



37TH GENERAL CONVOCATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA



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UPCOMING EVENTS

37TH GENERAL CONVOCATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA



The 37th General Convocation of University of Moratuwa was held on 25 August at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). The Chancellor of the University, VidyaJyothi Professor Emeritus KKYW Perera presided over the Convocation Ceremony. It was attended by the graduands with their parents, distinguished invitees, as well as the academic and administrative staff of the University. Prof Mohan Kumaraswamy delivered the convocation address on the topic of “Interdisciplinary Team working, Performance Indicators & Professional Ethics”. This year’s convocation comprised of three sessions and conferred the degrees as given below.

Faculty	First Degree	Postgraduate Diplomas	MSc	MSc (Research)	MEng	MBA	M.Phil	PhD
Architecture	276	12	18	-	-	-	03	01
Engineering	837	77	78	10	34	43	03	02
Information Technology	186	01	30	-	-	-	-	-



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting and Networking Evening 2016 of the Alumni Association University of Moratuwa was successfully held on 31 August at the Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo.

The event was well attended by alumni including the present Vice Chancellor, former Vice Chancellors, present and past Deans of Faculties and other academic and administrative staff of the university with a larger cross section of alumni from the industry.

The Keynote address was delivered by Hon Dr Harsha De Silva as Chief Guest.



TEAM SHARK GRABS THREE AWARDS AT IMECHE FORMULA STUDENT 2016

In its first ever Formula Student competition, Team Shark of the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Moratuwa marked its entry in style by winning three outstanding awards at IMechE - Formula Student 2016. The competition, which was held from 14th – 17th July at the Silverstone Circuit, UK, featured the participation of over 100 teams from leading universities across the globe. Team SHARK rejoiced a stunning debut by winning awards for the 'Best Newcomer – Class 1' and 'Dedication to Formula Student'. Induwara Munasinghe from Team SHARK was awarded the 'Best Individual Driver Award' for his outstanding skills.

Formula Student is one of the most established motorsport competitions for university undergraduates across the globe and is backed by renowned industrial and professional engineers in the motorsport industry. Teams of students worldwide were tasked with designing and building a single-seat racing car in order to compete in static and dynamic events.

The competition is conducted under two categories: Classes 1 and 2. Class 2 focuses on design presentations and costing while the more challenging Class 1, requires teams to build a formula car in addition to other design presentations. Each team car must undergo rigorous testing procedures, both static and

dynamic. Design, Cost and Sustainability, Business Presentation Judging, Technical and Safety Scrutineering, Tilt Test and Brake and Noise Test were carried out under static events while dynamic events included Skid Pad, Fuel Economy, Acceleration, Sprint and Endurance tests.

Team SHARK's journey into Formula Student began in 2013 as they began the project to design and manufacture a single seat open-wheel drive car, under the supervision and guidance from faculty members of Department of Mechanical Engineering. In 2016, DOME collaborated with DIMO PLC and provided SHARK with financial assistance, fabrication facilities and testing facilities which made their dream a reality.

Team SHARK was supervised by Mr. Sasiranga De Silva, Lecturer, Department of Mechanical Engineering of University of Moratuwa. Members of Team SHARKS are Harshana Kelasha (Team Leader), Rajive Wisidagama, Chathura Semasinghe, Sajith Edirisinghe, Nushen Senivirathna, Rukmal Dhanushka, Praneeth Weerathunga, Isuru Mudalige, Induwara Munasinghe, Amith Mudugamuwa, Buddhi Herath, Ms Sachithra Atapattu, Shameen Kamburugamuwa, Navoda Lakshan, Jaliya Chinthaka, Buddhika De Alwis, Kasun Harshana and Thushara Sandakalum.

SLUG 2016 - TORCH RELAY - UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA



The Torch Relay ceremony - University of Moratuwa with regards to the Sri Lanka University Games 2016 was held on 30 August at the University premises. The torch was handed over by the University of Ruhuna and it was to be passed to the University of Sri Jayawardenapura. This torch relay was started from the University of Jaffna and it reach of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka on 01 September covering all 14 participating universities in Sri Lanka.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

TRANSPORT RESEARCH FORUM – 2016

The 9th Transport Research Forum (TRF 2016) organized by the Transportation Engineering Division of the Department of Civil Engineering was held successfully at Kingsbury Hotel in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 23 and 24 August. The Transport Research Forum is organized annually with the prime objective to create a platform for researchers to build up their research career and to share their research findings with other colleagues and the industry. Participants from the industry and the related government institutions and some international experts were also present at the research forum. The two-day program included invited talks by Mr Nayana Mawilmada, Head of Investment – WRMPP and Prof Nishantha Bandara of Lawrence Technological University, Michigan, 35 research paper presentations and poster sessions covering all the aspects of Highway Engineering and Transportation. The event was graced by Mr N Rupasinghe, Secretary, Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development, as Chief Guest. Prof Ananda Jayawardene, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa, Prof Kapila Perera, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof Saman Bandara, Head, Department of Civil Engineering and many other distinguished guests were also present.



GETTING TO KNOW INTERNET OF THINGS

The Department of Computer Science & Engineering conducted an introductory workshop on IoT (Internet of Things) to IT teachers of the Hambantota district at the EWIS Training Centre in Suriyawewa on 14 July. The hands-on IoT workshop conducted by Eng Dr Chathura De Silva and Eng Dr Chandana Gamage facilitated the IT teachers to build an IoT unit based on the ESP8266 module and program it using the LUA language.



ACCREDITATION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEGREE PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

The Council of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka has granted full accreditation to the B.Sc. Engineering Hons. Degree Programme in Civil Engineering conducted by the University of Moratuwa applicable for the intake years 2015-2020. This ensures that the IESL accreditation of the Civil Engineering Degree which was already available for the intakes up to 2014 will continue over the next five intakes without a break.

Since IESL is a full member of the Washington Accord since 2014, degrees accredited by IESL will be recognized as equivalent

to accredited four-year engineering degrees awarded by universities of other signatory countries. As such, the Civil Engineering degrees awarded by the University of Moratuwa for intake years up to 2020 will be recognized as equivalent to accredited four-year Civil Engineering degrees in Australia, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States.

EXOLVERE 2016



The Annual General Meeting and Get-Together of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering was held on 22 August at JAICHilton, Colombo. The members of the Computer Science and Engineering Society (CS&ES), alumni, staff, and students participated in this event creating a space to collaborate and meet with industry partners and to appreciate several achievements of students, alumni, and staff. The award of the Undergraduate Student Achiever went to Madhawa Vidanapathirana of batch '13 and the award of the Postgraduate Student Achiever was won by Mr Kitsiri Jayakody. The best final year project was the InCAR Framework by BG Hettige, HP Hewamalage, CL Rajapaksha and WNT Wajirasena. Dr Dharshana Kasthurirathne won the award of the Outstanding Academic Performer. M. Sumith Gamage won the title of Emerging Entrepreneur and Dr Srinath Perera won the award for the Outstanding Contributor to the ICT Industry.



EARTH RESOURCES ENGINEERING ANNUAL CONFERENCE – ERE 2016



The Earth Resources Engineering annual conference was held at the Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo on 08 July for the 10th successive year. The theme for this year's conference was "Earth Resources Management" and the keynote address was delivered by Mr David Lees (Chief Site Consultant of head-raise tunnel and link tunnel, Uma Oya Project) from Amberg Engineering AG. The conference was sponsored by Amerasian International (Pvt) Ltd, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau (GSMB), GSMB Technical Services (Pvt) Ltd, National Gem and Jewellery Authority, CML-MTD Construction Ltd, International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd, Punsiri Gems, Metal Mix (Pvt) Ltd and generous contributions from Eng Nanda Ekanayaka.

EARTH RESOURCES ENGINEERING SOCIETY ANNUAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT



The students of the Earth Resources Engineering Society held their annual cricket tournament – "ERE Challenge Trophy" on 15 August at the University grounds. The event invitation made of coconut shells was unique and attractive.

ERE ALUMNI GET-TOGETHER



The Alumni get-together of the Earth Resources Engineering Department was held on 08 July at the Fingara Club, Old Kesbewa Road, Boralesgamuwa. A remarkable gathering of over 100 participants enhanced the glamour of the event. The requirement of a Mining Engineering Society was a main concern of the attendees, since the Earth Resources Engineering Department at Moratuwa is the only entity in Sri Lanka that produces Mining Engineering graduates.

ERE DICB MEETING 2016



The 10th Department Industry Consultative Board (DICB) meeting of the Earth Resources Engineering was successfully held on 08 July at the Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo, with a significant number of industrial participants and university representatives.



TLM CONSULTANT FOR “SAHASARA” PROJECT



On 2nd August 2016, the Central Province Passenger Transport Services Authority (CPPTSA) initiated a pilot project to enhance the bus services along the routes & by-routes in two selected corridors: Kandy-Digana and Kandy-Kadugannawa. The programme named 'Sahasara' was launched by His Excellency the President with a view to improving the transport services throughout the country. The main problem with the current private bus service is not the lack of buses but unhealthy competition and rivalry among the bus operators due to a flawed system. In this project, each bus would be equipped with a card reading ticket machine, a GPS tracking unit and a CCTV camera. When a passenger boards a 'Sahasara' bus and taps the ticket machine with a loaded card, the ticket machine would automatically debit the card to the amount of the commute and credit the amount to the common fund for all operators for the day. At the end of the day, the total collection would be distributed among the bus operators based on the number of trips each bus had plied on a particular route. Thus the main objective of the bus operators would be to run to the given schedule and not to compete for passengers. The Department of Transport & Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa is the Technical Consultant for the project where Prof Amal Kumarage, former Chairman of the National Transport Commission, is the Team Leader.

SKILL ENHANCEMENT PROJECT – “BE PREPARED-II”

Be Prepared –II” the second phase of the Skill Enhancement Program conducted by the Society of Transport and Logistics was conducted on 21 July in the TLM Department computer Lab. The session was themed as “Introduction to Microsoft Excel” which was organized for the Level 3 undergraduates who are about to commence their internship period from 25th July. The sessions were conducted by the facilitators within the Department under the coordination of Dr T Sivakumar, Head of the Department. The session was conducted fruitfully due to the effort and commitment of the facilitators. The workshop was conducted as a Hands-On session where the participants were given a dataset and relevant platform to proceed simultaneously with the facilitators. Resource persons were Dr T Sivakumar, Ms Thivya Amalan, Dr Pradeepa Jayaratne and Dr Varuna Adikariwattage.

Ms Mahesha Jayawardhana from Level 3 finally thanked all the facilitators for providing them the opportunity and Society of Transport and Logistics for understanding the appropriate need. The voluntary commitment of the facilitators as well as the coordination of Dr T Sivakumar was highly appreciated in the task of preparing the undergraduates a comfortable environment rather than making them vulnerable in the industry. With the received feedback it was decided to conduct a few more workshops for other undergraduates in the upcoming months.

OUTBOUND TRAINING 2016



The Department of Transport and Logistics Management has been conducting a residential Outdoor Life Skills Training Programme annually for their first year undergraduates and accompanying staff members since its establishment in 2006. This programme is intended to enhance the students' vision on team working, positive thinking and working in diverse environments in a responsible manner to achieve the goals during their undergraduate studies as well as during their world of work and in their personal lives. During the last week of July 2016, the 2015 intake of the Department participated in the Outdoor Life Skills Training Programme at Borderlands, Kitulgala. Spending three days in the wilderness, the students and accompanying staff members took part in various challenging activities that brought them outside their individual comfort zones.

IMMERSION ENGLISH CAMP 2016

The Immersion English Camp is an annual calendar event of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management organized for the enhancement of English language and communication skills of TLM undergraduates. This time it was organized by Ms Shashini Ranabahu for the '15 Batch and it was held from 22 to 26 August at the Department auditorium. Gateway Language Center facilitated the entire programme and John Keels Holdings sponsored the facilitators for the 6th consecutive time. The inauguration ceremony of the camp was held on 22 August with the presence of Mr Prasad Warusavithana and Ms Harshani Ranasinghe from John Keels Holdings, Ms Wathsala Dissanayaka, Mrs Damayanthi, Mr Wijenayaka, the three facilitators from Gateway Language Center, Dr T Sivakumar, Head of the Department, Mr SN Bentotage, Senior Lecturer of the Department and other academic and non-academic staff and students took part in the event. Ms Jayani Sudusinghe, Research Assistant of the Department conducted a motivational session on "Importance of learning a second language". The entire five days of the English camp comprised of a series of different interactive activities including dramas, songs, debates and spot speeches to enhance the language, communication and presentation skills of undergraduates. The closing ceremony of the camp was held on 26 August at 2.30pm where the drama competition was the most prominent event of the programme. Ms Imani Perera from John Keels Holdings addressed the ceremony pointing out the importance of learning and practicing English language for a life time.



TLM MIND CHALLENGE 2016

TLM Mind Challenge is the intra-department quiz competition organized by the Society of Transport & Logistics (STL) of the University of Moratuwa. The idea was initiated in 2015 and it was implemented successfully giving its way to a second phase which was held in 16th of August 2016 with a great participation from all the batches and alumna members. The event took place at the Auditorium of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management. Mrs. Namalie Siyambalapitiya graced the occasion as Chief Guest.



The core intention of the quiz was to offer undergraduates the opportunity to enhance their knowledge within the field, transport and logistics along with aesthetical, cultural and sports aspects in a more stimulating way. It was conducted as a live table quiz, comprising of 5 rounds each with 10 questions. The answers for each question were given after every round to make it even more meaningful. Mr. Nishal Samarasekera performed as the Quiz master for the event and Mr. Gayan Wijayalath was the project chairman.



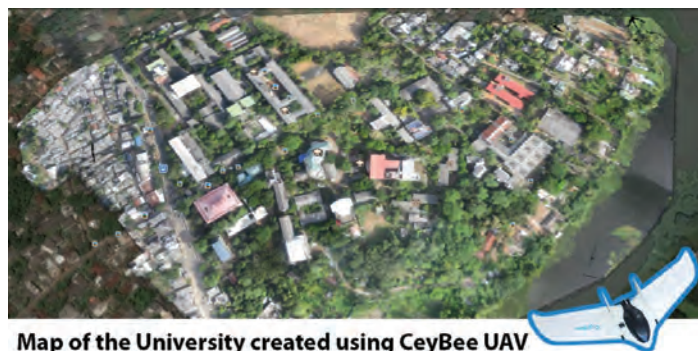
Defending champions 'Team Extreme' representing the alumni and comprising Ramindu Liyanage, Upul Welikala, Diwantha Abeykoon and Indika Fernando won the trophy. Team 'Daltons' became 1st runner-up while the team 'Aster' became the 2nd runner-up representing the undergraduates.

RUBIX 2016



"Rubix-2016" which was organized by the '12 Batch of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management was held successfully on 26 August at Dampe Village. The intention was to uplift the interaction between the undergraduates of the two consecutive academic years 2012 and 2013 as well as with the alumni members. Massive participation was observed from every batch as well as from the alumni. The event went on with the participation of both academic and non-academic staff members of the Department. There were plenty of games dominated by the dancing activities which decorated the event. Dr T Sivakumar traced the evolution of the event and appreciated the event organizers for organizing this particular event. The event concluded with a dinner and after party.

ENTC DRONE CREATES A GEOTAGGED AERIAL MAP OF THE UNIVERSITY WITH 2CM ACCURACY



The unmanned aerial vehicle research team at the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering Department conducted an aerial survey of the University of Moratuwa on 12 August using the Drone CeyBee. The drone was hand-launched at the University grounds, and the survey mission was planned at 150m altitude. The photos taken were stitched to create the 2D and 3D map of the University. The map was geo tagged with four ground control points located within the survey area. Using the 2D and 3D maps created, the measurements were made and the error in X-Y, and Z directions were verified to be 2cm and 5cm each. With this accuracy in aerial measurements, it is now possible to deploy the drones of the University of Moratuwa for actual applications in aerial surveying. The research team intends to start a dialog with the Survey Department to explore the possibility of deploying our drones to update the aerial maps of Sri Lanka.

SARASAVI GEE SISILA 2016

The 21st chapter of the annual musical extravaganza 'Sarasavi Gee Sisila', organised by the Building Economics Students' Society was held on 21 July from 6.00 pm onwards at the University premises. The event which is one of the most anticipated events on the university calendar, is aimed at strengthening the financial capabilities of the BESS in order to provide financial assistance to needy students by awarding scholarships, facilitating the printing of books that are essential for academic purposes and encouraging extra-curricular activities within the student community.



This musical concert featured veteran musicians in the local classical music arena namely Visharadhs Victor Rathnayake, Sunil Edirisinghe, TM Jayarathne, Edward Jayakody, Deepika Priyadarshani and Amarasiri Pieris, and Mr Kasun Kalhara. Mr Wasantha Rohana anchored the show while Mr Susil Amarasinghe directed the music.

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION FORUM ON YOUNG PLANNERS' RESPONSES TO CRITICAL URBAN CONDITIONS OF THE CITY OF COLOMBO



The Level 4 students of the Honours Degree Programme of BSc in Town & Country Planning recently presented their Site Planning Studio Projects to a panel of eminent industry partners and international academic team. This particular studio project was designed to give an exposure to the students on responding creatively to the emerging critical urban conditions in the city of Colombo. In this academic exercise, the students developed a project concept based on contextual analysis, carried out a detailed layout plan, carried out cost estimation, and proposed a financial model to implement the project assessing the stakeholders and risks associated with the proposed project. On the successful completion of the studio project, the Department organized a Presentation & Discussion Forum inviting the eminent professionals in the industry together with members from the RMIT University of Australia to witness the young planners' work and to provide comments and feedback. The Presentation & Discussion Forum was held on 05 July at the Department of Town & Country Planning, University of

Moratuwa. Mr Charitha Subasinghe, the Vice President / Chief Executive Officer at John Keells Holdings PLC who attended as a panelist for the session stated: "We were quite impressed with the work they presented. It is good to see how planning students work on developing project ideas with strong sense of market dynamics". Associate Professor Martin Mulligan, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne who joined the session with a group of 25 planning students from the RMIT University appreciated the integrated approach adopted in the project. He further mentioned the importance of planners undertaking a strong risk assessment about the likely impacts of the development projects to ensure the sustainability. Some of the industry partners have invited the students to join their institutions to work on projects in similar nature to get more exposure for the development project planning practice. Emeritus Professor Willie Mendis emphasized the need of continuously showcasing young planners work to the industry after commending all the hard work of the students.

'HUMAN BODY AS A CANVAS' A DESIGN WORKSHOP AT DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN

"That skin that covers the entire surface of our body is not a passive wrapper that protects us from the external environment and separates us from the world. The skin is one of the most effective mechanisms for interaction with the world. It is the locus of a very wide range of sensitivity" (Ackerman, 2010) Based on the theories and evidence on human body as an effective tool for communication in the history and the present, an inspiring workshop was conducted by the famous actor/ makeup artist Mr Jayalal Rohana on the 14th of July 2016.



Mr Rohana gave a vivid description on what body painting is for the Level 1 students of the Department of Integrated Design. The introduction to body painting was followed by an overview on "Makeup" with social-cultural-political aspects and some sketching experiments on body painting under the theme of "Camouflage" as an ice-breaker. Subsequently the students were divided into several groups and were allowed to familiarize with materials and have hands-on experience on face painting/ makeup under the theme "Kathakali" to identify significant characters without considering the gender. Ultimately the students were given the opportunity to perform a stage drama using those characters as a warm-up for the next step of the Design project.

INAUGURATION OF MSc / PG DIPLOMA MANAGEMENT 2016/2017

The inauguration ceremony of the MSc/ PG Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health Management 2016/2017 was held on 01 July at lecture hall 2B of the Department of Building Economics. Vice President of the Bio Energy Association of Sri Lanka, Mr MA Justin was the Chief Guest at the event. Head of the Department of Building Economics, Dr (Mrs) Yasangika Sandanayake, Course Coordinator, Dr(Mrs) Nayanthara De Silva, members of the academic and non-academic staff of the Department and students of the post graduate course, participated in the event. This is the third intake of the programme since it commenced in the year 2013.

WORLD CONSTRUCTION SYMPOSIUM 2016



The 5th World Construction Symposium 2016 on "Greening Environment, Eco-Innovations & Entrepreneurship" was held from 29 to 31 July at the Galadari Hotel. The symposium was jointly organised by the Building Economics Management and Research Unit (BEMRU) of the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa and the Ceylon Institute of Builders (CIOB). The Symposium commenced with the keynote address delivered by Prof George Ofori, Professor at the National University of Singapore, which provided a research agenda for researchers and practitioners in the area of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Sustainable Built Environment. The symposium was sponsored by International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB).

Altogether, 58 papers were presented under twelve themes by both local and international scholars. Eminent researchers, industry practitioners and students from over thirteen countries including Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, India, Oman, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore took part in this symposium sharing ideas in the area of Eco Innovations and Entrepreneurship in built environment. The diversity of participants stimulated a rich debate of the agenda items.

As the final event, the symposium had an interesting and participatory panel discussion on the topic on "Need for Innovation and Entrepreneurship to Accelerate Our Pursuit of Sustainable Development". The panel comprised of eminent academics Professors George Ofori, John Tookey, Makarand Hastak, Chitra Weddikkara, Mohan Kumaraswamy and Priyan Dias, Dr Kevin Thomas and Mr Nirmalan Wigneswaran.

INAUGURATION OF MSc / PG DIPLOMA IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT 2016/2017



Characterized Body: Based on the Film/Play “The Tempest” – A design experiment at Department of Integrated Design

Initially the students were asked to identify the human skin as a bilateral layer and then comprehend and relate meaningful associations with the human body in order to identify and recognize transitional methods through body embellishments. To execute this design project the students were taken to Mudannapola estate which is located in the Kurunagala district. At Mudannapola the students were given the opportunity to experience the context first. Subsequently they were all put into a natural pond and given the task to express the characters of the play Tempest by using only naturally available elements in the context. It was followed by some team building activities. Eventually the students identified prominent characteristics / features of the key characters and made association with the context through the script. Next they mapped the identified characteristics and features of the selected key character on the human body using body paint. Finally it was concluded with a role play with the mapped characters of the play The Tempest.



FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

GLOBAL PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WORKSHOP

Global Project-Based Learning Workshop which was jointly organized by the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the Department of Computational Mathematics of the Faculty of Information Technology in collaboration with Shibaura Institute of Technology (SIT), Japan was held from 19 to 27 August at the Faculty Premises. The key objective of the workshop was to enhance skills of students to explore advancements in the field with a global view on collaborative robot technology and applications. The workshop facilitated only six students groups of two local and two foreign (Japanese) students. The programme was a good opportunity for the students to acquire new skills and knowledge in the field of robotics, and enhance their professional growth. The workshop formally commenced with the inauguration ceremony with the participation of Mr PM Karunaratne, Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology, Heads of the Departments and other academic staff members. Prof Asoka S Karunananda, Senior Professor in the Department of Computational Mathematics, Mr BH Sudantha, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Information Technology, Dr Sagara Sumathipala, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Computational Mathematics, Mr Tharindu Gamage, Lecturer of the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Ruhuna and Dr Chinthaka Premachandra, Assistant Professor of the Department of Electronic Engineering of Shibaura Institute of Technology (SIT) were the resource persons of the workshop. On 25 August, a tour around the city of Galle was organized in order to entertain the foreign participants of the workshop. The coordinator of the workshop was Dr Sagara Sumathipala.

At the closing ceremony held to mark the conclusion of the workshop, Professor Ananda Jayawardane, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The workshop was concluded by the distribution of certificates to the participants by the Vice-Chancellor and also with the closing remarks delivered by the Vice-Chancellor and Dr Chinthaka Premachandra.



INTECS OUTREACH 2016

Reaching out to the students of Kalyani Maha Vidyalaya, Kithulgala, INTECS Outreach 2016 was completed successfully on 08 July at the school premises. INTECS Outreach is a programme organized and conducted by the Information and Technology Society (INTECS) of the Faculty of Information Technology of the University of Moratuwa. This programme aims to bridge the technological knowledge gap between the school students and the university students, also to motivate them to succeed in life through education.

The programme at Kalyani Maha Vidyalaya commenced at 8.00 am with the school welcoming the undergraduates of the faculty, and the Principal addressing the gathering. This was followed by several sessions conducted by undergraduates of the Faculty of Information Technology focusing on different categories of students such as the students of grade 6-8, the Ordinary Level Students and the Advanced Level Students. A session was carried out in parallel for the teachers of the school on several technological aspects while a hands on hardware session was carried out for the students of grade 6-8 by Mr. K.D. Chandima, Instructor of the Faculty of Information Technology. The sessions were mainly focusing on improving students' technological knowledge, how to face Ordinary Level and Advanced Level exams successfully and what students should expect in line after their Advanced Level Examination. The students were also educated about the different degree programs and courses which they can follow and the benefits of such. Furthermore, question and answer sessions and interactive sessions were conducted amidst the technological sessions where the projects completed by first and second year students of the faculty were displayed.

ANNUAL ESALA BATH DANSELA

The annual Esala Bath Dansela organized by the students of the Faculty of Information Technology, University of Moratuwa was held on 30 July near the main entrance of the University with the objectives of fulfilling the university students' social responsibility and strengthening the harmony among the students of all the batches, staff and the villagers.



ALMSGIVING AND BANA TO INVOKE BLESSING

An almsgiving for thirteen monks, followed by a Bana sermon was held on 30 July to invoke blessings on Mr Nimantha Dinesh, a student of Batch 15 who passed away recently, at the Faculty premises and in front of the University Buddha statue respectively. The Bana sermon was delivered by Dhammadassi Thero from Shailabimbaramaya, Katubedda. All staff and students of the Faculty participated for the activities.



FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

WORKSHOP ON “INDEXED PUBLICATIONS”

A workshop on “Indexed Publications” organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in collaboration with Staff Development Center was held on 26 July at Lab 02 of the Faculty of Information Technology with the following objectives.

to create better awareness among the academic community at the University of Moratuwa of the citation and abstract indexes in relevant areas.

to introduce the process adopted by different indexing authorities in selecting publications for listing in order to understand why publications listed in such indexes are considered to be of high quality.

to provide an opportunity for UOM academics to search through relevant indexes and find potential journals/conferences for publication in their respective fields of study.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

VICE-CHANCELLOR WINS EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARD

Prof Ananda Jayawardene, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa, was one of six recipients of the AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION under the Asia's Education Excellence Awards from CMO Asia.



SESSION CHAIR AT SRI LANKA HUMAN CAPITAL SUMMIT 2016



Prof Malik Ranasinghe, Senior Professor in Civil Engineering, was selected as the Chair for the Construction and Manufacturing Session at the “Sri Lanka Human Capital Summit 2016” on 12 August. This session of this national summit was to identify the skill gaps in the Construction and Manufacturing sectors in the short and medium term and to develop policies and strategies to overcome the skill gaps. The event was held with the prime objective of establishing a Human Capital Vision 2020 for Sri Lanka. The Summit was a public-private collaboration organised by the Association of Human Resource Professionals (HRP) in collaboration with the National Human Resource Development Council (NHRD), the Employers Federation of Ceylon and supported by the ILO, ADB and World Bank.

PROF MALIK RANASINGHE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF SAMPATH BANK

Prof Malik Ranasinghe has been appointed as the Deputy Chairman of Sampath Bank PLC from 01 August. A former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa, he is a Senior Professor in Civil Engineering. Prof. Malik was appointed to the Director Board of Sampath Bank PLC on 30 August 2011 as an Independent Non-Executive Director. Currently he serves as a member of the University Grants Commission, and is the Chairman of Board Credit Committee, Member of the Board Audit Committee, Board Strategic Planning Committee and Board Treasury Committee.



PROF MRS NIRANJANIE RATNAYAKE APPOINTED PRESIDENT-ELECT OF IESL

Prof Mrs. Niranjanie Ratnayake was elected President-Elect of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka for the session 2016/2017 in August. Earlier she was Vice-President for the session 2015/2016. She is a Senior Professor in Civil Engineering and was the Head of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Moratuwa from June 2004 to June 2007. She has the distinction of being the first ever female Associate Professor and Professor in Engineering (any discipline) in the Sri Lankan university system, thus being one of the leading women in the Sri Lankan Engineering Sector.

COMPLETION OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

Ms Harshini Mallawaarachchi, a Lecturer (Probationary) attached to the Department of Building Economics, graduated with the Degree of Master of Philosophy at the General Convocation of the University of Moratuwa, 2016, held on 25 August. Her research was in the area of Sustainable Built Environment and was supervised by Prof Lalith De Silva, Dean, Faculty of Architecture.



COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Dr Thesara Jayawardane-Samarasekara, a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Management of Technology has been appointed as a Commissioner for Oaths by the Minister of Justice under Sec 12(1) of the Oaths Ordinance. As an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court Sri Lanka and member of the Bar Association Sri Lanka, she is now available to certify affidavits or other such documents.



FELLOWSHIP AT EMC



the isochronal annealing of 42% cold rolled TRIP-TWIP steel. Dr Indika's fellowship will end in February 2017.

Dr Indika De Silva, a senior lecturer in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, has gone for a one-year fellowship at the Electron Microscopy Centre (EMC), University of Wollongong (UOW), Australia. Active members of his research group are Prof E Pereloma and Dr AG Azdiar. Their research topic is "Characterisation of Transformation and Twinning Induced Plasticity (TRIP-TWIP) steels via X-ray diffraction".

High manganese TRIP-TWIP steels become one of the most attractive and potential materials for manufacturing automobile components due to their superior combination of high strength (>1100 MPa) and ductility ($\geq 55\%$). This research focuses on the microstructural evolutions during

STAFF OF BUILDING ECONOMICS SHINE AT WCS 2016

Built Environment Project and Asset Management (BEPAM), a journal published by Emerald Group Publishing, arranged for three awards, namely the CIOB Best Paper Award and two BEPAM Highly Commended Paper Awards to be awarded at the 5th World Construction Symposium 2016, which was held from 29 to 31 July at Galadari Hotel. Members of the academic staff of the Department of Building Economics shone at the event winning all three awards presented.

ChQS Suranga Jayasena, a Senior Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, won the CIOB Best Paper Award for the paper titled 'Win-Win Settlement: Applicability of Negotiation Principles for Dispute Negotiations in Construction'. Dr (Mrs) Yasangika Sandanayake, Head of the Department of Building Economics, and Ms. Anushika Ekanayake, a Lecturer attached to the same Department, won the Emerald BEPAM Highly Commended Paper Award for the paper titled 'Synergy between Lean and Value Engineering Concepts: Sri Lankan Construction Industry Perspective'. ChQS (Mrs) Anuradha Waidyasekara, a Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, and Prof Lalith De Silva, Dean Faculty of Architecture, also won the Emerald BEPAM Highly Commended Paper Award for the paper titled '3R.6R Extended Water Hierarchy Model for Sustainable Use of Water during Construction'.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AT CHRISTIAN ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

The first ever Christian Engineering & Technology Conference was held on August 13 at the BMICH. The conference was organized by the Fellowship of Christian University Students, and was attended by academic staff and students of both state and private institutions and engineering practitioners. The keynote addresses were delivered by Prof Priyan Dias, Senior Professor in Civil Engineering, and Prof Amal Kumara, Senior Professor in the Department of Transport & Logistics Management. Prof Dias spoke on the topic “Is Technology Morally Neutral?” while Prof Kumara’s topic was “The Challenge of Harnessing Engineering for Development”. The session was well-received and appreciated by all who attended.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

B (ARCH) STUDENT PROJECT ACHIEVES TOP 5 AT ARCASIA 2016

The project by a B(Arch) final year student Yashodhara Ranasinghe was selected as one of the Top five winning projects by the Jury panel of the ARCASIA Students’ Design Competition 2016 on the 03 August. The project is Resilient Resettlement: Post Disaster reconstruction at Poonagala.

Organised by The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), and sponsored by 18 other architectural institutes across the Asian regions, the 17th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA17) is a major biannual event in the Asia region first ever to be held in Hong Kong. The main theme will be ‘Growth and Diversity: The Green Age of Asia.’ The final results of the competition will be announced at the awarding ceremony on 29 September in Hong Kong in parallel with the students’ jamboree 2016. The student has been invited to participate at the jamboree and receive the award at the awarding ceremony.

The same project by the student was selected as one of the Top 16 students’ projects at the Kurula Varkery Design Forum organised by CEPT University-Ahmadabad this February. She was able to participate and present her project at the Design Forum.



STUDENTS’ ACHIEVEMENTS AT LANKA COMIC-CON 2016



Six students specializing in Media and Communication Design at the Department of Integrated Design were selected for the Final 20 Designers at “Lanka Comic-con 2016” held with the participation from around 5000 Sri Lankans. Various competitions were held simultaneously and HypeHash took measures to organize a competition for t-shirt designs. HypeHash looks forward to create a platform for designers in Sri Lanka to let them create t-shirt designs for trending topics. There were more than 400 designers and best designers were selected from both fan votes and judges preferences. The students who were selected for the final 20 designers are Malan Alankara, Lahesh Kavinda, Kavinda Liyanage, Chehan Madusanke, Chathura Goonethilake and Jithmi Alwis.

CHAMPIONS - SS12 Asia 2016 IOT

A team comprising of ENTC and CSE students have won the SS12 Asia 2016 - Sri Lanka Section Competition “Code for a Cause” which was organized by IEEE Sri Lanka Section competition and qualified for the finals to be held in India. The product that they developed was an IOT device that converts text to Braille and generates Braille pattern vibrations to aid visually impaired persons.

Team “Navitaz” who represented the Faculty of Information Technology was selected for the final competition of the Sri Lankan section. Team “Navitaz” competed with 47 teams and became a finalist by introducing the project “Sankalpa” which was specially designed for hearing impaired students with the objective of delivering the maximum technological support to leverage their education style. This learning pack consists of gaming module, learning module and IoT module for child network. Yasar Sri Wichramasinghe (leader), Kolitha Warnakulasooriya, Gayathree Kaluarachchi, and Shakya Rathnayeka represented the team “Navitaz”. Mr Thilina Rathnasuriya, an Electronic Engineer at 24x7 (Pvt) Ltd was the mentor of the team and Mr B.H. Sudantha, Senior Lecturer of the Faculty of Information Technology guided the team.

BITMASTERS - THE RUNNER UP IN MICROSOFT IMAGINE CUP 2016

The team BitMasters of the University of Moratuwa won the second place in the Innovation Category of Microsoft Imagine Cup 2016. The award ceremony was held on Thursday in the Microsoft Campus in Redmond, Seattle, with Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella gracing the event. The team consists of Lakmal Buddika Meegahapola, Chanaka Lakmal and Charith Eranga of CSE, and Chathusha Wijenayake of Civil Engineering. All four are third year students.

BitMasters presented 'Amplus', an intelligent digital signage solution for the competition under the Innovation category, which they believe could revolutionize the global advertising industry. Amplus also offers analytics for advertisers to help them get a clearer picture as to how well the ads are performing on these displays. BitMasters has successfully tested Amplus with both small business owners and giants like Dialog and Softlogic.



AWARD WINNERS AT IMC2016

International Mathematics Competition for University Students 2016 was organized by University College London and hosted by the American University in Bulgaria. The competition took place in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, from 25 July to 31 July. Problems set were from the fields of Algebra, Analysis (Real and Complex), Geometry and Combinatorics.

Kanchana Ruwanpathirana, a third year undergraduate of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering won the bronze medal in this international mathematics completion. Also, Melanka Sarod and Isuru Manchanayake received honourable mentions in the IMC 2016 competing with more than 50 universities around the world.



VISITS & TRAVEL

VISIT OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEWER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

The Department of Electrical Engineering successfully concluded its External Review process recently by inviting Professor Lalit K Goel of the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore to review the BSc Engineering programme conducted by the Department.

Prof. Goel is an eminent academic and a well-known researcher in the Field of Electrical Power Systems and a Fellow of IEEE. He is at present working as the Director, Office of Global Education and Mobility, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. The review process comprised of a 4-day visit to the Department with interviews of relevant stake holders and inspection of documentation. Prof. Goel has since then submitted his final report and the major findings of his report were presented by the Head of Department at the Heads of Department meeting of the Faculty of Engineering in July, 2016.

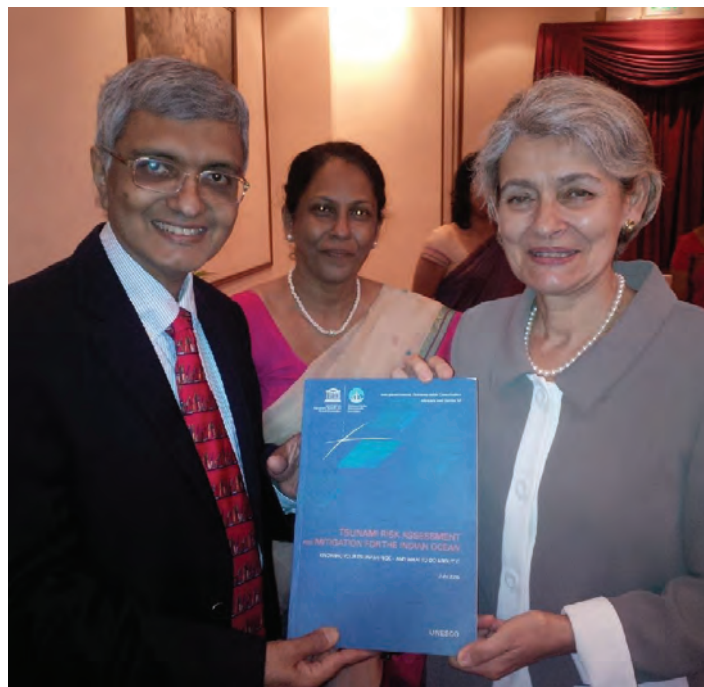
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTEGRATED DESIGN, THE UNIVERSITY OF BATH, UK

Senior Lecturer Archt Sagara Jayasinghe of the Department of Integrated Design presented a research paper under the title of "Retrofitting historic and heritage buildings" at the International Conference on Integrated Design (ID@50) in Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) held at the University of Bath, United Kingdom. The ID@50 Conference was held from June 29 – 01 July in conjunction with the celebration of the 50th birth anniversary of the University and organized by the Centre for Advanced Studies in Architecture (CASA). The theme of the Forum was 'Building our Future' through a more integrated approach and with design central to its vision.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO MEETS WITH PROF. S.S.L. HETTIARACHCHI

During the recent visit to Sri Lanka of Madam Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO Paris, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Research and the National Science Foundation (NSF) organized 'Science Dialogue' with the Director General which was held at Hotel Galadari on 16 August in the presence of the Hon Minister and a large professional gathering.

Prof. SSL Hettiarachchi, Senior Professor in Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa and Vice Chairman of UNESCO-IOC-ICG-Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS), in the presence of the Chairman of NSF, presented a copy of the recently published UNESCO Guideline on Tsunami Risk Assessment and Mitigation No 52 (Revised Edition 2015) to the Director General. Professor Hettiarachchi informed her that along with the guideline, the IOTWMS has developed teaching modules and materials on this subject and conducted two largely attended 'Regional Training the Trainer Workshops' in Colombo (2015) and Seychelles (2016). He also informed her that the IOTWMS is looking at avenues of institutionalizing the Training Programme for the benefit of member states.



Prof. Hettiarachchi thanked the Director General for her excellent leadership and in particular steering UNESCO during a difficult phase when funding was restricted. He also stated that even in difficult times the Director General and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) made available funding required to establish the IOTWMS, giving high priority to human security and environmental protection of Indian Ocean States. He identified the establishment of IOTWMS as highly successful flagship project of UNESCO-IOC which has provided security to millions of people in 28 Indian Ocean Member states.

He further stated that the UNESCO-IOC, Paris, the IOTWMS Secretariat in Perth, the Tsunami Service Providers based in India, Indonesia and Australia, the Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC) in Jakarta, are working with member states in successfully operating and implementing all elements of the IOTWMS including training of officers and enhancing preparedness of exposed communities.

Madam Bokova acknowledged the establishment of the IOTWMS as a milestone project and thanked Prof. Hettiarachchi for appreciating the role played by UNESCO-IOC in collaboration with member states and for the support.

VISIT OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEWER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILE & CLOTHING TECHNOLOGY

Prof. Prasad Potlouri of the University of Manchester, UK, visited the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology as external reviewer to its BSc Engineering degree programme in July. During his stay he had discussions with the staff and students of the Department and directors of relevant divisions, as well as paying courtesy calls on the Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. He also visited a leading apparel manufacturer, and delivered a very well-received guest lecture to the final year students.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS

DR. WD PRASAD PROMOTED TO THE POST OF SENIOR LECTURER GRADE II

Dr WD Prasad, a Lecturer in the Department of Electrical Engineering was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II by the Council of the University with effect from 3rd February 2016.

Dr. Chamara N. Devanarayana (PhD. University of Manitoba, Canada) joined the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication as Senior Lecturer (on Contract) in July 2016. His research interests include Cognitive radio networks, sensor networks, queuing theory, Markov decision process, and resource allocation for wireless communication networks.



UPCOMING EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

The Department of Management of Technology will be having the inaugural International Conference in Technology Management (iNCOTeM) at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) from 9.00 a.m. onwards on 27 December 2016. The Conference provides a platform for both local and international researchers and industry Experts in Technology Management, Entrepreneurship and General Management, to share knowledge, experiences, perspectives and insights in the aspects of sustainable technology management, innovation management and entrepreneurship. iNCOTeM Conference addresses the need and importance of the following areas which will be vital for the economies to stay ahead of competition.

Sustainable Management of Technology

Best Practice in Innovation Management

Entrepreneurship and Tech-Start-Ups

Technology related issues in General Management (Organizational Behaviour, Human Resource Management, Marketing Management, etc.)



Technology Management for Sustainable Development in Emerging Economies

Conference Date: 27th of December 2016
Abstract Submission Deadline: 21st September 2016
Submit Your Abstract to: incotem@uom.lk



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Library
University of Moratuwa
Katubedda, Moratuwa, 10400
Sri Lanka
E-mail: melromendis@gmail.com
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