

# NEWSLETTER SUSL



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Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

## University Day 2020



The 24<sup>th</sup> University Day of SUSL was celebrated with pride on 05<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the auditorium of the Faculty of Management Studies with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor, distinguished guests, Deans of the faculties, Heads of departments, members of the Academic, Administrative and Non-academic staff, and students. The Sabaragamuwa University paid its tribute to the renowned artist Mr. Eheliyagoda Somathilaka, for the contribution he had made to the country in his field. Meanwhile, the university also recognized the contributions made by members of the Academic, Administrative, and Non-academic staff for the upliftment of the university standards and sustainability of the university. The awards ceremony included Long Service Awards, Service Appreciation awards for Administrative and Non-Academic staff members, Appreciation awards for the retired personnel in the year 2019, Best Researcher award in 2019, Best Student award in 2019, and Best Sportsman & Best Sportswoman awards in 2019.



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# University Events

## University Day 2020

Mr. S.A. Gajaweera, Mr. D.K.S. Gamini, Mr. K.D.N.P.S. Kumara, Mr. K.W.S.L. Kewitiyagala, Mr. A.M.S. Abeysinghe, Mr. K.W.R.D. Kewitiyagala, Mr. L.R.D.M.R.K. Bandara, Mr. H. Ranjith, Mrs. D.M. Nillegoda, Mr. G.R. Dharmarathna received awards for the long services they rendered at SUSL, while Mrs. H.A.D.I. Kanthi and Mr. R.M. Wimalarathna received service appreciation (retirement) awards.



Prof. H.M.S Priyanath and Mrs. S.W. Wijerathna received the Vice-Chancellor's Special Appreciation awards. The best researcher award for the year 2019 was awarded to Dr. E.P. Kudavidanage for her outstanding research contribution. In addition, Mr. R.R.D. Roshan Ranathunga and Ms. M.O. Udayangani received awards for the best sportsman and sportswoman.



The students who excelled in their academic activities and qualified for the Dean's List were also awarded with certificates. The students were G.T.N. Gunasekara, A.S. Hettige, Y.A.P.I. Madhuwanthi (Faculty of Agricultural Sciences); Saleem Adeeba, K.G.P.N. Bandara, M.T.V.O. Perera (Faculty of Applied Sciences); K.L.K.K. Wishwajith, P.B.A. Fernando, S. Rangeetha (Faculty of Geomatics); B.K.F. Shamra, B.M.S.V. Batagoda, K.G.M.C. Prasadika (Faculty of Management Studies); and S.S. Jayawarna, P.D.S.S. Jayawardhana, C.J. Wijayapura, P.U. Sunilrathna, K.A.P. Harshani (Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages).

# University Events

## Commencing Work with the New Year

The staff of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka commenced the work on 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 with a ceremony presided by the Vice-Chancellor. The religious leaders who participated in this ceremony blessed the university staff for a successful New Year. This ceremony was organized by the Staff Welfare Society of the university with the assistance of its membership. In addition, a tree planting programme was held at the faculty premises of Social Sciences and Languages with parallel to the New Year Day celebration.



## Working Cheerfully

The Staff Welfare Society of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka organized a motivational workshop for the staff on 02<sup>nd</sup> January, 2020. This workshop which carried the theme “The Art of Working Cheerfully” intended to guide the university staff on managing their daily office works in a pleasant and hassle-free atmosphere.



## UBL Cell

Evaluation of UBL Cell, Phase 2 of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. Prof. S.J.B.A. Jayasekara, Prof. Gamini Senanayake, and Prof. Thusitha Abeytunga represented the evaluation team.



## CODL Convocation

The Convocation and Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Center for Open and Distance Learning (CODL) was held on 01<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 at the Prof. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium, SUSL.



# University Events

## SUSL join hands with Health Sector to Combat Against COVID-19

SUSL donated 20 ICU Beds to Rathnapura Teaching Hospital. The academic staff of SUSL collected a fund worth 2 million rupees to donate 20 ICU Beds to Rathnapura Teaching Hospital to facilitate COVID-19 patients. Prof. M. Sunil Shantha, the Vice Chancellor, SUSL, handed over two polymerase chain reaction (PCR) machines to Dr. Anuja Rodrigo, the Director of the Rathnapura Teaching Hospital to be used for the testing of COVID-19 patients on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. Meanwhile, the academic members of the Faculty of Medicine, SUSL contributed to conduct the test of COVID-19 patients at Rathnapura Teaching Hospital.



## Appointing the Acting Vice-Chancellor



Prof. Athula Gnanapala, the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies has been appointed as the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2020. Prof. Gnanapala is a Professor in Tourism Management attached to the Department of Tourism Management. He obtained his first degree, B.Sc. Tourism Management, from Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and the M.Sc. in Management from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Later he completed his Doctoral degree in Tourism Management at the School of Business, Xiamen University, P.R. China.



# Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

## Ignite Talks

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences introduced the world renowned 5-minute presentations "Ignite Talks" to the final year students of the faculty to improve their practical communication skills and to expose them to the novel communication platforms. The programme was held at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences from 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 to 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020. This series of talks allowed students to present 20 slides on various topics within five minutes. The event was coordinated by Mr. Sivasankar Pathmanadan, Lecturer, Department of Agribusiness Management.



## SCR 2020



SCR Programme 2020 of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences was held from 03<sup>rd</sup> February to 07<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. Prof. Aruni Weerasinghe, Prof. Pushpanathan, and Prof. G. Jayasinghe represented the evaluation panel of the programme.

## ADCON 2019

The Team Tycoons became the 2<sup>nd</sup> runners up out of 64 teams at the "ADCON 2019" Inter University Advertising Competition which was organized by the Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management & Finance, University of Ruhuna on 06<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. The second year undergraduate students of the Food Business Management degree programme, Department of Agribusiness Management participated in this event representing the Team Tycoons.



# Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

## Stay of Prof. Murari

Full Bright Scholar Prof. Murari Suvedi, Department of Community Sustainability, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, successfully completed the affiliated period on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020. During his stay, since 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2020, Prof. Murari contributed his expertise knowledge taking different approaches including conducting lectures to undergraduates, having discussions with stakeholders, and conducting extension programmes for the rural community.



## Journal of Agricultural Sciences - Sri Lanka in WoS

Commemoration of the inclusion of “Journal of Agricultural Sciences - Sri Lanka” published by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, SUSL in Web of Science database and re-launching the journal took place on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo. Members of the University Grants Commission including the Chairman, Prof. Sampath Amarathunga, the editorial team of the journal and staff of SUSL participated in this event. Prof. Rohana P. Mahaliyanaarachchi, the Founder and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal presented the aims and scope, the long-term vision and the immense contribution of the editorial team in the 13-year history of the journal.



# Faculty of Applied Sciences

## Codefest



“LetMeHack eco v2.0”, organized by the Society of Computer Sciences, Faculty of Applied Sciences was held on 01<sup>st</sup> and 02<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020 at the Sabaragamuwa University. This product-oriented hackathon was arranged with the key idea of building up a complete open source product which can be used by everyone. 20 teams representing different universities of the country pre-registered for this 16-hour competition.

## Anti-Doping

A workshop on “Prohibited Substances Use in Sports” was organized by the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education to improve the knowledge and understanding of the prohibited substances in sports among the undergraduates and staff of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education. This workshop was conducted by Dr. Seevali Jayewickrama, Director-General, Sri Lanka Anti-Doping Agency (SLADA) with assistance of other three Instructors from SLADA. The event was held on 07<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the Faculty of Applied Sciences.



## Wilderness First Aid

The undergraduates of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education participated in a training programme on “American Safety & Health Institute Training Programme – Wilderness First Aid”. The event started on 09<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at Kithulgala and lasted for two days. American Safety & Health Institute organized this programme with a view to make confident respondents in emergency care. The students who participated in the programme obtained the recognition of participation in addition to receiving a license in Wilderness First Aid.

# Faculty of Applied Sciences

## Athlima 2020

The Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education organized “Athlima 2020” to improve event organizing and management skills of the undergraduates of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education. The initial programme of this annual event was held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the University Main Grounds.



## Webinar Series 2020

The Department of Computing and Information Systems organized a webinar series enabling CIS undergraduates to continue their studies at home, by utilizing advanced e-learning technologies. The webinar series included Alumni Talks, Industry Talks and Research Talks to strengthen the link between the undergraduates of the department and the experts who are currently holding reputed positions in Computing. Senior academics from higher educational institutions served as resource persons in addition to industry experts from leading software companies in Sri Lanka. The webinar series took place from May to June, 2020.

## International Olympic Day

The poster features the Olympic rings logo at the top left, followed by the text 'INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC DAY CELEBRATION 2020' and '23 JUNE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC DAY'. Below this, it states: 'The Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka organises a webinar conference through Zoom Application to celebrate international Olympic Day 2020'. The main title of the webinar is 'Olympism in Action' with the subtitle 'Value based Olympic education to promote public health and active living'. The date and time are 'Date: 23rd June 2020' and 'Time: 3.00 P.M. (SL time)'. It lists participants from 15 countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei, Germany, India, Italy, Malaysia, Namibia, Pakistan, Rwanda, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Uganda and United Kingdom. A Facebook live link is provided: <https://www.facebook.com/Spirit-of-SSPE-104024350965903>. At the bottom left are the logos of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and the Spirit of SSPE. On the right side, there is a portrait of Prof. Cora Burnett-Louw, identified as the Resource Person. Her credentials are listed as: Research Professor Cora Burnett-Louw, Ph. D in Human Movement Studies; D. Litt. et. Phil. (Anthropology), Department of Sport and Movement Studies/ Director of Olympic Studies Centre in University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

An international webinar on “Olympism in Action” was organized by the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education to celebrate the International Olympic Day 2020 on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2020. Prof. Cora Burnett-Louw, Department of Sport and Movement Studies and the Director of Olympic Studies Center, University of Johannesburg, South Africa presented the webinar for more than 200 participants representing 15 countries of the world.

## Web-based Developing Techniques

A training programme on “Web-based Developing Techniques” was held from 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 for the staff of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Department of Education. The event intended to introduce the theoretical background and practical knowledge of Web-based developing techniques to the participants. The staff of the Department of Remote Sensing & GIS, Faculty of Geomatics and the Department of CIS, Faculty of Applied Sciences participated as the resource persons of the programme.



## Technological and Educational Exhibition

Dr. P.G.R.N.I. Pussella, Senior Lecturer, Department of Remote Sensing & GIS, participated as the Chief Guest in the Science, Technological and Educational Exhibition organized by the Technology Society of Seethawaka Central College, Avissawella in January, 2020.



## Collaborative Research

Dr. M.D.E.K. Gunathilaka, Department of Surveying and Geodesy collaborated with a two-year (2020-2022) research project on “An assessment of tidal asymmetry around the Sri Lankan coastline” funded by NARA (National Aquatic Research and Development Agency). The main objective of the project was to identify the influence on the tidal phenomenon around the coastline caused by the two amphidromic points located in the Indian Ocean.

## Hydrographic Consultancy Project

A consultancy project titled “Mi-Oya Floodplain Survey Project” was awarded to the Faculty of Geomatics by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Sri Lanka, under Climate Resilience Integrated Water Management Project (CRIWMP). This project started in January, 2020 and intended to continue until August, 2020. The project team leads by Dr. M.D.E.K. Gunathilaka, Department of Surveying and Geodesy aimed to develop and support the implementation of the Flood Model for Mi-Oya basin in order to improve the flood early warning system and preparedness.

# Faculty of Geomatics

## Extensive Hydrographic Field Training 2020

The hydrographic field task for B.Sc. (Surveying Sciences-Hydrographic Surveying) students was conducted from 02<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to provide them a real-world hands-on experience in conducting a complete hydrographic survey. The event was organized in two parts. A “coastal hydrographic survey” was conducted under Part 1 with the support of Sri Lanka Ports Authority using their Echo 3 survey boat, while an “inland hydrographic survey” at Palukadawala Tank along with Mi-Oya Floodplain Survey Project was conducted under Part 2.



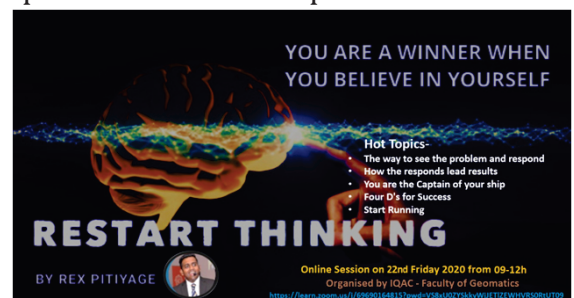
## Gurugedara Lecture Series

Dr. P.G.R.N.I. Pussella, Senior Lecturer, Department of Remote Sensing & GIS, contributed to the “Gurugedara” Lecture Series on Land Surveying and Leveling for the Advanced Level Students of Technology stream. The lecture series was telecast on 'Channel Eye' in May, 2020. The programme was organized by the Ministry of Education and National Institute of Education.



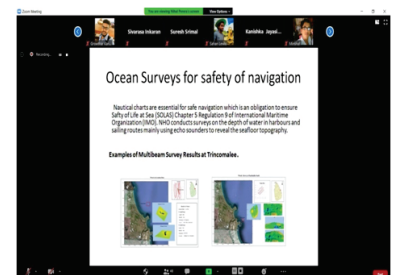
## FQAC Workshop

The quality assurance cell of the Faculty of Geomatics conducted an online discussion on “Restart Thinking” to motivate the students during the covid-19 locked-down situation. The event expected to motivate the students to reset their thinking pattern to the correct direction after the long break. This was organized for the third year students of the faculty via Zoom on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020. Mr. Rex Pitiyage, an author, expert in personal coaching and the founder of the Rex Academy participated as the resource person.



## Online Seminar on Hydrography

An “online hydrographic” seminar was organized by the Faculty of Geomatics on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2020, with the collaboration of the hydrographic community of Sri Lanka. The major objective of this event was to promote collaborations with the industry including academia. More than 50 participants attended this session including industry professionals from NARA, ports authority, CFHC, FUGRO UAE, university academics, hydrographic alumina of the Sabaragamuwa University, and the current and prospective hydrographic specialization students. Several keynote addresses were delivered by the industry experts related to the world hydrography day 2020, which carried the theme “Hydrography – Enabling Autonomous Technologies”.



# Faculty of Management Studies

## Say No to Single Use Plastics



An environmental programme titled “Say No to Single Use Plastics”, organized by the Department of Tourism Management was held on 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty of Management Studies. The programme had multiple objectives including familiarizing students and the staff with the environmental damage caused by single use plastics, initiating a single use plastic free culture at the Faculty, encouraging to reduce the use of plastic water bottles in the university community, and drafting a single use plastic policy for the Faculty. Mr. R.A.D.C. Ranathunga, Lecturer, Department of Tourism Management coordinated the programme.

## Mini Projects

The Final Year Students' Mini Projects under Change Management were carried out in January, 2020 at the Faculty of Management Studies. The main objective of the projects was to enhance the change management skills of the students while allowing them to engage in an actual change management process by identifying a need for a change, plan, implement and institutionalize the changes. Nine mini projects were implemented in collaboration with the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell. Rearrangement of the Faculty library, rearrangement of the notice boards and preparing a Faculty emergency preparedness plan were some of the key highlights of the work. Projects were guided by Ms. A.W. Thiranagama, Lecturer, Department of Business Management.



The final year students and the lecturers of the Department of Marketing Management organized a programme carrying the theme “Sustainability through Digital Customer Experience” on 06<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Auditorium, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. The objective of the programme was to create sound platform for the undergraduates of the Department to showcase their skills and promote the degree programme in the business world.

## SABRA Marketing Day 2019



.In addition to the undergraduates of the Department, undergraduates of other universities, school children and teachers, neighboring community of the university were the target group of this event. Dr. Vilasini De Silva, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing Management contributed as the Lecturer-in-charge of the programme.

# Faculty of Management Studies

## Environment and Textile Manufacturing



A workshop on “Industrial Operations & Environmental Best Practices in Textile Manufacturing” was held on 11<sup>th</sup>, January, 2020 at the Faculty of Management Studies to familiarize the fourth year Eco Business Management students with industrial operations and environmental best practices in textile manufacturing. Mr. Nuwan Kumara, Executive, Environmental Sustainability, MAS KREEDA Synergy participated as the resource person of this programme.



## Be Distinct

A workshop on “Be Distinct” organized by the Department of Business Management, was held on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty premises. Ms. Niroshika Dooradarshani, Corporate Trainer, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Human Resource Management of the Faculty of Commerce & Management, University of Kelaniya, conducted the workshop for the fourth year Business Management students of the Faculty of Management Studies, SUSL. The event expected to communicate the strategies of enhancing self-confidence and to inform how to improve the attire to well adjust in the corporate sector.



## Environment and Paint Manufacturing

A workshop organized by the Department of Tourism Management on “Industrial Operations & Environmental Best Practices in Paint Manufacturing and Processing” was held on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty of Management Studies. Mr. Kaushalya Kotuwage, Head of HR & Corporate Sustainability, JAT Holdings (Pvt) Ltd. conducted the workshop.



# Faculty of Management Studies

## Workshop on Energy Management



A workshop which carried the title “Energy Utilization, Management, Conservation & Energy Auditing in Industrial Operations” focused on the fourth year Eco-Business Management students was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty of Management Studies. Mr. Sujeewa Fernando, Manager Energy Management, Access Energy Solutions (Pvt) Ltd. contributed as the resource person of the workshop.



## Life after university

A workshop on “Life after University and Table Manners” was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty premises and Water Garden, Galagama, Belihuloya. The fourth year Marketing Management students were the focused group of this event with a view to enhance their knowledge on proper table etiquette in view of the expectations of organizations from Management graduates, and to inform about the tips and techniques needed to have for a better performance in the outside world. Colonel C.A.B. Tennakoon from Sri Lanka Army served as the resource person of the event.



## A Program to Improve English skills

“Pre-sessional Total Immersion English Course” for the New Intake (2018/2019), Faculty of Management Studies was held from 02<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020 to 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at the Faculty premises to improve English communication skills of the undergraduates. Thirteen English teachers from Balangoda Educational Zone were engaged in this event with the support of the subject lecturers of the Faculty. In addition, Miss Anaga, a volunteer from the United States worked as a resource person. The programme was supported by the grants received from the AHEAD project.



# Institutional Review

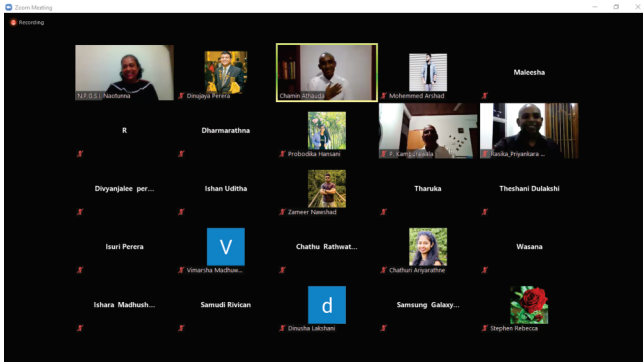


The Institutional Review Programme 2020 took place at the university premises from 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to 01<sup>st</sup> February, 2020. The review programme covered all the faculties and departments of the university. Prof. Ranjith Mahanama steered the review team which consisted of six members. Prof. Deepthi Bandara, Prof. M.M.M. Najeem, Prof. R.P.C. Ranjani, Prof. Tilak Gamage, and Dr. Karen Treloar were the other members of the review team.



# Faculty of Management Studies

## OB Talks



The Department of Business Management in association with the Department of Accountancy & Finance of the Faculty of Management Studies presented a series of discussions, "OB Talks", to enhance the awareness of the applications of

Organizational Behaviour (OB) concepts. The third year second semester students of the Faculty of Management Studies were the target audience of this talk series. Ms. Jayani De Silva, Manager Corporate HR at CBL Group; Mr. Chamin Athauda, English Language Lecturer, Toastmaster, Director - Noble Vision Institute (Pvt) Ltd; and Mr. Kamal Ariyasinghe, former principal - Rathnapura Sivali Central College, participated as the resource persons of the event held from 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020 to 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.



16th JUNE 2020  
7.00 - 8.00 p.m

SABARA BM & ACF PROUDLY PRESENT

# OB TALKS

“සර්විච්ඡතය”

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විටිලි ව්‍යුහගත

17/18 Batch  
Department of Business Management  
Department of Accountancy and Finance  
Faculty of Management Studies  
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

zoom

**INDIGENO 2020**  
"ACHIEVING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DREAM"

HOW MANY SRI LANKAN ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS STORIES HAVE YOU HEARD OF?

THE BERNADINE AMARIYASINGHE  
THE MADURA HANAYAKKARA  
THE PULASTHI WANNASACHCHI  
THE ACHALA SAMARADIVAKARA  
THE DHANIKA PERERA  
THE JANAKI KATHARACHCHI

DO NOT MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LISTEN TO UNTOLD ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS STORIES OF OUR NATION!

GET YOURSELF REGISTERED JOIN US ON ZOOM

## INDIGENO 2020

A webinar series to educate and to share the successful stories of the Sri Lankan Entrepreneurs with the third year students of the Faculty was organized by the 2016/17 batch of the Department of Business Management. This event was supported by six industrial experts participating as resource persons. The webinar series went live from 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2020 to 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.

## World Environmental Day 2020

An online programme organized in lieu of the World Environmental Day 2020 was held from 05<sup>th</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. The programme included three online assessments, four nature-based challenges, and six virtual talks with collaboration of academic and industrial professionals. Providing environmental training and education sessions to build knowledge and confidence in graduates, professionals, and the community, developing industry-academic partnerships over business sustainability, reducing the carbon footprint during World Environment Day celebrations were the major objectives of this event. The programme was jointly organized by Eco-business Management Special Degree Programme and Hayleys PLC, under coordination of Mr. R.A.D.C. Ranathunga, Lecturer, Department of Tourism Management.

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 2020**  
**IT'S TIME #ForNature**

Together We Can Act For Nature  
STAY TUNED FOR A VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE!

The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka joins hands with Hayleys PLC in its sustainable journey

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020  
IT'S TIME FOR NATURE  
WINNER - #NatureQuoteChallenge

Amal Balasooriya  
Sri Lanka Shipping (Advantis)

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 2020**  
**IT'S TIME #ForNature**

#ForNature talk series by:

Dr. Priyan Perera  
Eng. Samantha Kumarasena  
Dr. Roshan Rajadurai  
Prof. Sarath Kotagama  
Prof. Ajith De Alwis  
Biologist Amila Sumanapala

Join the conversation from 9th June to 14th June

Register  
<https://forms.gle/kFVgGlnXnxxxYmLz6>

Stay tuned for the entire programme, and stand a chance to win some exciting prizes and many more complements!

Contact: 0717105863 (Chandimal)  
0772449178 (Gayani)

JOIN US IN A VIRTUAL KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSION.

# Faculty of Management Studies

## Green Talks

A series of online talks along with the theme: “Go green for a better world”, organized by the Department of Business Management was held from 06<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 to 05<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 to share the environmental related practices and behaviors of different industries with the second year, first semester students of the Department. Five resource persons including industrial experts from outside the university participated as resource persons of the lecture series.



Dr. Sampath Wahala

Mr. Shahen Amarthunga

Mr. Pasindu Liyanage

Ms. Reshadee Weerasooriya

Mr. T.B.B.S. Sumith

Ms. Thilini Maheshika

## Marketing Research Talks

“Integrating Voice of the Customer”, a series of Marketing Research Talks was conducted by Ms. Mihirani Dissanayake, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Survey Research Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. for the third year Marketing Management Students. This webinar series was held from 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 to 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 on Saturdays via ZOOM. The participants of the event were able to learn practical application of different marketing research designs in addition to questionnaire development, data collection, data analysis along with the tools in market research in cooperate sector, and to make decisions based on the outcome of the research findings. The online webinar series was organized by the Department of Marketing Management.

## Webinar for Banking and Insurance

A webinar on “The Challenges in the Post Pandemic Era – The Risk and Insurance Perspective” was held on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 for the Banking and Insurance students of the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 academic years. The webinar was conducted by Mr. Pooba Mahalingam, Director, Training and Business Development, Talent Asia Training and Consulting Singapore. This programme expected to share expert knowledge of an international level resource person in the insurance industry while providing the participants with an international exposure.

## EXECUTOR 2020

An online lecture series, organized by the students of 2016/17 batch, Department of Business Management was held from 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 to 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2020 via ZOOM application. The lecture series aimed to visualize the practical essence of Operations Management in Industries and to shape the students along with practical knowledge of Operations Management that could enhance their performance in the competitive Industry. Six industrial experts contributed as resource persons of the event.

## Webinar for Banking and Finance

A webinar on “Digital Acceleration of Banking and Finance” was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 for Banking and Insurance students of the 2015/2016 academic year. Mr. Jayantha Dewasiri, Head of Field Force, HMD Global Inc. Sri Lanka, participated as the resource person of the webinar. This event aimed to enhance the participants' exposure to the automation of banking and finance. 2015/16 batch of the Banking and Insurance Degree Programme, Department of Accountancy and Finance organized the webinar.

# Faculty of Medicine

## The Inauguration Ceremony

The Inauguration Ceremony to start the second batch of the Faculty of Medicine was held on 06<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Faculty premises. Prof. Susirith Mendis, Professor of Physiology, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) delivered the keynote speech at the ceremony.



## Big Match



The annual cricket big match between the Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University and the Faculty of Medicine, Wayamba University was held on 01<sup>st</sup> February, 2020 at the Welagedara Cricket Grounds. This event was organized with a view to make interpersonal relationship, teamwork, and friendship among the students of the two universities. This match was won by the team represented the Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University.



# Faculty of Medicine

## Dharma Deshana

A religious event was held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the Faculty premises to invoke blessings to the second year Medical students and to Prof. Anura Weerasinghe. Venerable (Dr.) Omalpe Sobitha Thero conducted the Dharma Discussion.



## Talent Show

“ESSTRELLAS 2020”, a talent show organized by the Faculty of Medicine to showcase the unseen talents of the first and second year medical students was held on 04<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at the Library Auditorium, Newtown, Rathnapura. Prof. Narada Warnasuriya, Senior Professor of Paediatrics graced the occasion in participating as the Chief Guest.



# Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages

## Academic Literacy of Undergraduates

A workshop on “Improving Academic Literacy of Undergraduates” was held from 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 aiming the fourth year undergraduate students of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. The workshop was held separately for two groups of students who follow Economics, Statistics and ICT as subjects of their degree programmes. Mrs. M.D.N.M.U. Mahawatta, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, contributed as the resource person of the workshop. The event was organized under the AHEAD Project by the Department of Economics and Statistics.



## Celebrating Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year celebration took place on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Prof. J.W.D. Dayananda Somasundara Auditorium. This colourful event organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages included a number of Chinese traditional and cultural activities.



# Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages

## Programme on Social Justice

A conversational programme on “Universal Franchise and Social Justice”, organized by the Department of Social Sciences was held on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. Mr. Mahinda Deshapriya, the Chairman of Election Commission of Sri Lanka delivered a lecture at the event.



## The English Day

“The English Day” organized by the Department of English Language Teaching under the AHEAD project was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the university premises, aiming at enhancing the English language skills of the undergraduates of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, providing them with an opportunity to gain novel experience in terms of language use, by using the language in an authentic and real life series of activities. The team leader of the activity, Mr. Sivanoo Sivayesunesan, Senior Instructor in English, Department of English Language Teaching and the team members, Ms. Piyuji Mendis and Mr. H. Ranjith, Department of Sociology coordinated this event.



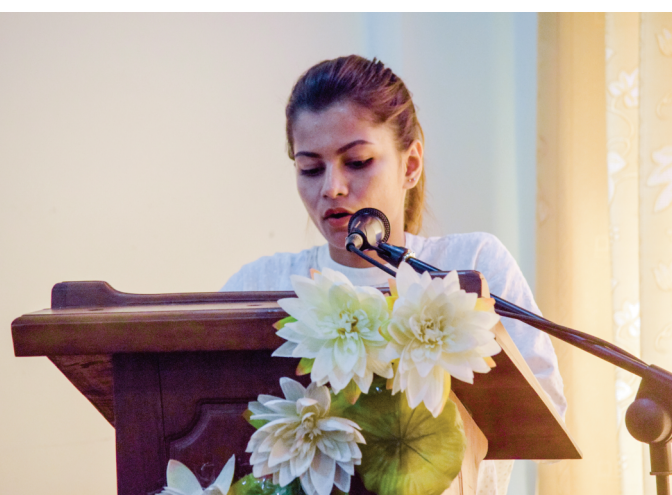
## Workshop on Communication Skills

A one-day workshop on “Corporate Communication Skills for Employment”, organized by the Department of English Language Teaching under the AHEAD project was held on 03<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020. To enhance the employability of the undergraduates and to improve their corporate communication skills were the primary objectives of this event. The workshop was coordinated by Mrs. Lakmini Basnayake, the team leader of the event, Ms. Hiranji Perera, Department of English Language Teaching and Ms. Sanori Kananke, Department of Languages. A group of resource persons from the Human Resource Management team of Unilever Sri Lanka Limited conducted the workshop. The participants of the event were indulged in many activities which were aimed at improving their language and corporate communication skills.



## Publishing an E-Magazine

The launching ceremony of the first “E-Magazine” of the students of the Department of Economics and Statistics was held on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the Board Room, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. Improving the subject oriented English writing, editorial skills, and designing skills were the major objectives of the magazine in addition to encouraging them for team working.



## Microsoft TEAMS for Online Teaching and Learning

An online workshop on “Online Teaching and Evaluation Methods using Microsoft TEAMS”, conducted by a team of experts from Sanje (Pvt.) Ltd, a large selling partner of Microsoft Sri Lanka and the fast Track Global Partner of Microsoft Sri Lanka was held on 05<sup>th</sup> and 06<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. This workshop was coordinated by Mr. R.M.N.B. Rathnayake, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Computer Studies. Giving an adequate training to the academic staff of the Faculty on how to use Microsoft Teams for online teaching and learning with special attention to evaluation methods was the objective of this workshop. The second stage of the workshop focused on the third and fourth year students of the Faculty was held from 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2020 to 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.

# Faculty of Technology

## Preparing for Institutional Review

An awareness programme on Institutional Review was held on 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the Physics Laboratory, Faculty of Technology to make all the faculty staff members aware of the Institutional Review process and guidelines. The programme was conducted by Prof. J.M.C.K. Jayawardana on behalf of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of SUSL.



## Opening New Laboratories

Opening ceremony of the Chemistry Laboratory and Biology Laboratory of the Faculty of Technology was held on the auspicious day of 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the faculty premises. It was declared open by Prof. M. Sunil Shantha, Vice Chancellor, SUSL on the invitation of Dr. A. D. Ampitiyawatta, Dean, Faculty of Technology in the presence of the Deans of the Faculties, and the staff and the students of the Faculty of Technology.



## Invorecess 2020

An evening gathering organized by the Faculty of Technology was held on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the faculty premises. This event intended to enhance the affability between students and the staff while experiencing a joyful meeting.



# Staff Achievements

## World Environment Day - 2020

Dr. E. P. Kudavidanagae, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources was invited as a speaker of a webinar organized by Centre for Environmental Justice to celebrate the "World Environment Day 2020". The event was held on 04<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. Meantime, she was also appointed as the Secretary of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation and board of trustees of the Federation of Environmental Organizations for 2020/2021 period.



## Doctoral Degree Completion

Dr. L.A.C. Sajeewanie, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing Management, completed her Ph.D in Management/Business Studies at Management & Science University, Malaysia.



# Student Achievements

## Best Athletes

Ms. Omayya Udayangani, a second year undergraduate student of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education and also a Gold Medalist of the 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games, was awarded the best Sportswoman at the University Day 2020 while Mr. Roshan Dhammika Ranathunga, a first year undergraduate student of the Department of Sports Sciences and Physical Education and also a Bronze Medalist of the 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games was awarded the best Sportsman at the University Day 2020 held on 05<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at the Sabaragamuwa University.



## New Appointments

Prof. M.L.M.C. Dissanayake was appointed as the Director of Centre for Research and knowledge Dissemination of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



Prof. S.D.A. Sandanayaka was appointed as the Chair Professor of the Department of Physical Sciences and Technology, Faculty of Applied Sciences.



Dr. S. Vasanthapriyan was appointed as the Head of the Department of Computing and Information Systems.



Dr. Dunusinghe G. Dharmarathna has been appointed as the Head of the Department of Accountancy and Finance.



Dr. Aruna Shanthaarchci, Senior Lecturer Gr. I, Department of Economics and Statistics, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, has been appointed as the Acting Director of Staff Development Centre with effect from 02.06.2020.



## Promotions

Prof. A.A.Y. Amarasinghe, Professor of Export Agriculture, was promoted to the post of Senior Professor on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2020 with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. He has also been granted the Chair Professorship on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.



Prof. R.P. Mahaliyanarchchi, Professor (chair) of Agribusiness Management was promoted to the post of Senior Professor (chair).



Dr. M.G.A.N. Perera, Lecturer of the Department of Physical Sciences and Technology, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II.



Dr. M.S.J. Perera, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



# Promotions

Dr. (Ms.) E. P. Kudavidanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



Dr. R.G.U. Jayalal, Lecturer, Department of Natural Resources, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II.



Mrs. A.A.L. Madushani, Lecturer, Department of Sport Sciences and Physical Education, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II.



Dr. S. Joniton, Lecturer, Department of Sport Sciences and Physical Education, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II.



Dr. H.P.R. Priyankara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



Mr. I.A. Ekanayake, Lecturer, Department of Business Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade II.



Dr. P.K.S. Munsinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Toursim Management was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



Professor M. Sunil Shantha, Associate Professor of the Department of Economics & Statistics was promoted to the post of Senior Professor.



Mr. R.V.S.P.K. Ranathunga, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Computer Studies was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



Mr. R.M.N.B. Rathnayaka, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Computer Studies was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I.



Dr. H.K.S. Premadasa, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Computer Studies was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer Gr. I.



## Advisory Board

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Prof. M.L.M.C. Dissanayke  
Director,  
Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD)

Deans, Heads of the Departments, Directors, all Academics & Administrative staff members and students are greatly appreciated for providing the information and pictures for this newsletter.

**Do you wish to publicize any significant news related to your Faculty, Department or Centre of the SUSL, in the Newsletter**

Please send us your news to Coordinator Newsletter Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD)

Email: [newsletter@crkd.sab.ac.lk](mailto:newsletter@crkd.sab.ac.lk)

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Annual Research Session 2020 of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (ARS 2020), organized by the Center for Research and Knowledge Dissemination (CRKD) will be held on 16th December, 2020 at the Faculty of Geomatics, SUSL. The major objective of ARS is to make an effort to provide a common platform for

the newly graduated post-graduates among the academic staff of the university and the higher degree students of SUSL to present their research outputs of varied disciplines. In addition, the poster session of ARS usually provides a great opportunity for undergraduates to present the output of their final year research component. The keynote speech of ARS 2020 is given by the youngest professor in Civil Engineering Science in Sri Lanka, Prof. Rangika Halwatura, University of Moratuwa.

At the Faculty of Geomatics, SUSL



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