



University of Moratuwa

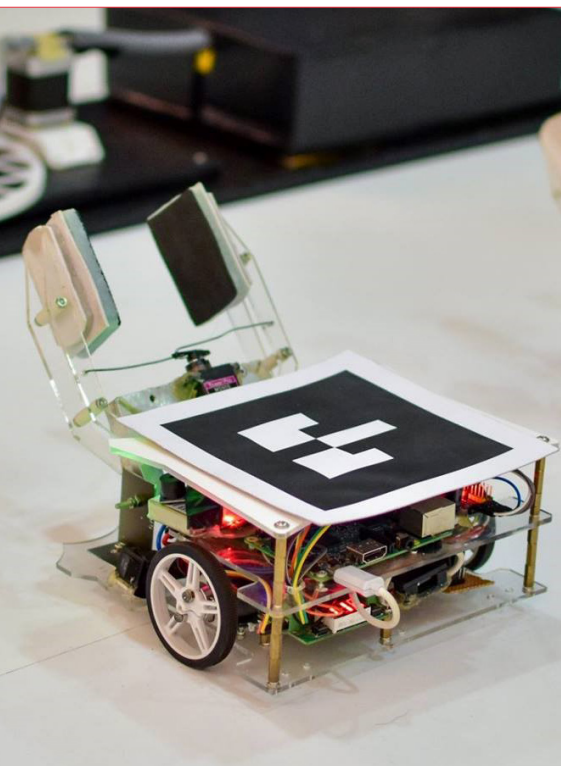
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Research Initiatives, Accomplishments & Disseminations

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Team Successfully Tested a 5.5 kg Copter-Plane Hybrid Drone



Unmanned aerial Vehicle Research Team of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering has successfully matured copter-plane hybrid drone technology for the first time in Sri Lanka. Early versions of this new drone had been tested in the recent past, however only on 6th February

2019 that the technology was successfully tested on a 5.5kg copter-plane hybrid drone named “Hornet”.

Early development of Hornet was funded by the National Research Council, and recently, the project was resumed under the world bank AHEAD project to develop it as a commercial product. The signature feature of Hornet is its operability in small spaces due to its copter mode take-off/landing as well as higher energy-efficiency due to winged flight which are found together in one drone.

Paper Presentations at ACEC’19, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Six groups of Level 3 undergraduates of the Faculty of Information Technology presented research papers at the 8th International Conference on Advances in Computing, Electronics and Communication (ACEC’19) organized by Institute of Research Engineers and Doctors at Hotel G Tower, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on

12th and 13th January 2019. The papers were co-authored by Mrs. Dilini T Kulawansa, a senior lecturer of the Department of Computational Mathematics of the Faculty of Information Technology. Titles of the papers were “A Web Based Knowledge Sharing System”, “Freelancing System” and “Smart Trading Widgets for Traders”.

The Inauguration of R4U Club

The inaugural Annual General Meeting of the Research for Undergraduates (R4U) club of Department of Chemical and Process Engineering was held at the department premises on

the 21st of February 2019. This club is a result of an initiative taken by the undergraduates of the Department to promote the research culture within undergraduates and to familiarize them with the aspects of research. The

A Meeting between Researchers from University of Auckland, New Zealand and UOM



A group of researchers from Centre for Disaster Resilience of University of Auckland, New Zealand met the members of Disaster Risk Reduction Research Centre, University of Moratuwa on 17th January

2019 to discuss their research and future possible research collaborations. A presentation based on ongoing research work on ‘Floods and post-disaster recovery’ was also made during the meeting. The visitors from Auckland University also met a few undergraduate students of Department of Building Economics who are doing their dissertations on disaster management related studies.

R4U Club Hosts the First Event Explorer 1.1

Research for Undergraduates Club of Department of Chemical and Process Engineering successfully held their first event, Explorer 1.1 of the Explorer event series, on 28th February 2019. This event was organized with the intention of giving its members an insight into research and encourage them to engage in research. The event proceeded with a session on the topic “Why Undergraduate research?” by Prof. PG Rathnasiri of Department of Chemical and Process Engineering. Prof. Jagath Premachandre, Dr. Thilini Ariyadasa along with other academics graced the event together with a large gathering of undergraduates of the Department.

Visited NIT, Delhi



Prof. Ruwan Gopura, Dr. Damith Chathuranga and Dr. Thilina Lalitharathne of Department of Mechanical Engineering, visited NIT, Delhi and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Delhi, as part of the ongoing Indo-SL collaborative research project on wildfire detection and control.

International Conference on Emerging Trends in Academic Research (Etar) 2018, Bali, Indonesia





Dr. (Mrs.) Priyanka Virajini Medagedara and Dr. (Mrs.)

Gayathri Madubhani Ranathunga Senior Lecturers of Fashion Design and Product Development Degree course, Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, presented two research papers at the 5th International Conference on Emerging Trends in Academic

Research (ETAR) 2018, at the Trans Resort, Bali, Indonesia.



The Conference was organized by Global Illuminators and Universitas Panca Bhakti, Indonesia (UPB).

Industry Collaboration

Public Private Partnership Project on Drone Commercialization



Prof. Rohan Munasinghe of Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering has won a National Research Council PPP (Public-Private Partnership) grant recently. The private partner Pristine Solutions (Pvt) Ltd, and the National Research Council will equally share the funds of the project. The ownership of the products to be developed will be shared among University of Moratuwa, NRC and the Pristine Solutions. Exclusive commercialization

rights will be offered to Pristine Solutions (Pvt) Ltd.

Two portable surveying drones with RTK geo-referencing capability, camera roll stabilization, and also with shutter delay corrected image geotagging will be developed in this project within the year 2019. The project is already underway at the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Laboratory of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering.

by Dr. Upendra Rajapaksha, the Head of Department of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, under the direction of Mr. CA Wijeyeweere, Chairman of the Condominium Management Authority. The research project is funded by the Senate Research Council -Nation Development Grant of University of Moratuwa.



The report was presented to the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs, Honorable Sajith Premadasa on the 15.01.2019 at the Ministry. A presentation based on 39 recommendations given in the report for development of sustainable condominiums was conducted by Archt. Nadeeka Jayaweera of Department of Architecture. The recommendations suggested in the report are expected to help authorities to reform relevant acts, regulations and policies for sustainable condominium development in the country.

Presentation of the report “Condominium Development in Sri Lanka” to the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs



University of Moratuwa and the Condominium Development Authority have collaborated on developing sustainable condominium development strategies for the country. The study was conducted by a team of academics, led

UoM partners in Sri Lanka’s first IoT-based Smart Grid Solution to Support Prepaid Electricity Metering



Dialog Axiata PLC, Lanka Electricity Company (LECO) and the Ministry of Power and Renewable Energy announced the deployment of an innovative Internet of Things (IoT) enabled smart-grid solution to introduce Prepaid Electricity Metering to Sri Lanka at the “GSMA Mobile for Development Utilities

Asia Industry Forum 2019”. The event was inaugurated by the Minister for Power, Energy and Project Implementation, Hon. Ravi Karunanayake.

The Dialog-UoM lab developed the smart meter module which was integrated with LECO’s electronic energy meter. This enables the meter to maintain a prepaid wallet, with which



consumers will be able to reload their electricity meter as and when it is convenient. This is similar to how a prepaid mobile is reloaded, rather than having to pay a monthly bill. The smart-grid solution is supported by IoT and an analytics platform developed jointly by Dialog and LECO.

MOU Between University of Moratuwa and Sri Lanka Telecom.



University of Moratuwa signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and entered into an agreement with Sri Lanka Telecom, the national telecommunication service provider, to carry out collaborative research in the

Department Industry Consultative Board (DICB) 2019



The meeting of the Department Industry Consultative Board (DICB) of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering was held on 23rd January. Specialists representing a wide variety

of industries, along with the academic staff of the Department, participated at the event. The objectives of this meeting were to improve industry-university interaction and identify possible

improvements for curriculum and educational system so that MSE graduates are well-equipped with knowledge and skills required for the industry. During the panel discussion, views and suggestions on the undergraduate and postgraduate programs, research and development work and employability of MSE students were discussed. The panel was chaired by Prof. SU Adikary. Other panelists were Mr. Sampath Weragoda and Dr. NMVK Liyanage.



areas of electrical, electronics and telecommunication which have scientific, technological and economic significance to UOM, SLT and the country as a whole.

The MoU was signed recently at the University with the

presence of Prof. Kapila Perera, the Vice Chancellor of University of Moratuwa, Prof. PKS Mahanama, the Deputy Vice Chancellor of University of Moratuwa, Mr. PW Sarath, Chief Innovation & Culture Officer of SLT, and several other

members of SLT. This futuristic step was taken with a view to enhancing the University-Industry collaboration while creating a platform for research and development activities to fulfill National requirements.

Guest Lectures / Talks

Guest Lecture by Dr. Gamini Mendis, Researcher at Purdue University, USA

Dr. Gamini Mendis, Researcher at Purdue University in the USA, delivered a Talk on “Sustainable Electronics: a Global Challenge” at the Department of Electrical Engineering.

His talk included the history of the electronic device challenge, current efforts to mitigate existing challenges, ongoing research, and opportunities for Sri Lanka in future.

Presentation on Creative Destruction

A presentation titled “Creative Destruction : Need of the hour for growth” by Prof. Ajith De Alwis was made to

the University Grants Commission’s Standing committee on Research and Postgraduate Studies, on 15th February.



Presentation on Contemporary Research and Role of COSTI in Research Promotion

Prof. Ajith De Alwis made a presentation to the University of Kelaniya Research Council on Contemporary Research and Role of COSTI in research promotion on 14th February.

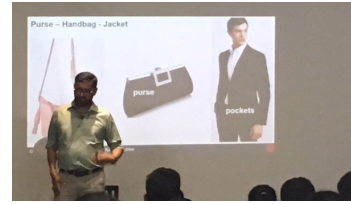
Sri Lanka Studio 2019



Senior Lecturer, Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe of Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture was invited to join as a resource person and an expert for the annual studio project “History through Tectonics of Architecture” of the Acharya’s NRV School of Architecture, Bangalore, India. The project was held in Sri Lanka from 12th to 17th February 2019 under the title of “Sri Lanka Studio 2019” and was aimed at realizing Sri Lankan

history through tectonic understanding of architecture as a strong method of learning. Twenty five students from level two and three of the Bachelors of Architecture programme of Acharya’s NRV School of Architecture, Bangalore participated at the studio event.

Guest Speaking Session Organized by the Department of MoT



The Department of Management of Technology, Faculty of Business organized a guest speaker session in collaboration with CIMA Sri Lanka for new students of 2018 batch in the Faculty of Business, which was held on 14th February, 2019 at the auditorium of Department of Textiles and Clothing Engineering. A well-known TV personality and personal trainer Mr. Kumar De Silva conducted the session on “Personal grooming and communication”.

Guest Lecture by Prof. Subash Mukhopadhyay, FIEEE, FIEE

Professor Subash Mukhopadhyay, an eminent researcher of IEEE SC, School of Engineering Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, visited the Department of Electrical Engineering and delivered a lecture for students and staff on “WSN and IoT based Health, Home and Smart City” including micro sensors with IOT in health, home and smart city monitoring projects.

Academic Programs

IESL Accreditation Team Visits Electrical Engineering Department

A team of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka, visited the Department of Electrical Engineering during 8 – 10 January 2019 for re-accreditation of the BSc. Eng Degree in Electrical Engineering. The accreditation team led by Prof. Janaka Ekanayaka, consisted of Dr. Vijitha Herath, Eng. Sarath Tilakaratna, Mr. Martin Penn and Eng. Nihal Jayamaha as the convener.

Conferences & Symposium

Materials Engineering Symposium on Innovations for Industry 2019 (MESII -2019)



Materials Engineering Symposium on Innovations for Industry 2019 (MESII -2019) organized by the Department of Materials Science and Engineering for the second time was held on 23rd January 2019. The theme of

the symposium was “Dreams to Reality through Innovative Materials”.

The symposium was organized with a view to promoting ingenuity and innovation that are created through the project work of final year students

of the Department and to encourage the Department-industry interaction in the context of research. Furthermore, a short workshop titled, “Recognizing the Rewarding Trends in Materials Engineering”, was also held and

100 school students of physical science stream participated at the event.

RICS Re-Accreditation Visitation 2019 Department of Building Economics



A panel from Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) visited the Department of Building Economics on 13th February 2019 to re-accredit both the B.Sc. (Hons) in Quantity



Surveying and B.Sc. (Hons) in Facilities Management Degree programmes. The panel consisted of Mr. Tim Richards (FRICS) as the panel Chair and Mr. Nick Inatey (Head of Education and Qualification Standards: Asia-Pacific, RICS) as a member. Considering the high quality of course delivery, the two Degree programmes received RICS accreditation for the next 05 years.

External Examiners' Visit to Department of Building Economics

The External Examiner visit to the Department of Building Economics took place from 13th to 15th February 2019. The panel of external examiners consisted of Prof. Andrew Ross from Liverpool John Moores University, UK [External



Examiner (Foreign) for both QS and FM Degree Programmes], Mr. Shantha Fernando [External Examiner (Local) for QS Degree Programme] and Mr. Elmo Fernando [External Examiner (Local) for FM Degree Programme].



Academic Collaboration

Pathum Sudasinghe: UoM's First Ever Joint PhD Candidate



Pathum Sudasinghe became UoM's first ever joint-PhD candidate of a programme offered by University of Wollongong, Australia. This is a result of the initiative of Dr. Upuli Jayatunga of the Department of Electrical Engineering who has obtained her PhD from the same university.

Pathum studies the effects of supply voltage unbalance (VU) on three phase induction motors (IMS). He is guided in his research by Dr. Upuli Jayatunga and Dr. WD Prasad of UoM, and Prof. Sarath Perera, Dr. Phillip Commins and Dr. Jeff Moscrop of UoM. It is expected that this collaboration will result in building long-lasting international partnerships for mutual benefit.

Foreign Visits

Visit of Indian Delegation to Promote Collaboration with Educational Institutions in India



The Indian Government continuing its drive to attract international students to its country has launched a "Study in India" programme, where 160 registered Institutions are offering approximately 19,000 seats to prospective students to follow over 1500 courses of study. Of the positions available, over 9500 students could obtain fee waivers of up to 100%. This information was exchanged when representatives of the Indian

High Commission in Sri Lanka, and EdCIL(India) Limited met at the University of Moratuwa on Wednesday, 16th January 2019. Vice Chancellor, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Director/ International Relations, Dean-Engineering and Asst. Registrar of External Affairs of UoM were present for the discussion.

Diploma programmes were available in almost all the sought-after fields. In addition, the Indian delegates stressed the other advantages of studying in their prestigious universities, which included reduced cost of studies compared to other foreign Institutions, opportunities for employment by Fortune



It was stated that Undergraduate, Masters studies and research and

Companies who source their recruitment through the Indian educational colleges.

National Taiwan University's Visit to University of Moratuwa



Prof. Chung-Che Chou, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Head, Building



Engineering, National Center for Research on Earthquake

Engineering and Dr Wen-Cheng Liao, Associate Director,

Center for South East Asia Education from National Taiwan University visited University of Moratuwa on 15th February 2019.

The Vice Chancellor welcomed the visitors and briefed them on the faculties of University of Moratuwa, the MOUs established for academic staff and student exchange, Joint PhD programmes and Joint Research Masters programmes, that are currently running. He also emphasized that UOM's Masters and PhD graduates are highly sought- after by the industry around the world. Prof. Nalin Wickramarachchi, Dean-Engineering, Prof. Gihan Dias, Director/International Relations, Ms. Yashodara Karunaratne, Assistant Registrar, External Affairs and Ms. Sandra Cadirame, Consultant/International Relations were also present at the meeting.

Meeting between Deakin University and the University of Moratuwa



A team from Deakin University, Australia, consisting of Prof. K Baskaran (Associate Dean – International & Partnerships, Faculty of Science Engineering and Built Environment), Associate Prof. Lloyd Chua (Associate Head of Engineering - International), Associate Prof. Pubudu Pathirana (School of Engineering) and Ms. Ruby Lee (Manager - International & Partnerships, Faculty of Science Engineering and Built

Environment) were present at University of Moratuwa on Wednesday, 30th January 2019 for a discussion with Prof. PKS Mahanama, Deputy Vice Chancellor with the

participation of Prof. Lalith de Silva, Dean – Faculty of Architecture, Prof. Nalin Wickramaarachchi, Dean– Faculty of Engineering, Eng. PM Karunaratne, Dean– Faculty of Information Technology, Prof. ND Gunawardena, Dean – Faculty of Business and Prof. (Mrs) D Dias, Dean – Faculty of Graduate Studies, and Prof. Gihan Dias, Director International Relations.

Registrar – External Affairs Publicity Division of UoM on 17th January 2019 and had discussions which are expected to lead to a successful collaboration between the two Universities.

Delhi Technological University visits UOM

Prof. Anu Singh Lather, Pro-Vice Chancellor-II and Dr. Ruchika Malhotra, Assistant Director- Department of International Affairs of the Delhi Technological University

met with Prof. Kapila Perera - Vice Chancellor, Dr. AS Perera, Head, Department of Computer Science & Engineering and Ms. YS Karunaratne, Assistant

Proposed Collaboration of UOM with Finland

His excellency, the Ambassador of Finland, visited University of Moratuwa on 21st January 2019 and met Prof. Gihan Dias, Director/International Relations and other academics to discuss collaborations with Finland in establishing a Digital Innovation Centre. This is a great opportunity for UoM as Finland is a leader in this field and a collaboration would be of mutual benefit.

The project would commence in the area of communications, particularly, emerging 5G communication technologies. The existing partnerships between Moratuwa and the telecommunication industry in Sri Lanka, and also between Moratuwa and Finnish institutes, will prove invaluable in this initiative.

Student Achievements

Microsoft Imagine Cup 2019

Sajeer Ahamed, Saif Abdul Cassim, and Inzamam Iqbal of Batch '15 of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering have participated in Microsoft Imagine Cup 2019 and got selected for the regional finals. They are the only team from Sri Lanka who was able to qualify for the regional finals and was one of the 12 teams which were selected for finals. The final round was held on 10th

February, 2019 in Sydney. The competing product is named Mind Probe, which aims at helping people with communication disabilities like ALS, and DMS. The brain waves are used to predict a number a person is thinking and this information will be used to interface with a smartphone.

MAS Awards 2018

The Annual MAS Awards Ceremony 2018 was held on 28th of February 2019 at Galle Face Hotel, Colombo with the participation of top ranking persons at MAS cluster and other Universities. Head of the Department of textile and Clothing Technology, Prof. (Mrs) Samudrika Wijayapala and other senior staff members have been invited as special guests to grace this occasion.



MAS Award for the Best overall Student for the year 2018 – Textile and Clothing Technology was received by ADYP Jayasinghe and Best overall Student for the year 2018 - Fashion Design and Product Development was received by Muthuhari Attanayake of the Department.

Realization of Winning Design Concept at EXPO-2020 Dubai



A group of undergraduates of the Department of Integrated Design (DID), Faculty of Architecture won the pavilion design competition of Creative Youth Program (CYP), Expo-2020 Dubai. Upon winning the competition, the team got the opportunity to be involved in the execution phase of Sri Lanka Pavilion for Expo-2020 in Dubai until year 2020. This brought plenty of benefits to the country, including free of duty in fit-cost-construction of Sri Lankan Pavilion inclusive of all freight.

The Press Briefing and Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the winning team was held at the auditorium, Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) on 26th February 2019 under the patronage of Mrs. Indira Malwatte, Chairperson and Chief Executive of EDB. Hon. Minister Malik Samarawickrema, Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade and Prof. Kapila Perera, the Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa graced this ceremony as the chief guests.



The Cardboard Pavilion at Architect 2019



Level II Students of Department of Architecture designed and constructed an entire exhibition pavilion for Architect 2019, with corrugated boards including the panel holders, model stands to the light fittings. The aim of this experimental structural design was to explore 3R sustainable design concept on “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle”. This stall of University of Moratuwa at Architect 2019, accustomed to display some of the best Architectural Designs done by the students throughout the year 2018.

The construction system was based on assembled corrugated boards, and allowed to execute self-supporting

flexible walls and roofs. The execution was based on the precise fitting of the boards, which gave a wide volumetric configuration to the design. This pavilion consists of 1500 modules (3500 individual boards), unique joineries with varying angles and sizes comprising 7 template profiles. The stall was visited and appreciated immensely by the professionals and general public as an authentic innovation of architecture students of the University of Moratuwa to highlight the need of sustainable resource consumption.



Undergraduate Research Symposium

The recently concluded Undergraduate Research Symposium 2019 was held on the 17th of January 2019 at the department premises. This was the first ever research symposium organized by undergraduates of the department of Chemical and Process Engineering University of Moratuwa. Conducted with the guidance of Prof. PG Rathnasiri and the lecturers, it was an ideal platform where the undergraduates could share their research findings. The entire day had been a new experience for the DCPE community where many could fine-tune their research with the ideas that emerged from the prolific gathering. The symposium was chaired by Prof. PG Rathnasiri and the keynote speech was delivered by Prof. Manathunga.

Staff Achievements



Prof. Ananda Jayawardane, currently serving as the Director General of the NSF, has been appointed as a member of the first Sri Lanka Engineering Council by His Excellency the President Maithreepala Sirisena in his capacity as the Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment in accordance with the Sri Lanka Engineering Council Act. No 4 of 2017, for a

period of two years. He has also been re-appointed as a member of the Board of Management of the Construction Industry Development Authority by the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs.

Prof. Ajith De Alwis appointed as a Commission member of the IP Advisory Commission

Prof. Ajith De Alwis was appointed as a member of the Intellectual Property Advisory Commission of the Ministry of Science Technology

and Research. This was a reappointment to a position continuing since 2016 when the IP Advisory Commission came under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

Chairman-Elect of the IEEE



Prof. Ruwan Gopura, Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa has been elected as the Chairman-Elect of the IEEE Sri Lanka section for 2019 at the AGM of IEEE Sri Lanka section held on Wednesday, 16th January 2019 at Hilton Colombo Residences.

Winner of the Asia Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge



Sasiranga De Silva of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, who has developed an affordable conversion kit to allow tuktuks to run on electric power has won a US\$20,000 grant from UN Environment. As a winner of the Asia Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge in the Low Carbon Mobility Category, Sasiranga will receive business and marketing training from global experts. The Asia-Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge aims to mobilize and support young people with business ideas on how to foster energy-efficient, low-waste and low-carbon lifestyles.

EXPOSE 2019



The Electronic Club of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering organized “Expose 2019”, an exhibition to commemorate the Department’s Golden Jubilee on the 18th, 19th and 20th January 2019. Throughout the past 50 years, the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering has paved the way for countless young Sri Lankan undergraduates to extend their reach to

Exhibitions, Field Trips & Workshops

the far ends of cutting-edge technology. The numerous awards won nationally and internationally by the students of the Department and competent professionals produced by the Department are unmistakable proof for the excellent quality of teaching and guidance given.



“Expose 2019” was a significant event as it showcased the expertise and potential of students via numerous items and events. The 14th Batch of the Department showcased some of their outstanding final year projects at the event. The exhibition also included many stalls containing games and fun activities as well as a drone show, which was organized at the University grounds. Another special activity of the exhibition was “Expose TV”, a live broadcast of the entire event, which was entirely undertaken and run by the undergraduate students. For this, a live studio was set up within the Department where the videography, editing, broadcasting were done. The participants could take a tour of the studio when live recording was not taking place. Having offered a remarkable experience for the participants, and the organizers, the exhibition came to an end on 20th January.



Exhibition and Symposium on Architectural Heritage of Churches in Sri Lanka



Senior Lecturer, Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe of the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture took the lead role in organizing an exhibition and a symposium in Goa, India, on architectural heritage of Indian Oratorian missionary churches in Sri Lanka. The event was undertaken together in collaboration with ARTIS - Institute of Art History of University of Lisbon, Faculty of Architecture of University of Lisbon, School of Architecture of University of Queensland, Institute of Art History of Universidade Nova de Lisboa and School of European Languages, Culture and Society

of University College London. The Exhibition titled ‘Edifices in Dark Days’ was held from the 25th to 28th January 2019 at the Goa College of Architecture, Altinho-Panaji-Goa and was declared opened by Archt.



Edgar FN Robeiro, former Chief Planner of India and Director of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. The inauguration was followed by a lecture by Dr. Helder Carita of Universidade Nova de Lisboa. The exhibition ended with a symposium on architectural heritage of Oratorian churches in Sri Lanka where Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe delivered the keynote lecture.

Clubs & Societies

Highway Engineering Society Annual Meeting – 2019



The Annual General Meeting of Highway Engineering Society of University of Moratuwa was successfully held on 21st of February 2019 from 5.30 pm onwards at Drawing Studio-1 of Civil Engineering Department.

This was organized with the main objective of appointing new board of officers for the year 2019.

Prof. WK Mamppearachchi and Dr. HR Pasindu participated the event as chief guests and advised the gathering in their speeches, on organizing new projects with new concepts and methods of bringing them towards success.

Sri Lankan Robotics Challenge (SLRC) 2019



SLRC organized by the E-club of the Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering for university and school students was held on the 19th and 20th of January at the Civil Engineering Auditorium, University of Moratuwa. More than 140 teams had registered for the competition. Team "Death End" from Ranabima Royal College won the championship of SLRC School Category with an excellent performance at the finals. Team RITS from Richmond College, Galle emerged as the 1st runners up while team Avengers from Dudely Senanayaka Central College became the 2nd runners up. SLRC 18th school category marked the greatest number of participants in the history of SLRC.

SLRC University Category Competition consisted of 31 mesmerizing robots competing tremendously. Team "Salazar" from the University of Moratuwa won the championship of the university category with their robot being the fastest and the most accurate in completing tasks, and for finishing the round within just 2 minutes. The team "Scorpion" from the University of Peradeniya won the 1st runners up and the team "Reloaded" from the University of Moratuwa emerged as the 2nd runners up.

EESoc Annual General Meeting 2019



The Annual General Meeting of Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) of University of Moratuwa was held for the 23rd consecutive time on 31st January 2019 from 4.30 pm onwards at the Seminar Room, Department of Electrical Engineering. The occasion was illuminated with the presence of the academic staff and undergraduates of the Department of Electrical Engineering.

New office bearers elected for the year 2019/2020 include

Prof. JP Karunadasa as the President and Dr. WD Prasad as the Senior Treasurer. Mr. VDVY Dharmasiri and Mr. AK Senaka were elected as the Vice Presidents.



The Annual General Meeting of Civil Engineering Society for the year 2019



The annual general meeting of Civil Engineering Society for the year 2019 was held to elect new office bearers for the term 2019-2020. The event commenced with presence of Prof. JMSJ Bandara (Head of the Department), Dr. WB Gunawardana (Student Advisor), Prof. WK Mamparachchi (Treasurer) and other academic staff members.

Appointments & Promotions

New Appointments

Ms. UAAG Danushika has been appointed to the post of Scientific Assistant in the Faculty of Graduate Studies with effect from 03.12.2018.

Ms. SD Perera has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Decision Science with effect from 01.03.2019.

Dr. R Wijesiriwardana has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Electrical Engineering with effect from 01.03.2019.

Ms. SH Uthpalee has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Transport & Logistics Management with effect from 01.03.2019.

Ms. WMDP Madawala Hulugalla has been appointed to the post of Registrar in University of Moratuwa with effect from 15.03.2019.

Mr. DPUM Wickramasinghe has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Integrated Design with effect from 01.03.2019.

Mr. MSV Costa has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering with effect from 01.01.2019.

Ms. EAM Geethani has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering with effect from 01.01.2019.

Promotions



Mrs. AL Susantha, Senior Lecturer Grade II has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer

Grade I in the Department of Town & Country Planning with effect from 02.12.2014.



Dr. JG Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer Grade II has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering with effect from 01.06.2016.



Prof. SAS Kulathilaka, has been promoted to the post of Senior Professor

in the Department Civil Engineering with effect from 24.04.2014.



Dr. (Ms.) RKJ De Silva has been confirmed in the post of Lecturer (Probationary)

with effect from 01.02.2013 and promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II with effect from 12.09.2018.



Dr. (Mrs.) HLTU Ariyadasa has been confirmed in the post of Lecturer

(Unconfirmed) with effect from 15.09.2015 and promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II with effect from 30.10.2015.



Dr. PTRS Sugathadasa, Senior Lecturer Grade II has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer

Grade I in the Department of Transport & Logistics Management with effect from 02.08.2016.

Cultural Events

Thaipongal Festival



Annual Tamil Thai Pongal Celebration organized by Tamil Literary Association of University of Moratuwa for the year 2019 was held on 27th January 2019 at the University premises with the participation of more than 800 people. Tamil Thai Pongal is a remarkable festival celebrated by the Tamil people in the second week of January to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Mother Nature.



Vice Chancellor Prof. Kapila Perera attended the ceremony as the Chief Guest. Senior Student Counsellors, academic and non-academic staff members also took part in the event. All students played an active role in the event reflecting a heightened sense of brotherhood among students.

UOM Alumni

Associate Professor Sarath Kodagoda received the University of Technology Sydney Vice-Chancellor's Medal for Teaching and Research Integration for the year 2018.

This is a highly prestigious award given to an academic to recognize the significant contribution made to educational innovations through research. Prior to receiving the Award, Prof. Kodagoda, received Australia- wide Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) Award and UTS Teaching Award for his exceptional



and sustained contribution to teaching innovations.

The contributions are evaluated through originality, excellence, innovation and student impact. Prof. Kodagoda introduced research inspired competition-based assessments and created opportunities beyond the boundaries of the classroom as co-curricular activities to enhance deeper learning of mechatronics (robotics) engineering. The students highly value these experiences and believe the activities have highly influenced their current and future careers.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Katha Baha at University of Moratuwa Tackles the Oil and Gas Industry

As another milestone of monthly 'Katha-Baha' session organized by Department of Chemical and Process

Engineering (DCPE), University of Moratuwa, a public seminar on upstream oil and gas exploration and

production industry under the topic 'Oil and Gas Industry Value Chain – Big Picture, Why?' was held on 7th February

at the Department seminar room. Demand for energy is rapidly increasing each day and there is an essential need for

clean, affordable and secure way to satisfy increasing energy demand. Nalin Gunasekara, who has spent more than 37 years in oil and gas industry was the Guest Speaker at the session. The audience consisted of academic staff members of the Department of Electrical Engineering and students of the University.

Katha Baha with Mr. Ramesh from British American Tobacco



As another milestone of 'Katha-Baha' session organized by Department of Chemical and Process

Engineering (DCPE), University of Moratuwa, an interactive lecture was conducted by Mr. Ramesh Nanayakkara who is an Operations Manager in Ceylon Tobacco Company (a subsidiary of British American Tobacco). Mr. Ramesh is one of the DCPE alumni

members who graduated in 2004 and currently an eminent Operations Manager with 14+ years of cross industry experience. This session fulfilled the need of Department's Career Guidance program to prepare undergraduates for the industry.

Felicitatation Ceremony

Felicitatation Ceremony for the Retirement of Prof. RGN De S Munasinghe & Mrs. LPJP Premarathne

A felicitatation ceremony to recognize the long and invaluable services of Prof. RGN De S Munasinghe and Mrs. LPJP Premarathne Senior Lecturer in the Department of Electrical Engineering was held at the Faculty Board of Faculty of

Engineering on 27th November 2018. Prof. SP Kumarawadu-Head, Department of Electrical Engineering delivered a speech appreciating their commendable services. UoM wishes long life and happiness to the two renonwn academic members on their retirment.



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