



3RD BIT CONVOCATION



The 3rd Convocation of the Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) External Degree of University of Moratuwa was held on 01 July at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). (See page 02)

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON: 'CITIES, PEOPLE & PLACES'– ICCPP-2016 - "TRANSFORMING CITIES THROUGH PLACE MAKING; FROM COMMUNITIES TO MEGA CITIES"



The Department of Architecture, in collaboration with its international and national academic partners, organised the fourth International Conference on Cities, People & Places, which was held on 30 and 31 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute in Colombo. (See page 23)

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OTHER EVENTS

3RD BIT CONVOCATION

The 3rd Convocation of the Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) External Degree of University of Moratuwa was held on 01 July at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). The Chancellor of the University, VidyaJyothi Professor Emeritus KKYW Perera, presided over the Convocation Ceremony. It was attended by the graduands with their parents, distinguished invitees, and academic and administrative staff of the University. Conferment of Degrees and Award of Diplomas and Certificates were as follows:

BIT External Degree	52
Diploma in Information Technology	54
Certificate in Information Technology	111



SYMPOSIA & CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON “APPLIED ANALYTICS FOR A SMART SOCIETY”

The international symposium on “Applied Analytics for a Smart Society” was held on 31 August and 1 September at OZO hotel, Colombo. The symposium was organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Moratuwa with the School of Information Systems, Singapore Management University. It offered a platform for researchers to share their knowledge, experience and research findings as well. Keynote speakers on the two days were Mr. Muhunthan Canagey, CEO, ICTA and Prof. Vajira Dissanayake, Director, Human Genetics Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo respectively. The symposium was partially sponsored by Commercial Bank PLC.



LBR LBO INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT 2016

The inaugural LBR LBO Infrastructure Summit 2016, themed “Realizing The Transformative Power of The Western Region Development: Opportunities and Challenges” was held on 20 September at the Liberty Ballroom, Ramada and 21 September in the OAK Room, Cinnamon Grand. Prof Amal S Kumarage, Senior Professor, Department of Transport and Logistics Management, was a keynote speaker at the event. Dr Pradeepa Jayaratne, Lecturer/Consultant, and Ms Thivya P Amalan, Lecturer, of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management participated in the event.



FARU 2016

FARU 2016, the ninth international research conference organized by the Faculty of Architecture, was held on 9 and 10 September at Mount Lavinia Hotel with paper presenters from Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, United Kingdom, Greece and South Africa. The National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka supported the conference as the Co-organizer, The University Grants Commission, Faculty of Graduate Studies, True Value Products, AlumexPvt Ltd, Ranjanas Ceramic and Sri Lankan Airlines supported the conference as key sponsors. 34 full research papers were selected and published from a rigorous blind review of 86 papers under various sub themes framed around the main theme, "Building the future - sustainable and resilient environments".

Dr Upendra Rajapaksha, Director of FARU, highlights that more opportunities for research on sustainable and resilient environments with other professionals and universities have been generated. Invited presentations made by two keynote speakers, namely Prof Koen Steemers, Professor of Sustainable Design, former Head of Department of Architecture, and Director, Martin Centre of the University of Cambridge, UK and Prof Amal S Kumarage of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa, has created many pathways for future research.

Contributions from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Ananda Jayawardene and Chief Guest for the FARU 2016, Secretary to Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Mr Udaya Senevirathne on the Government's initiatives for a sustainable built environment highlighted the need for practice-led research from academics and researchers in professional streams such as architecture, planning and building economics.



SYMPOSIUM ON "GSP+ & ITS IMPACT ON APPAREL EXPORT INDUSTRY"

The symposium on "GSP+ and its impact on Apparel Export Industry" organized by the Moratuwa University Textile Association (MUTA) was successfully held at the Kingsbury Hotel on 14 September. The purpose of this event was to publicize the expertise of eminent personalities on current economic developments in Sri Lankan Apparel Export Industry.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane, addressing the gathering, emphasized the significance of University – Industry collaborations and future strategy of the University to contribute to the vacuum of novel knowledge. Prof RA Attalage, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof KKCK Perera, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr USW Gunasekara, Head of the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology, past MUTA Presidents and other academic staff members also graced the occasion.

The symposium consisted of four speaker sessions followed by a panel discussion of industry experts. Hon. Dr. Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs delivered the keynote address on the effects of GSP+ and other trade agreements to the Sri Lankan economy. An overview of expected benefits to Sri Lanka from GSP+ was presented by Mrs. Sonali Wijeratne, Director-General of the Department of Commerce. Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director of the Institute of Policy Studies, delivered his address on policy issues related to GSP+ and competitive edge. Mr. Ruwan Keragala, Director Finance of MAS Intimates (Pvt.)

Ltd. presented on the challenges faced by local manufacturers in the wake of the receipt of GSP+.

Mrs. Sonali Wijeratne, Mr. Ruwan Keragala and Dr.Saman Kelegama were joined by Prof. Lakdas Fernando, the patron of MUTA, Mr. Saiff Jafferjee, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Apparel Exporters' Association and Mr. Tuli Cooray, Secretary-General of the Joint Apparel Association Forum, Sri Lanka for the panel discussion. It was moderated by Dr. Nirmali de Silva, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. More than hundred industry professionals representing a range of large and medium scale Sri Lankan enterprises participated in the event. Naturub Exports International (Pvt) Ltd., Ocean Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., MAS Intimates (Pvt) Ltd., Stretchline (Pvt) Ltd. and Apparel Technologies (Pvt) Ltd. provided valuable support as sponsors.

The remarkable success of the event was a result of the leadership of the current President of MUTA, Mrs Vijitha Ratnayake and the commitment of the MUTA executive committee members.

EXHIBITIONS & WORKSHOPS

DIALOG EXHIBITION



The Dialog-UoM Lab exhibited three of its recent products at an exhibition held at Dialog on 7 and 8 September, which featured new products and innovations. The exhibition was attended by Dato' Sri Jamaludin Ibrahim Managing Director/President & Group Chief Executive Officer Axiata Group, the Board of Directors of the Axiata Group. The event was also attended by the group CEO of Axiata Dialog and the regional CEO for South Asia, Axiata Group, Dr Hans Wijayasuriya. Among the Lab's exhibits were a system for remote industrial monitoring, and IoT systems for smart metering and other innovative applications. The exhibits are being considered for deployment as products/services of the Axiata Group.

CELEBRATION OF WORLD FM DAY 2016



Level 2 undergraduates of Department of Building Economics organised an event to celebrate the World Facilities Management Day 2016 on 9 October at the Department of Building Economics. The event culminated with a workshop to share industrial expertise with the undergraduates, and a FM community gathering. The 10th Anniversary of the commencement of the BSc (Hons) Facilities Management degree programme was also celebrated during the event. The academic staff of the Department of Building Economics, FM professionals from the industry, and graduates and undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics participated in the event.



WORKSHOP ON "DEVELOPING POVERTY-REDUCING WASTE COMPOSITE BUSINESSES"



As a developing country, Sri Lanka is facing considerable issues in solid waste management, especially in industrial polymer waste. Tons of such waste is used for landfills and inappropriate handling. In such a scenario, the Australian- Sri Lankan University Partnership to develop community based waste recycling businesses has come up with the enormous support of the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade Australia (DFAT) as a collaboration between the Universities of Western Australia, Moratuwa, Sri Jayawardhanapura and Jaffna. A three days' workshop was organised for industries generating wastes and recycling on 20, 21 and 22 October at the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa. Dilmah Conservation, Silvermills, Bettans, business consultants & plastic recyclers participated in this event.



It was successfully conducted with the direct supervision of Prof Caroline Baillie (Project Manager) Dr Randika Jayasinghe (Project Coordinator) & Prof Jagath Premachandra (Project Coordinator-University of Moratuwa). There were interesting and interactive sessions including hands on experiences during three days. Consultative approaches were taken in business planning & marketing, polymer/composite processing and product designing as well as community and social aspects. Ms Prasadi LiyanaArachchi (Asst. Project Coordinator), Mr Hiroshan Weerwardhana (Product Designer) & Mr Praveen Mathugamage (Research Assistant) were the supporting staff.



“IMAGES AND IMPRINTS”

An exhibition on Vernacular Architecture in India was organised by the Department of Architecture in collaboration with The India Sri Lanka Foundation. The exhibition displayed some of the finest examples of Vernacular Architecture from various parts in India and provided a rare opportunity to experience unique Indian Vernacular Architecture through more than 240 panels displayed in the new building of the Department of Architecture. It was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardana on 28 October, and many dignitaries including Prof Miki Desai of Ahmadabad, India, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Rahula Attalage, Dean, Faculty of Architecture Prof M L De Silva, Prof Murray Fraser, Professor of Architecture and Global Culture & Vice Dean of Research, Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment, UCL, UK, Prof Koen De Wandeler (Professor of Architecture, University of Leuven, Belgium) were present during the inauguration ceremony.



The exhibition was open to the public from 28 to 31 October. Apart from students of the various Faculties in the University, a large number of Architecture students from the City School of Architecture, Kotahalawala Defence University and SLIIT, Malabe, along with members of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects and the general public including art historians and photographers visited the Exhibition. The exhibition was greatly appreciated by the visitors; for both its content & organization. UltraTechCement Lanka (Pvt) and Morbok Wood Manufacturers extended their assistance in sponsoring the Exhibition.

IESL ROBOGAMES- 2016

“IESL RoboGames” is an annual competition organized by the Information Technology and Communications Engineering Sectional Committee of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka in collaboration with Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Moratuwa, with the objective of promoting and recognizing the talents and skills of the next generation of professionals. The competition held at the Annual Engineering Exhibition, “Techno” at BMICH on 7, 8, and 9 October. It was held in three categories this time: kids’ category, school category and undergraduate category. A series of workshops and awareness programmes were held in order to introduce the concept of robotics into the school’s educational activities for the school category.



WORKSHOP ON LEGAL REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO SAFETY HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL SECTOR



A workshop on “Legal requirements related to safety health and environment for the industrial sector” for the Level 3 Facilities Management undergraduates of the Department of Building Economics was conducted by professionals of MAS ACTIVE TRADING (PVT) LTD on 13 October at the Department of Building Economics.

During the very successful workshop, the undergraduates were exposed to the legal requirements related to safety health and environment for the industrial sector, the practical applications of these legal provisions and case studies to have a thorough understanding of the subject area. Mr Eranga Dilhan, Manager - Compliance & Environmental Sustainability, and Ms Vindyani Jayasinghe, Executive - Environmental Sustainability of MAS ACTIVE directed the session.

MORAXTREME



MoraXtreme is a coding competition held only for UoM students as a warm up event for the IEEExtreme. A series of workshops are conducted before MoraXtreme in order to improve the coding and problem solving skills of participants. The ultimate objective of these workshops and coding competition is to aim for flying colours at the global competition IEEExtreme 10.0. This is the third workshop of the workshop series conducted by the team Roman Karayo: Yasiru Kassapa, Chathura Widanage and Lasantha Ekanayake of batch '12 in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

WORKSHOP ON “INDEXED PUBLICATIONS”

The second session of the Workshop on “Indexed Publications” organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in collaboration with Staff Development Centre was held on 5 October at the Computer Lab of the University Library. Prof. Priyan Dias (Director/Research), Prof. Chintha Jayasinghe (Director/PGS - Faculty of Engineering), Dr. Lochandaka Ranatunge (Head/Dept. of IT) and Dr. Indrika Rajapaksha (Senior Lecturer/Dept. of Architecture) participated as resource persons.



WORKSHOP AND TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “PRINTING TECHNOLOGY”

Level 3 students following Media and Communication Design (MeCo) at the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, participated in a workshop and training programme on “Printing Technology” at PrintCare PLC, Kelaniya. This annual workshop and training programme has been conducted since 2011 by PrintCare PLC as their support towards the Bachelor of Design Degree of the Faculty of Architecture.



WORKSHOP ON MODELLING RIVER FLOW AND MORPHODYNAMICS WITHIN THE IRIC INTERFACE

A workshop on Modelling River Flow and Morphodynamics within the IRIC Interface was held on 1 and 2 September at UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Centre for South Asian Water Management (UMCSAWM), Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa. The workshop was jointly organized by United Geological Survey (USGS) U.S.A, Hokkaido University, Japan and University of Moratuwa. The inauguration ceremony of the workshop was graced by the participation of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Ananda Jayawardene, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof KKCK Perera, Head, Department of Civil Engineering, Prof JMSJ Bandara and Dr Jonathan Nelson from USGS.

The workshop covered a broad spectrum of river modelling techniques within the International River Interface Cooperative public-domain modelling interface. The workshop covered almost all aspects starting with basic data input and stepping through the process of grid generation, model execution, visualization and verification. Participants were taught how to effectively use the modelling approaches like, FaSTMECH, Nays2DH, Nays Flood and Nays Cube.



SAMANALAWEVA RESIDENTIAL TRAINING



The academic staff of the Department of Earth Resources Engineering attended a two-day residential training on Ventsim and JK Sim Blast software at Samanalaweva Samurdi Training Centre on 7 and 8 October. JK Sim Blast is specifically for the simulation of rock blasting activities with different parameters, whereas Ventsim assists to design ventilation systems through simulation. Application of the Ventsim software can be extended beyond the traditional mining industry to the designing of ventilation systems to suite different built environments. In this regard student groups are already involved in designing a suitable ventilation system for the applied sciences building. Proper ventilation can make the maximum use of the natural air and limit the use of air conditioners where it can save electricity.

SLUTOU WORKSHOP

The Sri Lanka Universities' Technical Officers' Union of the University of Moratuwa organized a workshop on "Laboratory Management and Handling of Electrical Testing Equipment". It was held in the University on 20 September with the assistance of the University of Moratuwa. Around 140 members participated in the workshop. This workshop included three major topics: handling of electrical testing instruments, rules and regulation for GRN maintenance, and laboratory designing.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING DIVISION PG DEGREE COURSE

The inauguration ceremony of the 15th intake of the Postgraduate Degree programme of the Transportation Engineering Division of the Department of Civil Engineering was held on 7 October at the Transportation Engineering postgraduate lecture room. Prof JMSJ Bandara - Head, Department of Civil Engineering, Dr HR Pasindu – Head, Transportation Engineering and members of the academic staff were present at the ceremony. Following traditional customs, the function started with lighting the oil lamp by the distinguished guests. After the welcome speech, Prof JMSJ Bandara delivered a speech highlighting the importance of conducting effective research followed by a speech by Dr Dimantha De Silva, the course coordinator. The Transportation Engineering Division offers the MEng in Highway & Traffic Engineering and MSc in Transportation Engineering since 1992. The 2016/2017 intake has 25 students.



MUDCOMPREHENSIVE URBAN DESIGN PROJECT VIVA VOICE EXAMINATION

The final examination of the Master of Urban Design (MUD) in the form of a Viva Voce for the Comprehensive Design Project (CDP) was held on 29 October at the Department of Architecture. The External Jurors were Prof Murray Fraser, Bartlett School of Architecture, UK, and Prof Koen De Wandeler, University of Leuven, Belgium. The local Examiners were Dr Surath Wickramasinghe, Chairman, SWA Associates, Dr Gamini Weerasinghe, Head of the Department of Architecture, Archt Dr Janaka Wijesundara, Course Director - Master of Urban Design course and Archt Janaka Dharmasena.



INAUGURATION – MSC IN IT

The inauguration ceremony for the 10th intake of students to the MSc /PG Diploma in Information Technology was held on 22 October at the Faculty of Information Technology. This new batch consists of 44 students selected through an interview process. Mr SC Premaratne as the coordinator of the 10th intake welcomed the new students and gave an overview of the programme. Dr L Ranathunga, Head of the Department of IT, Mr DK Withanage, former Dean of the Faculty, and Mr BH Sudantha, Senior Lecturer, graced the occasion. The courses commenced on the same day.



EXTERNAL COLLABORATIONS & CONSULTATIONS

LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF ‘TECHNO CITY’

The Launching Ceremony of ‘Techno City’ organized by the Minister of Megapolis and Western Development Hon Patali Champika Ranawaka, Deputy Minister of Megapolis and Western Development Hon Lasantha Alagiyawanna and the Urban Development Authority, was held at the Sri Lanka Institute of Nano Technology, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama on September 22 with the participation of the Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Hon Ranil Wickramasinghe and in the presence of the Minister of Science, Technology & Research Hon Susil Premajayantha. The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deans of the faculties together with other staff members of the University of Moratuwa attended the ceremony. A Foundation Laying Ceremony for the expansion of the University of Moratuwa was also held at the neighbouring land at Pitipana. University of Moratuwa received 20 acres land under “Techno City” Project.



INDUSTRIAL FUNDING FOR STRUCTURE PROJECT BY LEVEL 1 ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

The Structure project annually conducted by the Level 1 coordinators of Level 1 of the Department of Architecture was revitalized as a sustainable structure building competition this year. Siam City Cement(Lanka)Limited funded the expenses of building the three actual scaled structures that were partly of rammed earth and partly of baked brick construction. The project was conducted between 27 May and 08 July. Out of the three groups that participated, the winners were presented with a trophy, while all participants received certificates of participation.



The ceremony was held on 07 September at the Department of Architecture Auditorium. Mrs. Farzana Khan, Head of Sustainable Development and Mr. Sampath Wijesekera, Head of Technical Support representing Siam City Cement(Lanka)Limited presented the awards, along with the Head of Department of Architecture Dr Gamini Weerasinghe. This collaboration that would hopefully lead to many more in the future was coordinated by Senior Lecturer Archt. Dr. Nishan Rasanga Wijetunge of the Department of Architecture.

CIVIL ENGINEERING DICB

In view of recognizing industry needs and strengthening the links with the industry, the Department of Civil Engineering annually organizes a consultative meeting with industry representatives, and this year's Department Industry Consultative Board Meeting was held on 6 October at the Departmental Board Room. With the participation of over 20 leading governmental organizations and private companies engaged in the civil engineering and construction industry, this gathering provided an excellent forum to discuss the issues pertaining to the curriculum and syllabi, in-plant training, optional and elective modules and postgraduate and short courses to meet specific industry needs, etc., via effective dialogue and exchange of views. The feedback from the industry has been found to be very effective in refining and merging the mission and vision of the Department with the growing industry requirements and developing strong Department-Industry collaborations thereby contributing to the further enhancement of graduate attributes of the highly capable young professional engineering graduates.



MATERIALS ENGINEERING DICB

The meeting of the Department Industry Consultative Board of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering was held on 9 September at the Engineering Faculty Board Room. The DICB was this year on the theme of "Future Trends in Materials Engineering – Towards Synthetic Judgments". Industry specialists representing a wide variety of industries 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 MSE graduates are well-equipped with the knowledge and skills required for the industry. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Sampath Weragoda. During the panel discussion, chaired by Mr. Sampath Weragoda and Dr. S.U. Adikary, views and suggestions on the undergraduate programme, views and suggestions on the postgraduate programme, and views and suggestions to improve department – industry interactions were discussed.



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DICB



The Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) meeting of Department of Mechanical Engineering was held on 30 September at the Engineering Faculty Boardroom, University of Moratuwa. The programme was held with the view of obtaining industry feedback and suggestions on two new streams which are proposed to commence in the coming years, namely Biomedical and Sports Engineering and Building Services Engineering.

Following the welcome speech by Dr. HKG Punchihewa, the Head of Department Dr. W.K.Wimal Siri enlightened the gathering about the current progress of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, emphasizing on research projects, industrial collaborations, student achievements, human resources and lab facilities. Brief introductions to the two new streams, Biomedical and Sports Engineering and Building Services Engineering were delivered by Dr. RARC Gopura and Dr. MMID Manthilake. After acknowledging the current achievements and developments of the Department, industry experts and Department academic staff had a combined discussion chaired by Prof. KKCK Perera on possible improvements and opportunities for the proposed new streams and existing streams. The meeting concluded in a high note with the conclusion of the discussion.



DICB 2016 – DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

The meeting of the Department Industrial Consultative Board of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management was held on 26 October at the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute. Industry specialists representing a wide variety of industries including Nestle Lanka, Lanka Shipping and Logistics Pvt Ltd, KPMG, Civil Aviation Authority, Fonterra Brands Lanka and also TLM Alumni currently working in the industry along with the academic staff of the Department participated in the meeting.

The objectives of this meeting were to widen and improve the network between Department and the industry and to get Alumni Feedback on the Degree Programme. The panel discussion was chaired by Prof. Amal S. Kumara and it consists of five sessions on Industrial Training (Internship) for TLM undergraduates, job opportunities for TLM graduates, postgraduate programme, alumni feedback on the Degree Programme, and suggestions from the industry. The meeting was a success, with both industry and alumni expressing their views and suggestions for improvements, and it was a step forward in the path of tightening the link between the industry and the Department and also the link between the alumni and the Department.



VISITS TO UOM

MALDIVES NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Mr Ghaanim Mohamed, Dean, Faculty of Engineering Technology, Mr. Ahmed Faariz Nizar, Head of Department for Architecture Department and Mr. Mohamed Haikallbarahim, Head of Department for Civil Engineering, from Maldives National University visited University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka on 14 September 2016 and discussed the mutually important areas for both parties. Vice Chancellor of University of Moratuwa Professor Ananda Jayawardane presided the meeting which was attended by Deputy Vice Chancellor, Deans of the Faculties and some heads of the departments.



UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, USA



A delegation of dignitaries from the University of Cincinnati, USA, including Raj Mehta – Vice Provost, Professor of Marketing – UC International, Lisa Holstrom – Senior Assistant Dean – College of Arts & Sciences, Gowribalan Ananda Vamadeva – Associate Professor of Mathematics visited the University of Moratuwa, on 10 October and discussed about exchange programmes of undergraduate students and two-year Master programmes for postgraduate students in collaboration with both universities, as well as areas of mutual research interests. The Vice-Chancellor presided at the meeting which was attended by the Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and academics from other Faculties.

VISIT BY MALDIVIAN MINISTER

Mr Abdulla Ziyad, Minister of State for Environment and Energy visited University of Moratuwa on 21 October and requested training programmes to train Maldivian students in the areas of Water and Coastal Engineering. Professor Samantha Hettiarachchi, Department of Civil Engineering, who is the Vice-Chairman of UNESCO/IOC Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (IOTWS) expressed consent and invited them to have a discussion. Further, it was discussed to conduct collaborative research on areas crucial for both parties.

The Vice-Chancellor presided at the meeting which was attended by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Director, International Relations and Senior Lecturer Dr (Mrs) WBM Thoradeniya and Senior Lecturer Mr AHR Rathnasooriya.

HOCHSCHULE NIEDERRHEIN



Prof Ulrich Eicken and Prof Thomas Weide from Hochschule Niederrhein, University of Applied Sciences, Germany visited the University of Moratuwa on 31 October and discussed about exchange programmes for undergraduate students, double degree programmes and internship programmes relevant to Textile and Clothing Technology. Further, the opportunities of participating at their University fashion show and symposium were considered. Vice-Chancellor Prof Ananda Jayawardane presided at the meeting which was attended by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof RA Attalage, Director, International Relations, Prof Gihan Dias, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof KKCK Perera, and Prof GLD Wickramasinghe and Prof Samudrika Wijayapala of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology. The delegates also visited the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology and had discussions regarding future collaboration.

DELEGATES FROM US EMBASSY

US Embassy delegates including Deputy Chief of Mission Mr Robert Hilton and Director for Press, Academic, and Cultural Affairs Mr James Russo visited the University of Moratuwa on 26 October and discussed collaboration between US universities and the University of Moratuwa. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof RA Attalage presided at the meeting which was attended by the Director, International Relations, Prof Gihan Dias, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof Dileeka Dias, Director Research, Prof. Priyan Dias, Prof Sanath Jayasena and Mr G Beligetamulla.



INITIATIVES FOR MOU WITH THE HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY, JAPAN



Prof Satoru Kawasaki from Hokkaido University visited the Earth Resources Engineering Department on 21 October. Prof Kawasaki is from the Division of Sustainable Engineering, where many Earth Resources Engineering graduates secured higher study opportunities with full scholarships. His team at the Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido, is keen to establish a MoU to strengthen the relationship between Moratuwa and Hokkaido universities by widening the opportunities for research and exchange programmes between the two universities. During his brief visit to the Department he observed the laboratory facilities and held initial discussions by exchanging a draft MoU document which will be revised to cater to the University requirements. Former Earth Resources Engineering student and current PhD candidate at Hokkaido University, Ms. Nadika Dilrukshi accompanied Prof Satoru, while Dr(Ms) Anjula Dassanayake from Earth Resources Engineering, a former Hokkaido graduate, coordinated the event.

DR. DOROTHY CHAN VISITED TLM

Dr. Dorothy Chan, Deputy Director of the University of Hong Kong (HKU) School of Professional and Continuing Education, and Head of Centre for Logistics and Transport visited Department of Transport & Logistics Management on 22 September. Dr Chan is a Honorary Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT). She was the first lady chairperson of the Hong Kong Institute in 1989 and she assumed the role of International President in 2013 for 2 years. She is a member of the International Steering Group on Mega Projects of the Bartlett School of Planning at University College London and a fellow of the Centre of Urban Studies and Urban Planning at HKU. She is an Independent Non-Executive Director of Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited and AMS Public Transport Holdings Limited.

Dr Chan took part in an interactive discussion with TLM academic staff regarding the undergraduate modules, module delivery techniques, research, consultancy and staff or students exchange possibilities from 9.30am to 11.30 am. She also shared her experience of Hong Kong as Logistics-Hub and expected attributes of TLM graduates to be globally competent from 11.30 am to 12.30pm.

VISIT TO IT FACULTY

Prof Anura Jayasumana from the Colorado State University, USA and Dr Damith Ranasinghe from the University of Adelaide, Australia visited the Faculty of Information Technology on 5 October and carried out fruitful discussions with the academic staff of the Faculty of IT regarding possible research collaborations related to the Internet of Things (IoT).

Anura Jayasumana is a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Colorado State University (CSU), where he holds a joint appointment as Professor of Computer Science as well. He has founded the Computer Networking Research Laboratory at CSU, and is a member of NSF Engineering Research Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere. At CSU, he has supervised over 20 Ph.D. and 50+ M.S. theses, and has taught courses ranging from freshmen undergraduate courses to specialized graduate courses in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Communications Society (2014-2017). He has published over 200 research papers and a book. His current research interests are focused in the areas of Computer and Communication Networking, Performance Modeling, Network Protocols, Application of sensor networks and embedded systems, VLSI - Testing and Testable Design of Integrated Circuits. Dr. Damith Ranasinghe is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Adelaide. He received a BE in Information Technology and Telecommunication Engineering from the University of Adelaide in 2002. After graduation he has worked in Auto-ID Labs at MIT, in the University of Cambridge and in the University of Adelaide, where he completed his PhD degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering in 2007. His current research interests are focused in the areas of RFID technology, systems, and integration.



INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

ARCASIA STUDENT JAMBOREE 16

Organised by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), and sponsored by 18 other architectural institutes across the Asian region, the 17th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA17) was a major biannual event in the Asia region held in Hong Kong for the first time. The main theme was “Growth and Diversity: The Green Age of Asia.” ARCASIA Student Jamboree 16 which was part of the Asian Congress of Architects 17, organized by the ARCASIA, was held in Hong Kong, with the participation of nineteen member countries around the Asian continent from 26 to 30 September. Eight students from the Department of Architecture, namely Yashodara Ranasinghe, Ilmi Dissanayake, Rajitha Katugaha, Kaveen Kariyawasam, G Senthuran, Ranmini Herath, Mahima Herath and A Aousten, along with three students from the City School of Architecture represented Sri Lanka.

Apart from the academic sessions, the student jamboree comprised variety of events, such as field visits, group work and entertainment, in which the students were able to gain a lot through participation. IlmiDissanayake (Level 4) who was the official student delegate from the University, made a presentation on Green Architecture. The Level 2 students presented an item at the Cultural Night. The tour gave the opportunity for the students to broaden their knowledge and experience as well as to build up relationships with foreign students.



TECHNICAL TRAINING ON LIGHTNING PROTECTION

Dr Asanka Rodrigo of the Department of Electrical Engineering participated in the Technical Training on Lightning and Transient Overvoltage Protection training at the manufacturing and testing facility of the OBO Bettermann, Germany from 27 September to 3 October. The training sessions and hands on experience on lightning protection and high voltage testing brought knowledge on most modern technologies on lightning and high voltage transient protections. Dr Rodrigo had chance to visit the BET Testing Centre for lightning protection, which is the biggest Lightning protection testing facility in Europe.



VISIT TO UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

Ms. Shashini Ranabahu, Lecturer of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management, participated and presented a research paper entitled “An assessment of spatial variations of land surface temperature over urban environments and anthropogenic causes: A case study of Kandy City, Sri Lanka” in the International Conference on Anthropology, Adaptation and Resilience in Climate Change Regime on 22-23 October at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.



SSVEP-BASED BMI FOR A MEAL ASSISTANCE ROBOT

A paper titled “SSVEP-based BMI for a Meal Assistance Robot” was presented at the 2016 IEEE International Conference on System, Man and Cybernetics (IEEE SMC 2016) held from 9 -12 October in Budapest, Hungary, by Chamika Janith Perera, a research student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering working under the supervision of Dr. Thilina Lalitharatne. The IEEE SMC conference is the IEEE System, Man and Cybernetics Society’s flagship conference. Currently Mr. Perera, who is attached to the Bionics Laboratory of at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, is working on developing a brain signal (EEG signal) controlled meal assistance robot.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON “INTELLIGENT BUILDINGS: THE PAST AND THE FUTURE”

Prof Sisil Kumarakadu of the Department of Electrical Engineering shared lessons and insights from his years’ long involvement in the areas of systems automation and control as a keynote speaker on 21 of October at the IEEE International Conference on Emerging Technological Trends (IEEE ICETT’16) that was held at the Baseliros Mathews II College of Engineering, KL, India. The speech titled “Intelligent Buildings: The Past and the Future” discussed the transition from the past classical methods that are predominantly prevalent in South Asia to the future of intelligent buildings in their quest to achieve the optimal resource and operational efficiency in the light of emerging technological trends in built-in control hardware, power electronics and induction motor drives, internet-of-things, big data analytics and cloud computing.

EASTS BOARD MEETING

Dr. T. Sivakumar, Head of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management, participated in the Board meeting of Eastern Asian Association for Transportation Studies (EASTS) of 2016 representing the Sri Lankan Society of Transport and Logistics as Secretary of the society. This meeting was held in association with the International Symposium on Smart Mobility for Smarter Cities in Saigon Prince Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 13 September. SLSTL was declared as a full domestic member of EASTS at its Board Meeting.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

CVCD EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2016

Prof (Mrs) Chintha Jayasinghe of the Department of Civil Engineering was awarded the CVCD Excellence Award 2016 for the Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in the field of Technology and related Sciences including Engineering, Architecture, Quantity Surveying and information Technology. **Dr Rangika Halwatura**, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering, was awarded the CVCD Excellence Award 2016 for the Most Outstanding Young Researcher in the same field.



UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA TOASTMASTERS EXCEL AT HUMOROUS SPEECH AND SPEECH EVALUATION CONTESTS



Speech contests are an integral part of being a member of a Toastmasters Club. Competitions begin with club contests and winners continue competing through the area, division and district levels. This year, members of the University of Moratuwa Toastmasters Club competed in the Humorous Speech Contest and Speech Evaluation Contest. **Ms. Thilini Weerasuriya**, Lecturer (Probationary) of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and **Mr. Prabod Munasinghe**, Lecturer (Probationary) of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, were placed first and second respectively in the club level contests held on 14 September. Ms. Weerasuriya went on to win first place at both area level contests on 18 September and was awarded the third place at the Speech Evaluation Contest of Division J, District 82 of Toastmasters International, held on the 1 October in Colombo. Eight Toastmasters from corporate and community clubs competed in the division level contests before an audience of around 200 Toastmasters.



The University of Moratuwa Toastmasters Club meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4.30pm to 6.30pm at the Engineering Faculty Board Room. Staff members, postgraduate students and alumni of the University can obtain membership in the club and gain immense benefits by improving their communication and leadership skills. The club members warmly welcome guests to visit the club and observe the educational meetings prior to joining.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

BRONZE AWARD WINNER -ARCASIA STUDENTS' DESIGN COMPETITION 2016

As a part of ACA17, the ARCASIA Students' Design Competition and awarding ceremony was held in Hong Kong in parallel with the students' jamboree 2016. A large number of Architecture students from each member country submitted their entries to the competition. The project "Resilient Resettlement: Post Disaster Reconstruction at Poonagala" by **Yashodhara Ranasinghe** from the Department of Architecture was selected as one of the Top 5 winning projects by the panel of Jurors of the ARCASIA Students' Design Competition. Yashodhara was invited to participate in the Jamboree which was held from 26 to 30 September and receive the award at the awards ceremony. The final results were announced at the awards ceremony on 29 September where she won the Bronze award by bringing international recognition to Sri Lanka and the University of Moratuwa.



SLCERT|CC INFORMATION SECURITY QUIZ WINNERS



Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Response Team, (Sri Lanka CERT| CC) organized the Information Security Quiz Competition for university students in Sri Lanka for the Cyber Security Week, 2016. Sri Lanka CERT is the Centre of cyber security in Sri Lanka, mandated by the government of Sri Lanka to protect the nation's information infrastructure. Three teams from the University of Moratuwa participated in the competition: Mora Avengers, Phoenix, and Smurfs. The team Smurfs: **Yasiru Kassapa** (CSE '12), **Dinuka Salwathura** (CSE '13), and **Imesha Mihirath** (CSE '13) from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering won the first place in the competition. The competitors were trained by CSE alumni Ridwan Sharifdeen and Deepal Jayasekara who are active members of the Information Security Club. Smurfs placed first in the competition won the Cloud Security Round prize, Phoenix won the Basic Security Round Prize, and the teams Smurfs, Phoenix and Mora Avengers scored a 109, 90 and 90 points respectively in the competition.

NEW OFFICE BEARERS - SLAice – SC



Four students from the 2013 Civil Engineering batch were elected office bearers of the Sri Lanka Association of the Institution of Civil Engineers Student Chapter (SLAice-SC) for the year of 2016/2017 at the AGM held on 3rd of October, 2016 at IESL auditorium. They are, Publicity Director- **Ms Upeksha Virajini Karunathilake**, Event Director – **Mr Asanka De Silva**, committee member- **Mr Shan Sandaruwan Abeywardene** and student coordinator – **Mr Amila Sankalpa Jayasinghe**.

The Sri Lanka Association of the Institution of Civil Engineers Student Chapter (SLAice-SC) is the official student chapter of the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK) in Sri Lanka. SLAice Student Chapter is one of the largest civil engineering associations in Sri Lanka and has more than 1200 civil engineering student members from almost all the major universities and education institutions in Sri Lanka.

SAHASAKNIMAVUM GOLDEN AWARD



Sahasak Nimavum 2016, National Exhibition for Inventions and Innovations organized by the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission was held at the Nelum Pokuna Theatre on 26 October. A robot kit invented targeting children by a team from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering won the 1st place in the field of applied science and technology. The team consists of **Yasura Gimhan Kossinhala Vithana**, **Hashini Hiranya Senaratne**, **Pubudu Chinthaka Gunatilaka** and **Udith Arosha Gunaratna**. The robot kid invention is a simple, interactive and expandable robot kit targeting children. The invention consists of both hardware and software. A child can build robots with different capabilities by combining blocks like building a structure using building blocks. The software component automatically detects the capabilities of the robot that the child builds and allows him to program the robot using a very simple, drag and drop visual programming environment which is very similar to natural language commanding. The invention also allows the community to develop hardware components compatible with the system and that creates another line of business.

ACHIEVEMENTS AT ROBOTICS COMPETITIONS

A team from Moratuwa won 2nd place at the XbotiX robotics competition organized by the University of Ruhuna. The event was held on 19 October and more than 30 teams participated. The team comprising of four students were first runners up in the university category.

Nine teams from the University of Moratuwa participated in the annual robotic competition organized by faculty of engineering of Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology held on 2nd of September 2016. Team Ezio comprising of students from ENTC became champions in the university category and team Dark Knight became 2nd runners up.

A team from ENTC won 3rd place in the Open Category at the Battle Robot competition organized by Uva Wellasa University held on 1 October. 44 teams competed in the open category from several universities across the island.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE 'LANKA STAR' PACKAGING COMPETITION

Twelve students from the Department of Integrated Design won three gold stars, four silver stars and five bronze stars in the 'Lanka Star Packaging competition (Student category) 2016' organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging. These award winning designs are some of the outcomes of the package design project of Level 3 and the design project 'Adjoining Traditional Crafting, Ramba-2016' of Level2 where the students designed lifestyle products and product packages using banana fibres.



Winning Entries:

Gold Star	Mushroom Packaging Illuminative Savior Button Mushroom Packaging	D M S S Jayakody B L S Wasana Liyanarathne D M D A B Deegala
Silver Star	Gift Packaging for Wine Bottles Freshly Plucked Refined Tradition Value added tea gift Packaging	M T Manika Mendis De Silva G W I U A M D C Amarakoon Rashandi VisharaPorambage
Bronze Star	Gift Packaging For Saree Gift Packaging for Jewelry Crafted for Momento Valued Taste Embracing Glamour	Hewa Welege Naduni Madushika Kasun Himesh Rajapaksha De Silva G W I U Perera W D S P D Thirunika Hethmini Silva

DESIGN FOR SAAC 2016 – COLOMBO SRI LANKA

The overall design and concept of the inaugural South Asian Aquatic Championship (SAAC) was proposed by eight, second year students of Media and Communication Design and their lecturer Ms. Sumanthri Samarawickrama of the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture. This project was initiated with a logo design competition, where two of the students, Vikasitha Anumewan and Supun Dulanga won. Thereafter, the two winning logos were merged and composed as the official SAAC logo. Together with the winners and the rest of the team members, Ravindu Subasinghe, Samangi Wadinambi Arachchi, Rashandi Porambage, Tharindu Meddegoda, Sunera Samarasinghe and Duneesha Weeraasinghe contributed further to the rest of the designs. The designs included the accreditation cards, t-shirts, certificates, medals of all athletes and officials, backdrop, podium, victory stand, plaques, flags, stationery and sponsorship material.



FIRST PLACE - SS12 ASIA 2016 IOT COMPETITION

A team comprising of ENTIC, BME and CSE students won the first place in the SS12 Asia 2016 IoT competition held on 26 and 27 September at Kumaraguru College of Technology Coimbatore. SS12 is a code-a-thon and a make-a-thon organized to recognize the young innovators and the theme for this year was "Enhancing the Quality of Life through Innovation". Teams from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Malaysia representing thirty different universities competed for the final prize. The winning device was called Braille Band which helps visually impaired people to get information from a smart device with haptic technology.

STUDENTS OF IT FACULTY EMERGE VICTORIOUS AT HACKATHONS

Students of the Faculty of Information Technology won the 1st place at the “HackX 2k16 - Inter-University Hackathon”, organized by the Department of Industrial Management - University of Kelaniya on 23 and 24 September at the Dialog Head Office Auditorium. The team comprised of Level 4 undergraduates **Thuan Shafer Preena, Supun Harsha Priyadarshana, Ramindu Rusara Senarath, and Tharindu Senanayake**, presenting their application “iWRAP – Mobile Based Smart Optic Wearable for Road Accident Prevention Caused by Drowsiness and Fatigue”. The same team also emerged 1st Runner-Up at the TAD Hack 2016 - Telecom Application Developer Hackathon organized by hSenid Mobile on 15 and 16 October at the Dialog Head Office Auditorium.



CHAMPIONS – WILAT FLOAT COMPETITION

Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT), the women’s forum of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) organized a walk on 24 September under the theme “Striking a Balance for a Greener Tomorrow” for the second successive year with the objective of reducing the carbon footprint in the industries they operate and to promote and encourage green practises in one’s personal lives to lead a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. The walk was followed by a brief introduction to the much awaited float competition where students of the CINEC Maritime Campus, University of Moratuwa and Kothalawala Defense University actively participated by making props and models to convey a message depicting the logistics and transport sector as a whole. The props were made from eco-friendly material to live up to the concept. The team representing the University of Moratuwa - Department of Transport & Logistics Management emerged as champions at the float competition and the runners-up were Kothalawala Defence University.

FIT STUDENTS WIN GOLD AT NATIONAL BEST QUALITY ICT AWARDS

A team comprising **Thuan Shafer Preena, Supun Harsha Priyadarshana, Ramindu Rusara Senarath, Tharindu Senanayake, Viraj Hasith Warnakulasinghe and Chandima Gunawardana** of Batch 12 of the Faculty of Information Technology has developed an IoT-based smart wearable solution for prevention of violence, abuse and harassment of women. The team won the Gold Medal in the Tertiary (Technology) Category at the National Best Quality ICT Awards competition organized by the BCS Sri Lanka Section. The finals was held on 14 October at the Galadari Hotel. The team also won a Special Merit Award in the “Inclusion and Empowerment” Category at the E-Swabhimani 2016 - National Best e-Content Awards competition organized by the ICTA - Sri Lanka. The finals were held on 31 October.

Their project Ms.USE is an IoT based mobile solution developed to prevent violence, abuse and harassment of women through a smart wearable device (a wearable ring), which gives women and children the opportunity to call for help and backup assistance in just a split second from their guardian or from any responsible group of people who are ready to act against such incidents.



CHAMPIONS OF SAIFA BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Lahiru Amarasekara, Hashini Kodippili and Kalpani Perera (Team SWOTZ) from 14' Batch of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management became the champions at the SAIFA Business Challenge held on 25 October. This competition was one of the events of "VISIO'16 organized by the Students Association of Industrial and Financial Analysis, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

INTECS OUTREACH 2016

Boosting enthusiasm and determination in young minds to reach the peaks of modern technologies, 'INTECS Outreach 2016' organized and conducted by the Information and Technology Society (INTECS) of the Faculty of Information Technology was held successfully on 6 & 7 October at the premises of Ruwanwella Rajasinghe Central College and Mahawa Vijayaba National School respectively.

The programme was tremendous opportunity to reach out to 715 students of Ruwanwella Rajasinghe Central College and 240 students of Mahawa Vijayaba National School. The programme included educational as well as motivational sessions targeting GCE Ordinary Level and Advanced Level students. The sessions were conducted by the undergraduates of the Faculty of Information Technology. In addition, sessions focusing on how to successfully face examinations and what should be expected after their Advanced Level examination were also conducted. The students were also furnished with knowledge on different degree programmes and courses which they could follow and the benefits of such. Moreover, question and answer sessions and interactive sessions were conducted amidst the technological

sessions where hardware and software projects developed by the Level 1 and 2 undergraduates were demonstrated.

The educational sessions consisted of an Advanced Level GIT (General Information Technology) model paper discussion session for Grade 13 students, sessions covering the technological topics Python, Database and Networking for the Advanced Level students who have chosen ICT as a main subject and also sessions on flowcharts & pseudo codes, logic gates, HTML and Photoshop for the Ordinary Level students who follow ICT as a subject.

'INTECS Outreach 2016' was concluded seeing happiness, enlightenment, determination and motivation within students. The programme would not have been successful without the support and the guidance of the Principals, the staff, the students and the past pupils of Ruwanwella Rajasinghe Central College and Mahawa Vijayaba National School. Besides, very special gratitude is due to the great pillars behind the success story, the academic and the non-academic staff of the Faculty of Information Technology, for their guidance and the support.

PRE-SCHOOL ART COMPETITION

Going along with the 2016 theme "Let us join hands to protect the world of children" the Library staff in collaboration with Sumudu Preschool, University of Moratuwa organized an Art Competition for children on 30 September. Dr. Gayathri Ranathunga and Dr. Virajini Karunaratne of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology volunteered to encourage the children and judge the entries.

At the end, award winning children's musical movie "Ho gaana Pokuna" (The Singing Pond directed by Indika Ferdinando) was screened.



MATHEMATICS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

To enhance mathematical skills among Grade Eight students of Sri Rahula Maha Vidyalaya, the Library launched a new outreach programme. Sri Rahula Maha Vidyalaya is situated in Thelawala, Ratmalana and has about 300 students. Mr. Roshan Fernando, Mrs. Ganga Godakanda and Mr. Deeptha Peiris of the UoM Library staff conduct this programme every Wednesday at the school. The first programme was held on 28 September. The Deputy Principal, representatives of the staff members and representatives of the library staff participated in the inauguration session.



AWARENESS PROGRAMME



The Library in collaboration with Bodhiraja Vidyalaya organized an awareness programme for parents on 27 September in commemoration of World Children's Day 2016. Mrs. Nayani Gunawardena conducted the programme. Mr. Mahesh Chandima Devapriya, an undergraduate of Faculty of Engineering, volunteered to share his memories on his journey to the University of Moratuwa. The Principal and Deputy Principal of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya also participated in the programme.



SNEHA 2016

Sneha 2016, a CSR event, was organised by the Society of Transport and Logistics for students of Ananda Dassanayaka school in Kothmale. The intention was to give those children a moment of pleasure, a memorable experience to their lives with the outer world which they get rarely in their childhood. The event was held fruitfully on 16 September. 47 students of different ages enthusiastically participated in the event throughout the whole day. The students departed from the school at 6.30am and reached the Temple of the Tooth at around 8.30am and had breakfast there. Despite the large crowd present they were able to see the Temple, particularly the museum with artifacts representing various Buddhist cultures. Their next destination was the Kandy City Centre, after which they visited the Botanical Gardens where they had lunch spent some time to relax and play. The students got a chance to walk on the 'Rangiri Palama' the hanging bridge which was a different but exciting experience for them. After spending some quality time in the garden they were ready to visit their last destination of the journey, the Ranawana Temple.

At the end of the day it was one of the most successful events organised by the STL, who are thankful to all who made the event a success.

APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Pasan Manuranga Edirisinghe was appointed as a Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Mathematics with effect from 01.11.2016.



Dr. Varuna Adikariwattage was appointed as a Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Transport and Logistics Management with effect from July 2016.



Dr. Thanuja Paragoda was appointed as a Lecturer (on-contract) in the Department of Mathematics with effect from 13.09.2016.



Dr. (Mrs.) GA Sewvandi has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Materials Science & Engineering with effect from 03.10.2016.

Dr. (Mrs.) A.S. Galhenage has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering with effect from 03.10.2016.

Mrs. S.U. Gamage has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Languages with effect from 10.10.2016.

Mrs. OT Rathnasiri has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Languages with effect from 10.10.2016.

Ms. K.M.K.S.M. Bandara has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Languages with effect from 03.11.2016.

PROMOTIONS

Dr. Yapa Mahinda Bandara has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Transport and Logistics Management with effect from 16.12.2015.



Mr. AR Dissanayake has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Mathematics with effect from 02.02.2015.

Dr. (Mrs) Y.G. Sandanayake has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Building Economics with effect from 08.04.2015.

Dr. N.G.R. Perera has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Architecture with effect from 17.03.2015.

Dr. A.S. Perera has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering with effect from 14.12.2013.

Mr. J.A.S.S. Jayasinghe has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Integrated Design with effect from 13.12.2011.

Mr. R.M.B.S.C.K. Rathnamalala has been to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Integrated Design with effect from 02.12.2014.

Dr. (Mrs.) G.I. Karunasena has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Building Economics with effect from 20.04.2016.

Dr. (Mrs.) T. Ramachandra has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Building Economics with effect from 15.07.2014.

Dr. A.M.H.S. Abeykoon has been promoted to the grade of Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Electrical Engineering with effect from 15.09.2015.

Dr. (Mrs.) G.M.W.L. Gunawardena was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Town & Country Planning with effect from 18.09.2015.

Dr. P.C.P. De Silva has been promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Town & Country Planning with effect from 01.06.2016.

Mr. CND Punchihewa has been promoted to the post of Senior Assistant Librarian Grade I with effect from 05.03.2014.

OTHER EVENTS

ANNUAL STAFF RETREAT- DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING



The annual academic staff retreat of the Department of Civil Engineering was held on 11 and 12 September at Grand Udawalawa Safari Resort, Udawalawa. Almost all the staff members participated in this event with their family members.

FIT SIXES CRICKET FIESTA 2016



The FIT Sixes Cricket Fiesta 2016 organized by the IT Faculty Students' Union was held on 22 October. This annual event showcases the bond between the Faculty and the industry by playing host to a six-a-side industry cricket tournament. This year being powered by "FIT Moments", the Faculty's media unit, FIT Sixes was co-sponsored by e-Guardian and saw the participation of over 45 teams from the industry as well as the Faculty. The main objective of FIT Sixes is to bring the leading IT professionals of the industry and undergraduates closer to each other, by facilitating friendly competitiveness over a game of cricket.

The women's championship was won by the Batch 12 students of the Faculty for the 3rd consecutive year with the Batch 13 students taking the runner's up title. The champions of FIT Sixes were the Batch 13 students with the Faculty Staff team emerging as the runner's up. It was a proud moment for the Faculty to be able to retain all the titles within the Faculty.

'CAYO 2016'



'CAYO 2016', the Freshers' Night organised by the Level 2 students of the Department of Integrated Design, was held on 28 October. It was organized under a Red Indian theme and all the props and decor were designed according to the theme creating a complete tribal world. The freshers were warmly welcomed into their tribe after several entertainment items performed by students of all four levels.

TCP PADURU 2016



TCP Paduru 2016 was held on 8 September at the Old Gym. It was organized by Level 3 students of the Department of Town and Country Planning. A large number of students, guests and academic & non-academic staff members of the Department of Town and Country Planning graced the occasion, and made it a fun-filled beautiful musical night. The orchestra support for this event was provided by the band of Panagoda Army Camp. A feature of this musical night was the use of eye-catching jar lanterns which made the event exquisite with the explosion of red, yellow, green and blue colors. The glow of the jar lanterns added an incredible elegant environment and was a perfect match to set the mood of the participants. These made perfect illuminations by hanging them from trees around the venue. During the event, the students expressed a special note of thanks to the Head of Department, Dr. Rangajeewa Rathnayake, all the academic & non-academic staff members of the Department, the Student Society of Town and Country Planning, all the undergraduate batches of the Department, and especially Sanjitha Munasinghe and Kesara Nilanga from Landscape Architecture Division of the Department of Architecture.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON: ‘CITIES, PEOPLE & PLACES’– ICCPP-2016 - “TRANSFORMING CITIES THROUGH PLACE MAKING; FROM COMMUNITIES TO MEGA CITIES”

The Department of Architecture, in collaboration with its international and national academic partners, organised the fourth International Conference on Cities, People & Places, which was held on 30 and 31 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute in Colombo. The theme of the conference was ‘Transforming Cities through Place-making: From Communities to Mega Cities’. The inauguration of the conference was on 30 October with the participation of Hon Minister of Media and Parliamentary affairs Gayantha Karunatilake. The ICCPP Conference Chair, Dr Janaka Wijesundara delivered the welcome speech introducing the theme of this year’s conference and its relevance to present city planning and urban development trends experienced in the world including Sri Lanka. Other addresses were delivered by the Vice-Chancellor, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and the Head of the Department of Architecture. The keynote speakers of the conference were the renowned Prof Murray Fraser, Professor of Architecture and Global Culture, Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, UK, Prof JB Dissanayake, Emeritus Professor in Sinhala at University of Colombo and Archt Channa Daswatte of MICD Associates, Sri Lanka.

The second day of the conference was graced by Mr Joern Rhode, German Ambassador to Sri Lanka who was the Chief Guest of the event. The keynote speakers of the first session were Prof Murray Fraser and Prof Miki Desai, retired Professor of Architecture CEPT University. The conference was conducted in four parallel sessions thereafter and more than 24 research papers were presented by researchers from Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Iran and Australia. The research areas included human behavioural patterns in places, human perception of place, urban and cultural revival, innovative place-making concepts in different case studies around the globe etc. Apart



from the conference itself, a cultural show, dinner and cultural tours to the World Heritage Archaeological site of Sigiriya, Lunuganga Gardens, and the World Heritage site of the Dutch Fort of Galle were organised for the participants.

The 4th annual Urban Design two-day Workshop titled; ‘Transforming Cities through Place Making’ from 27 to 28 October in parallel to the conference. The workshop was facilitated by Prof Koen de Wandeler from KU Leuven, Belgium. Prof Miki Desai from the CEPT University in Ahmadabad, India, Ms Annemie Demeulemester from KU Leuven Belgium and Dr Senaka Dharmathilleke, Chief Architect of the Overseas Realty PLC / MIREKA Capital Land Havelock City Project Sri Lanka delivered lectures based on themes related to aspects of place making in cities. The workshop was coordinated by Dr Janaka Wijesundara of the Department of Architecture. This year’s workshop was attended by a total of 90 students from the University of Moratuwa, University of Colombo and three students groups from Universities in Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar and Malaysia. The students presented four case studies and were requested to study each case to comprehend issues related to the particular context to provide solutions in the form of design proposals. A certificate of attendance was issued to each participant at the end of the workshop. The workshop enabled students to interact and share their knowledge and experience with other participants.

OPENING OF PIONEERING ENGINEERING BATCH - LTL RESEARCH FACILITY

The pioneering engineering batch of 1966 donated an Automation, Control and Electrical Drive Research Facility to the Department of Electrical Engineering in celebration of their Golden Jubilee. The sole sponsor of the laboratory was LTL Transformers Ltd. Mr UD Jayawardena, CEO of LTL Holdings was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. The “LTL-PEB Electrical Machines Research Lab” is a state of the art laboratory, consisting of a Universal Test Rig, which can be used for both undergraduate and postgraduate academic and research work in the areas of Power Electronics, Electrical Machines and Drives and Control Systems. Prof KKYW Perera, Chancellor, and Prof Ananda Jayawardane, Vice-Chancellor, declared open the new facility at the ceremony organised by the Department on 28 September.



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