Prof. S.B.S. Abayakoon, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, received officially the Deed to the Land of the University Experimental Station, Dodangolla, Kundasale, from the Honorable Minister of Land and Land Development, Mr. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon, on 25 August 2011 at a ceremony held at the Ministry of Land and Land Development. From left to right: Prof. DKNG Pushpakumara, Head/Crop Science, Mr. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon, the Hon. Minister of Land and Land Development, Mr. U Dodanwala, Registrar/University of Peradeniya, Mr. R.P.R. Rajapakshe, the Commissioner General of Land, Mr. T. Asoka Peiris, the Secretary to the Ministry of Land and Land Development, Govijana Mandiraya, 80/5, Rajamalwatta Lane, Battaramulla.

Prof. K. Samarasinghe, Dean/Agriculture, Prof. S.B.S. Abayakoon, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, Prof. B. Marambe, Former Dean/Agriculture and Mrs. Thanuja Murugesan, the Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Land and Land Development.
Workshops/Seminars/Conferences from August 16 to 19, 2011 at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Hotel Earl's Regency and the BMICH, Colombo. Initiated by the DEEE in 2006 with the objective of “promoting innovative research for the development of tomorrow's industry”, ICIIIS with technical support from IEEE, has acquired over the past years the reputation of a renowned international conference covering all aspects of Electrical, Electronic and Information Engineering and their diverse applications, especially among scientists in the SAARC region. ICIIIS 2011 was held in Sri Lanka for the fourth time and the Seventh IEEE ICIIIS will be held at IIT Madras, India, in August 2012.

The inauguration of the conference, which was also well attended, was held at the E.O.E. Pereira Theatre of the Faculty of Engineering with Mr. Lalith Weeratunge, Secretary to the President, as the Chief Guest. The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. S.B.S. Abayakoon, and the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Prof. S. B. Weerakoon, addressed the gathering at the inauguration. The plenary session organized by IEEE PES, Sri Lanka Chapter, at the BMICH, Colombo, was attended by the Honorable Minister of Power and Energy, Mr. Patali Champika Ranawaka, as the Chief Guest, and the General Manager of CEB, Mr. N. Wickramasuriya, addressed the gathering on this occasion. This plenary session was attended by Prof. Wimaladharma Abeywickrama, the Chairman of The Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB), Mr. C. J. Haputantri, the Chairman of Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt.) Ltd. (LECO), Mr. S. Somathika, the General Manager of LECO and Mr. U.D. Jayawardana, CEO of Lanka Transformers (Pvt.) Ltd.

The Keynote addresses of the conference were delivered by Prof. Saman Amarasinghe, Prof. George N. Rouskas, Prof. Sri Parameswaran and Dr. Mathini Sellathurai from MIT, University of North Carolina, The University of New South Wales and Queen's University Belfast respectively. Six workshops on “Next Generation Power Systems (SMART GRIDS)”, “current status of LTE and WiMax Technologies”, “Medical Imaging and Instrumentation”, “2D and 3D Video Quality Assessment”, “Industrial Mobile Robots and Rapid Design of Embedded Systems” were conducted as part of the pre-conference proceedings. These sessions were well attended. Authors from 15 countries presented 101 technical papers during the conference which were attended by approximately 200 persons. All technical papers presented in the conference have been published in IEEE Xplore digital library.

University of Peradeniya received .................

The UES is managed by a farm manager under the guidance of Head/Crop Science and Lecturer-in-charge appointed by the Department of Crop Science. The UES was first handed over to the Faculty of Agriculture on 1st October 1968. Since 2001, the Faculty has made several unsuccessful attempts at receiving the Deed. Most recently, however, the request made by the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture to Mr. T. Asoka Peiris, Secretary to the Ministry of Land and Land Development, for intervention resulted in the acquisition of the Deed.

Workshops/ Seminars and Training Programs

Training of Trainers on Cultivation under Poly Tunnels

The Agriculture Education Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture conducted seventeen (17) "Training of Trainers" Programmes on "Cultivation Under Poly Tunnels" in Kandy, Matale and Kurunegala (28th July), Hambantota and Galle (29th July), Kegalle (1st August), Kurunegala and Jaffna (2nd August), Kalutara, Colombo, Gampaha and Mannar (4th August), Kilinochchi (8th August) and Ratnapura (9th August) districts. The training programmes were funded by the Re-awakening Project and the Gami Diriya Project of the Ministry of Economic Development. Prof. W.A. P. Weerakkody, Dr. B.M. L.D.B. Suriyagoda and Dr. C.K. Benaragama served as resource persons.
The Agricultural Biotechnology Centre (AgBC) of the Faculty of Agriculture conducted a two-day residential workshop on "Biosafety: Risk Assessment and Management of Genetically Modified Organisms, Food, Feed and Processed Products" on 11th and 12th August 2011 at the AgBC, University of Peradeniya. The main objective of the programme was to provide and share knowledge on the production of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO), Genetically Modified Food (GMF), risks and benefits associated with GMO and GMF. Key issues such as biosafety regulatory systems and application procedure in Sri Lanka were also discussed. A total of 65 senior level government officials, academics and representatives of private institutions, NGOs and other interested parties involved in Biosafety participated in the workshop. Financial assistance was provided by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Professors A.L.T. Perera, V.A. Sumanasinghe, D. K.N.G. Pushpakumara, and G.L.L.P. Silva and Drs. R.P. Karunagoda, H.A.M. Wickramasinghe and R.P.N. P. Rajapakse served as resource persons and Dr. R.P. Karunagoda of the Faculty of Agriculture coordinated the workshop.

Collaboration with Pragmatic Test labs:

Mr. Janesh Kodikara, the Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Pragmatic Test labs, and the staff of the Department of Computer Engineering conducted an inaugural meeting and seminar with student participation for the purpose of establishing a Selenium Software Testing facility in the Department of Computer Engineering. The main objective of the envisaged facility is to expose computer engineering undergraduates to current industry practice in software testing by working on industry projects and developing testing tools. The meeting was held on 28th September 2011 at the Faculty of Engineering.

A two-day workshop on “knowledge Hub of Asia' Impact of Non-state Universities in Sri Lanka” conducted by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors [CVCD] was held at Hotel Tamarind Tree, Minuwangoda. The Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, the Registrar and the Bursar of the University of Peradeniya participated in the workshop.

The Centre for Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis Research [CAADDR] of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science conducted two training programs for Aquaculturists of the National Aquaculture Development Authority [NAQDA] on the themes of Fish Micobacteriosis and Fish Health Management, on the 05th August 2011, and 21 - 23 September 2011 respectively.
The International Association of Biotechnology in Animal Reproduction (IABAR), Japan, University of Peradeniya, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Association of Animal Production (SLAAP) organized jointly the 16th International Conference on Biotechnology in Animal Reproduction (ICBAR), on August 4th and 5th, 2011 at Hotel Topaz and Tourmaline, Kandy. The ICBAR, held annually in different countries, provides a common platform to facilitate interaction among scientists, academics, policy makers, postgraduate students, professionals and members of the business community who are at the frontier of livestock research and development. At the 16th ICBAR, several leading international scientists were present representing Japan, Germany, Malaysia, Thailand, Australia, China, Bangladesh and UAE in addition to local scientists from Peradeniya, Wayamba, Sabaragamuwa, and Eastern Universities, the Department of Animal Production and Health, and private organizations. Prof. Erick H. Karunanayake, the Chairman of the National Research Council was the Chief Guest while Hon. S.B. Dissanayake, the Minister of Higher Education, was the Guest of Honour. Prof. Tatsuyuki Suzuki of the Yamaguchi University, Japan, the President of the ICBAR, Dr. R.M.C. Deshapriya of the University of Peradeniya and Dr. (Mrs.) R.M.S.B.K. Ranasinghe of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka served as joint coordinators.

Staff development programme - September/October 2011

The UGC accredited staff development programme for teachers of the Faculties of Health Sciences was held for the 6th successive year from 12th September 2011. Eighteen (18) academic staff members from the Medical Faculties of Peradeniya, Rajarata and Eastern Universities, the Faculties of Dental Sciences, Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, and the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences of the University of Peradeniya attended the two-month training programme. The objective of the training programme was to create an awareness about the teaching-learning process, student assessments and programme evaluation in higher education, effective communication, ways of improving the efficiency of the workplace, principles of educational research, ethics and professionalism, and the Sri Lankan University System. Participants who successfully completed the training programme were awarded a certificate.

The Eighth national training course on integrating sexual and reproductive health services in crises

The Eighth National Training Course on Integrating Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Crises conducted by the Health Emergency and Disaster Management Training Centre (HEDMaTC) in collaboration with the UNFPA was held as a two-day residential training program on 09th and 10th September 2011 at Hotel Topaz, Kandy. Participants included officers of the Sri Lanka army medical services and assistant directors, assistant coordinators and coordinators of Disaster Management Centers representing the different districts of the country. Five resource persons conducted the training programme for 20 participants. With the addition of twenty from the Eighth National Training Course, the total number of trained persons island-wide now reaches 185.
Achievements - Faculty of Medicine

The All-Island Merit Order list of MBBS Graduates (2004-05) was topped by Mr. A.M.G.A.R. Bandara, a medical student of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya.

Particulars of the first 100 positions secured by the Peradeniya graduates compared with other universities in the merit list are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Peradeniya</th>
<th>Colombo</th>
<th>Kelaniya</th>
<th>Ruhuna</th>
<th>Jaffna</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - 25</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 - 50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 - 75</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 - 100</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of students who passed the exam from all universities – 767

Appointments

Ms. R. Sally was appointed the new Coordinator of the English Language Teaching Unit of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.

Library News

International Award for the Librarian

The Librarian of the University of Peradeniya, Dr. (Mrs.) Pradeepa Wijetunge, was awarded the “Best Woman Librarian 2011” by the Satinder Kaur Ramdev Memorial Trust for the Advancement of Librarianship (SATKAL), India, at a ceremony held on 27th August in New Delhi, India. Dr. Wijetunge is the first foreign professional to receive this award from SATKAL which was presented for her contribution to the development of the Library and Information Sciences (LIS) education, and the advancement of the LIS profession in Sri Lanka.
University Librarians' Association of Sri Lanka

At the 30th Annual General Meeting of University Librarian's Association (ULA) held on 16th September 2011 at South Eastern University, the Librarian of the University of Peradeniya was elected as the President of the University Librarian's Association for a second term. Mr. R. Maheswaran, Senior Asst. Librarian/Tamil Division and Mrs. Chamani Gunasekera, Senior Asst Librarian/Reader Services Division of the Main Library of the University of Peradeniya were elected as General Secretary and the Treasurer respectively for 2011/2012.

Trial Access for SAGE databases

Trial access for Sage Journals Online and Sage Research Methods Online (SRMO) were provided for the University during the month of September 2011 and two demonstrations were conducted for the academic staff of the Faculty of Arts on the 8th and 19th September at the Main Library by the Senior Asst. Librarian of the IT Division.

Gift of books to the Medical Library

One of the alumni of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Dr. Sarath Weerasinghe from Australia in collaboration with some of his colleagues recently gifted books and journals worth Rs. 255,000.00 to the Medical Library. The library deeply appreciates the thoughtful gesture.

National Elephant Survey - 2011

The Department of Statistics and Computer Science in the Faculty of Science commenced the sorting of data on the first ever National Elephant Survey on 18th August, 2011. The computerization of data was completed on August 21st with the assistance of about 50 undergraduates from the Faculty of Science. Currently, data is being scrutinized to avoid double counting with the help of experts from the Department of Wildlife Conservation in this endeavour. The survey is expected to be carried out in two stages. In the first, summary counts on numbers of elephants in each assumed age groups, gender, and wildlife region will be released. In the second, the Department of Statistics and Computer Science shall carry out detailed statistical analyses on the distribution pattern of elephants and the human-elephant conflict in Sri Lanka. The islandwide survey of elephants was carried out from 11th to 13th August, 2011 by the Department of Wildlife Conservation. Data was collected using 1553 observation points located nationwide including...
Graduation of the first batch of students from the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

The first batch of graduands from the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences will be awarded degrees in the General Convocation of the University of Peradeniya to be held in 2012.

The newly constructed Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science was officially handed over to the University on September, 22nd 2011.

The following students of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science were awarded certificates for posters presented to the Exhibition conducted by the Ministry of Livestock at the BMICH, from 07-09 July 2011

* Miss NBGIUS Ranasinghe
* Miss KVUS Perera

Alumni Association - Marcus Fernando Hall

The ALUMNI Association of Marcus Fernando Hall was ceremonially inaugurated on 31st August 2011 with the participation of a large number of ex-residents, Prof. S. B. Weerakoon, Dean/Faculty of Engineering, and Dr. R.M.C. Deshapriya, the warden of the Hall.

Office Bearers – 2011/12

**Patrons:** Prof. S.B.S. Abayakoon – Vice-Chancellor – University of Peradeniya
Prof. J.B. Dissanayake
Dr. R.M.C. Deshapriya – Warden/Marcus Fernando Hall

**President:** Mr. Lal Wijenayake - 0777 812010

**Secretary:** Mr. A.M.K. Gunathilaka Abeyrathne - 077 1552317 / 081 2491703

**Treasurer:** Mr. Ariya Jayasinghe - 081 2222762 (Office) - 081 2211433 (Res)

**Vice Presidents:** Prof. W.D. Lakshman - 077 2972555
Mr. Jaya Perisundaram - 011 44075204 (Res) - 071 2253700 (Office)
Committee Members :

1. Mr. H.M. Nissanka Warakaulla - 071 8284189
2. Mr. V.K. Nanayakkara - 011 2339987
3. Mr. O.C. Jayawardene - 011 2692895
4. Mr. Nandadasa Rajapaksha - 077 7815002
5. Dr. Dharmasena Pathiraja - 077 7862117
6. Mr. D.G. Dayarathne - 071 8293532
7. Mr. Roy Jayasinghe - 077 7672395 (Res)
8. Mr. Dharmabandu Atapattu - 081 224981/0777 664208
9. Mr. P.S. Dahamsondage - 071 8141954 / 081 2211360 (Res)

Auditors : Lakshman Amarakoon & Co.

The Centre for Distance and Continuing Education of the University of Peradeniya opened registration for new candidates of the External Degree Examination in Bachelor of Arts as well as the renewal of lapsed registrations of external candidates for the year 2011. Applications were issued from 15th August to 09th September 2011 to candidates eligible for registration. Registration for the Bachelor of Arts Degree (old scheme) shall be entertained only for the current academic year.

Announcements – Faculty of Medicine

* The Faculty of Medicine of the University of Peradeniya has been granted the approval of the UGC to commence an MSc. Programme on Exercise and Sport Sciences which will be the first MSc. programme by course work in the Faculty. It is expected that this will coincide with the Jubilee Celebrations.

* Applications are being called for the 3rd Non Graduate Diploma in Exercise and Sport Sciences.

* A research program which was intiated through the Exercise and Sport Science programme to monitor Physical Fitness and wellness of the soldiers and the public disabled in the recent war is well under way.

“Wimarshi Addyayana Kawaya”

“Wimarshi Addyayana Kawaya” is an academic circle which is affiliated to and is operated by the Clerical and Technical Services Union of the University of Peradeniya to create an awareness among the University community and the civil society about socio-economic, political and cultural matters.

Details of the programmes carried out by “Wimarshi Addyayana Kawaya” are as follows:

Tuition classes for the examinations of the Post of Assistant Registrar, Assistant Bursar, Assistant Librarian and Assistant Internal Audit Superintendent are held annually. Mr. Layanal Malwattage acts as the Course Coordinator while Mr. R. Rajapaksha is the organizer and operator of tuition classes. Traveling for this task is provided by Mr. A. Krishnamoorthi and Mr. Sarath Ranasinghe. Mr. P.B. Doratiyawa, Mr. Nihal Gunarathna, Mr. Thilak Matharage, Mr. W.A.A. Sampath, Mr. V. Krishnamoorthi and Mr. W.M. Vijesundara and Mrs. Susantha Yatigammana extend their support to coordinate activities.
About eighteen lectures in different subjects including the English language have been conducted to date in relation to this examination. Mr. Layanal Malwattage, Mr. U.D. Dodanwala, the acting Registrar of the University of Peradeniya, Mr. E.A.R.M. Edirisinghe, the Deputy Bursar, Mr. DD Upananda, the Deputy Bursar, Mr. W.H. Sumansiri, the former Registrar, Mr. Terence Siriwardhana and Mr. V. Krishnamoorthi were among resource personnel.

The 53rd General Meeting of the Peradeniya Branch of the Universities Clerical and Technical Services Union was held on 26th August 2011 at the Geological Theatre of the University of Peradeniya. At this meeting, Mr. Edward Malwatthage, Mr. PB Doratiyawa and Mr. Saman Liyanage were elected respectively as president, secretary and Treasurer of the Union.

An initial meeting to set up a Languages Society with the complements of the Ministry of National Languages and National Integration was held on September 27th 2011 at 4.30 pm in the Universities Clerical and Technical Services Union Office of the University of Peradeniya. Mr. Lalith Abeysinghe, the Kandy district representative of the Ministry and Mr. W.M. Weerasekare, the former principal of Aruppala Technical College also attended the meeting. Mr. Darshana Suranjeewa coordinated the event.

Sports

- The Inter University basketball championship was held from 01st to 03rd July 2011 at St. Josephs' Balika Maha Vidyalaya, Nugegoda. The women's team from the University of Peradeniya emerged champions.

- The University of Peradeniya athletes participated at the Inter University Road Race Championship held on 02nd July 2011 at the Uwa Wellassa University, Badulla.

- The Inter University Track & Field Championships was organized by the Sri Lanka Universities Sports Association and held on 16th & 17th July 2011 at the Diyangama International Sports Complex. The Peradeniya University athletes became overall 02nd runner up.

- A team from the Cheadle Hulme School in United Kingdom visited Sri Lanka and played a friendly match with the University of Peradeniya netball team. This match took place at the University of Peradeniya Gymnasium on 20th July 2011 and the team from the University of Peradeniya won the match.

- The team of wrestlers from the University of Peradeniya became the overall champions at the inter University wrestling championship held on 03rd July 2011 at the premises of the University of Moratuwa.

- The University of Peradeniya ruggerites participated at the Central province 7 'a' side rugby tournament which was kicked off in Matale on 24th July, 2011. Our team played well and obtained the trophy for the plate championships.

- The Peradeniya University chess players showed their supremacy at the Inter University Chess Championships held recently. The tournament was organized by the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Oluvil, Ampara. Our men's team was able to retain the prestigious championship trophy for a second consecutive year becoming men's overall champions while the women's team became the first runner-up.

- The 26th World Summer University Games was held in Shenzhen, China, from 8th to 26th August 2011. This prestigious sports festival, known as the 26th Universiade, was attended by a total of 159 countries. R.S. Kalugampitiya, K.M.H.K. Konara, R.R.G.B.K. Jayathilake (Chess), W.M.T.K. Weerasekara (Track & Field), H.Y. Weerathunge (Swimming), Basuru Jayathilake (weightlifting) from the University of Peradeniya represented the Sri Lanka University team at the Games.
Upcoming Events – Faculty of Engineering

International Conference on Structural Engineering, Construction and Management

The International conference on Structural Engineering, Construction and Management (ICSECM 2011) will be held in December 2011 at Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy. The conference, which will run for over three days from 15th December, will feature presentations by the authors of all accepted papers, as well as keynote lectures. General and plenary sessions will be accompanied by workshops and technical sessions. Accepted papers will be published in a special volume of the conference proceedings with International Standard Book Number (ISBN).

The conference will be co-chaired by Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Prof. PA Mendis, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Melbourne, Prof. MTR Jayasinghe, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa and Eng. Shiromal Fernando, Society of Structural Engineering.

For further information, please visit: www.icsecm.com.
Senior members of Massey University Visiting the University of Peradeniya

Senior members of Massey University, Professor Robert Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chris Moor, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Director Teaching and Learning, and Professor Tony Norris, Head of the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences visited Prof. SBS Abayakoon, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya on Tuesday, 09 August 2011.

The objective of the visit was to discuss matters relating to future collaborations on education and research in the fields of Engineering, IT, Agriculture, Food, Veterinary Sciences, and Disaster management.

Details of Retired / Resigned Employees(for the period from 01-07-2011 to 30-09-2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. K.D. Amaradasa</td>
<td>Labourer- Special Grade</td>
<td>Landscape Division</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. K.M. Rambanda</td>
<td>Driver - Special Grade</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. E.G. Wimalasena</td>
<td>Labourer - Special Grade</td>
<td>Faculty of Agriculture</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. M.G.S. Ranathunga</td>
<td>Health Service Labourer - Special Gr. I</td>
<td>Health Centre</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. H.G. Karunathilaka</td>
<td>Storeman - Special Grade</td>
<td>Works Department</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. H.G. Rathnapala</td>
<td>Karyala Karya Sahayaka</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. P.M. Podiralahamy</td>
<td>Labourer - Grade II</td>
<td>Works Department</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. P.G. Lokubandara</td>
<td>Senior Staff Assistant - Clerical Services</td>
<td>Academic Establishments</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. A.G. Udayapala</td>
<td>Labourer - Special Grade</td>
<td>Landscape Division</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. R.G. Thilakarathne</td>
<td>Security Guard - Supra Grade</td>
<td>Security Department</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. N.C. Perera Litho</td>
<td>Machine Operator - Higher Grade</td>
<td>Faculty of Agriculture</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MoU between University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka & the School of Health, Niigata University, Japan.

The existing MoU between the University of Peradeniya and Niigita University was renewed on 11-09-2011 following the recent visit of a delegation from Niigata University. In addition, nine students from the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences (University of Peradeniya) are currently in Japan following a three month training programme. This visit was funded by the Niigata University, Japan.

Obituaries

Prof. B.A. Abeywickrama, a former Dean of the Faculty of Science of the University of Peradeniya, passed away on 03rd May 2011. Prof. Abeywickrama obtained his B.Sc Degree in Botany from the University College London, in 1941 and his Ph. D. Degree from the University of Cambridge in 1949. Upon returning to Sri Lanka (then Ceylon), Dr. Abeywickrama joined the University of Ceylon in 1949 as a lecturer in Botany. In 1961, Dr. Abeywickrama was entrusted with the responsibility of setting up the Department of Botany at the newly established University of Ceylon at Peradeniya. In 1965, he was appointed as the Professor of Botany, a position he held till his retirement in 1985. In 1966, he was elected as the Dean of the Faculty of Science and then in 1969 he was appointed as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ceylon.

Prof. H.H.G. Senavirathne, a former Dean of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, passed away on 11.08.2011.

Prof. Senavirathne obtained his B.Sc. (Special) Degree in Mathematics from the University of Ceylon in 1966. On graduation, he joined the academic staff of the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. He obtained his Ph.D. from Queen Mary Collage, University of London in 1973. He was appointed as the Professor of Pure Mathematics in 1984 and was promoted to the post of Senior Professor in 1992. He served as Head of the Department of Mathematics for over twelve years and as the Dean of the Faculty of Science during the period 1991-1994.