



UNIVERSITY OF
PERADENIYA

NEWS

A QUARTERLY UPDATE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

Volume 11 No. 02
ISSN 2012 - 5356
April to June 2019

Chathurangi Eddussuriya tops the world and brings fame to the University of Peradeniya with a massive investment prize

Chathurangi Eddussuriya, a computer engineering undergraduate of the University of Peradeniya, has won the Construction Industry Solution Limited (COINS) Grand Challenge in the undergraduate category held in Manchester on the 12th of June, 2019



The challenge consisted of two entry categories, professional (Open) and the student (Undergraduate), with shortlisted ideas ranging from carbon negative building materials to autonomous land surveying marking drones. Six finalists in each category were invited to the UK for the final competition in which she managed to secure first place after competing with contestants from Edinburgh, Chicago, St. Carlo and India. Her "soil analyzer" with its on-location testing capability raised quite a few eyebrows which eventually granted her this great achievement. The winners were announced at a Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony held at the Imperial War Museum North, Salford Quays in Manchester, UK.

Chathurangi's product was a solution to the construction industry where field soil testing can be done in situ using sensors connected to a mobile device like a smartphone.

Continued on Page 15

CVCD Excellence Award 2018

The Awards Ceremony of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors (CVCD) Excellence Awards was held on the 19th of March 2019 under the patronage of President Maithripala Sirisena at the President's House in Colombo. The CVCD Excellence Awards Ceremony organized by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors is held once every two years. The CVCD Excellence Awards recognize and honour the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of the academic staff in Sri Lankan Universities. The President presented awards pertaining to six (06) disciplines of study.



The University of Peradeniya received the highest number of awards for Senior Researchers:

- Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in the field of Technology and related Sciences including Engineering, Architecture, Quantity Surveying and Information Technology
Professor J.B. Ekanayake, Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Engineering
- Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in the field of Biological Sciences including Agriculture and Allied Sciences
Professor W.A.J.M De Costa, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture
- Most Outstanding Senior Researcher in the field of Physical Sciences
Professor Rohana Chandrajith, Department of Geology, Faculty of Science

Closing Ceremony of the Induction Programme for Academic Staff – 2019



The Staff Development Centre of the University of Peradeniya completed the 16th Induction programme for probationary academic staff members on the 05th of April, 2019. The programme was held on the following days at the Staff Development Centre.

- 01st Segment – 21st to 25th January, 2019 and 28th January to 01st February, 2019
- 02nd Segment – 18th to 22nd February, 2019 and 25th February to 01st March, 2019
- 03rd Segment – 25th to 29th March, 2019 and 01st to 05th April, 2019

The closing ceremony of the above programme was held at the auditorium of the Staff Development Centre on the 05th of April, 2019 at

3.00 p.m. Prof. Upul B. Dissanayake, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Parakrama Karunaratne, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S.R. Kodituwakku, Dean/Faculty of Science, Dr. Vajira Jayasinghe, Dean/Faculty of Dental Sciences, Mr. Saman Rajapaksha, the Acting Registrar, University of Peradeniya and Mr. E.A.R.M. Edirisinghe, the Bursar, University of Peradeniya and a few resource persons graced the occasion. Thirty-three probationary academic staff members were awarded certificates for the successful completion of the induction programme. Thirty-five internal and external experts took part in the programme as resource persons.



Workshops on the Overview on Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis



Two half-day workshops titled Overview on Qualitative Research Methods and Data Analysis was held on the 24th of June, and the 1st of July, 2019 organized by the Medical Education Unit.

There were 23 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 the Universities of Peradeniya and Rajarata.

The sharing of experiences on the conduct and publication of qualitative research was highly appreciated by the enthusiastic participants.