



Several of Sri Lanka's top public sector organizations were honoured for their high quality financial reporting at the second Best Annual Report and Accounts Awards for the public sector, organised by the Association of Public Accountants of Sri Lanka (APFASL).

The winners were University of Moratuwa, National Engineering Research and Development Center, Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government, Excise Department, North Central Province Provincial Council, Balangoda Urban Council, Dehiwala Mt. Lavinia Municipal Council and Manmunai Pradeshiya Sabha - Arayampathy. Under the universities category, the University of Moratuwa was adjudged the winner and this achievement is a collective effort of General Administration Division, Finance Division, Statistical Unit, all Faculties and all Administrative Divisions.

Vice Chancellor's Visit to China

Prof. Kapila Perera, Vice Chancellor, was invited by a delegation from the Shanghai University of Electrical Power for a meeting of the International Association of Electric Power Universities



for Belt & Road, and the establishment of the Regional Association of Electric Power Universities (RAEP) on 26th October 2018. It was an honour for the University of Moratuwa to have its Vice Chancellor deliver a

keynote address at this Forum on the topic, 'Trends in Energy Supply'. The Vice Chancellor was also able to visit the East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST), the Shandong University of Science and Technology (SDUST) and the Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT). Successful discussions took place with the staff of the above Universities and Prof. Perera was of the opinion that it gave an insight to the available opportunities for collaboration with Chinese Universities to set up Joint Research Laboratories, study programmes, internship programmes, undergraduate training, PhD programmes, etc.



MathWorks Mini **Drone Competition IROS 2018**



Lanka Star Awards 2018



Honorary Fellow of the Computer Society



Presidential Awards 2018



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39th General Convocation of University of Moratuwa [From front page]



The 39th General Convocation of University of Moratuwa was held on 02nd and 03rd October 2018 with all its glory and pride at the BMICH. A total of 1884 (1434 first degrees and 450 Post graduate degrees) competent graduates with remarkable potential to inspire and challenge the status quo were conferred degrees in their respective fields such as engineering, architecture, and Information Technology.



The Keynote Speeches, on day one, was delivered by *Prof. Ralph EH Sims*, and on day two by *Prof. Kenneth Segal*. The valedictorian speeches were made by *Mr. KM Sugathadasa* (Most outstanding Graduand of the Faculty of Engineering) & *Ms. HP Savindu* (Most outstanding Graduand of the Year 2018) on day one and *Mr. TPWSI Pandithawatts* (Most outstanding Graduand of the Faculty of Architecture) & *Ms. SA Senaratne* (Most outstanding Graduand of the Faculty of Information Technology) on day two.



| Faculty | First Degree | Postgraduate Diplomas | MSc | MSc (Research) | MEng | MBA | M.Phil | PhD |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----|----------------|------|-----|--------|-----|
| Architecture | 335 | 20 | 32 | 01 | - | - | 02 | 01 |
| Engineering | 864 | 149 | 86 | 14 | 44 | 77 | 04 | 08 |
| Information Technology | 235 | 02 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - |

Research Initiatives.

Accomplishments & Disseminations

Best Paper Award at The Vidulka National Energy Symposium – 2018



Ms. Devindi Geekiyanage, a Temporary Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, and Dr. (Mrs.) Thanuja Ramachandra attached to the same department won the Best Paper Award - Third Place with a cash prize of 50,000 Rupees for their joint paper "A correlation analysis of factors influencing cooling energy demand of condominiums in Sri Lanka" at The Vidulka National Energy Symposium - 2018, jointly organised by the Ministry of Power and Renewable Energy and Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority.

Best Presentation Award at The 11th International Research Conference, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University



Ms. Devindi Geekiyanage, a Temporary Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, won the Best Presentation Award for the paper titled "Strategies for Enhancing Research and Development Activities in the Sri Lankan Construction industry", at The 11th International Research Conference (IRC) of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.

Best Technical Paper Award at The 34th ARCOM Conference



Mr. Amila Prasad Chandrasiri, Level III undergraduate student of Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Information Technology and Ms. Devindi Geekiyanage, Temporary Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics, Faculty of Architecture, won the Frontier's Award for Best Technical Paper for their joint paper titled "Real-time object detection system for building energy conservation: An IP camera based system" at The 34th Annual Conference of Association of Researchers in Construction Management (ARCOM) held in Belfast, UK.

Paper presentation at 34th ARCOM Conference



Ms. Devindi Geekiyanage, a Post Graduate Student attached to the Department of Building Economics, attended The 34th Annual Conference of Association of Researchers in Construction Management (ARCOM) held from 03rd to 05th September 2018 at Queen's University, Belfast, UK. Ms. Devindi Geekiyanage presented a paper titled "A Model for Early-Stage Estimation of Operational Expenses (OPEX) in Commercial Buildings". The paper was co-authored by Dr. (Mrs.) Thanuja Ramachandra, a Senior Lecturer attached to the Department of Building Economics and Assoc. Prof. Niraj Thurairajah, a Senior Lecturer attached to the Northumbria University, UK.

One Belt One Road Young Scientists Program

Dr. SADT Subasinghe, a senior lecturer in Department of Chemical and Process Engineering has successfully secured a collaboration grant from Shanghai 2018 One Belt One Road Young Scientists program. This grant will enable him to conduct collaborative research with a team headed by Dr. Bo Bao, an associate professor in College of Chemical Engineering, East China University of Science and Technology, PR China during year 2019 and 2020. The team will work on developing Enhanced Separation of Heterogeneous Microspheres for Supercapacitor Electrodes and expecting to develop few Sri Lankan and Chinese postgraduate student through the program.

Turning Fecal Sludge into High-Value and Safe Asset – International Collaborative Project with Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Nanyang Environmental & Water Research Institute (NEWRI), Singapore

This project is funded by the Nanyang Environmental and Water Resources Institute (NEWRI), Singapore. Sri Lankan partners are DCPE, UOM lead by Dr. Sanja Gunawardena and Prof. PG Rathnasiri and Dr. Sudarshana Fernando from International Water Management Institute (IWMI). It was launched with the aim of implementing a sludge treatment facility by applying anaerobic digestion to the existing municipal septage treatment plant in Kurana, Negombo. The project team believes that this would act as a replicable model plant in fecal sludge management for other municipalities in Sri Lanka.

Addressing the 5th International Conference on Power and Energy Systems Engineering, 2018



Mr. Kankeyan Thurairaja, a postgraduate student of Department of Mechanical Engineering, presented his findings on "Working Fluid Selection and Performance Evaluation of Organic

Rankine Cycle" at the 5th International Conference on Power and Energy Systems Engineering (CPESE 2018), Nagoya, Japan. He was awarded a conference grant under the Thomas Andrew Common Grants scheme from Educational Awards Committee of IMechE.

Winning a grant at "Show me the Money"



Department of Mechanical Engineering heartily congratulates Mr .Sasiranga De Silva for being a top-up grant winner at the "show me the money" session at the recently concluded Transforming Asia forum, in Thailand. He

was also a panelist in "rules of the game" session, where he discussed government policies in supporting sustainable development in Sri Lanka focusing on the transportation sector.

Intelligent Service Robotics Group Present at IEEE SMC 2018



Dr. Buddhika Jayasekara and Ravindu Bandara, a postgraduate research student presented two research papers at 2018 IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC2018) held from 7th to10th October in Miyazaki, Japan. The two papers titled "Grounding Object Attributes Through Interactive Discussion for Building Cognitive Maps in Service Robots" and "Identifying Approaching Behaviour of a Person During a Conversation: A Human Study for Improving Human-Robot Interaction" are co-authored by Bhagya Samarakoon, Viraj Muthugala and Dr. DP Chandima. These are contributions of the research project on development of Moratuwa Intelligent Robot

(MIRob), an intelligent service robot for domestic environments. IEEE SMC conference is the flagship conference of the Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society of IEEE. This research was funded by a Senate Research Grants SRC/CAP/2017/03 and SRC/LT/2018/20 provided by the University of Moratuwa.

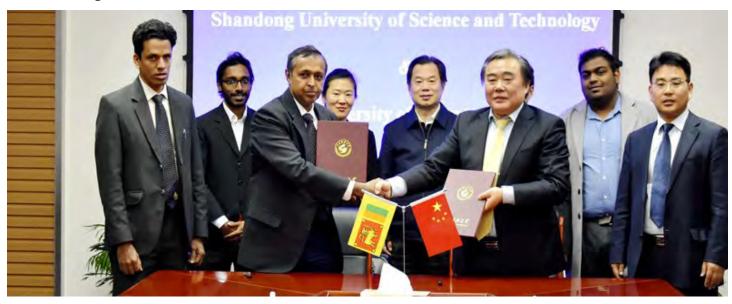
IIntelligent Service Robotics Group Present at IEEE IROS 2018

A research paper titled "Proxemics and Approach Evaluation by Service Robot Based on User Behavior in Domestic Environment" was presented at the 2018 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) held from Oct 01 - 05 in Madrid, Spain by SM Bhagya P Samarakoon, a postgraduate research student and Dr. MA Viraj, J Muthugala a former postgraduate research student in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

The IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) is one of the largest and most impacting robotics research conferences worldwide. IROS has rank no. 5 in top 20 sources of robotics sub-category of Google Scholar Metrics where h5 index is 71. The research was funded by a Senate Research Long Term Grant (SRC/LT/2018/20) of University of Moratuwa.

Collaboration

Signing MoU between Shandong University of Science and Technology and University of Moratuwa



Prof. Kapila Perera, Vice-chancellor and Prof. Ruwan Gopura, Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Moratuwa, visited Shandong University of Science and Technology, Qingdao, China, to sign a MoU on a student and staff exchange program in Mechatronics Engineering.

Memorandum of Understanding between University of Moratuwa and Lanka Electricity Company

A team of top management of the Lanka Electricity Company and Asian Development Bank (ADB) led by Chairman and General Manager of LECO and Dr. Priyantha Wijethunga, Director, South Asia Energy Division, ADB met Professor Kapila Perera (Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa) on 16th October 2018 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding for research and development collaboration in the area of smart grids and microgrids. The main activities under this MoU are to setup and operate a Micro-Grid pilot project and a Smart Grid Research Laboratory in the Department of Electrical Engineering. Prof. Kapila Perera chaired the meeting which was attended by Deputy Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Dean Faculty of Engineering, Head Department of Electrical Engineering and some of the academics of the department.



Plenary Speaker of KDU IRC 2018



Prof. Ruwan Gopura, **Bionics** Laboratory, Department of Mechanical delivered Engineering a plenary talk titled "Uplifting Quality Living of Physically Weak Individuals: Role of Power AssistRobot Systems" at the Engineering plenary session at the eleventh international research

conference of Kothalawala Defence University (KDU IRC 2018). The theme of the plenary session was "Engineering Excellence Through Collaborative Research and Innovation". Prof Kapila Perera, Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa chaired the plenary session.

International Conference on Apparel Textiles and Fashion Design (ATAFD)



Prof. (Mrs) Samudrika Wijayapala, Head of the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology participated as the Key Note Speaker & chair of the 3rd international conference on Apparel

Textiles and Fashion Design (ATAFD) on 27th September 2018 at Galle Face Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Theme of the key note speech was "Going all the way and coming back to Natural Dyes!" which was appreciated by the attendees including educators, students, professionals, scholars and researchers from all over the globe.

Guest Lecture Series



Under the program, "Industry Insights - The Guest Lecture Series of TLM" organized by the Department of Transport & Logistics Management, October 2018 guest lecture was conducted by one of its own alumni, Thisara Watawana, Manager - Management Consulting, KPMG Sri Lanka on Thursday, 18th October 2018. The lecture focused on "Introduction to Data Analytics in Supply Chain" and it was conducted at the TLM MBA Room from 10.15 am onwards

September guest lecture under Department of Transport & Logistics Management guest lecture series was conducted by Chiranthaka Halpe on $20^{\rm th}$ (Thursday) of September from 10.15 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. at the MBA Classroom of TLM Building . The guest lecture was followed by a discussion on the "overseas Experiences and Post Graduate Opportunities"

EESoc Guest Lecture - Sustainable Electronics: Global Challenge

Electrical Engineering Society (EESoc) organized a guest lecture by Dr. Gamini Mendis, which was held successfully on 18th October at the Final Year Lecture room of the Department of Electrical Engineering. Dr. Gamini Mendis shared his experience on the topic, "Sustainable Electronics: Global Challenge".



Academic **Programs**



External Reviewer Visitation and Curriculum Revision Workshop of Department of Integrated Design

An External Reviewer visited the Department of Integrated Design from 04th to 06th of October 2018, to review the B.Des (Hons) degree programme. The reviewer was Prof. Kenneth Segal, Professor, Hadassah College of Industrial Design, Jerusalem. Prof. Segal also conducted a curriculum revision workshop for the academic staff of the Department as precedence to the curriculum revision proposal.

Arrival of New Students for BSc. Engineering Degree Programme New Intake - 2018

The Inauguration ceremony for the BSc. Engineering students of the Intake - 2018 to the Faculty of Engineering was held on 16th, 17th and 18th October 2018 at the Civil Engineering Auditorium of the University of Moratuwa. There were 723 students registered for new intake. They came in 3 separate groups on the above days. Dr. Ananda Ranasinghe, Past President of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL), Mr. Aravinda Perera, Managing Director, Royal Ceramic Lanka PLC and Prof. (Mrs.) Neranjani Rathnayaka, President, Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL) were the Chief Guests for the Inauguration Ceremonies in the above three days respectively.

Conferences & **Symposium**

COMPASS '18



"COMPASS" is the annual symposium organized by the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa to address the current industrial issues while enhancing the collaboration of Chemical and Process Engineering undergraduates with industrial representatives, academia and entrepreneurs. It was organized for the fourth consecutive year and considered a new set of areas, different from those of previous year, as its focus. COMPASS 2018 was successfully held on 09th of October 2018 at BMICH, under the theme "Productivity and Efficiency through Process Engineering".



The event was able to bridge the gap between current industrial practices and trending chemical engineering concepts for a sustainable future by creating a strong platform for industry and academia. Sharing knowledge and combining their expertise were achieved throughout the event.

COMPASS 2018 featured three sessions focusing on following key areas.

- · Process Safety
- · Value Added Waste
- Process Optimization & Energy Recovery

2nd International Conference on Electrical Engineering, EECon 2018



The Department of Electrical Engineering organized International Conference on Electrical Engineering, EECon 2018 for the second time on 28th September 2018 at the Victorian of the Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo. The conference was graced with the presence of Vice Chancellor of University of Moratuwa, Prof. Kapila Perera and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Nalin Wickramarachchi. EECon aims to bring together researchers and engineers in the academia and the industry from different Engineering disciplines to a common forum to build a constructive dialog on state of the art technologies in electrical engineering.

This year, EECon received 54 papers and after a thorough

review process by both local and international reviewers, the program committee selected 30 papers to be included in the conference proceedings. The selected papers were presented under 4 main sessions; Electrical Machines, Power Electronics & Applications: Electrical Power Systems, Energy Systems & Smart Technologies: Robotics & Intelligent Systems: Wireless Power Transmission, Technology & Applications. The keynote speech was done by Professor Nandini Gupta of Department of Electrical Engineering at IIT Kanpur in India, on the topic "Nano-dielectrics as Novel Insulation for Power Apparatus and Systems". EEcon 2018 was mainly sponsored by the University of Moratuwa & Asian Development Bank.



Renewable Integrated Secure Power System for Sri Lanka - Round Table Conference 2018

Electrical Engineering Society of University of Moratuwa contributed to the nation in resolving key issues and concerns in the field of electrical engineering through the annual Round Table Conference. This Annual Flagship Event provides a unique podium for the professionals in the industry to unfold remarks on a prevailing issue which has a connection with the power sector of Sri Lanka. Advancing with technology to the present and future concerns, EESoc organized the Round Table Conference 2018 on the

topic of "Renewable Integrated Secure Power System for Sri Lanka" on 12th October at the Jasmine Conference Hall, at the BMICH, continuing the legacy of the past twenty four years. An award ceremony was held to appreciate the panellists, EESoc office bearers of the last year and the best final year project of the 13 batch. Round-Table conference and the Awards Ceremony was followed by a talent show of the undergraduates to entertain the gathering.

Paper Presentation



Two research papers titled "Can technology make a difference to level of engagement in large classes in engineering education?- a Sri Lankan study" and "Development of a framework to foster collaborative learning among engineering students using Moodle Mobile App" was presented by Anuradha Peramunugamage at the 21st International Conference on Interactive Collaborative Learning 2018 (ICL2018) which was held in Kos Island, Greece from 25th to 28th September 2018. Financial support was given by Prof. VK Samaranayake Research Grant funded by Lkdomian Registry.

Collaborating with the Imperial College, UK.



Prof Ruwan Gopura, Head-Department of Mechanical Engineering, along with Dr Thilina Lalitharatne visited Imperial College, London, UK for collaborative research on BioMechanical Engineering. They also met with Prof Richard Stobart, who visited DoME previously as an external reviewer.

Visit of Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar



Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, one of the world's most eminent scientists, who was in Sri Lanka to deliver the keynote address at the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the National Science Foundation visited the University of Moratuwa on 4th October 2018 and met the Vice Chancellor, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Deans of Faculties and other staff members. The Vice Chancellor provided a brief

introduction about our university. Dr. Mashelkar described his work in India and other countries and how technology and innovation should be combined for the benefit of people. The University is thankful to Prof. Ananda Jayawardena, Director General of the National Science Foundation and former Vice Chancellor of University of Moratuwa for facilitating this visit.

IEE IAS UoM Student Branch Chapter Team Attended IEEE IAS (Industry Applications Society) Annual Meeting to Receive Outstanding Member/Chapter Awards 2018



Dr (Mrs). Upuli Jayatunga, Advisor of IEEE IAS UOM Student branch chapter, together with few undergraduate students participated at the IEEE IAS (Industry Applications Society) Annual General Meeting, Award ceremony and the Conference which was held from 23rd to 27th September 2018 at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland, USA in order to receive Outstanding Member/ Chapter Awards 2018. Mr. Lakshitha Gunasekera (ENTC, 14 batch) – President of the IEEE IAS Student Chapter, University of Moratuwa (2017) accepted the Outstanding Student Branch Chapter award where IEEE IAS UoM SB chapter was awarded as the Outstanding Student Branch Chapter for the year 2018, among 160 IAS SB chapters across the globe.

Visit to Shanghai University of Electric Power

Professor Kapila Perera, Vice Chancellor of the University and Professor Sisil Kumarawadu, Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering visited Shanghai University of Electric Power in order to represent University of Moratuwa which is a founding member, at the establishment ceremony of B&R Regional Association of Energy and Power Universities. They also participated in The Regional Energy Interconnection Forum where many global experts and representatives, including members of the International Association of Universities for the Development of Electric Power Technologies, Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization and Asian Development Bank were present.

Visit of Foreign Diplomats



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the "Sri Lanka Foreign Relations and Economic Diplomacy Programme 2018" (SLFREDP 2018) for mid-career level diplomats serving in the country. As a part of the Programme, 23 Diplomatic staff members from various countries visited the University of Moratuwa, on Saturday, 20th October 2018.

Prof Gihan Dias, Director/International

Relations, welcomed the delegates and the accompanying staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, and gave them a brief insight to the facilities available at UOM. A very informative and interesting presentation on "Research & Innovation in Sri Lanka" was delivered by Prof Ajith de Alwis.



Student **Achievements**

HackX Competition



The Team Codezillas of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering became the winner of HackX Competition which was organized by the Industrial Management Science Students' Union of the University of Kelaniya on 21^{st} and 22^{nd} of September. The team consisted of 2^{nd} year undergraduates: Sabesan Sathananthan, Aathman Tharmachandran, Lavanaraj Sivarasa, Suman Navaratnarajah, Shiveswaran Ratneswaran who worked under the supervision of Dr. Uthayasanker Thayasivam, senior lecturer in the Department of CSE.

Common Wealth Digital Health Conference & Awards (CWDHC&A)

The final year project titled 'C-JAE: Compatible Joint Ankle Exoskeleton' received a 'Special Mention'under 'Disability Health Informatics' category at 3rd Common Wealth Digital Health Conference & Awards (CWDHC&A), held on 11th -12th October 2018 at the Cinnamon Grand, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Commonwealth Digital Health Awards was conducted for the third time after its successful launch at the 24thTriennial Conference of the Commonwealth Medical Association in 2016.

C-JAE is an artificial wearable robotic device, closely fitted to the ankle of the human lower limb. It is capable of performing rehabilitation exercises of the ankle to regain the lost functional capabilities of the biological joint. The project was performed by three undergraduates: Amashi Weerasingha, KasunHarshana and Kesara Withanage from 13th batch attached to Bionics Laboratory of Department of Mechanical Engineering.

1st Runners Up in the "Maker Fair" Category at "IEEE SS12 Age of Innovation - International Project Competition and Maker Fair 2018"

A group of students from the Department of Electrical Engineering (WAVU Wickramasinghe, PB. Guruge, NCD Silva and PH Panawenna) won the second place at the "Maker Fair" Category at "IEEE SS12 Age of Innovation - International Project Competition and Maker Fair 2018. The project was titled "Lecture Hall Assistant", which consisted of an Automatic Volume Control System, Smart Lighting and Ventilation Control System and an Online File Server. "Maker Fair" Category of IEEE SS12 2018 is a celebration of innovators, makers, doers coming together to showcase their products to the local community. 35 finalist teams from 8 countries participated at the finals which was held at NSBM Green University on 8th and 9th September.

2nd Place in MathWorks Mini Drone Competition IROS 2018

[From front page]



MathWorks
Mini Drone
Competition
IROS 2018
was held on
3rd and 4th
October 2018
in Madrid,
Spain as a
part of IEEE/
RSJ IROS 2018
conference.

The competition consisted of two rounds. More than 30 teams were registered for the competition.

Team Bathkoora from University of Moratuwa has secured $2^{\rm nd}$ place in this competition and was awarded with a cash prize of 1500 USD. Viraj Muthugala, Bhagya Samarakoon from the Department of Electrical Engineering and Chamika Perera, Isuru Ruhunage from Department of Mechanical Engineering were the team members.

ENTC shines at Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition



Ms. Sanduni
Premaratne, an
MPhil student of
the Department
of Electronic and
Telecommunication
Engineering became
the first runner up in
the annual "3 Minute

Thesis Presentation Competition 2018" held on 3rd October at the Galle Face Hotel. The winning presentation titled "Light Field Processing: From Minutes to Seconds" was based on the research of Ms. Premaratne, where she developed novel low-complexity light field processing algorithms for real-time light field applications under the supervision of Dr. Chamira Edussooriya.

Ms. Bahavathy Kathirgamanathan, and MPhil student of the same department who works under the supervision of Dr. Pujitha Silva, was also among the top 10 finalists who competed for the championship.

Techno exhibits



Department of Transport and Logistics Management presented two exhibits at the University of Moratuwa stall at the Techno 2018 exhibition organised by the Institute of Engineers in Sri Lanka (IESL).

Lanka Star Awards 2018 - Student Category Winners from Department of Integrated Design

[From front page]

A group of 10 students from Department of Integrated Design, out of the total of 111 entries have received gold, silver and bronze awards at the Lanka Star Awards 2018 for their efforts towards improving the Standard of packaging. The ceremony which was organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging and Packaging Development Centre was held on the 23^{rd} of October 2018 at the Grand Ballroom, Galadari Hotel, Colombo. The two gold awards were won by Deshaja Dewapriya and Malindi Jayathunge while Sliver award was given to Ruwanthi Medagoda. Students who received bronze awards were Nuwan Chandima Allepola , Sanjalee Sandanjana Herath , Gayan Ruchiranga De Silva, Chamalka Srimal Liyanarachchi, Sasheen Madushan Attanayake, , and Chandika Dilshan kulathunga.



The Winner of the Circular Ocean Innovation Competition 2018

Omali Kulatunga, the final year student of B. Design in Fashion designing and product development degree course was announced as The Winner of the Circular Ocean Innovation Competition 2018 (over 25 age category) by the Centre for Sustainable Design of University for the Creative ArtsUK. The goal of the Circular Ocean Innovation Competition 2018 was to engage global creative and technical communities to provide radical, inspiring and fresh ideas and solutions related to the re-use and recycling of discarded and used plastics from fishing nets, ropes in the NPA region.



Staff **Achievements**



Best Technical Paper Presented

The ceremonial inauguration of the 112th Annual Sessions of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL) was held on Tuesday, 16th October 2018, at the Main Hall, BMICH. Eng (Dr). Deshai Botheju and Eng (Prof). P.G. Rathnasiri won the E.O.E. Pereira award 2018 for the best technical paper presented at the 2017 Annual Session Under the title of Safety Analysis of Anaerobic Digestion Plant Operation.

Honorary Fellow of the Computer Society of Sri Lanka

[From front page]



Prof. Gihan Dias of the Computer Science and Engineering Dept. was elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Computer Society of Sri Lanka. The fellowship was awarded at the National IT Conference inauguration held on 2nd October. Fellowship of the CSSL is a special honour recognizing lifetime achievement and service to the society, and only three persons were bestowed the Fellowship this year. Prof. Dias graduated from the University of Moratuwa in 1985 and was awarded a doctorate in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from The University of California, Davis in 1992.

In addition to being a Professor in Computer Science and Engineering and Director, International Relations at the University of Moratuwa he serves as the Domain Registrar of the LK Domain Registry and as an advisor to TechCERT; Sri Lanka's premier information security body. He has been active in several areas of computing, including computer networking, language technologies, e-learning, security, internet identity and personal cloud. He has assisted many public and private organizations to build, secure, and make best use of their computer systems. He served as a Trustee of the Internet Society from 2014 to 2017. He was inducted to the Internet Hall of Fame in 2013 and received the SEARCC ICT Professional of the year award in 2017.

3MT Competition-2018



 2^{nd} SLAYS Open Forum titled "Research for Impact- March of the Sri Lankan Young Scientists" organized jointly by the Sri Lankan Academy of Young Scientists (SLAYS) and the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka (NSF) in collaboration with Coordinating Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI), was held on 04^{th} and 05^{th} October 2018 at Galle Face Hotel, Colombo. Ms. Miyuru Piyathilake from Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering won the peoples' choice award for her presentation on "Remote Estimation of Corrosion in Structural Applications". She is currently reading for her Master of Philosophy under the supervision of Prof. Nanda Munasinghe and Mr. V. Sivahar. She also became the 2^{nd} Runner-up in the competition.

Presidential Awards – 2018

[From front page]

Dr.(Mrs)NMVK Liyanage, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Materials Science & Engineering, Dr. Shantha Walpalage, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Chemical & Process Engineering, and Dr.(Mrs)MCW Somaratne, Senior Lecturer of the Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa were honoured with Presidential Awards at the ceremony of "Presidential Awards 2018" held on 26th October at the BMICH. These awards were made in recognition of their invention titled "A method for Reinforcing Natural Rubber Latex Products by Incorporating Modified Silica Disperions" which won the first place in the field of Applied Science and Technology at an evaluation undertaken by the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission.

Best Presentation Award



Dr.(Mrs).Ayesha
Wickramasinghe, a
Senior Lecturer of
the Department of
Textile & Clothing
Technology won
the best session's
presentation award
under Painting
and Photography

session for the research paper titled "Srtips Creating Shapes" at the 5th International Conference on Arts and Humanities (ICOAH) 2018.

Training on Travel Demand Modelling with CUBE Software



Centre for Intelligent Transportation Systems, University of Moratuwa in collaboration with CITILABS conducted a 3-day training on Travel Demand Modelling with CUBE Software from 10th to 12th October 2018 at the Department of Civil Engineering with the participation of 30 representatives from both industry and academia. CUBE is one of the most powerful tools providing advanced methods for transportation modelling: urban, regional and long-distance demand forecasting and assignment. This was offered free of charge with the generous sponsorship by CITILABS and hosted by the University of Moratuwa.

National Representation at Dubai-Expo 2020 with Creative Youth Program [CYP]



Lecturer, Mr. Dilina Janadith from project was coordinated by Lecturer, guidance of Head of the Department, collaboration with Sri Lanka Export Development Board.



Under the Department of Integrated Design, Two student teams participated in pavilion design competition by submitting the final design proposals to the CYP-Dubai global competition, on October 30th, 2018. This Creative Youth Program provides participating nations with the tools to create exhibition proposals that will serve as the foundation for the pavilion design showcase at World-Expo 2020 at Dubai. Student teams were directed by Senior Lecturer, Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe and concept to final design stage. The overall Ms. Ruwani Rathnayaka under Archt. Sithumini Rathnamalala,

A Team of Students from Department of Integrated Design at National Youth Social Innovation Challenge 2018

SU Liyanage, S Kuganesan, KMSDB Thalkotuwa and MAT Nishshanka Product Design students, Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa participated as "The Team Mora" in National Youth Social Innovation Challenge 2018 conducted by UNDP and got selected as the finalists from The western province and participated in the final round workshop at Habarana-Village by Cinnamon from October 16th to 20th to get some valuable experience and knowledge on social innovation and business startups.



'Product Design Workshop- 2018` at National Institute of Design, Ahmadabad, India



Level III, Product Design (PD) students from the Department of Integrated Design visited National Institute of Design (NID, Ahmadabad, and NID Gandhinagar Campus) India under an exchange programme. It consisted of one-week workshop and a cultural tour. Students got the opportunity to work with different materials and new technologies in NID workshops. It was help to know about similarities between Indian and Sri Lankan social activities. This Product Design workshop was organized by the Product Design specialization Coordinator, Ms. N Dilshani Ranasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Integrated Design with the Collaboration of Prof.

Prayeen Nahar, Senior Faculty, National Institute of Design, India.

Field Visit to Singapore in Fulfillment of a Design Project

The level III students specializing in Media and Communication design at the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture embarked on a field visit from 8th to 15th of October as required by their Design Project. The visit included: Lassalle College of the Arts, Singapore Zoo and the Science center. The Design Project focused on Environmental Graphic Design. The team of students was led by Dr. Sumanthri Samarawickrama (Coordinator - Media and Communication Design).



OBT-Vidumini 17th batch

Outbound Training which is a crucial aspect of the Transport and Logistics Management Degree program was offered to the first year undergraduates of the department with the aim of enhancing skills such as leadership, team work, management and positive thinking. The three-day residential outbound training program was a remarkable milestone in every student's life. This year, the program was held at Borderlands, Kithugala from 18th October through 20th October and the course was sponsored by John Keells Holdings (JKH) for the 10th consecutive time.



Insight 2018 – Quiz Competition & Workshop

The newly added legacy in 2017 to the STL event agenda, "Insight 2018" continued for the second time expanding the horizons to the doorstep of prospective students to be absorbed to the Department of Transport & Logistics Management by making an awareness among the advanced level students and the teachers in physical science stream in the central province and nearby areas. Insight 2018 was held on 10th October 2018 at the Jayathilake Hall, Dharmaraja College in Kandy from 9.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. Around 170 students from 17 schools participated for this quiz competition and workshop. Hayleys Advantis & South Asian Gateway Terminal being main sponsors for this event as well.



Clubs & **Societies**

Maestro 2018 – 'Explore the Entrepreneur in you'



MAESTRO 2018 is the newest venture of Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa to build a platform for the young minds to showcase their business management and entrepreneurial skills. This was organized as an Inter-University Business Challenge Competition where teams of three had to come up with a solution for the given case

study. Out of 57 registrations, 22 semi-finalists were chosen for the First Round which was held on the 15th of September 2018. A workshop was also conducted for the semi-finalists and Dr. Buddhima Subasinghe and Mr. Heminda Jayaweera were the esteemed facilitators for this event. Six teams secured the opportunity to move to the final round. The Final Round was held on the 29th of September 2018 with the presence of an esteemed panel of judges comprising of six icons in the industry and the particular subject. Each team pitched their fantastic ideas onstage and the pitches could terrifically attract and astonish the audience as well as the panel of judges. After an intensive competition, Ashwini, Shehani and Piyumi of Team Dauntless could take home most of the prizes at MAESTRO 2018, including the Championship, Most Popular Team and Best Pitcher (Shehani Leo). Team Imprenditori and Team Breakeven secured second and third places respectively.

Pirith Chanting Ceremony



The Department of Civil Engineering of University of Moratuwa organized the annual pirith chanting ceremony for the second continuous year on 13^{th} of October 2018 with the participation of all four levels of the department and the blessing of the academic and non-academic staff members. The event was followed by an alms-giving ceremony on 14^{th} October morning for 15 monks.

Thimbiri Thira 2 - Drama

This year's edition of "Thimbiri Thira", the annual performance venture of The UOM Drama Society presented the play "Mal Kollakarayo" on the 26th of September 2018 at the James George Hall before an audience of over 400. The chief guest of this event was the Vice Chancellor of UOM Prof. Kapila C Perera. The drama society operates under the guidance of Dr. Thesara Jayawardane, a senior lecturer at the Department of Industrial Management.



E-Care 2018



E care 2018, the annual charity event organized by the E-Club Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering of University of Moratuwa, was held on the 13th and 14th of October 2018, at Kurugama Vidyalaya, Ella. Several sessions comprising motivational speeches, games, songs, poetry took place. Furthermore seminars on Mathematics, English and Physics particularly touching upon important but tricky concepts and theories were held. E-Club members did the wiring of the school's new laboratory and helped students to colourwash walls in the premises. The motivational

speeches and fun activities by E-club inspired the students to adopt a positive attitude towards learning and work towards their academic goals with eagerness.

Mahesh Abeywickrama Memorial Debate Competition - 2018



"Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate and doubt, to offer a solution everyone can understand". It's always not easy to find leaders with all those qualities. But Leo Club of University of Moratuwa put their first step in voyage of finding those great leaders by organizing the annually held,

Mahesh Abeywickrama Memorial Debate Competition for the 6th consecutive year on 8th and 9th of September, 2018. Mahesh Abeywickrama Memorial Debate Competition is being held in memory of the Club President of Leoistic Year 2004/05 Leo Mahesh Abeywickrama, who passed away in an unanticipated time. This year debate competition took a major turnaround as it was held as an all island competition with the participation of 21 school debating teams and also the event was judged by All Island Debaters Association.

New Appointments



Prof. SWSB Dassanayake has been appointed to the post of Director/Postgraduate Studies Division of the Faculty of Business & post of Director/Quality Assurance Cell of the Faculty of Business for a period of three (03) years with effect from 16.07.2018.



Prof. (Ms.) VM Wickramasinghe has been appointed to the post of Director/Business Research Unit of the Faculty of Business for a period of three (03) years with effect from 16.07.2018.



Dr. AGBP Jayasekara has been appointed to the post of Director/Engineering Research Unit of the Faculty of Engineering for a period of three (03) years with effect from 03.07.2018.

Dr. M Thayaparan has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Building Economics with effect from 01.09.2018.

Ms. NC Samarasiri has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Industrial Management with effect from 03.09.2018.

Ms. KG Sooriyagoda has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Town and Country Planning with effect from 02.10.2018.

Ms. ABPP Bandusena has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Town and Country Planning with effect from 02.10.2018

Mr. MGCC Dharmakeerthi has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Textile and Clothing Technology with effect from 01.10.2018.

Ms. IR Malawige has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Management of Technology with effect from 03.09.2018.

Dr. KSS Shanaka has been appointed to the Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Town and Country Planning with effect from 02.10.2018.

Ms. ABPP Bandusena has been appointed to the post of Lecturer (Probationary) in the Department of Town and Country Planning with effect from 02.10.2018.

Mr. HGH Damruwan has been appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II in the Department of Civil Engineering with effect from 19.09.2018.



Dr. KTMU Hemapala, Senior Lecturer Grade I has been promoted to the post of Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering (on merit) with effect from 06.07.2017



Mrs. RJ Senanayake, Senior Lecturer Grade II has been promoted to the post Senior Lecturer Grade I in the Department of Integrated Design with effect from 01.02.2017.

Cultural **Events**

Texa Padura 2018

'Texa padura 2018' was successfully held on 20th of September at the old gymnasium of University.



Felicitation Ceremony

Award of Scholarships by University of Moratuwa Alumni in Western Australia (MORAWA)



- students from the Landscape Architecture Division. Office Bearers of the Society were in Sri Lanka earlier this year and visited UOM to inaugurate this Scholarship. A Committee comprising Mrs. Shiranee Balasuriya, (Course Coordinator) and Mrs. Sanka Wimaladharma of the Department, Mrs. Shereen Amendra (Nominee of the Sri Lanka Institute of Landscape Architects - SLILA), Prof. Gihan Dias (Director, International Relations - UoM) and Mrs. Shyama de Silva representing MORAWA (on Skype) evaluated the students and the following students were selected, according to the established criteria:
- a) Ms. Sumudu Piyumanthi
- b) Ms. Apeksha Saranga
- c) Ms. Anuradha Fernando

The official Awards Ceremony was held on Friday, 12th October 2018 in Vice Chancellor's room.



Community **Outreach**

Sports Day at WP/PIL/ Bodhiraja Vidyalaya

Library in collaboration with Physical Education Division, University of Moratuwa organized a "Sports Day" for students of WP/PIL/Bodhiraja Vidyalaya to mark World Children's Day on 1st October, 2018. Mr. Chanuka de Silva and Mr. Dayan Sendanayake of Physical Education Division conducted the activities with great enthusiasm. Library also celebrated the 5th anniversary of community outreach at WP/PIL/Bodhiraja Vidyalaya.



National Reading Month Celebrations



Along with the commemoration of "National Reading Month", Library organized two programs to enhance reading skills of students in suburban schools on 8th and 9th of October, 2018. Grade 10 students of Rawathawatte Methodist School and A/L students of Methodist High School, Puwakaramba participated in these programs. While welcoming the participants, Mrs. Ruvini Kodikara, Librarian, University of Moratuwa highlighted the community services conducted by the Outreach Services Division since 2013. Professional and Para-Professional Staff of the Library conducted the lectures, presentations and demonstrations to motivate students in reading. Not only importance of reading, but also ways and methods of effective reading, different type of reading materials, careful handling of reading materials and effective use of Internet were some of the interesting topics on discussion. It was a great honour to have Prof. Jagath Premachandra, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering and Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Transport and Logistics Management as resource persons for these programs. Prof. Jagath Premahandra described the future opportunities of being a UoM undergraduate and Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa conducted a fruitful session on "Motivation, Exam Tips and Dreaming Big"



Extra-Curricular **Activities**

Rhythm Divine

The annual talent show of Transport and Logistics Management; "TLM Rhythm Divine 2018" was held on 4th Oct 2018 at the old gymnasium of University of Moratuwa. Hayleys Advantis and South Asia Gateway Terminals were sponsors of the event.



Sports

High Level Sports Performances in this Season

The University of Moratuwa won nine Inter University Championships of Rugby football (Men), Rowing (Men), Carrom (Men), Badminton (Men), Taekwondo (Men & Women), Table Tennis (Men & Women), and Hockey (Women).



The University Rugby football Team performed an excellent way. They beat University of Peradeniya in the grand finals with 40-24 at Race course ground on 09th September 2018.



The Rowing men team won Inter University Rowing Championship at Colombo Rowing Club on 08^{th} September 2018 with the white wash.



The University Carrom Team won the men championship for 6 consecutive time. The Carrom finals which was at CFSL Headquarters, Kohuwala on 06^{th} & 07^{th} of October 2018 and Women team won the 2^{nd} place.



The Taekwondo (Men & Women) Teams won both Championships at University of Kelaniya on 29th & 30th September 2018.



The Table Tennis (Men & Women) Teams won both Championships at New Gymnasium University of Moratuwa on 08^{th} & 09^{th} September 2018.



The Hockey (Women) Team won women Championship at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 14^{th} , 15^{th} & 16^{th} September 2018 and whether the men's won the 3^{rd} place.



The Badminton (Men) Team won men Championship at New Gymnasium University of Moratuwa. The teams of Cricket, Tennis (Men), Basketball (Men), Baseball (Men), obtained the 2nd place Inter University championship of this year.





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