

1973 - 2023

50 YEARS OF CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICAL EDUCATION



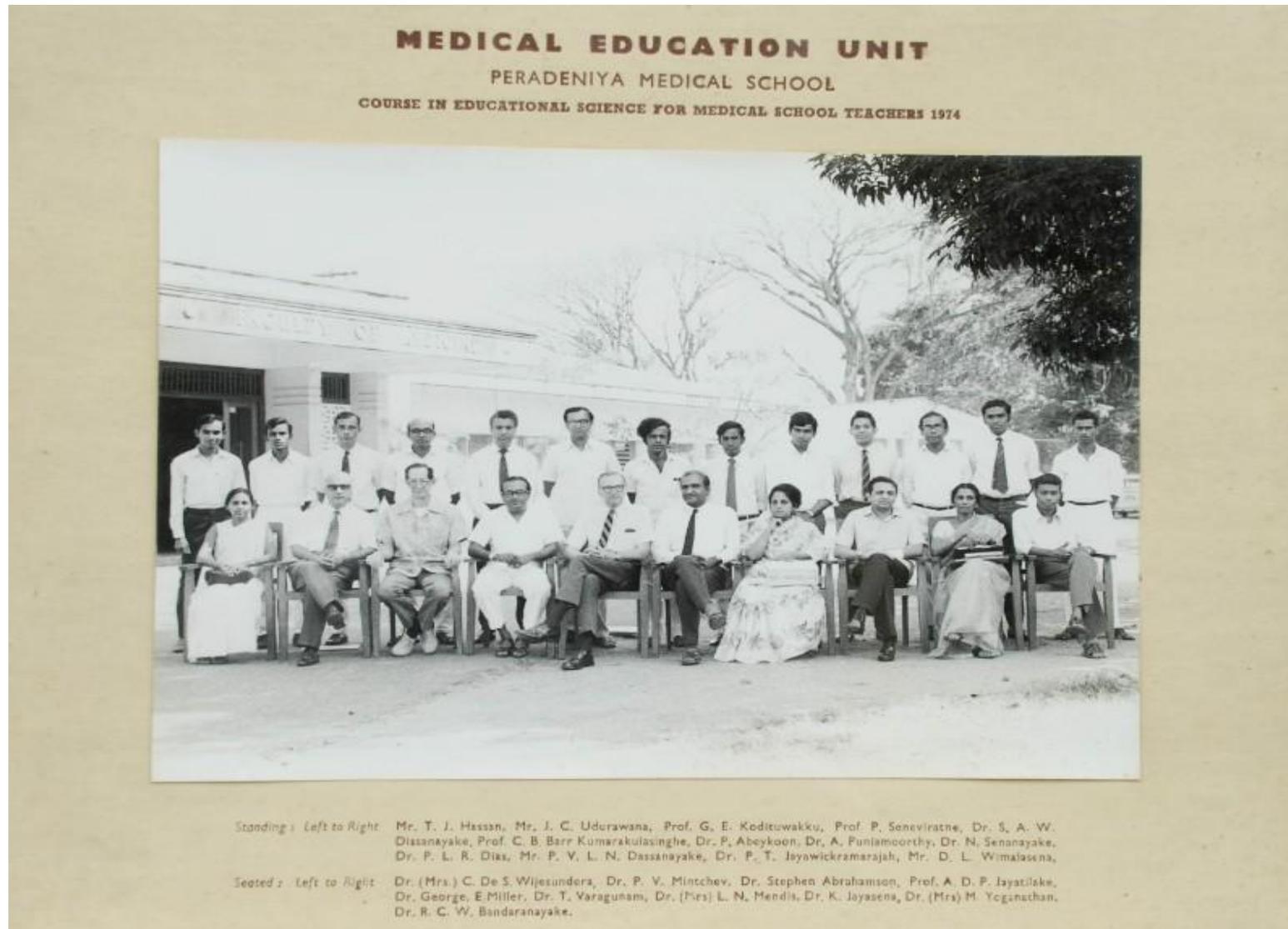
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*Department of Medical Education
Faculty of Medicine
University of Peradeniya*

Brief History of Medical Education Department



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Brief History of Medical Education Department

- The establishment of the MEU in 1973 was the culmination of the general interest in Medical Education in the Peradeniya Medical School spearheaded by Prof Senaka Bibile.
- It started with the “Working Group on Medical Education“ which was a small group of interested teachers who met on Tuesday evenings after the “Tuesday Talks”, the precursor of Kandy Society of Medicine.
- The first meeting of the “Working Group on Medical Education“ was held on 13th October 1967
- Dr. T. Varagunam, at the request of Prof. Bibile, took up the challenge to study medical education in the year 1970, under Prof George Miller, who is widely considered the father of medical education. He was entrusted initially to introduce the new Medical Education discipline to the Faculty of Medicine, Peradeniya. The Unit was formally established in 1973 under the directorship of Prof. T. Varugunam, who was a senior academic in the Department of Medicine.
- According to records, in February 1974 a workshop had been conducted at Peradeniya for academic staff of Faculties of Medicine, Colombo and Peradeniya by Professor George Miller, a Physician (University of Chicago) and Prof. Steve Abrahamson, an Educationist (University of Southern California). Incidentally, these two academics were instrumental in engaging in pioneering work and introducing the discipline of Medical Education in the 1960s to the World.
- Teacher training workshops were conducted on regular basis from 1975 for teachers from the Peradeniya, Colombo and other Medical Schools which was later adopted by the whole university system in Sri Lanka.
- World Health Organization recognized the MEU as one Regional Teacher Training Centre for the South East Asia Region and teachers of health professions education from the regional countries were sent for short term training programmes. This centre at that time was recognized as one of the six Regional Teacher Training Centres (RTTCs) for Health Personnel Education in the World. It is noted that many health professional trainers from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar have undergone training at the MEU.
- The Medical Education Unit was upgraded to Department of Medical Education in 30th January 2020 as the 17 Department of the Faculty of Medicine.



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Brief History of Department of Medical Education

Faculty of Medicine, University, Peradeniya
WORKING GROUP ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

Minutes of the 1st meeting held on 18 October, 1967 at 8.30 p.m. at Professor S. W. Bibile's bungalow.

Attendances:- Dr. H. Amarasinghe
Dr. V. Basnayake
Prof. S. W. Bibile
Dr. Miss R. A. Cader
Prof. A.S. Kirthi Singha
Dr. A. Kodraks
Dr. G. E. Tennekoon

Excuses:- An excuse was received from Prof. V. A. Macan Markar

Business:-

1. Chairman and Secretary Dr. Basnayake said that although the meetings of the Working Group were informal, it would be desirable, in the interests of order and record-keeping, to elect a Chairman and to keep minutes of the proceedings. He suggested that the Chairman and the minute-writer be elected in rotation from among the members of the Group.

The Group requested Dr. Basnayake to be the Chairman at meetings of the Group.

Prof. Bibile offered to tape-record a spoken minute of the proceeding for later type-scripting by his clerk.

2. The functioning of the Group

2. 1. Meetings. It was decided to meet once a week (as far as possible) on P2 at 8 p.m. at Prof. Bibile's bungalow.

2. 2. Literature on medical education

Dr. Basnayake suggested that one of the important functions of the Group should be a systematic study of the literature on medical education. He proposed that each member should present a report on a piece of literature at each meeting of the Group. The written summaries of such reports could eventually (he hoped) be compiled to form a reference volume.

Prof. Kirthi Singha suggested that it would be best to start with a standard work on medical education, such as Miller, rather than with individual research papers.

The Group decided to start with Miller's book. The chapters in the book were to be allocated to the members of the Group according to their interests, etc., for detailed study.

2. 3. Gathering data on the present state of medical education at Peradeniya.

Dr. Basnayake suggested that an important function of the Group should be the preparation of an inventory of data on the present state of medical education in Peradeniya. The data should include items such as number of lectures, tutorials, etc. per week and per term, the kind of lectures, educational experiments in progress, etc. The Group agreed with this.

Dr. Miss Cader was requested to prepare a written paper outlining the manner in which the Group should set about collecting the data. She agreed to table the working paper within a fortnight.

3. Preparations for the Workshop on Multiple-choice Test-items to be conducted by Dr. J. H. Stokes from 12 to 28 November, 1967.

3. 1. Dr. Basnayake outlined a scheme for preparing the Faculty for the Workshop. The outline was as follows:-

Hold weekly meetings, four in all, of representatives from the Departments of the Faculty.

Meeting 1. Introductory discussion on multiple-choice test-items, using the multiple-choice paper entitled 'How to study' as the basis for the discussion.

Meeting 2. Each member submits 4 test-items which he has devised in his own speciality, and belonging to the 4 main categories (recall, comprehension, application, analysis/synthesis/evaluation). The test-items are to be discussed at the meeting.

Meeting 3. Test-item analysis

Meeting 4. Statement of the aims of testing students, each member to prepare his own statement.

3. 2. The Group approved the scheme and decided to hold the meetings on P4 at 4.30 p.m. in the Physiology Department. The proceedings of the meetings were to be minuted, and a copy of the minutes given to Dr. Stokes upon his arrival.

V. Basnayake
V. Basnayake
15.10.67.

Minutes of the First Working Group Meeting held on 18th October, 1967 at Professor S.W Bibile's Bungalow

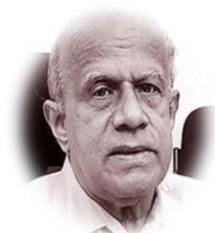


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Directors of Medical Education Department



Prof. T. Varagunam
1973 – 1980



Dr. Palitha Abeykoon
1980 – 1982



Prof. P. T. Jayawickramarajah
1982 – 1984



Dr. Gamini Premadasa
1985 – 1987



Prof. K. Jayasena
1988 – 1989



Dr. Ranil Abeyasinghe
1990 – 1994



Dr. Nimal D. Kasturiaratchi
1994 – 2003



Prof. Ananda S. B. Wijekoon
2003 – 2005



Dr. T. N. C. Athuraliya
2005 – 2008



Prof. Kosala N. Marambe
2009 – To date



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973-2023

1974

December 09th -14th **Workshop on Community Health aspect of Medical Education**

1975

September 15th -27th **Workshop on Educational Science of Teachers and Health Professionals**

October 30th -November 11th **Workshop on Educational Technology**

1976

March 01st - 19th **Workshop on Trends in Educational Technology**

April 19th – 30th **Workshop on Educational Science for University Teachers**

October 23rd - 31st **Course in Human Sexuality and Counseling Technique for Para-medical Personnel**

November 01st -12th **Course in Educational Science for Medical Teachers**

1977

March 28th – April 07th **Workshop on Educational Science for Medical Teachers**

April 28th – 29th **Matching Health Manpower to Health Care Needs in Sri Lanka**

May 30th – June 10th **Workshop on Educational Science**

August 05th – 08th **Workshop in Human Sexuality for Medical Officers**

September 26th – October 07th **Educational Science for Teachers of Health Professionals**

December 12th – 23rd **Course in Educational Science**

1978

March 20th – 31st **Course in Educational Science**

June 12th - 23rd **Course in Educational Science**

July 22nd – 23rd **Workshop of Heads of Departments**

September 11th – 22nd **Course in Educational Science**



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973-2023

1979	
March 05 th – 16 th	Course in Educational Science
August 13 th – 24 th	Course in Educational Science
December 10 th – 21 st	Course in Educational Science
1980	
February 22 nd – 29 th	Workshop on Attitudes and their Measurement
March 03 rd - 14 th	Course in Educational Science
March 08 th – 09 th	Workshop on Working in Groups
April 24 th – 25 th	Workshop on Curriculum Development
May 15 th – 16 th	Workshop on Educational Planning
May 23 rd - 24 th	Workshop on Test Construction
June 05 th – 06 th	Workshop on Evaluation of Educational Process
June 19 th – 20 th	Workshop on Educational Objectives
July 14 th – 25 th	Course in Educational Science
August 01 st – 08 th	Workshop on Construction of Self Learning Packages
September 04 th – 05 th	Workshop on Evaluation of Clinical Performance
October 09 th – 10 th	Workshop on Teaching Aids
November 13 th – 14 th	Workshop on Research and Development in Education
1981	
February 19 th – 20 th	Workshop on Curriculum Development
March 09 th – 20 th	Workshop on Course in Educational Science
April 23 rd – 24 th	Workshop on Clinical Evaluation Techniques
May 14 th - 15 th	Workshop on Attitudes and their Measurement
July 20 th – 21 st	Course in Educational Science
August 18 th – 21 st	Workshop on Research in Medical Education
September 22 nd – 24 th	Workshop on Self Instructional Packages
October 12 th - 24 th	Regional Teacher Educational Program in Maternal and Child Health



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973-2023

1982

January 26 th – 28 th	Workshop on Educational Technology for Teachers of Trinity Collage
February 10 th – 13 th	Workshop on Management of Health Professions Education
March 25 th – 26 th	Workshop on Motor Skills Training
April 19 th – 30 th	Course in Educational Science
May 14 th – 15 th	Workshop on Clinical Evaluation
August 02 nd – 14 th	Regional Teacher Educational Program in Maternal and Child Health
December 06 th – 17 th	Course in Educational Science

1983

February 17 th – 19 th	Workshop on Self-Instructional Packages
February 21 st – March 04 th	Course in Educational Science for Teachers of Medical Assistants in Bangladesh
March 31 st – April 02 nd	Workshop on Educational Measurement
June 26 th – July 08 th	Course in Educational Science
December 20 th – 22 nd	Workshop on Management of Health Professional Education

1984

May 31 st – June 01 st	Workshop on Test Construction
June 18 th – 29 th	Course in Educational Science
September 26 th – 27 th	Workshop on Attitudes
December 10 th – 21 st	Course in Educational Science

1985

February 5 th	Workshop on Group Activity and Leadership
June 22 nd	Workshop on MCQ, Board of Study in Pathology PGIM
July 25 th – 26 th	Workshop on Statistics in Educational Research
August 10 th	Workshop on Formulation of MCQ for MD part II
August 21 st – 23 rd	Workshop on Self Instructional Packages



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October 19th
November 25th – 26th

Workshop on Formulation of MCQ for MD part I
Workshop on Teaching Methodology

1986

September 26th
January 11th
August 18th – 19th

Workshop on Student Counseling
Workshop on Formulation of MCQ for MD part II – Ophthalmology and Dental Surgery
Workshop on Principles and Strategies of Evaluation

1989

March 27th – 31st

Workshop on Methodologies in Health Manpower Research

1990

March 01st – 02nd
November 28th – 30th
December 20th – 21st

Workshop on Advanced Statistics
Workshop on Educational Science for Teachers at Gampaha Ayurvedic School
Workshop on Educational Science for Medical School Teachers

1991

June 27th – 28th
April 24th – 26th
August 05th – 09th
October 03rd – 4th

Workshop on Evaluation
Workshop on Mental Health
Workshop to Evaluate WHO Handbooks on Surgery and Anesthesia
Workshop on Teaching Methods

1992

July 09th – 10th
September 06th
October 19th - 23rd
December 07th – 08th

Workshop on Teaching Methods
Workshop to Review the Revised Pre-clinical Curriculum
Workshop on Educational Technology for Teachers of Trinity College Kandy
Workshop on Educational Technology



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973- 2023

1993

July 15th – 16th

Workshop on Teaching Methods and Evaluation

October 12th – 13th

Workshop on Counseling for Affiliated University Colleges

December 13th – 14th

Course in Educational Technology

1994

January 26th – 28th

Workshop on Educational Technology

1995

February 23rd – 25th

Production of Medical Illustrations

May 29th – June 9th

Workshop on Educational Science

1996

April 24th – 26th

Workshop on relevance of Social Science to Medicine

June 26th – 29th

Regional Workshop on Medical Ethics

September 04th

Workshop on Low Birth Weight and Nutrition

September 14th – 24th

Workshop on EMIC and Qualitative Methods

October 27th - November 1st

Regional Workshop on Medical Ethics

1997

February 24th – 27th

Regional Training Workshop in Medical Ethics

April 6th

Workshop on Critical Evaluation of PG training in Dermatology

July 02nd -06th

ALC Workshop on Skin Diseases for Research Assistants

July 20th - August 01st

Workshop on Education Technology for Young Teachers

September 26th -28th

Evaluation meeting of the Innovation in Health Professional Education Program

September 29th - October 03rd

Workshop on Research Methodology and Data Analysis for Young Teachers



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October 20th – 31st

Workshop on Rational Pharmacy Practice and Dispensing Practice

November 01st – 05th

Workshop on Nursing Ethics

1998

February 23rd – 25th

Workshop on Research Methodology for Academic Staff of Gampaha Wickramaarchchi Ayurveda Institute

July 13th – 15th

Regional Training Workshop in Dynamics of Paramedical Workforce

October 19th – 23rd

Regional Training Workshop on Medical Ethics for WHO fellows

November 12th – 13th

Workshop on Evaluation and Examinations Conducted for Board of Study in Microbiology

1999

June 29th – July 9th

Workshop on Educational Technology

2000

July 3rd – 14th

Workshop on Educational Technology

August 5th – 6th

Workshop on pre-clinical curriculum revision

2001

May 14th -18th

Workshop on research methodology

July 27th – 29th

Workshop for continuing module development of the preclinical curriculum

Dec 10th – Jan 4th (10 Days)

Workshop on Educational Technology

2002

July 17th – 19th

Training workshop on problem based teaching

2003

February 24th – 26th

Training of trainers – Community based Mental Health programme

March 3rd – 5th

Training of trainers – Community based Mental Health programme



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973- 2023

2004

March 15th – 17th

Training of trainers – Community based Mental Health programme

June 7th – 18th

Workshop on Educational Technology

November 19th

Sensiting workshop on Conflict resolution

2005

May 16th

Beyond 2004 MBBS program- Workshop on attitude building and Measurement

June 13th

Workshop on Evidence based Medicine

2006

September – October (3 weeks)

Staff development program for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)

2007

September – November

Staff development program for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)

2008

August - October

Staff development program for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)

2009

August - October

Staff development program for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)

November 23

Workshop on Student counseling for Academics

2010

February 23rd

Two day workshop on teaching and learning process and student assessment for clinicians of the Ministry of Health



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Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973- 2023

June 16 th	Workshop to review objectives of clinical curriculum and allocation of credits Medicine, Surgery, Obs&Gyn, Paediatrics, Pathology, Psychiatry, Radiology
July - October	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences(UGC accredited induction program)
September 28 th	Workshop on developing Multiple choice questions- SBA and EMI types
2011	
February 15 th	Systematic peer evaluation and teacher evaluation by students'
August - November	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences
October 14 th	Incorporating family medicine concepts in the MBBS curriculum
October 20 th	Principles of student assessment and issues in constructing SBA type MCQs – a workshop for academic staff
November 20 th	Issues in MCQ Construction
2012	
September 6 th	Student Assessment & Programme Evaluation
August 28 th	Module review meeting - Foundation module
October 4 th	Scenario based learning
October 9 th	Portfolio based learning
November	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in faculties of health Science
2013	
March 3 rd	Workshop on incorporating Mini –CEX undergraduate education for clinical teachers
May 20 th	Research Forum
June 3 rd	Workshop on Improving students counseling skills
June 6 th	Workshop on Time Management
June 25 th	Administrative procedures and financial regulations in the university
August - November	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in Faculties of health Sciences(UGC accredited induction program)



Training Programmes and workshops offered from 1973- 2023

2014

April 24 th	Medical Education journal clubs
May - August	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in Faculties of Health Sciences(UGC accredited induction program)
September 11 th – 17 th	Train the trainer program ‘One health scholars’ stage 1
November 15 th	3rd SEARAME conference – post conference workshop –workshop on accreditation in Medical education
November 17 th	Training of Trainers ‘Teaching Communication Skills’ international workshop

2015

February 18 th	Lecture discussion on assessment blueprint , portfolio based assessment in community medicine
March - September	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in faculties of Health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)
June 5 th	Lecture discussion on Bedside teaching
June 7 th – 12 th	Train the trainer programme –“one health” teaching scholars stage II
September 11 th	Designing instruction for student- centred learning

2016

March - July	Staff Development Programme for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences(UGC accredited induction program)
June 15 th	Joint academic meeting – College of Medical Educationists and Faculty of Medicine topics discussed Sri Lanka qualification framework, developing instruction to promote higher order thinking, problem Based learning
October	Awareness meeting on clinical cases of relevance (CCR) process for CCR facilitators

2017

February- May	Induction course- Staff Development Programme for Teachers in Faculties of Health Sciences
June 6 th	Continuing professional development in higher education- lecture discussion on judicious use of power point and Integration and application of the foundational sciences to facilitate the transition to problem-based learning in a graduate medical curriculum
September 7 th	An awareness workshop on mindfulness and compassion (a brief intervention)
December 7 th	"Supporting Staff who Support Students" - Workshop for Academic Counselors/ Mentors

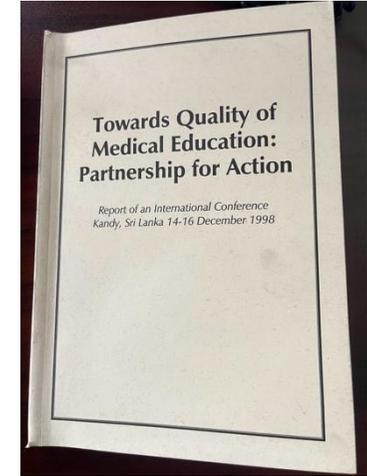
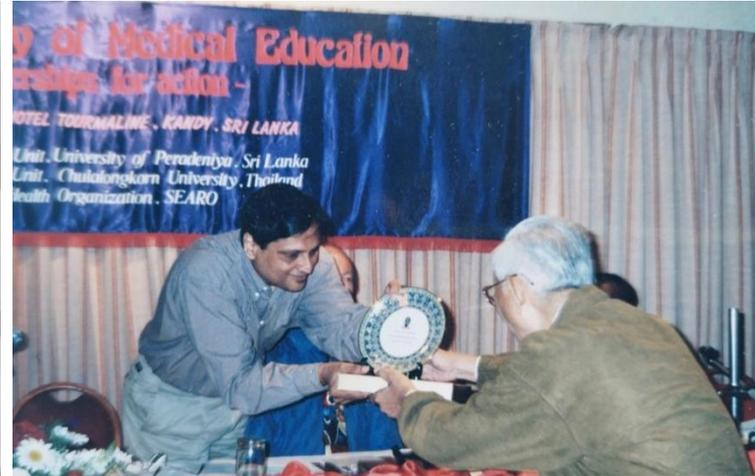


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Towards Quality of Medical Education: Partnership for Action – International Conference to mark 25th Anniversary

International Conference to mark 25 years of establishment of the WHO Regional Technical Training Centres (RTTTCs) in Sri Lanka and Thailand was organized by the Medical Education Unit of Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya on 14th – 16th December 1998.

Keynote addresses presented by Dr. Uton Muchtar Rafei, Regional Director, WHO/SEARO, the then Minister of Health, Sri Lanka, Mr Nimal Siripala de Silva and academicians and educationists of international repute.



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Workshop on Student Centred Learning by Dr. Joachim Perera (Senior Visiting Consultant)

A session on Student Centred Learning and Problem Based Learning, was held on 11th October 2022 at the Faculty Board Room, under the organisation by the Department of Medical Education.

The session was facilitated by Dr. Joachim Perera, a surgeon and a former academic staff member of the Department of Anatomy, University of Colombo and International Medical University Malaysia. Currently serving as a senior consultant to the Faculties of Medicine of Moratuwa and Sabaragamuwa, Dr. Joachim Perera holds a wealth of experience on implementing PBL in an Asian setting and also in constructing SBA and EMI in basic sciences. He had been a resource person of similar workshops to many institutes.



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Induction of the President & Collage Oration 2021

The Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine hosted the presidential induction and second oration of the College of Medical Educationists within the faculty premises on the 15th January 2021.

Prof. Kosala Marambe, Head, Department of Medical education was inducted as the president and Dr. Sisira Dharmaratne, senior lecturer of the Department of Medical Education delivered the second oration of the college titled "Expertise development: Reflections from a study on clinical reasoning within a challenging context in Sri Lanka".

This was held as a hybrid event under the health regulations due to the prevailing Covid situation of the country. Prof. P. T. Jayawickremarajah was present as the chief guest and Prof. Asiri Abeygunawardhane, Dean, faculty of Medicine and few academic staff members participated as special invitees. The event was watched live by more than 300 participants.



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A Pre-Conference Workshop on 'Delivering Effective Large and Small Group Teaching'

A Pre-conference workshop of the Colombo conference on medical education 2019 was held in the Faculty of medicine Peradeniya. It was conducted by Dr. Mark Lillicrap and Dr. Jeremy Webb from University of Cambridge UK.



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KSM Medical Education FORUM

KSM Medical Education Forum on Sharing Clinical Experience was held on 15th May 2019 at the Medical Education Unit. It was facilitated by Dr.SardhaHemapriya (Consultant – VOG) and Dr. SisiraDharmarathna (Medical Educationist)



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Workshop on Overview on Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis

Workshops titled Overview on qualitative research methods and data analysis - two half day workshops on 24th June and 1st July 2019 organized by the Medical Education Unit.

There were 25 participants including permanent academic staff and research assistants from Faculties of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Allied health sciences of the University of Peradeniya . These workshops were conducted with the assistance of resource persons in the faculties of Medicine of Universities of Peradeniya and Rajarata.



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A Training Workshop on “Enhancing the Quality of Teaching: How Can Peer- review Help?”

A training workshop on collegial processes to enhance the quality of the learning process titled “Enhancing the quality of teaching: how can peer- review help?” was organized by the Medical Education Unit of the Faculty of Medicine on the 23rd of January 2019.

Prof. Chinthaka Balasooriya, the Director of Medical Education Development of the University of New South Wales, attended the workshop as a resource person.



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Continuing professional development in higher education- lecture discussion on judicious use of power point and Integration and application of the foundational sciences to facilitate the transition to problem-based learning in a graduate medical curriculum.



Seminar on ‘Instructional design for active learning by Professor Henry P.A. (Els) Boshuizen

Professor Henry P. A. (Els) Boshuizen PhD (Maastricht University), MSc, BSc (University of Amsterdam) is an expert on professional learning and expertise development with an emphasis on medicine and has published numerous articles on learning and expertise development in professional domains the role of self-regulation in learning, curriculum design and problem-based learning.

She conducted a seminar on “ Instructional design for active learning on 14th September 2015 in Senate room.



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Professor Wendy Hu from University of Western Australia visited the MEU in 2016



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Staff development program for Teachers in faculties of health Sciences (UGC accredited induction program)



2012



2013



2016



2017



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Colombo Conference of Medical Education

The College of Medical Educationists (CME), formerly the Forum of Sri Lankan Medical Educationists (FOSME) is one of the pioneering bodies dedicated to improve the quality of medical and health professions education in the country,

It was held from 8th & 25th November 2021 as an entirely virtual session, followed by a post-conference session on 25th November. Pre-conference workshops were hosted by faculties of medicine from different parts of the country between 8th to 12th November 2021. Prof. Kosala Marambe was the President, CME and Chief Advisor while Dr. Sisira Dharmaratne held the duties as Conference Chairperson.

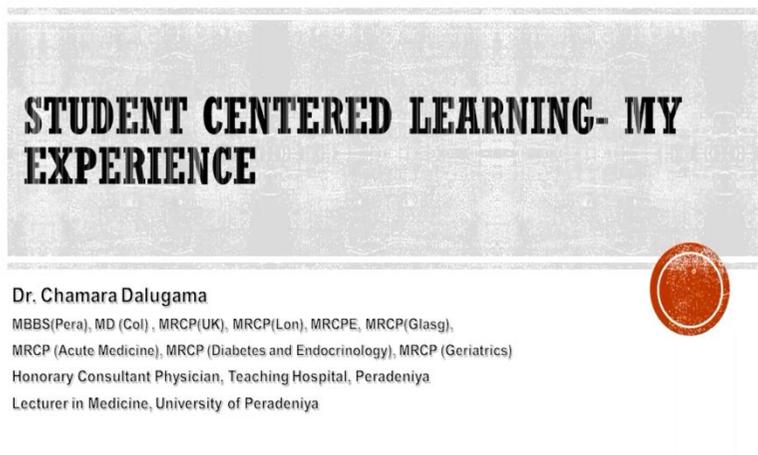


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Online workshops and Webinars

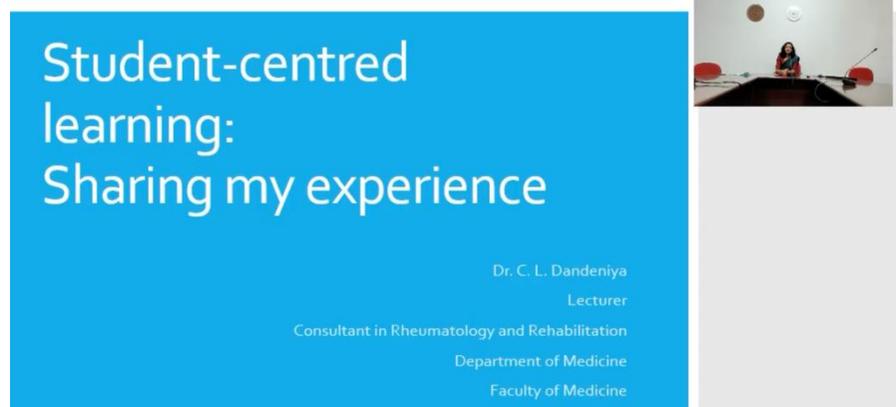
Despite the challenging circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, department of medical education persevered and continued to operate with resilience.

Recognizing the importance of continuous learning and professional development, we conducted a series of engaging online workshops and webinars. Dr. Chamara Dalugama and Dr. C.L Dandeniya shared their experiences on student centered learning in online workshops conducted in year 2022.



STUDENT CENTERED LEARNING- MY EXPERIENCE

Dr. Chamara Dalugama
MBBS(Pera), MD (Col), MRCP(UK), MRCP(Lon), MRCPE, MRCP(Glasg),
MRCP (Acute Medicine), MRCP (Diabetes and Endocrinology), MRCP (Geriatrics)
Honorary Consultant Physician, Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya
Lecturer in Medicine, University of Peradeniya



**Student-centred learning:
Sharing my experience**

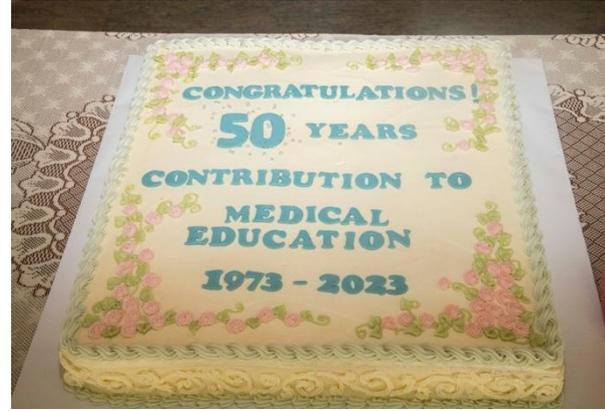
Dr. C. L. Dandeniya
Lecturer
Consultant in Rheumatology and Rehabilitation
Department of Medicine
Faculty of Medicine



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50th Anniversary Celebration

The Medical Education Department recently celebrated its 50th anniversary in a grand scale. The event, held in the Faculty Board Room on May 16th, brought together past directors and members of the medical education family. The highlight of the occasion was the virtual presence of Professor Jannet Grant, a distinguished figure in the field, who joined via Zoom. The celebration served as a reminder of the department's rich history and the collective commitment to advancing medical education.



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Acknowledgement

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all academic and non-academic staff members of the Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, and the staff associates for their immense contribution to write the narrative of medical education.

The long and dedicated services of Mr. J.C. Udurawana (Staff Technical officer), Mr. U.S.K. Ekanayake (Technical officer) and Mr. D.A Wimalasena (office assistant) are acknowledged with gratitude.

The DME highly appreciate the service of Dr. B.M. Thilakaratne (Temporary lecturer) in compiling the booklet October 2023.



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