



University of Kelaniya

# MONTHLY Newsletter

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July  
Issue

Cover Feature 14-15 Pages

*Another Step in Reaching  
the Peak...  
Human Resources  
Development with its Own  
Funds...*



**An Insurance Scheme for Academic and  
Non-academic Staff**

**Welfare Fund for Internal Students**

**Voluntary Fund for Staff and Students**

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## Editorial Board

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## 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Christian Studies



The opening ceremony of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Christian Studies organised by the Department of Western Classical Culture and Christian Culture of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya was held on the 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2015 at the university premises (K14 001). The Chief

Guest of the event was the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya. The Keynote Speech on the topic of 'The Role of Christian Religion in Conflict and Peace: the Case of Northern Ireland' was delivered by Prof. John Brewer from the Queen's University, Northern Ireland.



The Deans of the Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, the Faculty of Graduate Studies as well as the Chairman of the Research Council of the University of Kelaniya, the Chairman of the Arts Council, the Head of the Department of Western Classical Culture and Christian Culture and many academics graced the event.

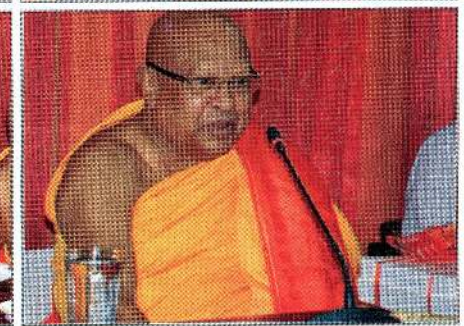


## The Launch of the New Reprint of the Sinhala Version of 'History of Ceylon'

The launch of the new reprint of the first and second parts of 'History of Ceylon', a seminal work on the history of Sri Lanka, took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Senate Room of University of Kelaniya. The work, 'University of Ceylon: History of Ceylon', was published by the University of Ceylon and this is its Sinhala translation by the Vidyalankara University's Research Unit.

The event was held under the auspices of the Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, the most venerable Aggamaha Panditha Velamitiyawwe Dharmakeerthi Sri Kusaladhammabidhana thero and the Vice-Chancellor of the university. The Keynote Speech was delivered by Venerable Prof. Vilegodā Ariyadewa thero of the University of Ruhuna.

The academic staff including the Deans of the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Registrar, the Librarian and many students attended the event. This was organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences.





## International Workshop on Molecular Biology Techniques Related to Infectious/Genetic Diseases & Human Identification

Inauguration ceremony of the International Workshop on Molecular Biology Techniques Related to Infectious/Genetic Diseases & Human Identification was held on 06<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Molecular Medicine Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Ragama. Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya was the Chief Guest of the event. Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. M.J.S. Wijeyarathne, Chairman of the Research Council of the University of Kelaniya, Prof. Rajitha Wickramasinghe. Former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Heads of Departments, academic and staff members and all the foreign and local participants attended the ceremony.

Molecular biology has become an important field in almost all disciplines of life sciences, especially in medicine and there is a rapid development of related technologies applicable to medical sciences. Therefore, objective of conducting this workshop was to provide an extensive training in

some of these tools and techniques especially those used in the field of infectious and genetic diseases and also in human identification. Fifteen professionals from the ICGB member status and 6 local scientists participated the workshop. Latest advances in molecular diagnostics (applicable to infectious, genetic and blood disorders), human DNA fingerprinting and production and purification of recombinant enzymes/antibodies (for molecular diagnostics) and human identification were covered by the workshop. Lectures with hands on experience covering above areas were delivered in the workshop by experienced professionals. The experience gained by this workshop will undoubtedly be helpful for participants to improve their laboratories.

The sponsors of this workshop were the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and the Research Council of the University of Kelaniya. This workshop was held from 06<sup>th</sup> July to 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015.



### The Launch of 'Exploring Handagama'



The launch of the book, 'Exploring Handagama', edited by Dr. Uditha Gayashan Gunasekera of the Department of Fine Arts, University of Kelaniya was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 in parallel to the muhurath (commencement) of Ashoka Handagama's new film, 'Ege Esa Aga' at the Tharangani Cinema Hall of the National Film Corporation. The new book was presented to Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara, Vice Chancellor of the University and to Mr. Ashoka Handagama. The keynote address was delivered by the Veteran film critic, Mr. Saman Wickramarachchi.





## The Second Professional Forum for Enhancing Industry-University Collaboration



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Professional forum for enhancing industry-university collaboration was organised by the Department of Human Resource Management of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, University of Kelaniya on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the Faculty Board Room with the representation of industry experts and the academic staff of the Department. The main objective of this series of professional fora is to listen to the industry voice about the critical competencies they demand from HR graduates when offering employment opportunities.

Ms. Prashanthi Sabesan – Head of HR – Colombo Stock Exchange, Mr. Jagath Jayasekara – Head of HR- Commercial Leasing & Finance PLC, Ms. Malika Senanayake – Head of HR – Union Assurance PLC, and Mr. Thilan Perera – Head of HR – HNB Assurance PLC representing the Financial and Insurance industries attended in this forum and shared their valuable insights.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> forum was organised by Ms. Jeewanthi Rathnasekara Thisera, Lecturer, Department of HRM with the support of the other staff members under the guidance of Dr. D. U. Mohan, Head of the Department of Human Resource Management.

## Business Plan Competition 2015

The Young Entrepreneurs Association that belongs to the Department of Commerce & Financial Management organised the Business Plan Competition for the second consecutive year. This year the competition was open to the students of the entire Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies. The main objective of this competition was to inculcate entrepreneurial values among undergraduates and for them to come up with novel business concepts to showcase their creativity.

The competition was held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the A.T.H. Sunil Shantha Memorial Auditorium. The Chief Guest at the event was Dr. D.M Semasinghe, Dean Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, and the Guest of Honour and the Keynote Speaker at the event was Mr. Ajith Senadheera, Assistant Vice-President – Lease, National Development Bank. Dr. C. Pathirawasam, Head, Department of Commerce & Financial Management and other academic members of the Faculty also attended the event.

Nearly 60 competitors applied with 30 creative business plans. Out of them 5

most outstanding business plans were selected for the final competition after a rigorous evaluation process.

The competitor Backspace Innovations was awarded the Best Business Plan and the Best Business Concept. Kat Walk became the first runner-up and Part Time Job Seekers became the second runner-up. The winners are awarded attractive cash prizes along with trophies and certificates.

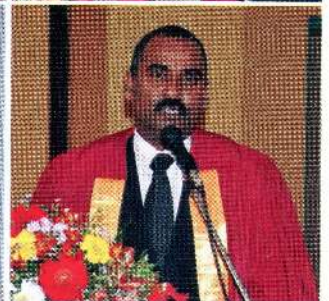




## The Inauguration Ceremony of the Postgraduate Degree in Human Resource Management

The opening ceremony welcoming the 08<sup>th</sup> batch of students to follow the postgraduate degree in Human Resource Management conducted by the Department of Human Resource Management of the Faculty of Commerce and Management studies of University of Kelaniya was held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at Hotel Clarion in Kiribathgoda.

The Chief Guest of the ceremony was the Election Commissioner, Mr. Mahinda Deshapriya. The Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management studies, the academic staff including the Head of the Department and the newly registered students of the postgraduate degree attended this event.



## The Inauguration Ceremony of Higher Diploma in Marketing- (2015/2016) Batch



The inauguration ceremony of the Higher Diploma in Marketing (2015/2016 batch) offered by the Department of Marketing Management was held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies. The ceremony was held under the auspices of the Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies and the Keynote Address was delivered by Mr. Indika de Zoysa from Intel EM Limited. The staff and the Head of the Department of Marketing Management along with the new entrants of the course attended the ceremony.





## The Opening of the Research Laboratory of the Department of Botany

A new laboratory belonging to the Department of Botany of the Faculty of Science was declared open by the Vice Chancellor on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The function was attended by the Dean of the Faculty of Science and the Head and staff of the Department of Botany.



## The Vice-Chancellor meets the International Students of the University

A meeting was held between the Vice-Chancellor and the international students enrolled in the University on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in the Senate Room. The gathering included undergraduate and postgraduate students from Cameroon, China, Kenya, Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, South Africa, Turkmenistan and Vietnam belonging to the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences and Commerce & Management Studies. The Director of International Students' Affairs Unit Prof. Neelakshi C. Premawardena was also present at this occasion.





## The Opening of the Alumni Relations Unit of the University of Kelaniya



The University of Kelaniya Alumni Relations Unit was declared open by the Vice-Chancellor on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The Alumni Relations Unit which is located in the N3 building was declared open in the presence of Deans of the Faculties of Graduate Studies, Science and Social Sciences, academic staff, non-academic staff, and members of the alumni of the University. The alumni website was also officially launched on the same day.



## University of Kelaniya Supports the Disable Soldiers to Develop Computer Literacy Skills

The certificate awarding ceremony of the computer literacy programme conducted for the disable soldiers of the Kurunegala Regiment of the Sri Lanka National Security Council was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 at the Senate room, University of Kelaniya. While the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara and Major General Udaya Perera graced the occasion as Chief Guests, the Director of Information and Communication Technology Centre and many others were also present at the ceremony. The Information and Communication Technology Centre facilitated the Exams and releasing of results of this course.





## 'Reforest Sri Lanka' Joins Hands with University of Kelaniya



A tree planting programme organised by the University of Kelaniya with the collaboration of the *Reforest Sri Lanka Society*, was held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the university premises. The event commenced under the patronage of Dr. D. M. Semasinghe, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Dr. U. P. K. Epa representing Green Practices Committee and Landscaping Unit. The event was graced by the academic staff members of the Department of Commerce and Financial Management of University of Kelaniya. This occasion was coordinated by Mr. Harshaka Hettiarchchi, a lecturer attached to the University of Kelaniya.

*Reforest Sri Lanka* is an initiative by a group of students pursuing MBA in IT (2015 Batch) at University of Moratuwa. The objective of this initiative is to encourage the active participation of the community to stand against deforestation, support forestry conservation and reforestation in Sri Lanka, which will subsequently help the sustainable development of the country.



## The Inauguration Ceremony of the Diploma in Business Finance

The inauguration ceremony of the Diploma in Business Finance offered by the Department of Finance of the University of Kelaniya was held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies.

The Chief Guest was the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management studies and the Head of the Department of Finance, the academic staff and the students were also present at this event.





The Department of English, University of Kelaniya, conducted a one day seminar for students of the North Western Province sitting for the GCE A/L exam offering English as a subject on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 at the Ven. Kotahena Sri Pragna Keerthi Memorial Hall. The Provincial Education Director H.M.M. Herath, representatives of schools in the North Western Province, students, teachers and the staff of the Department of English were present at this endeavour.



### The Opening of the Research Centre for Floriculture (Flower Farming)



The Floricultural Research Centre established by the Department of Botany, Faculty of Science of the University of Kelaniya was officially declared open by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 at the Gampaha Henarathgoda Botanical Gardens. The District Secretary of Gampaha Mr. Sunil Jayalath, Deputy Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens Mr. Nanayakkara Yapa, the Director of Green Lanka Floriculture Association Mr. Indika Wijesooriya and Deans of the Faculties of Science and Social Sciences, Registrar of the University of Kelaniya, Head and academic and non-academic members of the Department of Botany of the University of Kelaniya participated in this event.



The objective of the Floriculture Research Centre is to uplift the floricultural industry of Gampaha District by empowering growers through providing training on modern techniques of plant propagation, supplying high quality plant materials in wide range of plant varieties, and advising on nursery management practices with a view to transform the Gampaha District floricultural industry to the international level by meeting the international quality standards of the plants.



Additionally a specialised workshop on flower farming was conducted alongside the opening of the floricultural research centre in which Prof. (Mrs.) Priyangani Senanayaka and Dr. (Mrs.) Sagarika Kannangara of the Department of Botany of the University of Kelaniya functioned in the capacities of resource persons.



## The Launch of a Comprehensive Sinhala-Japanese Dictionary



A comprehensive Sinhala-Japanese dictionary for the Sinhalese and Japanese who study Sinhala and Japanese languages was launched on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya. The dictionary was compiled by the famous Japanese writer, Prof. Noguchi Tadashi. He has done exceptional service to Japanese and Sinhala literature and translated Martin Wickramasinghe's 'Viragaya' into Japanese and the Japanese writer, Natsume Soseki's work, 'Kokoro' into Sinhala. He also wrote a novel in Sinhala entitled, 'Anithya Jeevithayak' ('A Life of Impermanence'). The Chief Guest of the event was the Vice-Chancellor and the keynote speech was delivered by the former Senior Professor of Sinhala attached to the Department of Sinhala, University of Kelaniya, Prof. Kulathilaka Kumarasinghe. The event was graced by the first secretary of the Japanese embassy in Sri Lanka, Mr. Miyata Kenji, the academic staff including the Head of the Department of Modern Languages and many students. The event was organised by the Department of Modern Languages.

## Scholarship Awards

Several scholarship have been awarded to academic staff and students of University of Kelaniya during the months of June and July 2015 through partner universities and institutions with scholarships and exchange programmes coordinated by Prof. Neelakshi C. Premawardhena, Director, International Student Affairs Unit.

### • German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Scholarship Awards to undergraduates



**One month scholarship to Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Germany, August 2015**

Ms. Priyanka Madhubhashini Jayarathna, German Studies, Department of Modern Languages



**One month scholarship to Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, August 2015**

Ms. Chathurika Madhushani Witharana, German Studies, Department of Modern Languages

### • Erasmus Mundus Programme IMPAKT Project



**One month Academic Staff Scholarship to University of Porto, Portugal, October/November 2015**

Ms. Deshani Rasanjalee Senarathna, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of Geography





- **Mevlana Exchange Programme, Turkey**

**Academic Staff Scholarship Award to the School of Foreign Languages, Faculty of Education, Akdeniz University, Turkey**

Ms. Sabreena Niles, Lecturer (Probationary) Department of English



***Mevlana Exchange Programme Scholarship Award for Students***

**One semester of study at the Department of German Language and Literature, Akdeniz University, Turkey, February – June 2016**

Ms. Priyanka Madhubhashini Jayarathna, German Studies, Department of Modern Languages



Ms. Lakshika Sandamali Gurusingha, German Studies, Department of Modern Languages



Ms. Thilini Madhurika Samanmalee, German Studies, Department of Modern Languages

**Incoming academic staff and students**

- **Erasmus Mundus Programme IMPAKT Project**

**One month Academic Staff Scholarship, Department of Marketing Management, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, February 2016**

Prof. Robert Kozielski, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management, University of Lodz, Poland

**One month Academic Staff Scholarship, Department of Modern Languages, Faculty of Humanities, February/March 2016**

Ms. Merilyn Meristo, Öanguage Centre, Tallinn University, Estonia

- **Mevlana Exchange Programme, Turkey**

**Student Scholarship Award**

**One semester of study at the English Language Teaching Unit, Faculty of Humanities, February-July 2016**

Mr. Ali Can Çiçek, Department of English Language Teaching, Faculty of Education, Akdeniz University, Turkey



## The Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association of the University of Kelaniya

The annual general meeting of the Alumni Association of the University of Kelaniya was held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Hotel Indra, Kadawatha. The meeting held under the auspices of the Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, Ven. Velamitiyawe Dharmakeerthi Sri Kusaladhammbhidana Thero, and Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara, the Vice Chancellor of the University. This event was also attended by the members of the alumni. Moreover, the following 10 retired professors who are also alumni of the University were felicitated at the event.



- Prof. Sunanda Mahendra- Department of Mass Communication
- Prof. Ananda Abeysiriwardhana- Department of Sinhala
- Prof. Somarathna Balasooriya- Department of Sinhala
- Prof. Jinadasa Danansooriya- Department of Sinhala
- Prof. Ariyawansa Dissanayake- Department of Economics
- Prof. J. M. Pathirage- Department of Economics
- Prof. U. B. Karunananda- Department of History
- Prof. (Mrs.) Ranjani Dissanayake- Department of Human Resource Management
- Prof. C. D. Amarasekara- Department of Physics
- Prof. (Mrs.) Sukumal Wimalasena- Department of Chemistry



## A Special Lecture Session on 'Gandhara Cultural Heritage'

A lecture on the cultural heritage of Gandhara was delivered by the Italian archaeologist Dr. Pia Brancaccio on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Social Sciences. This event was organised by the Centre for Asian Studies of the University of Kelaniya.

The website of the Centre for Asian Studies, was also launched by the Vice-Chancellor of the University who was the Chief Guest at the event.

The Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, the staff and the Director of the Centre, Prof. Anura Manatunga, the Director of the Media Unit, Prof. Chandrasiri Rajapaksha, Heads of Departments and undergraduates were present at this event.





# Another Step in Reaching the Peak... Human Resources Development

Every organisation regardless of it's being a government or private is responsible for developing its Human Resources for making the best use of it. University of Kelaniya as a result of correctly recognising this national need is investing on developing its human resources without solely depending on public funds. While the allocated public funds are being used, self-raised funds are also mostly used for several projects aiming at enhancing the quality of life of its staff and students.

## *An Insurance Scheme for Academic and Non-academic Staff*

The absence of an insurance scheme for the university staff was a long felt need although there had been many efforts in the history that were not came to an end. However now it possess a well-structured insurance scheme offered by Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation with attractive benefits. Kelaniya University Teachers' Association (KUTA) with the support of the Vice-Chancellor took a very determinant initiative for establishing this. First it was proposed only for the academic staff but later on as suggested by the Vice-Chancellor it was open for non-academic staff too. After several rounds of discussions with many insurance firms finally the Sri Lanka Insurance Cooperation, the most reliable insurance giant in the industry by being a government organisation offered a



scheme with attractive benefits on which the university agreed upon. *"This is the first time among the Sri Lankan universities which was able to launch an insurance scheme with an outside reliable insurance firm, we are proud to be your insurance partner and now we can use your university as a benchmark in persuading other universities to buy insurance"* was mentioned by Mr. Deepal Nawagamuwa, Regional Sales Manager, Sri Lankan Insurance at the insurance policy awarding ceremony held at the university premises. In addition, most importantly university partially funds both academic and non-academic staff's annual insurance instalments while the rest is

borne by the individuals. This is open not only for the university employees themselves but their families too.

## *Welfare Fund for Internal Students*

There is also a Welfare Fund maintained by the university for its students. This fund is totally built up with the earned money of the university. The sole objective of establishing this fund is to financially support the students to uplift their levels of welfare at present. Students are eligible to receive financial aids whenever they met with accidents during academic sessions and also for any special surgeries and treatments recommended by the Chief Medical Officer of the University and



# with its Own Funds...



approved by the Council of the University. Further when students' deaths take place by natural causes or accidents family members are paid a financial allowance to support their funerals. These facilities provided by the university are greatly appreciated by the students as they are now aware that they have not been left out by the university whenever they struggle with uncertainties that would probably had led to discontinue their higher education.

## *Voluntary Fund for Staff and Students*

Moreover, the university has established another voluntary fund to financially support academic and non-academic staff and students at a funeral. Both staff and students are paid a financial allowance of LKR 10,000.00. Academic and non-academic members are paid at anyone's death in their families while students are paid only when they lost one or both of their parents.





## A Discussion on the Academic Programme Conducted in Collaboration with the Department of Prisons



The 03<sup>rd</sup> discussion session of the academic programme conducted by the University of Kelaniya and Department of Prisons with the aim of introducing a new regulated system of principles and laws to the existing rehabilitary programme was held on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Magazine Prison, Borella. The event was presided over by the Mr. M.B.R. Pushpakumara, Commissioner General of Prisons, and attended by the Commissioners of Prisons, high level officials and academic staff representing the Universities of Kelaniya and Sri Jayewardenepura.



## International Workshop on Bibliometric and Scientometric Analysis for Research Management

The inaugural ceremony of the International Workshop on Bibliometric and Scientometric Analysis for Research Management organised by the Department of Library and Information Science of the Faculty of Social Sciences was held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The American Information Science veteran Dr. Eugene Garfield who is the founder of bibliometrics and scientometrics issued a special message and the keynote address of the event was delivered by Prof. Ranjan Balasubramaniam from the University of Bharathidasan, India.



The Chief Guest of the workshop was the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya. The Deans of the Faculties of Social Sciences and Science, the staff and the Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, the Librarian, along with national and international scholars were present at this event. The Vice Chancellor of the University and Mr. Tikiri Herath Gunathilaka, Head, Department of Library and Information Science received plaques from Indian Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals in appreciation the contribution made through the workshop for the field.

The three day workshop concluded with a Certificate Awarding Ceremony which was held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015, where 49 participants received Certificates of Participation.



# EXTENDED NETWORK

## An MoU with Michigan State University, USA



A Memorandum of Understanding, which was initiated by the Department of Biochemistry and Clinical Chemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA, was signed at the Vice Chancellor's office on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The aim of this agreement was to foster international cooperation in education and research between the two institutions, specifically on developing nanotechnology based diagnostic tools for medical applications. Dr. Cholani Weebedde, Associate Director, World Technology Access Program, MSU was present on the occasion representing Michigan State University. Prof. Sunanda Mudduma Bandara, the Vice Chancellor, University of Kelaniya, Prof. N. R. De Silva, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and Mr. Sugeeth Patabendige, Director, International relations signed the MOU on behalf of the University of Kelaniya. Dr. Prasanna Galhena (Head/Department of Biochemistry and Clinical Chemistry), Dr. Deepa Gunasekara, Dr. Wasanthi Subasinghe and Dr. Thusitha Wickramasinghe were also present on the occasion.

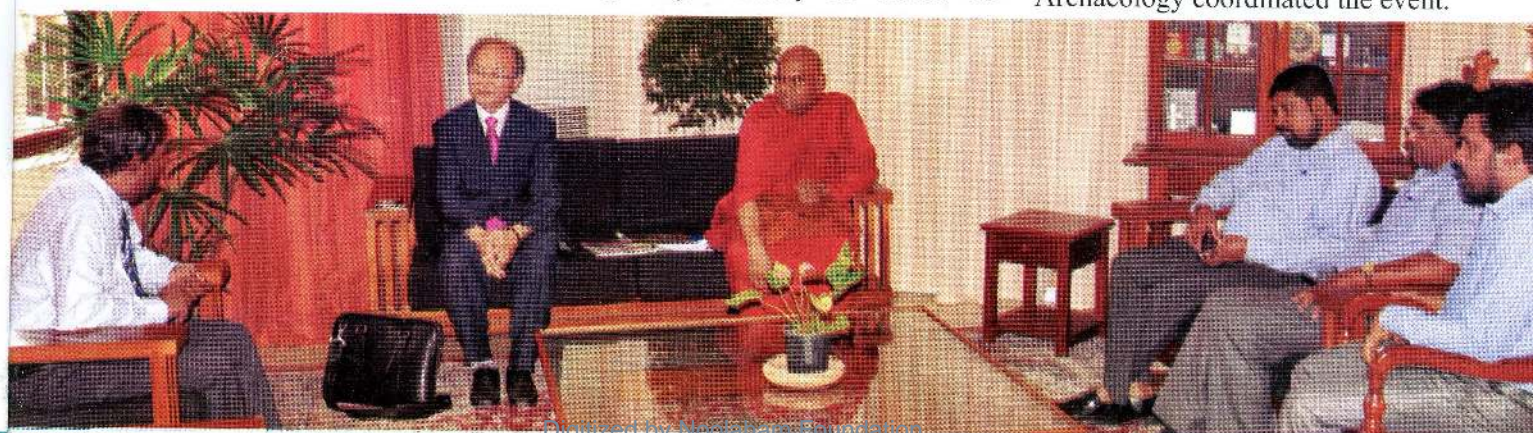
## Prof. Ha Jong Myong visit University of Kelaniya and the Department of Archaeology

Enhancing the relationship between the University of Kelaniya and International University of Korea, the Vice Chancellor of University of Kelaniya, Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara and Prof. Ha Jong Myong from International University of Korea were in a discussion to commence an MOU between the two universities regarding exchanging programmes for undergraduates for higher studies. The discussion was held on 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 between Prof.

Ha Jong Myong, Professor of Hotel & Tourism Department of International University of Korea, and the President of Eco-tourism Forum of Korea. There was a further discussion with the participation of Prof. Ha Jong Myong, Prof. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Prof. Malinga Amarasinghe, Head of the Department of Archaeology.

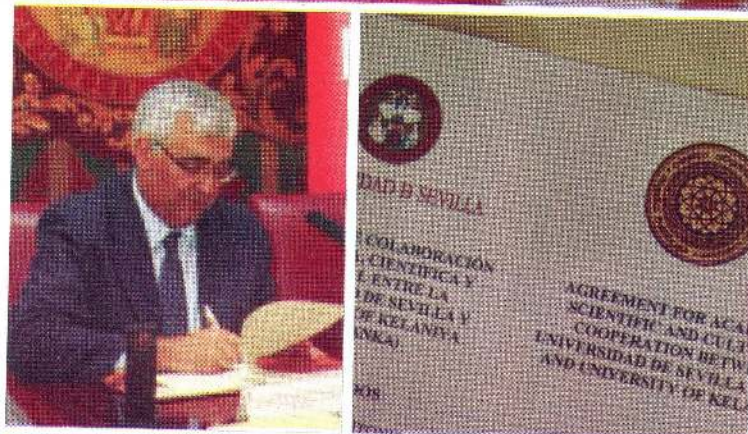
Moreover, Prof. Ha Jong Myong delivered a speech on Tourism and Hospitality Industry in Korea for

the undergraduates in Tourism and Cultural Resource Management of the Department of Archaeology. Ven. Manapita Aggadhamma, Prof. Anura Manatunga, Dr. Chandima Bogahwatte, Rev. Pahiyangala Sumangala, Ms. Suvimali Rathnayake, Ms. Indunil Jayathilake and Ms. Indrachapa Weerasingha were present on this occasion. Dr. Chandima Bogahwatte, Senior Lecturer in Tourism and Cultural Recourse Management of the Department of Archaeology coordinated the event.





## MoU with Universidad De Sevilla, Spain



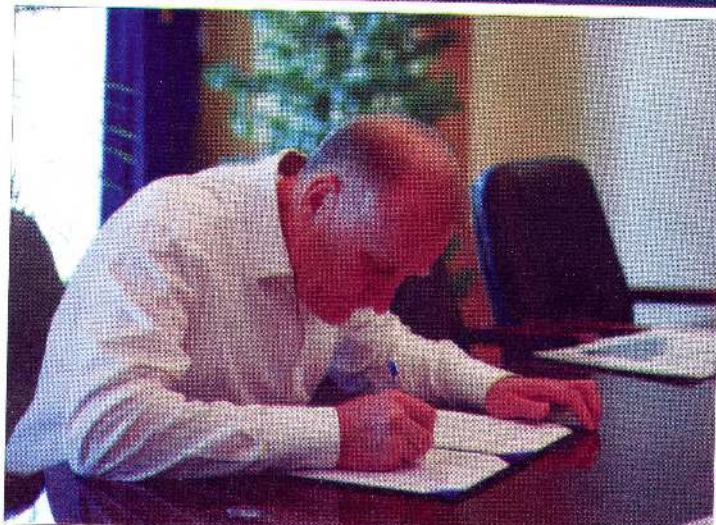
A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Universidad De Sevilla, Spain and the University of Kelaniya on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2015. This MoU was initiated by the Centre for International Relations. Prof. Antonio Ramirez De Arellanao Lopez from the Universidad de Sevilla and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya were the signatories of the MoU. This was mainly drawn for the purpose of exchanging students and staff between the two universities, and for joint research and development projects. Mr. Sugeeth Patabendige, Director, International Relations and the members of the Centre for International Relations participated in this event.

The University of Seville, Spain is known as an institution that provides the public service by offering superior education as well as the generation, development and diffusion of knowledge to serve citizens and society. In QS World University Ranking, the University of Seville is placed 230<sup>th</sup> position and is placed 7<sup>th</sup> out of all Spanish universities. Currently the University houses more than 100 academic departments and offers various undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

## MoU with Vladivostok State University of Economics and Service, Russia

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Vladivostok State University of Economics and Service, Russia (VSUES) and the University of Kelaniya on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2015, initiated by the Centre for International Relations. Prof. Gennady Lazarey, President Vladivostok State University of Economics and Service, Russia and Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kelaniya were the signatories of the MoU. This was mainly drawn for the purpose of exchanging students and staff between the two universities, and for joint research and development projects. Mr. Sugeeth Patabendige, Director, International Relations and the members of the Centre for International Relations participated in this event.

VSUES was founded in 1967 and the QS Ranking of World Universities places VSUES as 1566<sup>th</sup> and it is ranked the 20<sup>th</sup> university in Russia. VSUES offers 73 Bachelor's Degrees and 27 Master's Degrees. It has a student population of 20478 and out of that, 4.2 % is international students.





## MoU with Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand and the University of Kelaniya on 07<sup>th</sup> July 2015. This MoU was initiated by the Centre for International Relations. Prof. Chalermchai Boonyaleepun, MD, President from Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand and Prof. Sunanda Madduma Bandara, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kelaniya were the signatories of the MoU. This was mainly drawn for the purpose of exchanging students and staff

between the two universities, and for joint research and development projects. Mr. Sugeeth Patabendige, Director, International Relations and the members of the Centre for International Relations participated in this event.

Srinakharinwirot University is ranked as the 845<sup>th</sup> university in the world and the 8<sup>th</sup> university in Thailand. It was founded in 1949. Currently it occupies eighteen (18) Academic Faculties.



## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

### University of Kelaniya has been Affiliated as a Member of Silk-road University Network



Prof. Sangdon Hwang of Hangeuk University of Foreign Studies met the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya on 08<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in order to invite the Vice Chancellor for the inaugural general assembly of Silk-road University Network (SUN). This event was witnessed by the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chairperson of the Green Committee and the Deputy Director of Student Affairs.



The inaugural general assembly will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of August in Gyeongju, Korea and the University of Kelaniya has been affiliated as a member of Silk-road University Network.







### **Appointment of Dr. (Ms.) Anusha Edirisinghe to SAARC Subcommittee**

Dr. (Ms.) E.A.D Anusha Edirisinghe, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sociology, University of Kelaniya was appointed as a representative of Sri Lanka to the SAARC Gender Policy Advocacy Group. The duration of appointment is from 2015 -2018.



### **Dr. Upali Mampitiya -The Chairman of the Academic Affairs Board of National Institute of Education**

Dr. Upali Mampitiya has been appointed as Chairman of the Academic Affairs Board (AAB) of National Institute of Education (NIE) by the Secretary to the Ministry of Education. Academic Affairs Board (AAB) is responsible for the academic affairs of National Institute of Education (NIE).

### **Mr. Tikiri Herath Gunathilake - the New High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Seychelles**

Mr. Tikiri Herath Gunathilake, the Head and a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science of the Faculty of Social Sciences has been appointed as the new High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Seychelles with effect from 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015 by His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithreepala Sirisena. Mr. Gunatilake has also concurrently been appointed as the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Cameroon and the Republic of Mauritius. He is the third academic from this university to rise into this prestigious position.



## **SPORTS**

### **Sports Advisory Board- 2013/2014**

Sports Advisory Board for the Academic year 2013/2014 appointed by the Vice-Chancellor is as follows:

#### **Chairman of Sports Advisory Board**

Prof. S. R. D. Kalingamudali (Professor, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science)



## Members of Sports Advisory Board

- Prof. N.P. Sunil Chandra (Senior Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine)
- Prof. K. A. K. D. D. D. Jayasuriya (Senior Professor, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science)
- Prof. Kapila Senavirathne (Professor and Dean/ Faculty of Science)
- Prof. (Mrs.) Bimali Jayawardane (Professor and Head/Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science)
- Prof. A. M. H. M. Abayarathna (Professor and Dean/ Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Dr. Ajith Dissanayake (Senior Lecturer, Department of Mass Communication, Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Dr. Janaka Wijayanayake (Senior Lecturer, Department of Industrial Management, Faculty of Science)
- Dr. (Mrs.) Annista. N. Wijayanayake (Senior Lecturer, Department of Industrial Management, Faculty of Science)
- Ms. Lanka De Silva (Senior Lecturer, Department of Visual Arts & Design and Performing Arts Unit, Faculty of Humanities)
- Dr. C. Pathirawasam (Senior Lecturer, Department of Commerce & Financial Management)
- Director/ Extra Curricular Activities (Dr. W. V. A. D. Karunarathna)
- Dr. M. A. Upali Mampitiya (Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science)
- Mr. Jayantha Munasinghe (Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science)
- Mr. Jayantha Kalansuriya (Senior Lecturer, Actg. Head/ Department of Sport Science and Physical Education, Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Dr. (Mrs.) K. T. A. Anuradhani Kasthurirathna (Senior Lecturer, Head/ Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine)
- Dr. (Mrs.) K. P. Chithramala Dissanayake (Senior Lecturer, Department of Chikitsa, GWAI)
- Dr. R. M. S. Lanka Ranaweera (Senior Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine)
- Director/ Student Affairs (Dr. A. M. N. Chaminda Abeysinghe)
- Mrs. P. D. V. C. Wickramaratne (Senior Lecturer, Department of Sport Science and Physical Education, Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Mr. Saman Rajapaksha (Senior Lecturer, Department of Mass Communication, Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Mr. B. A. N. Krishantha (Senior Assistant Registrar)
- Senior Assistant Registrar/ Student Welfare (Mr. K. A. B. Damunupola)
- Chief Medical Officer (Dr. (Mrs.) K. S. K. Sunil Chandra)
- Mr. Jagath Fernando (Computer Instructor, Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies)
- Mr. G. G. U. Saman Kumara, Acting Director of Physical Education
- Mr. H. D. S. P. Wijayagunaratne, Instructor in Physical Education
- Mrs. K. N. S. Kumari, Instructress in Physical Education
- Ms. G. A. S. G. Godamune, Temporary Instructress in Physical Education



## Kelani Cables PLC Provided Sponsorship for the University of Kelaniya Volleyball Men & Women teams

Kelani Cables PLC provided sponsorship for the University of Kelaniya Volleyball men & women teams for the year 2015. This is the second time that the volleyball team has been sponsored by Kelani Cables and the sponsorship was officially awarded at a ceremony which took place at the Department of Physical Education of the University of Kelaniya on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015. At the event, CEO of Kelani Cables PLC, Mr. Mahinda Saranapala handed over the playing kits to the captains of two teams.

General Manager, Marketing of Kelani Cables PLC Mr. Anil Munasinghe,

Prof. S.R.D. Kalingamudali, Chairman, Sports Advisory Board, Dr. Ajith Dissanayake, member of Sports Advisory Board, Mr. G.G.U. Saman Kumara, Actg. Director of Physical Education of the University and, Manager Brand Development Mr. Channa Jayasinghe, and HR Manager Mr. Gihan Vidanagama of Kelani Cables PLC were also present.



## Swimming Men Team has Won Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at the Inter University Swimming Championship

University of Kelaniya men team was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Inter University Swimming Championship which was held on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Swimming Pool of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> places of the men championship were won by Universities of Sri Jayewardenepura & Colombo respectively.

The following undergraduate students of University of Kelaniya performed at the championship.

### Inter University Swimming Men Championship

Mr. Dulaj A. Mahawatta (PS/2012/110) 2<sup>nd</sup> year Physical Science, Faculty of Science

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - 200m Individual Medley
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 100m Butterfly
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - 50m Butterfly event

Mr. N.D. Gayan Lasantha (CM/2013/086) 1<sup>st</sup> year B.Com., Faculty of Commerce & Management

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 400m Freestyle
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 200m Freestyle
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 100m Freestyle
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - 4x100m relay freestyle
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - 4x100m Medley relay

### Relay Team

Mr. M. A. T. D. Eranga (BM/2011/080), Mr. M. Kasun R. Perera (PS/2012/132), Mr. Dulaj A. Mahawatte (PS/2012/110), Mr. N. D. Gayan Lasantha (CM/2013/086)

### Inter University Swimming Women Championship

Ms. N. A. Minoshala R. Nissanka (BM/2012/177) 2<sup>nd</sup> year Marketing Mgt., Faculty of Commerce & Management

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 50m backstroke
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 100m backstroke
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 200m Individual Medley





## Kalana Mithuru Sevana - Student Counselling Unit University of Kelaniya

Emotional and psychological problems disturb academic achievements of students. The practice of student counselling at the University of Kelaniya was started in 1986. This can be recognised as marking of the establishment of student counselling within the Sri Lankan University system. This was initially operated under student welfare services and later was re-named as **KALANA MITHURU SEVANA (KMS)** which started to function as a separate unit since 02<sup>nd</sup> June 1998.

The primary purpose of the KMS is to promote a healthy environment for students of the University and enhance student learning. It facilitates and supports the mission of the University. KMS provides regular developmental, preventive, and therapeutic services to students. KMS empowers students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and mind-set needed to identify their problems and to make the use of their own strengths and resources to solve problems by themselves.

The Unit offers confidential personal counselling to assist students through trained counsellors. Any student of the University may approach the KMS if they want to talk to someone about their problems.

The KMS also engages in programmes that promotes intellectual, emotional and social development of students and offers opportunities for personal development that will lead to enhanced learning. This would finally assist them to reach their potential academic goals through enhancing their psycho-social competencies and life skills. The Unit also organises induction and awareness programmes, workshops and guest seminars, as the major means of reaching the students community.

Prof. (Mrs) Mangalika Hettiarachchi (founding director of KMS-1998), Senior Professor, Department of Zoology and Environmental Management, had taken steps to develop the unit and served as the director from 2001 to 2014.

At present, Dr. Susima Weligamage, (Senior lecturer, Department of Finance - Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies), serves as the Director of the Counselling Unit and Ven. Kurunkandana Revatha Thero- Department of Philosophy; Dr. (Mrs) Anista Wijayanayake- Department of Industrial Management; Dr. M. D. Asiri Rodrigi- Department of Psychiatry; Mrs. C. Bimali Wijesundara -Department of Marketing; Dr. (Mrs) A. U. A. Amarakoon - Department of Industrial Management; and Ms. J. A. Prasansa Kumari -Department of Economics serve as the counsellors.



**KMS's primary goal is to promote a healthy  
University environment and enhance student  
learning**



**The Launch of the New Reprint of the Sinhala Version of 'History of Ceylon'**



**NEWSLETTER**

The Newsletter is published by University of Kelaniya.

If you have a story, or idea or any other ways we can improve the Newsletter, please contact us through the given contact details.

Email: [newsletter@kln.ac.lk](mailto:newsletter@kln.ac.lk)

Suggestions for the articles for the next edition should reach the Editorial Board by 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

