



A Quarterly Update of Significant Events at the University of Peradeniya

NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA





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Welcome Ceremony for the 2024/2025 Dental Science Batch



The Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, proudly held its Welcome Ceremony for the new entrants of the 2024/2025 batch on 14 October 2025 at the K. Bambaradeniya Auditorium.

The event was graced by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith, and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. R. W. Pallegama, along with Deans of other faculties, distinguished academic staff, and university officials.

The ceremony began with the traditional lighting of the oil lamp, followed by addresses delivered by the Dean of the Faculty of Dental Sciences, and other dignitaries. The new students and their proud parents participated in this inspiring occasion, which of the 2024/2025 batch marked the beginning of their journey in dentistry.

Dental undergraduates of 2023/24 batch added color and vibrance to the event through cultural performances and entertainment items, showcasing their enthusiasm and creativity.

Following the inaugural session, students were treated to an inspirational motivational speech by Prof. Chamara Dalugama, aimed at guiding them as they embark on their academic journey. Students were also introduced to the Mentoring programme, under which each student is assigned a member of the academic staff as a Mentor. Meanwhile, a special session was conducted for parents, addressing key aspects of student life, support systems, and university opportunities.

The day concluded with the registration of new entrants, marking the formal beginning of their academic path. From 15 October 2025 onwards, the students will commence their intensive course physically at the Faculty of Dental Sciences.

Warmest wishes to our newest members - may your time at Peradeniya be filled with learning, friendship, and unforgettable memories!

Welcome Ceremony for BVSc Degree Programme Entrants - 2023/2024



The Welcome Ceremony for the new entrants to the Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) Degree Programme – 2023/2024 Academic Year, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya was held on 18 November 2025. The ceremony took place at the auditorium of the Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, with the participation of new entrants along with their parents and other distinguished guests. Prof. Terrence Madhujith, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, graced the ceremony as the Chief Guest. The event was also attended by Dr. A. W. Kalupahana, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.

Nursing Pledge Ceremony for the Batch 2022/2023



University of Peradeniya, as the Chief Guest. He offered valuable insights that motivated the students to pursue their professional growth with confidence.

The ceremony was also graced by Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya; Prof. M.D.M.L.D.K. Yatawara, Dean of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Deans from other faculties, Directors of affiliated institutes, Heads and academic staff of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences; and extended staff from clinical training centres.

The Department of Nursing successfully held the Nursing Pledge Ceremony for the 2022/2023 undergraduate batch on 14 November 2025 at the Diamond Jubilee Hall, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya. This year's ceremony marked a significant milestone for the 2022/2023 batch of undergraduate nursing students, who have completed their first academic year and are now transitioning into advanced nursing practice. In tribute to Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, the Nightingale Lamp was ceremoniously lit, and her statue was garlanded. As a symbol of students' progression, they received their nursing caps and three-wick lamps, representing knowledge, skilled hands, and a compassionate heart. With pride and confidence, the students took the Nursing Pledge, affirming their commitment to the ethical and moral principles of the nursing profession.



The success of this memorable occasion was made possible through the collective effort of many dedicated individuals. Dr. Deepanie Pathirana, Head of the Department of Nursing, and all the members of the Department of Nursing sincerely thank everyone who contributed, including academic and non-academic staff, students, and parents. We extend our warmest wishes to the 2022/2023 undergraduate nursing students for continued academic success and professional growth.



The event was attended by a distinguished gathering of invitees and proud parents. The Department of Nursing was honoured to welcome Prof. M. D. Lamawansa, the founder Head of the Department of Nursing and the former Vice-Chancellor of the



Cyclone “Ditwah” and the Flood Disaster at the University



In late 2025, an unprecedented cyclone and the most severe flood since 1947 devastated a large section of the University of Peradeniya. The river burst its banks, and muddy, debris-laden, sewage-contaminated water swept through the campus. In some areas, flood levels rose to nearly 16 feet, submerging buildings and critical infrastructure.



Thanks to the tireless efforts of staff and students, more than 16,000 resident undergraduates were evacuated at very short notice. We are deeply grateful that there was no loss of life on campus and no injuries were reported. However, the physical, academic, and financial damage has been immense.

Laboratories, major central stores, animal houses, computer laboratories, server rooms, office complexes, document archives, vehicle parks, gymnasiums and sports facilities, internal roads, transformer houses, and student hostels in the floodplain were all severely affected. A female hostel housing approximately 160 students on its ground and first floors was inundated, resulting in the loss of books, electronic devices, personal belongings, and living spaces. Critical infrastructure, including electricity distribution systems, sewage networks, and internal access roads, had sustained major damage. In addition, new signs of potential earth slips have appeared on slopes above several key buildings, creating an added long-term safety risk.

Preliminary estimates indicate that direct losses to

the University amount to approximately Rs. 3 billion. To achieve full recovery, including rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure, relocation of the most vulnerable facilities from the floodplain where feasible, and construction of major retaining and protective structures, an additional Rs. 3-4 billion will be required. This includes essential works to safeguard key complexes such as the gymnasium, the multi-storied Arts Faculty building, the Faculty of Management complex, the Animal Science building, and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.



The University of Peradeniya is home to around 16,000 undergraduates and thousands of postgraduate and external students from across Sri Lanka, and it serves the nation through teaching, research, healthcare, and outreach. If we rebuild only what was destroyed, in the same manner and in the same locations, we will remain vulnerable to future extreme weather events. Our goal is not merely to restore, but to rebuild stronger, safer, and more climate-resilient infrastructure for future generations.



University of Peradeniya and RMIT University Strengthen the Joint PhD Collaboration



A meeting was held between the University of Peradeniya (UoP) and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University, Australia on 15 December 2025 at the Vice-Chancellor's Office, University of Peradeniya, to reflect on and discuss future directions of the long-standing Joint PhD Programme.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Mark Sanderson, Professor of Information Retrieval at RMIT University and Dean of Research, STEM College, and Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. Also present at the meeting were Prof. Lilantha Samaranayake, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Kushan Wijesundara, Head, Department of Civil Engineering, Dr. Panduka Neluwala, Department Coordinator for RMIT UoP joint PhD programme, Civil Engineering, and Dr. Damayanthi Herath, Postgraduate Programme Coordinator, Department of Computer Engineering. Prof. Hiran Yapa from the Department of Civil Engineering and Dr. Upul Jayasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computer Engineering, also participated in the discussion.

During the meeting, the success of the UoP-RMIT Joint PhD Programme was highlighted. To date, 12 PhD candidates have successfully completed their degrees since its inception in 2018, while 8 joint PhD candidates are currently conducting their studies at the Faculty of Engineering. The collaboration has also resulted in more than 40 Q1 journal publications, demonstrating the strong research impact of this partnership.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), originally initiated in 2018, is currently undergoing its second renewal, reflecting the sustained commitment of both institutions. Discussions focused on strategies to further enhance the programme, including strengthening joint supervision, expanding interdisciplinary research areas, and increasing global research visibility.

Following the formal meeting, Prof. Sanderson engaged in a discussion with joint PhD programme candidates at the Faculty of Engineering, discussing opportunities and challenges, providing insights into research quality, international collaboration, and opportunities within the RMIT research ecosystem.

The meeting reaffirmed the strong academic partnership between the University of Peradeniya and RMIT University and underscored their shared vision of advancing high-impact international research and doctoral training.

University of Peradeniya Explores Technology Partnership with Fujian Provincial Center China



The University of Peradeniya has initiated promising discussions with the Fujian Provincial Center of Science and Technology Achievement Transformation to explore the co-establishment of a Maritime Silk Road Technology Transfer Centre at the University of Peradeniya.

(Continued) to Page 7

University of Peradeniya Explores New Technology (Continued) from Page 6

The preliminary meeting, held on 26 November 2025 at the Vice-Chancellor's office, laid the groundwork for a collaboration focused on technology transfer in areas such as edible fungi cultivation, capacity development of academic staff, online learning for students, and joint research. A key future goal is the joint establishment of a "Mushroom Research Centre" at the University of Peradeniya, focusing on high-yield variety breeding.

Discussions were led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith, and the Chinese delegation, which included Mr. Lin Kuiran, Director General of Fujian Innovation Research Institute, and Mr. Zhang Hua, Director of the Fujian Provincial Center of Science and Technology Achievement Transformation. Prof. Barana Jayawardena, the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Palitha Weerakkody, the Acting Head of the Department of Crop Science and Prof. Chalinda Beneragama, the Director of the Academic Affairs Division, also took part in the meeting.

This partnership marks a major step in deepening Sri Lanka-China scientific cooperation and talent development.

Linyi University Delegation Visits University of Peradeniya



A delegation from Linyi University, China, led by Vice President Mr. Zhuang Bo, visited the University of Peradeniya on 5 December 2025 to explore academic collaboration opportunities. The delegation included senior representatives from the Schools of Education, History and Culture, and International Exchange and Cooperation.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Terrence Madhujith welcomed the delegation and highlighted UoP's existing collaborations with leading Chinese universities. Both parties discussed potential areas for student and staff exchanges, joint research, and capacity-building initiatives.

Follow-up discussions with relevant UoP faculties and departments will be arranged based on areas of mutual interest. The visit marked a positive step toward establishing a formal partnership between the two institutions.

INPALMS conference in India



Prof. Sarathchandara Kodikara attended the 15 INPALMS (Indo-Pacific Association of Law, Medicine, and Science) conference in India, held from 7 to 11 November 2025.

He delivered an oral presentation titled; "Knowledge and Attitudes of Inquirers into Sudden Deaths on Inquests and Autopsies: Evidence from Sri Lanka"

Department of Tamil Students Visit South India



Final-year students of the Department of Tamil, University of Peradeniya, undertook an academic tour to South India in October 2025, gaining a valuable learning experience that enriched their understanding of Tamil culture, literature, and heritage.

A team comprising the Head of the Department, Prof. S. Pirashanthan, Senior Lecturers, Assistant Lecturers and final year students travelled to India to participate in an academic workshop. Prior to the workshop, the group engaged in a field visit to several historical and cultural sites.

The journey from Chennai to Madurai included visits to a number of significant heritage locations. Students visited Mahabalipuram, a historic coastal town renowned for its rock-cut temples and stone sculptures built during the Pallava dynasty. Key sites included the Shore Temple, Arjuna's Penance and the Pancha Rathas (Five Chariots), which are celebrated masterpieces of Tamil art and architecture. The group then visited Pondicherry, where they explored Sri Manakula Vinayagar Temple, Bharatiyar's House and Aravida Ashramam. The itinerary also included visits to Chidambaram Nadarajar temple and Tanjavur Brihadeeswarar (Big) Sivan temple.



As part of this academic tour, the students had the privilege of visiting Madurai City, the historic and cultural capital of Tamil Nadu. During this stay, they were invited by the prestigious Madurai Tamil

Sangam to participate in an enriching programme titled "Public Speaking and Personality Development Workshop".

The workshop features sessions conducted by several distinguished scholars and professionals who shared their expertise on communication, leadership, and public speaking. The resource persons included:

- Mr. Nakkeeran R. Gopal, journalist-"Concept Development and Speaking Skills"
- Dr. John Fathima, former District Educational Officer - "Storytelling and Stage Speaking"
- Mrs. Rajalakshmi, Folk Artist-"Voice Management and Stage Presence",
- Dr. Barwin Sultana, Director, World Tamil Sangam-"Pronunciation and Reading"
- Kalaimamani Nellai Jayantha, artist-"Expression and Style in Speech"
- Prof. Ku. Gnanasambanthan, eminent scholar-"Humour in Speech"
- Prof. S. Pirashanthan-"Practical Training for Speakers".



On 27 October 2025, a Certificate Distribution Ceremony was held to mark the conclusion of the programme. Receiving certificates from the Honourable Minister of Technology of Tamil Nadu and the District Collector was a moment of pride for all the students. The certificates, officially recognized and signed by the Government of Tamil Nadu, stand as a testament to their successful completion of this academic training.

Following the workshop, students visited the Pazhamuthirsolai Murugan temple and explored numerous other sites including Azakar Kovil and lotus pond.

Upon completion of the workshop and field visits, the students returned to Peradeniya enriched with new knowledge, cultural exposure, and memorable academic experiences.

Strengthening Ties with Canada: Visit of the Canadian High Commissioner



Her Excellency Isabelle Martin, High Commissioner of Canada to Sri Lanka, accompanied by Ms. Gwen Temmel, Deputy High Commissioner, visited the University of Peradeniya on 29 October 2025. A meeting was held at the Office of the Vice-Chancellor attended by Prof. Ranjith Pallegama, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S.P.K. Malaviarachchi, Director, International Relations Office, Prof. D.K.N.G. Pushpakumara, Director, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, and Ms. Thushanika Pakkiyarasa, Project Manager, International Relations Office.



The visit served as an introductory courtesy call, during which the Acting Vice-Chancellor welcomed the delegation and introduced the University's academic programmes and achievements. He emphasized the importance of strengthening academic and research collaborations with Canadian institutions to further enhance bilateral ties. Her Excellency expressed her interest in continuing and expanding cooperation with the University, particularly through initiatives that promote mutual learning, postgraduate opportunities, and institutional partnerships.



The Director of the International Relations Office highlighted the University's six existing Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Canadian institutions and discussed prospects for expanding collaborations through double degree programmes, joint online initiatives, and research partnerships. Both parties identified Artificial Intelligence (AI), technology, and renewable energy as key areas for future collaborations. The meeting concluded on a positive note, reaffirming the shared commitment to further strengthen academic and research linkages between the University of Peradeniya and Canadian institutions.

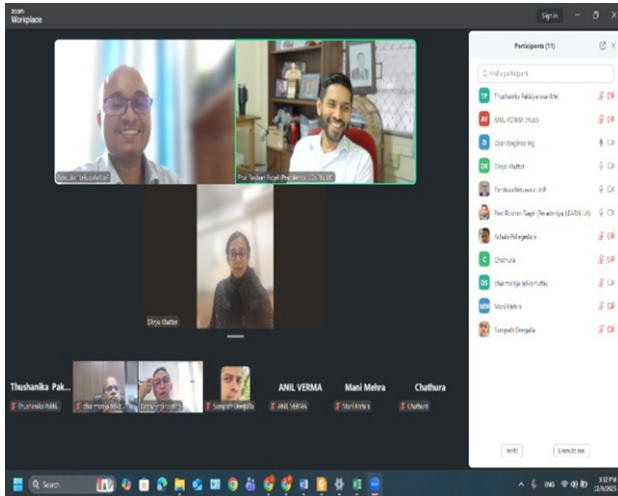
Short-Term Clinical Training Programme with Niigata University, Japan



This initiative aims to establish short-term clinical training opportunities for undergraduate medical students from the Niigata University, Japan, at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, and the Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya.

As part of this programme, five medical students from Niigata University, accompanied by university authorities, will participate in clinical training, academic discussions, and cultural exchange activities during their stay in Sri Lanka. This collaborative effort seeks to strengthen academic ties, promote global exposure, and enhance mutual understanding between the two institutions.

University of Peradeniya and IIT Delhi Strengthen Academic and Research Collaborations

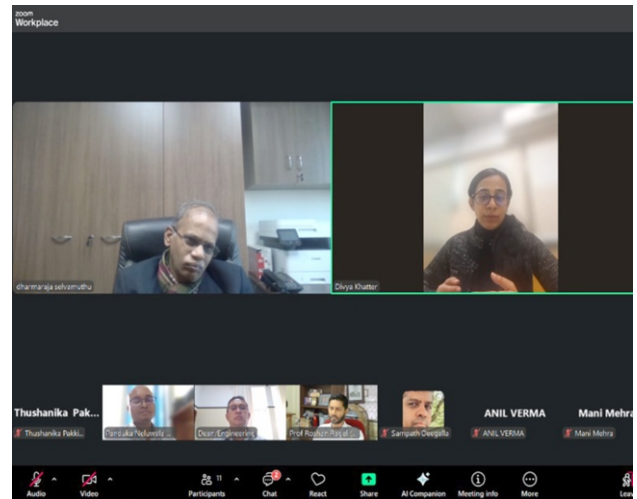


An online meeting between the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) and the University of Peradeniya (UOP) was held on 9 December 2025 from 3.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. with the objective of strengthening academic cooperation and activating the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) through concrete academic and research collaborations.

Representing IIT Delhi, Prof. Dharmaraja Selvamuthu, Prof. Mani Mehra, and Dr. Divya Khatter, Coordinator of International Programmes, participated in the discussion. The University of Peradeniya was represented by senior academics from the Faculties of Engineering and related disciplines, along with officials from the International Relations Office.

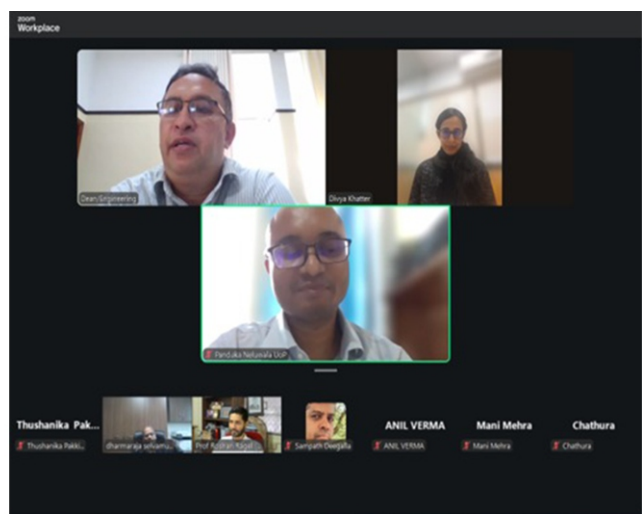
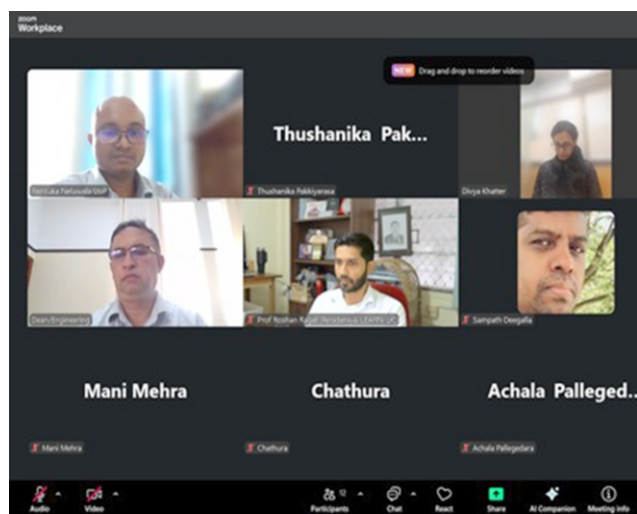
The meeting focused on identifying potential areas for collaboration, including Computer Science and Engineering, Mathematics, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, and Manufacturing and Industrial

Engineering. Participants discussed opportunities for joint research projects, faculty exchanges, workshops, and conference collaborations, while also exploring structured mechanisms such as faculty matching, Faculty Development Programmes, and access to bilateral research funding through agencies such as the NSF, NRC (Sri Lanka), and India's Department of Science and Technology (DST).



Several action points were agreed upon, including initiating a collaborative workshop for the Department of Mathematics at UOP, commencing the formal faculty-matching process, organizing an online joint workshop, and exploring the possibility of IIT Delhi co-hosting a future International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIS).

The meeting concluded positively, with both institutions expressing strong commitment to further strengthening academic and research collaboration between IIT Delhi and the University of Peradeniya.



The Kandy Conference 2025: 75 Years of Engineering Excellence



The historic city of Kandy played host to The Kandy Conference 2025, the 16th International Conference on Sustainable Built Environment, bringing together local and international scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to engage in dialogue on one of the defining challenges of our time, Building Sustainable Nations.

This year's conference held special significance as it coincided with the Diamond Jubilee (75th Anniversary) of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya. The milestone was marked through the Faculty's celebratory theme, Driving Innovation, Advancement & Modernization of Next-Gen Development (DIAMOND-75), highlighting 75 years of contribution to engineering education, research, and national development.

Dr. Patrick McNamara, the Executive Director of the United States–Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission, was the Chief Guest while Prof. Jeff Walker of Monash University, Australia, and Prof. Mark Sanderson of RMIT University, Australia delivered the keynote addresses at the inauguration held on 12 December 2025.

Established 75 Years ago, the Faculty of Engineering has grown into a globally respected institution. Its graduates have become leaders in industry, innovators in research, and contributors to sustainable development both in Sri Lanka and abroad. The conference provided an ideal platform to reflect on this legacy while charting pathways for the future.

The conference theme, Building Sustainable Nations, resonated strongly in the context of Sri Lanka's ongoing recovery from recent natural disasters. It underscored the vital role of engineering in designing resilient infrastructure, safeguarding communities, and harmonizing development with the natural environment.

Over three days, participants engaged in a rich programme of keynote addresses, technical sessions, panel discussions, and workshops. Topics ranged from renewable energy systems, climate-resilient infrastructure, and risk mitigation, to sustainable construction materials, advanced water treatment technologies, and innovative design solutions. These discussions reinforced the responsibility of the engineering community to translate research into practical, scalable solutions for real-world challenges.

The conference also served as a global platform for collaboration, fostering meaningful exchanges between academia, industry, and policy circles, and strengthening partnerships essential for sustainable and equitable development.

The success of The Kandy Conference 2025 was made possible through the dedication of the organizing committees, institutional partners and sponsors, and the high-quality contributions of authors and presenters. Their collective effort exemplified the power of shared purpose within the global engineering community.

As the Faculty of Engineering celebrates its Diamond Jubilee, the conference reaffirmed its enduring commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and societal impact. The Kandy Conference 2025 concluded with a renewed call for collaboration and action towards building stronger, more resilient, and sustainable nations.

The International Water Conference on Climate Change and Environmental Pollution



Challenges and Solutions for Food Security and Public Health (Young Researchers' Conference) was held on 16 December 2025 at the Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya. The event was jointly organized by the University of Peradeniya, the Research Centre for Eco-Environmental Sciences, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the China-Sri Lanka Joint Research and Demonstration Centre (JRDC).



The conference commenced with a formal inauguration and a keynote address by Prof. Wei Yuansong, setting the stage for insightful discussions. Invited speakers and young researchers presented their work across key themes including water and wastewater management, air pollution and public health, and soil health, climate change, and food security. The event highlighted the importance of

collaboration, innovation, and emerging technologies in addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainable solutions for a healthier future.



Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series – October 2025



The 15th session of the Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series was successfully conducted on 15 October 2025 at 12.30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the University of Peradeniya with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Directors of Postgraduate Institutes and Centres, Heads of Departments, as well as many academic and administrative staff. The Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series aims to provide the University community with a distinctive opportunity to engage with and learn from eminent scholars in their respective fields of expertise. It serves as a platform for intellectual enrichment, fostering a vibrant exchange of ideas and knowledge within the academic community.

The speaker for the event was Prof. Prathiba Mahanamahewa, Rector of the Sri Palee Campus, University of Colombo and Attorney at Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka. Prof. Prathiba Mahanamahewa delivered an insightful and timely speech on "Organized Crime and Society Understanding the Threat and Mitigation Approaches," addressing one of the most pressing challenges of our era, the multifaceted impact of organized crime on social stability, governance, and the rule of law. He explained many aspects including drug trafficking networks, human trafficking/smuggling, money laundering, cybercrimes, effective mitigation strategies for prevention and control through strengthening law enforcement, policies and legislative measures.

Inauguration of the Mahavamsa Digital Manuscript

The Mahavamsa Digital Manuscript was formally inaugurated at the Main Library premises of the University of Peradeniya on 23 December 2025 by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith.

The event was also graced by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ranjith Pallegama, the Librarian, Mr. R. Maheswaran, and the Acting Registrar, Mr. K. A. B. Damunupola. Also in attendance were Dr. C. Gunasekara, Deputy Librarian (Reader Services and Acquisitions Division), Mr. S. A. Jeewan, Senior Assistant Librarian (Reference Services – Ceylon Collection), and Mr. Anura Rajapakse, Assistant Network Manager of the Library.

The digitisation of the Mahavamsa manuscript represents a significant milestone for the University, particularly in light of its inscription in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register in 2023. The official UNESCO certificate was awarded in 2024 by the Director-General of UNESCO,

Audrey Azoulay, at the premises of the University of Peradeniya Library.

The Mahavamsa Digital Manuscript will be made available to scholars and readers for academic study. Interested users are required to obtain prior approval from the Library. External readers must acquire temporary library membership, where applicable, and reserve a time slot in advance to access the manuscript.



Staff Development Centre Conducts Second Induction Programme for Probationary Academics – 2025



The second Induction Programme for the year 2025 for probationary academic staff of Sri Lankan universities commenced on 18 August 2025. The programme was conducted by the Staff Development Centre (SDC) of the University of Peradeniya and is designed to enhance academic, professional, and pedagogical competencies through a structured and comprehensive ten-module framework.

A total of twenty-one (21) participants took part in the programme, comprising sixteen (16) academic staff members from the University of Peradeniya and five (05) academic staff members from Uva Wellassa University, Wayamba University, and South Eastern University. All participants successfully completed the programme, which was delivered through a comprehensive ten-module structure.

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony was held on 3 November 2025 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senate Room, University of Peradeniya, marking the successful completion of the programme.

Through such initiatives, the Staff Development Centre continues to make a significant contribution to the professional development of academic staff and to the enhancement of academic standards across the national university system.

Sri Lanka Journal of Forensic Medicine indexed in Scopus

The Sri Lanka Journal of Forensic Medicine, Science & Law (SLJFMSL), published by the Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Peradeniya, is now indexed in Scopus, one of the world's leading abstract and citation databases for peer-reviewed literature.

The SLJFMSL is one of only three medical journals in Sri Lanka to be indexed in Scopus, and the second from the University of Peradeniya.

Launch Ceremony of Thenetha Literary Magazine

The launch ceremony of Thenetha Literary Magazine (Second Edition – First Issue) was held on 25 November 2025 at the Seminar Room of the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya. The event was organised by the Philosophy Society.



University of Peradeniya Library Joins EU-Funded ERASMUS+ Project on Digital Skills Development

The University of Peradeniya Library is pleased to participate in the European Union-funded ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) project, NSIS – Developing Information, Research and Digital Skills for Business, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (Contract No.: 101179133).

This international project brings together universities and partner organizations from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Europe, aiming to strengthen information literacy, research skills, and digital competencies in higher education, with a special focus on business, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Funded under the ERASMUS+ Programme, the project focuses on developing sustainable digital and blended learning solutions to support academic and professional excellence. University libraries play a key role in this initiative as hubs for information literacy, research support, and digital skills development.



A major outcome of the project is the development of ten structured curricular modules covering key areas such as study skills, digital information and libraries, business and management research, academic and business writing, online publishing, soft skills, intellectual property, innovation and research commercialization, employability, and leadership and management skills. These modules aim to enhance students' research capabilities and improve graduate employability across partner institutions.

Through this project, the University of Peradeniya Library actively contributes by supporting the development and review of learning materials, participating in project coordination activities, and promoting awareness of NSIS initiatives within the University community.

The NSIS project is implemented through a strong international consortium of higher education institutions from Europe and South Asia, ensuring effective knowledge sharing and long-term impact.

For more information, visit <http://nsisproject.eu/>.

Prof. Vasanthi Pinto Recognised as Top Female Leader in Public Sector Education – 2025



Prof. Vasanthi Pinto, Chair Professor of Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Faculty of Medicine University of Peradeniya, has been honoured as the Top Female Leader in Public Sector Education at the Professional and Career Women Global Awards 2025. This recognition acknowledges her outstanding professional excellence, leadership, and significant contribution to advancing women in the global workforce.

PGIS RESCON 2025: Synergy in Science -Uniting Disciplines for a Better Tomorrow

The 12th Annual Research Congress of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya (RESCON 2025) was successfully held on 7 and 8 November 2025 under the theme "Synergy in Science: Uniting Disciplines for a Better Tomorrow." The congress reaffirmed PGIS's commitment to interdisciplinary research, innovation, and postgraduate education in Sri Lanka.

RESCON 2025 brought together around 600 participants, including postgraduate researchers, academics, scientists, and professionals from Sri Lanka and overseas. The programme featured 246 oral and poster presentations covering a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines. Organized by the Board of Study in Chemical Sciences, the congress placed special emphasis on the Physical Sciences, highlighting advances in renewable energy, nanotechnology, photochemistry, quantum science, analytical chemistry, and functional materials, with strong links to real-world applications.

The inauguration ceremony was held on 7 November 2025, with Prof. Jayantha Gunaratne, Senior Principal Investigator at A*STAR, Singapore, serving as the Chief Guest. Keynote addresses by Prof. Claudio Verani (University of Windsor, Canada) and Prof. Veranja Karunaratne (Vice-Chancellor, ESOF University) provided global perspectives on science education, research innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Plenary lectures delivered by Prof. Jayantha Gunaratne and Dr. Dushyanthi Dissanayake further enriched the scientific programme.

Research presentations were organized under six thematic areas, including AI in Natural Sciences and Industrial Applications, Earth and Environmental Sciences, ICT, Life Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physical Sciences, and Science Education, fostering strong interaction among academia, research institutes, and industry.

In addition, five pre-conference workshops were conducted, offering hands-on training and academic guidance on topics such as brain health, academic career development, climate-resilient agriculture, clean energy, and higher study opportunities abroad.

Held under the leadership of Prof. Manawadavi Ganehenegge, Chair of RESCON 2025, and guidance from Prof. Nanda Balasooriya, Director of PGIS, RESCON 2025 concluded as a vibrant academic forum, reinforcing PGIS's role as Sri Lanka's leading institute for postgraduate science education and interdisciplinary research.

Symposium on Microplastic Pollution (SYMP 2025): Persistence, Mobility and Potential Impacts

Microplastics pose a growing threat to ecosystems and human health due to their high likelihood of ingestion, incorporation, and accumulation within the tissues of living organisms. Over time, micro- and nano-plastics enter lakes, rivers and oceans, ultimately contaminating food and drinking water. Recent studies indicate that humans ingest thousands of microplastic particles annually, equivalent to several grams each week.

In response to this emerging challenge, the Board of Study in Environmental Science of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya, successfully organized the second consecutive symposium on Microplastic Pollution (SYMP 2025) on the 24 October 2025 at the PGIS. The symposium aimed to share current research findings on the persistence, mobility, and potential impacts of microplastics.

The Keynote address was delivered by Prof. Sewwandi Jayakody, the Chairperson of the Marine Environment Protection Council (MEPC). A stimulating panel discussion followed, featuring Prof. Tilak Hewawasam (Chairman of the Central Environmental Authority), Mr. Nalin Manapperuma (Chief Executive Officer, Waste Management Authority, Western Province), Prof. M. P. Deeyamulla (Senior Prof., Department of Chemistry, University of Kelaniya), and Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna (Senior Prof., Department of Zoology, University of Peradeniya).

The symposium featured 22 research presentations delivered across four technical sessions, representing a wide range of academic and research institutions. SYMP 2025 provided an important platform for knowledge exchange and interdisciplinary dialogue, strengthening national efforts to address microplastic pollution.

10th International Symposium on Water Quality and Human Health: Challenges Ahead Concludes Successfully at PGIS



The 10th International Symposium on Water Quality and Human Health: Challenges Ahead was successfully held on 21 and 22 November 2025 at the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya. The two-day event brought together researchers, academics, professionals, and postgraduate students to discuss key issues related to water quality, pollution, treatment, aquatic biology, and human health.

The symposium attracted approximately 100 registered participants and featured 46 oral presentations and 10 poster presentations delivered through multiple parallel technical sessions, highlighting the growing national and international importance of water-related research.

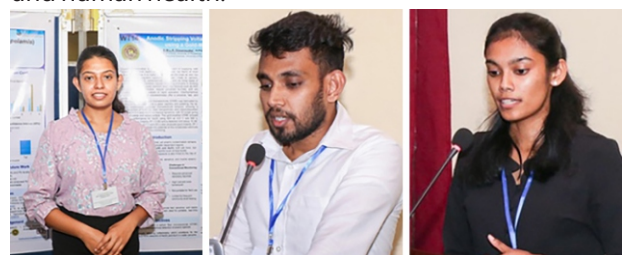
The inauguration ceremony was held on 21 November 2025 at the PGIS Auditorium and included addresses by senior academic officials of the University of Peradeniya and PGIS. The event was graced by Prof. Pathmalal M. Manage, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, as Guest of Honor, and Prof. Ranjith Pallegama, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Masamoto Tofu of the National Institute of Technology, Toyama, Japan, who highlighted current

challenges and innovations in water quality and treatment technologies.

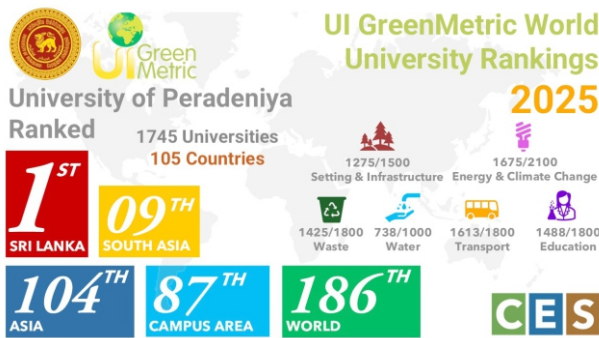


The scientific programme included keynote, plenary, and technical sessions. Plenary lectures by Prof. Udaya Ralapanawa, Prof. Fumito Maruyama, Dr. Thusitha Karunaratna, and Dr. Subashini Gunathilake offered multidisciplinary perspectives linking water resources, environmental health, and applied research. Technical sessions were organized under five thematic areas: Water Quality, Water Pollution, Water Treatment, Human Health, and Aquatic Biology, covering topics such as groundwater quality, CKDu, wastewater treatment, microplastics, aquatic toxicology, and ecosystem health.

The symposium concluded on 22 November 2025 with a panel discussion emphasizing the importance of integrated, science-based approaches to addressing emerging challenges in water resources and human health.



University of Peradeniya Ranked First in Sri Lanka in the 2025 UI GreenMetric World University Ranking



The University of Peradeniya has been recognised as the greenest university in Sri Lanka, ranking 9th in South Asia, 104th in Asia, and 186th globally according to the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking 2025, with an impressive total score of 8,213 out of 10,000. Based on the extent, the University of Peradeniya is placed 87th worldwide among institutions with campuses exceeding 430 acres, and 112th among those enrolling more than 15,000 students.

The UI GreenMetric World University Ranking evaluates institutions across six key categories: Setting and Infrastructure (SI), Energy and Climate

Change (EC), Waste (WS), Water (WR), Transport (TR), and Education (ED). The University of Peradeniya excelled in these areas, achieving scores of 1,275 in SI, 1,675 in EC, 1,425 in WS, 738 in WR, 1,613 in TR, and 1,488 in ED.

The Centre for Environmental Sustainability (CES) at the University of Peradeniya played a pivotal role in this achievement by implementing sustainability practices and policies throughout the university. This showcases the university's proactive efforts in environmental stewardship over the past four years.

The University extends its heartfelt gratitude to all stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and partners, for their invaluable contributions to this success. Their collective efforts have been instrumental in driving the University's sustainability initiatives and achieving this prestigious recognition.

For more details on the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking 2025, please visit [UI GreenMetric Rankings 2025](#).

Best Poster Award at the 138th Anniversary International Medical Congress of the Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) - 2025

The paper titled "Estimation of sex and stature using the nasal index in a Sri Lankan young adult population", authored by Dr. Kasun Bandara Ekanayake, Prof. Amal Vadysinghe and Prof. Sarathchandra Kodikara, was awarded the SLMA Prize for the Best Poster at the 138th Anniversary Medical Congress of the Sri Lanka Medical Association.



Gold Award at the Image Art Awards Ceremony 2025

Mr. Sameera Jayasinghe, Forensic Photographer/Lab Attendant in the Department of Forensic Medicine, was honored with a Gold Award at the Image Art Gold Awards Ceremony held on 2 November 2025 at BMICH, Colombo.

In addition, Mr. Samantha Karunathilake, Lab Attendant, successfully received his course certificate at the same event.

Forensic Medicine Postgraduate Research Session 2025

The Forensic Medicine Postgraduate Research Session 2025 was held on 30 October 2025 at the PGIM Academic Centre, Colombo. The Conference Chair was Prof. Sarathchandra Kodikara, while Dr. Kasun Bandara Ekanayake served as the Conference Secretary and Prof. Amal Vadysinghe as the Chair of the Editorial Desk.

3rd International Conference on Data Science and Artificial Intelligence 2025 (DS&AI 2025)



The 3rd International Conference on Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (DS&AI 2025) was successfully held from 19-21 November 2025 at the Joint Research and Demonstration Centre, University of Peradeniya. The conference was jointly organized by the Department of Statistics and Computer Science, University of Peradeniya, the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), and the Department of Statistics, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

DS&AI 2025 provided an important platform for researchers and practitioners from both developed and developing countries to exchange ideas, share expertise, and explore recent advances in data science and artificial intelligence. Building on the success of previous conferences held in Bangkok (2023) and Medan (2024), the event strengthened regional collaboration and promoted interdisciplinary research. Participants from Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Thailand, and Sri Lanka highlighted the conference's growing international recognition.



The conference received 92 paper submissions, of which 22 high-quality papers were selected following a rigorous peer-review process, resulting in a 24% acceptance rate. The accepted papers covered cutting-edge areas such as Large Language Models, Natural Language Processing, Explainable AI, time-

series forecasting, computer vision, and deep learning.

The event was graced by Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, as the Chief Guest. Four keynote addresses delivered by leading experts highlighted real-world AI impact, trustworthy and ethical AI, biomedical applications of machine learning, and Human-Centered AI Design.

Pre- and post-conference workshops conducted by international experts offered hands-on learning in areas such as collaborative learning, computational biology, the future of data science careers, and personal branding. Cultural and social activities, including a visit to the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and a conference dinner, further enhanced networking among delegates.



The DS&AI 2025 proceedings were published in Springer's Communications in Computer and Information Science (CCIS, Vol. 2726), reinforcing the conference's reputation as a credible platform for high-quality research dissemination. Overall, DS&AI 2025 concluded as a highly successful event, strengthening the University of Peradeniya's role as a regional hub for data science and AI research.



Prime Minister Dr Harini Amarasuriya Visits University of Peradeniya



The Honourable Prime Minister, Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, who also serves as the Minister of Education, Higher Education, and Vocational Education, visited the University of Peradeniya on 7 December 2025, accompanied by Mr Nalaka Kaluwewa, Secretary to the Ministry, and Mr. Thanura Dissanayaka, Member of Parliament for Kandy. The purpose of the visit was to assess the extensive damage caused by the overflowing of the Mahaweli River during recent adverse weather conditions.



The Prime Minister held an in-depth discussion with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith, together with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Deans, Directors of Postgraduate Institutes, the Acting Registrar, Bursar, and student representatives. The meeting focused on developing a comprehensive restoration strategy, structured around short-term, medium-term, and long-term priorities.



Under the short-term programme, emphasis was placed on the rapid reopening of faculties that were not directly affected by the floods. During the three-hour discussion, the Vice-Chancellor presented a detailed account of the damages sustained by university buildings and property-including the Faculties of Agriculture, Veterinary Medicine, and Management, the Computer Centre, CDCE, Works Department, PGIHS, Gymnasium, playgrounds, and the Sarasavi Medura Hostel-as well as the progress of ongoing cleanup operations and the proposed recovery strategies.



Following the meeting, the Prime Minister and accompanying officials visited several of the areas severely affected by the floods.



MoU Signed with China State Construction Engineering Corporation



The University of Peradeniya has signed an agreement with China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Pvt) Ltd (Sri Lanka) on 3 October 2025, at the Senate Room. This agreement aims to promote collaborative research, knowledge exchange, and enhance student opportunities through internships and career guidance.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Zhang Wenji, Vice President of the South Asia Division, Mr. Ai Shiqiang, Deputy General Manager of the General Management Department, Mr. Cao Zhengkun and Mr. Nipun

Nupearachchi, Manager of the Human Resources Division from CSCEC (Sri Lanka). Representing the University of Peradeniya were Vice-Chancellor Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Prof. Lilantha Samaranayake, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering Prof. Kushan Wijesundara, along with academic staff members.

This partnership is expected to strengthen industry-academia linkages and create new avenues for advancing sustainable engineering knowledge and practice.



MoU Signed with CESL and CECB for Industry-Related Research Collaboration



The University of Peradeniya has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Central Engineering Services (Pvt) Limited (CESL) and the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau (CECB) on 22 December 2025, at the Senate Room. This MoU aims to establish a partnership linking academia, construction and consultancy, promoting collaborative research, technology transfer and knowledge exchange while ensuring research outcomes that contribute directly to public benefit, sustainability and economic growth.

The ceremony was attended by Eng. A.P. Jayatissa, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the CECB and CESL, Eng. S. A. U. C. Siriwardhana, General Manager

of the CECB, Eng. S. S. A. Kalugaldeniya and Eng. Mihira Gunasena, Corporate Additional General Managers of the CECB, Eng. S. B. A. D. Semasinghe, Chief Executive Officer of the CESL, representing the University of Peradeniya Vice-Chancellor Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Prof. Lilantha Samaranayake, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering Prof. Kushan Wijesundara, along with academic staff members.

This partnership is expected to strengthen industry-academia linkages and promote Sri Lanka as a regional hub for innovation in applied engineering research and consultancy.



Inter University Quiz Competition-2025



InsureChamp 2025 IRCSL organized by the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (IRCSL), was concluded successfully offering a dynamic blend of learning, enjoyment, and valuable insights into the insurance sector. University of Peradeniya delivered an outstanding performance winning First Runner-Up and a cash prize of LKR 100,000. The competition was effectively coordinated by the Career Guidance Unit, whose support greatly contributed to this achievement.

Awareness Session on Government Competitive Examinations

The Career Guidance Unit (CGU), University of Peradeniya, in collaboration with the Chief Secretary's Office – Central Province, successfully conducted an Awareness Session on Government Competitive Examinations on 16 October 2025 at the CGU Seminar Room. The session aimed to enhance undergraduates' understanding of career opportunities in the Sri Lankan public sector, focusing on major executive services such as SLAS, SLEAS, SLPS, and SLSS. Distinguished resource persons representing key administrative services shared their insights on the scope, responsibilities, and examination processes, while also guiding students on effective preparation strategies. The interactive panel discussion that followed allowed students from all nine faculties to engage directly with the speakers, making the session both informative and inspiring. Heartfelt thanks are extended to all resource persons for their valuable contributions and to the enthusiastic undergraduates whose active participation contributed to the success of the session.



Alumni Donate Mattresses to Flood-Affected Sarasavi Madura Hostel



The Sarasavi Madura Hostel of the University of Peradeniya, badly affected by Cyclone Ditwah and subsequent flooding, has received a donation of 144 mattresses valued at Rs. 950,400.

The initiative was spearheaded through a GoFundMe project organized by Dr. Sanjeewa Abeysinghe, an alumnus residing in Queensland, Australia. Alumni and well-wishers from around the world contributed to the project, reflecting their strong commitment to student welfare during this difficult time.



The fundraising campaign was strongly supported by a dedicated team from Queensland, including Dr. Buddhika Gamage, Dr. Deepani Dharshika, Dr. Amila Bandaranayake, and Mr. Rohana Rathnayake, whose contributions and organizational support alongside Dr. Abeysinghe ensured the success of the project.



The relief effort was coordinated by Prof. Sampath Lokugalappatti, Director of Student Support Services & Welfare System (SSS&WS). The mattresses were officially handed over to the University on 24 December 2025, where they were received by Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Vice-Chancellor, and Prof. Ranjith Pallegama, Deputy Vice-Chancellor. In attendance at the handing-over ceremony were the Public Relations Officer of the University, the Director of Student Accommodation, the Director of Security, and the Warden of Sarasavi Madura Hostel.

This donation represents a significant step in restoring normalcy for students affected by the disaster and underscores the enduring bond between the University of Peradeniya and its alumni community.

Alumni Donate laptops and printer to Faculty of Management



On 12 December 2025, the Alumni of the Faculty of Management of the 2007 Batch donated four laptops and a laser printer to restore academic activities at the Faculty of Management.

Alumni Support Restores Veterinary Faculty Canteen After Flood Damage



The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS) canteen, severely damaged by recent flooding, has been fully restored through the swift and generous support of the 1994/95 alumni batch. With contributions amounting to Rs. 1.5 million, the facility was refurbished, re-equipped, and officially reopened on 29 December 2025, marking a milestone in student welfare and academic recovery.

Restoring a Vital Student Facility

The restoration project addressed urgent structural and operational needs. Damaged doors, windows, and furniture were repaired, and the canteen and kitchen interiors were freshly painted to create a welcoming environment. Flood-damaged electrical appliances were restored to ensure safety and functionality.



To enhance student comfort, twelve new cafeteria tables and forty-eight chairs were purchased, along with essential kitchenware such as ceramic plates and glass mugs. In addition, key equipment including a hot cabinet, bottle cooler, water dispenser, and microwave oven was installed to strengthen service capacity and improve daily operations. The hot cabinet and bottle cooler were generously sponsored by Alltech Biotechnologies Pvt Ltd, reflecting the spirit of partnership that underpinned the restoration effort.

To ensure uninterrupted service, Rs. 25,000 was provided to the caterer for the immediate purchase of dry rations, enabling the canteen to resume

operations without delay.

Extending Support Beyond the Canteen

The alumni also strengthened academic resources by donating a refurbished laptop and a new monochrome laser printer to the Examination Division.

A Celebration of Solidarity

The handover ceremony was graced by Dean Dr. A.W. Kalupahana, former Dean Prof. Anil Pushpakumara, Director of SSS&WS Prof. Sampath Lokugalappatti, Veterinary Students' Union President Mr. Tharaka Randunu, along with faculty staff and students. Their presence highlighted the strong sense of unity between alumni, faculty leadership, and students in safeguarding student welfare and academic continuity.



Inspiring Community Action

This reopening of the canteen restores a vital facility that provides nutritious meals and a welcoming space for daily interaction. The timely intervention also supports the smooth continuation of academic programmes, allowing students and staff to focus on teaching, learning, and research. The alumni-led effort stands as a powerful example of community solidarity and collective responsibility in rebuilding and strengthening the University.



Pre-Hospital Care (First Aid) Training Programme for PGIS Staff



Organised by the Safety Committee of PGIS in collaboration with St. John Ambulance Association & Brigade, Sri Lanka.

In a proactive initiative to enhance staff safety and emergency preparedness, the Safety Committee of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS) in collaboration with St. John Ambulance Association & Brigade, Sri Lanka organized a one-day First-Aid Training Programme on 11 December 2025 at the PGIS, with the participation of 30 staff members.

The primary objective of the workshop was to equip PGIS staff with essential first-aid knowledge and practical skills relevant to an academic and laboratory-based environment. The training was conducted by Mr. Ajith Dissanayake, Administrative Secretary (Central Province), St. John Ambulance Association & Brigade, Kandy, and effectively combined theoretical instruction with hands-on practical demonstrations.

Participants engaged in simulated emergency scenarios ranging from minor injuries to more serious incidents, allowing them to apply first-aid techniques in a controlled environment. The interactive nature of the programme enhanced participants' confidence and preparedness.

Upon successful completion, participants received certificates endorsed by the St. John Ambulance Association & Brigade. Feedback from participants highlighted the practical relevance of the training and its value in strengthening their ability to respond effectively to emergencies both within the workplace and in daily life.

Sri Lanka–Japan Collaborative Workshop on Environmental and Microbial Sciences

A collaborative workshop between the Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Yamaguchi University (Japan), and the Board of Study in Environmental Science, Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya—funded by the Public Promoting Association (Kura Foundation)—was successfully held on 16 October 2025 at the PGIS Conference Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Sudharma Yatigammana.

The workshop aimed to share cutting-edge knowledge and techniques in environmental and microbial sciences while strengthening research collaboration between Sri Lanka and Japan. It also marked an important step toward building long-term research networks and initiating future joint research activities.

The programme featured distinguished local and international speakers who addressed a wide range of environmental and global health topics, including microbes in space, antimicrobial resistance, zoonotic disease control, avian influenza, and ecosystem-level microbial networks.

Approximately 50 undergraduate students, postgraduate researchers, and academic staff participated in the event. The sessions generated lively discussions, particularly following the opening presentation, and enhanced participants' understanding of the links between microbial science, global health, and environmental change. The workshop also fostered strong networking opportunities and encouraged future collaborations, inspiring participants to pursue further research in microbiology, infectious disease surveillance, and One Health-related fields.

Workshop on Scholarship, Innovation and Integration of AI for Educational Research



The Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, in collaboration with the Department of Medical Education, College of Medicine, University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), USA, conducted a three-day workshop on "Scholarship, Innovation and Integration of AI for Educational Research" from 6th to 8 October 2025.

This event was the second workshop in a continuing series under the UIC-UoP partnership, aimed at enhancing capacity building in health professions

education and promoting collaborative educational research.

Four distinguished international resource persons conducted the sessions:

- Prof. Yoon Soo Park, PhD – Ilene Harris Professor and Head of the Department of Medical Education
- Prof. Ara Tekian, PhD, MHPE – Professor and Associate Dean for International Affairs
- Prof. Lauren Maggio, PhD – Professor and Director of Research
- Dr. Brian Gin, MD, PhD – Associate Professor of Medical Education and Paediatrics

The workshop focused on integrating artificial intelligence into educational research, developing scholarly approaches to medical education, and fostering research collaborations between the two universities.

By conducting this workshop, the Faculty of Medicine marked another milestone in its partnership with the University of Illinois Chicago.

World Radiography Day 2025: Honouring a Pioneer in Radiography Education in Sri Lanka

The Department of Radiography/Radiotherapy, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya, in collaboration with the Society of Medical Radiation Science (SMRS), proudly celebrated World Radiography Day 2025 under the global theme "Radiographers: Seeing the Unseen". This theme reflects the vital role radiographers play in modern healthcare using advanced imaging techniques to diagnose disease, guide treatment, and safeguard patient well-being.

This year's celebration was organized to recognize and appreciate the unwavering dedication, compassion, and professionalism of radiographers who contribute tirelessly to saving lives and improving patient care. The event brought together students, academics, clinical radiographers, and invited guests to honor their essential contributions to the healthcare system.

A key highlight of the ceremony was a special tribute to Prof. P. B. Hewavithana, the founding Head of the Department of Radiology. Prof. Hewavithana was honored for her pioneering leadership, visionary contributions, and decades of committed service to

radiography and radiotherapy education and professional practice. An extraordinary personality who shaped the department, inspired generations of students, and strengthened the radiography community in Sri Lanka, Prof. Hewavithana retired on 30 September 2025.

The Faculty extends its heartfelt appreciation to all who contributed to the success of the event and reaffirms its commitment to advancing radiography education, research, and clinical excellence.



World Mental Health Day Celebrated by the Faculty of Medicine



The Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, in collaboration with the Mental Health Unit of the Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, celebrated World Mental Health Day under the theme "Access to Mental Health Services in Catastrophes and Emergencies."

Outbound Training Programme for First-Year Students of the Faculty of Dental Sciences



The Career Guidance Unit successfully conducted a two-day Outbound Training (OBT) Programme on 11 and 12 November 2025 at the University Rugby Ground for newly enrolled first-year students of the Faculty of Dental Sciences.

The programme focused on enhancing teamwork, leadership, communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and self-confidence through a series of engaging outdoor activities and group challenges. Students participated with great enthusiasm, making the sessions both energetic and impactful.

The Career Guidance Unit extends its sincere appreciation to the Faculty of Dental Sciences and all those who contributed to the success of this programme.

Visiting postgraduate trainee - Department of Forensic Medicine

Dr. Pedro Enes, a postgraduate trainee from Portugal, successfully completed a three-week forensic medicine rotation at the Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, from 15 September to 3 October 2025.

Staff Sports Competition 2025 – University of Peradeniya



The Staff Sports Competition 2025, organized by the Physical Education Division, University of Peradeniya, was successfully conducted from October to November 2025, bringing together permanent, contract, and temporary staff members for an energetic and inclusive sporting season. Despite challenging weather conditions, including frequent rainfall, the competition was carried out with remarkable enthusiasm and commitment from participants across the University.

Staff members competed in a wide range of sporting events, including badminton, carom, table tennis, netball, softball cricket, volleyball, race walking, and track and field events for both men and women. The competition provided an excellent platform to promote physical wellbeing, teamwork, and camaraderie among the University community.

The Faculty of Medicine recorded notable achievements during the competition, securing victories in table tennis, women's walking, women's running (below 40 years), and women's running



(above 40 years) events. These accomplishments reflected the dedication and sporting excellence of the faculty staff.

The awards ceremony was held on 18 November 2025 at the University Gymnasium, where the Acting Vice-Chancellor presented trophies and certificates to the winners. The successful conclusion of the Staff Sports Competition 2025 reaffirmed the University of Peradeniya's commitment to fostering a healthy, vibrant, and engaged academic community through sports and recreational activities.



Sea Guardian Hockey Tournament 2025

Men's & women's hockey team of University of Peradeniya participated for the Sea Guardian Hockey championship held at the Navy Hockey Ground, Welisara. The tournament was organized by the Sri Lanka Navy Hockey Club on 02 November 2025.

Junior National Hockey Championship 2025



The Junior National Hockey Tournament-2025, organized by the Sri Lanka Hockey Federation was held at the Astro Hockey Turf, Matale. The Sri Lanka Universities Sports Association Combined University Team also participated in the tournament.

Two undergraduates, I.M.N.K. Dissanayake (E/23/086) and M.M.M. Munaj (S/23/442), were selected to represent the SLUSA team. The team performed commendably and secured fourth place in the championship.

Ambassadors' Cup badminton Championships



University of Peradeniya clinched the runner-up trophy of the Ambassador's cup in the University students' category. The tournament was organized by the Department of Physical Education, University of Colombo and sponsored by the Embassy of the Peoples' Republic of China. It was held at the Gymnasium of the University of Colombo from 31 October to 02 November 2025.

In the staff category, the University of Peradeniya Staff Badminton team clinched second place.

Forensic Medicine Table Tennis Team wins Third Place



The Table Tennis team of the Faculty of Medicine won 3rd Place at the University Staff Games-2025.

Plate Champion of the Kandy All Island Open Badminton Championship 2025

H.M.C.P. Rathnayake (S/23/489) emerged as the Plate Champion at the Kandy All Island Open Badminton Championship 2025, organized by the Central Province Badminton Association under the guidance of Sri Lanka Badminton Association. The event was recognized as a ranking event of the Sri Lanka Badminton Association. The Championship was held at the Sports Ministry Sports Complex, Digana, Kandy from 19 to 26th October 2025.

Sri Lanka Intermediate Weightlifting Championship 2025

University of Peradeniya weightlifters became overall runners-up at the Sri Lanka Intermediate Weightlifting Championship 2025, conducted by the Sri Lanka Weightlifting Federation.

The event was held on 1 and 2 November 2025 at Wijaya College, Matale.

Kandy District 7 'A' Side Hockey Tournament

The Kandy District 7 'A' Side Hockey Tournament, organized by the Kandy District Hockey Association, was held on 22 December 2025 at the University Hockey Ground, University of Peradeniya.

The University of Peradeniya men's hockey team participated in the tournament.

Sri Lanka Novices Weightlifting Championship 2025

The University of Peradeniya weightlifting team emerged runners-up at the Sri Lanka Novices Weightlifting Championship 2025, held at Wijaya College, Matale.

The tournament was conducted by the Sri Lanka Weightlifting Federation on 3 and 4 October 2025.