



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA NEWS LETTER

A QUARTERLY UPDATE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

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Message from the Vice-Chancellor



I am pleased to share the news bulletin of the University of Peradeniya which carries the university's accomplishments in all its functions - academic, research, and welfare activities during the second quarter of 2023. These attainments despite the numerous national-level challenges faced recently, are proof of the university's tenacity.

Needless to say, that the University of Peradeniya is the best national university in Sri Lanka. In the "THE international university ranking", the University of Peradeniya continues to make significant strides; in the "THE impact ranking", which considers the institutional commitment to sustainable development goals, the University of Peradeniya has been placed between 300 and 400 among the world's universities; THE

university ranking, which takes into account institutional academic and research activities, international presence, external relations, among others, has placed us within 501–600 world universities.

In the Institutional Review conducted by the UGC to assess the quality of all aspects of the universities, the University of Peradeniya received a "Very Good A-Grade," thus assuring our stakeholders of the standards of the educational programmes conducted by the university.

Since the University of Peradeniya's pandemic recovery efforts continued successfully, we were able to reduce the academic and examination gaps in all academic programmes. Accordingly, new enrolments were made as scheduled. During the second quarter, the university was able to register new students for the faculties of Dental Sciences and Arts. In postgraduate studies, the PGIMS launched its Masters programs for the first time and the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences introduced a Master of Science in Nursing.

The 84th General Convocation of the University of Peradeniya was held on May 24 and 25, 2023 at which 3873 graduands were awarded degrees. As in the past, Honorary degrees were awarded to distinguished academics and scholars; Professor P.C.A. Ratnatunga and Professor C.B. Dissanayake were awarded Degrees of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) and Dr. Palitha Tikiri Banda Kohona received the Degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa).

Three programme reviews (Cluster 01: Chemistry, Physics, and Geology, Cluster 02: Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Sciences, Cluster 03: Botany, Zoology, and MBB) of the Faculty of Science were conducted successfully during the second quarter to ensure the quality of the study programs offered.

In the area of research, two of our academics were awarded the prestigious CVCD awards: Prof. Deepthi Yakandawala, Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, was adjudged the Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in the Field of Life Sciences, and Dr. Nadeesh M. Adassooriya, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, secured the Most Outstanding Young Researcher award in the Field of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology.

To appreciate the best performers who excelled in Inter-University, National and International competitions in the sports field, the "Colours Award Ceremony 2022" was held in June 2023. At this much sought-after event, 148 sportsmen and 58 sportswomen were awarded full colors, and 118 sportsmen and 62 sportswomen were awarded half colors. Our Rugby team emerged victorious against Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka with a score of 32 to 03 at the Sri Lanka University Games-SLUG 2023 held in July 2023. Additionally, the selection of Ms. S.K. Wijekoon of the Faculty of Science to represent the Sri Lankan National Women's Baseball team was a remarkable accomplishment.

Our internationalization efforts continued with meetings held with representatives from the Chinese Academy of Science, Kursk State Medical University, Russia, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia and Tomorrow Technology Education Service Center (TTESC), China, etc.

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The university website continues to expand to disseminate information efficiently and attractively; separate web pages for the Landscape Division, Center for Environment Studies, and Department of Physical Education were added.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to realizing our goals. I truly appreciate the leadership given by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in compiling the bulletins and the team effort of the Statistical Officer and her staff in continuing the publication of the quarterly bulletin. Moreover, the information support of all entities is much appreciated.

I hope that everyone in the university community will continue to make efforts to support the university's growth while further fostering innovation and creativity in the upcoming months.

Professor M.D. Lamawansa
Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Deepthi Yakandawala and Dr Nadeesh M. Adassooriya receive prestigious CVCD Excellence Awards

Prof. Deepthi Yakandawala and Dr. Nadeesh M. Adassooriya, esteemed faculty members of the University of Peradeniya, have been honored with prestigious CVCD Excellence Awards. Prof. Yakandawala received the Most Outstanding Senior Researcher award in the Field of Life Sciences, while Dr. Adassooriya secured the Most Outstanding Young Researcher award in the Field of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology. These awards, presented by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors of state universities and institutes, recognize their exceptional contributions and impact within the Sri Lankan state University system.

Prof. Yakandawala, a Senior Professor at the Department of Botany, has garnered numerous accolades throughout her career, including Presidential awards for Scientific Research, National Research Council Merit award, and Faculty Excellence in Research recognition. Dr. Adassooriya, a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, has achieved significant milestones, such as holding the first nanotechnology-based US patent from Sri Lanka and securing research fellowships at renowned institutions like MIT.

The University of Peradeniya extends its warm congratulations to Prof. Yakandawala and Dr. Adassooriya for their remarkable achievements and wishes them continued success in their future endeavors.



The Annual Pirith Chanting and Alms Giving Ceremony

On 13th and 14th May 2023, the Annual Pirith Chanting Ceremony and alms giving of the Faculty of Dental Sciences and Dental Teaching Hospital of the University of Peradeniya was held at the premises of the Faculty of Dental Sciences. The event was organized by the Buddhist Brotherhood of the Faculty of Dental Sciences and supported by the academic, nonacademic and Ministry of Health staff. Overnight Pirith Chanting on the 13th of May was followed by alms giving on the 14th of May. Students of the Faculty of Dental Sciences as well as other Faculties, and the staff of the University and the Ministry of Health participated in the event.



University of Peradeniya Introduces Environmental Sustainability Pledge

On 5th June 2023, the University of Peradeniya Commemorated the World Environment Day with the official Introduction of the "Environmental Sustainability Pledge of the University of Peradeniya". The Environmental Sustainability pledge is a new concept for the university system in Sri Lanka and the pledge symbolizes the commitment of the University of Peradeniya community towards a sustainable future.

The Pledge was compiled by the Centre for Environmental Sustainability (CES) of the University of Peradeniya to evoke a positive attitudinal change in the University community to conserve water resources and natural resources; reduce energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and wastage; and to promote sustainable transportation and proper waste management. By signing the pledge, signatory individuals make a self-commitment to adopt an environmental sustainability lifestyle while they are at the University as well as beyond the university premises.

- The ceremonial signing of the Environmental Sustainability Pledge of the University of Peradeniya was carried out by Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, the Vice-Chancellor of University of Peradeniya in the presence of Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Tilak Hewawasam, the Director/CES,/Dr. G.A.N. Suranjith, the Deputy Director (Research and Environmental management)/CES, and Mr. E.M.G.M.B. Ekanayake, the Acting Registrar/University of Peradeniya. The event was attended physically by the Deans of Faculties, Directors of PG Institutes, Directors of Centres of the University, the Chairpersons of Environmental Management Committees, the Bursar, Chief Medical Officer, and Curators of the University, and student representatives. Many more academic, non-academic staff members and students witnessed the event virtually via Zoom.

The signing of the pledge is a significant step forward for the University of Peradeniya in its commitment to environmental sustainability. The pledge is a call to action for all members of the University community to work together to create a more sustainable future.



The Environmental Sustainability Pledge of University of Peradeniya is available online on the CES website in English, Sinhala and Tamil languages. To sign the pledge, simply visit the CES website and click on the link below.

[Sign Environmental Sustainability Pledge](#)

84th Annual General Convocation at the University of Peradeniya

The University of Peradeniya recently hosted its 84th General Convocation on the 24th and 25th of May 2023. This grand event marked a significant milestone in the academic journey of 3873 graduands from nine Faculties and three Postgraduate Institutes.

A total of 2724 bachelor's degrees and 1149 postgraduate degrees were conferred upon the graduating class, with the esteemed Chancellor of the University, Prof. G.H. Peiris, presenting them with their well-deserved degrees.

The Convocation ceremony was divided into three sessions to accommodate the Faculties and Institutes. On May 24th, 2023, the first session honored graduands from the PGIA, faculties of Agriculture, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Allied Health Sciences, Management, and Dental Sciences. The second session recognized the outstanding achievements of graduands from the PGIS, faculties of Science and Engineering. Finally, the third session celebrated the accomplishments of the PGIHS and the Faculty of Arts.

In addition to the conferment of degrees, the convocation provided an opportunity to recognize exceptional individuals in their respective fields. Three distinguished individuals were bestowed honorary degrees for their outstanding contributions. Prof. Purna Channa Abhayawardena Ratnatunga and Prof. C.B. Dissanayake were awarded Honorary Doctor of Science for their remarkable contributions to the fields of Medicine and Science, respectively. Dr. Palitha T.B. Kohona was honored with an Honorary Doctorate of Letters for his exceptional work in the field of International Relations.

The convocation was organized by the Convocation Organizing Committee, chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith. The committee, consisting of Executive staff, worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth execution of the event, upholding the university's reputation for excellence.

To allow friends, family, and well-wishers from around the world to join in this momentous occasion, the convocation proceedings were live streamed on the university website.

The University of Peradeniya extends its warmest congratulations to the graduands of the 84th General Convocation. Their hard work, dedication, and academic accomplishments are a testament to the university's commitment to nurturing intellectual growth and producing exceptional graduates.



University of Peradeniya Celebrates Launch of Four New Websites

The University of Peradeniya is proud to announce the launch of four new websites, representing significant milestones in different Divisions and centres within the University. These websites signify a crucial step in expanding our online presence and enhancing communication with stakeholders. Let's explore these exciting developments:

Landscape Division Website:

The Landscape Division launched its website, showcasing the scenic beauty of the University's vast lands. The website launch, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Terrence Madhujith, Council Member Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, Advisor to the Division, Dr. Nalin Suranjith, Acting Curator and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Botany, and other guests.

Centre for Environmental Sustainability (CES) Website:

The CES launched a new user-friendly website to coincide with its 32nd anniversary. The website was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, accompanied by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith. The website serves as a hub for interdisciplinary environmental training, consultancy, and research programmes.

Physical Education Division Website:

The Physical Education Division unveiled its website during a committee meeting, with the presence of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith and other guests. The website serves to promote physical well-being, showcase sporting events, and provides students and faculty with relevant information.

Smile Train Cleft Centre Website:

The Smile Train Cleft Centre, affiliated with the Faculty of Dental Sciences, introduced its official website. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa inaugurated the website, reinforcing the university's commitment to providing free surgical treatments for children with cleft lip and palate.

These website launches exemplify the University of Peradeniya's dedication to embracing digital advancements and improving communication. We encourage stakeholders and the university community to visit these websites and engage with the remarkable work being done in these divisions and centers.



Visit of Delegates from Kursk State Medical University, Russia

On 03rd May 2023, delegates from Kursk State Medical University in Russia visited the University of Peradeniya. The delegates met with the acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith at the Vice-Chancellor's office. The meeting was also attended by Prof. Udaya Ralapanawa, representative of the Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles, Director of International Relations Office (InRO) and Acting Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Keerthie Dissanayake from the Faculty Of Medicine and the staff members of InRO.

Prof. Madhujith provided an introduction to the history of the University and the courses offered by faculties. Other staff members present at the meeting discussed the collaboration opportunities from both sides. Prof. Udaya Ralapanawa explained the procedures implemented in the Faculty. The delegates from the Kursk State Medical University also shared information about their university's history, achievements, resources and courses.



Fire Safety and Energy Waste Minimization Training



On 12th June 2023, a fire safety and energy waste minimization training was successfully conducted for the residential students of the Mahakanda Hall.

Dr. Ruchika Fernando, Chairman of the Safety Committee highlighted the importance of the above training and Mr. Nalaka Akurange, University Safety Officer conducted the awareness session. The resource persons empathized with the need and ways to minimize the wastage of electricity and water in the University. Afterward, a hands-on practical session on firefighting using various types of handheld fire extinguishers was conducted.

Welcome ceremony For the new entrants 2021/2022 Batch, Faculty of Dental Sciences



On 4th May 2023, the Faculty of Dental Sciences of the University of Peradeniya had its welcome ceremony for its new entrants at the Bambaradeniya Auditorium of the Faculty of Dental Sciences.

The acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith was the chief guest at the occasion. New entrants of the 2021/2022 batch and their parents, University officials, academic and nonacademic staff participated in this event. New entrants were registered, and the Faculty mentor programme was also introduced on this occasion.

Non-Disclosure Agreement Signing Ceremony with Aara Herbs & Spices and the University of Peradeniya

The University of Peradeniya signed a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) with Aara Herbs and Spices for the process and production of herbal porridge. The product was invented by Mr. P.C. Arampath and Ms. H.D.S. Lakmali from the Department of Food Science and Technology of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Financial assistance for the project was provided by the Innovation Commercialization Enhancement (ICE) Grant under the Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development Operation (AHEAD) project of the Agribusiness Centre, Faculty of Agriculture. The signing event was held on 4th April 2023, at the Vice-Chancellor's Office, University of Peradeniya with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. W.M.T. Madhujith, Acting Registrar, Mr. Mahinda Ekanayake, Prof. Sarath S. Kodithuwakku (Dean/ Faculty of Agriculture), Prof. Y.P.R.D. Yapa (Director/BLII-TTO), Mr. P.C. Arampath (Senior Lecturer), Miss. Sankapali Mallawarachchi (Project Assistant/BLII-TTO) from the University of Peradeniya and Mrs. S.P.D.T. Somathilaka (Director), Mr. S.P.S.S.P. Rajakaruna (Marketing Manager), Mr. L.U. Athukorala and Mr. H.P.G.T.N. Kulasinghe from Aara Herbs and Spices. The agreement was signed by Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, and Mr. Mahinda Ekanayake, Acting Registrar of the University of Peradeniya on behalf of the University of Peradeniya. Mrs. S.P.D.T. Somathilaka, Director, and Mr. S.P.S.S.P. Rajakaruna, Marketing Manager signed the agreement on behalf of Aara Herbs and Spices.



University Acquires an LPG-Operated Incinerator

A significant amount of waste is generated daily from nine faculties, multiple centers, divisions and units of the University. The solid waste generated includes recyclable plastics, non-recyclable polymers, clinical waste, glass, metal, paper, and food waste. Currently, most of the recyclable waste is sent for recycling. However, there has been a lack of a proper and safe mechanism for disposing of non-recyclable plastics and other waste.

Even though the University made efforts to acquire an incinerator to safely burn non-recyclable waste, these efforts were unsuccessful until April 2023. The University was able to successfully establish a modern incinerator that operates on LPG. It is located in the University lands at Uda Peradeniya, away from populated areas. The incinerator was ceremonially handed over to the University and commissioned on the 24th of April 2023. The handing over ceremony was attended by Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Mahinda Ekanayake, the Acting Registrar, Ms. Jayantha Dharmasiri, the Deputy Registrar, Dr. Chandima Herath, the Chief Medical Officer of the Health Centre, Dr. H.A.B Ruwanjith, Public Health Inspector of the Health Centre, and other University officials.



Meeting with the Department of Classical Languages and JICA



On 22nd June 2023, a meeting between staff of the Department of Classical Languages and a team of the Japanese International Cooperative Agency (JICA) was held at the Committee Room of the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya.

At the meeting, Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles presented the welcome speech and Dr. P. Neluwala highlighted the programmes that are conducted with the JICA. Ms. R. Kulathunga explained

the current language courses that are being conducted by the Department and the preparation for the initiation of Japanese language courses in the University of Peradeniya. Further, she explained about the collaboration opportunities at the University of Peradeniya to the JICA volunteer programme. The JICA team also explained about the JICA volunteer programme.

Participants from the JICA volunteering programme, Mr. C.N. Ranasinghe, Senior Officer of the JICA Volunteer Programme, and Ms. K. Miya and Mr. K. Yoshida, Volunteer Coordinators, also participated in the meeting.

Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles, Director of the International Relations Office (InRO), Dr. P. Neluwala, Director of Sri Lanka - Japan Study Centre, Ms. R. Kulathunga, the Head of the Department of Classical Languages, University of Peradeniya and the staff members of the InRO participated in the event.

50th Anniversary celebration of the Medical Education Unit (MEU)/Department of Medical Education (DME) - (1973-2023)

On 16th May 2023, an event was organized at the Faculty of Medicine premises to celebrate 50 years of invaluable contributions to medical education by the Medical Education Unit, which was upgraded to the Department of Medical Education in 2020.

The event commenced with a tree planting ceremony near the examination hall followed by a formal meeting held in the Boardroom. Professor Janet Grant, an Honorary Professor of the University College London and the Director of the Centre for Medical Education in Context delivered the guest talk on Continuing Professional Development - Managing lifelong learning.

The event was organized by the Head of the Department of Medical Education, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and the past Directors of the MEU.



Visit by the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences and University of Peradeniya to the Kandy Industrial Park of the Board of Investment



On 11th June, 2023, Prof. Min Yang and several other professors from University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS) visited the Board of Investment (BOI) Pallekele, along with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa and several academics of the University of Peradeniya (UOP). Upon arrival, a grand welcome ceremony was organized by the BOI. The distinguished guests, academics from UOP and officers of the BOI visited the KELUN LIFE SCIENCES (PVT) Ltd, the sole IV fluid manufacturing facility in Sri Lanka.

A meeting was later held to discuss the collaboration between UOP and BOI to advance the environmental profile of the zones. This included consultancy projects for waste management and improving drinking water quality in BOI. The University expressed its commitment to providing research students who can contribute their expertise in addressing environmental issues across various industrial sectors.

Furthermore, the BOI expressed its keen interest in adopting the Eco-Industrial concept and recognized the need for consultancy and expertise in this field. The fruitful discussions were concluded with an agreement to reconvene in two weeks for further discussions on consultancy services from University of Peradeniya, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences and also water quality testing services from Joint Research & Demonstration Center for Water Technology (JRDC). These collaborations aim to work towards the implementation of the Eco-Industrial concept in BOI.

Career Guidance Programme for School Students from Nuwara Eliya Divisional Secretariat

The Career Guidance Unit (CGU) organized a unique career guidance programme for over 50 students from the Devon and Patana Area programme of World Vision. These students represented 15 plantation estates, covering 16 GN divisions in the Nuwara Eliya Divisional Secretariat as per the request made by World Vision.

The programme took place on 9th June 2023, in the Seminar room of the CGU. The programmes objective is to educate the children and provide them with exposure to formal education and career development.

The programme was conducted by Ms. Shumla Nawas, a visiting lecturer at the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya. Mr. Shaveen Kumar, a final-year student of the Faculty of Management also joined the programme to share his experience with the school students.

The programme concluded with a small tour of the University premises guided by Mr. Thisal Athapaththu, Mr. Pavan Rajapaksha, and Mr. Hasaranga Jayaweera from the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Peradeniya. Mr. Suchinthana Dasun, the Career Counsellor of the University of Peradeniya, provided guidance and supervision of the programme.



Visit of the Delegates from Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Australia

Delegates from the Queensland University of Technology, Australia visited University of Peradeniya on the 25th of April 2023.

They met with Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith, the acting Vice-Chancellor at the Vice-Chancellor's office. In addition, the meeting was attended by Prof. Vasanthi Pinto, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles, Director of the International Relations Office (InRO), Prof. C.M.B. Dematawewa, Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), Prof. Roshan G. Ragel, Head of the Department of Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Panduka Neluwala, Director of the Sri Lanka-Japan Study Centre, Dr. Damayanthi Herath of Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Dimanthi Uduwela of the Faculty of Science, Mr. K.A.B. Damunupola, PGIA and other staff members of InRO of the University of Peradeniya.

Prof. Madhujith provided an introduction about the history and the courses offered by the different faculties, and the other staff members who participated in the meeting explained about collaboration opportunities. Later, introductory presentations of both the universities were presented at the Senate Room of the University. After the meeting the QUT delegates visited the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering.



Scientific Discussion on “Ancient Irrigation Systems : Lessons from the Past”

On 17th May 2023, the Centre for Environmental Sustainability (CES) and the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS) of the University of Peradeniya jointly organized a scientific discussion on “Ancient Irrigation Systems: Lessons from the Past” at the PGIS auditorium to commemorate the World Water Day 2023. Emeritus Professor C.M. Madduma Bandara and Eminent Scholar Dr. P.B. Dharmasena contributed to this scientific deliberation as resource persons. The discussion session was moderated by Prof. Muditha Prasannajith Perera from the Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya.



Stationery Donation Ceremony

The Stationery Donation Ceremony of the Smile Train Cleft Centre, Faculty of Dental Sciences took place on April 29, 2023, at the CPC hall. The event was organized as part of the 20th Commemoration of Smile Train Cleft Centre, aiming to provide much needed stationery and other necessary school items to children with cleft lip and palate who are from underprivileged families



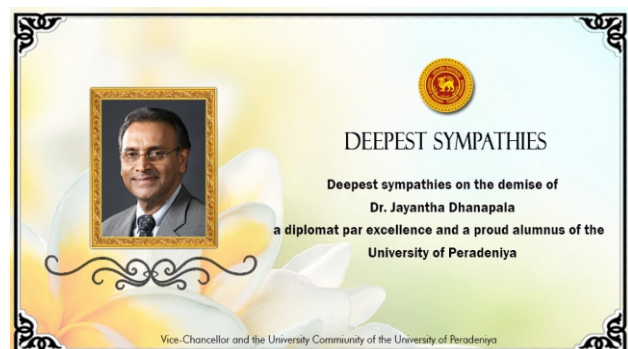
Official visit of University of Peradeniya delegates to the Chinese Academic of Science (CAS) and its University

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, together with Dr. Udaya Dissanayake, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, and Prof. Sarath Kodithuwakku, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, undertook an official visit to the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) and its University in Beijing, China. During several discussions and working meetings, a comprehensive framework for enhanced collaborations was worked out. In addition to the meetings, the University team also had the opportunity to visit the faculties of CAS.



Remembering Dr. Jayantha Dhanapala Deepest Sympathies

The University of Peradeniya, along with the Vice-Chancellor and the entire University community, expressed its deepest sympathies on the passing of Dr. Jayantha Dhanapala. Dr. Dhanapala, an esteemed alumnus and an exceptional diplomat, leaves behind an extraordinary legacy. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and loved ones during this difficult time. We honor his significant contributions to diplomacy and his enduring connection to the University. May his soul rest in eternal peace.



Meeting with TOMORROW Technology Education Service Center (TTESC), China



On 25th May 2023, a round of discussions took place at the Vice-Chancellors, initiated by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa with Mr. Gong, the Chairman of the Tomorrow Technology Education Service Center (TTESC), in China. The primary focus of the meeting was to discuss student mobility opportunities from China to the University of Peradeniya.

Apart from the main objective, the signing of a Memorandum of

Understanding with Beijing Forestry University was discussed, concerning collaboration on Ph.D. in Education and other Ph.D. programmes of the University of Peradeniya and Master of Nursing and other one-year Master programmes of the University of Peradeniya.

Inaugural meeting of the Department-level mentoring programme – Department of Economics

The first meeting to initiate the Economics Department-level mentoring programme was held on May 11th, 2023, at the lecture room of the Kannangara building. Prof. Sri Ranjith, Head of the Department, and the Department Mentoring Programme Committee members; Ms. Shobana Rajendran, Dr. Anuruddha Kankanamge and Dr. Thushari Vidanage, addressed the students of Economics Special degree programme during the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to emphasize the importance and relevance of the mentoring programme that will help enrich the student's University life.

Awareness Programme of Mentoring

Organized by the Department of Economics and Statistics, held on 10th May, 2023



Meeting with United States – Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission



On 9th May 2023, a productive meeting took place at the Vice-Chancellor's Office between, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa and Ms. Sandarshi Gunawardena, the Executive Director of the United States-Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission. The meeting was held in order to explore potential collaborations between the Fulbright Commission and the University of Peradeniya. The

meeting was also attended by Prof. W.M.T. Madhujith, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Peradeniya, Prof. C.N.R.A. Alles, Director, International Relations Office, Prof. Sarath S. Kodithuwakku, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Manjula Attygalla, Dean, Faculty of Dental Sciences, Prof. E.M.A.S.B. Ekanayake, Dean, Faculty of Management, Prof. Sanath Rajapakse, Dean, Faculty of Science, Prof. P.G. Anil Pushpakumara, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Prof. S.J.S. de Mel, Director, Postgraduate Institute Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. S.D. Dharmaratne, Director, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr. M.Z.M. Nafeel, Acting Dean Faculty of Arts, and the staff members of International Relations Office of the University of Peradeniya.

During the discussion, Ms. Gunawardena provided an overview of past collaborations and highlighted the potential opportunities that can be offered by the Fulbright Commission. She also outlined the objectives that need to be fulfilled by the University of Peradeniya. The Deans of the Faculties and the Directors of the Postgraduate Institutes present at the meeting shared examples of successful partnerships and projects previously undertaken with the Fulbright Commission.

Nursing Pledge Ceremony of Batch 2019/2020 – Department of Nursing, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

The Department of Nursing at the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya, organized the traditional Nursing Pledge Ceremony for the 15th batch of undergraduate students on 19th May 2023. The ceremony took place at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences and the event was attended by esteemed guests including Prof. Terrence Madhujith, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, dignitaries from the University of Peradeniya, clinical staff of Teaching Hospitals where the undergraduates receive their clinical training and proud parents. This year's ceremony marked the completion of the first academic year for the undergraduate nursing students of the Batch 2019/2020 and their transition into advanced clinical training.

As a tribute to Lady Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern organized nursing practice, the Head of the Department ignited the traditional Nightingale lamp and garlanded the gleaming Lady Florence Nightingale statue during the event. During the ceremony, the nursing undergraduates received nursing caps and customary three-wick lamps. They solemnly took the nursing oath, pledging to uphold the ethical practices of a professional nurse. The Department of Nursing wishes the undergraduate nursing students of the Batch 2019/2020, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya a bright and prosperous future in their endeavors.



The University of Peradeniya was Recognized by the AHEAD Operation for the Successful Commercialization of Three Inventions



The University of Peradeniya was recognized for three of its inventions at the ceremony organized by the AHEAD Operation for "Recognizing Successful Commercialization of University Research" held on May 02, 2023, at the BMICH, Colombo.

The Respirone Nano AV 99 face mask, developed by the University of Peradeniya and its commercial partner, Sarasavi Industries (Pvt) Ltd., was recognized as a successfully commercialized product in the market under the category of "Health/Cosmetic/Sanitary" items. The Open-source Smart Inverter from the University of Peradeniya, along with its commercial partner, Lakdhanavi (Pvt) Ltd., was recognized for their efforts in commercializing the product under the category "Electric/automation/IT/ and other items". Further, the Robotic Arm Developed for Selective Tea Plucking from the University of Peradeniya, along with its commercial

partner, Bhoomi Tech (Pvt) Ltd., was awarded as one of the most successfully commercialized University research projects. The recognition of these inventions at the ceremony signifies the University's commitment to innovation and its efforts toward driving economic growth through research and development.

The event was organized by the AHEAD/OMST in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the World Bank. Representing the University of Peradeniya at the ceremony were Prof. Roshan Darshana Yapa (Director/BLII-TTO), Prof. Janaka B. Ekanayake, Prof. Gamini Rajapaksha, Prof. Sanath Amarathunga, and Mrs. Amani Kahandawa (Technology Manager (BLII-TTO)). Further, certificates were presented to the representatives from Sarasavi Industries (Pvt) Ltd, Lakdhanavi (Pvt) Ltd, and Bhoomi Tech (Pvt) Ltd.

Collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences

The University of Peradeniya has taken steps to enhance collaborations with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which is the largest research organization in the world. The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and senior academic and research staff held a series of meetings with visiting Chinese delegates and officials of the Ministry of Water Supply, the Water Board, and the JRDC. Through this collaboration, more than 20 research students have received opportunities to pursue higher degrees in China and have published over 80 international research articles.



The meeting held in the Senate Room centered around developing a proposal to attract grants for the development of water-related research through JRDC. Furthermore, a scientific meeting was held at the JRDC attended by 140 researchers and academics to share views with the visiting

University of Peradeniya is ranked Number One in Sri Lanka For the Fourth Consecutive Year



University of Peradeniya has achieved the prestigious University of Peradeniya is ranked Number One in Sri Lanka For the Fourth Consecutive Year ranking in Sri Lanka according to the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking 2023 for the 4th consecutive year, solidifying its reputation for excellence. This ranking is based on the University's performance in meeting the Sustainability Development Goals. Additionally, the University of Peradeniya is among the top 400 Universities in the World. The University's consistent ranking as the number one in the country reflects its commitment to sustainability and making a positive impact on society.

University of Peradeniya Attains New Heights with Grade A Status in UGC Institutional Review

The University of Peradeniya has achieved an outstanding milestone, securing a Grade A status in the Institutional Review conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in 2023. With an outstanding score of 81.9%, this accolade underscored the unwavering commitment and dedication of the University to excellence in higher education.

The UGC's Institutional Review is an exhaustive evaluation that probes into the quality of core functions within universities. The University of Peradeniya was assessed based on ten rigorous criteria:

1. Governance and Management
2. Strength & Quality of Staff
3. Curriculum Design and Development
4. Teaching and Learning
5. Learning Resources, Student Support, and Progression
6. Student Assessment and Awards
7. Postgraduate Studies, Research, Innovation, and Commercialization
8. Distance Education
9. Community Engagement, Consultancy, and Outreach
10. Quality Assurance

Nestled in the scenic city of Kandy, the University of Peradeniya has consistently been at the forefront of academic excellence and innovation. The much-desired Grade A status is a glowing tribute to our unyielding commitment to cultivating an intellectually stimulating and nurturing environment for our scholars. In achieving this prestigious accolade, we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our diligent students, dedicated staff, invaluable collaborators and other stakeholders. Your unwavering dedication and immense contributions have been instrumental in elevating the University of Peradeniya to a shining exemplar of scholarship and innovation.

The Vice-Chancellor emphasized the significance of this achievement, recognizing it as a defining moment for the University. This distinguished recognition further galvanizes the University of Peradeniya's resolve to perpetuate its rich legacy as an eminent seat of higher learning and cutting-edge research, making strides both on the national and international stage.

Amidst the celebration of this accomplishment, the University of Peradeniya is unwavering in its commitment to serving society. We remain steadfast in our mission to shape the future through unrivalled excellence in

education and research while adapting dynamically to the evolving needs of our students and the broader community.

This Grade A status is anticipated to serve as a magnet for aspiring students, distinguished scholars, and synergistic partnerships from across the globe, thereby fortifying the University of Peradeniya's esteemed stature as a world-renowned institution for higher learning.



Promoting University of Peradeniya among Chinese Students



On 8th April 2023, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, along with the Dean of the Faculty of Management and Dr. Nuresh Eranda from the same Faculty, attended the annual education exhibition held in Beijing. The primary objective of

the visit was to promote the University of Peradeniya among Chinese students seeking overseas education. Over 150 international universities participated in the exhibition.

During the visit, the University of Peradeniya team visited the Open University in Beijing, the latest of its kind in the world. It has produced more than 24 million graduates thus far, and about 5 million students are currently enrolled in the 45 centres located in different parts of China. The team from Peradeniya appraised the use of advanced technology in conducting distance-mode education at the Open University, which was represented by a team headed by its Vice-President, Prof. Fan Xianrui.

Celebration of the 150th School Science Practical Programme, Science Education Unit, Faculty of Science

on June 15, 2023, the Science Education Unit (SEU) of the Faculty of Science proudly celebrated the momentous occasion of the 150th School Science Practical Programme. The event took place at the Physics New (P1) Lecture Theatre of the Faculty of Science. Distinguished guests of the event included Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, who joined via Zoom technology, Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, Prof. R.G.S.C. Rajapakse, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, and Prof. L.R.A.K. Bandara, the Director of the SEU.

Approximately 180 GCE (A/L) Science and Mathematics students from the Royal Central College, Polonnaruwa, and Gamini Dissanayake National School, Kothmale actively participated in this remarkable event. The programme comprised sessions on Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics. The sessions were conducted by an expert panel of resource persons from the University of Peradeniya, including Prof. S.H.P.P. Karunaratne, Dr. C. Wijesundara, Prof. M.Y.U. Ganehenage, Prof. L.R.A.K. Bandara, Dr. A.K. Amarasinghe, and Dr.M.T.M. Dewasurendra.

Among the various initiatives by the Science Education Unit aimed at empowering Science Education across the country, the School Science Practical Programme plays a crucial role in enriching students' hands-on experiences in GCE (A/L) Science and Mathematics. The inaugural School Science Practical Programme was held in 2013 and has since covered key areas such as Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics. Dedicated faculty members from the Faculty of Science generously volunteered their services and time for this programme from 08:30 to 16:00. Each programme accommodates approximately 60 students, attracting participants from different provinces of Sri Lanka who highly appreciate the programme's value and impact on their learning journey.



University of Peradeniya Launches Artificial Intelligence Forum for Academics (AIFA)

The impact of AI on education has been particularly notable, highlighting the need for educators to be mindful and responsible in utilizing AI tools. Hence, the Staff Development Center (SDC) of the University of Peradeniya took a significant step forward in advancing AI research and collaboration by inaugurating the "Artificial Intelligence Forum for Academics" (AIFA). This forum aims to foster innovation, knowledge exchange, and interdisciplinary cooperation in AI and contribute to the growth of AI in Sri Lanka.

The main objectives of AIFA are to provide a collaborative environment for researchers, academics, and industry professionals to exchange ideas, share insights, and collaborate on cutting-edge AI projects. Prof. Roshan Ragel, Dr. Kapila Wijerathne, Dr. Damayanthi Herath, Dr. Pramila Gamage, and Ms. Roshani Fernando have taken the initiative to establish this ground-breaking platform under the guidance of Prof. Rasnyake Mudiyanse, Director of SDC.



The inaugural session of AIFA was held on June 14, 2023, at the University of Peradeniya, attracting around fifty faculty members. The event featured informative presentations and speeches by Prof. Roshan Ragel, Dr. Kapila Wijerathna, and interactive sessions were also organized to encourage active participation and knowledge sharing among attendees.

Country Representation by one of our Students-Ms. S.K. Wijekoon

One of our student athletes, Ms. Shakila K. Wijekoon (S/17/947), was selected to the National Women's Baseball team and she represented our University in the III BFA Women's Baseball Cup held in Hong Kong from 21st May to 2nd June. It is an outstanding achievement for her to represent Sri Lanka while pursuing her undergraduate studies at the University amidst heavy academic commitments. The Department of Physical Education congratulates her hard work and excellence and wishes her good luck for her future endeavors.

Orientation Programme – 2023, Faculty of Arts

The Welcoming Ceremony for the new entrants of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Peradeniya was successfully held on June 26th, 2023, at the Gymnasium. The event was organized by the Faculty of Arts in collaboration with the Senior Student Counselors of the Faculty. It was an auspicious occasion graced by distinguished guests and invitees, including the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. W.M. Terrence Madhujith, and Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Kumari Thoradeniya.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was an inspirational speech delivered by Prof. Arjuna Parakrama, which resonated with the audience. Additionally, cultural performances showcased a diverse range of dances representing various cultural backgrounds, and a stage drama performed by the students. These captivating performances created a platform that allowed the newcomers, guests, and parents to truly experience the vibrant atmosphere of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Peradeniya.



World Migratory Bird Day Seminar



The Centre for Environmental Sustainability (CES) commemorated the World Migratory Bird Day, which is observed on May 14th with a seminar on the 11th of May 2023, at the Department of Botany, Faculty of Science. One of the leading bird experts, Dr. Chaminda Wijesundara from the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya delivered a seminar on the topic "Diversity and Conservation of Waterbirds in the Northern Avifaunal Region of Sri Lanka: Insights from a Five-Year Study" based on a long-term research project he and his team conducted in the northern region of Sri Lanka.

During his talk, Dr. Wijesundara explained the waterbird diversity of the northern avifaunal region of Sri Lanka including both migratory and resident species, and their distribution. Further, he elaborated on threats faced by the birds in this region and the efforts taken to protect these species in the northern avifaunal region of Sri Lanka. The seminar was attended by undergraduates, postgraduates, and staff members of the University of Peradeniya. The attendees found the seminar highly informative and appreciated the awareness raised about the importance of preserving the rich avian diversity in Sri Lanka.

A recorded version of the seminar is available on the CES website.

7th International Tamilology Research Conference (ITRC)

The 7th International Tamilology Research Conference [ITRC] was successfully conducted by the Department of Tamil, University of Peradeniya on 30th and 31st May 2023. The ITRC is the prestigious international research platform for Tamilology and related studies and serves as the main research activity and an annual event conducted by the Department of Tamil.

Prof. S. Pirashanthan, Head of the Department of Tamil, served as the Chairperson of the 7th International Tamilology Research Conference. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa graced the occasion as the chief guest, and Dr. E.M.P.C.S. Ekanayake, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, participated as the Guest of Honour in the inauguration ceremony. The Keynote address of the conference was delivered by Prof. P. Anandakumar from the Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu, India.

Following the inauguration ceremony, physical Sessions of the conference were held at the Seminar Room of the Faculty of Arts and Auditorium of the New Library Building. Distinguished individuals, Rtd. Professor M. A. Nuhman, Rtd. Professor Thurai Manoharan, Emeritus Professor V. Maheswaran, Rtd. Professor S. Yogaraja, Dr. Sothimalar Ravindren Theaver chaired the physical Sessions of the conference. Online Sessions of the conference was held on 31st May 2023 and Professor R. Kurinchiventhan, Head of the Department of Tamil Studies in Foreign Countries, Tamil University, India and Professor K. Parthibaraja, Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, India chaired the Online Sessions.

The 7th International Tamilology Research Conference Witnessed the participation of both international and local academics and researchers. The conference was coordinated by Dr. P. Sarawanakumar and Mr. V. Vimalathithan. During the inauguration ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa released the proceedings of the conference.

Commencement of Masters Programmes at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences (PGIMS)

The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences recently initiated two Masters degree programmes: Masters in Public Health and M.Sc. in Exercise and Sports Science. The first intake of students for these programmes took place on 29th of April at the PGIMS, which is currently located in the old police building belonging to the University. The event was graced by Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, the Chairman of the University Grants Commission.



Field Excursion on Planning in Heritage City A case study of Galle Fort

The Postgraduate Institute of Social Science and Humanities (PGIHS) at the University of Peradeniya organized a field excursion for postgraduate students enrolled in the Urban Development Planning course during the second semester of the academic year 2022/2023.

The Field Excursion took place on the 25th and 26th of June 2023 within the premises of Galle Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This two-day excursion was designed to provide students with empirical knowledge in planning, with the goal of enhancing their conceptual and analytical skills essential for urban development planning.

Prof. Lalitha Dissanayake and Prof. Fazeeha Azmi, both affiliated with the Department of Geography at the University of Peradeniya, shared their knowledge and experience gained from the Institute of Management at the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, which took place from 11th to 20th February 2023 under the Erasmus ICM Staff Mobility program. They played an integral role in guiding students at every stage of the field excursion.

University of Peradeniya Launches Master of Science in Nursing Programme



The Faculty of Allied Health Sciences of the University of Peradeniya achieved a significant milestone with the launch of the Master of Science in Nursing programme. The registration of the first batch of students marks a remarkable moment in the history of nursing education in Sri Lanka. The programme aims to prepare nursing graduates to contribute to advanced nursing, clinical practice, and healthcare through education and research. A thorough

screening process was conducted to select candidates from diverse healthcare sectors as the University is committed to nurturing highly skilled and influential nursing professionals.

New Appointments - Academic Staff

Name	Designation	Department	EffectiveDate
Mr.KMDL Kariyapperuma	Lecturer (Probationary)	Sinhala	08.06.2023
Mr. ALT Athukorala	Lecturer (Probationary)	Education	12.06.2023
Ms. HASU Geethanjalee	Lecturer (Probationary)	Political Science	14.06.2023
Mr. LRS Liyanage	Lecturer (Probationary)	Radiography/ Radiotherapy	16.06.2023
Mr. GK Dharmaratne	Lecturer (Probationary)	Radiography/ Radiotherapy	16.06.2023
Dr. NGDAK Neelawala	Lecturer (Probationary)	Basic Science	16.06.2023
Ms. EHMRK Ekanayake	Lecturer (Probationary)	Nursing	23.06.2023
Ms. TMRT Tennakoon	Lecturer (Probationary)	Business Finance	14.06.2023
Mr. WHTD Wickramahewa	Lecturer (Probationary)	Agri Engineering	26.06.2023
Mr. WAM Lowe	Lecturer (Probationary)	Animal Science	22.06.2023
Ms. TIG Prabashwari	Lecturer (Probationary)	Animal Science	22.06.2023
Mrs. NUK Pathirana	Lecturer (Probationary)	Zoology	23.06.2023
Mr. WMKB Wijesooriya	Lecturer (Probationary)	Zoology	22.06.2023
Mrs. WMLS Weerasekera	Lecturer (Probationary)	Zoology	28.06.2023

Details of Promotions

From 01.04.2023 – 30.06.2023

Ms. N S Hewage	Senior Lecturer	DELT
Mr. M I L De Zoysa	Senior Lecturer	DELT
Mr. G Jayatheeswaran	Senior Lecturer	History
Dr. WNP Rodrigo	Senior Lecturer	Mathematics
Prof. DWP Dahanayake	Professor	Physiology
Dr WPD Fernando	Professor	Mechanical Engineering

Details of Resignations

From 01.01.2023 – 30.06.2023

Dr. W M J A S B Manipura	Chemical and Process Engineering	Snr. Lecturer
Dr. KWHMRDDB Elkaduwa	Computer Engineering	Snr. Lecturer
Dr. D T K K Chamindu	Civil Engineering	Snr. Lecturer
Dr. HMAU Jayasinghe	Anaesthesiology	Snr. Lecturer
Dr. Fariha Sitheequ	Radiology	Snr. Lecturer
D M M R Dissanayake	Soil Science (MI)	Lecturer (Probationary)
Dr. A D Igalvithana	Soil Science	Lecturer (Probationary)
Mr. PMPC Gunathilake	Stat & Comp. Science	Lecturer (Probationary)

Details of Resignations

From 01.01.2023 – 30.06.2023

Dr. R A C Rabel	Farm Animal Prod. & Health	Snr. Lecturer
Dr. H M S C Dissanayake	Community Dental Health	Lecturer
Prof. A C M Fahim	Pharmacy	Professor
Ms. R K Suraweera	Pharmacy	Lecturer (Probationary)

Details of Retirements

From 01.01.2023 – 30.06.2023

Prof. L R K Perera	Professor	Geology
Prof. SNMWWMP Wijekoon	Professor	Stat & Computer Science

First Aid Training Programme for University Officials



On 16th May 2023, A Basic Life Support and First Aid course was successfully conducted by the Emergency Treatment Unit of the National Hospital, Kandy at the Health Centre (HC) of the University of Peradeniya. It was organized by Dr. Wathsala Jayasundara of Sirimavo Bandaranayake Specialized Children Hospital (SBSCH) in collaboration with Dr. H.M.C.L. Herath, Chief Medical Officer of the HC. Emergency physicians, emergency medicine trainees and medical officers of emergency treatment units of Kandy,

Peradeniya and Sirimavo Bandaranayake Hospitals provided their expertise. University marshals, security officers, sub wardens, and drivers participated in the course.

Golden Jubilee Celebration Marks 50 Years of Civil Engineering Society at University of Peradeniya



On June 17, 2023, the Civil Engineering Society (CES) of the University of Peradeniya celebrated its 50th anniversary with a grand ceremony. The event, held at the Prof. E.O.E. Pereira Theatre of the Faculty of Engineering, featured a full-day programme including speeches, recognition of student achievements, a seismic resilient building design challenge, and awards presentations.

Prof. M.D. Lamawansa, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, graced the event and delivered a speech highlighting opportunities and challenges for engineering graduates and industry. Dr. U.I. Dissanayake, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, and Prof. J.J. Wijetunge, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, also addressed the gathering. Prof. K.K. Wijesundara, President of the CES, delivered the welcome speech, while Prof. S.B.S. Abayakoon and Eng. N. Abeyesuriya delivered insightful keynote speeches.

Founded in 1973, the Civil Engineering Society of the University of Peradeniya is one of the oldest and largest societies in the country's university system. The society aims to create a common platform for staff, students, and industry. To achieve this goal, it organizes various activities such as industry visits, talk series, seminars, design challenges, field visits, community service, and social events. The society's unique feature is its membership comprising both academic staff and students.

The event also featured the presentation of the Prof. Nimal Seneviratne Awards for the Best Civil Engineering Undergraduate Projects in 2022. Financial support for the projects was provided by Tokyo Cement Company (Lanka) PLC. Additionally, over 50 representatives from Civil Engineering Societies of other universities, including University of Moratuwa, University of Ruhuna, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and the Open University, participated in an inter-university earthquake-resistant building model design and testing challenge.

Commencement of Sri Lanka University Games-SLUG 2023



The 2023 edition of the Sri Lanka University Games, commonly known as SLUG, commenced with Rugby matches on 08th July 2023. The first match of the SLUG was between Rajarata University and University of Jaffna. The second match was held at the Peradeniya Rugby football ground, featuring the University of Peradeniya against Uwa Wellassa University of Sri Lanka. The match kicked off at 4.15 p.m on 08th July 2023. The University of Peradeniya Rugby team emerged victorious, comprehensively winning the match with a score of 33 to 03.

Wellness Programme for the New Entrants to the Faculty of Engineering

The Physical Education Division, in collaboration with the Health Center of the University of Peradeniya, offered a Wellness Programme for the new entrants of the 2021 Batch of the Faculty of Engineering who entered the University in 2023. The main aim of the programme was to encourage the University undergraduates to engage in sports and physical activities while they are at the University, fostering a lifelong habit of involvement in sports and physical education. Further, the programme aimed to promote sports and physical education as an excellent leisure time activity.

This programme also served as an opportunity to identify the sporting talents among the new entrants and to recruit the high performers to the University sports teams. The programme was conducted at the Gymnasium of the University of Peradeniya, from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm. The Director and all the Instructors of Physical Education, the Chief Medical Officer and other Medical Officers and staff, as well as Medical Officers from outside, and the Faculty of Engineering Academic staff members supported and served as resource persons. The programme was immensely successful.

Colours Award Ceremony 2022



The Colours' Award Ceremony & the Colours' Night for the year 2022 was held in a grand manner on 17th June 2023 at 4.00 p.m. at the Gymnasium, University of Peradeniya. This prestigious annual event was organized to appreciate the best performers who excelled in Inter University, National, and International competitions.

This prestigious event was held under the distinguished patronage of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M.D. Lamawansa with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Terrence Madhujith, gracing the occasion as Guest of Honor. The Deans of the Faculties of Agriculture, Arts, Engineering, Management, Medicine and Science participated and added glamour to the occasion. Additionally, other academic and administrative staff members of the University graced the occasion with their presence. At this prestigious event 148 sportsmen were awarded colors while 58 women athletes received colors for their exceptional performance. Moreover, 118 sportsmen and 62 sportswomen were awarded half colours.