



NEWSLETTER

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Volume 02 / Issue 03 / September - December 2016

Champions - 2016! Sri Lanka University Games



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'Japura Flames' is acknowledged for some photographs.

Cover page: Sportsmen and women of J'pura

Contact:

Librarian,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Nugegoda, Sri Lanka.
Tel/Fax: +94 11 2804194
Web: www.lib.sjp.ac.lk
E-mail: editors.nl@sjp.ac.lk

**The newsletter of the
University of Sri Jayewardenepura**

Savidu is brought out as a tri-annual newsletter carrying the vibrant academic, cultural and communal life of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Community Celebrations



USJP honors the foundations of the university with a gold plated fence

The unveiling of the gold plated fence around the bodhiya which is placed at the heart of the university signifying and highlighting the values encouraged here, while going back to the roots in order to understand and acknowledge the foundation on which this university was built, was a unique and special event of the university's history. The University of Sri Jayewardenepura which once hailed as a landmark of Pirivena Education is an institute of higher education which follows the footsteps of the Sinhala-Buddhist educational tradition and it nurtures over 10,000 students at present.

Ven. Prof. Bellanwila Wimalaratana, Chancellor of the University, the deputy incumbent of Bellanwila Rajamaha Viharaya; the Anu Nayaka Maha Thero (Deputy Prelate) of the Kotte Sri Kalyani Samagri Maha Sanga Sabha and the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, graced the event which was held on 2nd December 2016.



COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

His Excellency Archbishop Pierre Nguyen Van Tot, joins the Christmas Carols of Japura

The annual Christmas Carol service organized by the Catholic Students' Movement (CSM) in collaboration with the Catholic Graduates' Society of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was held for the 7th consecutive year in much grandeur on 19th December at the university premises.

For the first time in the history of the university, the papal ambassador for Sri Lanka, Apostolic Nuncio of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Archbishop Most Rev. Dr. Pierre Nguyễn Văn Tôt, attended the event as the distinguished chief guest.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura is home to those hailing from all walks of life representing a colorful array of cultural and religious diversity and as a result the students and the staff together unite in harmony to promote, encourage and embrace its beauty at all times. Therefore the very presence of His Excellency Archbishop Pierre Nguyen Van Tot was indeed a significant moment for all at the university.



COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Navaratri Festival 2016

Commemorating this cultural and religious festival, the Cultural Center of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura organized a Navaratri festival for the student community of the university on 4th November 2016, at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Applied Sciences. This festive evening brought together a number of students from both Hindu and other religious backgrounds spreading religious harmony and joyfulness. It was also a great opportunity for those of other doctrines to learn of a cultural affair which might have remained alien to them.

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, graced this colourful occasion as the Chief Guest.



AWARDS

Awards

President's Awards for Scientific Publication 2014



AWARDS

State Literary Awards

Dr. Praneeth Abhayasundara of the Department of Sociology, Mr. Vihanga Perera of the Department of English and Prof. Walter Marasinghe an academic who was previously a part of the university were awarded at the 59th State Literary Awards Ceremony, held on 8th September 2016 at the BMICH under the aegis of His Excellency the President, Maithripala Sirisena.

Prof. Abhayasundara was recognized for his lyrical collection, "Sinhalayaku Wee Ipadeemen" (සිංහලයෙකු වී ඉපදීමෙන්) while Mr. Perera was awarded for his collection of Poetry, "Love and Protest". Prof. Marasinghe meanwhile was accredited for his translation "Swapnawaasa Wadantha" (ස්වප්නවාස චදන්ත)

1 Prof. E.R. Jansz

Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

2 Prof. Kumudu Wijewardana,

Senior Professor of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

3 Prof. Renu Wickremasinghe,

Professor of Parasitology, Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

4 Prof. Chandanie Wanigatunge,

Professor of Pharmacology, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

5 Prof. Neelika Malavige,

Professor in Microbiology, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

6 Dr. Shalindra Ranasinghe,

Senior Lecturer and Head, Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

7 Dr. A.M.B. Priyadarshani,

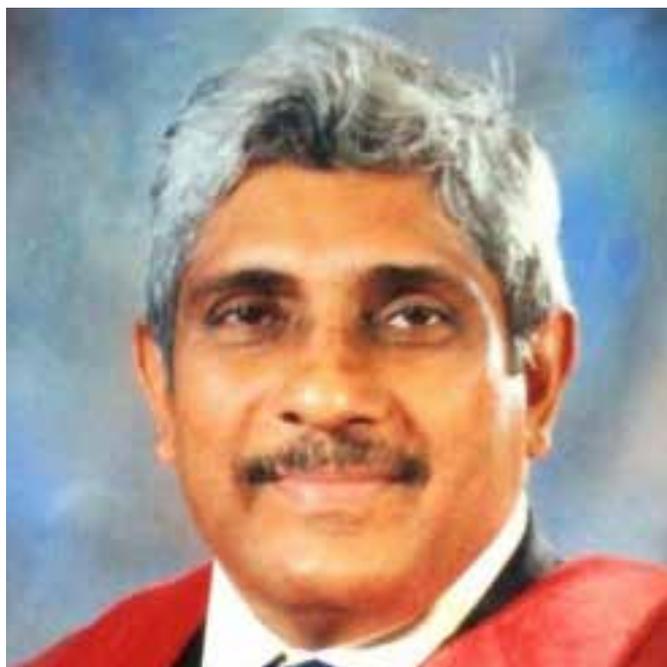
Senior Lecturer, Medical Laboratory Sciences Programme, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

8 Prof. Sagarika Ekanayake,

Professor in Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

9 Mr. Laksiri Gomez,

Research Assistant, Centre for Dengue Research, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



AWARDS

Annual Research Awards Ceremony 2016

The prestigious Vice Chancellor's Award was won by Prof. Sagarika Ekanayake from the Department of Biochemistry and the Best Young Researcher award was won by Dr. Kamal Chandima Jeewandara of the Department of Family Medicine at the Faculty of Medical Sciences at the Annual Research Awards Ceremony held on 29th September 2016 at the Golden Rose, Boralesgamuwa.

Initiated in 2015, this is a much awaited occasion in the university wherein the academia is recognized and awarded for their groundbreaking findings and outstanding excellence in the field of research. This ceremony is held with the intention of disseminating such findings to the public sphere while promoting and persuading further research. In addition, the launching of "Vidyodaya Vision" the research manual of the university also took place on this very special day.

The research awards presented by the Research Council has increased to 798 marking a 50% overall increase from before. The council increased the number up to three academics from each category to be awarded in the year 2016.

The following are those who were recognized on this day.

Researcher having the highest citations for the year 2015 [Three (03) awards for each faculty]

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr. S.C.B. Heenkenda – Citations 05
Dr.H.A.G. Sujeewa – Citations 11
Prof. (Mrs.) C.A.D. Nahallage – Citations 20

Faculty of Applied Sciences

Dr. T.G.I. Fernando – Citations 84
Senior Prof. (Mrs.) S. Weerakoon – Citations 90
Dr. N.M.S. Sirimuthu – Citations 122

Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

Prof. K.D. Gunawardena – Citations 14
Senior Prof. H.H.D.N.P. Opatha – Citations 19
Dr. (Mrs.) P.G.S.A. Jayarathna – Citations 28

Faculty of Medical Sciences

Prof. (Mrs.) J.K.P.Wanigasuriya – Citations 71
Prof. (Mrs.) S.S.N. Fernando – Citations 78
Prof. (Mrs.) G.N. Malavige – Citations 202



AWARDS



AWARDS

Faculty of Technology

Dr. N.A. Weeraseskara – Citations 12
 Dr. B.H.A.K.T. Ariyadasa – Citations 12
 Dr. A.M.R.G. Athapaththu – Citations 22

Three Researchers' from each faculty with the highest h-index were also recognized at this occasion.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr. H.A.G. Sujeewa – h-index 2
 Prof. (Mrs.) C.A.D. Nahallage – h-index 8

Faculty of Applied Sciences

Prof. Pathmalal M. Manage – h-index 12
 Prof. P.M. Jayaweera – h-index 13
 Dr. N.M.S. Sirimuthu – h-index 13

Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

Prof. K.D. Gunawardena – h-index 5
 Dr. (Mrs.) C. Hewagamage – h-index 5
 Senior Prof. H.H.D.N.P. Opatha – h-index 7

Faculty of Medical Sciences

Prof. (Mrs.) S.S.N. Fernando – h-index 12
 Prof. S.B. Gunatilake – h-index 14
 Prof. (Mrs.) G.N. Malavige – h-index 20

Faculty of Technology

Dr. B.H.A.K.T. Ariyadasa – h-index 3
 Dr. (Mrs.) A.H.L.R. Nilmini – h-index 4
 Dr. A.M.R.G. Athapaththu – h-index 4

Researchers were then ranked in the Webometrics Database and the following were recognized as a result,

Prof. G. NeelikaMalavige	h-index : 18	Department of Microbiology
Dr. NarayanaSirimuthu	h-index : 13	Department of Chemistry
Prof. Pradeep M. Jayaweera	h-index : 13	Department of Chemistry
Prof. Sirimali Fernando	h-index : 12	Department of Microbiology
Prof. M.M. Pathmalal	h-index : 12	Department of Zoology
Prof. BalangodaSinghakumara	h-index : 11	Department of Forestry & Environmental Sciences
Prof. Ranil De Silva	h-index : 11	Department of Anatomy
Prof. S.S.N. Fernando	h-index : 10	Department of Microbiology

Emeritus Professors having h- index of 10 or more than 10 who were awarded are as follows,

Emeritus Professors having h- index of 10 or more than 10**Faculty of Medical Sciences**

Department : Biochemistry
 Professor E.R. Jansz h-index 16

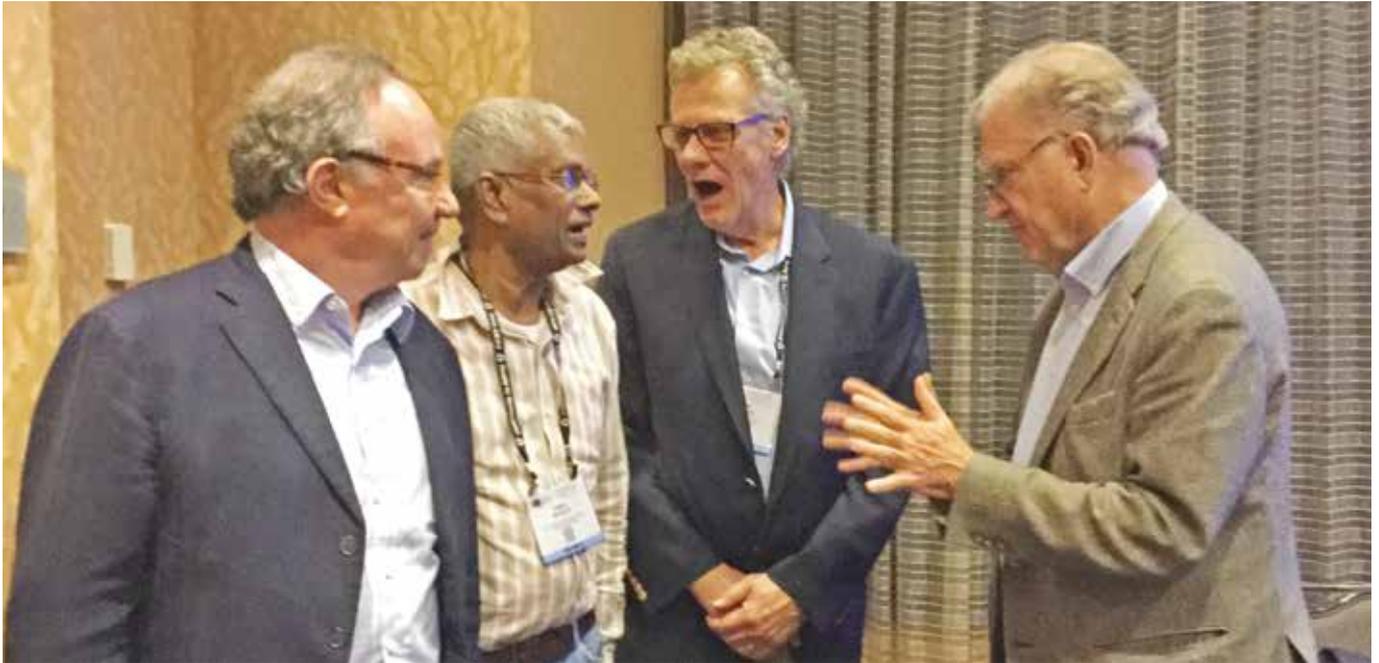
Faculty of Applied Sciences

Department : Chemistry
 Professor. A.M. Abeysekera h-index 10

Thereafter the departments which had the highest average h-index for the year 2016 were also recognized,



AWARDS



The Global Advocacy Seed Grant Award for Professor Ranil de Silva

Prof. Ranil De Silva, Director of the World Class University Grant Project-USJP, Director, Interdisciplinary Center for Innovation in Biotechnology & Neuroscience, was awarded the Global Advocacy Seed Grant Award of EURO 5,000 for 2017 from the Governing Council, International Brain Research Organization (IBRO), at the 46th Annual Meeting of Society for Neuroscience (SfN) held in San Diego, USA; from 12th to 16th November 2016. This is a competitive

grant with 64 countries competing. The event attracted more than 32,000 colleagues from more than 80 countries at this world's largest marketplace of ideas and tools for global neuroscience (<https://www.sfn.org/annual-meeting/neuroscience-2016>).

The Global Advocacy Committee Meeting identified priorities and helped bridge the gaps in knowledge, investment and resources in the field of brain research during this meeting, which is the biggest gathering of such experts. Professor de Silva presented original research titled "Banking the Brain and Blood: A Sri Lankan Emerging Era of Collaborative Research; what the East can offer the West".

Employability Skills Award Ceremony 2016

The Employability Skills Award Ceremony organized by the Career Guidance Unit was held on 4 October 2016 at Golden Rose Hotel to honour the skillful undergraduates who have actively engaged in extracurricular activities apart from their degree program to enhance their soft skills while developing their personality to become more employable. The following students were awarded in the grand finale.



AWARDS

Prof. Lalitha Fernando awarded Excellent Alumna of 2016 in NIDA Thailand.

Prof. Lalitha S. Fernando, the Head of the Department of Public Administration was awarded as an Excellent Alumna of the year 2016 in the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), Thailand. On 15th September 2016. This was organized by the NIDA in association with the Graduate School of Public Administration (GSPA) which is one of oldest faculties of the NIDA, and the Alumni Association of the NIDA. The university recognizes its outstanding alumni every year and for the year 2016, 17 awards were granted by recognizing its outstanding Alumni from its 11 Schools.



IRCHSS Awards 2016

At the award ceremony of the International Research Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences held on 11th November 2016, Ms. Sujeewa Sebastian Pereira; Prof. G.M. Bandaranayake and Mr. Sumanajith Kumara; and Dr. Gamini Ranasinghe won the best abstract in Humanities, the best abstract in Social Sciences and the best poster awards respectively.

AWARDS

Professor Pathmalal Manage receives SUSRED awards

Prof. Pathmalal received three SUSRED awards for successful completion of two Ph.Ds and a M.Phil within the stipulated time with indexed publications and new innovations from National Science Foundation in December 2016.



The best research poster of the Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists, 2016



Prof. Pathmalal Manage's research student, Yohan Mahagamge of the Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayawardenepura, won the best research paper award at the 25th annual scientific sessions of the Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists 2016 which was held on 10th-12th August 2016 at the Sri Lanka Foundation. The title of the research paper was "Microbiological Quality in Ground Water of the Kelani River Basin, Sri Lanka."

Roshima from J'pura for Miss Scuba International

Roshima Vithanage, currently a third year undergraduate at the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura was recently crowned Miss Scuba Sri Lanka '16, presenting her the opportunity of participating at the Miss Scuba International '16 pageant held in Malaysia on 19th November 2016. Miss Scuba International is a beauty pageant held in Malaysia since 2011 that promotes beauty and the concept of marine conservation.

Roshima, being an active student of the faculty, was an integral part of the organizing of the university's most glamorous event, Sisi Arundathee '16. She was also a member of the executive committee of AEISEC at Japura, showcasing her fantastic capabilities in managing time among other commitments throughout her years as an undergraduate.



Conferences

3rd International Conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches 2016

The International conference on Multidisciplinary Approaches 2016 (iCMA 2016) was held on the 12th, 13th & 14th of October 2016 at Club Palm Bay Hotel, Marawila. The theme of this year's iCMA was "High impact research towards sustainable development".

The iCMA 2016 focused on a range of disciplines including Health Sciences, Natural Sciences, Physical Sciences, Management & Commerce, Humanities, Social Sciences and Engineering & Technology. The scientific knowledge in every discipline has now developed and grown vastly in Sri Lanka as well as in other countries. There is a keenness and interest in sharing the knowledge with a wider audience. Therefore, going beyond Research Presentations, FGS conducted a series of themed talks with the participation of eminent local and foreign scientists.

Honorable minister Dr Sarath Amunugama, Minister, Special Assignments, graced the occasion as the chief guest representing HE President Maithreepala Sirisena. Dr. Michael Knaus from the Trier University of Applied Sciences, Germany and Mr. David Abbass, Head of Regional Collaboration Center for Asia – Pacific, UNFCCC, Thailand, delivered keynote addresses at the inaugural session. This was a great opportunity to young researchers and other stakeholders to improve their knowledge and enhance research activities.

104 abstracts were given where 78 oral presentations & 26 poster presentations were presented.



CONFERENCES

International Research Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences 2016

The Fifth International Research Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS-2016) organised by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura, Sri Lanka, was held on 10th and 11th of November at 'Sri Sumangala Mandiraya' of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura. The conference was theme 'Transformation for Empowerment: Moving beyond Buzzwords', which alludes to Albert Einstein's (1879-1955) aphorism, "the purpose of intellect is the transformation of a miracle to something understandable". IRCHSS-2016 created a forum for the comparative treatment of ideas, cutting-edge issues and problems.

The conference included two keynote addresses, the chief guest's speech, the poster presentation named 'Crossing spatiality and temporality', the symposium on media and society titled 'Concerted thinking and collaborative work', and 28 parallel technical sessions, plus the conference closing ceremony where awards of excellence were presented.

Professor Rohan Samarajiva, the Founding Chair of LIRENasia, honoured the conference as the Chief Guest with a thought-provoking speech on 'taking high-quality research to policy'. Keynote speakers were the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Keele, UK, Professor David Amigoni and Scott McCracken, Professor of Twentieth Century Literature, University of London, UK. Researchers from over 10 countries, including Sri Lanka, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Netherlands, Norway, the Czech Republic, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Bangladesh, participated in the conference.

IRCHSS-2016 culminated in the penultimate event, the presentation of awards of excellence to three research studies: the best abstract in Humanities, the best abstract in Social Sciences and the best poster. The closing ceremony included performances of traditional Sri Lankan dance on the stage by the undergraduates of the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura and the conference dinner created a cordial social forum to reinforce the participants' collaboration.



CONFERENCES

13th International Conference on Business Management 2016

The 13th International Conference on Business Management (ICBM), organized by Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was held from 7th December 2016 to 8th December 2016. The inaugural session of the conference was held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo, and Academic Research Sessions and the Doctoral Symposium was held at the university premises.

The ICBM, organized by FMSC, the largest management faculty of the Sri Lankan university system, occupies a prominent position in the annual university academic calendar. The conference provided an interdisciplinary platform with endless opportunities for the academia and the business management professionals to share the latest knowledge and network. Dr Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs graced the event as the chief guest.



Twenty First International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2016

Fulfilling its mission for the 21st consecutive year the "21st International Forestry and Environmental Symposium 2016" organized by the Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was successfully held on 23rd & 24th of September 2016 at Heritance Kandalama, Dambulla. Honorable Minister Mr. Susil Premajayantha, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

Distinguished as the oldest and the most renowned Forestry and Environment Symposium in South Asia, the International Forestry and Environment Symposium is the premier event

where researchers, academia, professionals, policy makers, and the industry meet to network, discuss and learn about the latest developments in forestry and environment sectors. The symposium was chaired by Dr. Prasanthi Gunawardena, Head, Department of Forestry and Environmental Science and the coordinator of this symposium was Dr. Priyan Perera. Around 150 new key research findings were presented by the scholars before 350 local and foreign participants including key government officials, academics, researchers and business leaders in the Forestry and Environment Sectors.

Prof. Richard Vlosky, Director of the Louisiana Forest Products Development Center, Louisiana State University, USA; Associate Prof. David Newsome, an expert in sustainable tourism, from Murdoch University, Western Australia and Associate Prof. Naohiro Goto, an expert in Environmental

CONFERENCES

12th National Conference on Pali and Buddhist Studies 2016

The 12th National Conference on Pali and Buddhist Studies 2016, organised by the Department of Pali and Buddhist Studies in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, was held on 23rd December at Sumangala Reading Hall.

The key note speaker of the conference was Ven. Dr. Deniyaye Pannaloka Thero from the Department of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Kelaniya. Ven. Butawatte Saranankara Thero, Chief Prelate of Senthul Buddhist Vihara, in Malaysia, participated in the conference as the chief guest.

Ven. Prof Medagoda Abhayathissa Thero was the conference chair and Ven . Dr. Panahaduwe Yasassi Thero was the secretary of the 12th conference. Research papers on various themes under Pali and Buddhist Studies were presented by academics from national and international universities and institutes.



System Engineering from Toyohashi University of Technology, Japan, were the keynote speakers for the event.

Industrial pioneers having environmental friendly business initiatives also joined hands with the 21st International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2016.



CONFERENCES

5th Asian primate symposium

5th Asian Primate Symposium which was jointly organized by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University was held from 18th to 20th October 2016 at the Mount Lavinia Hotel. The symposium was locally chaired by Prof. Charmalie Nahallage and the international organizing co chairs were Profs. Michael Huffman and Yuzuru Hamada. The chief guest of the symposium was Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife and the Guests of Honour were Mr. Koji Yagi, Deputy Ambassador, Japanese Embassy of Sri Lanka and

Senior Prof. Hemanthi Ranasinghe, Acting Vice Chancellor University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

This year's theme was "Elucidation of Evolutionary History and Conservation of Asian Primates by Construction of an International Consortium". Eminent primatologists from India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Taiwan, China and Japan participated and presented their research findings together with many local primatologists. Such a symposium was organized for the first time in Sri Lanka and it provided a good platform for the local researchers to interacted and share their experiences and knowledge specifically on Asian primates and on other primates in general.



Folklore Research Symposium for undergraduate students

The first Folklore Research Symposium was held on the 9th of December 2016 with the collaboration of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Cultural Centre of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the Arts Circle. The symposium was chaired by Dr. Praneeth Abheysundara, the secretary was Prof. Charmalie Nahallage and the coordinator of the symposium was Ms. Mayuri Thennakoon of the Cultural Centre.

The main objective of the symposium was to encourage the undergraduate students to conduct research and to present them in an academic forum thereby giving them the opportunity to immerse themselves in a research culture from their primary degree period. It opened the doors for undergraduate students for the first time in the fields of Humanities and Social sciences to present their research findings in an academic forum. Students from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Ruhuna, Peradeniya, Kelaniya, Visual and Performing Arts, and Horana Sri Pali took part in the symposium.

The theme of this year was "Ancient Heritage, Today's Vision, Future Pride". The tracks ranged from Food Culture, Folk Literature, Folk Medicine, Folk Life, Traditional Heritage, Folk Songs, Folk Dancing, Folk Art, Folk Drama, Rituals and Magic, Plant and Animal Lore

The key note address was delivered by Prof. P. M. Karunarathna Bandara on the topic of "Sri Lankan Drum Art Enriched by Folklore".

The best abstract went to Mr. H. P. T. D. Dayananda, from the Sri Palee Campus, the best poster presentation was awarded to Mr. K. M. Sirilal from the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka. The symposium ended with a cultural show.



CONFERENCES

1st South East Asia Conference on Crystal Engineering (SEACCE)

The 1st South East Asia Conference on Crystal Engineering (SEACCE) organized by the Department of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was held from 5th -7th September 2016, at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in association with the International Union of Crystallography. The main objective of the conference was to provide a platform for academic researchers and industrial professionals from South and East Asia to bond together and

present their recent studies and exchange novel ideas in the field of crystal engineering.

At present, crystal engineering has become an emerging field of study where concepts of crystal engineering have been utilized in many fields such as Pharmaceutical Industry, Electronics, Nano-medicine and Material Science, to develop novel materials with enhanced properties. Global figures in Crystal Engineering such as Prof Gautam R. Desiraju (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India), Prof X. M. Chen (Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China), Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman (Meritorious Professor Patron-in-Chief, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan) participated in the conference.



News

USJP wins SLUG Championship - 2016

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJP) became the victorious champions for the first time in history at the 12th Sri Lanka University Games (SLUG) in September 2016.



Construction of the Faculties of Technology and Engineering are to begin

The foundation stone for the new buildings of the much awaited additions to the university, the Faculties of Technology and Engineering were laid by the Chancellor, Ven. Bellanvila Vimalarathana Thero and the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sampath Amarathunga on the 22nd September 2016 at the Techno Park, Pitipana, Homagama.

This 7.5 billion worth new development which is a result of the determined work of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amarathunga and the university administration, was approved by the University Grants Commission and the publication of Gazette Extraordinary (No. 1948/59 Order under Section 27(1), THE UNIVERSITIES ACT, No. 16 of 1978) by the Ministry of Higher Education and Highways of Sri Lanka.

The faculties of Technology and Engineering have begun activities at temporary buildings meanwhile, with a new intake of 300 prospective candidates for the Faculty of Technology and 120 prospective candidates for the Faculty of Engineering.



NEWS

Opening ceremony of the Faculty of Engineering

The Opening Ceremony of the building temporarily housing the Faculty of Engineering, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was held on 28th, September 2016. The occasion was headed by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Sampath Amaratunge. Dr. S. A. A. M. Subasinghe, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Academic and non academic staff members participated to the event. The Faculty will serve to realize the aspirations of thousands of students by providing engineering education through the state sector.



Opening ceremony of the New Faculty Complex in Faculty of Technology

The opening ceremony of the building temporarily housing the Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was held at 9.00 am on 17th January 2017 at No.616, High Level Road, Wijerama, Nugegoda.

Professor Sampath Amaratunge, Vice Chancellor of the University graced the occasion as the chief guest. Prof. Prashantha B. Mandawala, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Technology, several Deans, Department heads, other academic members and students took part in the event.



NEWS

Successful completion of the Galle Fort World Heritage Site Documentation Project by the Department of History and Archeology

The closing ceremony of the Galle Fort World Heritage Site Documentation Project funded by the United States and conducted by the Department of History and Archeology, was held on 26 September 2016 at the auditorium of the Maritime Museum of the Central Cultural Fund, Galle, with the participation of officials from the US Embassy, the Vice Chancellor, academics from the Department of Archeology and other stakeholders.

The project proposal, "Documentation of Historic Structures within Galle Dutch Fort World Heritage" submitted by the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura was accepted in August 2010 by the U.S. Embassy, Colombo, under its U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation. Grant applications for assistance were signed by the Vice Chancellor, Dr. N. L. A. Karunaratne on the 15th September 2011. The United States provided \$100,005 USD that is Sri Lankan Rupees 12,083,050.25 to fund the project. The main objective of the project was to document the historical fabric of the Galle Fort in order to identify the architectural character and facilitate the formulation of a master plan to guide a sympathetic development within the historic area.

At the closing ceremony, soft and hard copies of documented buildings were handed over to the Department of Archaeology, the American Embassy, the owners of buildings, the Galle Heritage Foundation, the Urban Development Authority, the Galle Municipal Council and the Southern Provincial Governor's office. A coffee table publication which carries a few significant buildings selected from the documented lot to give a glimpse of the total project to the interested general public, was also brought out that day.



Presidential Appointment

Mr. Udayakumara Amarasinghe, Proctor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Senior lecturer, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice has been appointed by the President of Sri Lanka as a member of the Board of Management of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses under the purview of Ministry of Justice.



NEWS

Community Project of the Faculty of Medical Sciences Teachers' Association (FMTA)

Members of the Faculty of Medical Sciences Teachers' Association organized a medical camp and library book donation at the Aluthambalama Junior Model School, Kosgama on 26th September 2016. It was a very successful event and rewarding experience for all who participated.



MOU between USJP & Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan, in order to enhance relations between the two universities and to develop academic and cultural interchange in the areas of education, research and other activities, and to cooperate and work together towards the internationalization of higher education.

The areas of cooperation included any program offered at either university that is felt to be desirable and feasible for the development and strengthening of cooperative relationships between the two universities.



Research Collaboration between the Department of Computer Science and Toyohashi University of Technology

A research collaboration and MOU will be established between the Department of Computer Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Toyohashi University of Technology, Toyohashi, Japan from year 2017. The goal of the program is to exchange and share the knowledge based on joint projects conducted between students at the Department of Computer Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and students at the Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Toyohashi University of Technology.



MOU Workshop between the Department of Public Administration and Tohoku University, Japan

The Department of Public Administration of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, has been in collaboration with the International Graduate School of Accounting Policy of the Tohoku University in Japan since 2014. They have jointly organized some seminars, presentations, conferences, and industry visits both in Sri Lanka and in Japan. A joint-workshop facilitating a MOU was held on 19th September 2016 at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura premises.

The objective of the programme is to seek for learning, teaching and research avenues for students and academic members of the two universities. Also, the discussions were held to explore the opportunities for improving and expanding the scope of collaborative exercises between USJP and Tohoku in Japan.

Prof. Toshifumi Takada, Prof. Yoko Suga and four postgraduate students representing Tohoku university and Mrs. Masami Katatuna, E & Y partner in Japan participated in the workshop. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Prof. T M B Palawatta, Head of the Department of Public Administration, Prof. Lalitha S Fernando, Coordinator of the Academic Exchange workshop Dr. MHA Sisira Kumara, several Heads of the Departments, Professors and academic members of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce have taken part in this workshop.



Research Collaboration between the Department of Zoology and Chungnam National University; Opportunities for graduate studies from Jeju National University

A research collaboration and MOU program will be established between the Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Chungnam National University along with the Jeju National University in Korea in 2017. The objective of the program is to exchange and share the knowledge based on joint projects conducted between students and academics at Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and researchers at College of Veterinary Medicine, Chungnam National University; as well as to provide opportunities for research based graduate studies for local graduates by the Jeju National University, Korea. Prof. Jehee Lee (Principal investigator at Marine Molecular Genetics Lab and Director of Fish Vaccine Research Center in the Department of Marine Life Science, Jeju National University) Prof. Mahanam De Zoysa (Principal investigator at Aquatic Animal Disease Lab, Chungnam National University), the Vice Chancellor, Dean Faculty of Applied Science and academic staff members of Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura were present at the initial meeting that was held on 29th December 2016 at the Vice Chancellor's office.

NEWS

MOU signed among the Department of Entrepreneurship, Career Guidance Unit and National Enterprise Development Authority

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed among the Department of Entrepreneurship (DOE), The Career Guidance Unit (CGU) and the National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA) on 20 September 2016 to conduct the joint project "Wayawasaayaka Udanaya" - Entrepreneurship Skills Development Program - for the undergraduates of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This is to share management expertise, knowledge, experience and strengths of both organizations in order to provide a comprehensive service package for the benefit of the undergraduates in a mutually beneficial way for both organizations.

Mr. R.N Weerasinghe- Head (DoE), Dr. Omar Kamil- Chairman (NEDA), and Dr. Geetha Tharanganie- Director (CGU) signed the MoU.



Continuous Medical Education Programme by the Faculty of Medical Sciences

The research committee of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) conducted a Continuous Medical Education (CME) program on 13th October 2016. It was the first of a series of annual CME programs to be organized by the faculty in collaboration with SLMA. The program was held at the Anatomy auditorium, Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS), University of Sri Jayewardenepura, with the participation of over 100 participants.

Whether physicians work in clinical care, research, healthcare administration, or other areas of medicine, continuous medical education (CME) is essential and should be tailored to fulfill patient needs. To address this very important need, the program was carefully tailored to include diverse topics in medicine and was resourced by eminent experts in the respective areas.

Seminar on Essential Steps in Identifying, Designing & Conducting Research

Dr. Premachandra Wattage conducted a seminar on the Essential Steps in Identifying, Designing & Conducting Research on 5th October, 2016 at the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Both undergraduates, postgraduate students and academics participated in the event to gain knowledge in doing research right.

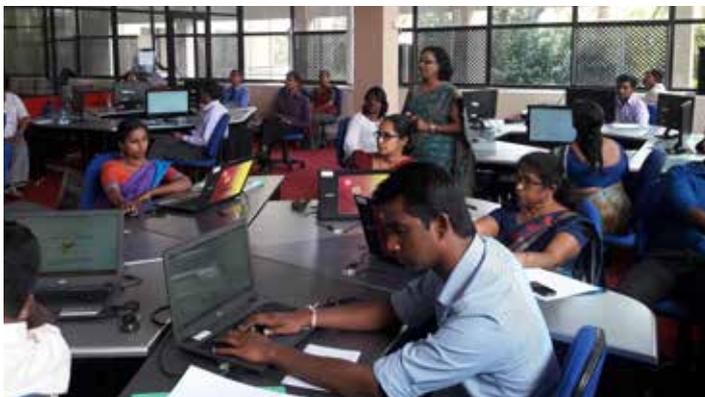
Dr. Premachandra Wattage is a research fellow of the University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom. Dr. Wattage lectures in the general areas of natural resources economics, fisheries development and econometrics and in the past he has taught on a variety of courses including environment policy, econometrics, statistics, project appraisal and resource valuation during his previous employment at the University of Leeds and California State University. He has also taught modules in the European Masters Programme for Water and Coastal Zone Management. Previously, he has been involved in running economics-based training programmes in Sri Lanka.



NEWS

A guest speech on “International Collaboration with Mexico”

Mexican Ambassador HE Melba Priya visited the University on 8th of September to share her knowledge and experience on International Collaboration with Mexico, with special reference to Economics, Culture, Politics, Social Aspects & Tourism. Further she explained the educational opportunities available for the Sri Lanka students in Mexico & possible collaborations. The meeting was organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in Association with the Boards of Studies in Social Sciences, Humanities & Management Studies & Commerce.



Library Workshop on Access to E-resources and efficient retrieval techniques 23 January 2017, Library USJP

The Library and Library Committee with the Faculty of Medical Sciences, organized a workshop on ‘Access to E-resources and efficient retrieval techniques’ on 23 January 2017 at the Interactive Study Area of the Main Library. This was done with the sponsorship of HELLIS Network Sri Lanka. Mrs. C. Kuruppu, Focal Point Librarian, HELLIS Network and Deputy Librarian, University of Colombo spoke about the “HELLIS Network (South East Asia) Resources and Services” while Mrs. Shamalie Thebawana, Manager Information, WHO Sri Lanka explained about “WHO publications, Databases and other E resources”. Ms. Shirani Ranasinghe, Deputy Librarian, USJP spoke of “Scholarly Information Resources (Open Source, UGC Consortium, fee based)” and “How to use Information retrieval tools efficiently” and Dr. Manoja Samaradiwakara, Senior Assistant Librarian assisted in the hands on sessions.

Academic staff of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Postgraduate students and library staff participated in this highly successful event and all the participants evaluated it as extremely useful for their research and teaching activities.

NEWS

METAE 2016 – Economics Week

The Department of Economics in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences held an Economics Week named “METAE 2016” in order to share economic knowledge among G.C.E. Advanced Level students and undergraduates. It was held from the 15th of November 2016 to 18th of November 2016. The major objective of this event was to bring together a cohort of Economics students in order to further pick their interest in the subject by practical and entertaining methods.

An Inter School Debate competition was held among schools in the Colombo zone on topics that holds timely importance in the current economic context of Sri Lanka. A seminar for G.C.E. Advanced Level economics students was conducted by Mr. Gamini Weerasinghe, the Head, Department of Economics, parallel to the Advanced Level economics syllabus. The Entrepreneurship and Soft Skills Development Program was conducted by Mr. Channa Gajanayaka from the Department of Entrepreneurship and Co-founder; present Chairman of the Raigam Group, The final phase was an Economic Discussion on the “2017 budget and the future of the economy” by major politicians of popular political parties in Sri Lanka.



Lead Collaborative Scientist from Sri Lanka for Molecular Pathological-stratification of Leishmaniasis

Dr. ShalindraRanasinghe, Head, Department of Parasitology was selected as the Lead Collaborative Scientist from Sri Lanka for the Medical Research Council UK funded research project titled "Towards a global research network for the molecular pathological stratification of leishmaniasis".

The principal investigator is Prof. Paul Kaye, Professor of Immunology, Centre for Immunology and Infection, Hull Medical School, University of York.

This research project has been selected as one of the five case reports published by the MRC press release.



University Investment Day 2016

The Department of Finance organized the “University Investment Day 2016” on the 25th of October 2016 at the Fayol Hall of the Soratha Building from 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm. That was the second consecutive time that the Department of Finance held this event with the main intention of creating awareness regarding the capital markets of Sri Lanka and formulating an investment community not restricted to the university boundaries.

The Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Dr. U. Anura Kumara, graced the occasion with the Head of the Department of Finance, Professor Hareendra Dissabandara, Senior Professor Abeyrathna Bandara, lecturers of the Department of Finance and various resource persons of the industry. Presentations by a panel of experts in the field, Q and A sessions and other important events marked this day that was organized to link the university with the finance industry of Sri Lanka.



Introducing a Master's Degree in Professional Accounting

On the 14th of October 2016, the Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura turned another page in its colorful history by introducing a one year Master's Degree in Professional Accounting (MPAcc) as part of its 25th Anniversary Celebrations. The inauguration ceremony of the new MPAcc programme was held at the Prof. Munasinghe Auditorium from 6.00 p.m. onwards in the presence of a representative gathering

from academia, industry and alumni of the Department of Accounting. By introducing this new MPAcc programme, the Department of Accounting aims to develop competent managers with sound theoretical and practical skills in accounting and related disciplines.

Being the pioneer in academic accounting education, the Department of Accounting expects to extend its reach by providing this Master's level extension degree programme and thereby contribute towards the upliftment of the society.



NEWS

Prof. Medagoda Abhayatissa thero initiates a project to provide audio CDs to visually impaired undergraduates

Ven. Prof. Medagoda Abhayatissa of the Department of Pali and Buddhist Studies of the university has taken up the task of producing audio books (targeting the recording of 3000 words per month) under the title of "Vinivida" to facilitate the education of all visually challenged students, first, of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura and eventually, of the society at large.

Prof. Medagoda has employed Mr. Kasun Nayanajith from Daisy Lanka Foundation as the Technical instructor and Ms. Sathya Nirmani, a graduate of the university, for this project. He also has a team comprising of seven academics of the university to support him in completing this beneficial task. Ven. Prof. Medagoda Abhayatissa plans on releasing the completed audio books to relevant websites and then to produce CD's if and when necessary. He is also planning on

extending the reach of these materials by sharing it with the university libraries and private organizations.

The university has a significant number of visually impaired students who are truly an inspiration and a living example for understanding that it is the eye and not the brain that is impaired, thus rendering such help extremely timely and relevant.



The Inaugural Inter Faculty Debating Championship 2016

Faculty of Management and Commerce was awarded as "Best Debaters in the year 2016" with the Faculty of Applied Sciences coming in at Second place of the inaugural Inter-faculty Debating Championships 2016 organized by the Soft Skills Development Unit in order to develop the soft skills of the students in our University.

The Inter Faculty debate competition, following the Inter Department Debate Competition was held from 5th December to 7th December at Science Auditorium. Debate teams representing the Faculty of Management and Commerce, the Faculty of Applied Sciences, the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences competed for the award.



NEWS

Speech Master 2016

Organized by the Career Guidance Unit, Speech Master 2016, the Grand Finale, was successfully held on October 9th, 2016, at The Kingsbury Hotel Colombo. Out of the 12 finalists, Thisuri Dematagoda from the Informatics Institute of Technology was crowned as the Speech Master 2016, with Shareef Mihilar from Achievers Lanka Business School and Matheesha Udawatte from Business Management School (BMS) became the first and second runners-up. The winner of the contest was awarded a cash price of LKR 100,000.



Workshop on “Degradable Polymers; Environmental Pollution Control for Greener Sri Lanka”

The Environmental Committee of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS), in collaboration with the Department of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura successfully held a workshop on

“Degradable polymers; environmental pollution control for a greener Sri Lanka” on 29th September 2017 at the premises of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

The aim of the workshop was to increase the awareness of the necessity of polymer degradation and to educate the current trends in degradable polymers. The workshop was conducted by reputed university professors and lecturers with the participation of about 150 undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as industrial representatives.



NEWS

English Day 2016 of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

The English Day, 2016 of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC) was held under the theme "Come out of the shell: Make waves" on the 31st of October, 2016 at the Prof. Munasinghe Hall. Every year the English Day is organized under the Business Communication Unit (BCU) to encourage and foster learning English outside the classroom, especially among the first year undergraduates of the FMSC.

This year, as the theme implies, the English Day was certainly a platform for the students to shed their fears and to become more confident users of the language. The first round of competitions was held at the class level, thus ensuring the participation of every student at least in one event. Additional workshops were organized for the dramatists and the debaters. Also, it was a memorable evening for most of the students who compered and presented items as it was the first time they were showcasing their talents in any other language other than their mother tongue.

The evening comprised of songs, dramas, speeches and a debate, followed by the awarding of certificates to the winners.



Drama at the English language Teaching Unit, FHSS

A drama competition was held by the students learning English at the English Language Teaching Unit of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in December 2016.

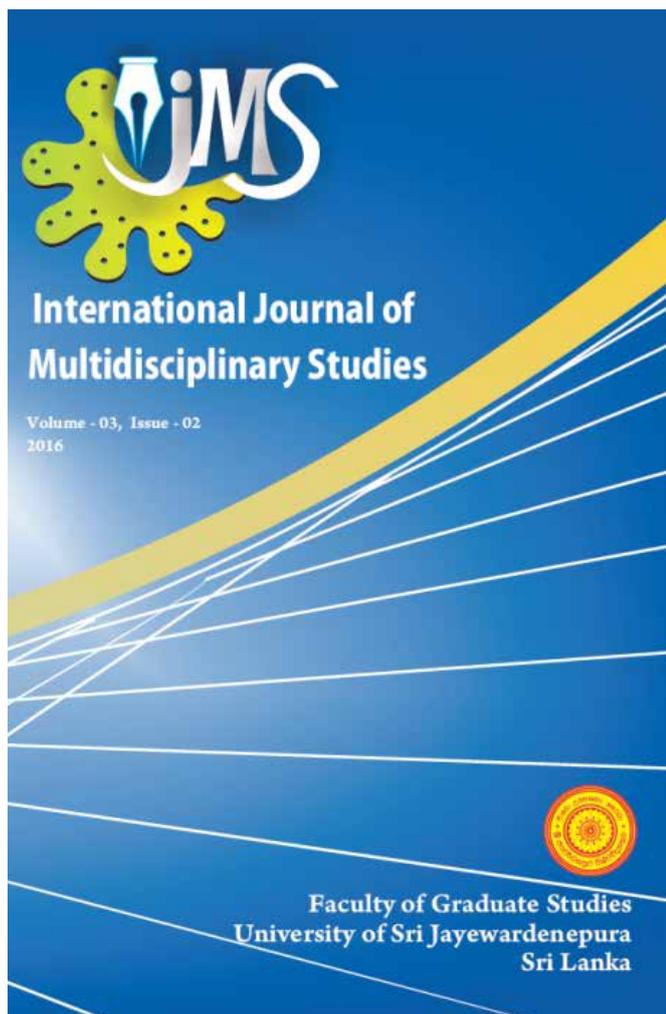


Publications

Publication of IJMS Volume 03, Issue 02

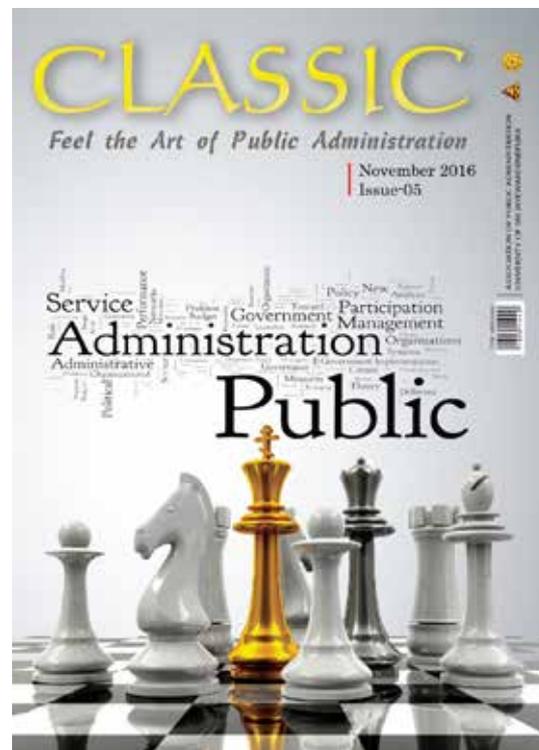
Volume 3 Issue 2 of the International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies was published in December. Fifteen Research & Reviewed papers of multidisciplinary areas were published in this issue of the Journal. The invited paper was presented by Prof. Michael Huffman of the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan.

The International Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IJMS) accepts scholarly articles and research communications of internationally competitive standards with significant theoretical as well as practically applicable research contributions across a broad spectrum of areas of global interest. All manuscripts submitted to the IJMS are peer reviewed by experts in the relevant areas.



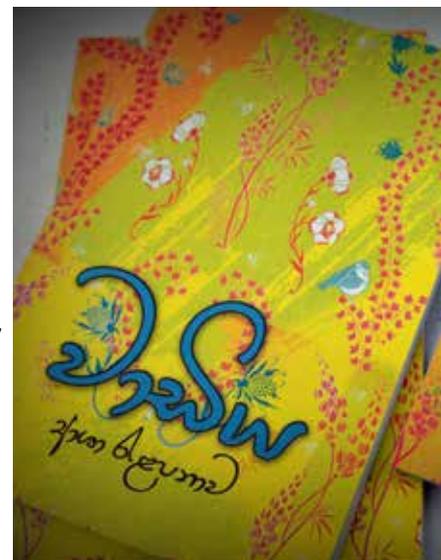
Classic 2016

Classic 2016, the annual magazine launched by the Association of Public Administration of the Department of Public Administration was launched on 1st November 2016. "Classic" features reviews, education and administrative information, artistic talents together with the latest news and updates of the department. This not only paves the way for the students to explore other faculties but also presents an opportunity for an exposure of a different kind apart from classroom learning experience.



"Waadiya"

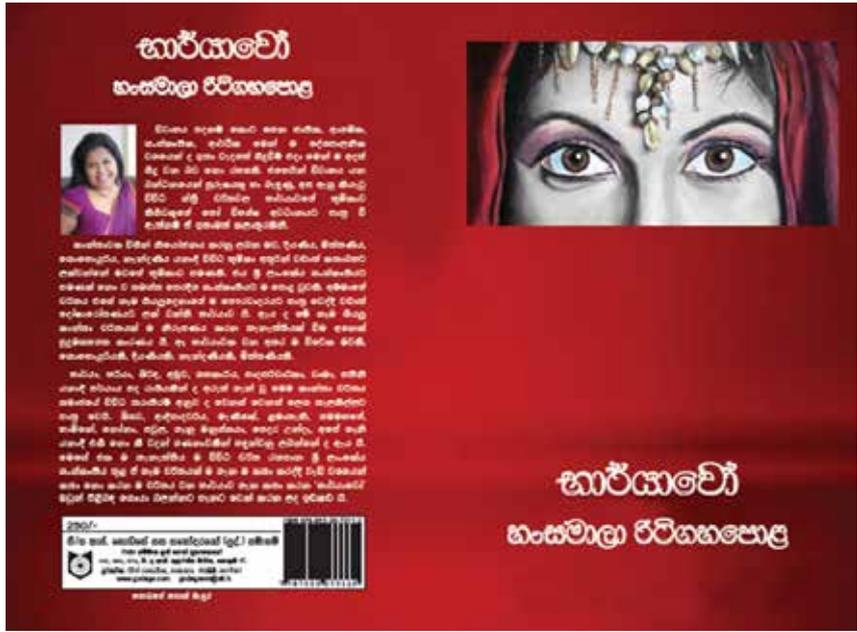
Asha Relapanawa, tutor, Department of Sinhala & Mass Communication launched the novel "Waadiya", on 1 November 2016. Parallel to this, a dialogue and discussion on "the culture of Nuwarakalawiya" was also held, organized by the Amadyapa Youth Organization, Cultural Center and by the Sinhala and Mass communication Society of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



PUBLICATIONS

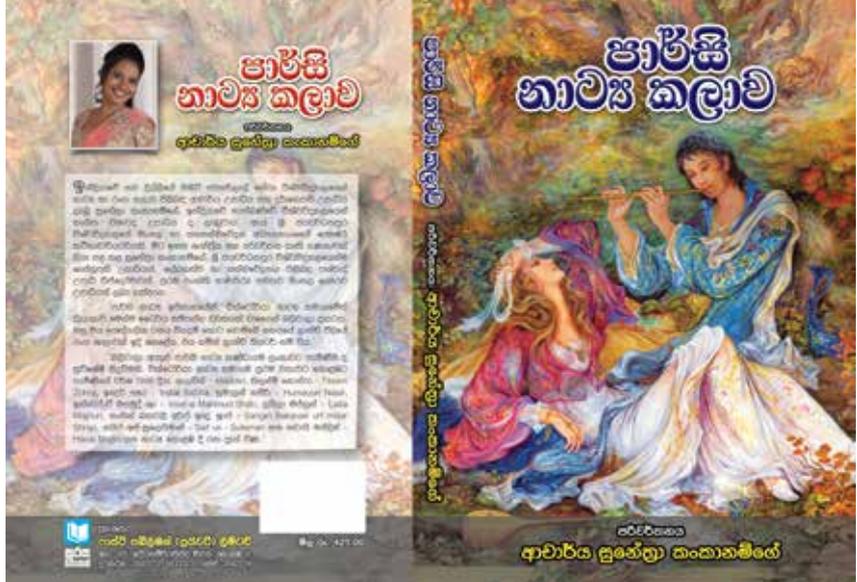
භාර්යාවෝ

ශ්‍රී ජයවර්ධනපුර විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ සිංහල හා ජනසන්නිවේදන අධ්‍යයනාංශයේ නාසමාලා ඊටිගහපොළ මෙහි කතුවරියයි. භාර්යාවෝ ඇස්. ගොඩගේ සහ සහෝදරයන්ගේ ප්‍රකාශනයකි භාර්යාවෝ සෑදෙන විෂය වී ඇත්තේ ඉතිහාස කතාවෙන්, බණ කතාවෙන්, දේව කතාවෙන්, ජනශ්‍රැතිගෙන් අප හඳුනාගත් විවිධ කාන්තා චරිතයි. මෙහිලා අවධානයට පාත්‍රවූ ඇතැම් භාර්යාවන් පිළිබඳ තොරතුරු වංශකතා කරුවන්ට පවා විෂය වී තිබුණේ නැත. ඔවුන් අපට හමුවන්නේ පරම්පරාගතව පැවත ආ ජනකතා හා ජනකවි වලිනි. එසේ සමාජයේ විවිධ ස්තර හිඳියේජනය කළ මෙම කාන්තාවන් පිළිබඳව භාර්යාවකගේ දූෂ්ට කෝණයෙන් විමර්ශනය කිරීමේ කෘතියේ අභිප්‍රාය වී ඇත.



‘පාර්සි නාට්‍ය කලාව’ කෘතිය දොරටු වැඩුම

නූතන සිංහල නාට්‍ය කලාවට මූලික පසුබිම සැපයූ නූර්ති නාට්‍ය කලාව ස්ථාපනය වීමෙහි ලා ඉවහල් වූ බලිව්වාලා ඇතුළු පාර්සි නාට්‍ය කණ්ඩායම කොළඹට පැමිණ රඟ දක්වන්නට යෙදුණු නාට්‍ය නිර්මාණ කවරේ දී, බලිව්වාලා යනු කවු ද? පාර්සි නාට්‍ය රචකයන්, පාර්සි නාට්‍ය පිටපත්, පාර්සි නාට්‍ය සමාගම්, පාර්සි නාට්‍ය කලාව කෙබඳු අංශයන්ගෙන් සමන්විත වී ද යන විෂය යෙදුණු විමර්ශනාත්මකව ගැඹුරින් සාකච්ඡා කෙරුණි, ටෙක්සාස් විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ මහාචාර්ය කැත්රින් හාන්සේන් විසින් රචිත ‘පාර්සි නිගර්’ නමැති කෘතියේ සිංහල පරිවර්තනය ආචාර්ය සුනේත්‍රා කංකානම්ගේ විසින් රචනා කරන්නට යෙදුණේ මෙතෙක් පාර්සි නාට්‍ය කලාව පිළිබඳ සත්‍ය තොරතුරු සිංහල නාට්‍ය කලාවට එකතු වී නොමැති බැවිනි. මේ පරිවර්තිත කෘතිය දොරටු වැඩුම වර්ෂ 2016 නොවැම්බර් මස 23 වන, බදාදා සවස 03.30 ට කොළඹ, ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩල ශ්‍රවණාගාරයේ දී පැවැත්විය

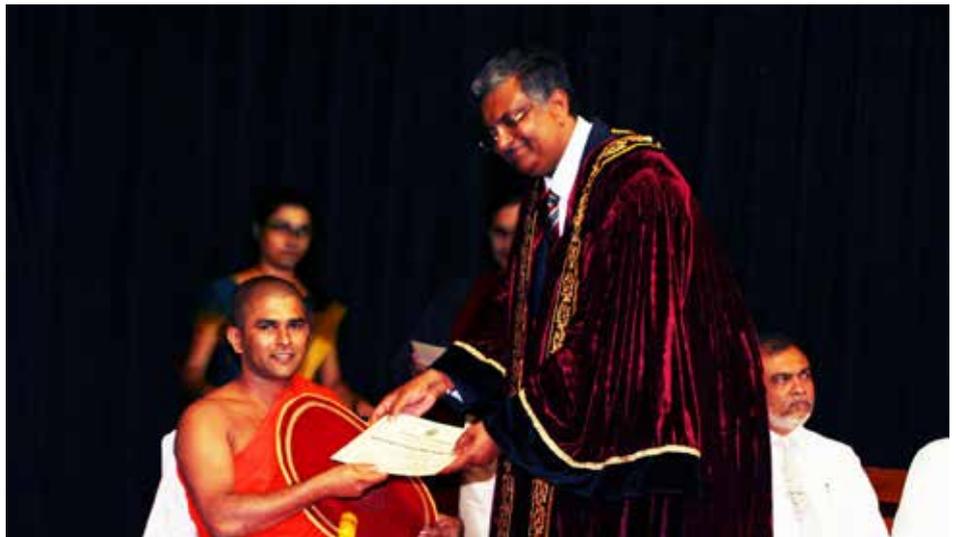


Award Ceremonies and Convocations



The CTHE-2016 Programme

The Certificate Course in Teaching in Higher Education (CTHE) 2016 intake, which comprised of 48 lecturers in different faculties and a few other universities, have successfully completed their face-to-face, computer based and outward-bound training components in December 2016. A special programme was conducted for the Engineering Faculty Staff as well.



Oath ceremony of B.Sc. Nursing students - 10th batch (2013/2014)

The Oath taking ceremony of the 10th Batch (2013/2014) of B.Sc.Nursing students was held on 16th December 2016 from 9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. at the Anatomy Auditorium, Faculty of Medical Sciences. The Guest of Honor was Dr.Rasika Jayasekara, Senior Lecturer of the School of Nursing, University of South Australia. The Oath is taken by the nursing students in their 2nd year after successfully completing the theory and practical components of the subject, Fundamentals of Nursing in their Part I examination. It is a solemn ceremony where the nursing undergraduates take their oath after receiving their cap and the lamp.



AWARD CEREMONIES AND CONVOCATIONS

The awarding of Certificates and Diplomas in Entrepreneurial Business Management

The awarding of Certificates, Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was held at the Bandaranayaka Hall of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura on 25th September 2016.

38 Certificate holders, 58 Diploma holders and 46 Advanced Diploma holders were awarded certificate in Entrepreneurial Business Management, Diploma in Entrepreneurial Business Management and Advanced Diploma in Entrepreneurial Business Management respectively.

The Special Guest at the ceremony, Mr. Ashoka Keerthi de Silva, Former CEO & General Manager of the Peoples' Bank, delivered the key note speech. The Vice Chancellor, Deans, lecturers and other distinguished guests graced this ceremony.



Sports

Champions at SLUG

The University of Sri Jayawardenepura won the grand championship of the Sri Lanka University Games for the first time in the university's history on 14 September 2016.

The 2016 SLUG kicked off with the preliminary rounds of Cricket and Rugby on the 23rd of July. Our rugby team recorded an eye-popping victory of 90-00 against the South Eastern University giving a great start. The tennis matches followed, where both USJP men's and women's teams became the 2nd runners up beating UoC and UoM respectively. Our men's Hockey, Taekwondo, Elle teams and women's volleyball team were also able to secure the 3rd place in their respective events. J'pura athletes stunned their supporters at the Track and Field events whereas our Wrestling, Road race, Football and Weightlifting teams along with the women's Table Tennis team thrilled the spectators and became the first runners up.

Adding to all the excitement and pride, our sports teams were able to grab the Championship in Cricket, Baseball, Netball, men's and women's Basketball, men's and women's

Swimming, women's Badminton, men's Table Tennis and men's Chess laying a solid foundation to winning the SLUG Championship. Remarkably, our outstanding swimmer Kaushal Manawadu was able to set three new SLUG records in the men's 50m freestyle, 50m and 100m Butterfly stroke events, while the men's 4x100m medley relay and men's 4x100m free style relay teams also set new SLUG records. Our weightlifter Sampath Kumara (62kg category) contributed to the J'pura score board with a new SLUG record by lifting 83kg under the snatch type.



SPORTS



University of Sri Jayewardenepura bagged the Cricket championship of SLUG 2016

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura bagged the Cricket championship at the SLUG games on 4th September 2016, while the University of Kelaniya were the runners-up.



SPORTS

Leaders Trophy in Rugby and Hockey

Our university rugby team became the 1st Runners Up in the Leaders Trophy Rugby Tournament 2016 which was organized by the General Sri John Kothalawala Defence University on 4th October 2016 at KDU Ground. The Leaders Trophy Hockey Tournament 2016 was held on 1st October 2016 at KDU Ground. Our university hockey team became the champions beating all other university teams.



SPORTS



20th Grand Asia Chess Challenge (GACC)

20th Grand Asia Chess Challenge (GACC) International Inter-vasity Chess Championship was held from 19th to 24th January, 2017, in the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The University of Sri Jayewardenepura and University of Moratuwa took part in the contest representing Sri Lanka. The University of Calcutta, India and ANNA University Chennai, India grabbed the first and second places respectively while the University of Sri Jayewardenepura tied in for the third place with UiTM (University Teknologi Mara, Malaysia) M.A.A.H Rathnayake and W.C.C Perera came into the top ten of the individual category.



UNITY 2016 of Faculty of Technology

UNITY 2016, the Sports day of the Faculty of Technology was held on 29th of December 2016 at the Maharagama Central College Sports ground. Lecturers, staff and 322 students of the Faculty of Technology were present on this day. A sports day was incorporated into the Orientation programme to give the first intake of Technology students an opportunity to get to know each other, to plan and organize an event, to build team work and unity as well as to promote a fun-filled day of sports and out-door activities.



Concerts and Cultural Events

NADA 2016 by the Students' Association of Finance

Marking another milestone, the Students' Association of Finance (SAF) staged NADA 2016 for the seventh consecutive year on 01st September 2016 at Sri Sumangala Building Reading Hall, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, attracting a grand audience of more than 5,000. This event was organized in conjunction with the celebration of fifteen years of jubilant legacy of the Department of Finance. The event was an absolute success with a full audience who cheered and applauded throughout the event. Due to the limited hall capacity, to facilitate the massive audience which included Deans, the Head of Department Professor D.B.P.H. Dissabandara and other Heads, this time, the Department of Finance was able to screen NADA 2016 live outside the premises

NADA 2016 was enlightened by the performance of two eminent public personalities in the musical industry: Mr. Pradeep Ratnayake, Head, Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, on sitar, accompanied by Sangeeth Nipun Peshala Manoj on tabla.

This time also NADA facilitated a sound platform for the multi-talented undergraduates of the University to showcase their aesthetic talents beyond the classroom education. The night of NADA 2016 was a mesmerizing blend of singing, dancing, drama and instrumental items performed by the students.



Nethin Ethera by Department of Estate Management and Valuation

"Nethin ethera 2016" a cultural show organized by the students of the Department of Estate Management and Valuation was held on 03.10.2016 at Bandaranayake hall, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The event was headed by the Veteran actor Mr. Janak Premalal and the Dr. U. Anura Kumara, Dean of the Faculty.



CONCERTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS



Gunguru Pooja from the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts

The third year students of the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts performed a "Gunguru Pooja (Kathak Dance Show) on 11th of December 201 at the Sri Sumangala Hall



"Nrithyadarsha" BarataNatyam by the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts

The Final Year Students of the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Performing Arts performed a "Nrithyadarsha" BarataNatyam – Arangethram (Dance Show) on 23rd of September 2016 at the Sri Sumangala Hall



Student Activities

Overseas Study Tour to India -the Applied Finance Program

The postgraduate students of the MSc in the Applied Finance Graduate Program, accompanied by Program Coordinator Dr. Wasantha Perera and Prof. Y.K. Weerakoon Banda, have participated in the international conference and workshop conducted by the Delhi School of Business (DSB) in India from 20th October to 25th October 2016. This is their first overseas study tour.

During this tour, the students had a rare opportunity to associate and hear the speeches of eminent financial scholars and professors of the world such as Prof. S.P. Kothari (from Sloan School of Management, MIT, USA), Prof. Shyam Sunder (from Yale School of Management, Yale University, USA), Prof. I. M. Pandey (from DSB, India) and Prof. V.S. Khanna (University of Michigan, USA). Further, they were addressed by world corporate leaders such as Dr. Shashank Ojha (senior e-Government Specialist, World Bank) and Dr. Milind Patil (Senior Director, Philips Company, USA).

Attending the research conference as a part of the overseas study tour was an academically rewarding experience for our postgraduate students and academic staff



“The Investor-2016” by the Department of Accounting

Share Market Investment Programme, organized by the second year undergraduates of AFMA, the student body of the Department of Accounting was ceremoniously held on 15th of September 2016 from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. in front of the Sumangala Building of the University. Head of the Department, Dr. Harendra Kariyawasam and many other lecturers of the department graced the occasion with their presence.

The event was organized to offer the undergraduates with a hands-on experience on investing in stock exchange and the aim was successfully achieved by the end of the day with more than 1000 new registrations and account openings in the Colombo Stock Exchange under the 3 brokering companies who facilitated the event.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Science Faculty students donate Library to Madurankuliya Model School, Madurankuliya

The opening ceremony of the 10th consecutive library was held at Madurankuliya Model School, Madurankuliya. The aim of this project was to lend a helping hand to the underprivileged students of a rural school by donating a much needed library facility. This project will be helpful in enlightening thousands of young lives in the school. The first year brotherhood of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayawardenapura has successfully organized this significant project with the guidance of Vidudaya Vidya Sahodarathwaya. The 'Vidudaya Vidya Sahodarathwaya' has successfully done this eight times before in other schools.



Esperenza 2016 by the Department of Accounting

The Grand Finale of the All Island Accounting Quiz Competition - Esperenza 2016, organized by the student body of the Department of Accounting, Accounting and Financial Management Association (AFMA), was successfully held on 1st November 2016 at the Bishop's College Auditorium. The event was well attended including the Chief Guest, Prof. Sampath Amarathunga Dr U. Anura Kumara, Dean-Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce, DrHarendraKariyawasam Head Department of Accounting and other distinguished guests, students and teachers of the competing schools and students of the Department of Accounting. Out of seven hundred schools, four schools were selected for the final round Nalanda Collage won the Grand Prize. Bandaranaike BalikaVidyalaya - Ampara and Sri Sangamiththa Balika MahaVidyalaya - Mathale won the second and third places respectively.



Snehadara 2016 by the Department of Finance

The Department of Finance embarked on the annual field study tour to Kosgala, Kahangama, Rathnapura on 15th and 16th October 2016.

As a part of the field trip the annual CSR project "Snehadara" was launched at KosgalaVidyalaya, Kahangama, Rathnapura on 15th October 2016 by the 2nd year students of the Department of Finance with the assistance of the 3rd and 4th year students of the Department. The Head of the Department, Professor Hareendra Dissabandara together with the other academic staff members participated in the event.

In addition to that, the students renovated the school library building and they were able to furnish the building with cupboards as well.



News Feature



In celebration of the fact that the University of Sri Jayewardenepura bagged the overall championship in the Sri Lanka University Games in September 2016, we carry an article about the Physical Education Division in this news issue. Kaushal Pradeep Manawadu from the first batch to pass out with a degree in Sports Science and Management from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, now working as a demonstrator in the Department of Sports Science and Management, former President of the Sports Council of USJP and a national champion and record holder in swimming, contributed this article.

History

Vidyodaya Pirivena, which is now known as the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, was established by Rev.Hikkaduwa Sumangala Thero in 1873. Later it was shifted to Gangodawila from Maligakanda, where it is situated now, and Rev.Velivitiye Soratha Thero was appointed as the first Vice Chancellor of the university. Although it does not date that far back into our university history, in 1964, the Physical Education Division was launched to enrich the physical and mental health of the university undergraduates. At present it has five permanent instructors and external instructors for separate fields. The Sports Council consists of a board of instructors from the university staff, captains and vice captains appointed each year for each sport.

Our Physical Education Division which evolved in this way is now in the process of making sports men and women participate in various sports competitions such as inter-university games, national meets, world university games, international meets which are highly competitive. The Division of Physical Education really makes our university triumph over its competitors in our country as well as in the world.

The Department of Physical Education also offers freshers' an opportunity to participate in the sports they are interested in. Freshers' meets are organized for the newcomers and also open inter-faculty competitions are held under the supervision of the Physical Education Division. Representatives for the university teams are being selected after



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these competitions. Therefore, depending on the students' talent and ability, they get a chance to represent the university.

Those students who perform well in inter-university games and national level games are eligible to participate in various international competitions and world university games which are held once in every two years.

Those who perform well in sports are awarded university colors at the end of each year and those who show excellent performances at inter-university games are awarded "Sri Lanka University Sports Awards" at the end of each year.

The importance of Sports in Education

It has often been forgotten that academic learning and sports education complement each other. They resemble the two sides of the same coin. We live in a country where academia is



given far more importance than sports, forgetting the benefits that sports add to life. Studies have shown that if sports are carried out in par with the academic curriculum, the overall personality and capabilities of the student will increase phenomenally. The qualities of leadership, sharing, team spirit and tolerance are learnt from sports.

Sports not only teaches the students to maintain physical stamina, but also the practice of obedience, discipline, the determination to win, willpower, etc. The power of reasoning, mental development, vocational specialization comes from the academic education of the students. Therefore, sports along with the academic subjects, result in the all-round development of the students.

At present the system of education makes the students focus more on their mental development and completely ignores the physical activities. The overall outcome of this is that the developing groups of graduates and professionals often have weak bodies and poor physique. The curriculum should include sports, games and physical health education for the

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all-round development of the students; which is more or less the case in the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, where more students take part in sports every forthcoming year and students are encouraged to engage in extra-curricular activities whilst maintaining their studies.

A good sportsman always learns to obey the rules of the games and the comments of their superiors. It also teaches them leadership qualities, maintaining teamwork and displaying team spirit. Sports education trains the students to face defeat with a smile and maintain humility even in victory. It is the healthiest means of recreation. Any person excelling in one walk of life automatically gains confidence in the others. So if one is good at sports, it follows that their confidence will spill over to academics as well. With confidence on their side, they are motivated to give their best.

Therefore the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has been able to develop many students who are well balanced with a good physique and on top of their studies who will do great service to our country.

Sri Lanka University Games 2016

Since the dawn of the tradition in 1980, winning the Sri Lanka University Games Championship has been the dream of sportsmen and women of USJP for almost 40 years. But the skilled athletes were able to make that dream a reality only in 2016, in the 12th SLUG organized by University of Wayamba.

As USJP had won Inter-university Games in 2015, the stakes were high to win SLUG this time. There were 22 sports played in SLUG in 2016, and altogether 32 teams from our university competed. Before the commencement of the main games, that started on 3rd September, 2016, the games, tennis, hockey, rowing and rugby were over and we were in the 3rd place.

After the start of the main games, after 6 years, USJP won the cricket championship, which was a huge turning point for USJP in SLUG. Then on the same day they were able to win netball and badminton women's championships as well, boosting USJP up to the 1st place. Throughout the week, USJP was in a neck to neck fight with UoC, but on 7,8 and 9 of September,



Kaushal Manawadu – Co-President Sport Council 2016 Swimming Boys Captain
Wishwajith Madusanka – Co-President Sport Council 2016 Football Captain
Subodhini Herath – Secretary Sports Council 2016 Tennis Girls Team Vice Captain

the platform altered for USJP. USJP victoriously obtained double championships in swimming and basketball, giving them a lead by a huge margin.

But towards the end of the games, tension was again running high. Some sports didn't give the results expected, drawing USJP again to competition with UoC. But then the USJP football team came into the finals in a shock win, and won 1st runners up, giving an unconquerable lead of points, proving USJP were the champions. Adding to that lead, table tennis and the men's team in chess were placed first and almost all the other teams were placed in the first three positions.

Therefore, USJP could win the championship and bring the glory home, turning a new page in the history of sports in University of Sri Jayewardenepura.



NEWSLETTER

University of Sri Jayawardenepura

Volume 02 / Issue 03 / September - December 2016



University of Sri Jayawardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka.

Tel : +94 11 2758000, +94 11 2802022

Email: info@sjp.ac.lk

Web: www.sjp.ac.lk

