



“CEYHAWK”

THE FIRST LIGHTWEIGHT UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE FROM SRI LANKA TO THE GLOBAL MARKET



The Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering of University of Moratuwa is all set to launch to the global market, the first ever lightweight UAV, CeyHawk, built with the production quality. [page 06]

NEW DEAN, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Prof Kapila Perera of the Department of Mechanical Engineering has been elected as the Dean, Faculty of Engineering with effect from 29 February 2016. He joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering as a Senior Lecturer in 1995 after having served as a Naval officer, and was promoted as a Professor in 2008. He has contributed to the university in various levels including Director ITUM, Director - Staff Development Centre, Chairman Exhibition Committee, President UMTA, Acting Director Industrial Training and Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Prof. Kapila has served in the national level as Chairman (NARA), Commissioner of the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission, Director General SLIATE and Vice Chairman CEB.



Inside

Page 2

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING NEWS

Page 8

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE NEWS

Page 10

FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
NEWS

Page 10

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Page 12

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Page 13

VISITS & TRAVEL

Page 14

APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

Page 15

SPORTS

Page 16

LIBRARY NEWS

SIGNING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Centre for Research and Development, Ministry of Defence and University of Moratuwa signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 26.01.2016 to promote joint research and development activities of mutual interest, to collaborate to identify opportunities for technical consultancy and cooperation, technical training in disciplines of mutual interest. The said Memorandum of Understanding was initiated by Dr Chandana Gamage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Faculty of Engineering. The primary domain of Intergrated Computer Engineering (ICE) stream students of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering is Embedded System and Real-Time Systems and the first batch of these students would be benefited from this Memorandum of Understanding.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DOME OPENS MECHATRONICS & MEMS/NEMS LABORATORY

At an opening ceremony held January 08, the Department of Mechanical Engineering inaugurated its new purpose-built MEMS/ NEMS & Mechatronics Laboratory. The laboratory was declared open by Special Aide to the Chancellor of Ritsumeikan Trust, Japan, Prof. Monte Cassim. Vice-Chancellor of University of Moratuwa, Prof Ananda Jayawardena, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof RA Attalage and Dean, Faculty of Engineering Prof. U.G.A. Puswewala were also present among the distinguished invitees during the ceremony.

Speaking at the event, Prof. Monte Cassim reiterated the importance of creating “open-innovation” partnerships to gain technological, social and environmental advancements. He also spoke of the significance of the University of Moratuwa in Sri Lanka’s efforts to build technological partnerships with Japan.

The newly built Mechatronics & MEMS/NEMS laboratory’s teaching and research will be at the intersections of mechanical, electrical, electronics, computer and materials engineering. The laboratory houses state of the art teaching equipment essential to introducing mechatronic concepts to ME undergraduates. The lab will provide training on various software packages and a number of well-developed commercially available mechatronics training kits, Industrial Automation Controllers, mechatronic and control teaching modules, electro-pneumatic & electro-hydraulic laboratory setups, industrial robots, mobile robotic platforms, Modular Production System workstations for teaching of automated production systems...etc.

The laboratory is one of many initiatives taken by the Department of Mechanical Engineering to create a research based learning culture among its students and to expand its teaching activities.



COMMUNITY BASED WASTE RECYCLING PROJECT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING



The second workshop of the 'Australian-Sri Lankan University partnerships project to develop community based waste recycling businesses' was held on 11 and 12 February at the project facility established in the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa. The Project Manager Prof Caroline Baillie from the University of Western Australia conducted the workshop for the core team members of three local universities namely, University of Moratuwa, University of Jaffna and University of Sri Jayawardenepura, along with the research and academic teams from the University of Western Australia and University of Queensland, Australia.

TOASTMASTER PROGRAMME @ TEXTILES

A Toastmaster programme was organised by the Moratuwa University Textile Association for the BSc Engineering final year students of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. The Speechcraft grand finale was held on 26 January at the Department Auditorium. The special guests who attended the event are distinguished Toastmaster Namini Gunasena, Division Director, Division J, District 82, and Toastmaster Arfath Saleem, District Champion of the International Speech contest and Winner of the Semi-finals of the World Championship of Public Speaking who delivered a keynote speech on "Virtues of Winning". Further, Toastmasters from IFS, HNB, Moratuwa, and University of Moratuwa clubs also participated in the event.



YEAR 2 INDUSTRY COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Year 2 students of BDesign (Fashion Design and Product Development) course were able to get a real time industry experience this year through conducting a collaborative project with the industry. The project brief was set collaboratively considering both academic requirements and the industry requirements.

The students following the fashion pathway conducted the project with Bodyline(Pvt) Ltd whereas the students following the textile pathway conducted the project with Textured Jersey. Hence fashion students developed a sportswear range targeting the client base of Bodyline under the theme of sustainability whereas textile students developed an innovative knitted textile range targeting the client base of Textured Jersey. This helped students to develop a commercially viable product range within the industry constraints.

The project was very successful with very good comments from the industry. Both companies stated that they hope to promote the final products among their client base.

SKILLS FOR WORK



"Knowing others is intelligence; knowing yourself is true wisdom. Mastering others is strength; mastering yourself is true power." – Lao Tze.

The future of our nation is in the hands of our youth. They will be the driving force of the national economy in the years to come, and thus MAS Holdings decided to play its role to groom and to elevate the young leaders of our nation to the next level. They were instrumental in introducing the "Skills for Work", a comprehensive programme which will run across the four years of the undergraduate life while preparing the students for corporate life. This will be a platform for these young talents to master themselves and drive our nation towards greatness. The initial "Skills for Work" was launched on 10 February for the Undergraduates of Textile Engineering and Fashion Design of the University of Moratuwa.

'TO PROMOTE TRADITIONAL ART OF SRI LANKA'

The Department of Textile and Clothing Technology and AIESEC Colombo South collaboratively organized the Art Project 2015 for five weeks from 11.12.2015 to 08.01.2016. Six foreign University students from Germany, India and China participated. Five Students from Batch 14, Fashion Design and Product Development of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology also participated as mentors. The programme was set to meet the objective of promoting traditional arts of Sri Lanka with the view to identifying how the traditional arts and crafts that have been embedded in the line of Royal dress during the Kandyan era of Sri Lanka. At the end of this project students were able to demonstrate their skills in producing art and craft inspired fashion silhouette to Sri Lankan or foreign market. A sequence of simultaneous activities took place during the project aiming at demonstrating a thorough knowledge about the process of designing and the significance of art and crafts belonging to the era. The students visited the Temple of the

Tooth, Kandy, Temple of Degardoruwa, Kandy, National museum, Colombo, and the Art and Craft village at Battaramulla to generate the knowledge as participant observers with the guidance of resource persons of the project. Furthermore, they experienced the actual methodology of dressing the traditional Kandyan Nilame costume with traditional artisans. In the mean time sound dialogues of the subject were built up through topic discussions and presentations. In conclusion, unique sartorial expressions were presented by the students through art works. The programme was successfully conducted with the support of Dr USW Gunasekera, Head of Department. The resource persons of the project were Dr Gayathri Ranathunga and Dr. Virajini Karunarathne, Senior Lectures of the Fashion Design and Product Development course. Assistance was given by Mr Prabod Munasinghe, Lecturer, Fashion Design and Product Development.



INAUGURATION OF THE PG CERTIFICATE IN INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION 2015/2016 (1ST BATCH)

The Department of Electrical Engineering marked the commencement of the Postgraduate Certificate in Industrial Automation for the first batch of students, being the first ever postgraduate certificate course offered by the University of Moratuwa.

The course is specially targeted for the graduates who are working in or who wish to enter the industrial automation field with a three-year Engineering Degree. The classes are scheduled on a part-time basis during the weekend and will be offered in a modular form. The minimum duration of the course is six months.

MBA INAUGURATIONS

Inaugurations of both the MBA in Management of Technology (MBA in MOT) and MBA in Entrepreneurship were held on 9 January. It was the inaugural batch of the MBA in Entrepreneurship. The Chief Guest of the event was Mr Gamini Saparamadu of Kent Holdings and the keynote speech was delivered by Mr Kanishka Weeramunda.

WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A workshop on Research Methodology was conducted by Dr Ralph Hamann of the University of Cape Town for the MBA in MOT 2015 Students. Sharing of experiences from different perspectives was the objective where new insights on potential research areas were discussed.

Dr Hamann is a Professor at the Graduate School of Business(GSB), and holds a Research Chair with the University of Cape Town African Climate and Development Initiative. He teaches on business sustainability, cross-sector collaboration, and research design. From 2010 to mid-2014 he was the GSB Research Director.



DOME WELCOMES 2016 INTAKE FOR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY & MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING PG PROGRAMS

At an inauguration ceremony held on February 6th, the Department of Mechanical Engineering welcomed the 11th intake to the Master of Engineering (MEng.) / Post Graduate Diploma programmes in Energy Technology and Manufacturing Systems Engineering. The ceremony was held under the patronage of Eng. Gamini Senanayaka. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Rahula Attalage, Emeritus Professor Prof. P.A. De Silva and Prof. Kapila Perera were also present among the distinguished invitees.

Speaking at the event, Eng. Gamini Senanayaka, an alumnus of University of Moratuwa, shared his thoughts on Sri Lanka's capability of achieving sustainable human development and reiterated the significance of University of Moratuwa and its graduate students, in achieving such a goal.

The MEng. & Diploma programmes in Energy Technology and Manufacturing Systems Engineering have been designed to prepare students for research and professional interventions in the disciplines of energy and manufacturing, ultimately leading to the creation of a more capable group of engineers ready to undertake demanding roles in the industry. The new intake consists of a total of 44 students with 22 students for each programme.

ILUMINAR 2016

The Society of Transport & Logistics (STL) of the University of Moratuwa inaugurated a Careers Fair for the final year students of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management (TLM). "Illuminar 2016" was conducted on 13 January at the Department of Transport & Logistics Management. Prof Rahula Attalage, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Academic and non-academic staff of the Department, Industry partners for the "Illuminar 2016", other industry participants, alumni and undergraduates of the Department participated.

The "Illuminar 2016" was an in-house recruitment programme focusing on the undergraduates of the department who will graduate in March 2016. It was conducted with the aim of introducing Tomorrows Leading Minds to the industry. As per the founder of Illuminar and the current president of STL, Mr. Gihan Vidanapathirana, STL organized the event for creating an excellent opportunity for final year undergraduates who are hoping to join the industry in the near future and enhance the industry collaboration of the Department.

Chandana Wijayanama, General Manager Human Resources, South Asia Gateway Terminals (Pvt) Ltd. delivered the keynote speech for the event. He enumerated the career competencies through his speech for the undergraduate who expect to launch their new career.

SAGT (South Asia Gateway Terminal) was the Exclusive Strategic partner for Illuminar 2016. John Keels Holdings was the Platinum partner, while McLarens Holdings Ltd and Industrial Finance Solutions (IFS) were Gold and Silver partners respectively. Bronze partners for the event were Astron Ltd and Hemas Manufacturing.



THAI PONGAL 2016

The Society of Transport & Logistics conducted Thai Pongal celebrations on 14 January at the Department of Transport and Logistics Management with the participation of Academic and Non-academic staff and the Undergraduates of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management.

Thai refers to the name of the tenth month, in the Tamil calendar, Thai Pongal usually means festivity or celebration; more specifically Pongal is translated as "boiling over" or "overflow." Pongal is also the name of a sweetened dish of rice boiled with lentils that is ritually consumed on this day. The event consisted of cultural activities such as Pongal preparation, thanks giving to the nature spirit, the sun and farmers and serving the meals.

Mr Bratantheesh, Instructor of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management explained the traditional importance of the event to the participants.



CEYHAWK - THE FIRST LIGHTWEIGHT UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (UAV) FROM SRI LANKA TO THE GLOBAL MARKET

The Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering of University of Moratuwa is all set to launch to the global market, the first ever lightweight UAV, CeyHawk, built with the production quality.

Since 2012, the Department has come a long way marking successful milestones in the journey of building light weight UAVs in the Sri Lankan soil. The next challenge for these technocrats would be to promote this locally developed UAV technology in the national and international markets. At present, we possess a few different UAVs systems such as CeyHawk, Ravan, CeyMapper built for various purposes.

Among the many tasks possible, some examples are the possibility to immediately take high resolution maps (24 Mb) of geodiversity of the areas

affected from natural disasters like floods and landslides, and identify plant diseases of agricultural sites which are spanned across thousands of acres etc. Though there are few commercial UAVs in the global market which cater to these purposes, the price of those systems is very high. On the other hand, the UAVs developed by the Department can be offered at a lower price without loss of quality and performance, which will certainly create a competitive edge for us. It is also expected to provide these services to the national level requirements, and the discussions have already been started with some of the respective institutions.

During the development process, Ravan was tested 72 times and CeyHawk was tested 12 times in the sky. After verifying the flying qualities, structural stability,

robustness, and wing loading, the design for the commercial version of CeyHawk was finalized and, then, it was modeled in Solid Works design platform. CeyHawk has eight frame parts for which 16 molds were made for the top and bottom surfaces. The molds were made using laser-cut cross-sectional members. Using these molds, the Carbon fiber composite structure of CeyHawk was built in light weight, with strength and good looks to be a competitive UAV in the global market. Initial flight tests of the commercial CeyHawk have already been performed and the performance have been verified. CeyHawk commercial version comes in two options; electric and petrol. The electric version has 25minute flight time at about 100kmph whereas the engine version has 4hr flight time at the same speed.

COMPASS '16 - ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING



COMPASS '16, the annual symposium of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, was held on 22 January at the Grand Oriental Hotel, along with the Annual General Meeting of the Chemical Engineering Student Society. Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardena graced the occasion as chief guest and many professionals from industry and academia were also present.

'Leap Towards Effective Processing: Be effective – Stay Profitable' was the theme of COMPASS '16. Prof. Ajith De Alwis, Project Director of Coordinating Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI) was the key-note speaker of the event. Mr.Dhammika Welhenage, HSE Manager of Litro Gas Ltd. delivered a speech on 'Benchmarking Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Impact Management' while Mr. Janaka Gammanpila, Factory Manager at Unilever Sri Lanka and Mr. Harsha Wickramasinghe, Deputy Director General of Sustainable Energy Authority shared their knowledge and



experience on 'Cutting edge technologies for process improvement' and 'Effective processing through energy management'.

The event had an open panel discussion on 'Benchmarking Health, Safety and Environmental Impact Management' facilitated by Mr. Thissa Dodangoda meanwhile Mr. Dhammika Welhenage, Dr. Inoka Suraweera and Mrs. Chandani Kahandawala were the guest speakers. The panel discussion provided a great opportunity for undergraduates and members of alumni to get a practical insight about HSE management. The event was also featured by launching the annual magazine 'CHEMUNIQUE' published by Chemical Engineering Student Society and introducing a newsletter 'The Process Engineer'.

For the second consecutive time as the Platinum Sponsor, Avery Denison made a great contribution to make the event a success while Textured Jersey Ltd. and HOLCIM Lanka Ltd. were the Gold and Silver sponsors for the event respectively.

8TH INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON WATER RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (IPWE) CONFERENCE

The 8th International Perspectives on Water Resources and the Environment (IPWE) Conference organized by the American Society of Civil Engineers' Environmental and Water Resources Institute (ASCE-EWRI) was held at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo on 4-6 January. University of Moratuwa was a Cooperating Organization, and the Department of Civil Engineering was actively involved in the organization of the Conference. Papers were presented by authors from more than 20 countries, and Prof. (Mrs.) N. Ratnayake was the Technical Chair and Editor of the Proceedings.



OUTBOUND TRAINING AT KITHULGALA

An outbound training programme was organized for post-graduate students of the Transportation Engineering Division of Department of Civil Engineering. The programme was held at Borderlands Lanka (Pvt) Ltd premises at Kithulgala on 7, 8 and 9 January. About forty full time and part time post-graduate students participated in this event. Prof W.K. Mampearachchi and Dr Dimantha De Silva participated in the programme representing the academic staff of Transportation Engineering Division.

The prime objective of organizing this annual event is to build up the personal skills and mutual understanding of students.



A NEW LOOK, A BETTER SERVICE

The student canteen which is at the basement of the Civil Engineering Complex was reopened for students and the staff of the Department on 4 January, after a successful renovation and refurbishing project.

Though the canteen was popular among the students and minor staff members for its low-priced, high-quality foods and beverages, it was closed for some time due to lack of space at its premises. Under the guidance of the former Head of the Department Prof. S.M.A. Nanayakkara, undergraduates of the Department, especially the Level 03 students, undertook the projects of renovating and refurbishing of the old canteen into an attractive, new one, which they completed successfully. Financial support for the projects was provided by the Civil Engineering Society (CES) proving their continuous efforts of creating a better learning environment to Civil Engineering students.

Current Head of the Department Prof. J.M.S.J Bandara, Former Head of the Department Prof. S.M.A Nanayakkara, several other distinguished lecturers, some minor staff members and some students were present for the opening ceremony. Addressing the gathering Professor S.M.A. Nanayakkara – Head of the Department at that time – mentioned that, once again students and staff members can have a good and a nutritional meal for a low price and new looks, facilities and quality service will be added bonuses.



FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE

PORTFOLIO EXAMINATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS OF STUDENTS OF LEVELS 2 AND 3, IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN

The Portfolio Examination and Exhibition of Level 2 and Level 3 students of the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture held at the Department Auditorium on 9 and 16 January, with the participation of students, staff and the board of External Examiners. The exhibition consisted of a collection of course work done by the students representing three specializations of the Department: Fashion and Lifestyle Design, Media and Communication Design and Product Design.



PROJECT INITIATION 'ADJOINING TRADITIONAL CRAFTING- RAMBA 2016'

The students of Level 2 of the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture proudly stepped forward to initiate the major design project of the year 'Adjoining Traditional Crafting 2016' to develop a lifestyle product range using banana fibre as the main material. The project is planned to support the rural economy through design interventions. Students are supposed to conduct a thorough research about the selected banana fibre material and related crafts technologies to develop a range of new eco-friendly lifestyle products. The project can be introduced as the fifth exertion after the successful completion of previous attempts' Refine Cane-2012', 'UNA-2013', 'TALA-2014' and 'Crafted Shell 2015'.



WISDOM THROUGH JOURNEY: REINTERPRET & CREATING A SYSTEM FOR KNOWLEDGE ASCERTAIN AT "KALUDIYA POKUNA"

As the opening design experience for the 2015/2016 academic year, the Level 1 students of the Department of Integrated Design are being assigned a history-based project named "Wisdom through journey: Reinterpret & Creating a System for knowledge ascertain at Kaludiya Pokuna". A series of outdoor discussions, workshops and practical camps were organized as a significant part of this project at Anuradhapura related contexts, Mihintale proximate and Kaludiya Pokuna concerning contextual background, context adjacent, overall envision, context experience & realization, context experience, context composition and context documentation. The project is to identify and formulate a logical interpretation & creating a system for transferring knowledge at "Kaludiya Pokuna" and the aim of this project is to formulate the design backdrop with scanning on historical context to evoke creative Logical imagination. A three-day practical workshop in this series was conducted beginning January 29 by Senior Lecturer Archt Prasanna Pitigala Liyanage, Lecturer Eng /LndscpArcht Susira Udalamatta, Dr Dhananjaya Gamlath, Mr Chammika Jayawardhane, Ms Anushka Weragama, Ms Chathuri de Silva, Ms Shauri Hettiarachchi and Ms Vijani Bulumulla. The project was coordinated by Lecturer Mrs Ruwani Rathnayake under the guidance of Senior Lecturer Archt Prasanna Pitigala Liyanage.



STUDENTS' EXHIBITION AT SLIA ANNUAL SESSIONS AT BMICH COLOMBO

The Department of Architecture took part in the Architect 2016 Exhibition held at BMICH Colombo from 18 to 21 February 2016. Architectural design work of the students from level 1 to level 5 were displayed in the University of Moratuwa stall, with emphasis on the 2015 final year Comprehensive Design Projects. In addition, Level 4 students of the Department made a presentation under the theme of the forum: "Flows touching the Voids" at the National Conference on Architecture held on 17 February which was well received by the audience consisting of foreign and local architects.

The Members' Work and Trade Exhibition of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) is an annual event held by the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects and the Department has been a continuous participant in it for the last two decades.



TANDEMIZE - A COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN AND LONDON METROPOLITON UNIVERSITY, UK

Tandemize is a set of travel fellowships designed to support student engagement in cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural creative practice. Tandemize 2.0 is a collaborative workshop done in-between the Department of Integrated Design, University of Moratuwa and the Sir John Cass Faculty of Art, Architecture and Design, London Metropolitan University, United Kingdom funded by the British Council Sri Lanka and United Kingdom to enhance bilateral cross-cultural exchange, bilateral cross-disciplinary exchange and Bilateral international exchange. Tandemize 2.0 commenced in February 2016 and five students from the Department of Integrated Design accompanied by a lecturer went for a week-long residency in London to explore possibilities for cross-cultural collaboration looking at the effects of migration (people, ideas, skills) on design, craft, jewellery, fashion and architecture. The participants from UK will come to Colombo in March 2016 to complete the reciprocal exchange before embarking on projects that will aim to take 'design & craft practice' out of the studio into public spaces to

observe public participation; looking at how as designers they can become change-makers, and how the creative process and exchange can affect culture. The programme will continue till the London craft week 2016.



ANNUAL PIRITH CHANTING AND ALMS GIVING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING ECONOMICS

The Annual Pirith Chanting and Alms Giving ceremonies of the Department of Building Economics were held on February 07 and 08. The ceremonies were organized by the Level 2 undergraduates with the support and contribution of the other students, the academic and non-academic staff of the Department of Building Economics.



FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

INTECS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

The Annual General Meeting of INTECS, the Information Technology Society of the University of Moratuwa, for the term 2016/2017 was held on 18 February at the Faculty of Information Technology premises. INTECS has been the pioneer organization in the Faculty in spearheading students and the community in the field of Information Technology for which the new office bearers were handed over with the responsibility in further building up on the services rendered to the Faculty, industry as well the community. The new committee was congratulated by the participants to the meeting and extended their willingness in supporting future activities and events organized by INTECS.

INAUGURATION CEREMONY FOR IT BATCH 15

The inauguration ceremony for Batch 15 of the Faculty of Information Technology was held on 05 January at the Civil Engineering Auditorium. The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties and staff graced the occasion. The Dean welcomed the distinguished guests and newly joined students. The Vice-Chancellor addressed the gathering highlighting the importance of the university education. The second half of the inauguration program consisted of informative talks by the Chief Student Counsellor, (Acting) Chief Medical Officer and SAR / Student Welfare. A parallel session was conducted at the Old Gym for the parents to address their concerns regarding the students' university life.

The inauguration ceremony was followed by an orientation program.



STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

ARCHT SURESH EDIRISOORIYA WINS DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE SRI LANKA SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AUTHORITY HEAD QUARTERS

Archt Suresh Edirisooriya, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Architecture won the Competition for the design Proposal for the SLSEA Headquarters Building at Battaramulla. His design featured practical strategies for passive energy building design as well as aspects for smart/ renewable energy usage for the minimum energy foot print. His proposal was the best among twenty one entries received.

The prize was awarded to Archt Suresh Edirisooriya on 27 January at the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Council Board room in the presence of the Competition Chairman SLIA, Chairman-SLSEA, Director General-SLSEA and other Officials from both SLIA and SLSEA. Further to that, SLSEA congratulated and appointed the winner as the consultant to the project as it was one of the competition conditions.



CHAIR ELECT OF IEEE SRI LANKA SECTION

Dr TSS Jayawardana, a Senior Lecturer attached to the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, was elected to the post of Chair-Elect of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section. Before being elected to the above post, Dr Jayawardana served as the Editor of IEEE Sri Lanka Section for two years.

Dr Jayawardana obtained the BSc Eng degree in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering from University of Moratuwa in 1996. He also secured the MSc degree in Operational Research from the same University in 2003 and obtained his PhD in Robotics and Systems Control from Saga University Japan in 2005.



PROMOTION TO SENIOR MEMBER OF IEEE

Dr Ruwan Gopura, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mechanical Engineering, has been promoted to the grade of senior member IEEE. He is currently the secretary of IEEE Sri Lanka section and IEEE Robotics and Automation Society Sri Lanka section chapter.



RESOURCE PERSON FOR WORKSHOP

Eng SN Niles, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology, was the main resource person at the 3rd Staff Training Programme conducted for the staff of the ITUM under the project for the relocation and development of the ITUM. The workshop was titled “Development of Overall Academic Programme and Curriculum Outline for Engineering Diploma Programmes”, and was held under the auspices of the International Construction Consortium Ltd. Eng Niles drew widely from experience gained as Director Undergraduate Studies of the Faculty of Engineering, and the session which was largely interactive was greatly appreciated.



BEST PAPER AWARD AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Dr WD Prasad received the best paper award (first place) for the paper presented at 2015 IEEE 10th International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS) held in Peradeniya, Sri Lanka on 17 - 20 December 2015. The paper is titled “Improving Matrix Pencil and Hankel Total Least Squares Algorithms for Identifying Dominant Oscillations in Power Systems”, and has been co-authored by Prof. UD Annakkage at University of Manitoba, Canada.



PHD COMPLETION

Dr WD Prasad, a Lecturer in the Department of Electrical Engineering, completed the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Manitoba in February 2016 and resumed work at the Department of Electrical Engineering. His area of research was Power Systems Stability and Control.

PATENTS RECEIVED

The National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka has granted patents for the following:

“Automatic Tension Controller System for WARP Yarns in High Speed Weaving” bearing No.17728 which has been jointly invented by Dr EASK Fernando, Senior Lecturer & Dr TSS Jayawardane, Senior Lecturer both of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. The tension control system is designed to control the tension of the warp sheet individually or section-wise depending on the required level of accuracy in yarn tension regulation and the cost of the tension control system.

“Automatic in-line moisture control system for weft package in a weaving machine” bearing No.17727 which has been jointly invented by Dr EASK Fernando, Senior Lecturer & Dr TSS Jayawardane, Senior Lecturer both of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. The invention among other things has the ability to readily instrumented in existing weaving machines and compatible with any weaving machine.

“A Method for Reinforcing Natural Rubber Latex Products by Incorporating Modified Silica Dispersions” invented by Dr. NMVK Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Materials Science & Engineering, Mrs. MCW Somaratne, Lecturer (Probationary), Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa, and Dr. W. Shantha, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical & Process Engineering.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING EDUCATION

Prof (Mrs) N Ratnayake received the Award of Excellence for Outstanding Engineering Education at the IESL Engineering Excellence Awards Ceremony held on January 26.

NRC MERIT AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

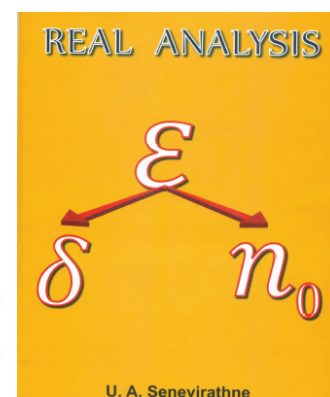
Dr Asanka Rodrigo received a National Research Council (NRC) Merit Award for scientific publications in December 2015 for the journal paper appearing in ERGONOMICS Vol 56, Issue 7. NRC Merit Awards for Scientific Publications recognize outstanding research published in prestigious scientific journals by Sri Lankan scientists and researchers whose work has reached international standards. This award is considered as one of the most prestigious awards for a research publication in Sri Lanka.

UOW HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

Dr Upuli Jayatunga has been appointed an Honorary Fellow at the School of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering, University of Wollongong for a three year term. Dr Jayatunga continues to be involved with research collaborations through joint PhD programmes and supervisions.

BOOK AUTHORED BY MR. UDAYASIRI SENEVIRATHNE

Mr. Udayasiri Senevirathne, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics has authored a book titled "Real Analysis". The book is written to the standards of a B.Sc. degree in physical sciences, but is needed for engineering students. Because it expects no prior knowledge from the reader, a person with a weak mathematical background too will be benefited from it. The book is published by Vijitha Yapa Publications.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

CFW2016 BEST EMERGING FASHION DESIGNER AWARD

Anushika Perera, a current Level 4 student of the Fashion and Lifestyle Design specialisation of the Department of Integrated Design, won the Best Emerging Fashion Designer award at the 'BrightSpark' fashion segment of the HSBC Colombo Fashion Week (CFW) 2016. Each year only ten most promising candidates are given the opportunity to take part in the CFW 'BrightSpark' programme and this year, four of them, along with Anushika were from the Department of Integrated Design. Vathsala Gunasekara, Nipuni Silva and Poorni Wijesinghe were the other three. They showcased their debut fashion collections at the event held on 23 February at the Park Street Mews.



VISITS & TRAVEL

VISIT BY DR MOHAN SIRIWARDENA AND DR ANUPA MANEWA



Dr Mohan Siriwardena and Dr (Mrs) Anupa Manewa visited the Department of Building Economics on 05 January. They conducted two workshops on “Applying for Higher degrees” and “Defending your thesis” for the junior academic staff of the Department of Building Economics. Dr Mohan Siriwardena is the Course Leader (Surveying) of the Scott Sutherland School of Architecture & Built Environment of Robert Gordon University, United Kingdom. Dr (Mrs) Anupa Manewa is attached to the Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom as a Senior Lecturer. They are both products of the Department of Building Economics.

SESSION CHAIR, BIOMED 2016

Dr Thilina Lalitharatne, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, chaired the session: Robotics, Pattern Recognition and Data Mining at the 12th IASTED International conference in Biomedical Engineering (BioMed 2016) which was held in Innsbruck, Austria on 15-16 February. He also delivered a presentation on the topic “Electrooculography Signal based Control of a Meal Assistance Robot”.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON OPTIMAL GREEN DESIGN OF BUILDINGS THROUGH BACSS

Prof Sisil Kumarawadu delivered a keynote address at the Springer International Conference on Soft-Computing Systems (ICSCS'16) that was held on 20 February at NIU, Kumaracoil, India. The address, titled “Optimizing Green Design through Building Automation & Control Systems (BACSS)”, highlighted the strengths and limitations of soft-computing techniques in application domains such as energy optimal automatic distributed control systems with special emphasis on realization of environmentally responsible and energy efficient smart buildings by the use of BACSS. Current and future directions of BACSS were outlined in the light of recent advancements in related technologies such as power electronics, high-frequency ac motors, wireless and power-line networked communication, cloud computing, and built-in control hardware.

VISIT BY PROF MICHAEL TUCK



Prof Michael Tuck from the Federation University of Australia visited the Department of Earth Resources Engineering as the external reviewer, during 15 to 19 February. He has discussions with Academic and non-academic staff members of the Department as well as students, in addition to the reviewing of the curriculum, course contents and examination procedures. He also visited the Bogala Mines and managed to spend some time with the students who were on their industrial training. With Professor Tuck's visit and his comprehensive report as the external reviewer, the Department submitted the necessary documents for IESL accreditation at the end of February and is currently awaiting feedback.

DR (MRS) YASANGIKA SANDANAYAKE VISITS NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY



Dr (Mrs) Yasangika Sandanayake, Head, Department of Building Economics, visited Northumbria University, UK from 08 to 12 February on the invitation of the Northumbria University. The visit was sponsored by Northumbria University under the collaboration between Northumbria University and University of Moratuwa. Dr Yasangika had discussions with Dr Simon Robson, Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), Prof Srinath Perera, Professor of Architecture and Built Environment, Dr Kevin Thomas, Head of the Department of Architecture and Built Environment, Mr Graham Capper, Director of Programmes, Prof David Greenwood, Professor of Construction Management and several other senior staff members of the Department of Architecture and Built Environment on introducing two new degree programmes, i.e. Building Surveying and Building Information Modelling in the Department of Building Economics. She further discussed possibilities of admitting Building Economics graduates from the University of Moratuwa for postgraduate studies, joint postgraduate degree programmes, staff/student exchange programmes and novel teaching and assessment methods for undergraduate studies. Dr Yasangika delivered a guest lecture on ‘Collaborative Facilities Management’ and also provided an overview of the Department of Building Economics and University of Moratuwa at the research symposium organised by the Construction Economics and Management Research Group (CEMRG), Faculty of Engineering and Environment under the theme of ‘Advancements and New Directions in Construction Economics and Management’. Staff and research students working in the research group attended this seminar.

VISITORS TO CIVIL ENGINEERING

Prof. Steve Starrett, Associate Professor, Director of Undergraduate Programme and Director of Kansas State University Honors & Integrity System, President-Elect, Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Prof. Andrew Curtis Elmore, Assistant Professor of Geological Engineering, University of Missouri-Rolla, USA visited the Department of Civil Engineering and delivered a lecture on 'Ethics Dilemmas faced by Engineers' to the Final Year Civil Engineering students on 5 January.

CONFERENCE PUBLICATION BY DR SUBRAMANIAM THAYAPARAN

Dr Subramaniyam Thayaparan, a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication published a paper titled 'Optimization of Receiver FIFO for IEEE 802.3ba 40 Gbps Sub Layer' at the 30th International Conference on Information Networking (ICOIN) 2016. The conference was held in Malaysia from 13 to 15 January 2016. The conference was very fruitful as it discussed several issues in regard to the network design and implementation along with some tutorial and oral sessions.

VISITS TO MATERIAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Dr. Don Rodrigo, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Materials Engineering of Monash University visited the Department of Material Science & Engineering on 11 January. He delivered a lecture on "Development of Research Culture in Sri Lanka" on the same day.

Prof. Daniel J. Blackwood, a Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National University of Singapore, visited to the Department of Material Science & Engineering on 18 and 19 January as an external reviewer. He appreciated the curriculum revisions and his recommendations have also been added.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS

NEW HEAD: DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

Dr Dinesh Samarasinghe has been appointed to succeed Prof Vathsala Wickramasinghe as Head of the Department of Management of Technology with effect from 24 December 2015. Dr Samarasinghe graduated from the University of Sri Jayawardhanapura with a BSc in Marketing Management, and has an MBA in marketing and PhD from the University of Colombo.

NEW DIRECTOR OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE

Dr (Ms) Thanuja Ramachandra has been appointed Director of Postgraduate studies, Faculty of Architecture, with effect from 03 January. She is a Senior lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics..

PROF. ROHAN LUCAS APPOINTED TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT - ITUM

Prof Rohan Lucas has been appointed to the Board of Management of the Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa (ITUM) by the University Grants Commission with effect from December 2015.



PROFESSORIAL PROMOTIONS

Dr Samudrika Wijayapala of the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology has been promoted to the post of Associate Professor in the Department. She graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Moratuwa, and has the distinction of being the first MPhil graduate and first PhD from the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology. She is also the first Associate Professor in the Department.

NEW SENIOR LECTURERS

Dr JGAS Jayasekara has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Mechanical Engineering with effect from 15.01.2016.

Dr. (Mrs.) RADS Ranathunga has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering with effect from 15.02.2016.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR LECTURER (ON CONTRACT)

Dr Chamira Edussooriya (PhD. UVic, Canada), joined the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication as a Senior Lecturer (on Contract) in January 2016. His research interests include Digital Filters, Light Fields, Video Enhancement, and Broadband Beamforming.



DIRECTOR OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Dr. (Ms.) Thanuja Ramachandra was appointed as the Director of Postgraduate studies, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa with effect from 03rd January 2016. Dr. (Ms.) Thanuja Ramachandra is a Senior lecturer (Grade II) attached to the Department of Building Economics..



NEW LECTURERS (PROBATIONARY)

Mr Prabod Dharshana Munashinghe assumed duties as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, on 01 January 2016. He received a Bachelor of Design degree (Honours) with a first class in Fashion Design and Product Development in 2013 from the University of Moratuwa. He had been serving the Department as a lecturer on contract since June 2014 after having worked as a Concept Innovation Executive at MAS Active Trading private limited for nearly two years.



Mrs ASK Fernando, Mr GN Amarasinghe, Ms KAMN Bandara, Mrs HTAS Premasiri, Mrs SKK Wickramanayake and Ms SS Jayawardena have been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering with effect from 15.02.2016.

NEW SAR/GA

Mr MDIP Wijenayake has been appointed to the post of Senior Assistant Registrar in the General Administration Division with effect from 16.11.2015. He has a Bachelor of Arts Special Degree in Economics from the University of Peradeniya and a Master of Business Administration from Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.

SPORTS

MILLENNIUM IT INTERNATIONAL MORA CRICKET SIXES 2016

The University of Moratuwa organized the above event with 15 teams participating on 12 and 13 February at the University Grounds. There was a team from the PESIT University of Bangalore as well. University of Moratuwa emerged Champions defeating The PESIT University at the finals.

Best Batsman – Vihanga Kalhara (UOM)

Best Bowler – Mithun Bhatt (PESIT Uni.)

Man of the Series – Geeth Sankalpa (Captain of UOM)



WORLD UNIVERSITY CHESS TRIALS

The World University Chess Championships are scheduled to be held from 9-15 April in Abu Dhabi, UAE. There was a selection trial for selecting the National University Team on 11, 12 and 13 February. There were a total of 22 participants from seven Universities. Miss Dinushki Premanath, a 1st year student from the Engineering faculty of UoM won the Women's Championships and entered the National University Team. Mr DG Ravi Prabath also from the Engineering Faculty (Textile Department) managed to enter the National University team after a hard-fought final game. Thus two from University of Moratuwa are included in the 8-player Sri Lanka National University Team.



LIBRARY NEWS

PRESENTATION ON “HOW TO USE SCOPUS WITH ITS NEW FEATURES AND FUNCTIONALITIES”

The Library organized an introductory session on “How to use Scopus Database with its new features and functionalities” with the collaboration of Elsevier Science and Technology Group, the provider of Scopus database. The resource person was Mr Vijay Reddy, Customer Consultant of Elsevier-Science and Technology (India). The session was conducted on 17 February at the Library Auditorium with the participation of academic staff members and the postgraduate students of the University.

Elsevier is the world’s leading provider of science and health information and Elsevier serves more than 30 million scientists, students and health and information professionals in worldwide. They provide world-class information and innovative tools of advanced science and health to their customers. The presenter discussed the efficiency and effective ways of using simple and advanced search facilities

of Scopus and introduced new features of the Scopus database which are very useful in searching different materials in this database.



VISIT BY THAKSHILA COLLEGE

Library staff and teaching staff of Thakshila Central College, Horana, visited the Library on 16 February. Their visit focused on the services, facilities available for readers and how to facilitate access to the online catalogue. Many valuable ideas and suggestions were shared during the two hour session held at the library.



ADVISORY BOARD

Professor Rahula Attalage (Chairman)
Professor UGA Puswewala
Professor Lalith De Silva
Mr PM Karunaratne
Mrs Ruvini Kodikara
Professor (Mrs) Chinthra Jayasinghe
Archt UPP Liyanage
Dr Chathura De Silva

EDITORIAL BOARD

Mrs Ruvini Kodikara
Archt Sithumini Rathnamalala
Archt A Rajapakse
Mrs WASN Wijethunga
Mrs Thushari M Seneviratne
Dr (Mrs) DA Meedeniya

Editor : Eng SN Niles
[E-mail: nils@uom.lk]
Published by : Library
University of Moratuwa
Page Layout : Mr PD Munasinghe

NEWS TO BE SENT TO

Library
University of Moratuwa
Katubedda, Moratuwa, 10400
Sri Lanka
E-mail: melromendis@gmail.com
info@lib.mrt.ac.lk



9 772279 202003
ISSN 2279-2023