

BEST ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS



University of Moratuwa won the inaugural award for the best annual reports and accounts at the competition conducted by the Association of Public Finance Accountants of Sri Lanka (APFASL) which is the public sector wing of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka), for the year ended 31 December 2014. [See page 02]

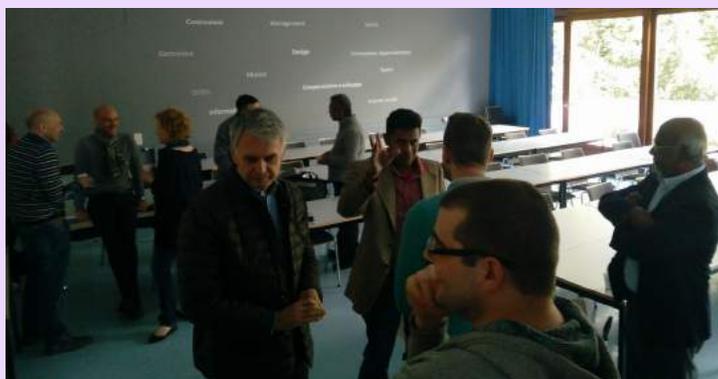
CANBERRA ACCORD AGM



[See page 02]

4ONSE Research Partnership of Department of Town & Country Planning and the Successful Testing of Prototype Weather Station

The '4ONSE': Open, Nonconventional, Sustainable and Effective climate monitoring system research project was launched in October 2016 as an inter-university partnership between the University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka and University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI), and as inter-department partnership between the Department of Town and Country Planning and Department of Information Technology of the University of Moratuwa. [See Page 02]



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CULTURAL EVENTS

CANBERRA ACCORD AGM

The 6th General meeting of the Canberra Accord was hosted at the Faculty of Architecture on 06 May. The Canberra Accord is an agreement amongst several international accreditation/validation agencies in architectural education. The Accord is intended to facilitate the portability of educational credentials between the signatories. The signatories include Australia, USA, Canada, China, Korea, Brazil, Portugal, Mexico, and Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA). As CAA is a signatory, all 52 Commonwealth Countries are members of this Accord.

Around 45 very senior professionals in architectural education from all the signatory countries attended this event. They also visited an exhibition of students work at the Department of Architecture. All the delegates were highly appreciative of the standards of the students work.



From cover page

4ONSE Research Partnership of Department of Town & Country Planning.....

The aim of 4ONSE research project is to set-up a weather monitoring system with accessible technology at low-cost to be utilized in flood mitigation, urban drainage management, climate change impact assessment, disaster early warning and risk management, and weather predictions.

From an economic point of view, the 4ONSE climate monitoring system would be beneficial to the people of developing countries as it is a high-quality “disruptive innovation” at low cost; and from scientific point of view, this research project will progress beyond the state of the art, providing detailed information through modern semiconductor sensor implementation, automated embedded development, data quality, metadata accessibility, and standardization.

As the research project is progressing for seven months since its launch in October 2016, the scientific workshop and project progress meeting was held from 01-06 May at SUSPI, Switzerland. The meeting was attended by about 50 staff members and researchers. The workshop was conducted by the team consisted of Prof Massimiliano Canata (Team Leader of overall project), Prof PKS Mahanama (Team Leader - T&CP, UoM), Dr. Rangajeewa Ratnayake (Project Manager / Coordinator, Head – T&CP, UoM) and B.H. Sudantha (Hardware Specialist – Dept of IT, UoM). In addition to the discussion of project progress, a state-of-the-art prototype weather station was also introduced to the participants and successfully tested. Apart from the scientific meeting, a series of practical workshops were held at SUPSI labs to design a prototype weather station and the system was successfully designed, implemented and data were received from the station. Further, GSM communication and istSOS configuration, data integration, reliability and stability were also successfully tested.

Best annual reports.....

This awards ceremony was held at BMICH on 16 June under the patronage of Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignments and Mr. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance

The competition has been organized for the Ministries, Departments, Statutory Boards, Local Authorities and Foreign projects to encourage excellence in the presentation of information in the Annual Reports and Accounts in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and the Auditor General’s Department.

The evaluation criteria for the best annual reports and accounts were Better presentation and commutation to the stake holders, compliance with the requirements of Statutory and other regulatory framework including generally accepted international best practices, compliance with Treasury Guidelines & Circulars, Compliance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards, Attempts made in relation to Financial reforms in moving towards accrual accounting, disclosure of Vision, mission, objectives and goals to understand the organizations better, comprehensive review of performance and discussion and analysis of major factors influencing the performance of the organization during the period under review.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS & DISSEMINATIONS

UOM SPIN-OFF DEVELOPS 4CM GEO-REFERENCING ACCURACY IN DRONE AERIAL SURVEYING

Future Drones (Pvt) Ltd., a spinoff company of the University of Moratuwa, has improved the aerial surveying accuracy using RTK (Real-time kinematic) GPS tagging. The pilot project was conducted at the University grounds. The entire University was aerially photographed using the CeyTwin Drone with RTK, and the map was geo-referenced using five ground control points established by the Survey Department at no cost. RTK geotagging was carried out in network mode (off line). Mapping was carried out with high winds and in somewhat cloudy sky, which reduced the accuracy of RTK satellite fix. Nevertheless it was possible to reach 4.1cm mean geotagging error with 2.5cm standard deviation. With this accuracy, very precise aerial surveying is possible with the locally developed Drones.



GUEST LECTURES

CIVIL TALKS 2017

The Civil Engineering Society of the Department of Civil Engineering organized the “Civil Talks 2017 – Annual Panel Discussions” on 18 and 25 May 2017.



The panel discussion on 18 was focused on current trends in Civil Engineering. The main speaker was Eng. Jayanath Raveendra, head of marketing and new product development, International Construction Consortium Pvt Ltd. Mr. Jayanath spoke about new innovations in civil engineering technology, specially about the pre-cast wall panels. Further he described on product descriptions, product processes, required site conditions, installation guidelines of wall panels and advantages of pre-cast wall panels. During the panel discussion, participants had the opportunity to look at some new walling materials and examine them. Session lasted 90 minutes.



The main speaker at the panel discussion on 25 Eng Ahilan Selladurai, senior bridge engineer at T.Y. Lin International Ltd. The discussion topic was ‘Bridge the gap, University to Work’. Under this topic focus was given to difficulties when going to the field after the university education under current circumstances. During the panel discussion, participants were told about how to minimize the gap between university education and the profession.

PRESENTATION BY LANKA TILES PLC

A presentation was made by Lanka Wall tiles PLC to the undergraduate students of the Department of Architecture on 15 June introducing the new product range and designs of Lanka tiles and Lanka Wall tiles. The presentation covered technical details and applications, application of tile mortar and grout and differentiation among porcelain and ceramic tiles which was very useful for the architecture students.

ROBOTICS GUEST LECTURE

Robotics is one of the key trending fields of engineering with a massive impact on every other aspect of engineering. Taking this current topic into consideration a guest lecture on robotics was organized by EESoc with the coordination of IEEE RAS on 09th of May 2017. The lecture was conducted by Dr Navinda Kottege on the topic Weaver: Hexapod robot with 5DoF limbs for navigating on unstructured terrain. Dr Navinda Kottege is a Senior Research Scientist and Project Leader in Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Pullenvale, QLD. Conducting the lecture Dr Navinda discussed about hybrid control architecture for a Weaver, making it capable of autonomously navigating in uneven terrain. The main contribution stems from the use of vision-based exteroceptive terrain perception to adapt the robot's locomotion parameters. He also pointed out key advantages such as the ability to run autonomously on a test bed with variable terrain types, illustrating that adaptive stride and impedance behaviour decreases the cost of transport by 30% compared to a non-adaptive approach and simultaneously increases body stability (up to 88% on even terrain and by 54% on uneven terrain). At the end of the session, appreciating his contribution and commitment a token of appreciation was offered on behalf of the students and EESoc.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

MBA IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT INAUGURATION 2017

The Department of Transport and Logistics Management initiated its first ever Master of Business Administration programme with a revolutionary approach in 2015. The MBA specialized in Supply Chain Management offers a one of a kind MBA among the generic versions available throughout the country. The programme is developed with the vision of "Know, Do and Become a MBA" rather than the traditional approach of "doing a MBA or getting a MBA".

The inauguration ceremony of its second intake, "MBA in Supply Chain Management 2017" was held on 24 May at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration. The Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Prof Kapila Perera graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Department Head Dr. T. Sivakumar welcomed

everyone on behalf of the Department and Senior Professor Amal Kumarage also addressed the gathering of distinguished guests, MBA students, lecturer panel and the department staff emphasizing the unique delivery of the programme and the successful journey it had so far. Prof Kapila Perera congratulated the department for the successful delivery of the programme and the recognition gained in the industry with high demand for the new intake. Senior Lecturer Mr. Nishal Samarasekara introduced the lecturer panel of the MBA programme followed by a self-introductory session by the students. Programme Director, Dr. Indika Sigera, delivered the vote of thanks concluding the event and congratulated the students on their new life in the TLM family.



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMME

CDP Presentations

The very first batch of forty seven students of Landscape Architecture from the Level 4 Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Degree Programme conducted by the Department of Architecture presented their final year Comprehensive Design Project from 20 to 26 May to an eminent panel of examiners. The External examiners were Dr John Byrom, former Director of Landscape Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK, Landscape Architect Ms Kavita Jain from an Award winning Landscape / Architecture Practice in New Delhi, Emeritus Professor Nimal De Silva, former Dean Faculty of Architecture and Landscape Architect Hester Basnayake, former Director of Environment

and Landscape division of the Urban Development Authority. The Internal Examiners were Prof Samitha Manawadu, Senior Professor, Department of Architecture, Dr Gamini Weerasinghe, Head Department of Architecture, Landscape Architects Shiranee Balasuirya, Susira Udalamaththa and Kowshi Gunesena. The external panel was complimentary on the wide diversity of projects from the length and breath of Sri Lanka, its visual presentations, sophisticated models and eloquent presentations by the students. The results were outstanding, with nine students in the grade A category, and 33 students in the grade B category (A+- 1, A -3, A- -5, B+ 11 , B 24, B- 3).

Workshop and lecture on Landscape Architecture

A work shop on Experiencing, Exploring, Discovering the challengers and transformations in Landscape Architecture was conducted by Dr John Byrom assisted by Landscape Architect Susira Udalamaththa to the Level One students of Landscape Architecture on 22 May. The enthusiastic students learnt a variety of landscape principles which were easily understood working with scaled models on a range of world landscapes. A lecture on the topic 'A Perfect State in a Perfect World' was presented by Dr Byrom on 23 May to students of the Department sharing his decades of experience from many parts of the world.



Exhibition on Landscape Architecture

An Exhibition showcasing the Comprehensive Design Projects was held at the University Gym on 22 and 23 June organized by Landscape Architect Susira Udalamaththa along with the support of all landscape students to celebrate the accomplishment and to be a platform for learning to the other students in the Department. A vibrant mix of innovative projects ranging from urban, rural, religious, heritage, recreation, restoration, energy conservation to resilient landscapes were exhibited.

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF BUILDING ECONOMICS UG PROGRAMME

A panel of External Examiners visited the Department of Building Economics from 24 to 26 May to review the BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying and BSc (Hons) in Facilities Management degree programmes. The review panel comprised of Professor Melvyn Lees, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment, Birmingham City University, United Kingdom, ChQS Shantha Fernando, Director, Woodbridge Consultants, and Mr Elmo Fernando, General Manager (Projects), Overseas Realty Ceylon PLC, Sri Lanka.



INAUGURATION OF M.SC./PG DIPLOMAS - 2017/2018

The inauguration ceremony of the M.Sc./PG Diploma in Project Management 2017/2018 (17th intake) and M.Sc./PG Diploma in Construction Law and Dispute Resolution 2017/2018 (4th intake) was held on 19 May at the Department of Building Economics. Postgraduate students of the two courses and members of the academic and non-academic staff of the Department of Building Economics participated in the event. A foreign student from People's Republic of China also joined the 4th intake of the MSc/PG Diploma in Construction Law and Dispute Resolution.



STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

PROF GIHAN DIAS FELICATED BY INTERNET SOCIETY

Prof Gihan Dias of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, also a trustee of the Internet Society, has been presented with a plaque of appreciation by the Chairman of the Internet Society Gonzalo Camarillo at the conclusion of Prof Dias' term as a trustee of the Internet Society, at Nairobi, Kenya.



PROF. MALIK RANASINGHE - CHIEF GUEST AT CONVOCATION

University of West of England/Northshore College of Business and Technology held its graduation ceremony for the 2nd consecutive year at the College Auditorium on 11 June.

The occasion was graced by Chief Guest Prof Malik Ranasinghe, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa and Senior Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, together with Dr. Vinya Ariyaratne, General Secretary, Sarvodaya Movement and Member, Governing Council, University of Moratuwa as the guest of honor.

Prof. Malik Ranasinghe delivered the convocation address.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

FINAL ROUND OF NASA SPACE APPS COMPETITION

The Team Codon of University of Moratuwa has been selected to the final round of the NASA Space Apps Competition by competing with over 25000 competitors among 69 countries. The NASA International Space Apps competition was started in 2012 and held in major cities around the world for 48 hours continuously. Team Codon (undergraduates from the CSE and ENTC departments) competed under the category “Galactic Impact” which is focused on gene migration mapping. The project is called “GeneX”. Animals evolve generation to generation according to geographical conditions, weather, human activities, etc. GeneX tracks the variations of genes for the reasons mentioned above and this project helps to identify the obstacles behind the gene migration/ flow and save species by providing solutions to overcome the identified obstacles. In addition, the project can help to stabilize the survival of any extinct species.



SECOND PLACE IN BEST PAPER AWARD CATEGORY FOR AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL IN ICAQM 2017

DM Manori Sanjeevani Dissanayaka presented a paper at the 2nd International Conference on “Air Quality Management (ICAQM 2017)” jointly organized by the Department of Civil Engineering IIT Madras, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi, and Newcastle University, UK on 01 and 02 June at IIT Delhi. She won the second place in the Best Paper Award Category for Air Quality Assessment and Control for the research paper entitled “Evolution of Carbon Foot Print Reduction in Aviation Infrastructure”. Ms. WWAS Fernando, Lecturer of the Department of Transport and Logistics Management was the supervisor for this research project.



EXHIBITIONS, FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP ON “SOCIAL EVALUATION TECHNIQUES FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS”

Prof Caroline Baille, Project Manager of “Australian-Sri Lankan University Partnerships to Develop Community-Based Waste Recycling Businesses” and Dr Lee Patridge, both from the University of Western Australia, conducted a workshop on social evaluation techniques for community-based projects at the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering on 05, 06 and 07 June. The key purpose of Prof. Caroline’s visit was to discuss the project progress evaluation with the Sri Lankan team and to work on the prospective education and training workshop on “poverty reducing business solutions through waste based business solutions”.



WORKSHOP ON “ETHICS IN RESEARCH”

A workshop on “Ethics in Research” organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies was held on 22 June at the Auditorium of the University Library. The workshop was conducted by the Forum for Ethics Review Committees in Sri Lanka (FERCSL). Resource persons were Prof. Chandanie Wanigatunge (Professor of Pharmacology – University of Sri Jayawardanapura, Chairperson - FERCSL), Prof. Amala De Silva (Professor in Economics – University of Colombo), Dr. Shamini Prathapan (Senior Lecturer in Community Medicine – University of Sri Jayawardanapura)

and Dr. Rangajeewa Rathnayake (University of Moratuwa). The workshop provided preliminary training and guidance on proper ethical practices in research and ethical clearance procedures to academic staff of the University. Main topics covered at the workshop were Fundamentals of Research Ethics and Guidelines, Ethical aspects of Clinical trials, Ethical aspects of Qualitative Research and Ethical aspects in Social Science Research.



AUTHOR WORKSHOP

The Library, which has pioneered in delivering state of art facilities to its users to promote teaching, learning and research along with promoting e-resources and services, moved a step further by organizing the Author Workshop with world renowned publisher Elsevier who brings Science Direct and Scopus to UoM. The Author Workshop was held on 30 May in the Library Auditorium with the presence of distinguished guests, academic staff members and research students. Acting Librarian Mr. Nishan Punchihewa welcomed the gathering, explaining the objectives of the workshop,. Prof. (Mrs.)

Dileeka Dias, Dean Faculty of Graduate Studies highlighted the necessity of further improving the research culture at UoM in spite of obstacles and difficulties and also she pointed out the opportunities provided by the university to promote research.

The resource person of the workshop was Dr. Sangeeta Mehta Director RSS Books, South Asia of Elsevier and she made a presentation on “Scholarly publishing” focusing the participants’ attention on publishing cycle of research articles as well as associated challenges in accepting and rejecting of the research publications at Elsevier.



FIELD VISITS BY TLM STUDENTS

A Field Visit was organized to visit Nestle Lanka Pannala Factory on 26 May for the MBA students and BSc final year undergraduates of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management. Mr. Nishal Samarasekara, Senior Lecturer of the department and Mr. Naleen De Alwis, Temporary Lecturer also participated in this visit.

A Field Visit was organized to visit key air traffic navigation centres at Rathmalana and Katunayaka on 24 and 25 May for the Semester 7 aviation research students of the Department of Transport & Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa. Dr. Varuna Adhikariwattage, Senior Lecturer, Ms. Uthpalee Hewage, Temporary Lecturer and Mr. Frank Perera, Instructor of the department also took part in this visit.



SRI LANKA DESIGN CODE

'Sri Lanka Design Code' was held by the Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, a National Design Event inaugurated this year to recognize the importance of cultivating new talent to conserve, educate and regenerate new design knowledge, on 20 and 21 May at Trace Expert City, Colombo 10. SLDC was centred on students, educationalists, practicing professionals and design enthusiasts, compiled of an Exhibition and a Fashion show. The exhibition was held throughout the two days consisting of the work of 12 Graduating students, Foundation Level, Culture Code Project and Field Specializations.

The Culture Code project is an ongoing project completed each year by the Level 2 students to advance the bridge between the craft communities and the market via the involvement of the student designers. The project develops students' entrepreneurial skills and creates the platform to market products of a craft to respond the human, social and market aspects through design creativity and innovation. Culture Code 2017 comprised of Bamboo lifestyle crafts, ranging from lifestyle accessories, seating devices to utensils.

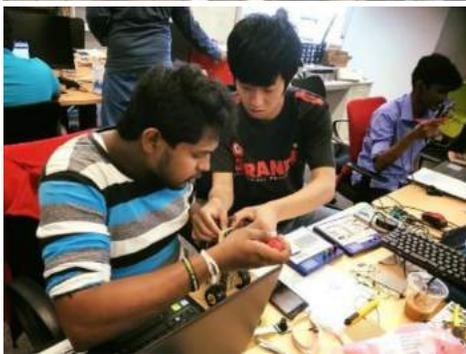
In parallel, Design Seminars and Workshops and the annual DICB meeting were held. on 21 May evening, while an extravagant fashion show comprising Graduation Show, Level 3 Design Project; Second Skin and Culture Code were held ending with the felicitation of Prof. Nimal de Silva and an award ceremony.

Initiated by the Head of the Department, Archt. Sithumini Rathnamalala, Sri Lanka Design Code bears the vision of being a national design event that foster integration of design knowledge across academia, industry and society. Hoping to be continued in the years to come, SLDC hopes to develop a holistic experience on what design is and promote first hand design education offered from the University of Moratuwa, to share and present the recognition of grass-root level technologies in Sri Lankan craft practice and to foster collaboration between the Department of Integrated Design and the Design Industry of Sri Lanka.



PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WORKSHOP IN JAPAN

As a part of the annual work plan of the MOU signed by the Shibaura Institute of Technology (SIT), Japan and the Artificial Intelligence Lab, Department of Computational Mathematics of the Faculty of Information Technology, University of Moratuwa, a robotics workshop was successfully held at the Shibaura Institute of Technology from 16 to 24 June. The main aim of this workshop was to understand the diversity in technological applications. In addition, the workshop was targeted to identify technological issues in robotics applications and enhancing cross-cultural understanding. The challenge of the workshop was very important to our students because the knowledge and the skills gained from the workshop would definitely uplift their progress in next levels in the Faculty. The staff had a chance to use new technological equipment and systems and also had an opportunity to initiate some collaboration with the Japanese industry. Dr. KASN Sumathipala, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Computational Mathematics and Mr. BH Sudantha, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Information Technology participated in the workshop with several undergraduates of the Faculty who were selected through an interview. Undergraduates who attended the workshop were Mr. Yasas Pansilu Jayasuriya, Mr. Kolitha Warnakulasooriya, Mr. Chanuka Sandaru Elvitigala, Mr. Shashika Udara Abeyrathna and Mr. Ashan Priyadarshana.



NEW DEVELOPMENTS

After prolonged efforts the University of Moratuwa purchased a plot of land with the total extent of below 2 acres adjoining the main premises of the University and bordering Bolgoda Lake extending Bolgoda Lake frontage from THE Civil Engineering Department towards the new building of Town and Country Planning with another entrance to Bandaranayake Mawatha. The deed signing ceremony took place on 15th June at the University. This will at least partially satisfy the University's quest for additional land to accommodate further development and vehicle parking.



OVERSEAS VISIT BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ananda Jayawardane, attended the 'Going Global 2017' organized by the British Council and held from 22 to 24 May in the United Kingdom on the theme, 'Global Cities: connecting talent, driving change' which was the world's largest open forum for leaders of education to debate international higher and further education issues and challenges, and to explore collaborative solutions.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ananda Jayawardane and Chairman of Intellectual Property Advisory Committee, Dr. Thusitha Sugathapala, attended the Presidents' Summit - Regional Conference for Presidents/Vice-Chancellors and Technology Transfer Officers of Universities and Research Institutions on Creating and enabling Intellectual Property (IP) Environment for Technology Development, Management and Commercialization organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in cooperation with the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) of Korea, the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and Cornell University, United States of America from 21 to 23 June in the Republic of Korea.

VISITS TO BUILDING ECONOMICS

Dr. Robert Jacobs, a professor of Environmental and Occupational Health at the School of Public Health and Information Sciences (SPHIS), University of Louisville, USA, visited the Department of Building Economics on 16 and 26 May. Accordingly, a meeting with Prof. Jacobs was held on 16 May at the Architecture Faculty boardroom to seek research opportunities between the two universities. Prof. Priyan Dias, Director of Research, Prof. (Mrs.) Dileeka Dias, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof. Lalith De Silva, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Dr. (Mrs.) Yasangika Sandanayake, Head, Department of Building Economics, and Dr. (Mrs.) Nayanthara De Silva, Senior Lecturer, Department of Building Economics, participated in the meeting.

Prof. Jacobs also conducted two guest lectures for the Facilities Management undergraduates of Level 4 and the postgraduate students following the MSc in Occupational Safety and Health Management, on topics 'How to conduct a health audit' and 'Cotton dust, endotoxin, occupational health and organic dust' respectively, on 26th May 2017.

A group of undergraduates from the School of Built Environment, Liverpool John Moores University, UK, visited the Department of Building Economics on 23 June, accompanied by Dr. Mohan Siriwardena and Dr. (Mrs.) Anupa Manewa, Senior Lecturers attached to the John Moores University. The main focus of the visit was to exchange knowledge and community engagement. The visit was concluded with a round table discussion with representatives of the Department of Building Economics to explore future directions and further opportunities for academic collaborations. Undergraduates from both universities benefited from the visit, adding to the student experience and international ethos.



PROF NG WUN JERN VISITS DCPE

Prof NG Wun Jern, director, Nanyang Environment and Water Research Institute, Singapore, visited Department of Chemical and Process Engineering on 21 June to initiate research collaboration and projects related in wastewater/solid waste treatment. The visit was especially to explore the opportunities for future project and research collaboration. At the moment a couple of students from DCPE are pursuing PhD research at Nanyang Technical University.



CLUBS & SOCIETIES

TLM MIND CHALLENGE 2017

TLM Mind Challenge 2017, the Intra Department quiz competition organised by the Society of Transport and Logistics, Department of Transport and Logistics Management was conducted successfully with a great participation of TLM undergraduates and alumni members, on 04 May at the Department auditorium. The chief guest was Mrs. Gayani De Alwis, a former lecturer and consultant. Academic staff of the Department of Transport and Logistics were also invited.

It was a great opportunity for the undergraduates as well as Alumni members of Department of Transport and Logistics Management to enhance their knowledge about the field of Transport and Logistics and other fields such as Supply Chain Management, Science, Art, Literature, Sports, Health, Current Affairs, History, Geography and Culture. Senior Lecturer Mr. Nishal Samarasekera functioned as the Quiz Master and did a great job to keep the audience alive and excited. It was a live table quiz with 5 rounds each with 10 questions and the answers for the quiz were given after every round and some audience questions were given to make 'TLM Mind Challenge' more meaningful and alive. Mrs. Shashini Ranabahu, Ms. Chami Keerthisena and Mr. Frank Perera comprised the panel of judges. Mr. Chandimal Adhikari was the project chair of TLM Mind Challenge 2017.

Chief Guest of the event, Mrs. Gayani De Alwis shared her thoughts regarding the importance of having knowledge about the industry as well as the other areas. She highlighted the importance of conducting such events to make students think outside the academic environment.

'Team Aster' won the title beating the defeating champions of the previous two years 'Team Extreme'. Team members of the winning team were Kasun Rosa, Rahal Indrachapa, Hashan Rahubadda and Yashoda Gamage. 'Team Extreme' and 'Team Matadors' became 1st and 2nd runner-up respectively.



MOCK INTERVIEWS BY MUTA

An annual tradition in the Department of Textile & Clothing Technology is the conducting of mock interview sessions for the Semester 5 students of the BSc Engineering programme of the Department in order to prepare them for the interviews for selection for industrial training placement. This year's session was held on May 2 from 6 pm onwards in the Department auditorium. It was organised by the Moratuwa University Textile Association (MUTA), the alumni association of the Department. A team of nearly 20 graduates of the Department led by Thushara Mudalige of the 2000 intake conducted the programme, which also included a briefing session with activities by Samantha Karandagoda, a graduate of the Department now involved in corporate training. The sessions were well received and greatly appreciated by the students.

“BE PREPARED”

“Be Prepared”, a skill enhancement project with the objective of improving the industry knowledge as well as the soft skills of TLM undergraduates organised by the Society of Transport and Logistics of the University of Moratuwa was successfully conducted on 19 May at the TLM department. “Be Prepared” is mainly focussed on Level 3 students as a support for their internship interviews as well as to give some exposure about the corporate world.



The session was conducted by facilitators from Expolanka Freight (Pvt) Ltd. in a very attractive manner. The resource persons successfully implanted a bold idea about the industry and the expectation of industry from undergraduates. Mr. Sahan Jayasinghe, Deputy General Manager of the Ocean products, Project Logistics & Business Development introduced EFL and conducted a session on logistics. Mr. Zaidh Naushard, Assistant Manager of Customer Solutions shared his knowledge on communication. Assistant Manager of Business Analysis, Miss Sharon Rodrigo conducted a session on personal grooming. Finally, Mr. Hisham Yasir, Finance Executive of EFL explained about the way to face an interview throughout his session.

It was a great opportunity for TLM students to discover about the corporate world of which they were not aware before. The whole session was conducted successfully as the facilitators were able to touch many essential topics in the simplest manner. From the received feedback forms it can be considered as a success with the great effort and commitment of all.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

VISIT TO SRI LANKA’S FIRST URBAN ARBORETUM



One Earth Arboretum is Sri Lanka’s first Urban Arboretum established by Dilmah Tea founder Merrill J Fernando. One Earth Arboretum is situated in the heart of Katubedda, Moratuwa and is designed to present the aesthetic, functional and psychological value of nature in an interactive and educational facility.

Parallel to the Reading Camp organised by the Library, Grades 3,4 and 5 students of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya visited this piece of natural beauty on 07 June.

FIT REACH OUT TO FLOOD VICTIMS

During the recent floods, Batch 15 students of the Faculty of Information Technology launched a campaign to help a school affected by flooding. Under the guidance of Mrs KADT Kulawansa, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Computational Mathematics, of the Faculty, a campaign was held successfully on June 16 at Naayimbala Bandaththara Vidyala, Thihagoda, Matara.

There are 153 students and 30 staff members in that school. The team from the Faculty of Information Technology was warmly welcomed by the Principal, staff and students of the school. The campaign consisted of two phases: distribution of the donation and painting of the desks and chairs of the school. FIT students had prepared gift packs including uniform materials, lunch box, water bottle and stationery for each student in the school. Since there was a small computer unit in the school which was almost inactive due to the lack of maintenance, FIT students reinstated it and conducted a small session for the students to make them familiar with the computers and to enrich the students' interest towards the use of computers.

The campaign was very successful and of great value, as understood by the feedback given by the Principal in her speech of appreciation at the end of day. Special gratitude is due to the Dean and academic and non-academic staff of the Faculty of Information Technology who gave guidance and support to conduct this charity work successfully.



APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND RETIREMENT

DR THUSHARA DAMAYANTHI APPOINTED AS A SENIOR LECTURER

Dr RMT Damayanthi has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer (Grade I) with effect from 17 April, 2017 in the Department of Electrical Engineering by the Council of University of Moratuwa. Dr Damayanthi had been serving in the Department as a Senior Lecturer on contract since April 2016 prior to the new appointment. She obtained her BSc Degree in Electrical Engineering in 2003 from the University of Moratuwa. She was awarded a scholarship in 2004 to pursue doctoral studies at University of Tokyo, Japan and completed her PhD 2009. Her research interests include Nuclear Engineering and after completing her PhD she has been working in the University of Tokyo as a postdoctoral research fellow from 2009 to 2013, and a research scientist at RIKEN from 2013 to 2016.

CIVIL PADURA - A MUSICAL HARMONY

CIVIL PADURA - A MUSICAL HARMONY

The 2014 intake of the Civil Engineering Department presented the Civil Padura 2017 marking another milestone in their university life. The musical harmony came live on 8 May at the Civil Engineering front court with an audience spread beyond the boundaries. The enormous effort put forward by the 2014 intake just after the EXMO exhibition proved their talent not only in academics but also in simple facts in life.

The Padura did not have the usual love driven storyline. Instead it was centred around the 'Walawwa' or the Noble House of the village. "Mahadana Mutta" was the main narrator of the story. The song lineup had love, friendship, expectations, grief and unity harmonized together for a wonderful output. The "Game Kade" was generous enough to treat the audience with "Kadala and Belimal" amidst the event. The occasional drizzle was soothing and added beauty to the event. The academic staff member did not forget to join the harmony with their multiple talents and the staff itself presented a group song to entertain the audience. The Civil Padura 2017 ended in style with the Baila song mix played at the end of the event opening the dance floor to the crowd.



ADVISORY BOARD

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