



STUDY TOUR TO PHILIPPINES AND MALAYSIA



Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane, Director of Institute of Technology Mrs Priyangani Samarasekera, Project Director Dr TAG Gunasekera, Heads of Divisions of the ITUM and a team of officials from the Ministry of Higher Education and Highways including Mr P Jayasinghe, Additional Secretary, visited several higher education institutes in Philippines and Malaysia from 5 to 11 June as part of the relocation and development project of the ITUM. Their visit covered Colombo Plan Staff College in Manila, Asian Development Bank Head Office in Manila,

Polytechnic University Philippines, Technological University of Philippines, Higher Education Commission in Philippines, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus, University of Technology Malaysia, University of Putra Malaysia and the Department of Higher Education in Malaysia. The team obtained a good exposure to higher education systems in both Philippines and Malaysia including facilities and processes in the provision of technical education and university education.



Finalist: Innovation Bit Masters Sri Lanka

Page 11

COMING UP... Page 09

Typography Day 2017

Department of Integrated Design,
 University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
 23rd - 25th Feb 2017

Inside

Page 2
 FACULTY OF ENGINEERING NEWS

Page 6
 FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE NEWS

Page 8
 FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Page 10
 STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Page 11
 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Page 12
 GUEST LECTURES

Page 14
 VISITS & TRAVEL

Page 18
 APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

Page 19
 GAVEL CONFERENCE 2016

COLLABORATION BETWEEN LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

Prof Nigel Weatherill, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive of Liverpool John Moores University, UK, visited the University of Moratuwa on 04 May and signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities. Further, Prof Ahmed Al-Shamma'a, Executive Dean-Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Dr (Ms) Alison Cotgrave and Dr (Mrs) AnupaManewa, Lecturers attached to the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Liverpool John Moores University attended the event. Prof KKCK Perera, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, chaired the event. Prof Gihan Dias, Director-International Relations, Dr

(Mrs) Yasangika Sandanayake, Head, Department of Building Economics, and Faculty members participated in the event. Subsequently, an important discussion was held on future potential collaboration related to the partnership comprising of study abroad opportunities, student exchange programmes, research and scholarly activities, staff training programmes and joint conference. The discussions between the parties led to an effective collaboration and directed to carry out future project influencing win-win situation strategically, realizing the allied benefits of the potential collaboration.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DICB MEETING @ CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

The meeting of the Department Industry Consultative Board (DCIB) of the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering was held on 24 June at 3.00 pm at the board room of the Department. Industry specialists representing a wide variety of industries including Holcim, Glaxo Smith Kline and Ceylon Tobacco Company participated in the meeting, along with the academic staff of the Department.



The objectives of this meeting were to improve the network between university and the industry, and to identify the improvements which can be made to the curriculum and educational system so that CPE graduates are well-equipped with the knowledge and skills required for the industry. The meeting was chaired by Dr Shantha Walpalage and consisted of six sessions on Curriculum, Quality Assurance Programme, Industrial Training, Research Projects and University-Industry Collaboration. Industry specialists made a number of suggestions such as case study type assignments, introducing quality assurance as an elective subject and adopting a 360 degree lecturer feedback system. The importance of improving the networking among alumni members was also emphasized. In a nutshell, the meeting was a fruitful step in the journey towards improving the collaboration between the Department and the industry and sharpening the skills and knowledge of the graduates to suit the requirements in the industry.

AERIAL MAPPING OF THE RECENT FLOODING USING UAV

The UAV team of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering deployed CeyMapper, one of their light-weight drones, to fly over the Athurugiriya interchange and create a high resolution map of the flooded area. The 4.2kg heavy delta wing CeyMapper carried a 20MPix still camera, pre-programmed to trigger in every 70m lap during flight. The drone was hand-launched from a nearby paddy field, and automatically flew over the expressway interchange at 180m altitude. It took 21minutes to scan a square kilometre area around the interchange, and 180 still photos were created. These photos have about 70% overlap between adjacent ones, and were stitched together using Pix4D software.



PIRITH CHANTING CEREMONY AND ALMS-GIVING



An all-night Pirith Chanting ceremony, organized by the academic and non-academic staff and past and present students of the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering was held at the Department premises on Friday 27 May from 7pm onwards. It was followed by an alms-giving on Saturday 28 May at 7am. This event was held with the aim of invoking the blessings of the Noble Triple Gem upon the Department and the University as a whole. The Pirith Chanting ceremony and almsgiving were presided over by Venerable Maha Sangha from Swarna Shailabimbaramaya Viharaya in Katubedda, Moratuwa. University staff, including Prof AKW Jayawardane, Vice-Chancellor, academic and non-academic staff members, undergraduates and alumni were present at the occasion.

EXORIOR 2016



"EXORIOR", the official outbound event of the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering was held for the fourth consecutive time on 26 May at the University premises. The event comprised many group activities to develop the leadership skills of the students and also to enhance the vital skills like teamwork, creativity, willingness to go out of comfort zones, respect, patience, and endurance; all of which are needed in both academic and industrial environments.

Members of the academic and non-academic staff participated along with the alumni members and students of the Department (batch '14 and batch '12). The event was a great opportunity to tighten the bonds of the DCPE family. The event was organized by the '13 batch students in the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF EESOC

The Annual General Meeting of the Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) of University of Moratuwa was held for the 20th time on 5 May at the University premises. Academic staff led by Emeritus Professor JR Lucas and Prof HYR Perera who are patrons of the society and the Head of the Department, Prof Nalin Wickramarachchi together with the undergraduate students of the Department of Electrical Engineering were among the gathering.

The new board of members for the year ahead was appointed and assumed duties with the warm wishes of the retiring members of the board who rendered an immense service towards the betterment of the Society and the Department through many successful events including the annual charity programme 'We Are With You' as well as the impressive Panel Discussion.

The new board is headed by Dr Lidula Widangama Arachchige as President and Dr Upuli Jayatunga as Senior Treasurer, and consists of eight members from the final year undergraduates. The AGM was followed by an entertainment session which reflected the talents of the undergraduates of the Department of Electrical Engineering, adding glamour to the event.

WE ARE WITH YOU



This year for the 17th consecutive time “We Are With You (WAWY)”, the annual charity programme for differently abled students of the School for the Deaf, Rathmalana, organized by the Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) was held on 17 May at the University premises under the theme “Sinhala and Tamil New Year.”

The proceedings of the event commenced with the inaugural ceremony held at the Civil Engineering Auditorium. EESoc patrons Prof JR Lucas and Prof HYR Perera, Head of Department Prof Nalin Wickramarachchi, President of EESoc Dr Lidula Widanagama Arachchige and members of the academic staff were among the guests who graced the occasion. The session included a quiz competition between two teams representing the school, a drama item performed by the undergraduates, amazing dance items performed by the students from the School for the Deaf and a speech delivered by a hearing impaired student in sign language who is currently studying at the University of Moratuwa, which inspired everyone.



The most highlighted item of the session was the donation of a hearing-aid for a little girl, Denethi Theekshana Weerakoon in grade 3 at the School for the Deaf. This donation was made by the 96/97 Electrical Engineering Batch of the University of Moratuwa which initiated the We Are With You (WAWY) programme in the year 2000 at the University. The Principal of the School for the Deaf, Rathmalana extended her gratitude to EESoc and 96/97 batch for recommencing the donation of hearing-aids saying that it is the most important donation for the school as most of the students cannot afford them.

After refreshments the children were entertained through a series of games and fun activities. An Art Exhibition was also held at the Old Gymnasium of the University where the outstanding paintings selected under each category were awarded prizes as an encouragement. Moreover donations including steel cupboards, pedestal fans, agricultural equipment, and CFL bulbs were handed over to the school and gifts were distributed among students. This wonderful evening came to an end with the undergraduates getting onto the dance floor to entertain the students.

E-NITE 2016

E-Nite is the most awaited batch night in the ENTC calendar, dedicated by the final year students to their immediate juniors. This year the 2013 batch received the honour of the night from their seniors, the 2012 batch amidst much grandeur. The event was held on 24 June at the Aqua Pearl, Moratuwa from 6pm onwards. The theme for the night was ‘Pirates’, and the staff was bestowed the title of ‘Admirals’. Dramas and songs coloured the night. Rounds of quizzes for lecturers and many more fun events enthralled the gathering for a night of undying excitement.



TEXA ‘PADURA’ 2016

The annual Texa ‘Padura’ 2016 was held on 17May at the food court of the University. The event was organized by the BSc Engineering students of Batch 14 of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. The talents of the students and staff of the Department were displayed at this event.

TESS AGM 2016

The Annual General Meeting of the Textile Engineering Student Society was held at the Department auditorium on 16 June. Reports on the work done during the past year were presented, followed by the election of the office bearers for 2016/2017. BSc Engineering students of the Department and academic staff attended the meeting.

INAUGURATION OF MAS AWARD – FD&PD

The inauguration of the MAS Award for the Best Overall Student of the Bachelor of Design – Fashion Design and Product Development of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology was held on 17 June 2016 in the Department auditorium. MAS Holdings, a leading apparel manufacturing group in Sri Lanka, has already been presenting a similar award for the BSc Engineering programme of the Department since 2007, and the award for the FD&PD programme was obtained by the perseverance of the Head of Department Dr Ujithe Gunasekera. The Chief Guest on this occasion was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof Rahula Attalage. The event was attended by Ms Dilani Peiris, Director – Organisational Development of MAS Holdings, and members of the academic staff, a team from MAS Education and students of the Fashion Design programme.

FDSS AGM 2016

The Annual General Meeting of the Fashion Design Students Society of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology was held on 3 June at the Department auditorium. FDSS, aiming to widen the interest and knowledge of its members in the areas of Fashion Design & Product Development and enhance the social interest among the members, has organized different events from the beginning. The new executive committee members who were elected for year 2016/2017 assured to uplift the FDSS through their creativity and dedication.

INAUGURATION SKILL ENHANCEMENT PROJECT – “BE PREPARED”

The Society of Transport & Logistics (STL) of University of Moratuwa inaugurated the Skill Enhancement Project with the objective of improving the industry knowledge and soft skills of TLM undergraduates. The initial session was on 01 June at the TLM Department under the theme of “BE PREPARED”. The session was conducted by McLarens Group in a very attractive manner. The programme was focused on Level 3 students as a support for their internship interviews as well as to give some exposure to the corporate world.



Ms Davina Kern, Group General Manager (Human Resources), conducted a lecture addressing the areas including CV preparation, how to face an interview and personnel grooming. Mr Mahesh Kurukulasooriya (MD – GAC Group) provided an overview of the McLarens Group while sharing his experience in shipping industry constructing a clear picture about the current status of the industry. Ms Anoma Ranasinghe, General Manager at McLarens Group, explained about her experience of being a female leader in the industry. Finally Mr Sesiri Dinuka, an undergraduate of 12 batch shared his experience as an intern at McLarens. He emphasized on the opportunities he received and how he got the maximum from those chances.

According to the feedback forms that were collected after the session, it can be perceived that the first session of the Skill Enhancement Project was successful with the great support and effort of all.

RESEARCH FOR TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS (R4TLI) CONFERENCE 2016

The Sri Lanka Society for Transport & Logistics (SLSTL), partnering with the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Sri Lanka (CILTS) organized a joint research symposium titled Research for Transport and Logistics



(R4TLI) Conference 2016, which was held on 3-4 June in Colombo. This is the first time a research symposium was organised in this extent for the transport and logistics industry. R4TLI is an initiative that endeavours to promote research and development in the transport and the logistics sector in Sri Lanka that would help diagnose its current issues and identify potential improvements based on scientific evidence. The event was very successful with over 150 representatives from the industry, academia and government sector as well as from overseas, attending the symposium.

Chairman of the Joint Organising Committee, Prof Amal Kumara, said in his inaugural address that research for the transport and logistics industry came from a growing understanding of the gap that exists between the practice and research of transport and logistics in many developing countries. Sri Lanka needs to carry out cutting edge research and development in logistics and transport if we are to realise our ambition to become a logistics hub.

The first day of the conference was held at The Kingsbury hotel and had three keynote speakers, President of Eastern Asia Society of Transportation Studies (EASTS) Prof Tetsuo Yai, Energy Consultant Dr Tilak Siyambalapitiya, and Lafarge Holcim Sri Lanka Head of Safety Gayan Fernando. The second day, a symposium was held at Galadari Hotel where forty six presenters from different sectors and one invited speaker Prof Okamoto of University of Tsukuba, Japan presented their papers at the conference.

Three undergraduates from the Department of Transport and Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa received best research awards in the categories of Supply Chain Management, Freight Forwarding & Logistics and Transport Planning & Policy.

MENTORING PROGRAMME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

The Department of Transport and Logistics Management had a ceremony to mark the closing of the seventh Mentoring Programme for the 2013 Batch and the opening of the eighth programme for the 2014 Batch on 26 May at the Sri Lanka Foundation Auditorium. The main sponsor of the programme was John Keells Holdings. The Chief Guest, Prof Kapila Perera, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, spoke on the importance of mentoring.

On this day 2013 Batch students received their mentoring completion certificates and the 2014 batch undergraduates were awarded with 'Immersion Camp' certificates. John Keells Holdings awarded twenty-six scholarships to the TLM undergraduates: five for need based students in Level 1 and twenty-one for performance based students in Levels 2, 3 and 4.



FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE

MEGAPOLIS FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND EMPLOYMENT

Level 4 students of the Department of Building Economics participated in a Colloquium on 'Megapolis Future Directions and Employment' organized by Sri Lanka Division of the International Chapter of the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, which was held on 6 May at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. ChQS (Mrs) Kanchan Perera, Dr (Ms) Sachie Gunathilake, Dr (Ms) Thilini Jayawickrama, Ms Nipuni Wimalasena, Ms Anushika

Ekanayake, Mr Sadith Chinthaka, Ms Nethmin Pilanawithana, Ms Navodana Rodrigo, Ms Mahendrani Ariyachandra, and Ms Udara Ranasinghe from the academic staff also participated in the event. The colloquium was presented by Mr Lakshman Jayasekara, Project Director/ Team Leader of the Western Region Megapolis Planning Project.

INITIATION OF INTEGRATED DESIGN DICB

The Department of Integrated Design proudly announces reaching the next milestone of the Department, the initiation of the Department Industry Consultative Board. Over twenty five identified individuals from the industry were invited for the initial meeting and the event was held on 28 May at the Trace Expert City, Colombo. The invited individuals represented the prevailing specializations of Fashion and Lifestyle Design, Media and Communication Design and Product Design of the department of Integrated Design. The aim of this first session was to clearly introduce the Department's vision and mission to the industry and to explain the objectives of forming the Consultative Board. The event was organized under the guidance of Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane, Dean, Faculty of Architecture Prof Lalith De Silve, Head of Department Archt Sithumini Ratnamalala and former Head of Department Archt Prasanna Liyanage with the assistance of all the academic and non-academic staff of the Department.

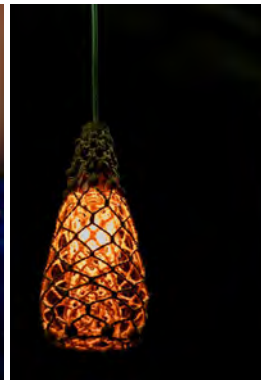


ADJOINING TRADITIONAL CRAFTING, RAMBA 2016

The project 'Adjoining traditional crafting, RAMBA 2016', the annual academic programme of the Level 2 students of the Department of Integrated Design, was successfully completed as an eco-friendly banana fibre products exhibition and Avant-Garde fashion show from 28 to 30 May at the Trace Expert City, Colombo 10.



The project can be identified as the fifth exertion in the same scheme after successful completions of previous projects 'Refine Cane-2012, UNA-2013, TALA-2014 and Crafted Shell 2015'. The project aimed to support rural economy by identifying and uplifting unseen entrepreneurs in rural areas and emphasizing the importance of design interventions to enhance the living standards and the project scheme is recognized by the Senate Research Committee as a national development endeavour. Thirty three student designers exhibited their creations at the final exhibition and fashion show.



VISITHRU 2016



The Crafts Council conducts an annual exhibition titled 'Visithru' to uplift the lives of craftsmen and to enrich the traditional arts and crafts of the country. This year the Craft Council collaborated with the Department of Integrated Design to provide advice to the craftsman to develop more marketable products in the process of designing and to make this project more successful. The initial phase of the project was held on 25 June by interviewing the craftsman individually to identify their strong points in order to make the project more efficient. The final outcome of the project would be an exhibition of the designed and developed products and a dazzling fashion show. The Department of Integrated design identifies this as an opportunity where the students of level two could get exposure to the crafts sector in Sri Lanka in relation to their design project, 'Adjoining Traditional Crafting' and the project committee seeks for opportunities for direct future

collaboration with 'Visithru'.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition was held with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane as the Chief Guest and Ms Heshani Bogollagama, Chairman, Crafts Council as the guest of honour. The craftsmen were admired for their involvement in the project by offering appreciation certificates as a major event of the day. Pro. Lalith De Silve, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Arch. Sithumini Ratnamalala, Head of the Department of Integrated Design, Invitees from different establishments including the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, EDB, Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging and staff and students of the Department participated in the event.

CSR BY DEPARTMENT OF TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING



As part of the Social Work (Non-GPA) module of the BSc Hons Town & Country Planning programme, the Level 3 undergraduate students of the Department of Town & Country Planning donated ten computers to Kandy/ Galaha/Sri Sivasakthi Tamil Vidyalayam. This event was held on 27 June under the direct supervision of the Head of Department, Dr Rangajeewa Ratnayake. This programme was initiated as a joint contribution and commitment of the academic and non-academic staff of the Department along with the students. Ten used computers of the Department, with prior approval of the University Council, were handed over to the school to promote skills in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) of the students. The Level 3 undergraduate students also conducted several computer application sessions for the school children to kick-start their ICT learning.

DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN ANNUAL TRIP

The annual trip of the Department of Integrated Design took place on 26 and 27 June. A total of 92 students with four staff members took part in this event. It was an invigorating experience for the students as well as the staff members, breaking out from the mundane academic routine into a relaxing experience. The trip was to the Makandawa rainforest and Bomburu Ella and was filled with enthusiasm and recreational activities.



FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SARASAVIYAI KOWUL NADAI'16

"Sarasaviyai Kowul Nadai'16", the New Year festival organized by the Student Union of the Faculty of Information Technology, was held on 5 May on the University premises with the participation of staff and students of the Faculty of Information Technology. The event was begun by the Dean of the Faculty with the lighting the hearth and the boiling a pot of milk at the auspicious time. The event was also graced by the presence of the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture. After watching the milk boil over, as it is considered a symbol of good fortune, the guests attended the lighting the traditional oil lamp. The festival abounded with various New Year games and staff also engaged in these.



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON IT FOR SUSTAINABLE SMART CITIES - 2016

The International Symposium on IT for Sustainable Smart Cities – Cities to Smart Cities 2016, organized by the Faculty of Information Technology was held on 20 June at Hotel Taj Samudra.

The objective of the symposium was to initiate an intellectual discussion with experts in diverse sectors on transforming cities to smarter cities. The invited speakers of the symposium represented academics from local and international universities, government ministries and departments. Hon Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development, Prof RA Attalage, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Mr PM Karunaratne, Dean, Faculty of Information Technology, Prof. ML de Silva, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Prof KKCK Perera, Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Prof Priyan Dias, Director/Research, University of Moratuwa, heads of departments and academic staff and invitees from the industry graced the occasion.

Sampath Bank PLC and Millennium IT were the Gold Sponsors for the event while Cambio Software Engineering, eBuilder, Holcim Lanka Ltd, Lanka Bell, and the Just In Time Group were the Silver Sponsors for the symposium. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka was a banner sponsor. Mr MFM Firdhous, the Conference Chair, welcomed the gathering and Mrs TC Sandanayake, the Finance and Logistics Chair, delivered the vote of thanks.



The keynote speech was delivered by Prof Sasanka Perera of the South Asian University, New Delhi, on “Towards a Sociology of Smart Cities: Deciphering the ‘Un-smart’ and the Rhetoric of Urban Planning” and the four technical sessions included speeches under the topics of Smart Water Management: The Key to a Smart Sustainable City, Waste Management in SMART Cities, Use of IT in Implementing System Automation, Energy Conservation and Reliability Improvements in Sri Lankan Power System, The importance of Disaster Risk Reduction in Building Disaster Resilient Coastal Cities, ICT for Energy Sustainability in Smart Cities, An Examination of the Temporal Impacts of Environmental Cues on Pedestrians’ Feelings of Safety, Concept of Smart Cities: Some Considerations for Making Sri Lankan Cities ‘Smart’, IT in Transportation Planning: Effective use of Transport System Models.

Prof AnuraJayasumana of Colorado State University joined the symposium via a video presentation to share his expertise on the topic of “City to Smart City - Role of Internet of Things (IOT)”.

The symposium was wrapped up with the hope that the symposium will be instrumental in gathering critical mass to make the concept of sustainable smart cities a reality and to make our country implement sustainable smart cities, enabling better quality of life to all citizens of Sri Lanka. The Conference Chair stated that the papers presented at the symposium will be collated and published as a book.

COMING UP...

Typography Day 2017

Typography Day is an international conference devoted to addressing issues faced by type designers, type users and type educators. The conference includes presentations by invited keynote speakers, eminent academicians, blind juried papers, industry professionals, research scholars and students. The event will also host an exhibition of selected posters and typographic works of students and faculty members from Design Institutes.

Department of Integrated Design in collaboration with the Industrial Design Centre (IDC), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) with support from the India Design Association (InDeAs) and Aksharaya hope to host the next conference.

Deadline for abstract submission: 31 August 2016

For more details log on to <http://www.typoday.in/index.html>

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

ASIA RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD FOR GREEN INITIATIVE

Mr Nalin Karunasinghe, Senior Lecturer on contract in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering received the Asia Responsible Entrepreneurship Award for Green Initiative for 2016.

Enterprise Asia is a non-governmental organization which ensures that Asia is rich in entrepreneurship, sustainability, and progressive economic and social development within a world of economic equality. Its two pillars of existence are investment in people and responsible entrepreneurship. The Asia Responsible

Entrepreneurship Awards programme (AREA) recognizes and honours Asian Businesses for championing sustainable and responsible entrepreneurship in the following categories: Green Leadership, Investment in People, Health Promotion, Social Empowerment, SME CSR, and Responsible Business Leadership. Mr Nalin Karunasinghe and the team were awarded the AREA Award in Green Initiative for 2016 which was judged on solution-orientation, integration, innovation, results and sustainability in Singapore on 24 June, 2016.



DR THARAKA SAMARASINGHE APPOINTED HONORARY FELLOW AT UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Dr Tharaka Samarasinghe has been appointed an Honorary Fellow of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Melbourne, Australia. Dr Samarasinghe, who is currently a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering, University of Moratuwa, received the BSc degree in engineering from the same department in 2008. He received the gold medal for the most outstanding graduate of the University upon graduation. He received the PhD degree from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Melbourne, Australia, in 2012. He then worked as a Research Fellow at the Department of Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering, Monash University, Australia, from 2012 to 2014 before joining the University of Moratuwa in January 2015.



CAREER GUIDANCE AND MOTIVATION PROGRAMME FOR GCE A/L STUDENTS

Prabhashrini Dhanushika, a Lecturer in the Department of Computational Mathematics, was invited by CWW Kannangara Central College, Mathugama, to conduct a special motivation programme for career guidance for the new batch of A/L students. The programme was conducted on Thursday 16 June at the school, and nearly 200 students were present on that day. The programme was aimed at guiding them through a correct career path and changing the ideas and attitudes of the students, so that they would be ready to face challenges in the future. The programme also featured motivational talks by Lahiru Manulanaka Munasinghe, student of the Faculty of Information Technology and K D Nilanka Sandaruwan, student of the Faculty of Engineering, which enriched the students' interest towards achieving greater success in their A/L examination. Activities in the programme which were designed to expose students to new interest areas and to improve their soft skills increased students' interest, enjoyment and engagement towards the programme. At the end of session, feedback received from the students supported the value of such programmes, which made students aware of the higher education and career path after A/L and which inspired them to achieve excellence in an area of interest. The principal and staff of the school warmly welcomed the team and appreciated the programme which was of great benefit to the A/L students. All the speakers at the programme are past students of CWW Kannangara Central College.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

TEAM BITMASTERS IN WORLD FINALS OF MICROSOFT IMAGINE CUP 2016

BitMasters is an award winning team from the Department of Computer Science & Engineering, which won the Google I/O Hackathon 2015 - 1st Place, Ideamart Mora Hack 2015 - 1st Place, Yarl Geek Challenge 2015 - 1st Place, National Best Quality ICT Awards 2015 - Merit Award and finally ended up winning the world semi- final round to reach the world



finals of the Microsoft Imagine Cup 2016. BitMasters is competing in the category of Innovation with an award winning product “Amplus” which would definitely revolutionize the digital advertising industry. Amplus is a tech start-up which focuses on Digital Advertising and Product Innovation founded by 6 undergraduates from Department of Computer Science and Engineering in May 2015 and currently in the seed funding stage. The team selected for the world finals of Microsoft Imagine Cup 2016 consists of four UoM undergraduates: Lakmal Buddika Meegahapola, Chanaka Lakmal, Chathusha Wijenayake, and Charith Eranga. The event will be held from 26 to 30 July at the Microsoft Headquarters, Seattle, USA.

PAPER PRESENTATION AT ICRA 2016



A paper titled “Enhancing Human-Robot Interaction by Interpreting Uncertain Information in Navigational Commands Based on Experience and Environment” was presented at the 2016 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) held from May16 to 21 in Stockholm, Sweden, by Viraj Muthugala, a research student in the Department of Electrical Engineering working under supervision of Dr Buddhika Jayasekara. They are working on the development of MIRob (Moratuwa Intelligent Robot), an intelligent service robot for domestic environments in the robotics and control laboratory of the Department of Electrical Engineering.

The IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) is the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society’s flagship conference and it has the highest H-index in the robotics subject category according to Google Scholar Metrics. This research was funded by a Senate Research Capital Grant.

The figure shows Mr Muthugala presenting the paper during an interactive session.

TLM BEST UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER 2016

Selection of the best TLM researcher from the students who gained high marks for their research reports was held on 28 May at the Department of Transport and Logistics Management. Ten students from the 2011 batch presented their research which was evaluated by five panel members representing academia and industry. Ms Malsha Amarasinghe was adjudged the best researcher for the 2011 Batch for her research on the topic of ‘Increasing the use of Railway for the Transport of Petroleum Products’ supervised by Prof Amal Kumaraage.



GUEST LECTURES

PRESENTATIONS BY ARCHITECTS JUHANI PALLASMAA AND ALBERTO FOYO ON EMPATHIC IMAGINATION: EMBODIED AND EMOTIVE SIMULATION IN ARCHITECTURE



Prof Juhani Pallasmaa, Architect, Professor Emeritus, Helsinki University of Technology, Helsinki delivered a lecture in the Department of Architecture on 21 June on Empathic Imagination: Embodied and Emotive Simulation in Architecture. Prof Pallasmaa has practiced architectural design since 1962 and has held positions, such as Rector of the Institute of Industrial Design, Director of the Museum of Finnish Architecture, and Professor and Dean of the School of Architecture, Helsinki University of Technology. He has held several visiting professorships in the USA since 1994, at Yale University, Washington University in St Louis, University of Virginia, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, and the Catholic University of America at Washington DC. Prof Pallasmaa has published 45 books and 350 essays, and his writings have been translated into over 30 languages.

Architect Alberto Foyo delivered a lecture on Empathic Imagination: Quality versus Inequality. Alberto Foyo Architect, PC and its satellite organization Postopia is a New York based multi disciplinary practice that focuses simultaneously on architecture, urban design, and landscape architecture. As the firm's principal, Alberto Foyo, has become extensively involved over the years in academic activities that have become a seamless extension of his practice. In close collaboration with international students his classes have transformed into 'hands on' laboratories that capitalize on the restorative and healing ethics of aesthetics.

There was a good exchange of ideas between the audience and the presenters who shared their knowledge and experience with students to uplift their knowledge in architecture.

GUEST LECTURE ON "CURRENT INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRENDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL BIOTECHNOLOGY"



The Department of Chemical and Process Engineering organized a guest lecture on "Current International Research Trends on Environmental Biotechnology" on 3rd May 2016 at the seminar room of the department. The resource person was Dr. Michel Torrijos from Environmental Biotechnology Laboratory, INRA Narbonne, France.

Both Postgraduate and under graduate students got an opportunity to expose with the international research environment in the area of environmental biotechnology emphasising the latest technologies and strategies applied for commercial scale bio-methane production. Students also gained knowledge on advance biological reactors being operated in laboratory together with analytical methods and also got the opportunity to discuss their research problems with the expertise.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR FUTURE ENGINEERS



The Association for Computing Machinery Student Chapter of the University of Moratuwa organized a discussion with Eng Arjuna Manamperi, an eminent speaker and Council Member of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka (IESL). The discussion under the topic “How engineering undergraduates can work with IESL for professional development” was held on 16 June at the Seminar Room of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.



Eng Manamperi drew lessons from his own career and experiences, including the roles he played in organizations as a transformational leader. He then talked about past heroes of IESL such as Eng BD Rampala, Eng (Dr) ANS Kulasinghe, and Eng DJ Wimalasurendra. Having obtained opinions of students about their future ambitions he gave a broader career vision and explained the mission critical importance of “Solving Sri Lanka’s problems and doing value added work delivering products, services, and intellectual properties to global markets earning foreign exchange.” Eng. Manamperi elaborated on the difficult economic challenges Sri Lanka is facing and the duty of young professionals to serve their country. He explained the benefits of becoming an IESL member and the importance of working with IESL for the betterment of the Engineering profession and our country. The discussion concluded with a brief question and answer session.

BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM FOR COLOMBO AS AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO SOLVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Dr T Sivakumar, Head of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management, conducted a special lecture on “Bus Rapid Transit System for Colombo as an Immediate Response to Solve Traffic Congestion” on 25 June at the auditorium of the Department. This lecture focused on the role of improved public transport as a key to sustainability and the potential of improving the bus rapid transit system for the Fort to Moratuwa corridor on the Galle Road as a solution to the chronic traffic congestion in Colombo.



VISIT FROM SUGANO LABORATORY

Dr Mitsuhiro Kamezaki from the Research Institute for Science and Engineering of Waseda University, Japan visited the Department of Mechanical Engineering on 24 May to give a special invited lecture for final year undergraduates on ‘Design of Intelligent Human-Machine Systems focusing on Human-Machine Interface’. Dr Kamezaki received the BS, MS, and Doctor of Engineering degrees from Waseda University. He was a research associate in the Department of Modern Mechanical Engineering and an assistant professor in the Research Institute for Science and Engineering, Waseda University.

Design of human-machine interfaces is of utmost importance because it largely affects the performance of human-machine systems. The presentation explained various types of human machine-interface systems in different fields, ways of modelling human-machine systems and methodologies of recognition, learning, and adaptation. The depth of experience through years of research and specialized knowledge of Dr Kamezaki induced enthusiasm in undergraduates towards Human-Machine Systems, making the day intellectually very effective. UoM alumnus Udara Manawadu who is currently a PhD candidate at Sugano Lab, Waseda University, coordinated the visit to establish an academic collaboration between the two universities in the near future.

GUEST LECTURE ON INTRODUCTION TO NEURAL ENGINEERING

An informative lecture on ‘Introduction to Neural Engineering’ was delivered by Dr Noeline Prins at the Department of Mechanical Engineering on 26 May for undergraduates, postgraduates, instructors and lecturers. Dr Noeline Prins earned her bachelors degree from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa in 2007. She earned her doctorate from University of Miami, USA. At present, she is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, working on connectivity for understanding Deep Brain Stimulation in Parkinson’s Disease, OCD and Tourette’s Syndrome.

Dr Prins spoke on the areas of motor, sensory and cognitive neuroprosthetics, neurorehabilitation and research tool development. She also briefed on ethical concerns and applicability of Neural Engineering to Sri Lanka. With the collaboration of the audience, the speaker discussed on how to engineer problems in the human brain.

EESOC GUEST LECTURE

The first guest lecture organized by the newly appointed board of the Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) was held successfully on Thursday 19 May at the Electrical Engineering seminar room. Mr Praveen Gupta, Business Unit Manager of Phoenix Contact, India, shared his experience under the topic, “Fundamentals of Surge Protection: Design Selection and Installation”. His lecture discussed why surge protection varies from installation to installation and explained how the design changes with the application highlighting the selection criteria for different installations.

VICE-CHANCELLOR VISITS SOUTH AFRICA

Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane on invitation of the British Council visited South Africa to attend the “Going Global-2016” conference organised by the British Council, Sri Lanka from 3 to 6 May in Cape Town.

Going Global is an annual conference hosted by the British Council. The ‘Going Global 2016’ conference offers an open forum for global leaders of tertiary education to discuss issues facing the international education community, on the theme ‘ Building nations and connecting cultures, education policy, economic development and engagement’. Each year it attracts around 1000 registered delegates from across the tertiary (further and higher) education sectors and variety of other industries with perspectives on international education.

This conference also provides an opportunity to project Sri Lanka as an international higher education destination, project University of Moratuwa with the intention of attracting further international collaboration, and learn from the best practices of other global players.

VISIT BY THE OFFICIALS OF THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

A team comprising Mr Rinzin Jamtsho, Deputy Chief Programme Officer and Mr Chinga, Programme Officer from the Higher Education and Planning Division of the Department of Adult and Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Royal Government of Bhutan, visited the University of Moratuwa on 31 May and discussed mutually important areas for both parties to identify best practices and how various issues related university education addressed at UOM with the idea of improving universities in Bhutan.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa Prof Ananda Jayawardane chaired the meeting which was attended by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Bursar, Librarian, Director-International Relations, and Deans of the Faculties.



INDIAN DELEGATES VISITED UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

Indian delegates including Shri Praveen Kumar, Joint Secretary - Ministry of Human Resource Development, Prof UB Desai, Director - IIT Hyderabad, Dr Srinivasan Sundarrajan, Director - NIT trichy, Prof HM Maheshwariah, Vice-Chancellor - Central University of Karnataka, Prof R Gnanamoorthy, Director - Indian Institute of Information Technology Design & Manufacturing, Kancheepuram and Shri AK Gopal, Under Secretary - International Cooperation Cell, Ministry of Human Resource Development visited University of Moratuwa on 8 June and discussed about educational collaboration.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Rahula Attalage chaired the meeting which was attended by Director -International Relations, Deans of the Faculties and several heads of departments.



EXTERNAL REVIEWER VISITS ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Prof Lalit Goel, FIEEE, Director of Global Education and Mobility of Nanyang Technological University visited the Department of Electrical Engineering from 13 to 16 June to conduct the External Review of the undergraduate programme. He was invited by the Department as the External Reviewer after the programme was granted full accreditation status from IESL.

Prof Goel with more than 30 years of experience in academia, research and administration is a well-known researcher in Power Systems with research interests in power system reliability, cost/benefit considerations, deregulated power markets, renewable energy and power system analysis. He spent four days conducting a thorough investigation of all aspects of the academic programme and later submitted a comprehensive report on the quality and delivery of the BSc Engineering programme of the Department. The Department intends to evaluate the report in due course and implement as many recommendations as possible.

EXPERT GROUP MEETING (EGM) ON BIO-CLIMATIC ARCHITECTURE IN TROPICAL ZONES

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Rahula Attalage and Dr Narein Perera were invited as part of a group of experts from five countries - India, Réunion/France, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Thailand - representing academics, scientists, architects, building engineers and industry, that met as a part of the “Low Energy in Tropical Climates for Housing Innovation – International Project”. The programme was supported by the Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), France and held from 30 June to 5 July at Saint Pierre, Réunion Island.

The researched reports and presentations encompassing Case Study Assimilation and Synthesis of Best Practice Scenarios, Legal and Regulatory Framework, Existing and Future Incentives for Regulatory Codes formed the fulfilment of the ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ (MoU) between the University of Moratuwa and ADEME.

The image shows the expert group at the meeting venue – “ENERPOS” (positive energy building), University of La Réunion. Réunion - one of the overseas departments of France - is an island in the Indian Ocean, east of Madagascar.

DR NAREIN PERERA - CHIEF GUEST AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE CONVOCATION, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TRIVANDRUM, KERALA, INDIA & KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT CPD PROGRAMME - INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, KERALA CHAPTER

Architect Dr Narein Perera, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Architecture, was invited as the Chief Guest and Keynote speaker at the Convocation of the Department Architecture, College of Engineering Trivandrum, Kerala. The Keynote lecture addressed a purely academic audience consisting of under-graduate and graduate students of Architecture, Planning and Urban design, associated with Convocation Ceremony of the outgoing Bachelor of Architecture students, Batch of 2016.

As the Chief Guest at the Valedictory Function at the College of Engineering Trivandrum, Dr. Perera presented the students their academic scrolls and also launched a publication chronicling the students detailed urban design research and design interventions.

Dr Perera, as the invitee of the Indian Institute of Architects – Trivandrum Centre of the Kerala Chapter, at its Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programme - ‘Design Stories’ – spoke on his Architectural Practice in general and building in the tropics in particular, to the architectural fraternity of Trivandrum.

STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN (NID), INDIA

A group of undergraduate design students and one professor from the National Institute of Design, Ahmadabad, India visited the Department of Integrated Design for the extension of the academic exchange programme initiated in September 2015. This second stage of the exchange programme was organized mainly at the premises of the University of Moratuwa and at a few identified crafts villages and heritage sites from 23 May to 4 June. The participating students represented academic fields of Product Design, Ceramic and Glass Design, Exhibition Design, Textile Design and Furniture & Interior Design at NID. This group of students were facilitated to gain knowledge on Sri Lankan traditional crafts and exposure to the social and cultural settings of the country. The group was actively engaged with the Level 2 design project, Adjoining Traditional Crafting- RAMBA 2016, where they were able to build a strong relationship and worthwhile academic exchange experience between two student groups.

The core objectives of the programme were to strengthen the relation between two institutes and to establish opportunities for future collaboration to exchange and share ideas on design thinking, design process and approaches. The programme was organized under the guidance of Head of Department, Arch. Sithumini Rathnamalala and Director, NID Prof Pradyumna Vyas.

TRAIN THE TRAINER FOR EMBARKING COUNTRIES IN PHASE I OF THE MILESTONES APPROACH

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Rahula Attalage and Dr KTMU Hemapala of the Department of Electrical Engineering participated in a training programme on “Train the Trainer for Embarking Countries in Phase I of the Milestones Approach” held at the Argonne National Laboratory, USA from 25 April to 13 May. The training course was organized by the Department of Technical Cooperation of the Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of the United States of America through Argonne National Laboratory within the framework of the TC project RAS/2/018 “Supporting Decision Making for Nuclear Power Planning and Development - Phase III”.



IAEA REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON NUCLEAR POWER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT



At the invitation of the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA), Dr Asanka Rodrigo of the Department of Electrical Engineering participated in the Regional Training Course on Nuclear Power Planning and Development, in Japan from 23 May to 3 June. Delegates from nine different countries participated in the session. The training covered areas such as nuclear energy policies, how to start nuclear power project based on Korean experiences, Japanese nuclear regulation, reflections on nuclear accidents, nuclear liability, insurance and conventions among others.

During the visit, Dr Rodrigo got a chance to visit the Virtual Reality of Nuclear Reactors at Toppan, Ohma Nuclear Power Plant construction site, Rokkasho nuclear fuel cycle facilities, Mihama nuclear power station, Tsuruga Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Center, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) plant at Kobe and Japan Steel Works (JSW) plant in Muroran. He also had chance to visit to Wakasa-wan Energy Research Center(WERC) and the Research Institute of Nuclear Engineering at University of Fukui.

VISIT OF PROF JACEK ZAK

Prof Jacek Zak, a highly recognized international expert in Transportation, Logistics & Operations Management and currently an Associate Professor and Head of Department of Logistics at Poznan University of Technology, Poland, visited the Department of Transport and Logistics Management from 2 to 4 May and provided input to improve the curriculum of the undergraduate programme as an external reviewer. Moreover, during his visit, Dr Zak conducted a lecture to the Departmental academic staff on 'Case Study Method' and workshop for the university students and staff on 'Multiple Criteria Decision Making / Aiding in Transportation and Logistics - Methodological Background & Selected Case Studies'.



EXPERIMENTS AT A PARTICLE ACCELERATOR

Dr Angelo Karunaratne, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering visited the UK synchrotron X-ray facility, Diamond Light Source, to perform cutting edge experiments in collaboration with Imperial College London. Dr Karunaratne is an expert in using synchrotron X-ray diffraction techniques in conjunction with in-situ micro mechanical testing to investigate structure-functional relationship of biological tissues and synthetic materials. He was granted 12 experimental shifts after the assessment of his proposal by an external peer review panel for the scientific merit of the proposal and the impact of the overall study. Diamond Light Source is located in Oxfordshire and it is the largest scientific facility to have been built in UK for over 30 years.

Dr Karunaratne is very excited to introduce these powerful experimental techniques to research communities in Sri Lanka. He invites researchers from the University of Moratuwa who are interested in elucidating the anomechanics of materials that are used in different applications to pursue this functional imaging modality.

VISIT BY PROF DUTTA



Associate Professor Kaushik Dutta of the University of South Florida (USF) visited the Faculty of Information Technology on 22 June and conducted an introductory session on “Postgraduate research opportunities at USF”. Later, the speaker shared his research experiences and previous postgraduate projects carried out by his students related to Business Analytics and Big Data Analytics. Staff of the University of Moratuwa, past students and current students enthusiastically participated in this session. After the talk, Dr.Kaushik had fruitful discussions with the academic staff of the University of Moratuwa regarding possible research collaborations and with the potential postgraduate students regarding postgraduate opportunities at USF. Furthermore, during Dr.Dutta’s visit to the University, he had a discussion with the Steering Committee of the proposed Faculty of Business at the University of Moratuwa.

Dr Kaushik Dutta graduated from Georgia Institute of Technology (USA) with a PhD in Management Information Systems in 2003. He also has a MS in Computer Science from the Indian Statistical Institute and a BS in Electrical Engineering from Jadavpur University in India. Dr Dutta has 19 years of professional and research experience in the field of enterprise IT infrastructure, data analytics and big data systems. As an associate professor in the Department of Information Systems Decision Sciences of USF, Dr Dutta’s current research interest is Big Data Analytics. Prior to joining USF, Dr.Dutta has served as a tenured Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore and Florida International University.

Dr Dutta’s recent work on data analytics has been published in several leading journals and conferences including the IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems, Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology and the International Conference on Information Systems.



APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS

APPOINTMENT: IESL EVALUATION PANEL FOR SLIIT BSC ENGINEERING DEGREE PROGRAMME

Prof JP Karunadasa of the Department of electrical engineering was appointed by the IESL to the six member panel responsible for evaluating the BSc Engineering degree programme offered by the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT).

APPOINTMENTS

Dr P Silva has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering with effect from 01.04.2016. He has a BEng degree from Queensland University of Technology and a PhD from the University of Queensland. He earlier served the Department on a contract basis.

Mrs APK Athukorala has been appointed to the post of Assistant Bursar in the Finance Division with effect from 01.03.2016. She holds a Bachelor of Science (Accountancy and Financial Management) from the University of Sri Jayewardenapura.

RETIREMENT OF DR JAYARATNE



Dr M Jayaratna, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Materials Science & Engineering, retired after 40 years of committed and dedicated service to the University. He joined the University in 1976 after having obtained a Bachelor of Science from the University of Ceylon, and earned his Masters and Doctoral degrees in engineering from the University of Tokyo. Dr Jayaratne was felicitated by the Engineering Faculty Board at its monthly meeting.

PROMOTIONS

Dr WD Prasad has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Electrical Engineering with effect from 03.02.2016. He joined the University as a Lecturer (Probationary) in 2009. He has a BSc Engineering from the University of Moratuwa in 2006 and MPhil from the same University in 2008. He obtained his PhD from the University of Manitoba in 2016.

GAVEL CONFERENCE 2016

Gavel Conference 2016, an event which brought together all the Gaveliers and non-Gaveliers of state universities, private higher educational institutes and schools island-wide, concluded successfully on 5 June at Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo, with the participation of over 200 students, Toastmasters and professionals. It had been eight years since the first-ever Gavel Conference was held in 2008, with the participation of only three Gavel Clubs.

Gavel clubs are affiliates of Toastmasters International, established for the community comprising of school students, university undergraduates, etc. The main focus of Gavel clubs is to improve communication skills and critical aspects of leadership in accordance with standard Toastmasters guidelines.

Initiated by the Gavel Club of University of Moratuwa in collaboration with Toastmasters International, Gavel Conference 2016 saw enthusiastic Gaveliers from 15 Clubs from across the island coming together to undertake the massive task of organizing the full day event which comprised of leadership training sessions, the Grand Finale of the All-Island Best Gavel Speaker Contest, a model Gavel meeting and entertainment items.

Among the speakers who addressed “Awakening the Leader within”: Leadership Training Programme were DTM Aruna salam Balraj, Vice President of Toastmasters International, T M Dananjaya Hettiarachchi, World Champion of Public Speaking 2014, Mr Hiran Cooray, Chairman of Jetwing Hotels, TM Yukthi Gunasekera of YKG Associates (Pvt) Ltd and DTM Trishma Pinto, CEO at Impactur (Pvt) Ltd. They addressed a variety of topics which were aimed at guiding budding professionals to serve this nation in the near future with their utmost potential.

The All-Island Best Gavel Speaker Contest is held with the motives of uncovering hidden talents of budding young speakers in Sri Lanka and providing them a platform to polish their skills. The contest attracted over 170 registrants. In the Grand Finale, which stole the limelight at the conference, Sahana Nandakumar from Colombo Toastmasters Gavel Club became the champion in the Prepared Speech Category and the first runner-up in the Impromptu Speech Category while Amalini Fernando from the University of Kelaniya bagged the trophy in the Impromptu Speech Category and became the first runner-up in the Prepared Speech Category. Piyumi Bandaranayake and Kasun Ranasinghe from the University of Moratuwa became second runner-up in Impromptu and Prepared Speech categories respectively.

Educational meetings in Gavel are the proven methodology of Toastmasters International that trains individuals to become better speakers and leaders. A demonstration of a Gavel meeting was conducted with emphasis on explaining the function of each role-player, with the motive of enhancing the quality of meetings.

Apart from uniting the Gaveliers originating from various backgrounds, Gavel Conference 2016 was a great opportunity for all participants to witness an event that was undoubtedly life-changing. Several months of untiring efforts led by the project chair of the event, Vibhanu Arachchige, culminated in an event of unprecedented grandeur. MillenniumIT, which is a leading innovative trading technology business, acted as the platinum partner of the event.



ADVISORY BOARD

Professor Rahula Attalage (Chairman)
Professor KKCK Perera
Professor Lalith De Silva
Mr PM Karunaratne
Mrs Ruvini Kodikara
Professor (Mrs) Chintha Jayasinghe
Archd UPP Liyanage
Dr Chathura De Silva

EDITORIAL BOARD

Mr Anura Kiriella
Archd Sithumini Rathnamalala
Archd A Rajapakse
Mrs WASN Wijethunga
Mrs Thushari M Seneviratne
Dr (Mrs) DA Meedeniya

Editor : Eng SN Niles
[E-mail: niles@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