



University of Moratuwa

# Bimonthly UOM news

## 2019

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**Annual Awards Ceremony** of the University of Moratuwa 2019

[From front page]



University of Moratuwa is among the best universities in Sri Lanka and is a popular choice for higher education. The university is known to produce leaders, entrepreneurs and inventors and offers degrees in Engineering, Architectural, Information Technology and Business. The overall employment percentage of the University is 91.4% in the year 2019. This is a figure comparable with that of the best universities in the world. The university has established itself as a prestigious hub for higher education in Sri Lanka and in the South Asian region with outstanding achievements in education, research, sports, international competitions and expert advice and has significantly contributed to the national economy.

The Annual Awards Ceremony of the University of Moratuwa was held on 27<sup>th</sup> of December 2019 under the patronage of the Chancellor of the University, Vidya Jyothi Professor Emeritus KKYW Perera. The event was adorned by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Deans of faculties, staff, students and invitees.

The chief guest Professor Damminda Alahakoon is an experienced academic and researcher who is well- respected in the field of Business Analytics. Upon obtaining a PhD from the Monash University in Australia, he has held positions with several Australian universities. He is currently attached to the Business School at the La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia and is the founding director of the Research Centre for Data Analytics and Cognition (CDAC) that focuses on artificial intelligence (AI) as a main area of study. He delivered an interesting and thought provoking speech on the use, application and the role of AI today and the information revolution that has resulted. Further, he emphasized the need for University of Moratuwa to make use of the opportunities and spearhead the advancement of AI in Sri Lanka.

Academic staff (past and present) and students of the University of Moratuwa were appreciated with 196 awards at the awards ceremony. The categories of awards and the number of recipients for each category are as follows;



- Appreciation of outstanding research performance by academic staff  
– 126 Awards
- Acknowledgement of student excellence  
- 69 Awards
- Conferment of the title of Professor Emeritus to an outstanding retired professor

The accolade of Professor Emeritus was conferred on Professor Samitha Manawadu,

an all-rounder who excelled in both sports and studies alike from his school days at Sri Rahula National College, Alawwa. Professor Manawadu is both alumnus and retired professor of the University of Moratuwa. He is the recipient of awards such as the ICC Abhinandana Award and has gathered much experience both locally and internationally. He has made considerable contributions to the fields of

education, engineering, architecture and national heritage conservation.

The ceremony was successfully concluded marking yet another successful year of achievements for the University of Moratuwa.

For more information on UoM and Annual Awards Day 2019 please visit:

<http://www.mrt.ac.lk/web/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zZePW\\_nIio&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zZePW_nIio&feature=youtu.be)

### Outstanding Research Performance Award with Distinction

Dr. (Mrs) CC Abenayake	Prof. SU Adikary	Dr. YWR Amarasinghe
Dr.(Mrs) HLTU Ariyadasa	Prof. JMSJ Bandara	Mrs. ABN Dasanayaka
Dr. NWN Dayananda	Dr.(Mrs) END De Silva	Dr.(Mrs) BMGW De Silva
Prof.(Mrs) SAD Dias	Dr.(Mrs) DGK Dissanayake	Mrs. DMPP Dissanayake
Dr. CUS Edussooriya	Dr.(Mrs) SM Egodage	Dr. MSD Fernando
Dr.(Mrs) KSD Fernando	Dr. MFM Firdhous	Dr.(Ms) GU Ganegoda
Prof. RARC Gopura	Dr.(Ms) PKSVS Gunatilake	Dr.(Mrs) SHP Gunawardena
Dr.(Ms) WB Gunawardena	Prof. RU Halwathura	Prof. KTMU Hemapala
Dr. AGBP Jayasekara	Prof. VSD Jayasena	Dr. AB Jayasinghe
Prof.(Mrs) C Jayasinghe	Prof. MTR Jayasinghe	Dr. TSS Jayawardana
Prof. M Jayaweera	Prof. JP Karunadasa	Dr. CS Lewangamage
Ms. BH Mallawarachchi	Dr. HMYC Mallikarachchi	Prof. WK Mamparchchi
Prof. JMA Manatunge	Dr.(Mrs) DA Meedeniya	Dr. MN Narayana
Dr. UP Nawagamuwa	Mr. PHV Nimarshana	Prof.(Mrs) BAKS Perera
Dr. GIUS Perera	Ms. ITS Piyatilake	Dr. HMR Premasiri
Dr.(Ms) T Ramachandra	Ms. TKGP Ranasinghe	Dr.(Mrs) RADS Ranathunga
Dr.(Mrs) AS Ranathunga	Mr. RKPS Ranaweera	Prof. GR Ratnayake
Ms. RMNU Ratnayake	Dr. BKR P Rodrigo	Dr. TN Samarasinghe
Prof.(Mrs) YG Sandanayake	Dr.(Mrs) GA Sewwandi	Prof. W Shantha
Dr. P Silva	Dr. UT Thayasivam	Prof.(Mrs) UGS Wijayapala
Prof. WDAS Wijayapala		

### Outstanding Research Performance Award

Dr.(Ms) SK Abeygunawardena	Dr. VV Adikariwattage	Dr.(Mrs) SA Ahangama
Dr. DAS Amarasinghe	Dr.(Ms) LNW Arachichige	Dr. D Attygalle
Dr. YMMS Bandara	Dr. HMND Bandara	Dr. DP Chandima
Dr. KVDS Chathuranga	Prof. SWSB Dasanayaka	Dr. AC De Silva
Mr. PAPVDS Disaratne	Dr. CD Gamage	Dr. JR Gamage
Dr.(Mrs) JCPH Gamage	Dr.(Mrs) GMWL Gunawardena	Dr. KT Hemachandra
Dr.(Mrs) JVUP Jayathunga	Dr.(Mrs) VPT Jayawardana	Dr. ND Jayaweera
Prof. AS Karunananda	Mr. AL Kulasekara	Dr. TD Lalitharatne
Dr.(Mrs) NMVK Liyanage	Dr. I Mahakalanda	Dr.(Mrs) D Nanayakkara
Prof. SMA Nanayakkara	Dr. HR Pasindu	Prof. HYR Perera
Ms. SAKVM Piyatilake	Dr. WD Prasad	Mr. TDC Pushpakumara
Mrs. PAD Rajaini	Prof.(Mrs) IGP Rajapaksha	Dr. RLHL Rajapaksha
Ms. WMND Ranasinghe	Dr. RACP Ranasinghe	Dr. L Ranathunga
Prof. NP Ratnayake	Mrs. RMVS Ratnayake	Dr. WDAS Rodrigo
Mr. AMBP Samarasekara	Dr.(Mrs) R Samarasinghe	Dr. GD Samarasinghe
Dr.(Mrs) TC Sandanayake	Dr. KSS Shanaka	Dr.(Mrs) ATP Silva
Mr. V Sivahar	Dr.(Mrs) SJ Sooriyaarchchi	Dr. S Sumathipala
Dr.(Mrs) KGAS Waidyasekara	Ms. EJ Warusavitharana	Ms. GT Weerasuriya

Mr. VSC Weragoda	Dr. (Mrs) MA Wijewardane	Prof. (Mrs) IGP Rajapaksha
Dr. RKPS Ranaweera		

### Certificate of Recognition

Mr. MDTE Abeynayake	Dr. K Baskaran	Dr. PVM Karunaratne
Dr.(Mrs) U Kulatunga	Ms. NHC Manjula	Dr. GM Ranathunga
Mr. SDA Soorige		

## Student Awards

Award	Student	Academic Year
<b>Faculty of Architecture</b>		
Prof. H.P.S. Caldera Memorial Award	DC Sirimewan	2016/2017
Prof. Gamunu Fernando Memorial Award	RMDIM Rathnayake	2016/2017
Best Individually Supervised Research Project	NY Tenzin	2017/2018
Best Designer	WDS Perera	2016/2017 & 2017/2018
Best Overall Performance Award	WDS Perera	2014/2015
Albert Thenuwara Memorial Gold Medal	UGKH Rajapaksha	2014/2015
Best Student of Media and Communication Design	RP Subasinghe	2014/2015
Herbert Gonsal Award	AM Azmath U Kishanthan DPS Mahindapala RMKU Rathnayaka	2018/2019
Sumathipala Ranasinghe Award	HAI Priyadarshana	2017/2018
Geoffrey Bawa Design Award	MNW Wickramasinghe	2017/2018
<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>		
IBM Engineering Scholarship	JADO Jayasinghe	2017/2018
Wimalasurendra Award	JADO Jayasinghe PWN Senarathna	2018/2019
Prof. C Patuwathavithane Memorial Award	C Abeysinghe TMSMB Abeysinghe	2017/2018
Prof. Harlen Cleveland Award	SAB Silva	2017/2018
Unilevers Award	YW Bandara	2017/2018
Thusitha Senevirathne Memorial Scholarship	RI Lakshan	2018/2019
Comprehensive Design Project Award in Civil Engineering	TB Eric MDPK Gunathilaka HTV Fonseka AU Kahaduwa RZ Nawaz BGJ Nipuna KADYTK Arachchi RMGB Ranasinghe	2017/2018
Hydraulic Engineering Award	AU Kahaduwa	2017/2018
Geotechnical Engineering Award	S Suloshini	2017/2018
Building and Structural Engineering Award	HC Weerasinghe	2017/2018
Environmental Engineering Award	AU Kahaduwa	2017/2018
Construction Engineering and Management Award	HC Weerasinghe	2017/2018
CINTEC Award	YA Abeysinghe CRD Perera	2017/2018
EESoc Award	RDIL Jayathilaka GR Jayakody WL Lakpriya WDP De Alwis	2017/2018

Prof. OP Kulashethra Award	PGT Nuradha	2017/2018
Prof. KKYW Perera Award	NS Ranasinghe	2017/2018
Sri Lanka Telecom Scholarship	JADO Jayasinghe	2017/2018 & 2018/2019
Lanka Ceramics Limited Award	GS Dhananjaya	2018/2019
National Development Bank Award	DDID Deegala	2017/2018
MR Prelis Award	SP Hettiarachchi	2017/2018
Prof. GK Watugala Memorial Award	PWCV Punchiwedikkara	2018/2019
MAS Award for the best Overall Student	ADYP Jayasinghe	2017/2018
A & E Award for the Best Industrial Trainee	KRSD Gunawardhana	2017/2018
MAS Award for the best Overall Student	AMSM Attanayake	2017/2018
<b>Awards Presented at the Graduation Fashion show 2019</b>		
Outstanding Designer Brand Award	KH Premadasa	2018/2019
Innovative Textile and Fabric Designer	CB Jayasinghe	2018/2019
Most Commercially Creative Designer	SPK Tharushika	2018/2019
Creative Knit Wear Designer	HABC Rathnayaka	2018/2019
Best men's Wear Designs Award	DR Artigala	2018/2019
Innovative Designer Award	JS Jacob LATA Wickramarathna	2018/2019
Serendib Inspirational Designer Award	KASR Kuragama	2018/2019
SLPA Award	HGY Induwari	2017/2018
The Logiwiz Award	TS Samaranayaka	2017/2018
The Aitken Spence Maritime Award	HN Rahubaddha	2017/2018
The Road Development Authority Award	NKTM Wijesinghe	2017/2018
Mobil Award for the Best Mechanical Engineering Final Year Project	KAS Kurupparachchi AKK Maleesha NGW Woranga	2017/2018

## Research Initiatives, Accomplishments & Disseminations

### Industrial IoT Initiative of the Year Award for Dialog-UoM products at GLOTEL Awards 2019 [From front page]



A range of IoT products developed at the Dialog-University of Moratuwa mobile communications lab won the coveted 'Industrial IoT Initiative of the Year' award at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Global Telecoms Awards (GLOTEL Awards) held in London in November 2019.

The winning entry is a result of a 4-way partnership between Dialog, the University of Moratuwa, Axiata Digital Labs (ADL) and Lanka Electricity Company (LECO).

As the award signifies, the partnership has demonstrated that home-grown technology can make a global impact.

The end-to-end IoT systems experience gained throughout this development process has also enabled the Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering to introduce two new course modules for its undergraduates, as well the Dialog-UoM lab to support several final year projects.

### IFMA Accreditation Visit - 2020



A panel representing International Facilities Management Association (IFMA) visited the Department of Building Economics on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 to review the Facilities Management Degree Programme. The panel consists of;

- Dr. Joseph HK Lai, Associate Professor, Department of Building Service Engineer,

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

- Mr. Samson Lee, Vice President, Facilities Operation, Asia, AllianceBernstein HK Ltd.



*“Lessons Learnt on Conducting High-Impact Research: Canadian perspective”*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Research Community Forum organized by the Faculty of Graduate

Studies was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at the Electrical Engineering Seminar Room. The guest speaker, Prof. Kasun Hewage, a professor in the School of Engineering at

the University of British Columbia, led an interactive discussion on *Lessons Learnt on Conducting High-Impact Research: Canadian perspective*.

His discussion was based on models & strategies followed by top-ranked Canadian Universities for conducting high-impact research. Professor Kasun Hewage further highlighted the importance in creating positive & collaborative partnerships with research personnel, strategies for making a high impact through research, and proven pathways for securing graduate studies opportunities.

## Academic & Industry Collaboration

**The Faculty of Business partnered with LAKARCADE (Pvt) Ltd** to enhance student engagement with the industry



The Faculty of Business partnered with LAKARCADE (Pvt) Ltd, one of the biggest novelty Gift & Souvenir shopping malls in Asia located in the heart of Colombo to provide gainful engagements to BPM undergraduates in the areas of business process analysis and improvements at their premises. In order to reach this agreement,

the initial meeting was held successfully at the Head office of ALKARCADE with the top management and a team of academics from UoM, including the Dean-Business and several academics from the Department of Management of Technology on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

**Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) Meeting** - Facilities Management

DICB meeting (Quantity surveying) was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Board Room, Department of Building Economics. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Yasangika Sandanayake, Head, Department of Building Economics. In addition, Ch.QS Vijitha Disaratne, Dr. Anuradha Waidyasekara and Ms. Tharusha Ranadewa represented the Department. Ch.QS Lalith Ratnayake,

Ch.QS Anoma Gunasekara, Ch.QS Aponsu Hemantha and Ch.QS Nishantha Wickramasinghe participated as industry representatives. Matters related to industry requirements, curriculum development, and rebranding the Moratuwa Quantity Surveyors were discussed in the meeting.

**Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) Meeting** - Facilities Management

DICB meeting (Facilities Management) was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 at Board Room, Department of Building Economics. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Yasangika Sandanayake, Head, Department of Building Economics. In addition, Ch.QS Vijitha Disaratne, Dr. Nayanthara De Silva, Dr. Pournima Sridaran and Ms Fayasa Aarifkhan participated as Department representatives. Mr. Elmo Fernando, Chartered Facilities Management Surveyor and Mr. Mohamed Aashik, Facilities Manager and Deputy Head of Corporate Services at British High Commission, participated as industry representatives. Matters related to curriculum development, industry placement and International Facility Management Association (IFMA) accreditation were discussed at the meeting.

**Delegation from Shanghai University of Electric Power (SUEP)** visits the Department of Electrical Engineering

A delegation from Shanghai University of Electric Power visited the Department of Electrical Engineering on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The delegation included Ms. Zhang Chuan - University Vice President, Mr. Yang Xiu - Vice Director, Innovation

Center of Energy and Electric Power, Mr. Bi Zhongqin - Vice Dean, Computer Science and Technology College, Ms. Xu Xinyan - Vice Director, Academic Affairs Office, Ms. Zhao Yan - Vice Dean, Electronics and Information Engineering

College, Ms. Luo – Staff, International Exchange and Cooperation Office.

The Department of Electrical Engineering has been collaborating with the SUEP since the MoU between two universities was signed. Students from the Department

have participated in the summer school organized by the SUEP in 2018 & 2019. A students' team has won the first prize of the 1<sup>st</sup> international energy and electricity market business decision simulation competition organized by the SUEP.

## Guest Lectures / Talks

### Industry Insights - Guest Lecture Series of TLM



Professor Nelson Perera, Head of School of Accounting, Economics and Finance in University of Wollongong conducted the guest lecture on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019. He is

an expert in the area of Business Analytics and he spoke on “Techniques and Trends in the field of Business Analytics”.

### Guest Lecture on “Modernising Construction Contracts Towards Smart Contracts”

A guest lecture on “Modernising Construction Contracts Towards Smart Contracts”, was conducted at the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa on 20<sup>th</sup> December

2019 by Prof. Noushad Ali Naseem, Massey University of New Zealand. The lecture was informative and useful for the department staff to enhance their knowledge on construction contract management.

### Guest Lecture on “Contemporary Research in Facility Management”

A guest lecture on “Contemporary Research in Facility Management”, was conducted at the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa on 05<sup>th</sup> December 2019 by Prof. Lai, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Lecture was very informative and useful for the academic staff of Department of Building Economics to enhance their knowledge on research trends in Facilities management.

### Guest Lecture on “Bid Preparation and Bid Evaluation”

A guest lecture on “Bid Preparation and Bid Evaluation” was held at the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019. The lecture was conducted by Ch.QS. Nishantha Wickramasinghe, Director, Construction Cost Management (Pvt) Ltd. It was useful for the Level III Quantity Surveying undergraduates to enhance their knowledge of tendering and estimation.

## Academic Programs

### Inauguration of MSc/PG Dip in EE/EI/IA 2019/20 Intake

Department of Electrical Engineering inaugurated the new 2019/20 intake of three postgraduate taught courses, MSc/PG Dip in Electrical Engineering, Electrical Installations and Industrial Automation on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the Electrical Engineering seminar room. Emeritus Professor Samarajeewa Karunaratne attended the inaugural ceremony as the key note speaker. This year, the Masters program in Electrical Engineering is conducted for the twenty first intake, where as Industrial Automation and Electrical Installations programs are conducted for the Fifteenth intake.

## Conferences & Symposium

### The 8<sup>th</sup> World Construction Symposium 2019



The 8<sup>th</sup> World Construction Symposium 2019, under the theme, “Towards a Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Built Environment” was held from 08<sup>th</sup>-09<sup>th</sup>

November at Galadari Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The symposium was jointly organized by the Building Economics Management and Research Unit



(BEMRU) of the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa and the Ceylon Institute of Builders (CIOB). The Associate Partners of the Symposium were Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom; Centre for Innovation

in Construction and Infrastructure Development (CICID); The University of Hong Kong; Built Environment Project and Asset Management (BEPAM): Journal, published by Emerald Group Publishing; Indian Institute of Technology

Madras (IIT Madras); Western Sydney University, Australia; and Colombo School of Construction Technology (CSCT), Sri Lanka.

## Foreign Visits

### Academic Visit and Information Session of Chinese Universities

Prof. M Thilakasiri, Senior Management Consultant and former Director - Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) visited the University of Moratuwa (UoM) on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with Faculty Deans and administrative officers of following three Chinese Universities, to conduct an information session for UoM students on educational opportunities available at China.

- (1) Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan
- (2) China University of Mining and Technology, Xuzhou

- (3) Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan

The delegates met Prof. KKCK Perera, the Vice Chancellor and it was decided to initiate following collaborations, especially in the areas of biomedical engineering, electronic engineering, Information Technology, medicine and mining.

1. Student Staff Exchange Program
2. Joint MBA/MSc program
3. Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
4. Link Programs
5. Joint research collaborations

### Dr.(Mrs) Upuli Jayatunga attended IEEE ISGT (Innovative Smart Grid Technologies) EUROPE 2019 conference

Dr. Jayatunga attended the 9<sup>th</sup> IEEE ISGT conference which was held from 29<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 at the University of POLITECNICA, Bucharest, Romania with her joint PhD candidate Dilhani Chathurangi, to present the paper titled "Evaluation of Maximum Solar PV Penetration: Deterministic Approach for Overvoltage Curtailments".





## Visit of delegation from the University of Auckland (UoA)



Dr. Partha Roop, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer and the Associate Dean (International) for the Faculty of Engineering, UoA and Mr. Ryan Gamon, International Manager, Faculty of Engineering, International Office, UoA visited University of Moratuwa (UoM) on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The University of Moratuwa has links with the University of Auckland and the visit was an impetus for further collaborations.

Prof. PKS Mahanama, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mrs. Dileeka Dias, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof. Gihan Dias, Director, International Relations, Dr. (Ms.) Surangika Ranathunga, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Dr. HR Pasindu, Senior Lecturer, Department of Civil Engineering, Ms. YS Karunarathne, Assistant Registrar, External Affairs, Publicity and International Student Promotion Division

had a very productive discussion with the delegates.

At the discussion the representatives of the two universities decided to identify interested academics from each university to initiate collaborations in a range of areas.

- Joint supervision of PhD students (Starting from the Civil Engineering Department)
- Group Zoom session in March 2020
- Provide Research Internships for UoM students at UoA
- Sign a Letter of Understanding (LoU) between Engineering Faculties of the two Universities that will promote exchange of materials, publications and information, co-operation between professors and research staff, Student mobility and Joint research
- Map and match research areas to create research workshop in 2020.

## Visit of delegation from National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan



A team of delegates from the National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan (NSYSU) visited the University of Moratuwa (UoM) on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019. National Sun Yat-sen University (NSYSU) is a leading comprehensive higher education institution in Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan. As one of the top research-oriented universities, NSYSU has achieved remarkable achievements in many fields, especially in engineering, environmental science, marine sciences, material science, and applied chemistry.

The delegation team comprised of Dr. Mitch Ming-Chi Chou, Vice President

for Research and Development/Chair Prof., Dept. of Materials and Optoelectronic Science, Dr. Ker-Chang Hsieh, Deputy Dean of Engineering College / Prof., Dept. of Materials and Optoelectronic Science, Dr. Yeong-Maw Hwang, Chairman & Prof., Dept. of Mechanical and Electromechanical Engineering, Dr. Shu-Min Li, Prof., Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, Dr. Tzung-Lin Lee, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Vivian Chung (Ms.), Senior Officer, Division of International Relations, Office of International Affairs and Ruru Chiang (Ms.), Senior Special Assistant, Academic Collaboration Center, Office of Research &

Development.

The team met Prof. KKCK Perera, Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa, Prof. NK Wickramarachchi, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Mrs. Dileeka Dias, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof. Gihan Dias, Director, International Relations, Prof. Sisil Kumarawadu, Head, Department of Electrical Engineering, Prof. PG Rathnasiri, Professor, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, Dr. (Mrs) AS Galhenage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Dr. Ranjith Amarasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. Ranga Rodrigo, Senior Lecturer, Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering and Ms. YS Karunarathne, Assistant Registrar, External Affairs, Publicity and International Student Promotions Division.

The two universities agreed to explore the possibility of collaborations in joint-research and student and staff exchange programs mainly in Electrical, Mechanical, Chemical, Materials Science, and Electrical and Telecommunication Engineering.



DataSEARCH



DataSEARCH invited Prof. Daminda Alahakoon, director of Research Centre for Data Analytics and Cognition (CDAC), La Trobe Business School, La Trobe University, to visit the center at the University of Moratuwa in order to develop key aspects of the center while helping

to deliver state-of-the-art technological content to the public.

The purpose of hosting Prof. Daminda and his team at the University of Moratuwa included improving the research quality, improving research/academic writing quality and conducting public seminars and workshops to improve the technologies/ techniques used by the industry and researchers all around Sri Lanka.

## Student Achievements

### UoM wins Two Awards at Andante 2019 Inter University Music Competition

[From front page]



Team Legato representing the Classical Music Society of University of Moratuwa was able to win the Best Performance Award along with the Most Popular Award

at the Andante 2019 Inter University music competition. This competition was organized by Sri Lanka Technology Campus and the grand finale was held at

Nawarangahala, Royal College, Colombo. The competition was judged by senior musicians including Mr. Nadeeka Guruge and Mr. Jananath Warakagoda.

The team representing the University of Moratuwa was a group of 12 members namely Naveen Pramodya, Sandeepa Arthanayaka, Prakash Thennakoon, Yasith Sandaruwan, Madanga Koralage, Tharindu Udakara, Triyon Vimukthi, Rajith Weerakoon, Rajika Chathuranga, Rameez Rasdeen, Pabasara Kannangara and Praweena Nirmani. With the support and guidance of Dr. Anishka Hettiarachchi and Prof. Jagath Premachandra, team Legato could gain this victory.

## Staff Achievements

### BEPAM Best Paper Award



Ms. Tharusha Ranadewa, Lecturer, Department of Building Economics and Prof. Yasangika Sandanayake, Head of the same Department, won the BEPAM Best Paper Award for the paper titled

“Lean Enabling Human Capacity Building of Small and Medium Contractors in Sri Lanka” at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Construction Symposium 2019.

### BEPAM Highly Commended Paper Award

Ms. Fasma Fasley, Research Assistant of the Department of Building Economics and Dr. (Ms.) Sachie Gunathilake, Senior Lecturer of the same Department, won the BEPAM Highly Commended Paper Award for the paper titled “Energy Retrofits to Enhance Energy Performance of Existing Buildings: A Review” at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Construction Symposium 2019.



Ms. Kaveesha Dewagoda, Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, received the CIOB Best Presenter Award for the paper titled “A Conceptual Knowledge Value Chain Model for Construction Organisations Engaged in Competitive Tendering” at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Construction Symposium 2019.

### Prof. Sisil Kumarawadu Honored as a Distinguished Professor



Prof. Sisil Kumarawadu was accorded an honorary position of Overseas Distinguished Professor in the College of

Electronics and Information Engineering of the Shanghai University of Electric Power (SUEP). Founded in 1951, the 12 distinct Colleges of SUEP engage in a broad spectrum of electric power engineering research, ranging from novel concepts of prime movers in the power plants to power systems cybersecurity. UoM and SUEP have already made important progress in

terms of joint research initiatives which include setting up of a Smart Energy Efficient Buildings Joint Research Lab. Prof. Kumarawadu is currently a Senior Professor in Electrical Engineering and Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa.

## Exhibitions, Field Trips & Workshops

### Field Visit to Makumbura Multimodal Centre (MMC)



Students from the 18<sup>th</sup> batch of Department of Transport & Logistics Management visited Makumbura Multimodal Centre on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The visit was organized for Multimodal Transport Network module.

## Analytical Workshop :

### Introduction to R software



Analytical Workshop on Introduction to R software was conducted by Mr. Anuradha Munasinghe who is a TLM Alumni and a Research Assistant from the Department of TLM, on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

## Cultural Events

### Multi-Religious Event



Earth Resources Engineering Society of Department of Earth Resources Engineering organized a multi-religious event for the purpose of remembering two students who had passed away, and also to develop respect, empathy and social harmony among students in the Department.

On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019, the event started with an insightful Dhamma Sermon by Venerable Professor Agalakada Srisumana Thero of University of Colombo. The sermon was titled “Value of Parents”. An almsgiving for fifteen Buddhist Monks took place the following day. Further, Priest of Methodist Church, Moratumulla preached a sermon on ‘peace’. In addition, rituals related to Hindu culture were also performed.

## Workshop on “Wall Laying Patterns and Concrete Testing”



A Workshop on “Wall Laying Patterns and Concrete Testing” was conducted at the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa on 03<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 by Mr. Buddika Abayaweera (Project Engineer) and his team from International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd. The

workshop was beneficial for Level I Quantity Surveying students of the Department to develop and enhance their knowledge of building construction technologies. The workshop was funded and organized by Quantity Surveying Alumina Association, University of Moratuwa.

## Sports

### Medal Winners at 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games 2019 - Nepal 2019



Dhanusha Rajapakse, a final year student of Department of Textile and Clothing Technology represented the National Taekwondo Team and was able to obtain a silver medal from women’s team poomsae (team demonstration) event (above 24 age category) at 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games held in Nepal from 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Anjalika Diyawadana, a first-year student of Department of Textile and Clothing Technology represented the National Karate Team and was able to obtain a bronze medal from Kumite (fighting) event at 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games held in Nepal from 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Rhythm Divine - 2019



The Annual Talent Show of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management organized by the Society of Transport and Logistics (STL) was held successfully at the University premises.

## Society & Community Responsive Activities

### The Annual Community Service Project



The annual community service project organized by the Earth Resources Engineering Society (Department of Earth Resources Engineering) called “Gurugedarata Arunellak” took place on 11th November 2019 at Monaragala Viharamadevi Primary School, Buttala. The objective of this event was to donate books, computers and science laboratory equipment and sports equipment etc. to the school in order to facilitate student-learning.

# Library Events

## Book Donation



Mr. Murugesu Pushparaj, Lions Club of Colombo-04, District 306 A1 donated the complete series of Encyclopedia Britannica to the Library.

## Supporting the curriculum of Primary Grades of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya Katubedda



Supporting the curriculum of Primary Grades of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya Katubedda, the Outreach Services Division of the Library organized a tour to a historically valuable place in the vicinity of Katubedda. The Kshetharama Mahaviharaya situated in Katubedda which was not witnessed by the students was selected under the patronage of chief incumbent Ven.

Kimbulapitiye Premananda thero and Mr.Mahindalal,Principal of BV. The Principal, teachers and students of grades of 4 and 5 of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya and staff of the Outreach Service Division, participated in the event.

The Kshetharama Mahaviharaya which was established in year 1829 is considered

as a historical and archaeological site. The architectural features go back to the time of Second World War where two storied “seema malakaya” and the Samadhi Buddha Statue made of stone. A magnificent collection of ola leave manuscripts were stored in-house and the volumes of newspaper ‘Sinhala Bauddhaya’ as well.

# ART AND TRADITION OF SRI LANKA

Volume 01  
Music of Sri Lanka



Dr. Gayathri Madubhani Ranathunga

# ART AND TRADITION OF SRI LANKA

Volume 02  
Dance of Sri Lanka



Dr. Priyanka Virajini Medagedara  
Karunaratne

# FASHION OF ROYALTY

*Kotte Kingdom of  
Sri Lanka*

Dr. Priyanka Virajini Medagedara  
Karunaratne

# FASHIONS OF ROYALTY

*The Kandyan Kingdom of  
Sri Lanka*

Dr. Gayathri Madubhani Ranathunga

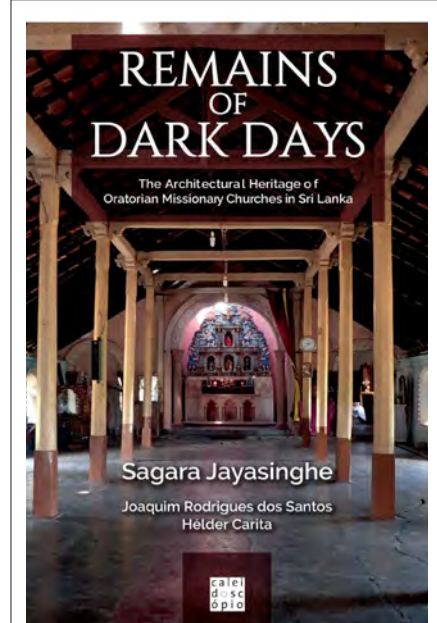
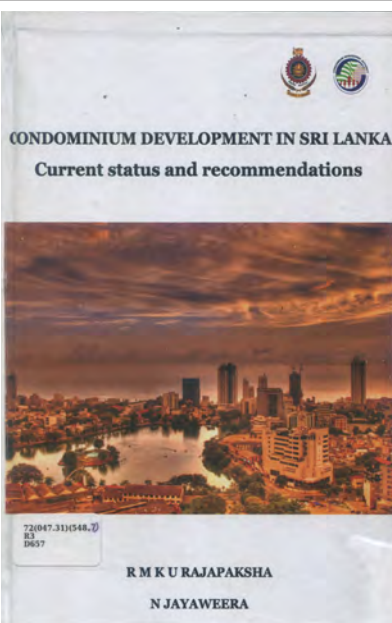
“Books authored by  
staff for 2019”



# THE BUDDHIST ROBE

The path pointing to natural dyes and possible establishment  
of a natural dyeing industry in the apparel sector of Sri Lanka  
with special reference on the Buddhist robe

Professor. U. G. Samudrika Wijayapala  
Dr. Gayathri Madubhani Ranathunga  
Dr. Priyanka Virajini Medagedara Karunaratne





University of Moratuwa

# Bimonthly UOM news

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### NEWS TO BE SENT TO

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HAPPY  
2020  
NEW YEAR