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University of Moratuwa

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bandung
Moratuwa
members of the UoM team -



Dr. Amila Thibbotuwawa
(TLM)



Dr. Ajith Pasqual
(ENTC)



Dr. Ranil Sugat'
(TLM)

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Congratulations on this great achie

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Research Initiatives, Accomplishments & Disseminations

Journal Publication at Applied Sciences

A Journal publication titled 'Membrane Contactors for Maximizing Biomethane Recovery in Anaerobic Wastewater Treatments: Recent Efforts and Future Prospects', authored by Yechan Lee, Kang Hee Yun, Dilhara Sethunga and Tae-Hyun Bae was published in the Applied Sciences on 03rd February 2021. In this perspective review, several topics in hollow fiber membrane contactors (HFMC) for

dissolved CH₄ recovery are discussed, namely, the operational principle of HFMC, its potential as a waste to-energy conversion system, and the technical challenges and recent efforts to address them along with the future efforts that should be devoted to advancing gas-liquid membrane contactors.

Gemmology Diploma Certificate Awarding Ceremony



The Gemmology Diploma Certificate awarding Ceremony was held at the Seminar Room of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering on the 05th of April 2021, with the presence of Professor PKS Mahanama, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa, as the Chief Guest. Due to the pandemic situation, the ceremony was held taking

extra safety precautions in the university, with only the presence of staff and students relevant to the course. The Dean, Faculty of Engineering had sent his speech in video format to grace the occasion. This is the second batch of students who followed the course, with 18 out of 20 students successfully completing the Diploma.

Global Trends in Algal Research: Environmental Restoration, Biomass Valorization and Sustainability

The Indo-Sri Lanka International Webinar, 2021 (ISW-21) conducted under the Indo-Lanka joint research program, was successfully held on the 8th and 9th

March 2021. The webinar was organized collaboratively by Prof. Anushree Malik of the Centre for Rural Development and Technology, Indian Institute of

Technology Delhi, India, and Dr. Thilini U Ariyadasa of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. The theme of the webinar was "Global trends in Algal Research: Environmental Restoration, Biomass Valorization and Sustainability". The inauguration of the event was graced by Prof. Shantha Walpalage, Head, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka; Prof. Sunil Khare, Dean, Research and Development, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India; Prof. Nalin Wickramaarachchi, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa,



Sri Lanka; and Prof. Ajith de Alwis, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

The event included lectures and interactive discussions with the participation of experts specializing in algal technology, which included 17 renowned keynote

speakers from the Netherlands, USA, Australia, South Africa, Sri Lanka and India. In addition, a special round of oral presentations was held with the participation of 13 young scholars working in the domain. Rahul Jain, Niyam Dave and Hasara Nishshanka were awarded the winner, runner's up and second runner's up

of the oral presentations. The webinar also commemorated women scientists for their contribution to the field with a dedicated session on "Women in Algal Research/ Technologies" on the International Women's Day (8th March). Moreover, the "Young Researchers Conclave" provided a platform to budding and enterprising researchers to showcase their potential in heralding a sustainable environment through algae mediated waste reduction and biomass utilization for greener ecological solutions.

The webinar received 290 attendee registrations, representing academia, industry stakeholders and students. The webinar provided valuable insight and collaboration opportunities for both local and international participants interested in the algal research.

Enhancing Lean Practices in Supply Chains Digitalization

[From front page]

**"Enhancing Lean Principles in Supply Chains : Digitalization"
valued at 9.9 million Norwegian Kroner (Approx. 217 million LKR)**

Collaborative grant application by:



Members of the UoM team



Dr. Niles Perera
(TLM)



Dr. Amila Thibbotuwawa
(TLM)



Dr. Ajith Pasqual
(ENTC)



Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa
(TLM)



Ms. Banusha Aruchunarasa
(TLM)

Congratulations on this great achievement!

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) has recommended funding the grant application titled "Enhancing Lean Practices in Supply Chains Digitalization" valued at 9.9 million Norwegian Kroner (approximately 217 million LKR)! This collaborative grant

application includes three institutes – The University of Stavanger in Norway, The Institut Teknologi Bandung in Indonesia, and The University of Moratuwa. The Department of Transport and Logistics Management played a prime role in the application with Senior Lecturers

Dr. Niles Perera and Dr. Amila Thibbotuwawa leading the way with the experienced support of Dr. Ajith Pasqual (Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering) and Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa (Senior Lecturer, TLM). Ms. Banusha Aruchunarasa rounded up the team from the University of Moratuwa.

The grant application was the only Sri Lankan success story of the recently announced NORHED II grant call which saw 199 applications from around the world with 9 coming from Sri Lanka. Only 60 applications were recommended for funding after a rigorous evaluation process. The centerpiece of the grant is to establish a Supply Chain Analytics Lab at the Department of Transport and Logistics Management. The grant also includes two PhD scholarships with exposure in all three partner countries to build socially sustainable supply chains in Sri Lanka. This is in addition to multi-party technology and knowledge transfer initiatives, especially relating to Industry 4.0 applications to support the local industry. The grant also aims to develop a new postgraduate degree program to support knowledge acquisition of local professionals as well as an increased focus on practice-driven research among many other planned activities.

Academic & Industry Collaboration

Donation of a DAEWOO Cutaway Automobile Petrol IC Engine and Powertrain Demonstration kit to the Department of Mechanical Engineering



Mr. Priyankara Kodikara, Managing Director, Ladvo Computers (Pvt.) Ltd., of No. 88, "Himali" Koswatta, Bekkegama Road, Walana, Panadura, donated a DAEWOO cutaway automobile Petrol IC engine and powertrain demonstration kit to the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa. The Head of Department, Dr. Himan

HK Punchihewa, accepted the donation on behalf of the Department. The demonstration kit has a commercial value of approximately Rs. 1,100,000 (US\$ 6,000 excluding insurance, freight and duty). It would be invaluable for the engineering program at DOME and will be exclusively utilized for the education of Engineering Undergraduates. The demonstration setup

is in the Automobile Laboratory of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. The Department wishes to thank Mr. Priyankara Kodikara for his generosity in supporting the state education system in Sri Lanka, as well as Mr. Wasantha Premalal, a demonstrator currently attached to the DOME workshops, for initiating and facilitating this donation.

Launching Ceremony of Standard Operating Procedures for Local Assembly of Vehicles and Component Manufacturing



to encourage worldwide automobile manufacturers to locally assemble their vehicles. The event was held on 16th March 2021 at the Shangri-La Hotel Colombo and was sponsored by the Sri Lanka Automotive Component Manufacturers' Association (SLACMA) and the Sri Lanka Automobile Assemblers Association (SLAAA). Mr. Sasiranga De Silva who was an active member of the SOP committee, and Dr. Himan Punchihewa participated in the event representing the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Annual Career Fair – Iluminar

Iluminar'21 was held for the 06th consecutive time with Hayleys Advantis as the official logistics partner and Unilever Careers as the platinum event partner on an online platform. It was successfully held with the participation of final year TLM undergraduates and 32 Logistics pioneers in the industry including Unilever, Hayleys Advantis, John Keells Holdings and MAS Holdings.

The Ministry of Industries has launched Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the local assembly of vehicles and automotive component manufacturing

Guest Lecture on “Effective Study Skills and Motivated Goal Directed Learning”

An online guest lecture on “Effective Study Skills and Motivated Goal Directed Learning” was delivered to the Level I Quantity Surveying and Facilities Management undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics on 07th January 2021 by Dr. Larry Adams, Dean of Academic Studies, Chief Academic Officer, IDM Campus. This guest lecture was organized by the Career Guidance Unit, University of Moratuwa.

Guest Lecture on “Impacts of Utility Works in Infrastructure Projects in Sri Lanka and Proposed Mitigation Measures”

An online guest lecture on “Impacts of Utility Works in Infrastructure Projects in Sri Lanka and Proposed Mitigation Measures” was delivered to the Level IV Quantity Surveying and Facilities Management undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics on 4th March 2021 by CEng. Jahfar Ismail.

Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) RESEARCH COLLOQUIM – Series 71

The Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) virtually conducted its 71st research colloquium on “Turnitin for Better Academic Writing” on 27th January 2021. The guest speaker was Dr. Thanuja Ramachandra, Senior Lecturer, Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa.

Guest Lecture on “Personal Organization and Life Management”

An online guest lecture on “Personal Organization and Life Management” was delivered to the Level I Quantity Surveying and Facilities Management undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics on 08th January 2021 by Dr. Larry Adams, Dean of Academic Studies, Chief Academic Officer, IDM Campus. This guest lecture was organized by Career Guidance Unit, University of Moratuwa.

Guest Lecture on “Soft skills and Hard skills of a Quantity Surveyor”

An online guest lecture on “Soft Skills and Hard Skills of a Quantity Surveyor” was delivered to the Level I Quantity Surveying undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics on 17th March 2021 by ChQS Nishantha Wickramasinghe, Director and Chief Quantity Surveyor of Construction Cost Management (Pvt) Ltd. This guest lecture was organized by the Quantity Surveying Alumni Association, University of Moratuwa.

Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) RESEARCH COLLOQUIM – Series 72

The Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) virtually conducted its 72nd research colloquium on “Development of a Bayesian Based Design-for-Maintainability Decision Support Framework” on 25th February 2021. The guest speaker was Dr. Ashan Asmone, Senior Lecturer, Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa.

Guest Lecture on “Calculation of Input Percentages”

An online guest lecture on “Calculation of Input Percentages” was delivered to the Level IV Quantity Surveying undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics on 02nd February 2021 by ChQS. Deepa Samaraweera, Assistant Project Director (Procurement), SCDP – Ministry of Urban Development and Housing Facilities.

Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) RESEARCH COLLOQUIM – Series 70

The Building Economics and Management Research Unit (BEMRU) virtually conducted its 70th research colloquium on “Digital Twinning of Railway Overhead Line Equipment from Airborne LiDAR Data” on 26th January 2021. The guest speaker was Ms. Mahendrini Ariyachandra, PhD. Candidate, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. The presentation was followed by a lively discussion.

Ocean-Based Solutions and Policy Frameworks for Enhanced Climate Action and Blue Economy

A keynote speech under the topic “Ocean-Based Solutions and Policy Frameworks for Enhanced Climate Action and Blue Economy” was delivered by Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa at the Sixth National Symposium on Marine Environment, hosted by the Marine Environmental Protection Authority of Sri Lanka (MEPA) in collaboration with SLYCAN Trust on April 22nd and 23rd 2021.

“Nitrogen for Climate and Green Recovery” Invited Panellist in the Pre-COP26 Virtual Event

Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, participated as an invited panellist in the Pre-COP26 virtual event “Nitrogen for Climate and Green Recovery” on 27th - 29th April. The event was jointly hosted by the British High Commission in Colombo and the Government of Sri Lanka and was supported by the UKRI GCRF South Asian Nitrogen Hub of the Global Challenges Research Fund, the GEF/UNEP International Nitrogen Management System (INMS) and the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP).

Our Innovations for National Development



A keynote speech on the topic “Our Innovations for National Development” was delivered by Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa at the 05th Wayamba University Research Congress on 12th February 2021 at Wayamba University.

Repositioning with confidence for the new normal

Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, participated as a panelist in a Webinar hosted by the Miloda Academy of Financial Studies on the 23rd January 2021. The focus of the webinar was on “Repositioning with confidence for the new normal”.

Webinar on Chemicals Management & GHS Labeling

A presentation on a Global Harmonised System (GHS) for Chemicals Management was delivered by Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa at the webinar on Chemicals Management & GHS Labeling on 18th March 2021. The webinar was focused on Chemicals Management and GHS Labeling to improve the safety of chemicals storage facilities and was organized by the Lanka Responsible Care Council.

Participation in PATHFINDER 2021



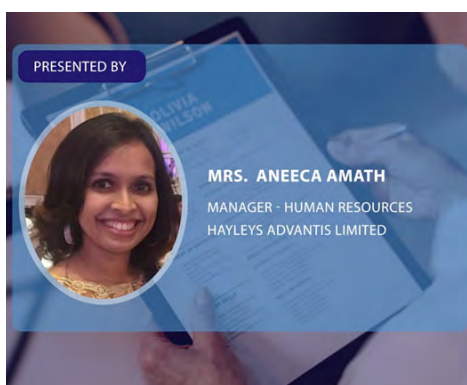
Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, participated as a resource person in a

A discussion on “Aviation in a Post-Pandemic World”

Mr. Nalaka Abeyrathna, Senior Analyst for Corporate Planning at Qatar Airways conducted a special guest lecture on “Aviation in a Post-Pandemic World” on 12th March 2021. This program was conducted to educate undergraduates regarding Aviation trends and practices in a post pandemic world.

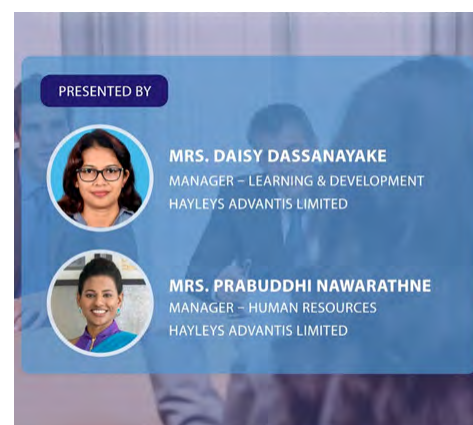
Career Guidance Program for O/L Students at Ananda College, Colombo on the 19th March 2021.

A Discussion on how to Write an Effective CV



The Society of Transport and Logistics held its 07th webinar of the series of webinars conducted in collaboration with Hayleys Advantis Ltd., on 12th of February 2021. Mrs. Aneeca Amath, Manager of Human Resources, Hayleys Advantis Ltd, conducted this webinar on “How to write an effective CV”. This webinar was conducted with the purpose of giving a comprehensive knowledge about preparing Curriculum Vitae (CV). The session detailed with examples the Dos and Don'ts in CV preparation to improve the chances of one's “story” getting accepted.

Discussion on how to Face an Interview



The Society of Transport and Logistics held its 8th webinar of the series of webinars conducted in collaboration with Hayleys Advantis Ltd., on 17th of February 2021. The topic of discussion for the day was “How to face an interview. “ The session included presentations by two resource personnel, Mrs. Daisy Dassanayake, Manager of Learning and Development, Hayleys Advantis Limited and Mrs. Prabuddhi Nawarathne, Manager of Human resource, Hayleys Advanis Limited.

Conferences & Symposia

National Conference on “Covid-19: Impact, Mitigation, Opportunities and Building Resilience”

Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, participated in the National Conference on “Covid-19: Impact, Mitigation, Opportunities and Building Resilience” as a steering committee member and the session co-chair of the Built Environment

and Research, Inventions and Innovations themes on 27th and 28th January, 2021. The conference was held at Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo and was organized by the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka.

25th International Forestry and Environment Symposium

Senior Professor Ajith de Alwis of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, participated in the 25th International Forestry and Environment Symposium as a session chair on 22nd and 23rd January 2021. The symposium was organized by the Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jaywardenepura.

International Student Conference 2021, Moratuwa



The IEEE EMBS Student Branch Chapter of the University of Moratuwa, the only affiliated Sri Lankan student body of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, announced the most exciting event, the IEEE EMBS student branch chapter of the University of Moratuwa has ever produced. It was the first ever

IEEE EMBS approved International Student Conference (ISC) in Sri Lanka. ISC 2021, Moratuwa was a scientific symposium dedicated to the mathematical, computational and innovative aspects of biomedical-engineering across all scales of experimentation with the objective of ISC 2021 establishing an international platform with immense potential to manipulate the novel gold standards of biomedical-engineering. It crucially nurtures cross fertilization of divergent knowledge streams and thus, collaborates with an integrative approach to biomedical engineering. Additionally, the aim was to provide an opportunity for university undergraduates and professionals to collaborate on their mutual passion for biomedical-engineering, to enhance collaborations between engineering and medical personnel, providing aspiring innovators a platform through which

they can interact with the industry with the possibility of future collaboration and investment, inviting possible future international collaborations through the participation of foreign delegates and establishing strong relations between universities and industrial institutions. This conference included keynote addresses from prominent personalities, forums, workshops and panel discussions on which determined innovators could present their research as well as breakthrough solutions for the diverging challenges in the biomedical engineering discipline. The targeted audience was crucially from academia, industry and corporate background. This event was held as a unique opportunity for aspiring researchers interested in those areas to have their research published in partnership with an official IEEE endorsed event.

2020 NCKU Taiwan new Southbound Policy: Sri Lanka Higher Education



An online meeting with representatives of three Taiwanese Universities ; the National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), the National United University (NUU) and the

Formosa University, NCKU was held on 26th January 2021, and was headed by Prof. Ajith de Alwis, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Prof. Gihan Dias, former Director -International Relations. Dr.Mrs. ATP Silwa, Head, Department of Computational Mathematics, Prof. Mrs. Dileeka Dias, Professor, Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering, Dr. Mrs. Shaleeni Coorey, Director Post-

graduate studies, Faculty of Architecture, Dr. (Mrs.) Ayesha Wickramasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, Dr. Mrs. Amali Wijekoon, Department of Management of Technology and Ms. YS Karunarathne, Assistant Registrar External Affairs, Publicity and International Student Promotion Division were also present at the meeting representing the University of Moratuwa.

Speaking to Little Minds:

Taking Literary Activities to a Children's Society at Illuppankadawala, Anuradhapura



Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa presented a paper on "Speaking to little minds: taking literary activities to a children's society at Illuppankadawala, Anuradhapura" at the NILIS Research Symposium 2020 (NRS 2020) held virtually at the University of Colombo on 23rd January 2021. The theme of the symposium was "Challenges and opportunities for Libraries in the new normal" and it was a great platform to present the research output during a pandemic.

Octave Advanced Analytics Symposium



Randula Jayasinghe, undergraduate in the department Transport & Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa was adjudged as the first runner up at the Octave Advanced Analytics Symposium for his presentation "Recalibrating Retail Store Inventory and Service Levels Considering the Presence of Credit Card Promotions" based on his final year thesis under the supervision of Dr. Niles Perera. This event was organized by Octave, the John Keells Group Data and Advanced Analytics Center of Excellence. The Symposium was held on 30th April 2021, virtually.

Student Achievements

Gold Award for National Best Quality Software 2020

[From front page]



A "Vision-Based Adaptive Traffic Control System", a final year project by Team AbruTech, won the Gold Award at the National Best Quality Software 2020 (National ICT) Awards. The competition was organized by the British Computer Society in the Tertiary Student Category and has been nominated for the APICTA (Asia Pacific) Awards to be held in Malaysia. The AbruTech group is made of four ENTC students: Abarajithan Ganeswaran, Rukshan Wickramasinghe, Tehara Fonseka and Chinthana Wimalasuriya. The project was completed under the supervision and support of Prof. Rohan Munasinghe (ENTC) and Prof. Saman Bandara (Civil).

A patent for this system is currently under review at the NIPO and the system is being tested on roads by a multidisciplinary team

of engineers together with the RDA and the SD&CC. The traffic analysis algorithm developed and patented as part of the project has been further improved and is being built as a web based service, the first of its kind in the world. Traffic researchers and government agencies around the world will be able to use this service to obtain vehicle counts, speeds, space & time headways from videos, regardless of lighting conditions and viewing angles, to accurately model and predict traffic patterns.

With funding from World Bank via AHEAD, the two innovations are being developed into products through the Enterprise (Business Linkage Cell) of University of Moratuwa.

The IMechE Student Awards 2020 and Team FalconE Appreciation Ceremony



The IMechE Student Awards 2020 and Team FalconE Appreciation Ceremony were held on 31st March 2021. The Vice Chancellor; Prof. ND Gunawardena, Deputy Vice Chancellor; Prof. PKS Mahanama, Former Head of Department of Mechanical Engineering; Prof. RARC Gopura, Vice Chairman of IMechE Sri Lanka Group; Eng. Lal Weerasinghe, Secretary of IMechE Sri Lanka Group;



Eng. Preshant De Mel, Lectures and Presentations chairman of IMechE Sri Lanka Group; Eng. Chula De Silva and Eng. Ajith Shanmuganathan honoured the event with their presence. Young Members' Chair of IMechE Sri Lanka Group and the Counsellor of IMechE Student Chapter of UoM; Dr. JR. Gamage welcomed the guests. The awards were presented by the guests and valuable thoughts were shared by the speakers.

President's Award for Scientific Research

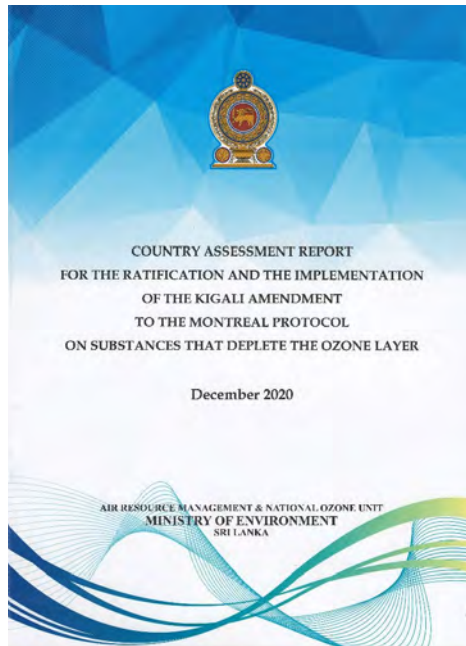
[From front page]



Nadeeka Jayaweera, lecturer (probationary) of the Department of Architecture, was awarded the President's Award for Scientific Research in 2020. The award-winning article "Local factors affecting the spatial diffusion of residential photovoltaic adoption" was published in the Energy Policy Journal in 2018 (Volume 119). The research study leading to the publication was funded by a short-term research grant from the Senate Research Committee of the University (grant - SRC/ST/2016/23). The article was co-authored by academics at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

Staff Achievements

Country Assessment Report for the Ratification and the Implementation of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer



these 18 HFCs are identified as controlled substances in the Kigali Amendment.

A team of nearly 30 individuals, consisting of senior lecturers of the Thermo-

Fluids and Energy group, junior lecturers, instructors, and students of the Department, spent several months collecting and analysing data, and preparing this invaluable report. The team started collecting data in June 2019, visiting various end users including large factories, airports, harbours, households and even multi day fishing boats. They completed data collection by November 2019 and conducted data analyses, graphical representation, report preparation and publication by December 2020 despite the challenges and interruptions posed by the COVID-19 situation.

A team spearheaded by Dr. (Mrs.) MA Wijewardane has provided technical support to the Country Assessment Report for the Implementation of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone, recently published (December 2020) by the Air Resources Management and National Ozone Unit of Ministry of Environment Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka participated in the Montreal Protocol and ratified the Kigali Amendment in September 2018. The purpose of this report is to evaluate the usage of 18 hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) based refrigerants in both industrial and domestic refrigerators in Sri Lanka, as

The Department of Mechanical Engineering appreciates the efforts of Dr. Wijewardane and the team to support our country in the implementation of the Kigali Amendment by evaluating possible greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions with high global warming potential (GWP).

Dr. Asanka Rodrigo Received the " Eng E.O Pereira Award for Best Paper – 2020 "

[From front page]

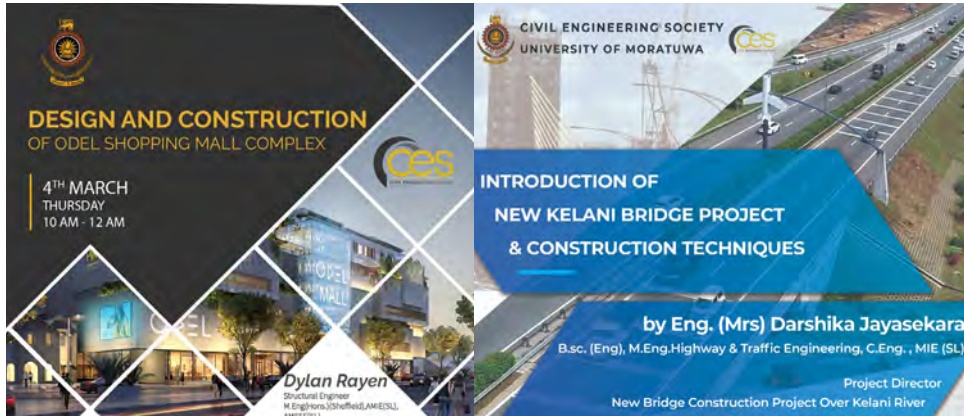


The paper "Parameter Identification for Design of an Automated Load-

Frequency Control (ALFC) Scheme for Sri Lankan Power System" authored by Eng. G Kishokumar, Eng. ENK Kudahawa and Dr. Asanka Rodrigo presented at the Annual Session 2020 received the "ENG E.O PEREIRA AWARD FOR BEST PAPER-2020" at the 114th Annual Session of the Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka on April 08th, 2021 at the BMICH.

Clubs & Societies

Introduction of new Kelani Bridge Project & Construction Techniques and Design and construction of ODEL shopping mall complex



The webinar session under the CES Talk Series organized by the Civil Engineering Society of the Department of Civil Engineering titled “Introduction of new Kelani bridge project & construction techniques” by the Guest speaker, The webinar session under the CES Talk Series organized by the Civil Engineering Society of the Department of Civil Engineering titled “Introduction of new Kelani bridge project & construction techniques” by the Guest speaker,

Appointments & Promotions

Senior Professor Ajith De Alwis Appointed as the new Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies

[From front page]



Prof. Ajith de Alwis joined the University of Moratuwa as an Assistant Lecturer in 1985 and prior to being appointed as the Dean,

Faculty of Graduate Studies he served the University as a Senior Professor, the Director, ERU -Engineering Research Unit, Faculty of Engineering and as the Head of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering. Prof. Ajith de Alwis who is an alumni of the University of Moratuwa obtained his first degree in 1985. He obtained his Masters degree from the Postgraduate Institute of Management and PhD. from the University of Cambridge, UK. He is a well recognized Environmental Expert and has contributed to a number of locally funded and foreign funded Environmental Engineering projects.

UOM Alumni

Commissioning of a CCTV System in the Department of Earth Resources Engineering

The ERE CCTV System with Night Vision, donated by the Mining & Mineral Engineering – 1994 Batch to the department was commissioned by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa; Professor ND Gunawardena, on 17th March 2021 with the presence of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor; Professor PKS Mahanama, Dean-FoE; Professor Nalin Wikramarrachchi, Eng. Mr. V Sivahar, together with ERE staff members and two representatives from the Alumni; Eng. M Wimal [General Manager of Metal Mix Pvt. Ltd.] and Eng. DMM Nanayakkara [Factory Manager of Rocell Bathware Ltd].



Night of Harmony - Virtual Musical Eve



A virtual music evening was organized with the sole purpose of bringing a fresh new experience to the online platform for all who are depressed with their busy lives. The event was successfully held on the 06th February 2021, with the participation of both undergraduates and academic staff members. It was undoubtedly a night that calmed restless minds where all gathered to enjoy the outstanding musical talents of the TLMers. The evening was enchanted with pre-recorded solo and group songs of the undergraduates.

FIT Future Careers 2021



FIT Future Careers is the internal recruitment program hosted by the Faculty of Information Technology, University of

Hack Moral 3.0

“Hack Moral 3.0” was a mini hackathon that entirely focused on Level 02 undergraduates of the IT Faculty to improve and assess their talent in problem-solving. It was an individual competition based on the HackerRank platform. This year, Hack Moral 3.0 was hosted by the INTECS by targeting Batch 18 undergraduates of the IT Faculty. The event was decided to be an online competition due to the global pandemic of Covid-19.

The competition was held on the 24th of January 2021 from 6.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. Competitors were given separate algorithmic questions of different categories to be solved within the given period. The competition consisted of 11 algorithmic questions with the questions' complexity ranging from easy to medium and hard. The points earned through HackerRank accounted for the total marks.

There was a virtual inaugural ceremony via Zoom from 6.00 p.m. to 6.40 p.m. on the competition day and the Dean of the Faculty, Mr. BH Sudantha, INTECS Senior Advisor, Dr. Lochandaka Ranathunga, INTECS Senior Treasurer, Dr. Supunmali

Ahangama and Instructor Mr. Akila Warnapura, were the guests of honors for the occasion.

Hack Moral 3.0 was successfully executed for five hours with 229 participants. Winners were selected as 1st, 2nd, 3rd and the 20 who scored the highest. All the winning participants were awarded e-certificates. The overall winners of the competition were are, 1st place – Vishwa Jayasanka, 2nd place – Sandali Senarathne, 3rd place – Mifdha Milan and the Merit Winners were Amila Madhushan, Madhurshani Sivan, Vidura Wijesekara, Nisuri Munasinghe, Chilanka Sudharaka, Mohamed Razan, Yomal Perera, Johan Priyasanka, Lakshan Chathuranga, Kalpa D Fernando, Karthiga Sivapiragasam, Nethmi Bimsara, Yasas Nanayakkara, Nimna Perera, Keerthana Sritharan, Thushitha Manokaran, Laroshan Surendran, Pulsara Sandeepa, Sanuka Maleesh, and Supun Madushanka.

With the immense support of the Committee members of INTECS, Batch 17, and the organizing committee of Hack Moral 3.0 the mini hackathon Hack Moral 3.0 was successfully concluded.

Moratuwa. The event aims at bringing together organizations of the Software Development industry with a highly competitive candidate pool under a single roof. The purpose of this event is to create a platform that provides and supports a wide range of open employment opportunities for faculty undergraduates while enabling industry organizations to freely select competent employees who are best suited to fulfill their requirements. Although the COVID-19 pandemic put forth many challenges and barriers, FIT Future Careers 2021 was held on a grand scale in a virtual environment for two days - 07th and 08th of January 2021. The event saw the participation of over 40 organizations from the industry representing medium

to large scale businesses not only in Sri Lanka but also from around the world. More than 700 interviews were conducted during this two-day event covering around 250 candidates from the Faculty of Information Technology, University of Moratuwa. The inauguration ceremony of FIT Future Careers 2021 was held via the Zoom platform with the presence of the Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology, Mr. BH Sudantha, representatives from the participating organizations, faculty undergraduates and the academic staff. Proving the success and the value of such a timely event, over 70 final year undergraduates secured job opportunities through the career fair. INTECS has continued their cause of facilitating undergraduates with employment opportunities by further extending its service by continuing to maintain relationships with industry giants and sharing candidate CVs among 100+ organizations.

Felicitation Ceremony

Felicitation Ceremony for Eng. PVA Hemalal



A ceremony was organized by the Faculty of Engineering to commemorate the retirement and appreciate the invaluable service by former Senior Lecturer and Consultant Chartered Mining Engineer; Eng. PVA Hemalal who retired from service on 30th September 2020. The event was held on 01st April 2021 with the presence of the Dean, Faculty of Engineering; Professor Nalin Wickramarachchi and Faculty Board Members. Eng. PVA Hemalal is

an outstanding product of the Peoples' Friendship University, Moscow, Russia. A renowned academic and a researcher, he has also been a Consultant to the GSMB, Sri Lanka, a member of IESL, a Fellow of the IMMM [UK], a Chartered Mining Engineer [UK], a Chartered Engineering Panel Member of the IESL for Earth Resources and a Mining Engineering for more than 10 years. Eng. PVA Hemalal joined the Department of Mining and Minerals

Engineering, University of Moratuwa for the first time in 1991 as a Senior Lecturer. In 1996, he resigned and joined Lanka Phosphate Ltd. as the General Manager/ Chief Mining Engineer where he served for 13 years. After leaving Lanka Phosphate Ltd in 2009, he rejoined the Department of Earth Resources Engineering and served a term of 10 years for University of Moratuwa.

Word of Praise for a Dedicated Editor



The Editorial Board of the UoM Newsletter wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Mrs. Sumudu Wijetunge for her dedicated service as the Editor of the Bimonthly UoM News.

Ms. Sumudu led the Editorial Board for three consecutive years from 2017 to 2020 and contributed immensely to the successful compilation of information

on the University's initiatives in various domains such as academic activities, research endeavors and extra-curricular activities, thereby enhancing the image of the UoM in the world outside by raising awareness of its achievements. While appreciating her untiring efforts, we wish Mrs. Sumudu Wijetunge all the best in her future endeavors!

Word of Praise for a Dedicated Co-Editor

The Editorial Board of the UoM Newsletter wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Ms. Kanchana Bandara for her dedicated service as the Co-Editor of the Bimonthly UoM News.

Ms. Kanchana assisted the Editorial Board for three consecutive years from 2017 to 2020. She dedicated her valuable time in editing and identifying ways to improve the flow of newsworthy materials and



contributed immensely to the successful compilation of information on the University's initiatives in various domains such as academic activities, research endeavors and extra-curricular activities, thereby facilitating the flow of information on the UoM to the world outside. She resigned from her position as co-editor to pursue her post graduate studies. While appreciating her untiring efforts, we wish Ms. Kanchana Bandara all the best in her future endeavors!

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Appointment of New Editor

Mr. Sanath Gunawardena, Senior Lecturer in English Language teaching and Head, Department of Languages has been appointed Editor of the Newsletter of the University of Moratuwa for a period of 03 years with effect from 01st January 2021.

Future Events

Call for Papers – EECon 2021

The Third International Conference, EECon 2021 organized by the Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) of the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa will be held at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka on 24th September 2021. The EECon 2021 will be held in a hybrid format, including both on-site and virtual presentations.

Paper submission is currently open. See the attached flyer for more information. Please refer to the conference web page for further information. <http://www.eesoc.lk/eecon2021/>



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