the dedication and hard work exhibited by our Medical Centre's staff, the guidance and mentorship of the then Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Upul Subasinghe (Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences), the generously allocated financial resources by

Registrar, Bursar and the University Council, and the unwavering support of various departments such as Finance, Supplies, Landscaping and Maintenance.

Key Benefits of the Quality Management Certificate:

1. **Enhanced Patient Care:** The implementation of a quality management system at our Medical Centre has led to improved patient care and safety. Standardized procedures, protocols, and guidelines contribute to consistent, high-quality medical services and treatments.
2. **Efficient Operations:** A structured quality management framework facilitates streamlined operations, reducing inefficiencies and minimizing waste.
3. **Patient Satisfaction:** By adhering to recognized quality standards, our Medical Centre is better positioned to meet patient expectations and ensure their satisfaction.
4. **Continuous Improvement:** The Quality Management Certificate serves as a foundation for a culture of continuous improvement. Regular reviews, audits, and assessments enable us to identify areas for enhancement and implement necessary changes.
5. **Credibility and Recognition:** Attaining the Quality Management Certificate from a reputable institution like SLSI bolsters our Medical Centre's reputation and credibility. It demonstrates our commitment to excellence and positions us as a trusted healthcare provider.
6. **Alignment with International Best Practices:** SLSI's standards are aligned with international best practices, allowing our Medical Centre to benchmark itself against global healthcare quality standards and stay abreast of industry advancements.

Next Steps:

As we move forward, it is imperative that we capitalize on this achievement by consistently upholding the established quality management practices and continuously striving for improvement. Our Medical Centre will remain committed to:

- Regularly reviewing and updating protocols and procedures to ensure alignment with evolving healthcare standards.
- Conducting internal audits and assessments to identify areas for improvement and promptly addressing any gaps.
- Encouraging a culture of open communication and collaboration among staff members to share best practices and innovative ideas.

Conclusion:

The Quality Management Certificate from SLSI is a significant milestone in our Medical Centre's journey toward excellence in patient care and service delivery. It symbolizes our dedication to providing top-tier healthcare services that prioritize patient well-being and safety

Department of Languages, Cultural Studies, and Performing Arts Celebrates Four Students Awarded ICCR Scholarships for Studies in India

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has announced its prestigious postgraduate scholarships, and four deserving students from the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences have been selected to receive this esteemed honor. The students, specializing in Sanskrit and Hindi have been recognized for their exceptional academic achievements.

Congratulations to the ICCR Scholarship Recipients:

- Rev. Madawachchiye Dhammasiri (Andhra University, MA in Sanskrit)
- Rev. Katharagama Dhammarama (Punjab University, Patiala, MA in Religious Studies)
- D.M. Amith Dissanayake (Calcutta University, MA in Comparative Indian Language and Literature)
- Anjana Isurumali (Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, MA in Hindi)

The initiative to encourage students to apply for these scholarships was spearheaded by Director Swami Vivekanand Cultural Centre, Professor Ankuran Datta, and supported by the Head of the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies, and Performing Arts, Professor Nilanthi Rajapakshe. Their efforts in guiding and mentoring the students played a crucial role in their successful applications.

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, along with the entire academic community, extends heartfelt congratulations to the scholarship recipients. We wish them all the best in their academic pursuits and future endeavors as they contribute to fostering cultural understanding and cooperation between India and Sri Lanka.



Most Outstanding Staff Advisor-1st Runner Up

The Leo Club of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is delighted to announce the recognition of Dr. Janaka Fernando as the 1st runner-up for the Most Outstanding Staff Advisor at the 18th Annual District Conference of Leo District 306 A2. This prestigious accolade is a testament to Dr. Fernando's exceptional leadership and guidance during the Leostic year 2022/23.

Dr. Fernando's unwavering commitment to the Leo Club has significantly contributed to its success in community service and leadership development. His mentorship has played a pivotal role in fostering a culture of excellence within the Leo Club, making a lasting impact on its members and the broader community.



Senara Vidanapathirana at TEDxUSri Jayewardenepura

Words have the power to inspire, to educate and to ignite change.

Senara Vidanapathirana, an undergraduate of the 29th batch of Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ was able to take part in such an inspiring talk under the topic, "Rediscovering Yourself" at TEDxUSri Jayewardenepura, on 29th August 2023.



She took part in the talk representing the undergraduates along with ten other academics representing each faculty.

Her speech painted the vivid image of her journey as a medical student who embraced her evolving passions through various phases of life she went through. She conveyed the powerful message about how an individual should never lose himself in the process of battling numerous obstacles life throws at you.

2023 TWAS-Atta-ur-Rahman Award in Chemistry-Dr. Imalka Munaweera



The World Academy of Sciences Council has announced the winners of four of its prestigious awards (2023 TWAS-Abdool Karim Award, 2023 TWAS-Atta-ur-Rahman Award, 2023 TWAS-Fayzah M. Al-Kharafi Award, and 2024 TWAS-Siwei Cheng Award in Economic Sciences) for enterprising and accomplished scientists living and working in the global South.

All four winners are women. Also, two of the winners are from Least Developed Countries, Burkina Faso and Malawi. The other two are from Sri Lanka and China.

The awards provide a powerful incentive for developing world scientists to excel on new levels, while bringing much-deserved global recognition to their achievements and inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

Dr. Imalka Munaweera, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Applied Sciences received 2023 TWAS-Atta-ur-Rahman Award in Chemistry, for her contributions to the development of engineered inorganic nanostructures and nanofiber composites that may have multidisciplinary applications.

Resonating Excellence: D.D. Dismi Hansika Triumphs at J'pura Voice 2023



In a resounding celebration of talent and achievement, J'pura Voice, the official media and broadcasting unit of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, hosted the prestigious Golden Voice Awards 2023. The event, which shines a spotlight on outstanding voices in various domains, showcased the remarkable capabilities of young talents within the university community.

A shining star among the winners was D.D. Dismi Hansika, a dedicated third-year undergraduate student from the Department of Business Economics within the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. Dismi Hansika's mellifluous and captivating vocal prowess earned her the esteemed title of

"Best Upcoming Sinhala Announcer of the Year." Her achievement not only symbolizes her personal dedication but also highlights the university's commitment to nurturing and recognizing excellence.

The Golden Voice Awards stand as a testament to the diverse talents flourishing within the university's walls. J'pura Voice continues to play a vital role in providing a platform for these voices to be heard, fostering an environment of creativity, expression, and growth. As D.D. Dismi Hansika continues to make her mark as a rising talent, she adds to the legacy of J'pura Voice and its mission to amplify the voices of tomorrow's leaders.

Introducing the Staff Advisor of Leo club of University of Sri Jayewardenepura Dr. Janaka Fernando.



Dr. Janaka Fernando is a senior lecturer and our head of department (The Head of the Department of Business Economics) in the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Four years of remarkable success and growth within our Leo club can be attributed to the invaluable guidance, timely advice, and analytical approach provided by our esteemed Leo staff advisor. His unwavering support has been the backbone of our club, enabling us to navigate various situations with confidence. We take great pride in acknowledging him as our trusted advisor, as his contributions have been instrumental

in shaping our club's journey. His tremendous contribution to the Leo club of University of Sri Jayewardenepura is a great strength, he has received many awards in the Leo journey.

Dr. Oshan Wedage Awarded the 'Humanitarian' title by the Indigenous Vedda Community of Sri Lanka

During the recent visit to Dambana Village in end-June 2023, the Chief of the Vedda community, Uruwarige Wanniyalaettho, awarded Dr. Oshan Wedage, a Senior Lecturer of the Department of History and Archaeology (USJ), and Dr. Patrick Roberts, the Lead Scientist of the Department of Archaeology of the Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology (Germany), with one of their highest awards, the 'Humanitarian' award, for their efforts in promoting and caretaking Indigenous heritage and rights, and for their ongoing collaborative work on repatriation of human remains and cultural artifacts from foreign museums.



Team USJ emerges as the first runner-up at the SLAAS Inter-university Undergraduate poster competition in Chemical Sciences



A team of five undergraduate chemistry students, representing the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, participated in the Inter-university Undergraduate Poster Competition in Chemical Sciences, with the theme of Post-harvest Technologies – Chemistry and Applications, organized by the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS).

The team secured the first runner-up position by presenting their work. The team consisted of Pasindu Viduranga, Vimukthi Samarasinghe, Avishka Thathsara, Amaya Haripriya, and Sandali Nisansala. Another team from the university also participated in the competition, although they were not able to secure a place.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura extends its hearty congratulations to both teams for their outstanding performance, which was a result of their diligent work and dedication. We extend our sincerest gratitude to Dr. C.J. Narangoda, the dedicated lecturer who tirelessly supervised the students' posters. We also express our appreciation for the support provided by Prof. Champa Jayaweera, the Head of the Department of Chemistry, and all the other lecturers who contributed to this success.

2023 Ramakrishna Memorial Award in Chemistry

Dr. Imalka Munaweera, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura received the 2023 Ramakrishna memorial award in Chemistry at the 52nd Annual Sessions and the 82nd Anniversary Celebrations of the Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon.

Ramakrishna Memorial Award is awarded for exceptional research contributions of original nature in the field of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry and related areas, such as Bio-inorganic Chemistry or Bio-analytical Chemistry.



Dr. Erandi Pathirana was inducted as a fellow of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons



Dr. Erandi Pathirana, Head/Department of Aquatic Bioresources, Faculty of Urban and Aquatic Bioresources, was inducted as a fellow of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons. The induction ceremony was held at the Oak-Ray Regency Hotel, Kandy, on 24th June 2023.

Graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya in 2003, Dr. Pathirana is a registered

veterinarian of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Council (SLVC) and has served as an academic at multiple universities in both Sri Lanka and overseas. She obtained her PhD in Aquatic Animal Health and Microbiology, from the University of Sydney, Australia, as an Australian Government Endeavour scholar.

Ishini Thamodya, a Student from the Department of History and Archaeology Wins 'Dharaa-2023'



Ms. Ishini Thamodya, a 3rd year Archaeology undergraduate of the Department of History and Archaeology won the title '**Dharaa Young Artist**' at the 'Dharaa 2023', the grand finale of the Inter-faculty Singing Competition of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, held at Nelum Pokuna Theater, Colombo on 07th July 2023. This competitive event was organized by the Flair Club in collaboration with the Career Guidance Unit of the USJ.

The Head of the Department, Academic and non-academic staff, and the students of the Department

of History and Archaeology join together to congratulate Ms. Ishini for her excellent performance and bringing a victory to the entire Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Celebrating Excellence: J'pura Voice 2023 and the Remarkable Nomination of H.A. Dulmini Thatsarani



J'pura Voice, the official media and broadcasting unit of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, has once again illuminated the university landscape with its extraordinary contributions. The stage was set for the Golden Voice Awards 2022/23, an event that recognizes and honors outstanding talents within the university community.

A name that shines brightly among the nominees is H.A. Dulmini Thatsarani, a dedicated third-year student from the Department of Business Economics within the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. With her remarkable commitment and exemplary leadership, Dulmini Thatsarani has been nominated for the prestigious title of "Most Outstanding Project Committee Head." This recognition comes as a result of her exceptional role in Project Allusion'23, a testament to her unwavering dedication and organizational prowess.

The Announcing Division of J'pura Voice orchestrated the grand event, reaffirming the unit's pivotal role in fostering innovation and excellence. The Golden Voice Awards not only acknowledge individual achievements but also underscore the university's spirit of collaboration, growth, and creative expression.

As H.A. Dulmini Thatsarani's nomination resonates as a testament to her exceptional leadership and dedication, it also underscores J'pura Voice's commitment to recognizing and nurturing exceptional talents within its fold.

SPORTS

Triton Aquatics and St. Sebastian's College gained more honors at the Vidudaya Ritzbury 2023



The Vidudaya Ritzbury Swimming Championships 2023 organized by the Sports Council and the Department of Physical Education of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura and powered by "Ritzbury", Sri Lanka's favorite chocolate brand of Ceylon Biscuit Limited came to an end last Saturday successfully, crowning Triton Aquatics and St. Sebastian's College Moratuwa with overall champion titles.

The ceremonial event was hosted at the university of Sri Jayawardenepura premises on the 26th May 2023 with the presence of many honorable chief guests namely, the acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura Prof. Upul Subasinghe, Co-Chairmen of the sports advisory board senior Prof. Pradeep Jayaweera and Senior Prof.

Wasantha Perera, Dr. Kaushal Manawadu, Mrs. Nishanthi Vidanage and Mr. Nilupul De Silva, the Marketing General Manager of Ceylon Biscuit Ltd.

"Ritzbury" was the sole sponsor for the 3rd time for this event by powering the dreams of young swimmers.

Triton swimmers won the girl's overall championship with 329 points including one individual age group champion and the senior champion's titles. Anula Vidyalaya Nugegoda became the runners-up with 259 points.

Sebs swimmers grabbed the boy's overall championship with 415 points including the senior championship. Triton finished second with 337 points.

At the same time, the presentation ceremony awarded a total of 16 titles including two overall championships, four senior and junior team championships, and ten individual championships.

Blue Wave Swimming Academy won the girl's junior category team championship and Accelerate Swimming Academy won the boys.

The ten individual champions are,

- Under 10 Girls Champion - Sanumi Nehansa from Lyceum International School Panadura
- Under 10 Boys Champion - B.D. Silva from Butterfly Swimming Academy Galle
- Under 12 Girls Champion - Jithya Mettananda from Blue Wave Swimming Academy
- Under 12 Boys Champion - Chanuga Weeraratne from Blue Wave Swimming Academy
- Under 14 Girls Champion - Heshara De Silva from Lyceum International School Rathnapura
- Under 14 Boys Champion - A.I.M. Haathim from Triton Aquatics
- Under 16 Girls Champion - Nethali Outschoorn from Triton Aquatics
- Under 16 Boys Champion - M.F. Muhammad from Zahira College
- Under 18 Girls Champion - R.N.P. Maleesha from Leeds Aquatic Club Panadura
- Under 18 Boys Champion - Ean Jake from Triton Aquatics

876 youngsters from 95 island-wide schools and clubs raced each other last weekend under five age categories and 128 events.

Swimming events varying from 50m to 200m distances from each stroke were conducted under five age categories as Under 10,12,14,16, and 18.



Out of the 128 events, 108 events were individual while the rest of the 20 events were relays. The competition ran under the support and guidance of Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union officials.

The Vidudaya Ritzbury Swimming Championship was a great drive for island-wide young swimmers to experience the competitive environment

SMASHES 2023



The “SMASHES2023” Badminton Tournament organized by the Sri Jayewardenepura University Badminton Team was held from 31st May to 4th June 2023 at the indoor stadium premises of Mercantile Badminton Association with great success.



“SMASHES” Badminton tournament started in 2007 and continued till 2010. After 2010, it was held again in 2018. The tournament, which was held continuously in the years 2018 and 2020, was not held in the year 2021 and was restarted in the

year 2022.

Competitions were held under the categories of under 9, under 11, under 13 and under 15 years of age and over a thousand contestants representing more than 50 schools in all over the country participated. Here, eight winners were selected under the singles category and 12 winners were selected under the doubles category. In addition, six “Best Player” awards were also presented to selected players.

Smashes 2023 is successfully concluded with the appreciation of many parents, players, coaches and many others.



Coloursmen at the 46th Colours Awards Ceremony



The 46th Colours Awarding Ceremony of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura was successfully held on the 09th June 2023. This glamorous night took place at the Golden Rose Banquet Hall, Boralesgamuwa. This night was indeed a very important event for the sports stars of the university, as they were able to gain the Overall Women's Championships, Overall Men's Runner's up, and Overall Championship at the Inter University Championships 2022. 423 athletes under 36 teams from 21 sports activities were awarded in this Night. Representing all sports activities 36 students were awarded as "Best Players" and 29 students were awarded as "Special Awards".

The Chief Guest for this night of glamour was Prof. Upul Subasinghe, Actg. Vice Chancellor of University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The Guest of Honour was the Managing Director of Finagallanka (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Mahinda Ranasinghe. As the special guests Mr. Sujeewa Rajapaksha (Chairman People's Bank/Main Sponsor of the Colours Night) and Mr. Nilupul De Silva (CBL Marketing Manager) participated in this event. And also, honorable Sports Advisory Board Co-Chairmen Senior Prof. Pradeep Jayaweera and Prof. K.L Wasantha Perera participated in this event. Also, honourable alumnus; Mr. Kamal Gamini Silva (Managing Director of KND group and president sports alumina UJSP), Mr. Ranjith Iddamalgoda (National Organizer Alumina Association USJP) participated in this great night.

The Most Outstanding Sports woman of the Year was presented to Hasara Wijerathne, a 4th-year student from the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce for her prowess in Badminton. She won the 70th National Badminton Championship 2022, Women's doubles Semi-finalist Summer Season All Island Ranking Badminton Championship 2022, Women's singles Runner Up North Central Province Ranking Badminton Championship 2022, Women's doubles- Runner Up SSC Open Badminton Championship 2022, Women's singles - semifinals, Women's doubles - quarter-finals, Eastern Province open Ranking Badminton Championship 2022, Women's singles - Runner up, Women's doubles Championship and was also a member of the national squad.

The Most Outstanding Sportsman of the Year was awarded to Chamal Kumarasiri from the Department of Sports Science. He represented 61st national Interstate senior athletic championship 2022 – India. Amid the glitz and glamour of the 46th Colours Awards Ceremony held at the Golden Rose Hotel in Boraesgamuwa on 9th June 2023; the Department of Accounting undergraduates emerged as stars in their own right. Their dedication to academic prowess and active participation in extracurricular activities was recognized with the prestigious awarding of colours, marking a momentous occasion for the department.

In a night filled with pride and accomplishment, these students showcased not only their scholastic achievements but also their commitment to leadership and holistic development. The Colours Awards Ceremony served as a well-deserved acknowledgment of their outstanding contributions, symbolized by the vibrant hues that now adorn their academic journey. The department takes pride in the success of its students, further solidifying its reputation for fostering excellence and cultivating well-rounded professionals.

Table Tennis Player Virunaka Shines at the All Island Open Ranking Championship 2023



Virunaka Hendahewa, a third-year undergraduate from the Faculty of Engineering, showcased his outstanding performance at the recently concluded All-Island Open Ranking Table Tennis Championship 2023. Organized by the Tibhar sports club, this event took place from 16th to 18th July 2023 at the Kandy Municipal Indoor Stadium.

Virunaka showcased his exceptional table tennis skills as he competed in the highly competitive Open Men's Singles event. His dedication and hard work paid off, as he consistently performed at a high level throughout the championship and advanced to the quarter-finals, showcasing his talent and commitment to the sport.

We take immense pride in Virunaka's achievement, and we extend our heartfelt congratulations to him who have brought honor and recognition to our university. We wish Virunaka the very best in his sporting career, and may he continue to excel in table tennis and achieve greater milestones.

31st World University Games 2023: Six Representatives from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura

The 31st World University Games were held in China, from July 28th to August 8th. It is delightful to mention that the team representing Sri Lanka consisted of 6 students from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



Hasara Wijyaratne



Hasini Ambalangodage



Amaya Kalukottage



S.A.T. Dasun



Amasha de Silva



Chamal Kumarasiri

In the Badminton – Double event, Hasara Wijyaratne, a fourth-year undergraduate from the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, and Hasini Ambalangodage, a third-year undergraduate from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, participated. They held the 1st place in the National Rankings for this event.

Amaya Kalukottage represented Sri Lanka in the Gymnastics event. She was a third-year undergraduate in the Faculty of Applied Sciences, a national-level athlete, and had previously represented Sri Lanka in the Commonwealth Games in 2018 and 2022.

Chamal Kumarasiri, a fourth-year undergraduate from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, participated

in the triple jump event. He had broken the record and achieved gold in the triple jump event at the National Athletic Meet in 2022.

In the High Jump event, S.A.T. Dasun, a third-year undergraduate from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, was selected to compete. He held the record for the high jump event in the Inter-University Championship and won bronze in the same event at the National Athletic Meet in 2022.

Amasha de Silva, an undergraduate in the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and the National Champion of the 100m event at the National Athletic Meet for three consecutive years, represented Sri Lanka in the same event at the World University Games.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS



“සද්භමී සුවය” Meditation Programme in Celebration of Wesak Poya Day 2023

In coordination with the ‘Buddha Rashmi National Vesak Zone’, the Students’ Association of Public Administration of the Department of Public Administration organized ‘Sadaham Suwaya’ meditation Programme on 03rd May 2023 at 4.30 pm at the Main Hall of Sri Soratha Mandir of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The programme was conducted by Venerable Athurugiriya Dhammavihari Thero, the chief meditation instructor of the ‘Day School’ center, Kaduwela. Prof. P.D. Nimal, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Dr. R.P.C.K.Jayasinghe, the Head of the Department, and the undergraduates of the Department of Public Administration participated in this programme.



Bon Odori Festival

Bon Odori festival organized by the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies, and Performing Arts will be held on the 24th August 2023 at Ehela Wala from 5.30 p.m. The Japanese students are inviting all of you who are interested in Japanese culture.

Eid Celebrations



The Eid festival organized by the Muslim Medical Students Committee offered a blend of spirituality, cultural experiences, and delectable food, creating a joyful and inclusive celebration for all attendees

The festival began with a common address by the esteemed Islamic scholar Sh. Arkam Nooramith, providing spiritual insights and reflections.

The festival also included an array of delightful culinary experiences. Food stalls offered traditional Eid items, providing a taste of the festive cuisine. Participants had the opportunity to indulge in these delectable treats and enjoy the Flavors of the season.

In line with promoting cultural understanding and inclusivity, the festival featured interactive stalls. A "Try on a Hijab" stall provided both Muslim and non-Muslim attendees a chance to experience wearing a hijab, fostering appreciation and awareness of this aspect of Muslim culture. Similarly, a "Try on a Turban" stall catered to males.

The festival also embraced the art of Mehendi, with a dedicated stall where participants could get intricate henna designs on their hands. This added a touch of traditional beauty to the event.



'දුන්නල' organized by the Association of Public Administration

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized Seeni Sambol, bread, and tea dansala 'දුන්නල' in celebration of Poson Poya Day 2023. The event was held in front of the main gate premises of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Dr. R.P.C.K. Jayasinghe, The Head, the Department of Public Administration, and other distinguished academics and undergraduates as well as the community graced the occasion.

'සදුනම් සුචය' Dhamma Sermon in Celebration of Nikini Poya Day 2023

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized a Dhamma Sermon programme 'සදුනම් සුචය' in celebration of Nikini Poya Day 2023. The Dhamma Sermon was conducted by Venerable Bangladesh Panghnaswami Thero of The International Theravada Buddhist Centre. Dr. R P C K Jayasinghe, The Head of the Department, and the undergraduates of the Department of Public Administration took part in the programme.



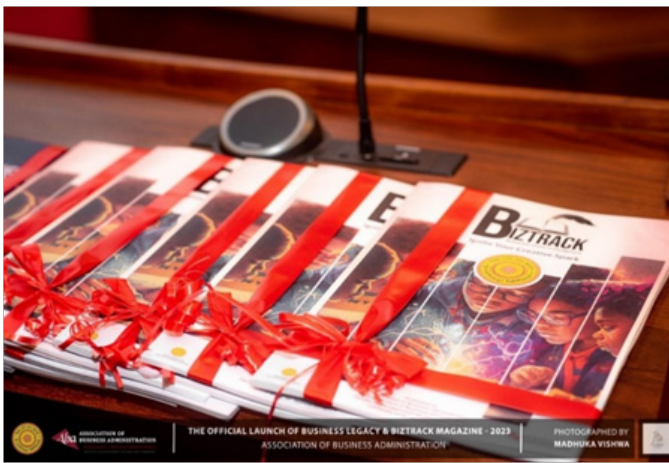


All Night Pirith Chanting Ceremony

EMV CREW, the vibrant students' association of the Department of Estate Management and Valuation, and the academic staff took great pride in organizing an enchanting all-night Pirith Chanting ceremony on the auspicious evening of 3rd May 2023. Simultaneously, an almsgiving ceremony was organized on the morning of 4th May in parallel with the Pirith Chanting Ceremony. This event exemplified department contributions to promote cultural heritage while creating a profound sense of peace and harmony.

PUBLICATIONS

Launch of BizTrack E-Magazine



Students' Association of Business Administration launched the "BizTrack" E-Magazine which serves as an expansive canvas for exceptionally talented students of the department of Business Administration, enabling them to exhibit their limitless creativity and perceptive insights. BizTrack magazine is now readily accessible via <https://mgt.sjp.ac.lk/bus/biztrack-magazine/>

Launch of Business Legacy E-Magazine

Students' Association of Business Administration launched the third volume of the Business Legacy

E-Magazine as a volunteer service to provide support and guidance to all the students across the country who sits for the G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination in Commerce Stream. Business Legacy magazine is now readily accessible via <https://mgt.sjp.ac.lk/bus/business-legacy/>



Sri Lankan Journal of Business Economics Volume 12 (Issue 1) - 2023 Released

The twelfth volume of the Sri Lankan Journal of Business Economics, released in the year 2023, stands as a testament to the journal's unwavering commitment to scholarly excellence and insightful exploration of the ever-evolving business landscape. With a diverse array of articles and research papers, this issue encapsulates a rich tapestry of perspectives that delve into the intricate intersections of business and economics.

Volume 12 (Issue 1) presents an intellectually stimulating collection that mirrors the dynamism of the global economy. Within its pages, readers can expect to traverse through innovative analyses of market trends, case studies elucidating strategic corporate decisions, and thought-provoking discussions on policy implications. The journal continues to foster a platform for the exchange of ideas, encouraging a fruitful dialogue between academia and industry.

From macroeconomic deliberations to micro-level organizational strategies, the contributions in this volume encompass a broad spectrum of economic dimensions, catering to academics, practitioners, and policymakers alike. By engaging with this compendium of knowledge, stakeholders gain a panoramic view of contemporary challenges and opportunities, which, in turn, can inform more informed and effective decision-making in the realms of business and economics.

In its unyielding pursuit of intellectual rigor and analytical acumen, the Sri Lankan Journal of Business Economics, Volume 12 (Issue 1), resoundingly affirms its role as an indispensable source of enlightenment within the scholarly community and the broader economic sphere.



Journal Launch: Asian Finance Review



The Department of Finance proudly launched the Asian Finance Review (AFR), Volume 01, Issue 01, on 8th June 2023. The momentous event took place in the Senate Boardroom of the university, graced by esteemed guests from academia and industry, including Snr. Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, Chairman of the University Grants Commission as the keynote speaker, Vice-chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce and the Head of the Department of Finance. AFR stands as a distinguished, double-blind, peer-reviewed scientific bi-annual journal committed to the dissemination of knowledge in Finance and related

disciplines, showcasing high-quality research. AFR provides a platform for scholars, researchers, and practitioners to contribute to the field of finance, encompassing a wide range of areas such as financial markets and institutions, fintech, banking, investment, economics, and business, among others. The journal serves as a catalyst for the exchange of innovative ideas and groundbreaking research within the finance community. The launch of the AFR marks a significant milestone in the academic and research endeavours of the Department of Finance. Prof. Chandana Gunathilaka, the Head of the Department of Finance, and Prof. Champa Rajapakse, the Editor-in-Chief of AFR, played pivotal roles in spearheading this initiative. "

Magazine Launch - Financial Explorer



The 11th edition of the "Financial Explorer" magazine was officially unveiled during the Annual General Meeting of the Student Association of Finance on 17th May 2023. The primary objective of the magazine is to quench readers' thirst for financial knowledge by allowing them to discover the latest trends, ground breaking insights, and thought-provoking perspectives in the world of finance. "Financial Explorer" provides an excellent platform for students to showcase their exceptional writing, research, and analysis skills and to publish their work.

The articles cover a wide spectrum of topics, demonstrating the student's mastery of both theoretical concepts and practical applications in the field of finance. The 11th edition of the magazine provides insightful articles and research papers that

delve deep into various aspects of Contemporary Finance. As the official magazine of the Students' Association of Finance, it also provides information about the society's activities.



Launch of "FOCUS Magazine - CRISIS Edition"

On 16th August 2023, the MSc. in Applied Finance Programme successfully launched the "FOCUS Magazine - CRISIS Edition". This special August 2023 issue, titled the "Crisis Edition", delves deep into the current economic and financial challenges facing Sri Lanka.

The magazine kicks off with an expert analysis titled "Seen the Unseen", which sheds light on the economic crisis. It explores how this crisis is a result of a complex interplay of factors exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The publication goes on to explore potential solutions, including assistance from the International Monetary Fund, and suggests structural reforms for a brighter future. The ensuing sections of FOCUS feature a variety of articles contributed by candidates from the MSc Applied Finance programme. A noteworthy addition to FOCUS 2023 is the introduction of the "Alumni Corner", where alumni members share their insights through articles.



STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

Senehesara to the Beach

A beach clean-up project was conducted as a part of the Senehesara social services project organized by the Students' Association of the Department of Business Administration at Panadura beach. Eko Plasco and Eco Spindles joined hands with the association as co-organizers, and Elephant House - Beverages sponsored this project.



IKONOMICA 2023: Inflation | උද්ධමනය

Envisioned as an endeavor propelled by the University of Sri Jaywardenepura Business Economics Students' Association, this initiative is poised to discharge our societal duty in fostering a heightened comprehension of economics. Within the purview of the inaugural installment of the Ikonomica video series, we undertake a comprehensive exploration of inflation, encompassing its contemporaneous oscillations and the underlying determinants that exert influence. Through this channel, we earnestly aspire to disseminate edifying insights, epitomizing our commitment to enlightenment.



Econovia'23 - Mini Welcome

The arrival of a new batch to the Department of Business Economics is a reason for enjoyment. Thus, the third-year undergraduates of the Department organized Econovia'23, the Mini Welcome which was wonderfully executed under the theme "Hotel Transylvania" to welcome the fresh second-year batch to the Department.



The event was held on the 17th May 2023 from 8.00 a.m. onwards at the university ground premises, adorned with beautiful decorations, creative acts of the students, and nicely planned games specially created to improve the brotherhood among the freshers and to identify their hidden talents.

The whole event was successfully concluded after the mini-musical event presented by the students adding life-long memories to their life diaries.



'Choco Toast and Vanilla Tea': Transform Theoretical Learning into Real-life Experience

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized a Choco Toast and Vanilla tea stall as a part of the 'Japura Kadamandiya' event. The event was held in front of the main gate premises of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The academic members, non-academic members, and undergraduates graced the occasion.



Highlights from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Students' Association of Finance, Department of Finance

The 19th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Students' Association of Finance of the Department of Finance was successfully held on the 17th May 2023 in the Senate Board Room of the university. The event witnessed the participation of both the members and the academic staff of the department. Alongside the appointment of office bearers, the agenda also included an experience-sharing session by the winning team of the CFA Sri Lanka Research Challenge, who represented the Department of Finance and the official launch of the Financial Explorer magazine.

The following office bearers were appointed to the Executive Committee at the AGM for 2023-2024:

Mr. Yasiru Jayashantha (President), Ms. Rukshika Ropani (Secretary), Mr. Amila Mudalige (Executive Treasurer), Mr. Niluka Athukorala (Vice President), Ms. Sasanthi Fernando (Assistant Secretary) and Mr. Nisal Hansaka (Independent Person), Dr. S.D.L. Kongahawatte (Chief Senior Advisor), Ms. Abehitha Fernando (Advisory Treasurer), Prof. Chandana Gunathilaka (Auditor).



Ice Packet Stall

The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized an ice packet stall. The event was held in front of the Soratha building, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. The Head of the department, other academic members, and the students enjoyed these cool treats. It was a great opportunity to strengthen the bond between undergraduates of the department with the university community.



International Day for Biological Diversity-Quiz competition

In celebration of this important day International Day for Biological Diversity, the Botany and Plant Biotechnology Society of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in association with the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS) - Section D, organized a Quiz Competition. This event was a remarkable initiative that aimed to engage and educate students about the importance of biological diversity.

The Quiz Competition took place on the 25th May 2023, at the Botany Auditorium of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Four groups participated in the competition, each consisting of four students. Dr. Rinukshi Wimalasekera and Dr. Isuru Kariyawasam played pivotal roles in guiding and mentoring the participating students. The winners of the competition were awarded valuable prizes.



'Sankranthiya' Mini Welcome organized by the Association of Public Administration - 2023

The Association of Public Administration organized its mini-welcome programme 'Sankranthiya' to welcome the new batch of students to the Department of Public Administration. The programme was held on 03rd May 2023.



Various team-spirit-boosting games and activities were organized as part of the programme. The Head of the Department of Public Administration, Dr. R.P.C.K. Jayasinghe, and the academic staff of the department joined the students for the opening ceremony of the programme.



“Nethramana” – Performing Arts Concert



In an extraordinary fusion of academia and artistry, the second-year undergraduates of the Department of Marketing Management at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura presented “Nethramana.” This captivating performing arts concert was not just an event but a revelation of the vital role that aesthetics and performing arts play in shaping the marketers of the future. Held at the prestigious Sumnagala Building Auditorium on 2nd June 2023, “Nethramana” was a colorful and enchanting evening. The students, deeply immersed in their Fine Arts course unit, graced the stage with performances that left the audience spellbound. It demonstrated that, in the world of business, the fusion of marketing acumen and artistic finesse is a recipe for innovation and excellence, making it a night to remember for all.

The event was made even more illustrious with the presence of distinguished guests from the performing arts industry. Their participation not only added to the grandeur of the occasion but also served as an affirmation of the importance of creativity and artistic expression in the marketing world.



Succulent Haven - plant stall event

A plant stall event, "Succulent Haven" was successfully organized by the Botany and Plant Biotechnology Society of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The event took place on 9th June 2023 at the premises of Botany department, Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Succulent Haven was more than just a plant sale; it was a holistic experience, intricately linked to the second-semester course, Plant Structure & Function, designed for first-year students under the guidance of Senior Prof. Sandun Senarath. The primary goal of this event was to raise funds for Botany and Plant Biotechnology Society of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



'Wade and Plain Tea Stall': Learning through Real-life Experience.



The Association of Public Administration (APA) organized a series of food stalls, aiming to bridge the gap between theoretical and practical experience. The event was held in front of the Soratha building, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. It was heartwarming to see the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, The Head of the department, and other Academic, Non-Academic Executives and Non-Academic members actively participating in the festivities, engaging

with undergraduates in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

“Manu Rala 2023”: The Beach Cleanup

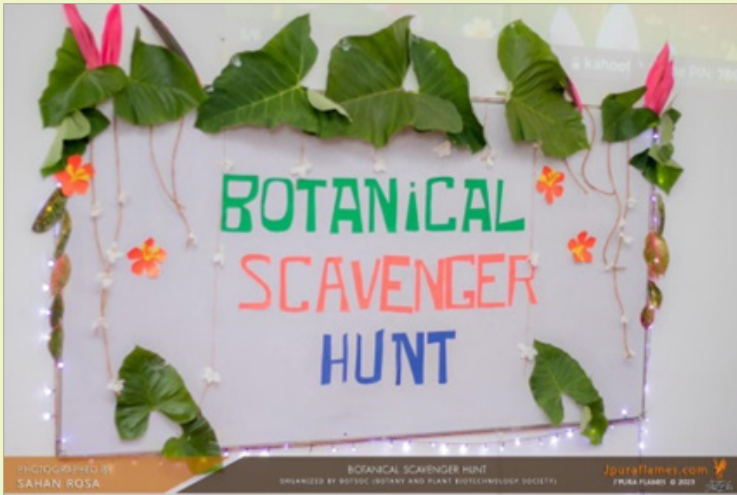


Beaches are where the sea meets the land and are an exceptional habitat for indicating what is going on in our oceans. Unfortunately, if you are to visit any beach these days, you will find evidence that our oceans are in crisis. The sand may look pristine, but a closer look will reveal microplastics in the tide line and tiny pieces of waste materials in the sand. According to research conducted by Lakshman Kadirgamar institute, over 60% of sand samples and 70% of surface water contains

microplastics and an estimated 100 million kilograms of garbage is added to Sri Lanka’s south coastal belt each year. Considering this huge damage to the ecosystem, students of the Department of Marketing Management along with the support of the “Madu Ganga” foundation organized a beach cleanup campaign titled “Manu Rala” on the 3rd August 2023. The theme for the campaign was “Let’s step up for a sustainable future.” Thousands of marine animals worldwide have been affected by plastic pollution, including sea turtles, seabirds, and marine mammals. Therefore, beach clean-ups are vital to mitigate the problem caused by debris and the danger that plastic pollution poses to marine life. Therefore, this programme was conducted successfully throughout the day with over 100 students in participation and the faculty members of the Department leading the youth towards the thoughts and practice of a sustainable future.

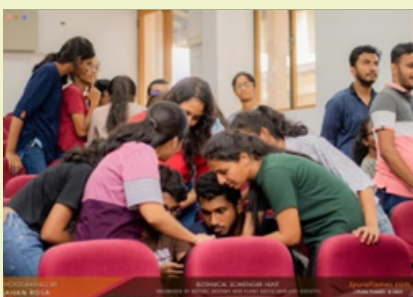


“Weralata Husmak” the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences



Botany and Plant Biotechnology Society organized a Scavenger Hunt event on 10th August 2023 at the Department premises. Participants, representing all academic years competed in three rounds. The first round, “Truffle Shuffle” was to spot the trees from the garden represented by the clues provided through a mystery box where the competitors keenly used their plant identification skills.

Round 2, “Quiztopher” was a quiz where participant could acquire points for their groups to secure their place for the final round. The final round was in favour of those who are smart in mimicking and guessing to find the plant name with the help of the background description given by one participant in the group. Botanical Scavenger Hunt was concluded gifting the winners and ultimately catching everyone’s attention as an unforgettable memory.



“Beyond Design” – Marketing Architect 2.0

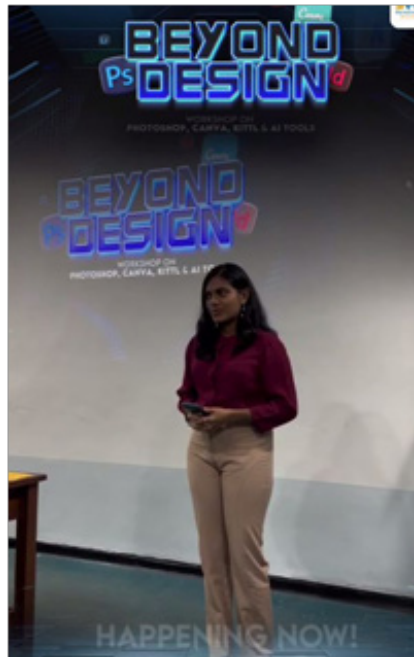


For several consecutive years, the Marketing Management Association of the Department of Marketing Management at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has been instrumental in honing the soft skills and professionalism of students, contributing to their success in the industry. The esteemed “Marketing Architect 2.0” programme continues to be a vital stepping stone for aspiring professionals.

One recent session, “Beyond Design,” was a prime example of the programme’s commitment to students’ growth. Held on 31st

August 2023, at the ITRC Labs of the University, this session delved into the world of design software. Mr. Lakkitha Thebuwana, Head of Production at Arimac Lanka, shared his expertise, offering valuable insights into tools like Adobe Photoshop, Kittl, and Canva.com.

The session empowered students to develop essential design skills, aligning them with industry standards. Marketing Architect 2.0 reaffirms its role in shaping well-rounded, industry-ready professionals who can thrive in the competitive marketing landscape, setting a promising path for the future.



First Aid Workshop



The first aid workshop was hosted by the Muslim Majlis in collaboration with the Sri Lankan Red Cross Society. It included a series of sessions extending over a period of two days (26th and 27th August 2023) where students were briefed on basic first aid including CPR techniques and much more.



Inter Medical Faculty Debating Championship - 2023

The English Literary Association (ELA) of Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ which is a club that has a reputation for debating, took the innovative step of organizing the first ever Inter Medical Faculty Debating Championship (IMDC) encouraging the participation of medical undergraduates around the country.

The tournament was a massive success with participation of 13 teams from



medical faculties of various universities. It was held under three rounds as preliminary round, semi-finals and finals. The preliminary round was held via the online platform, zoom and the semi-finals and final rounds were held at the faculty premises on 3rd September 2023 with the honourable presence of Dean, Prof. Aloka Pathirana and the senior treasurer of ELA, Prof. Varuni Tennakoon along with many other academic professionals and alumni of the faculty.

The competition was judged by many esteemed judges with profound credibility engaged in various fields since the debate was not limited to the medical field. Awards and certificates were presented to the winners following the tournament on the same day.

The ELA is planning to continue IMDC as an annual event, remarking yet another milestone in the history of the club and the tournament will stand as an open platform for medical undergraduates to widen their horizons on logical reasoning and critical thinking.



'Sneha Dayada-2023', the History and Archaeology Students Association makes a generous donation to the Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama

Demonstrating the social responsibility of the department and the strength of the Sri Lankan community in supporting the national health mission, the Students Association of the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ, successfully hosted 'Sneha Dayada-2023', a donation project to provide essential goods for 40 cancer patients and necessities for child patients, on 26th August 2023, at the Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama.

The Student Association was able to solicit financial and material donations for this initiative from university students, university



personnel, the general public, and kind sponsor organizations, in collaboration with the efforts of the department's academic and non-academic staff. In addition to providing essentials to the hospital, the students put their effort into cleaning the hospital wards as well. Furthermore, a refreshment session along with a few entertainment items had also been planned by the students, considering the patients' mental health, followed by gifting presents to child patients.

The History and Archeology Students' Association would like to sincerely express its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who generously contributed in both word and deed for the success of this project.



The History and Archaeology Students' Association organizes 'Shilpa Dayada - 2023', a G.C.E. A/L History Seminar, at the FHSS, USJ

The History and Archaeology Students' Association of the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ, organized 'Shilpa Dayada-2023', an Advanced Level History Seminar, targeting the G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination-2023, on 11th August 2023, at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, USJ, with the participation of 80+ A/L students from Sirimavo Bandaranaike Vidyalaya- Colombo 07, Thurstan College- Colombo 07, Gothami Balika Vidyalaya- Colombo 10 and Girls High School- Mount Lavinia.



The event commenced with an introductory video and a speech to welcome and explain the objectives of the seminar, followed by the introductory notes of the Head of the Department of History and Archaeology, Sen. Lect. (Ven.) Dambara Amila and Sen. Lect. Nelum Rathnayaka of the same department. After the refreshments and a brief entertainment item, the educational sessions were taken place.



The educational session on Prehistory by Sen. Lect. (Dr.) Oshan Wedage was followed by a session on map marking by Lect. Damith Ranagala, based on the A/L History past exam papers and the syllabuses. Most importantly, the students had the chance to raise questions about the matters that came up during the sessions and on their past papers. In addition, a motivational speech was delivered by the History and Archaeology Students Association to the school students with the aim of inspiring them to study for the exam and making them aware of their opportunities both within and outside the university education.

Next, the Archaeology Museum of the Department of History and Archaeology had organized a museum visit for the students as the second segment of the seminar. The school students were then introduced to the process and techniques of taking an inscription's stampage through a special session conducted by the Students Association. Finally, the school students were allowed to take a tour of the university premises after the group portrait was taken.

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The seminar was deemed successful based on the written feedback and oral speeches and comments given by the participating teachers and students, and they expressed their gratitude to the University, the Department, and especially the History and Archaeology Students' Association for organizing such an unforgettable seminar.



The 'Vesak Dansela' by the Students Association of the Department of History and Archaeology - 2023

With the objective of venerating Lord Buddha with the spirit of giving and celebrating the annual Vesak Poya Day, the Students Association of the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura organized a 'Vesak Dansela' on the 03rd May 2023 at the Faculty premises.

Under the guidance of the Head of the Department, Prof. Karunasena Hettiarachchi, the Students Association together with the support of the academic and non-academic staff of the department, manioc and achcharu were offered to hundreds of participants to the dansela, achieving the spiritual objectives of the event just in advance to the Vesak Poya Day.



INDUSTRY/COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Discussions between Chinese Delegates and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

A discussion was held on 17th May 2023 with Chinese delegates and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura to strengthen the relationship between the two parties. During the discussion, the delegation unveiled plans to provide benefits and opportunities to the students who are studying the Chinese language.



Welcome of JICA Volunteer

Representatives from JICA Sri Lanka office visited Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences to officially introduce



Ms. Sachiko Honda who will be teaching Japanese in the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts. This is the first time a JICA volunteer is serving the faculty. She will be sharing her expertise with us for the next two years.

Progress Discussion about the Newly Joining JICA Volunteer



The progress discussion about the new JICA volunteer was held on 28th July 2023, between the JICA and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. According to the discussion, a JICA volunteer is to come to Sri Lanka in August. Upon the arrival of the volunteer, an in-country training of one-month duration will be conducted. As per the agreement,

the volunteer will then be appointed to the university on 22nd September. It would be a great advantage to develop the Japanese Language proficiency of the students of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Professor Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Samanthika Lokugamage, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts, represented the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on this occasion.



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Engages in a Vital Discussion on Japan's Internship Programme for Transformative International Experiences



In a bid to provide its students with transformative international experiences, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences has unveiled plans to launch an International Internship programme. In pursuit of this ambitious initiative, a significant discussion on the potential internship opportunities in Japan was conducted on 28th July 2023,

featuring distinguished participants, Mr. Tatsuo Sugiura, CEO of Passion Japan Co., Ltd., and Professor Shirantha Heenkenda, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.



Sri Lanka Field School 2023; Collaborative Programme between Department of Anthropology USJ and Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Canada

The Sri Lanka Anthropology field school inauguration ceremony took place on 15th May 2023. Prof. Upul Subasinghe, acting vice chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was the chief guest. Other notable participants included Prof. Shirantha Heenkenda, Prof. Pathmalal Manage, Prof. Charmalie Nahallage, Prof. Samantha Kulathilake from Mount Royal University Canada, and Dr. Tom Buchman, also from Mount Royal University Canada. The event was followed by a guest lecture series.

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Mount Royal University (MRU), Canada, signed a Memorandum of Agreement in 2016 to promote international educational and research collaboration. This year marked the third time the Sri Lanka Anthropology field school was conducted, extending the collaboration between the two institutions.

Twelve undergraduate students from MRU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology visited USJ for fieldwork, hosted by the Department of Anthropology at USJ. From 16th May 2023 to 01st June 2023, the Mount Royal University students had the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience of Sri Lankan culture and society through their fieldwork. On 2nd June 2023, they presented their experiences and insights alongside USJ Anthropology students.

The field school provided an opportunity for Sri Lankan students to work with foreign students in the same discipline and vice versa. It also allowed Sri Lankan students to experience different teaching methods practiced in other parts of the world.



The Department of History and Archaeology collaborated with the Palaeo-Environmental Sediment Core Sampling Project- 2023



As per the collaborative research agreement between the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, and the Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, Germany, the 'Palaeo-Environmental Sediment Core Sampling Project-2023' was successfully conducted from 12th June to 30th June 2023, at Horton Plains (Site No. 01), Mahagalkadawala tank (Site No. 02) and Bolgoda-South Lake (Site No. 03) in Sri Lanka.

Accordingly, the Project Director, Dr. Oshan Wedage, Senior Lecturer of the Department of History and Archaeology, and Dr. Patrick Roberts, the Lead Scientist of the Department of Archaeology, the Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology (Germany), facilitated the staff of the Department of History and Archaeology, USJ to visit and experience the Sediment Coring process carried out in the middle of Bolgoda-South Lake (Site No. 03), which was a novel field experience to all. In addition, several students following the Archaeology (Honours) degree programme were also given the opportunity to witness these field activities carried out in Sites No. 01, 02, and 03, which involved renowned foreign researchers as well.



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Richard Pieris & Company PLC



The Department of Business Administration entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Richard Pieris & Company PLC with the objectives of strengthening academia-industry collaboration, knowledge sharing, and facilitating industrial exposure to the undergraduates of the Department. This momentous event garnered the esteemed presence of Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and Mr. Nalin Ranasinghe - General Manager – Group/ Head of HR of Richard Pieris & Company PLC, both of whom graced the occasion as chief dignitaries.

A Discussion on Curriculum Design - 2023

A discussion on curriculum design was held with the collaboration of Dr. Aly Shameem, a professor attached to the Department of Politics and International Relations, Faculty of Arts, Maldives National University, and the Department of Public Administration of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, on 20th July



2023 at the Old Faculty Boardroom of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce. The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, The Head of the Department, and

all the other academics of the Department participated in the discussion.

Ms. V.S. Suriyabandara, Head of the Department of Political Science, Prof. Shantha Gamlath, a senior lecturer attached to the Department of Political Science, and Dr. N. Nayananda, an outside resource person also participated in this discussion on curriculum between Dr. Aly Shameem and the Department of Political Science, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science.



Memorandum of Understanding between the Faculty of Urban and Aquatic Bioresources, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and the Aquaculture Development Centre, Pitipana, Negombo



The Department of Aquatic Bioresources of the Faculty of Urban and Aquatic Bioresources entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Aquaculture Development Centre, Pitipana, Negombo, administered by the Western Provincial Council. Under this agreement, the Aquaculture Development Centre, Negombo will provide field training and research facilities in aquaculture for the

undergraduates following the BSc degree programme in Aquatic Bioresources, at the Faculty. In return, the Department of Aquatic Bioresources of the Faculty will provide technical expertise to facilitate the routine functions of the Aquaculture Development Centre, particularly in aquatic animal health management, nutrition management, and in establishing new aquaculture operations at the Centre.

The official entry into the agreement took place on the 18th August 2023, at the Western

Provincial Council. Senior Professor Pathmalal M. Manage, The Vice-chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura signed the MoU on behalf of the University and Mr. Pradeep Yasaratne, the Chief Secretary, Western Provincial Council signed the MoU on behalf of the Aquaculture Development Centre. The event was graced by the presence of Honorable Governor Air Marshal Roshan Gunathilake. Senior Prof. Pradeep Jayaweera, Dean, Faculty of Urban and Aquatic

Bioresources, Dr. Erandi Pathirana, Head, Department of Aquatic Bioresources and members of the Department, Mr. Chandana Ranaweeraarachchi, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Irrigations, Fisheries, and Livestock Development of the Western Provincial Council, Dr. K.K. Sarath, Provincial Director, Animal Production and Health, were also present at this momentous event.



Global Tech Giant Virtusa signs MoU with the Department of Information Technology



Virtusa Corporation stands as a global beacon in the realm of information technology services. This company is dedicated to delivering unparalleled digital engineering and technological solutions to enterprises spanning a wide array of industries worldwide, including financial services, healthcare, communications, media, entertainment, travel, manufacturing, and

technology. With an impressive global workforce exceeding 35,000 employees, Virtusa Corporation holds a significant presence on the international stage. Notably, this influence extends to Sri Lanka, where the company boasts a substantial workforce and operations. Virtusa Pvt. Ltd, the Sri Lankan Arm of Virtusa, a key player in the local IT recruitment landscape. With a remarkable track record, Virtusa Pvt. Ltd. stands as one of the foremost recruiters of IT professionals in the country, recruiting over 1000 graduates in 2022. This standing has been fortified by their productive collaboration with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, which spans over a decade. A significant milestone was recently achieved as the Department of Information Technology within the Faculty of Management

Studies and Commerce at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura formalized its partnership with Virtusa Corporation through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 11th August 2023. This significant event marked a juncture where academia and industry converged to nurture mutual growth and advancement.

The signing ceremony was held at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura recently with Senior Prof. Pathmalal Manage, the Vice Chancellor USJ, and Mr. Sampath Thirimawitharana, Director-HR Virtusa, acting as the signatories. Bearing witness to this collaborative endeavor were distinguished figures, including Mr. Aniston Leo, Associate Consultant in Talent Acquisition (Campus Hiring). Additional credibility was lent to this partnership as Dr. Dushan Jayawickrama, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, and Prof. Lasith Gunawardena, the Head of the Department of IT, endorsed the MoU as witnesses from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Prof. Champa Hewagamage and Dr. Amitha Kumara, representing the Department of IT also joined in the event.



