



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka NEWSLETTER

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*New Concept of Sustainable
Agro-Food Production*



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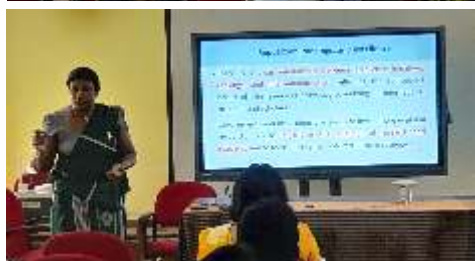
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ENACT Project

Workshops

The staff members who participated in the ENACT training project abroad, conducted several workshops successfully at the university for academic, executive, and non-academic staff.



New Coordinator for ENACT Project

Dr. Lalith Senarathna has been appointed as the coordinator of the ERASMUS+ funded ENACT (Enhancing Governance, Management and Reform in Sri Lankan Universities through Non-Academic Staff Training) project for Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Dr. Senarathna is a Senior Lecturer from the Department of Health Promotion and currently works as the Director of the Staff Development Center (SDC) of the University.



Year 2021 Top 20 Researchers of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka identified the top 20 researchers based on the research publications made in the year 2021. The main objectives of this effort are to recognize, appreciate, encourage, and honour the academic staff members of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka who have excelled in research, innovation, and scholarly works.

- 1) Prof. Suneth Agampodi
- 2) Dr. Nuwan Darshana Wickramasinghe
- 3) Dr. Neelaka Molagoda
- 4) Prof. Manjula Ranagalage
- 4) Prof. Thilini Agampodi
- 5) Dr. G.N. Duminda Guruge
- 6) Dr. Janith Warnasekara
- 7) Prof. Sisira Siribaddana
- 8) Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara
- 9) Prof. Kosala Weerakoon
- 10) Dr. Lalith Senarathne
- 10) Dr. W.H.M.S. Samarathunga
- 11) Prof. H.M.A.M.C. Herath
- 12) Dr. Gayani Amarasinghe
- 13) Prof. S.K.N. Gamage
- 14) Dr. R.P.G. Vandercone
- 14) Mr. S.P. Dissanayake
- 15) Dr. Amila Isuru
- 16) Dr. Sampath Jayaweera
- 17) Prof. N.K. Anjana Silva
- 18) Dr. Indika Senevirathna
- 18) Ms. A.J. Fernando
- 18) Prof. N.S. Abeysinghe
- 18) Prof. D.M.S.H. Dissanayaka
- 19) Dr. Ayesha Hettiarachchi
- 19) Dr. R.G.P.T. Jayasooriya
- 20) Dr. Kanishka D.B. Ukuwela



An Apiary was Established at the Rajarata University Mihintale Premises

The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has been working on beekeeping for the last decade involving teaching, research projects and extension programs to develop the sector and popularize technologies. An apiary was established at the Rajarata University Mihintale premises on 26th August 2022 to provide the technologies for a wider community with the guidance of Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, the Vice Chancellor of the university. Bee hives developed for easy observation of the colonies and behaviour of the bees inside the colony were donated by Mr. Jagath Randeniya who lives in Germany. Beekeeping practices were demonstrated by Dr. Anura Sirisena from the Faculty of Agriculture. The Registrar, Librarian, Deans, Heads of the Departments, Executive staff, Non-academic staff and students also participated in this important event of the university. As per the expectation of the present Vice Chancellor of the university, the apiary will be expanded further in the near future in order to conserve bees while popularizing beekeeping as an enterprise among the student community.



Ceremonial Launching of “Rajarata Compost”

The ceremonial launching of “Rajarata Compost”, a product of the Waste Management Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was held on 31.08.2022 at University premises, Mihinthale. With the ultimate aim of converting the RUSL into a zero-waste region and creating a cleaner and greener environment, the project disposes of environmentally friendly organic waste for generating nutrient-rich compost adding some more ingredients. The ceremony was held with the participation of the Chancellor Ven. Etalawetunawawe Gnanathilaka Thero as the Chief Guest, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka as the Guest of Honour, Senior Lawyer Mr. Sajeewa Gunarathna and provincial and district officers of North Central Province. Farmers of the Anuradhapura district also participated in the event. 'Rajarata Compost' will be available to be purchased at the Sales Outlets of the Faculty of Agriculture, Puliyankulama and the Sales Outlet near the RUSL Entrance, Mihinthale.



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Colombo Stock Exchange Collaborate through an MoU

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) through the University Business Linkage Cell on 01st of September 2022 at the Senate Hall. The MoU was signed with the objectives of recognizing and capitalizing on the activities done by each party that are of mutually beneficial included: promoting Capital Market education within the University, opening up internship opportunities for the undergraduates, and granting funds for student activities. Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University, Prof. P.M.B. Jayathilake, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies, Dr. W.H.M.S. Samarathunga, Director, University Business Linkage Cell, Mr. Niroshan Wijesundara Senior Vice President, Mr. Tharaka Amarasena, Manger, Anuradhapura Branch of CSE and the Education wing signed the MOU on behalf of the respective organizations.



The Recognition Ceremony of Top 20 Researchers of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for 2021

The recognition ceremony of the “Top 20 Researchers of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for 2021” was held on 13th September 2022 in the Auditorium, Administrative Building, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The ceremony was held with the participation of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, as the Chief Guest, the Deans of the faculties, the Librarian, the Registrar and the top 20 researchers. The main objective of the effort is to recognize, appreciate, encourage, and honour the academic staff members of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka who are excelling in research, innovation, and scholarly works. Through this event, the university expects to motivate the staff members to engage in research activities actively. Furthermore, these recognitions will create junior staff members to follow, and get involved in research activities that will uplift the university's ranking nationally and internationally.



Two Professors from the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka are among the World's top 2% of Scientists for the 2nd Consecutive Time

Two Professors from the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Prof. Suneth Agampodi and Prof. Channa Jayasumana were ranked among the world's top 2% scientists for the second consecutive time, in the Science-wide author databases of standardized citation indicators published on 10th October 2022 by Elsevier BV and Stanford University. The selection was based on the top 100,000 scientists by c-score or a percentile rank of 2% or higher in the 176 subfields. Calculations were performed using all Scopus author profiles as of 1st September 2022.



Three Alumni from the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka are among the World's top 2% of Scientists

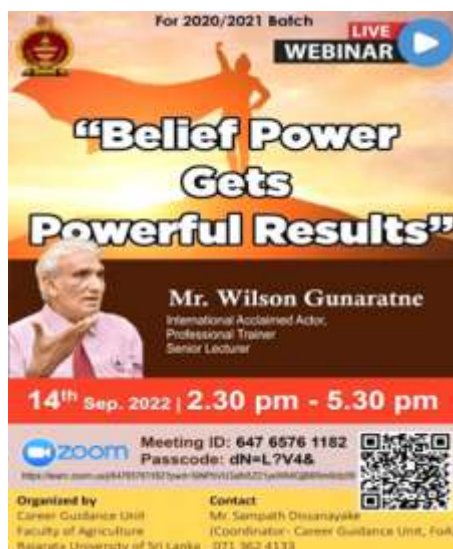
Three alumni from the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Ms. Asha J. Dissanayake, Mr. Nalin Wijayawardene, and Ms. Ruvishika S. Jayawardena, have been ranked among the world's top 2% scientists in the Science-wide author databases of standardized citation indicators published on 10th October 2022 by Elsevier BV and Stanford University. They are proud

products of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The selection was based on the top 100,000 scientists by c-score or a percentile rank of 2% or higher in the 176 subfields. Calculations were performed using all Scopus author profiles as of 1st September 2022.



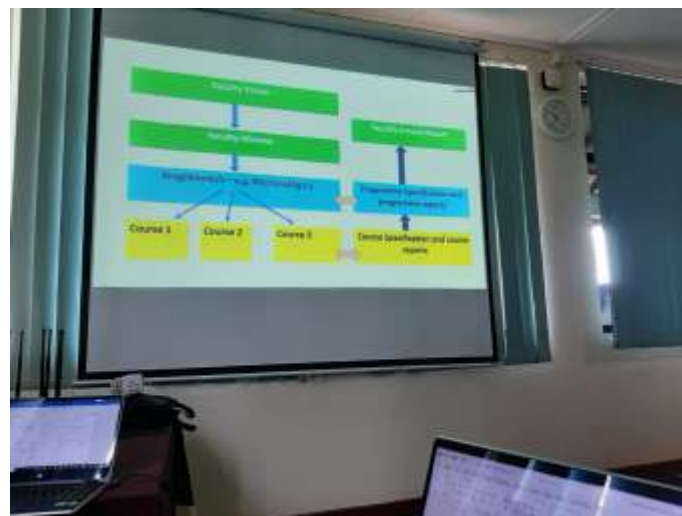
Inauguration Ceremony for New Entrants (2020/2021 Batch)

The virtual inauguration ceremony to welcome the new intake of students of the 2020/2021 batch (22nd batch of students) to the faculty was held on 16th August 2022. The following sessions were conducted by the University Business Linkage Cell and Career Guidance Unit parallel to the Orientation Program of 2020/2021 batch.



Awareness Session on Preparation of Course Specifications

An awareness session on formulating course specifications was conducted by Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe and Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena on 6th October 2022. Twenty-six academic staff members participated representing four departments and units; Animal and Food Sciences, Plant Sciences, Agricultural Systems and Agricultural Engineering and Soil Science, Computer unit and DELT.



Workshop on "Personal Wellbeing of an Undergraduate"

The Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture organized a workshop on "Personal Wellbeing of an Undergraduate" for the 2019/2020 batch on 06th October 2022 in the lecture hall 02. The workshop aimed to prevent substance use in university and to promote ethical behaviour among undergraduates. Dr. Manoj Fernando, Senior Student Counsellor, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka conducted the session.



Farmer Training Programme (NRC 20-079)

A farmer training programme was organized by the research team of NRC grant no 20-079 on 28th October 2022 at the farm premises, School of Agriculture, Puliyankulama, Anuradhapura. This programme was funded by the National Research Council. The aim of organizing this event was to disseminate knowledge and demonstrate the field practices on “Rearing village chicken in a semi-intensive system for meat purposes.” This training programme was mainly focused on poultry farmers and people who are willing to engage in the poultry sector. 25 poultry farmers from Thambuttegama, Nochchiyagama, Mihinthale and Anuradhapura areas participated in the event. In addition, 38 students from the School of Agriculture also participated in this training programme.



14th Annual Research Symposium – 2022

The Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka held its 14th Annual Research Symposium on the 9th and 10th of November 2022, themed "Agriculture for Transforming Challenges into opportunities." As the Chief Guest, the vice chancellor, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara graced the event. Researchers, executives of the university, non-academic staff, students of the faculty, sponsors, and other invited guests attended the event. The coordinator of the 14th Annual Research Symposium (Mrs.) N.W.I.A. Jayawardana, welcomed all in attendance and Dr. G.V.T.V. Weerasooriya, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, explained the significance of the day. The Vice Chancellor's remarks accorded the event even greater significance. Proceedings of the symposium were symbolically launched by the Editor-in-chief, Prof. (Mrs). W.A.D. Nayananjalie intensifying the academicism of the moment. The announcement of the Faculty's Research Excellence Awards for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021 was the most exciting moment of the event. The Research Excellence Awards went to Prof. M.H.J.P. Gunarathna, Dr. L.K.W. Wijayarathne and Dr. (Ms.) A.J. Fernando. The emeritus Prof. Kazuo Ogata, Chief advisor to the PRECIDA – University of Jaffna collaboration delivered the keynote speech on the topic “International Collaboration in Agricultural Higher Education Institutes: Lessons Learned from Experience in Japanese Universities” steering undergraduates for a better ambition. The ceremony of inauguration was wrapped up after delivering the vote of thanks by Mrs. C.A.K. Dissanayake, the secretary of the 14th Annual Research Symposium.



Training for G.C.E. Advanced Level (Agriculture) Students in Anuradhapura District

A one-day training programme was conducted on 19th December 2022 at the farm premises of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for G.C.E. Advanced level school students in Anuradhapura district. The training program was mainly focused on enhancing the students' knowledge of practical aspects of Egg quality parameters, Hay and Silage preparation, Feed concentrates, Milk quality and composition of milk. The resource persons of the session were Ms. K.M.S. Wimalasiri, Ms. V.A. Wijesekara, Ms. L.M. Ranaweera and Ms. AT. Kolamunna of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences of the Faculty of Agriculture.



Sustainable Agro-Food Production and Value Addition Model Farm, RUSL

As a concept of the Vice Chancellor Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Sustainable Agro-Food Production and Value Addition Model Farm was established to provide food and meet the nutritional needs of students, academic and non-academic staff of RUSL, and surrounding communities at a fair price while also lowering the costs associated with student food. On September 5, 2022, the "Sustainable Agro-Food Production and Value Addition Model Farm, RUSL," was officially launched in Block 03 of the Faculty of Agriculture Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Puliyankulama, Anuradhapura. Ven. Etalawetunawawe Gnanathilaka Thero, Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, and Council Members, along with Academic and Non-Academic Staff, Students, and Farmers of Bandarapuliyankulama, attended the ceremony.



Postgraduate Education and Research in Agriculture at Rajarata University Gains Momentum

The Postgraduate Programme, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully completed three successive batches of Master of Agriculture degree, and one batch of the Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development. The intakes of 2023 batches commenced in January 2023. The Master of Philosophy by Research degree has also gained momentum since last year. The faculty is expecting to commence the Doctor of Philosophy by Research degree programme this year. For more details visit <http://agri.rjt.ac.lk/pg/>



The Human Library Event 02

The 2nd 'Human Library event' was organized by the Library system, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 25th November 2022 using the Zoom platform successfully. This programme aimed to enhance the positive thoughts and attitudes of readers by accessing personal experiences of human books, creating positive thoughts and attitudes in human books, solving the problems and difficulties encountered in their personal lives by encouraging experience sharing among the readers and repeating interesting past experiences with novelty. Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka served as the resource person of this programme. Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture and Ms. Malithi Jayasooriya, Assistant Librarian, Main Library coordinated this programme.



Short Course on Dairy Product Processing

An online short course on "Dairy Product Processing" offered by the Department of Animal and Food Sciences was conducted during four Sundays starting from 17th July 2022 to 07th August 2022 with the participation of 18 participants. Knowledge on Dairy Product Processing, Value-added products, Local and International Dairy Industry, and Profit and Quality based dairy production was disseminated along with the practical sessions. Mr. W.V.V.R. Weerasinghe (Course Coordinator), Prof. A.M.J.B. Adikari, Prof. (Mrs.) W.A.D. Nayananjalie, Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala, Mrs. M.A.P.P. Kumari and Dr. H.R.M.G.C. Thilakaratne, conducted the lectures and practical sessions.



DAIRY PRODUCT PROCESSING Short Course

If you are interested to.....

- Start & develop an dairy enterprise
- Increase your business profit
- Improve product quality & safety
- Produce value added dairy products

Who can join?

- Entrepreneurs
- Government/non-government officials
- University/Diploma students
- School leavers and students qualified in GCE (O/L) with a pass in Sinhala or English
- Or anyone who is interested.

Course Content

- Identify the unit operations in dairy processing
- Causes for poor quality milk production & strategies to overcome
- Processing of value-added dairy products
- Quality & safety management of value-added dairy product processing
- Concepts & strategies for new dairy product development

Who can join?

- Entrepreneurs
- Government/non-government officials
- University/Diploma students
- School leavers and students qualified in GCE (O/L) with a pass in Sinhala or English
- Or anyone who is interested.

10% off for staff and currently enrolled students of Rajarata University

-Four Sundays
-Sinhala/English
-Fee -Rs.18,000/-

Contact: 871431831 - Academic Coordinator

Send your duly filled applications addressed to: Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Puliyankulam, Amparapura* mentioning "DP" in the left top of the envelope on or before 30th June, 2022 by registered post or E-mail to: apdf@ru.ac.lk

Short Course on Food Processing Technology

An online short course offered by the Department of Animal and Food Sciences was conducted during four Sundays from 16th October 2022 to 06th November 2022. Knowledge on dairy product processing, Fundamentals in food science, Unit operations for food processing, Preparation of food products, Designing of the manufacturing process, and Quality & safety management in food processing were the course contents. Dr. H.R.M.G.C. Thilakaratne (Course Coordinator), Dr. N.W.I.A. Jayawardana, Mrs. C.A.K. Dissanayake, Dr. D.W.M.M.M. Kumari, Mrs. M.A.A.P. Kumari, and Mr. W.V.V.R. Weerasinghe conducted the lectures and practical sessions. Prof. S.B. Nawaratne, Mr. Senerath Ekanayake, Mr. Madawa Senanayake, Mr. Kavindu Kumarapelia, and Mrs. Rasika Fernando contributed as the visiting lecturers.



DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL AND FOOD SCIENCES FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

SHORT COURSE IN FOOD PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY

Commence on 25th of September, 2022

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN,

- Starting your own food business
- Identifying the processing & preservation techniques for foods
- Managing quality and safety during and after the food processing
- Adopting GMPs to enhance profitability & customer satisfaction
- Learning how to select a suitable packaging for food product

Join us to learn **theoretical** and **practical** aspects on Food Processing Technology

WHO CAN JOIN?

- Entrepreneurs
- Government/non government officials
- University/Diploma students
- School leavers and students qualified in GCE (O/L) with a pass in Sinhala or English
- Or anyone who is interested

COURSE CONTENT

- Fundamentals in food science
- Unit operations for food processing
- Preparation of food products (Jam, Nectar, Sauce, Confectioneries, Sausage, Minimally processed foods, Dehydrated foods, Bakery Products, Yoghurt, Ice cream, Cheese etc.)
- Designing of the manufacturing process
- Quality and safety management in food processing

Duration: Four Sundays (30 hrs)
Medium: Sinhala or English
Mode of delivery: Online via Zoom
Course fee: Rs. 18,000/person

Concessional rate for staff and currently enrolled students of Rajarata University

Send your duly filled applications with payment receipt of non-refundable application processing fee (Rs. 300/-) to Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Puliyankulam, Amparapura* on or before 01st September, 2022 by Registered post or E-mail to: apdf@ru.ac.lk or apdf@ru.ac.lk in pdf format

FOR INQUIRIES: Academic Coordinator, Tel: 022-2225454, 077-9412997, apdf@ru.ac.lk

Download applications: <http://agri.rj.ac.lk/downloads.php>



Workshop on “Crafting Research Proposals and Presentations”

A workshop titled “Crafting Research Proposals and Presentations” was organized for the final year research students (2016/2017 batch) of the faculty of Agriculture by the Department of Plant Sciences using funds received from the AHEAD grant under the ELTA-ELSE. The first session of the workshop on “Crafting Research Proposals” was conducted by Dr. Nalaka Geekiyange, Senior Lecturer, Department of Plant Sciences on 20th May 2022. This session aimed to make aware the students about the components of a research proposal and how each component should effectively be developed. The second session titled “Crafting Scientific Presentations” was conducted by Dr. Dushan Kumarathunge, Senior Lecturer, Department of Agricultural Biology on 08th July 2022 to discuss preparing a scientific presentation and delivering it successfully. Ms. Malika Piyarathne at the Department of Plant Sciences coordinated this workshop.



Session on Empowering Students for a Bright Future

Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL organized a motivational talk on “Empowering the Students for a Bright Future: A Positive Psychological Approach” for the 2019/2020 batch on 4th August 2022 from 9.00 am to 11.30 am. Prof. Daya Rohana Athukorala, University of Colombo conducted the session online mode. This session was coordinated by Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala, Senior Lecturer, Department of Animal and Food Sciences.



Learning Camp for the Students in the 2019/2020 Batch

A learning camp for the students in 2019/2020 batch was held on 10th and 12th August 2022 from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm to help students to tackle challenges and develop skills for successful university life. Mr. J. Rathnayake and Mrs. A.M. Dissanayake were the resource persons of the sessions. Dr. Sumali Dissanayake, activity coordinator, activity 4, AHEAD faculty DP and Mr. Sampath Dissanayake, coordinator - CGU coordinated these sessions.



Appointment as the Chief Student Counselor

Dr. Manoj Fernando, Senior Lecturer in Health Promotion has been appointed as the Chief Student Counselor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.



Appointment as the Career Guidance Coordinator

Mrs. Parween Reyah has been appointed as the Career Guidance Coordinator, the Faculty of Applied Sciences since 2022.



Appointment as the IQAC Coordinator

Mr. Chamil Senevirathna has been appointed as the Internal Quality Assurance Coordinator, Faculty of Applied Sciences since 2022.



Workshops and Training

Dr. Manoj Fernando, Head/Senior Lecturer of the Department of Health Promotion was selected by WHO and UNFPA Sri Lanka offices to participate in the Regional workshop to strengthen the capacity on the health sector response to violence against women (VAW). This workshop was jointly organized by the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia and UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office from 18 to 21 October 2022 in New Delhi, India. The objective of this training was to strengthen expertise in the Region to build capacity in the health sector response to violence against women and girls.



Charity Shop – 2022

The charity shop is an activity conducted by the Health Promotion Society, which aims at selling essential goods for university students at low prices. The second charity shop was successfully conducted on 11th of October 2022 at the university premises.



Conferences and Symposiums

Dr. Manoj Fernando, Head/Senior Lecturer at the Department of Health Promotion was invited by World Health Organization South East Asian Regional Office (WHO SEARO) to participate in a multi-sectoral expert panel during the session “UHC, We Can” to commemorate International Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day 2022 on 12 December 2022 in New Delhi, India. This International UHC Day, WHO SEARO is celebrating “Health for All through All for Health”, highlighting the importance of the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to address current and future health challenges and deliver on the vision of UHC. Health Ministers from the countries of South Asia and the Prime Minister of Bhutan were among the high panel members of the group who engaged in the event. Dr. Poonam Khetrpal Singh, Regional Director, WHO SEA Region chaired the session.



Visit to University of Gothenburg, Sweden

The school of Public Health, Institute of Medicine, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg invited Prof. Duminda Guruge and Dr. Manoj Fernando to conduct two lectures for their Masters in Public Health students and to discuss the collaboration and renewal of the existing bilateral agreement between Rajarata University and the University of Gothenburg. They visited the University of Gothenburg, Sweden from 31st August to 13th September 2022.



Visit of Delegates from University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Prof. Monica Lynn Hunsberger, Dr. Solveig Lovestad (Program Director) and Dr. Evelina Nystrom (International Coordinator) from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden visited the Department of Health Promotion, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka from 04th to 08th November 2022 to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a teacher-student exchange scholarship program. They also met the Vice Chancellor and the Dean of the faculty. During this visit they met several community groups involved in Health Promotion activities. They also made Health Promotion undergraduates aware of the opportunities they have in Sweden.



Awarding of Grants

Department of Health Promotion along with the Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg has won a competitive grant named 'Swedish Linnaeus-Palme' worth of SLR 1.7 Million. This grant aims to support exchange programs between Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, Sweden and the Department of Health Promotion, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Under the Moon – 2022

Health Promotion Society organized the third 'Under the Moon’ entertainment event on 16th December 2022 at the Faculty of Applied Sciences.



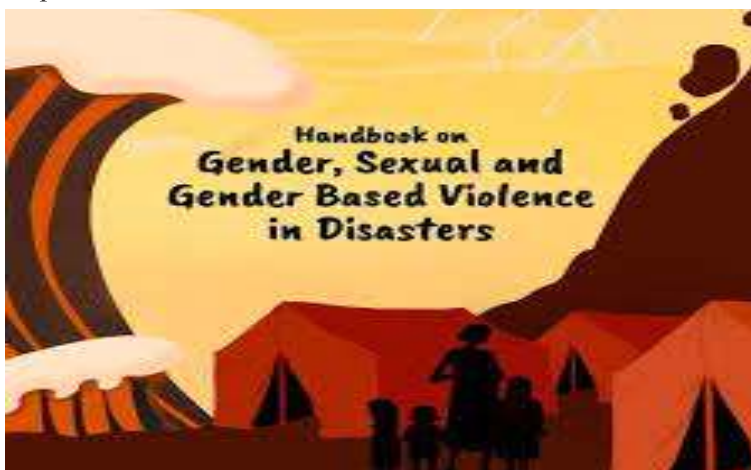
Consultancy Services on Adolescent Health Services in Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa Districts

WHO/SEARO has introduced district models to advance implementation of the adolescent health programmes and plans at the district level building the capacity of district managers to align national goals. The purpose of this programme is to support the district-level implementation of the adolescent health programme aligned with national goals. The Department of Health Promotion, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is the contract partner of this project to provide the technical support. Capacity-building training was conducted for District Multidisciplinary Technical and Advisory Groups, MOH staff, Hospital staff and youths in two districts.



Publication of a Handbook

Dr. Manoj Fernando, Head/Senior Lecturer of the Department of Health Promotion authored the handbook on Gender, Sexual and Gender-based Violence in disasters published by Disaster Management Centre of Sri Lanka and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The handbook provides practical guidance to policymakers, response staff of the Disaster Management Centre and community groups, to plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate essential actions for a gender equitable disaster response in Sri Lanka.



Second Volume of DHP e-Newsletter

Department of Health Promotion published the second volume of DHP e-Newsletter “MihinHEALTH” (<https://mihinhealth.wordpress.com/downloads/>) in 2022



Promotion as the Professor

Dr. Duminda Guruge, Senior Lecturer in Health Promotion has been promoted as Professor in Health Promotion and he is the first professor in Health Promotion.



Congratulations

Aura 2022

Accountancy and Finance Students' Association (ACFA), Department of Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Management Studies proudly presented "AURA 2022" as a remarkable day in the history of the Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Quiz Fiesta Grand Finale-First Inter Department Quiz Competition and "ජීවිත විසය" were conducted by walking along the road from intelligence to creativity in "AURA 2022."

At the Quiz Fiesta Grand Finale 2022, Department of Marketing Management, 2020 Batch became the champion of the first inter-department quiz competition. Department of Tourism & Hospitality Management - 2018 Batch became the first runner-up and Department of Business Management – 2018 was the second runner-up of the first Inter Department Quiz Competition 2022. Also, at the "ජීවිත විසය" Musical Program conducted on 20th July 2022, the academic members of the faculty of management studies created a grand hour of musical happiness in the colourful evening.



Christmas Donation Program – 2022, "They were not Supposed to Suffer but to Enjoy the Life"

The Department of Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized a donation program with an evening tea party for the mentally disabled patients in the Mental and Rehabilitation Ward at Mihintale Hospital on 27th of December, 2022 from 03.00 p.m. onwards with the participation of the academic staff and the students of the Department as a CSR activity to give them hope, happiness, courage. All witnessed their smiling faces while meeting their lovely souls with generosity.



OBT Program

The Department of Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized Out Bound Training Sessions (OBT) for the second year (2020 batch) and third year (2019 batch) undergraduates with the aim of developing team building, leadership skills and outgoing personalities. OBT session of 2019 batch was successfully held on 9th of December 2022 at the university premises with the support of Mr. Suranga Tennakoon, the Managing Director of Leadership Training and Motivational Specialist in Colombo Sri Lanka. OBT session of 2020 batch was successfully conducted on 21st of December 2022 with the collaboration of career guidance unit, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Mr. Jaliya Rathnayake and Mrs. A Mangalika Dissanayake, Career guidance counselors of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka provided their contribution to the aforementioned program.

Outbound Training



Industrial Field Visit 2022 – Academic Year 2018

The Department of Accountancy & Finance, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized an industrial visit for the 2018 academic year undergraduates as per the part of the assignment of Financial Modeling & Forecasting and to get industry exposure as knowledge sharing is very important in addition to the theoretical knowledge for professional development of the undergraduates. In order to comply with the above requirements, 122 undergraduates visited Colombo Stock Exchange, Securities & Exchange Commission, and Central bank of Sri Lanka. As a conclusion, they were able to observe the trading platform of Colombo Stock Exchange, identify the mechanism of Securities and Exchange Commission, identify the rules and regulation of stock market trading & procedure to get registered in Colombo Stock Exchange and identify the overview of current banking systems in Sri Lanka.



Promotions

Dr. YMWGPK Udurawana was promoted to Senior Lecturer Grade I with effect from 01st July 2022.



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM)

Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka signed a historical Memorandum of Understanding with the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM), the leading Professional Body in the field of Human Resource Management in Sri Lanka, marking another milestone. This ceremony was held on 21st December 2022 at the Rajarata University premises and it was graced by the presence of the Vice-Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, with the participation of Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Dean, Prof. Bandula Jayathilake, Heads of the Departments, and the students and the delegates of the CIPM, Retired Col. Mr. S. Jayawickrama - Honorary Treasurer, CIPM Executive Council, Mr. U A C Obeysekere - Chief Executive Officer, Mr. G. Weerathunge - Director - Professional & Academic Affairs, Ms. Himali Dasanayake - Director Operations and Mr. Anushka Earskin - Head of Business School. This MoU was coordinated by Ms. Sakunthala Rathnakara.



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with hSenid Business Solutions

Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with hSenid Business Solutions PLC (hSenidBiz), a leading Human Resources Solutions provider in Sri Lanka on the 03rd of March 2022 and signing of the MoU was coordinated by Ms. Sakunthala Rathnakara.



Outbound Training

The outbound Training programme consisted two phases. The first one was group activities on the ground in the morning and the second part was a meal competition among four groups. Every group had its own budget and unique ingredients to cook their meals. All groups collected their needed, goods and tools before the OBT day.

The first part was an activity on the ground. The whole 2019 batch was divided into four groups. They are Blue, Gray, Black, and Red. At the end of the first half of the day, team blue had taken the leaderboard of the competition. Every team played and worked harder to win their own team. After that, all teams came to the Sugathapala De Silva outdoor theatre to perform the rest of the challenges. After the preparation, all groups began to cook their meals: Murukku, Roti, tea and Kadala. The Dean of the faculty and Head of the department judged the meals and gave the final decision to the audience.



Field Visit to SLT Mobitel Data Center

The Department of Information Systems of Rajarata University in Sri Lanka organized a visit getting involved 42 of the department's final-year students on 23rd December 2023. The visit was coordinated by Mr. Udesh S. Senarath and Mrs. K.P.S. Bandara. The place visited was the SLT Mobitel Data Center, which is located at Dampe - Pitipana Rd. It has cutting-edge data center amenities that meet with international standards as the proud pioneer of data center services in the country. Except for the restricted regions, the students were allowed to see all other areas, including data racks, cooling systems, generator systems, security systems, operating systems, networking systems, server systems, and so on. Apart from that, information was provided on the elements to be considered while establishing a data center. The data center's technicians provided accurate and well-explained information. The field trip was concluded successfully by gaining a lot of knowledge, and the students and lecturers thanked the officials and the officer-in-charge of the station for the knowledge imparted.



Pixeleye Design Competition

Pixeleye competition is one of the main competitions that was organized by the Business Information Technology Students' Association of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This was conducted as a design competition. This year the organizing committee of Pixeleye competition decided to hold this competition by using two softwares in two categories. They were the Photoshop and Illustrator. The competitors were allowed to attempt both Photoshop category and Illustrator category according to their interest. Each category had two different tasks. The Competitor should finish their task in the relevant time. Completion mainly consisted of two rounds namely first round and the final round. For the final round there were 20 contestants.



"HR Glimmer"- The First Academic Magazine Introduction

'HR Glimmer' is the newly introduced annual magazine of the Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This magazine includes articles written by undergraduates, and opinion articles by HR professionals and industry experts. The main objective of this annual academic magazine was to enhance the writing ability of students and to expand the industrial network. Writers are warmly invited to write us an article for the first publication of the HR Glimmer. The magazine is expected to be published in March 2023. The Editor-in-chief of the magazine is Mr. W.W.A.N. Sujeeva and the Co-Editor is Ms. Rasanajlie Kularathne.



Annual Cricket Tournament

The Annual Cricket Tournament of Department of Business Management was held on 06th September 2022 at the university playground with the participation of the Students, Academic Staff and Non-academic staff.



Special Session on Personal Grooming

A special session on Personal Grooming and Table Etiquettes was conducted by Air Commodore Manoj Keppetipola on 9th December 2022 at the New Faculty Auditorium, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. All the batches of the DMM participated in the session.



OBT Program

The Out Bound Training (OBT) Program organized by the 2019 batch of the Department of Marketing Management was successfully held on the 1st of December 2022 at Camp Eleena, Wilpattu.

The undergraduates were able to participate in different types of activities which helped to sharpen their skills and competencies.



Highlights from the Department of Marketing Management

The Department of Marketing Management was privileged to win the first runner up award in Imminent Marketer Competition organized by the Faculty of Management and Commerce, Sri Jayewardenepura University in April, 2022. The main objective of this competition is to test the undergraduates' both the practical & theoretical knowledge with regard to the real world scenarios.



Smart Start

“New students brings vernal springs to the university.” With the purpose of welcoming the 2021 batch to the DMM family, Smart Start program was organized by all the existing students of the department and the priority contribution was given by the 2020 batch. This program was held on 10th of July 2022, via zoom platform and it has enriched with many entertainment events.



PLEGMA

PLEGMA, the official welcoming ceremony of 2021 batch to the DMM family was successfully held recently. Senior students warmly welcomed its fourth hand (2021 batch) to the department and the students were able to engage in different entertainment activities. The event was graced by Prof. PMB Jayathilaka, the Dean of the Faculty and all academic staff of the Department of Marketing Management.



MOU Signing Ceremony

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Adventa Holdings (Pvt) Ltd on 3rd of November 2022 at the Vice Chancellor's Office of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. With this MoU, Adventa Holdings (Pvt) Ltd will guide and collaboratively work with the undergraduates who are following Bachelor of Science Honours in Marketing Management Degree under the Department of Marketing Management and this partnership will enable the undergraduates to mould themselves as industry-oriented graduates.



Guest Lecture on "Sales Management"

A guest lecture on "Sales Management" was organized by the Department of Marketing Management on 20th December 2022. Mr. Roshan Pieris, General Manager, Business Development, Softlogic Life contributed his valuable service as the resource person for the session.



The 1st International Research Symposium on Management (IRSM 2022)

The Faculty of Management Studies successfully held the 1st International Research Symposium on Management 2022 (IRSM 2022) as a gateway to wake up the vision of the faculty: 'Being a Centre of Excellence in Management Education' to leave its footprint globally. The Symposium Chair, Two Co-Chairs and Two secretaries of IRSM included Prof. Bandula Jayathilake, Dr. Sandya Jayasena, Dr. Manoj Smaarthunga, Ms. K.G.P. Senani and Ms. Edina Willigas respectively. This symposium was conducted using hybrid mode, the inauguration ceremony was held at the senate auditorium on 06th October 2022, compered by Ms. Rasanjalie Kularathne and technical sessions were conducted online.

The pre-conference webinars were hosted by Professor Luis Martinez (University of Jain, Spain), Professor Dimitrios Buhalis (Bournemouth University, UK), Dr. Jamais Cascio (University of California), and Professor Roshan Ajward (University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka). Academic partners included Breda University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands; Sichuan University, China; Ajeenkya DY Patil University India; Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing; Emerald Publishing; Universidad Católica del Norte, Chile; and Macau University of Science and Technology. Further, IRSM 2022 joined with several publishing partners including Tourism Review; International Journal of Tourism Anthropology; Rajarata University Journal; Journal of Management Matters; and Online Journal of Social Innovation Studies.



නැණ කිරුළ - 2022

The second-year undergraduates of the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized a mathematics seminar for the student of grade 9, 10 and 11 of the A/Kahapathvilagama Vidyalaya under the supervision of senior lecturer Dr. WHMS Samarathunga and lecturer (Temp) Ms. A.M.D.D Jayasri.

Head of the department, Senior Lecturer Mrs. K.T.N.P Abeywickrama and Mr. DMCJ Dissanayake, the principal of the school participated in this event as chief guests. The mathematical seminar was conducted by Mr. B.H. Lakshan Pradeep Kumara, an undergraduate of the faculty. In parallel to this event, a tree plantation program was also conducted at the school premises. Further more than 300 academic-related and nonacademic-related books were donated to the school library.



Academic Partner with 9th International Conference on Hospitality and Tourism Management 2022

The Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka partnered with 9th International Conference on Hospitality and Tourism Management 2022 (ICOHT 2022), organized by International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM). The conference was successfully held on 27th and 28th October 2022.

Mrs. K.T.N.P Abeywickrama, Head of the Department, Tourism and Hospitality Management initiated the collaboration with the conference and overlooked the overall process. All the members of the department gave their valuable contribution as the academic partner of the conference. At the inauguration ceremony, the welcome speech of the conference was delivered by Prof. P.M.B Jayathilake, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Furthermore, Dr. W.H.M.S Samarathunga, Senior Lecturer, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management delivered a plenary speech on "Advancement of Tourism Knowledge through Grounded Theory" and chaired the session on "Innovation and Sustainability. Mrs. E.W Biyiri was the coordinator of RUSL and four students of the department, namely Mr. W.D.U.S Warshamana -2018/THM/048, Ms. R.K.K Shanika -THM/2019/036, Mr. H.A.I.S Perea - THM/2019/025 and Mr. D.D.A Madhushan- THM/2019/019 contributed as volunteers for the conference.



Workshop on Familiarizing with the Travel Agency Operations

A workshop on "Travel Agency Operations," organized by the Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was successfully conducted on 5th of August 2022 at the management faculty auditorium with the resource contribution of Mr. Kosala Kuruppu, General Manager, Jetwing Journeys Pvt. LTD.

Mr. Kuruppu, a graduate of the same university, shared his expertise and experience gathered over his career. This workshop was coordinated by Miss. Danoja Jayasiri, lecturer (temp), the 2nd year PSD coordinator of the department and moderated by Miss. P.B.M.N. Umay and C.S. Thennakoon.



'EduTrack' 2022 - Corporate Social Responsibility Projects

These projects were completed under the main project: 'Protect NCP'.

Project 01 - Counseling Programme for School Teachers

Counseling Programme for School teachers in the Anuradhapura district was held on 15th March 2022, at Faculty of Management Studies, RUSL as a collaborative program with the Edu Track CSR project and Director Education, Anuradhapura Zone. The Aim of the event was to facilitate teachers to become SMART counsellors. Resource persons who contributed for success of the event were;



Dr Kiloshini Hendavitharana, Medical officer, Anuradhapura Hospital and Prof. Banadara, Coordinator Education Science Unit, Director, PGDipE Program, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, RUSL. This event was coordinated by Mrs. KTNP Abewickrama, Senior Lecturer under the guidance of EduTrack project coordinator, Senior Lecturer, Mrs. MGS Pathmini.

Project 02 - Nuwanes Abeses- 2022

Under the Nuwanes Abeses, there was an Academic Counseling Programme for O/L School students in the Anuradhapura District. This event was conducted during the period of Corona Pandemic via zoom platform on 28th July 2022. The aim of the event was to facilitate the students to find their real educational targets. The resource persons contributed were Senior Academics in different Faculties of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka namely; Prof. KGA Udaya Kumara from Commerce stream, Dr.(Mrs) Harshani Wijewardhana from Mathamatics stream, Dr (Mrs.) Nilamani Yapa from Biological sciences

stream, Dr. Chaiminda Egodawaththa from Agriculture stream, Dr. Buddhika Hettiarchchi from Art stream, Dr. Pubudu Kumaraage, and Dr. Neelaka Molagoda, from Technology stream.



This event was coordinated by Dr. (Mrs.) .JK Mallika, Senior Lecturer under the guidance of EduTrack project coordinator, Senior Lecturer, Mrs. MGS Pathmini.

Project 03 - Sith Saviya 2022

Edu Track CSR project successfully conducted a Book donation with the smart reading facility to a selected school library in NCP. This event was conducted on 14th October 2022, at A/Kedeewa Kallanchiya Maha Vidyalaya, Kallanchiya, Mihintale. Required textbooks were donated for 170 primary school children with the donation of academic staff, nonacademic staff, RUSL and outside donors. This event was coordinated by Dr. (Mrs.) JS Kumari, Senior Lecturer under the guidance of EduTrack project coordinator, Senior Lecturer, Mrs. MGS Pathmini.



Project 04 - Haritha Sanhinda 2022

Haritha Sanhinda is a program for inculcating positive environmental attitudes among school children in the Anuradhapura District. The aim of the event was to inspire the school students on the green concept using the awareness and facilitating programme on the concept “Zero Trash” at A/Ukkulankulama Maha Vidyalaya, on 5th October 2022 as a collaborative program of the CB program, Department of Marketing Management. The resource person for awareness on “zero trash” concept was Dr.(Mrs.) MMSA. Marasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, RUSL. The event was coordinated by Dr. HMBP Ranaweera, Senior Lecturer under the guidance of EduTrack project coordinator, Senior Lecturer, Mrs. MGS Pathmini



Project 05 – Healthy Me 2022

Edu Track CSR project successfully conducted a seminar series for school students on the “Prevention of substance use and encouraging healthy behaviour” among school children in Anuradhapura District. This event was conducted on 3rd November 2022, at A/Rambewa Maha Vidyalaya, Mihintale with the support of the school principle and the staff. The resource persons who contributed were; Dr. Manoj Fernando, HOD, Dept of Health Promotion, Faculty of Applied Sciences, RUSL, Dr Kiloshini Hendavitharana, Medical officer, Anuradharapura Hospital and Mr. MR Gunasekera, OIC, Mihintale Police station. This event was coordinated by Mrs. KTNP Abewickrama, Senior Lecturer Under the guidance of EduTrack project coordinator, Senior Lecturer, Mrs. MGS Pathmini.



Out-Bound Training for the Academic Staff Members

The Faculty of Management Studies conducted a two-day outbound training for academic staff members on 17th November 2022 at China Bay Air Force Camp in Trincomalee. This event consisted of several games, group activities, exercises, hiking activities and beach games. It was absolutely an energized and enjoyable event.



16th Anniversary - 16 Years of Excellence!

To mark the 16th anniversary of our Alma Mater, the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, a fascinating celebration took place on 11th September 2022 at the faculty premises, along with chanting of pirith. The occasion was marked with much elegance and delight, by days of hard work by the students with decorations of the pirith ceremony and with other organizational activities. The arrival of honorable reverend sirs to the almsgiving organized at the faculty added more colour and significance to the event and their blessings to the staff and the students were well worth.



New dean of FMAS

Dr. Janaka Pushpakumara has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. He is one of the initial academics who joined the faculty and contributed immensely to the institution's development. Dr. Pushpakumara is an academic in the primary care field with a special interest in mental health, medical and research ethics and psycho-social skill development. He also has 13 years of clinical experience in rural area of Sri Lanka and 14-year experience as an administrator in a low-resourced higher-educational setting. Dr. Pushpakumara is the national coordinator of the Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review (SIDCER) -and the Forum for Ethical Review Committees in the Asian and Western Pacific Region (FERCAP). His vast experience will help uplift the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences standards in the future.



Cricket Blasters 2022

“Cricket Blasters” which is an annual cricket tournament organized by the medical students' union, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was held successfully in 2022. The 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th batches participated in it and among these 8 batches, the 7th batch won the trophy of Cricket Blasters 2022. The 16th batch was the runner-up.



Jeewaka Yathra 2022

'Jeewaka Yathra' is a social welfare health campaign organized by the medical students' union, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This year, it was held successfully for the 10th time at the sacred premises of great stupa "Ruwanwaliseya". Jeewaka Yathra served thousands of people who visited the stupa during the poson poya days. Also, numerous people who visited the campaign deliberately benefited as all the services including essential medicine were provided exclusively free of charge. Consultant doctors, medical officers, and medical students from all the batches provided their utmost collaboration to serve the devotees.



"ADESTE FIDELES" - Stay faithful

The amazing carol session, "ADESTE FIDELES" organized by the medical students' union of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences was held on 18th of December 2022 at the faculty premises. Academic staff and the students of all the batches attended the occasion. Not only carols, but also there were lots of funny events, including a drama. A big Christmas tree and hall decorations added more beauty to the occasion. It was a marvellous moment for all the students and the staff.



Can you hear our waves of laughter?

Once a month, students get together in the faculty canteen to watch a movie. The movie for December was 'A man from Toronto'. The category of the movie was decided by voting. The highest number of votes were for the Comedy movies. As the category implies, the movie was super funny. Before the movie started, some students sold some snacks. The movie was displayed on a screen by a projector. Students were supposed to get a ticket to watch the movie. Many students joined to watch the movie and enjoyed it well.



"DARMA PRADEEPA"-Monthly Darma Deshana

Medical Students' Union of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences organizes a darma deshana programme monthly for maintaining students' mental health. All the students actively participated in this event and the place where the darma deshana was held, was decorated with flowers.



DoCM PG Trainees Claim Two out of Five Awards in the CCPSL Session.

Annual Academic Sessions of the College of Community Physicians, Sri Lanka, is the premier public health conference in Sri Lanka. This year, the best poster presentation (Harsara Nuwangi) and the best oral presentation for epidemiology and communicable disease (Sonali Gunasekara) were awarded to the DoCM PG trainees working on Leishmaniasis. Hasara's presentation was on "Fear associated with cutaneous leishmaniasis", while Sonali's presentation was on "Drivers of and barriers of CL associated health seeking". Both papers were from the ECLIPSE project and were qualitative in nature. Last year, Hasara won two awards in CCPSL sessions, including the best paper for the entire congress. DoCM continues to receive annual awards from this premier conference. In 2020, the best poster, best oral and two other awards were bagged by Dr. Nuwan Wickramasinghe, with Dr. Janith Warnasekara winning an award for the best presentation in one session.



Quiz on Drugs and Bugs!

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences won the third place in the quiz competition which had been organized by Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists. Miss. Hashini Rathmalana, Miss Rebecca Cooray, Miss. Aisha Suhab, Mr. Chulaka Maduwantha and Miss. Malshi Nayanathara performed greatly in the competition. Due to their great performances, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences could get the third place among all other ten faculties. It was an online quiz competition. Dr. Sampath Jayaweera, Dr. Dinesha Jayasundara and Dr. Nilukshi De Silva have guided the competitors. They have been great supporters of this success.

DJ to Chase away the Stress

Students of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, organized a DJ night on 23rd December 2022. It was held at the faculty canteen. A DJ team supplied music and lights. Many students from all batches who are still studying at the faculty joined to turn the dancing floor upside down. The DJ night was a stress-releasing event for everyone and all the participants enjoyed it well.

Quiz on Drugs And Bugs
Organized by Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists

CONGRATULATIONS!

3rd Place - Rajarata

Hashini Rathmaldoowa, Rebecca Cooray, Aisha Suhali, Chulaka Meduwantha, Malshi Nayanathara

Thank you sir & madam for your guidance .

Dr. Sampath Jayaweera (Head, Senior Lecturer & Specialist in Clinical Microbiology), Dr. Dinesha Jayasundara (Senior Lecturer), Dr. Nilukshi De Silva (Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura)

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



“Pile Padura” 2022

“Pile padura”, organized by the medical students' union, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, is a musical programme and a great platform to provide opportunities to improve the talents of the students. This programme was held successfully on 8th of March, 2022 at the Para-Clinical building of the faculty. Students and lecturers of the faculty participated in this musical evening.



CVCD Excellence Award 2020 for the Most Outstanding Young Researcher in the Fields of Medicine

Prof. N. K. Anjana Silva of the Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences won the CVCD Excellence Award 2020 for the Most Outstanding Young Researcher in the Fields of Medicine, Dental, Veterinary and Health Sciences. CVCD Excellence Awards are the highest research Awards awarded in the Sri Lankan University System and are awarded once in two years. The Awards Ceremony for the year 2020 was held at the BMICH Colombo on 2nd September 2022.



Dr. Janith Warnasekara Completes His PhD



Dr. Warnasekara a proud product of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has become the first FMAS graduate to become an HoD in any academic setting. After his MBBS, he obtained his Master in Public Health from EUCLID University. In addition, he has completed his MSc in Statistics from the University of Peradeniya in which field he is best known among his colleagues. Dr. Warnasekara is a prolific scholar with 17 PubMed indexed publications within his 6 years of academic carrier.



Pre-Interns Team Activity

A major pillar of success behind most of the activities of DoCM is having an energetic team of pre-interns in the department. Another such team is leaving us by keeping priceless real public health memories during their short stay in the department. DoCM wishes all the success in their future endeavours.



Validation of whole blood clotting test (WBCT) to detect venom

The research presentation titled “Validation of whole blood clotting test (WBCT) to detect venom-induced consumption coagulopathy (VICC) in snake envenoming” by Dr. Supun Wedasingha, Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences won two awards at the recently-concluded 135th Anniversary International Medical Congress of Sri Lanka Medical Association. The research study won the Sir Nicholas Attygalle Award for the best paper and the Kumaradasa Rajasuriya Award - for the best paper in Tropical Medicine.



Promotion to Senior Professor of Community Medicine

Heartiest congratulations to our founder Professor and Chair Professor Suneth Buddhika Agampodi, on his new promotion to Senior Professor of Community Medicine. Senior Professor Suneth Agampodi joined the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, in 2009 as a probationary lecturer, confirmed and became a senior lecturer in 2012. He was promoted as a merit professor in 2014 and to the position of Chair Professor in 2018. He obtained his MBBS from the University of Peradeniya in 2001 followed by MSc (PGIM, Colombo), MD (PGIM, Colombo) and MPH (Massey University, New Zealand).

He was listed among the world's top 2% scientists in 2021 and his research interests include maternal and child health, infectious diseases, molecular epidemiology, health system research, population health and implementation research. He is a visiting research scientist at Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, Yale University, an executive committee member of International Leptospirosis Society and he is the former Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. We would like to wish him all the very best to continue his esteemed work as a world-renowned scientist.

Congratulations!

Heartiest congratulations to our founder Professor and chair Professor Suneth Buddhika Agampodi sir, on his new promotion to Senior Professor of Community Medicine.



Senior Professor Suneth Buddhika Agampodi is the founder Professor and chair of the Department of Community Medicine. He joined the faculty in 2009, became a Senior Lecturer in 2012 and appointed to the position of Professor in 2014.

He was listed among the world's top 2% scientists in 2021 and he is a visiting research scientist at Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, Yale University, an executive committee member of international leptospirosis society and he is the current Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

We would like to wish him all the very best to continue his esteemed work as a world-renowned scientist and as the Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Appointment of the New Head of the Department of Environmental Management

Prof. Manjula Ranagalage has been appointed as the new head of the Department of Environmental Management with effect from 18th July 2022.



Archaeological Field Training for Undergraduates at the Wayamba Ela (Archaeological Impact Assessment) Project, Kurunegala District

The Archaeological fieldwork of the Wayamba Ela (Archaeological Impact Assessment) Project in the Kurunegala district was conducted by the Department of Archaeology, Sri Lanka. The first stage of the Archaeological training program of that premises was conducted from 15th August 2022, based on the old lake called Maha Kithula. The BA (Honours) degree undergraduates (2017/2018 Batch) in the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management took part in the program in order to fulfill the practical requirement for “ARCH 21022 – Theory and Methods in Archaeology” and “ARHM 41043 Field School” courses.



Promotions



Mrs. M.M.S.A Marasinghe of the Department of Environmental Management has been promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr. I.



Mr. L.M.A.P. Gunawardhana of the Department of Environmental Management has been promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr. I.



Mrs. A.M.P. Adikari of the Department of Economics has been promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr. I.



Mrs. Deepika Gamage of the Department of Social Sciences has been promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr. II.

Completion of PhD



Dr. W.M.T.B. Wijepala, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, completed his Ph.D. study program at the Department of Earth Science, Interdisciplinary Faculty of Science and Engineering, Shimane University of Japan, in September 2022. In 2019 he enrolled in his academic program and worked with theoretical concepts and scientific laboratories for gaining multidisciplinary knowledge in Archaeology, Geology, Metallurgy, and Geochemistry. “Early Iron Production in Sri Lanka: An Archaeological and Geochemical Approach to the Yodhawewa Metallurgical Settlement” was his topic of the doctoral thesis.

Artefacts Conservation Workshop at the Sigiriya Museum for Undergraduates

The Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka maintains good collaborations for knowledge sharing with the Sigiriya Museum, controlled by the Central Cultural Fund Sri Lanka. The second-year and fourth-year (Honours) undergraduates joined museum objects (artefacts) conservation workshop on 23rd and 24th August 2022, at Senaka Bandaranayake Field School of Sigiriya Museum.

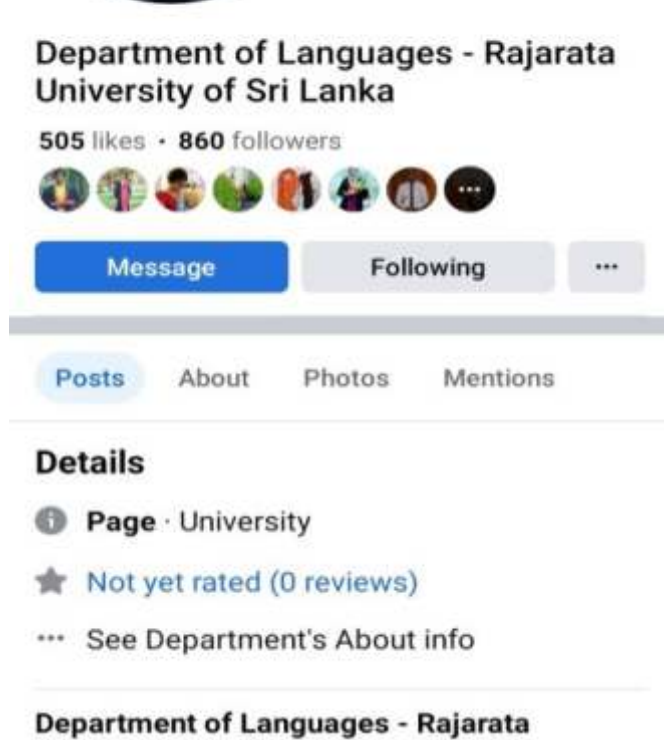


On-going Department Research on Feasibility Study on the Implementation of Hybrid Learning for the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Due to the immense spread of the COVID-19 virus, many educational institutions adopted blended learning method to limit the disruption of education. Nevertheless, switching from traditional classroom and face-to face instructor training to computer-based training in a virtual classroom makes the learning experience entirely different for students. Therefore, to overcome the difficulties encountered by teachers and students during this online teaching method, the Department started to conduct a feasibility study on the implementation of hybrid learning for the faculty to facilitate the learning and teaching process.

The Department Facebook page and You tube Channel – Department of Language

The Department of Languages initiated the Department's Facebook page and You tube Channel under the guidance of the Head of the Department in order to socialize the events organized by the Department. Currently, the total number of followers of both pages is being increased and all the updated events and official news of the Department will be uploaded by the lecturer-in-charge for both pages.



Workshops, Training Programs and Webinars Conducted by the Department of Environmental Management

2022 ව්‍යවස්ථිත 13 දිනට වැඩි අති ආපදා අවදානම් අර්ථ පිරිසිදු කළා පු පාඨමාලාව

'ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ආපදා අවදානම් අවම කිරීමේ යාන්ත්‍රණය සහ ජාත්‍යන්තර දිශානතිය'

2022 ව්‍යවස්ථිත 26 / 27 වන දින මෙහි 10.00 - මෙහි 12.00 දක්වා

Meeting ID : 634 1717 2279
Passcode : 6 048853

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JOIN US FOR THE WEBINAR ON "ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN HEALTH"

Thursday 25th August 2022
89.00 AM Onwards

Available Link:
Zoom Meeting
Department of Environmental Management
Faculty of Social Sciences
Sri Lanka University of Kelaniya

Meeting ID : 437 0008 2033
Passcode : 61220170F

TWO DAYS MORE!

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- PROF. TWM TILAK BANDARA**
Department of Zoology
Faculty of Arts
University of Peradeniya
- PROF. SAMPATH TENNAKOON**
The Head
Department of Community Medicine
Faculty of Medicine
University of Kelaniya
- DR. JMSB JAYASUNDARA**
Department of Environmental Management
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University

MODERATED BY:
MS. TRIMALISE NANAYAKKARA
Department of Environmental Management
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
SRI LANKA UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA

Webinar Series 2

පුළුල්ව පරිසරයේ සෞඛ්‍යය
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2022.02.02 සවස 2.00 ට

Meeting ID: 667 1369 0170
Passcode: DoEM@2022

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Parliamentary Internship Program for Students of the Department of Social Sciences

An internship program for students of the Department of Social Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka at the Parliament of Sri Lanka, which NDI is supporting through internal placements of up to six months at the Parliament was introduced for 2023. Ms. Yashoda Thennakoon, Ms. K.M.P.C. Dewthilini, Ms. A.M.S.K. Abeysinghe and Ms. Prasadhi Nimasha were selected for the internship programme through an interview held on 14th November 2022. National Democratic Institute (NDI) conducts the Inclusive Participatory Processes Project (IPP): Parliamentary Internship Program with the collaboration of the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES).

Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series

Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series - No 02

වර්තමාන අර්බුදයේ අවස්ථා සහ අභියෝග

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Meeting ID: 686 8403 6457
Passcode: FoSSH@2022

2022 අගෝස්තු මස 23 දින පෙරවරු
10.00 සිට 12.00 දක්වා

Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series - No 01

වර්තමාන අර්බුදයේ අවස්ථා සහ අභියෝග

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Meeting ID: 690 4252 0081
Passcode: 0X%AnBkj

2022 අගෝස්තු මස 08 දින පෙරවරු
10.00 සිට 12.00 දක්වා

Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series - No 04

වර්තමාන අර්බුදයේ අවස්ථා සහ අභියෝග

සාමාජිකයන් සඳහා විශේෂ අවස්ථාවක් සැලසීමක් කෙරෙනු ලබයි.

Meeting ID: 686 8403 6457
Passcode: FoSSH@2022

2022 ඔක්තෝබර් මස 19 දින පෙරවරු
10.00 සිට 12.00 දක්වා

Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series - No 03

වර්තමාන අර්බුදයේ අවස්ථා සහ අභියෝග

සාමාජිකයන් සඳහා විශේෂ අවස්ථාවක් සැලසීමක් කෙරෙනු ලබයි.

Meeting ID: 686 8403 6457
Passcode: FoSSH@2022

2022 සැප්තැම්බර් මස 28 දින පෙරවරු
10.00 සිට 12.00 දක්වා

Fourth Workshop of the BIU on “How to Identify Business Opportunities in the Market?”

The fourth workshop of BIU on "Current economic crisis of SL and future of graduates- how to start a business after graduation" was conducted successfully. 67 students attended and resource persons were Prof. R.P.I.R. Prasanna, Mr. Shiran Karunarathne, Mr. H.A.B.W. Hettiarachchi, Prof. S.W.G.K. Bulankulama, and Dr. Manoj Samarathunga.



Fifth Workshop on “Current Economic Crisis of SL and Future of Graduates”

The fifth workshop of BIU on "Current economic crisis of SL and future of graduates - how to start a business after the graduation" was conducted successfully. 67 students attended- resource persons were Prof. R.P.I.R. Prasanna, Mr. Shiran Karunarathne, Mr. H.A.B.W. Hettiarachchi, Prof. S.W.G.K. Bulankulama, and Dr. Manoj Samarathunga.



Field Training at Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre and Habarana Area for Second-Year Students in BA Hons Degree Programme

Field Training at Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre and Habarana area was successfully conducted by the Department of Economics with the participation of academic staff members of the department and the second-year students in the BA Hons Degree programme in Economics.



English Language Laboratory

The English Language Laboratory of the Department of English Language Teaching assists students of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities in improving the four skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - through the use of modern techniques in an engaging and challenging learning process. The AHEAD Program has provided the English Language Laboratory with high-quality modern equipment, including 35 Desktop Computers, one smartboard, Headphones and new furniture.



Staff Training Programme

Under Activity 03 of AHEAD Project, four workshops were conducted on Teaching Reading, Teaching writing, Curriculum Enriching and Testing. The workshops were conducted by Mr. Mohan Samaranyake, Senior Lecturer, Department of English Language Teaching, Wayamba University and Mr. Sarath Ananda, Senior Lecturer, Department of English Language Teaching, Sri Jayawardhanapura University. Senior and junior members of the Department of English Language Teaching gained much from the above workshops.



Art Competition to Commemorate the World Ozone Day

The Sarasavi Nature Club of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully conducted an Art Competition under the theme “Save Ozone - Save Earth” to commemorate World Ozone Day 2022. It was conducted under the two age categories as age groups between 08 - 17 and above 17. Nearly 60 artworks were received and the best artworks were selected under the two categories.

Winners of “Age 8-17” category



Winners of “Age above 17” category



CSR Projects / Seminars

Professor Ajith Talwatta Commemorates Sanghamitta Maha Rahat Theraniya's Arrival in Ceylon at "Sanghamittabhivandana" Workshop

Professor Ajith Talwatta delivered a captivating talk at the "Sanghamittabhivandana" workshop held on 10th December 2022. The event, held to honour the 2330th anniversary of Sanghamitta Maha Rahat Theraniya's arrival in Ceylon, showcased the professor's profound insights into her contributions to Buddhism and her enduring legacy in Sri Lanka's spiritual fabric.

Workshops, webinars and programmes done by the academic staff members of the Department of Economics

- Research & Publication Committee Special Webinar Series: "වර්තමාන අර්බුදයේ අවස්ථා හා අභියෝග" by Prof. RPIR Prasanna, Prof. SWGK Bulankulama, Prof. SKN Gamage, Mr. HABW Hettiarachchi.
- Academic workshop for international students 2021 at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China by Mrs. AMPAdhikari.

Workshops, Motivational lectures and webinars done by Mr. HGKN Bandara, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics

- Motivation lecture at Ipalogama Army Training School for new officials on 21st October 2022.
- Workshop for school teachers of Vijitha Maha Vidyalaya Polonnaruwa on 24th October 2022.
- Guest lecture on Current Economic Crisis of Sri Lanka at Ipalogama Army Training School on 15th October 2022.
- Workshop at Gomarankadawala School, Trincomalee District on 14th October 2022.
- Workshop on Prevention of Drug Addiction and Positive Attitudes at Makulewa school, organised by Hurigaswewa Police Station on 5th September 2022.
- Workshop on 'Personal Development and Positive Thinking' for teachers of Swarnapali National School, Anuradhapura on 16th June 2022.
- Workshop for Assistant Lecturers of Faculty of SSH of Rajarata University.
- Workshops for Non-Academic Staff (MA & TO) of RUSL at SDC, RUSL.

Webinars conducted by Ms. JMG Lalani, Lecturer, Department of Economics

- Resource person for "Webinar series" conducted by the School of the Life Sciences, Keele University, United Kingdom.
- Talk at the British Society for Parasitology Autumn Symposium 2022, Keele University, United Kingdom.

Webinars and workshops conducted by Mr. HABW Hettiarachchi, Lecturer, Department of Economics

- Seminar and Motivational lecture on Economics at Royal International School- Kurunegala.
- Seminar on positive attitudes for students at Kumbukgahamulla Central College.
- Workshops for G.C.E (A/L) Students at Ibbagamuwa National School and Galenbindunuwewa Central College.

Workshops, webinars and programmes done by the academic staff members of the Department of Humanities

'Hitha Newathuna Thena' Radio Programme in Wayamba Radio on 25th November in 2022 by Dr. Nandana Millagala

- Kannangara Commemoration Lecture at Ministry of Education, Colombo on 4th October 2022 by Prof. BMS. Bandara
- Keynote Speech at Wariyapola Sri Sumangala Vidyalaya student leader official insignia ceremony on 26th August 2022 by Dr. WKD. Keerthirathne

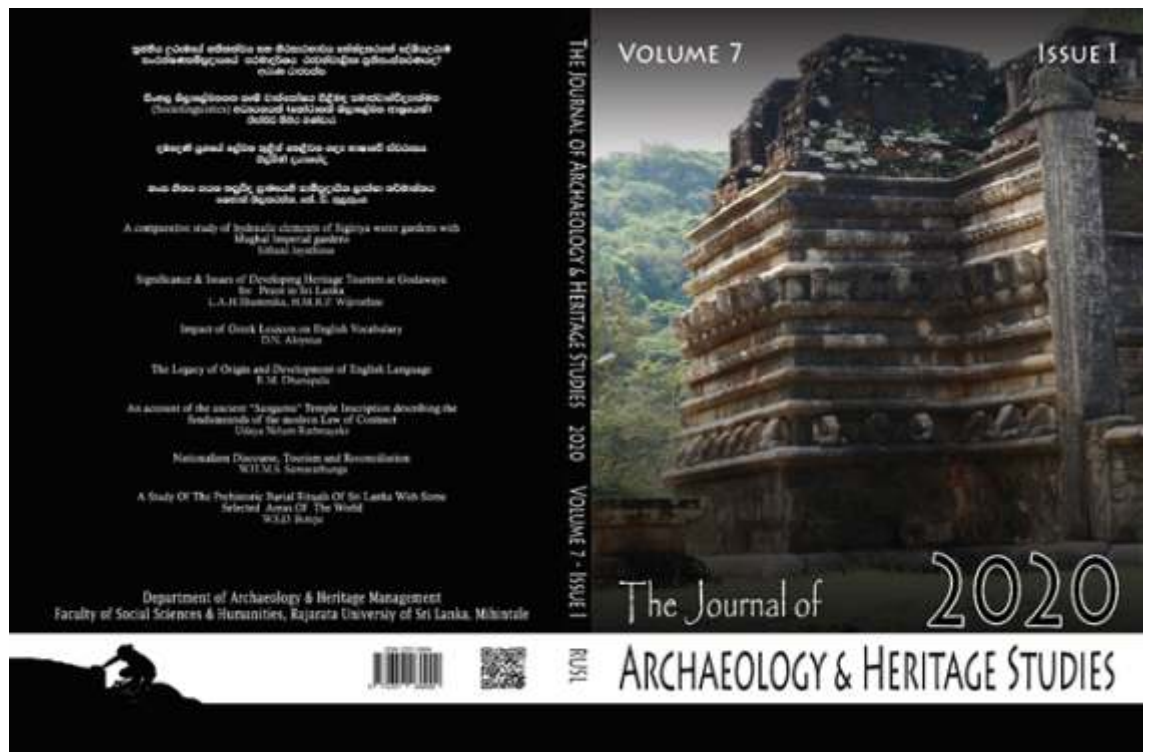
Workshops and programmes done by Mr. HGC. Sampath, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Humanities

- Teachers' attitudes development programme at Mahamankadawala Maha Vidyalaya, Katukaliawa Maha Vidyalaya on 17th September 2022.
- World Children's Day Commemorative Lecture at Mudunegama Maha Vidyalaya, Talawa on 1st October 2022.
- Capacity development programme for parents and school development society officers at Katukaliawa Maha Vidyalaya on 23rd October 2022.



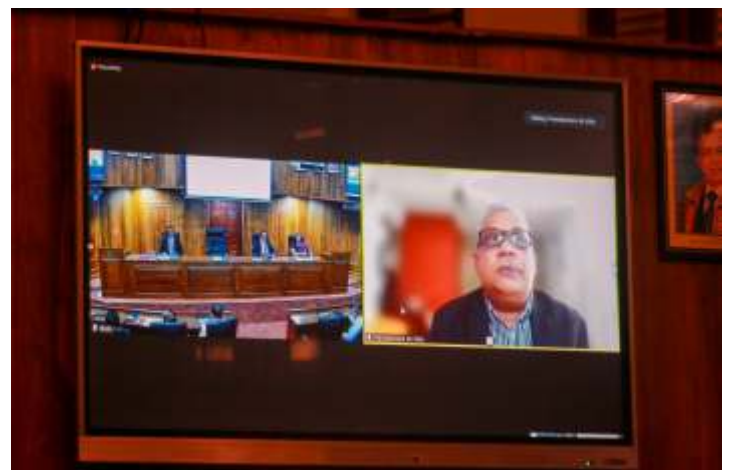
Department Journal - JAHS

THE JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE STUDIES - VOL 7, ISSUE I is planned to be published by the Department of Archaeology and Heritage Management, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, as an e-journal in December 2022. This issue consists of 8 articles on a wide range of topics, including Archaeology, History, and Heritage Studies, which have been composed by scholars with expert knowledge of the relevant fields.



1st National Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (NRSSSH 2022)

The 1st National Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (NRSSSH-2022), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was held on 29th November 2022. The presentation of a "Study of Human Right Conception in Ancient Sri Lanka" added glamour to the symposium.



Symposium - NRSDDS 2023

The very first National Research Symposium - Department of Social Sciences 2023 was held on the 25th January 2023 organized by Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka under the theme “Exploring the Challenges in Human Values for Sustainable Society.”



Local and International Symposia

The Second Environmental Management Undergraduate Research Symposium (EMURS-RUSL) was successfully held on 25th November 2022 with the participation of the Vice Chancellor, Dean of the Faculty, Academic and Nonacademic members, and students. Dr. Sisira Withanachchi gave the keynote speech.



Research – Department of Social Sciences

Department of Social Sciences conducted a research on “The study on nature of substance abuse in Sri Lanka” and received a Grant from Research and Publication Committee, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The key assumptions and findings which the researchers would like to accomplish through this research will be significant for the policy making process pertaining to control and prevention of substance abuse in selected contexts considering the environmental and geographical factors and specific features existing in the particular areas.



Dean's Awards Ceremony

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities organized the Dean's Awards ceremony for Research Excellence for the first time on 29th November 2022 in order to appreciate and encourage the researchers of the faculty. On this memorable day, the Head of the Department of Languages Rev. Prof. Olaganwatte Chadasiri Thero was awarded with the Dean's Award for the Researcher with the highest number of citations in the Department of Languages during the past three years. The award was presented by Dr. Prabath Ekanayake, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Peradeniya. Further, Dr. Nilmini Dayananda, Senior Lecturer in Sinhala of the Department of Languages was awarded the Researcher with the highest number of books and chapters in 2022. The Department of Environmental Management received the award for the Best Department in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities in the Dean's Awards Ceremony. Prof. EMS Ekanayake, Head, the Department of Social Sciences won the award for the highest Citations - Department of Social Sciences, at the Dean's Awards for Research Excellence – 2022. Mrs. TGD Udayakanthi, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Social Sciences won the Award for Best Young Researcher 2022 at the Dean's Awards for Research Excellence – 2022. Prof. SKN Gamage won the awards for Researcher Having the Highest Number of Indexed Journal Articles in 2021 & Researcher Having the Highest Citations in the Department of Economics. Prof. SWGK Bulankulama won the award for Researcher with the highest number of non-index peer-reviewed journal articles. Dr. DMSLB Dissanayake received three awards in the Dean's Awards. The awards are the most outstanding senior researcher, researcher having the highest h-index in the previous three years and researcher having the highest number of citations in the previous three years.



Dena Vihara Watha

The book “Dena Vihara Watha” by Prof. Thusitha Mendis, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was published online on the 8th of October 2022. This book compiles new data on the condition of the Jetavanarama temple site in the pre-Jetavanarama period, contemporary constructions and interventions, and renovations during and after the colonial period.



The Inauguration of the Department of Information Technology

The inauguration of the 8th Department in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, the Department of Information Technology was held on 18th August 2022 at the Faculty Computer lab with the presence of the Dean of the faculty, Prof. D.T. Mendis and all academic staff members of the faculty. Ms. L.N.A.B.M. Nissanka, Lecturer (probationary in Computing) was appointed as the Lecturer-In Charge of the new Department. The new Department of Information Technology wishes to facilitate all the undergraduates in the faculty to obtain a Diploma in IT (DIT, UCSC).



Building up partnerships with the JICA volunteer organization

JICA volunteer Coordinator; Ms. Miya Kataya and JICA Sri Lanka senior Officer- Volunteer program; Mr Chaminda Ranasinghe visited Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 10th November 2022. A very fruitful discussion was held between RUSL and JICA regarding the development of Japanese language education in the Department of Languages, RUSL. JICA conducted a fact-finding survey before assigning a volunteer lecturer to the Department of Languages in the future and responded positively to their plan. The two representatives had a courtesy visit to the vice chancellor of RUSL, Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara. Ven. Prof Olaganwatte Chandrasiri, Ms Nimesha Dayarathne, Lecturer in Japanese language were also present at this event.



Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environmental Management and Industrial Partner Organizations “Lighting up the future of the Undergraduates”

The Department of Environmental Management of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Green Building Council of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka National Cleaner Production Centre, Janathakshan GTE Ltd, and Industrial Development Authority – North Central Province on the 1st July 2022. According to the memorandum of understanding, the Department of Environmental Management and partner organizations desire to establish a collaborative link to promote the areas of research, development, and training relevant to the field of Environmental Management and related areas. The signing of MoUs with the industrial partners was coordinated by Dr. PSK.Rajapakshe, Head of the Department of Environmental Management.



Establishment of Business Incubator Unit

The Department of Economics established the Business Incubator Unit at the Faculty with the objective of inspiring the interest among final year (both BA Honors and B.A Degree Programs) undergraduates of the Faculty to take their first steps as entrepreneurs or start-up new business ventures upon graduation. In the long-run, this incubator will lead to develop and cultivate an entrepreneurial culture where Rajarata University of Sri Lanka can produce Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the regional economy and at the national level. Also, the unit closely works with the University Business Linkage (UBL) cell as well.

Completion of 2nd Batch of Diploma in Environmental Management – 12th November 2022



Fee Levied Extension Programmes in English



Advanced Certificate in English (Extension) 2022 / 2023

A total of 307 candidates have got registered for the programme and currently following lectures during weekends. Employees in the private and public sectors and school leavers are benefited from the above programme.

Diploma in English (Extension) 2022 / 2023

Diploma in English Extension Programme is conducted during weekends via online mode and physically for employees in the private and public sectors and school leavers. A total of 780 candidates have got registered for the programme and are currently following lectures.

Monthly Lecture Series

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 07

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2022 නොවැම්බර් මස 02 වැනි දින සවස 01.00 සිට 2.30 දක්වා ශාලා අංක 20 දී

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 02

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2022 මැයි මස 04 වැනිදින සවස 3.00 සිට 4.30 දක්වා ශාලා අංක 20 දී

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 06

ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ කාන්තා දේශපාලන සහභාගීත්වය



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2022 ඔක්තෝබර් මස 05 වැනි දින සවස 2.00 සිට 4.00 දක්වා ශාලා අංක 20 දී

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 05

ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ආපදා කළමනාකරණ යාන්ත්‍රණය සහ එහි වර්තමාන අවශ්‍යතාවය




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2022 සැප්තැම්බර් මස 07 වැනි දින සවස 2.00 සිට 4.00 දක්වා ශාලා අංක 20 දී

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 04

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2022 ජූලි මස 06 වැනි දින සවස 2.00 සිට 4.00 දක්වා ශාලා අංක 20 දී

Research & Publication Committee Monthly Lecture Series - No 03

Climate Change in Sri Lanka: Past, present, and future



Dr. JMSB Jayasundara
Senior Lecturer - G I
Department of Environmental Management
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Date: 01st June 2022
Time: 2.00 - 04.00 pm
Place: Hall no 20, FSSH

The Faculty of Technology conducted its First Undergraduate Research Symposium of Technology 2022

The First Undergraduate Research Symposium of Technology (URSoT) 2022 was held on 16th December 2022 at the faculty premises with the participation of invitees from the university and industries. The URSoT 2022 facilitated to showcase and sharing of the latest research findings of undergraduate students under the theme of “Technological Solutions for Development.” Awards (medals, certificates, and cash awards) have been given to the best three presenters (first, second, and third place) in each discipline (Discipline of Bioprocess, Electrical & Electronic, Food, Information & Communication, and Materials Technology).



Community Awareness Programme

The Leishmaniasis research team of the Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology, conducted their fifth round of the community awareness program on 21st August 2022 for the community in the Madawachchiya MOH area together with the staff of the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS), Anuradhapura under the financial support received from the WHO Crowdfunding Grant on community-directed Leishmaniasis control project in Sri Lanka.



OWSD Early Career Fellowship 2022



Dr. Asha Wijegunawardana, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, attached to the Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology won the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Early Career fellowship in the year 2022. OWSD is a UNESCO programme and was founded in 1987 and it provides research training, career development, and networking opportunities for women scientists throughout the developing world at different stages in their careers. Dr. Asha received the early carriers award for her research project on the cutaneous leishmaniasis control program.



Product Launching Event; Herbal Foot Crack Cream

The newly introduced “HELAYU PEDICURA” Ayurvedic foot care cream is proudly presented by the Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology, at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka collaboratively with the Gunawardhana Ayurveda Holdings (Pvt) Limited and the Adhitya Herbal Products (Pvt) Limited in Anuradhapura with the support received through the University Business Linkage Cell (Tech Transfer Office) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The product launch took place at the Kandy City Centre on 24th December 2022. The following dignitaries participated in the product launch representing the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka; Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor, Dr Manoj Samarathunga, Director, University Business Linkage Cell, Dr. (Mrs.) NDAD Wijegunawardana, Mr. Kasun Gamage, and the UBL staff. Representing the Adhitya Ayurveda Holdings (Pvt) Limited and Gunawardhana Ayurveda Holdings (Pvt) Limited, Dr. Sarath Somasiri Gunawardhana, Chairman, Dr. Sandun Sri Gunawardhana, CEO and Dr. Kasun Sri Gunawardhana Director & Doctor in Charge of Gunawardhana Ayurveda Holdings (Pvt) Limited attended the event.



Workshop on the Application of Novel Technologies for Utilization of Underutilized Fruit Crops in Sri Lanka

Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (RUSL), organized a workshop on “Application of Novel Technologies: Utilization of Underutilized Fruit Crops Sri Lanka” from 1st December to 3rd December 2022. A Competitive Research Grant was received from the Asian Development Bank to the Faculty of Technology as collaborative work with the Defense University for the research project titled “Sustainable Development of North Central Province through Establishing a Functional Framework on Selected Underutilized Wild Fruit Plants in Sri Lanka” under the Science & Technology Human Resource Development Projects.

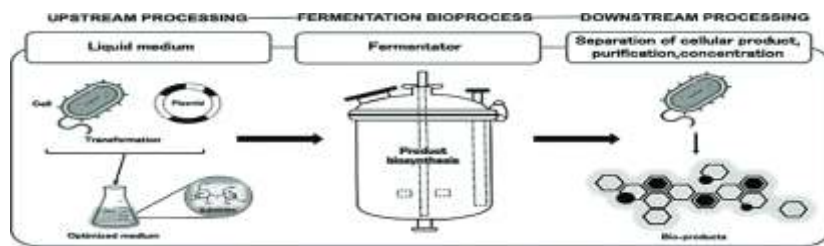


The Department of Food Technology Received an STHRD Project Grant

The Science and Technology Human Resource Development (STHRD) project performed under the Ministry of Education is aimed at supporting the government in developing Applied Sciences and Technology Faculties in several national universities in Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Under the STHRD project, several competitive research grant (CRG) schemes have been awarded. The Department of Food Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, also received a grant of LKR 5,270,000/- and USD 8,100/- for their recent project proposal. The project will be performed with the leadership of Dr. R. K. Ahinsa as the Principle investigator and with the partnership of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology and BIOGREEN Technologies

The Department of Bioprocess Technology, Faculty of Technology and BIO GREEN technologies signed an MOU on 4th October 2022. The agreement will contribute to producing competent, innovative, self-driven and entrepreneurial graduates in the development of microbial applications in the agricultural and food production sectors through solid practical experience. This MOU supports placing undergraduates in relevant activities in industrial training and final-year research projects. Conducting collaborative research will benefit both parties, providing theoretical training and technical assistance to beneficiaries of the second party in their manufacturing of different microbial products (biofertilizers and probiotics, etc.) and related activities. The certificate distribution ceremony was organized parallel to this event for the students who completed the field workshop on organic agriculture in the Gampaha district.



F. R. Rikkas from the Department of Food Technology Received Three Gold Medals at the 22nd General Convocation of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

The first batch of the Faculty of Technology graduated at the 22nd General Conversation of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 12th October 2022. Therein, Mr F. R. Rikkas, from the 2015/2016 batch of the Department of Food Technology, received his BBST (Hons) Degree in Food Technology with flying colours with a first class and three gold medals namely, Professor B. K. Karunaratne Gold Medal for the highest cumulative GPA in the Faculty of Technology, Dr H. A. M. Wickramasingha Memorial Gold Medal for the highest cumulative GPA in Biosystems Technology, and Maria Orosa Gold Medal for best performance in Food Technology.



Training Program for Handling the Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS)

The Department of Food Technology, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka hosted a short-term training program, aiming at the staff members of the Faculty on Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS). The training program was conducted by Analytical Instruments (Pvt) Ltd on 29th and 30th August 2022 at the Chemistry Laboratory of the Faculty of Technology.



Undergraduates Received Several Awards

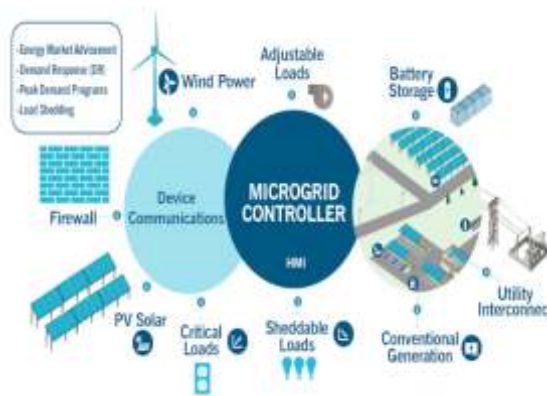
The 1st Undergraduate Research Symposium, Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, was held on 16th December 2022 at the Faculty Premises. Undergraduates and fresh Graduates of the Department of Food Technology presented their research/ review/ concept note abstracts under the sub-theme of Food Technology at the L2 lecture theatre. Dr. Jayani C. S. Kulathunga chaired the session. The keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Senay Simsek (Professor and Head, Department of Food Science, Purdue University, Indiana, USA) while Prof. Ranjith Edirisinghe (Dean/ Faculty of Applied Sciences), Dr. D. W. M. M. Kumari (Faculty of Agriculture), and Dr. Gayan Thilakarathna (Faculty of Agriculture) evaluated the session as Panel members.

The Department of Food Technology presented fifteen (15) abstracts, which will be published in the symposium proceedings. Several presenters received awards for their performances under three major categories: Best Oral Presenter, Best Poster and the Peoples' Choice Award.



Micro-grid Pilot Project at the Faculty of Technology

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology of the Faculty of Technology has taken an important step to collaborate with the industry by launching a project to implement a pilot micro-grid system. This initiative will bring together the university and industry professionals, allowing them to develop solutions that will benefit both parties. Board room, and the launch was an opportunity for everyone to come together to celebrate this project's accomplishments and discuss its future goals. The Department of Electrical and Electronic Technology and Altra Vision (Pvt) Ltd will collaborate to implement the pilot micro-grid. The Asian Development Bank funds this project through its Science and Technology Human Resource Development Project.



Academic Progress and Student Activities of the Department of Food Technology

The Department of Food Technology undergraduates gains vast academic knowledge and experience related to food chemistry, food microbiology, product development technology and sensory evaluations, food physics and food engineering, quality assurance, safety and regulations and food preservation and vice versa. Despite gaining theoretical knowledge through advanced lecture series, the students get practical experiences through laboratory classes, field visits, industrial training and final-year research projects.

Every year, undergraduates in their third academic year pursue a 24-week industrial training to fulfil the degree's requirements. The undergraduates in the 2017/2018 batch of the Department of Food Technology started their industrial training with effect from October 2022. In addition to advanced training in the industry, the undergraduates gain vast experience in applying their subject knowledge in planning and implementing various research projects and scientifically implementing the research outcomes through their undergraduate research project. The undergraduates in the 2016/2017 batch of the Department of Food Technology completed their undergraduate research projects by the end of December 2022 and will present their research findings within the first week of January 2023.



The Department of Food Technology Purchased Several Advanced Laboratory Equipment

The Department of Food Technology is furnished with sophisticated equipment for various purposes such as food processing and analysis, including Freeze Dryer, Fat Extractor, Crude Fiber Extractor, UV Visible Spectrophotometer, Texture Profile Analyzer, and Gas Chromatography–Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS). Furthermore, the Department of Food Technology also purchased an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS), Biosafety Cabinet and a Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) apparatus.



Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS)



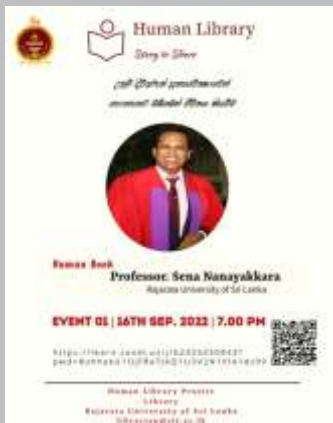
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) apparatus

Human Library Program

With the concept of the Librarian, Mrs. A.S.Siriwardana, the library system of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka initiated a “Human Library” program as a new learning platform and experience-sharing program for the university community. The objectives of this program are to enhance positive thoughts and attitudes of readers by accessing personal experiences of human books, creating positive thoughts and attitudes in human book readers, solving the problems and difficulties encountered in the personal lives of readers, encouraging experience sharing among the readers and to repeat interesting past experiences with novelty.

Human Library Event 01

The opening session of the "Human Library Project" was successfully held on 16th September 2022 at 7.00 pm via the Zoom platform for Social Science Students. Professor Sena Nanayakkara, Senior Lecture, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was the first “Human Book”.



Human Library Event 02

The 2nd Event of the 'Human Library Program' organized by the Library System of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was successfully held on 25th November 2022 from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm using the Zoom platform. Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was the second “Human Book”.



Library Awareness Session Series

Library awareness session series was held on December 21 and 22, 2022 from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. at the Computer Center for the 3rd year and 4th year undergraduates of the Department of Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Management Studies. Mrs. A.S. Siriwardana (Librarian), Dr. S.K.Illangarathne (Senior Assistant Librarian), and Ms. Malithi Jayasooriya (Assistant Librarian) were the resource persons of the session series.



Achievement

Mrs.Thushara Wanasinghe Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences was awarded Chartered Librarianship from Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) on 23rd September 2022



Awareness Session on “Sources of Reading”

The Main Library conducted an awareness session on “Sources of Reading” on 29th November 2022 for the undergraduates of the Department of Business Management, Faculty of Management Studies. The program consisted of a demonstration of using the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), electronic Database searching, useful Web links for academic needs and Digital Library. Mrs.Thushara Wanasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, at Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences and Ms. Malithi Jayasooriya, Assistant Librarian of the Main Library served as the resource persons of the session.



Motivation Program for School Students as Library Community Service Program

The Main Library of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka conducted a motivation program for GCE Advanced Level Students of Galenbudunuwewa Central College and GCE Ordinary Level Students of Seewali Maha Vidyalaya, Uttimaduwa on 28th December 2022 at Main Library premises. The program consisted of motivational lectures for students and library visits. Mrs. A.S. Siriwardana, the Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka was the resource person of the sessions.



Library Awareness session on How to use Library Resources Effectively

An awareness session on 'How to use Library Resources Effectively' was conducted on 14th & 21st of December 2022 for the undergraduates of the 2020/2021 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture. Use of the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Digital Library service, Electronic Databases, and Online resources were demonstrated. Mrs. W.P.T.Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture served as the resource person of the session.



Best Undergraduate Entrepreneur of the Year

The 16th Annual Entrepreneur award of the North Central Province Chamber of Commerce Ceremony successfully took place at Seedeve Banquet Hall, Anuradhapura on 24th November 2022. Mr. Saliya Madhuwantha Bandara, an undergraduate attached to the Faculty of Management Studies was recognized as the best undergraduate entrepreneur of the year for the production, marketing and distribution of OREXY product, a blue pea butterfly tea.

The Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Dr. Manoj Samarathunga, Director, University Business Linkage Cell, Mr. Janaka Jayasundara District Secretariat Anuradhapura, Mr. P.B Dissanayaka Director General North Central Chamber of Commerce participated in this event.



The University Business Linkage participated in a Workshop on Technology Transfer Series in Nepal

The United States Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) organized and conducted a workshop for the officers of University Business Linkage Cells in Sri Lanka on “Technology Transfer: Value Sharing Through Licensing” in Kathmandu, Nepal from 26th – 28th 2022. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka. Experts from Cornell University, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the University of Michigan conducted the programme. Representing Rajarata University of Sri Lanka UBLC Director Dr. Manoj Samarathunga and UBLC Manager Mrs. E.N. Liyanage participated in the workshop.



My Hike

University Business Linkage Cell, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka successfully held the webinar series as “My Hike”, a two hour sessions with RUSL alumni with startups to share their success stories with RUSL undergraduates. The main objective of this webinar series was to provide undergraduate entrepreneurial culture within RUSL. This was open to students of all Faculties.



Commercializing RUSL Research Outcomes: Omega 3 Incorporated Food

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Lakmee Exports Lanka (Pvt.) Limited through the University Business Linkage Cell on the 10th of November 2022 at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale. As a part of the commercialization process, the four license agreements were signed enabling Lakmee Exports Lanka (Pvt.) Limited to develop Omega 3-added food items. Omega 3 has significant health benefits including enhancing the immune, preventing coronary heart diseases, anti-cancer & anti-apoptotic effects, reducing TG levels and cholesterol, and vision, brain & neural development. The Rajarata University of Sri Lanka received an upfront fee from the commercial partner for the technology exchange. The Vice Chancellor of Rajarata University Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S. Ginigaddara, Prof. Ranjith Edirisinghe, Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Dr. Manoj Samarathunga, Director, University Business Linkage Cell, Mr. Ushan Udumulla, Managing Director, Lakmee Exports Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Mr. Duminda Weerasinghe, Chief Executive Officer – Lakmee Exports Lanka (Pvt) Ltd and Mrs. Sujeeva Manel, Director, Lakmee Exports Lanka (Pvt) Ltd signed the MOU on behalf of the respective organizations.



The signing of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the RUSL and the Ulankulama Dairis (Pvt) Limited

The signing of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and the Ulankulama Dairies (Pvt.) Limited was held on 20th December 2022 at the Rajarata University premises with the presence of Prof. (Mrs.) G.A.S Ginigaddara, Vice Chancellor of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Mr. Isuru Chandrasekara, Managing Director of the Ulankulama Dairies (Pvt) Limited. Ulankulama Dairies (Pvt) Limited is one of the fast-growing companies in Sri Lanka contributing much to regional development. Through this agreement, Ulankulama Dairies (Pvt) Limited is committed to the commercialization of two research outcomes funded by World Bank research grants, carried out by the scientists and researchers attached to the Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Applied Sciences. Professor Ranjith Edirisinghe, Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Professor W.A.D Nayananjalie, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. Manoj Samarathunga, Director, University Business Linkage Cell, Dr. Suchithra Senevirathne, and Mr. W.V.V.R. Weerasingha, also participated in the event representing the University. Further, the Directors of Ulankulama Dairies (Pvt) Limited were also present to witness this significant collaboration.



Career Guidance Activities from 01/07/2022 – 31/12/2022

Career guidance Unit (CGU) of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has successfully conducted many programs for the undergraduates of the University including leadership training, outward bound training, drama therapy workshops, CV writing and interview facing workshops, hostel programs etc. The prime purpose of all the programs was to improve the employability skills of the undergraduates and inspire youths to pursue their dream careers. Some of the programs were conducted via virtual platform inviting industry experts to share their experiences and knowledge with the undergraduates.



OBT Training For the Undergraduates



Drama Therapy Program for the Undergraduates of the Faculty of Applied Sciences



Skills for life - Hostel Programs

IT Center News

Staff Training Programs

The following staff members participated in workshops/training programs in December 2022. Assistant Network Manager Mr. Harshapriya Rajakaruna participated in three days of workshops (20 to 22 November 2022) on System and Network Security. The workshop was conducted by LKNOG organization.

Technical officers Mr. Thilina Rajapaksa participated in a residential workshop for five days from 28/11/2022 to 02/12/2022 on Campus System Linux Essentials. The workshop was conducted by LEARN at the University of Peradeniya.

New Appointments

Dr. KASH Kulathilake, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Applied Sciences was appointed as the Director of the Information Technology Centre of the University with effect from 5th October 2022.



Promotions



Mr. SAI Somarathna has been promoted as Deputy Registrar with effect from 11.05.2022. He currently serves as a Deputy Registrar of the Academic Establishment Division and also attends to the duties of the Capital Works Division. He started his administrative career as an Assistant Secretary in the University Grants Commission in the year 2006 and joined the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka as an Assistant Registrar in 2007. In the year 2013 he has been promoted to Senior Assistant Registrar at the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. He completed his first degree in Bachelor of Science Management (Public) General External at the University of Sri Jayawardhenepura. In addition, he completed his Master of Business Administration from the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka in 2015. He has served in faculties and several administrative divisions of this university with more than 16 years of administrative experience.



Mr. MGL Maveekumbura has been promoted as Deputy Bursar with effect from 11.05.2022. He currently serves as a Deputy Bursar of the Center for Distance and Continuing Education. He started his financial administrative career in the university system as a Senior Assistant Bursar at the University of Jaffna in the year 2013 and joined the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka as a Senior Assistant Bursar in 2017. He completed his first degree in Bachelor of Business Management (HR) special degree at the University of Kelaniya. In addition, he completed his Master of Business in Accounting Degree from the University of Kelaniya in 2020 and completed Intermediate level of CA Sri Lanka. He has served in several financial administrative divisions of the university system with more than 12 years of financial experience.

Achivement



Ms. DNK Hettige, Management Assistant Grade(II) attached to the Academic Establishment Division has earned her Master of Business Administration at the Faculty of Management Studies, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.



Mr. LADHR Wijayathunga, Senior Staff Management Assistant attached to the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences has earned his Master of Human Resource Management at the University of Kelaniya. Further, he has been elected as an Associate Member of the Association of Human Resource Practitioners in Sri Lanka and an Affiliate Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Sri Lanka.

Retirements



Mr. NCS Senaka, Deputy Registrar of Academic Establishment division retired from service on 31.12.2022. He has served in several administrative divisions and faculties such as the Administration Division, Academic and Examination Division, Faculty of Applied Sciences, and Non-Academic and Academic Establishments. Also, Mr. Senaka served as an Acting Registrar for 01 year period from 2021 to 2022. Mr. Senaka joined Rajarata University on 17.03.2006 as a Senior Assistant Registrar. RUSL wishes him a healthy and joyous retirement.



Mr. NDJ Ranaweera, Chief Marshal of this university retired from the service on 31st December 2022 and he has served over 06 years period from 18.01.2016. Mr. Ranaweera is a retired Wing Commander of the Sri Lanka Air Force.



Mr. BJ Karunararne, Supervisor (Maintenance) attached to Maintenance Department, retired from service on 31.12.2022 after serving 24 Years in the university system. He has served at the University of Sri Jayawardenapura from 01st June 1988 and joined Rajarata University on 16th April 1996. He has rendered his service for 16 years for the University. RUSL wishes him a healthy and joyous retirement.

Initiating a model farm for a greener future.....

