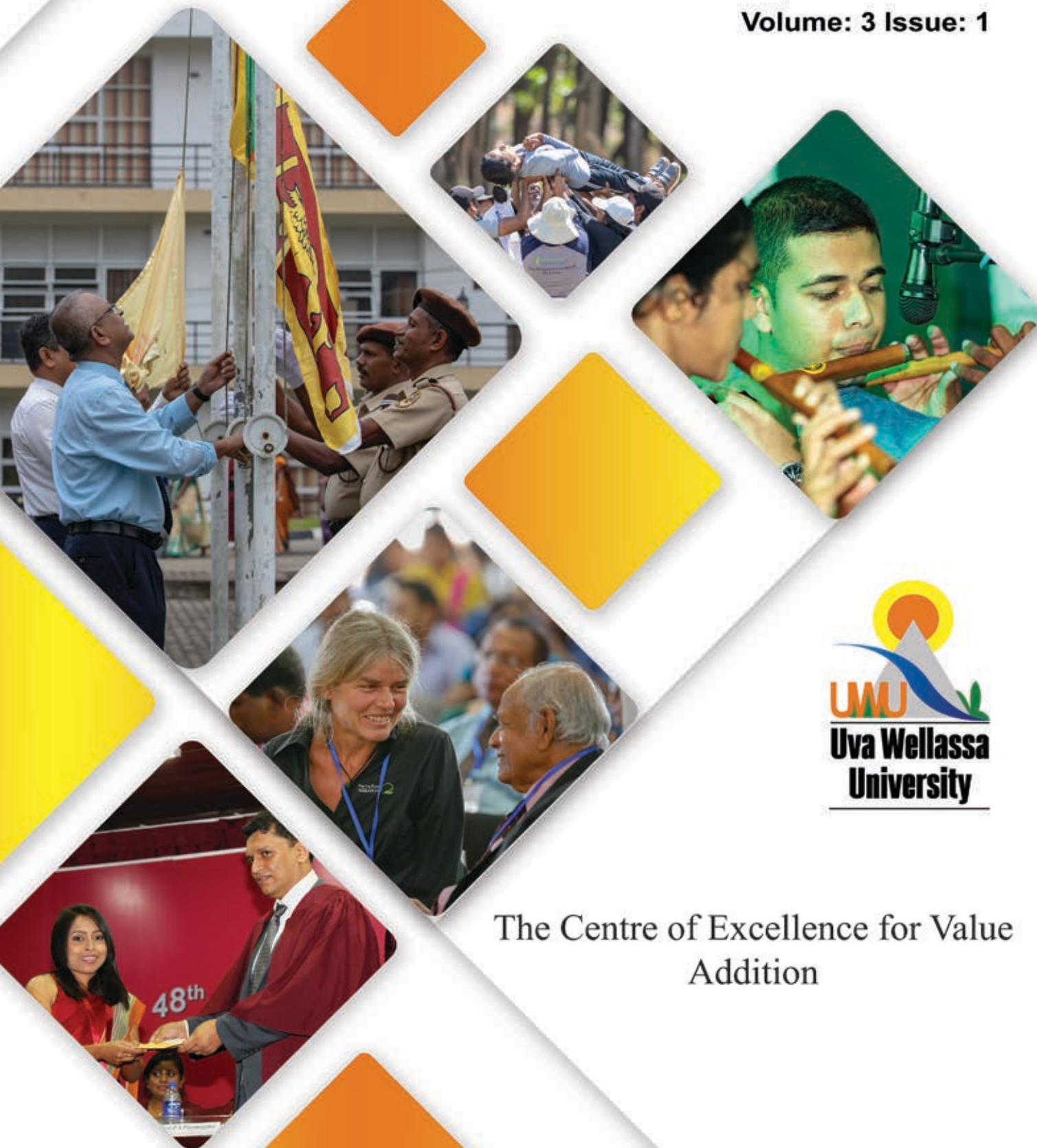


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Uva Wellassa University  
**UWU NEWS**

January-June 2019

Volume: 3 Issue: 1



The Centre of Excellence for Value  
Addition

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## Acknowledgment

The Vice Chancellor and all staff of UWU

Audio Visual Unit of Faculty of Management, Uva Rayon Media Club and Students of UWU for providing photos

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## Ceremonial Launching - Journal of Technology and Value Addition

The Maiden volume of the Journal of Technology and Value Addition (JTVA) of UWU was ceremonially launched on April 4, 2019 with the participation of the Vice Chancellor, Deans, Registrar, Librarian, Bursar and staff members of the UWU. Prof. J.L.Ratnasekara, Vice Chancellor making the Keynote speech highlighted the significance of research and scientific communication in today's knowledge society. The Editor in Chief Prof. S.C. Jayamanne focused on scope and coverage of JTVA in her speech.



# Reaching New Heights

## MoU with Tharanga Friendship Group, Japan

A Memorandum of Understanding between the UWU and Tharanga Friendship Group, Nagoya, Japan for academic collaboration was signed under the Sakura Project on February 8, 2019 at UWU. The MoU was signed by the Dean, Faculty of Management and officials from Japan. This was an important step towards building a strong network in the future.



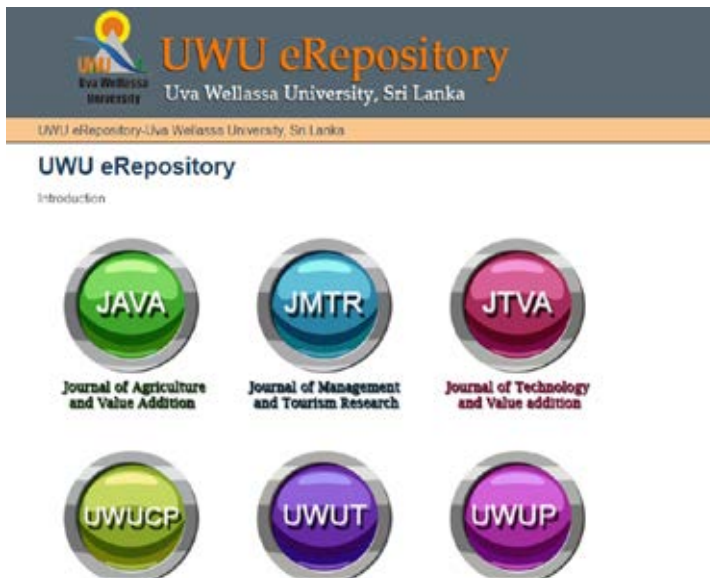
## Establishment of the Department of Tourism Studies



The Department of Tourism Studies, the 10<sup>th</sup> Department of the UWU was established in April, 2019 under the Faculty of Management. Dr. J.P.R.C. Ranasinghe was appointed as the first Head of the Department.

## The Library Launched Institutional Repository

The Library launched Institutional Repository (IR) with the purpose of creating global visibility for UWU’s scholarly work and this system is based on open – source software “DSpace”. The IR was launched by the Vice Chancellor with the participation of Deans, Registrar, Librarian, Bursar and Members of Library Committee, took place on April 30, 2019 at the Senate Room. The system was developed by Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian with the support of the Library staff.



## Chair for the Sri Lankan Forum of University Economists

The UWU has been elected as the Chair of the Sri Lanka Forum of University Economists for the year of 2020 at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on June 20, 2019 at the University of Ruhuna. Dr. P.H.T. Kumara, Head, Department of Public Administration along with the staff members represented the UWU.

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## International Research Conference of UWU (IRCUWU) 2019

International Research Conference of UWU (IRCUWU-2019) was held during February 7-9, 2019 at UWU premises. The inaugural session was presided by the Vice Chancellor. The inaugural session was followed by a plenary session where two distinguished guest speakers delivered speeches on different themes. In this session, Senior Prof. H.H.D.N.P. Opatha delivered speech on Sustainability and Organizational Ethics: An Innovative Management Thinking” while Professor Noel Scott delivered Speech on “Tourism – Technology and Innovation”.

The International Research Conference 2019 consisted of 18 tracks under different thematic areas where 592 papers were presented under Oral (358) and Poster (234) presentations, which followed after the plenary session. It was notable that over 45 foreigners have participated in the event from Australia, India, Japan and New Zealand. International Research Conference concluded with the Conference Dinner, Cultural Show and Conference tour.

Further, Research Awards for UWU Academic staffs who published their research works in journals and had highest number of citations for the year 2017 were awarded. The awards for the Most Outstanding Young and Senior Researcher of the year 2017 were also awarded.





## Beyond the Horizon - Collaboration and Linkages

### International Conference on Recent Advances in Computer Science and Engineering - Keynote Speaker - Dr. K.W.S.N. Kumari

Dr. K.W.S.N. Kumari, Senior Lecturer, Department of Science & Technology was the Keynote Speaker at the International Conference on Recent Advances in Computer Science and Engineering (IC-RACE2019) organized by the Acharya Nagarjuna University, India, held on March 4-5, 2019. She delivered the keynote address on Statistical Concepts and Application in Hypothesis Testing and Modeling. She also delivered a guest lecture on Nonlinear Regression Analysis for Postgraduate Students of Mathematics, Department of Mathematics at the same university.



### International Seminar on Green Information Technology in Managing Libraries - Resource Person - Dr. T. Pratheepan



Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian participated as a Resource Person in International Seminar on Green Information Technology in Managing Libraries organized by the Department of Library & Information Science, Madurai Kamaraj University, India, took place on April 23, 2019. It consisted of lecture, discussion of topics on green technology for library services and adoption of technology for green library environment.



## Staffs' Outstanding Achievements

### NRC Research Grant - Prof. Saman Herath

Prof. Saman Herath, Department of Export Agriculture, Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture was awarded an Investigator Driven Research Grant (LKR 8.3 million) from the National Research Council (NRC). The primary objective of this project will be to investigate and quantify the variation of soil physico-chemical properties and soil carbon dynamics of tropical rainforests and tropical montane forests of Sri Lanka across an altitudinal gradient spanning from lower elevations (<400 m) to upper elevations (>2000 m). The result of the project will enable the determination of how these above- and below-ground processes respond to variation of temperature across the altitudinal gradient. Prof. Rohana Chandrajith, Senior Professor, Department of Geology, Faculty of Science, and Professor W.A.J.M. De Costa, Senior Professor and Chair of Crop Science, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture from the University of Peradeniya will act as Co-Investigators of this Research Project.



### Prof. J.P.C. Chandrasena Memorial Award 2019 - Dr. Pamoda B. Ratnaweera

Dr. Pamoda B. Ratnaweera, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Applied Sciences was awarded the Prof. J.P.C. Chandrasena Memorial Award – 2019 for her exceptional research contribution in the field of Organic Chemistry and related areas such as Biochemistry, Pharmacognosy, Molecular Biology and Bio activity studies, by the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon. She has delivered Prof. J.P.C. Chandrasena Memorial Lecture at the Inaugural Session, held on June 10, 2019 in Colombo.



### Best Researcher Award - Indian Academic Researchers' Association - Dr. T. Pratheepan



Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian was awarded the Best Researcher Award for his outstanding contribution and publications in the field of Library and Information Sciences by the Indian Academic Researchers' Association. The awarding ceremony was held on April 21, 2019 at Jamal Mohamed College auditorium, India.

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## First Impression: The Perfect Start to UWU life

Ceremonial inauguration was organized to welcome the newcomers to the UWU family during January 28 - February 22, 2019 proving all newcomers with knowledge required in continuing their academic career at the UWU. Talent night was organized to provide an opportunity for newcomers to manifest their talents refreshing their minds where the staff members and students could gain a memorable as well as pleasing aesthetic experience.







# Students' Remarkable Journey and Achievements

## UWU Team - BevyLabs Shines at Thailand Inventors Day

UWU Team – BevyLabs from the Department of Computer Science & Technology was awarded IPITex Gold Medal and a Special Award from Indian Innovator Association at Bangkok International Intellectual Property Invention, Innovation & Technology Exposition held on February 6, 2019. There were 443 inventions from 25 countries at IPITex 2019. The objective of this event was to improve, develop and create the collaboration between Thai inventors and International inventors.

UWU Team - BevyLabs comprised of Buddhika P. De Silva, Rajith Karunarathne, Isuru Edirisinghe, Praneeth Jayarathne, Randika Madhusan.



## Sancharaka Udawa - 2019

3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduates of Hospitality Tourism & Events Management degree program, participated and displayed tourism related products and information in the “Sancharaka Udawa” exhibition organized by the Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB) on June 21-22, 2019 at BMICH. This was mainly focused on gaining exposure on industry knowledge, tourism plan and marketing.



# Widening Participation: Our Work towards Community

## Shilpabhisheka 2019

Undergraduates of UWU organized the annual donation programme “Shilpabhisheka 2019” to B/Moraketiya Vidyalaya, Moraketiya, Akkaraseeya on May 27, 2019. Exercise books and stationary items were donated with the support of lecturers, relations of the students and well-wishers. It was a good experience for most of the individuals in supporting to the poor school children.



## Nenasara 2019

The annual community service programme “Nenasara 2019” was organized by the undergraduates of the Tea Technology & Value Addition Degree Programme. This was undertaken as a social welfare activity to B/ Shivanantha Tamil Vidyalayam, Glen Alpin, Badulla on May 24, 2019. Stationary items and exercise books were donated to the school children.



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# Widening Participation: Our Work towards Community

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## Poson Dansal Series

The annual Dansal Programme was organized by the students of UWU on June 5, 2019 near the university premises. Most of the students were actively involved in the annual Dansal.



# Widening Participation: Our Work towards Community

## Saakshara 2019

The annual CSR activity “Saakshara 2019” was organized by the Animal Science Society of Department of Animal Science, UWU for providing stationary items to students of low income families, on March 14, 2019 at the B/Kohovilkandura Vidyalaya, Badulla. The event was filled with cheerful moments and brought a hopeful smile to the faces of children.



# Workshops and Seminars

## Workshop on Embedded System Design & Development Process

A three-day workshop on Embedded System Design and Development Process organized by the Department of Science and Technology in collaboration with Zone24X7, Inc, was held during June 28-30, 2019 at the UWU for students of Science & Technology, Computer Science & Technology Degree Programmes.



## Workshop on Research Indicators & Research Management

Workshop on Research Indicators, Scholarly Publications and Research Management organized by the Library of UWU, was held on February 12, 2019 at the Main Computer Lab. The Main objective of the workshop was to brainstorm on how to enhance research and publication output in the era of modern technology. The workshop covered various topics related to Research Indicators, Reference Management tools, Plagiarism control, Citation Databases, Copyright, Intellectual Property Rights, Journal Selection Tools and Open Online Resources for Research. Workshop was conducted by 4 eminent resource persons from India, and there were 104 participants from 7 universities of Sri Lanka, National Science Foundation and UWU.



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## Workshops and Seminars

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### Outbound Training Programme

An outbound training programme (OBT) was organized for 4<sup>th</sup> year students of Transports Economics, University of Colombo and 4<sup>th</sup> year students of HTE Degree Programme, UWU as a collaborative effort of both universities during March 8-10, 2019 at Badulla. Students had the opportunity to engage in array of interactive and interesting activities which led promoting unity among diversity while inculcating the value of team spirit in achieving goals.



### Workshop on Events Management

A workshop on Events Management organized by the Department of Tourism Studies held on March 23, 2019 for 3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduates with the purpose of enhancing skills on banquet management. A novel system-based approach has been taken to enhance undergraduate's skill in applying new technologies for planning and managing events.

### Workshop on ICT for Tourism

A workshop on ICT for Tourism was organized by the Department of Tourism Studies with the aim of enhancing the students' knowledge on ICT and providing practical exposure on travel related applications used in the tourism industry. It was held on June 28, 2019 for 3<sup>rd</sup> year undergraduates with the support of eminent IT Managers in Hotel Industry.



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## Workshops and Seminars

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### Workshop on Conducting Literature Survey & Refraining from Plagiarism

A workshop on Conducting Literature Survey and Refraining from Plagiarism was organized by the Library with the purpose of enhancing students' capacity on literature review and handling the problem with online plagiarism tools, was held on March 30, 2019. Dr. Wathmanel Senevirathna, Librarian of Open University Sri Lanka served as the Resource Person for this workshop.



### Workshop on Higher Education Opportunities in USA

A workshop on Higher Education Opportunities in USA was organized by the Department of Science & Technology in collaboration with the United States-Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission (US-SLFC) held on March 12, 2019 at the UWU. Ms. Noorul Soraya Fajudeen and Ms. Natasha Lalanthi Dissanayake from United States-Sri Lanka Fulbright Commission were the resource personnel. The morning session of the workshop was conducted at the Main Computer Laboratory with the participation of more than 100 students and Evening session was reserved for the academic staff of the university on the "Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program 2019/2020".





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# Amusement through Sports: Playing and Enjoying

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## Badminton Tournament among the UWU Staff

The Physical Education Unit of the UWU organized Badminton Tournament among the staff members of the UWU on January 8, 2019 at UWU indoor badminton court. The tournament consisted of 15 men's double teams, 7 women's double teams and 7 mixed double teams representing all the categories of the staff members in the UWU.



## Friendship Match - Baseball

Baseball match organized by the University of Peradeniya in collaboration with the UWU was held on June 15, 2019 at the University of Peradeniya playground with the purpose of promoting interest on baseball among the university students.



# Appointments and Promotions

## Appointments



Dr. M.A.R.L. Samaraweera  
Senior Lecturer (Grade II)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 24.04.2019



Dr. R.U.W.M.C.B. Rambukwella  
Senior Lecturer (Grade II)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 06.06.2019



Dr. V.H.P. Vitharana  
Lecturer (Unconfirmed)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 23.04.2019



Mr. T. Thevathayarajh  
Lecturer (Probationary)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 05.03.2019



Mr. A.U. Asela  
Lecturer (Probationary)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 23.04.2019



Mr. A.K.C.P. Premarathna  
Lecturer (Probationary)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 23.04.2019



Ms. M.I.F.S. Shajah  
Assistant Registrar/Academic  
Research & Publication  
With effect from 02.05.2019

## Promotions



Prof. P.I.N. Fernando  
Professor in Management  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 01.02.2017



Prof. K.G. Premathilake  
Professor in Weed Science  
Faculty of Animal Science &  
Export Agriculture  
With effect from 14.09.2017



Mr. T.M.P.S.I. Tennakoon  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (I)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 16.02.2017



Dr. P.H.T. Kumara  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (I)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 01.03.2017

# Appointments and Promotions



Dr. T.H.N.G. Amaraweera  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (I)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 01.06.2018



Dr. P.E. Kaliyadasa  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (I)  
Faculty of Animal Science &  
Export Agriculture  
With effect from 15.10.2018



Dr. S.R.W.M.C.J.K. Ranawana  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (I)  
Faculty of Animal Science &  
Export Agriculture  
With effect from 15.10.2018



Dr. A.A.K.K. Jayawardhana  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 22.10.2012



Dr. J. Siyambalapitiya  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 15.07.2013



Ms. S.F. Fasana  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 01.03.2018



Ms. C.M. Peries  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 02.11.2018



Dr. R.P.D. Gunathilake  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Animal Science &  
Export Agriculture  
With effect from 06.06.2018



Ms. D.P.C. Vithana  
Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. (II)  
With effect from 01.09.2018



Ms. A.K.A. Damunupola  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Management  
With effect from 01.10.2018



Dr. (Ms.) R.M.S.I. Rathnayake  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Applied Sciences  
With effect from 02.04.2019

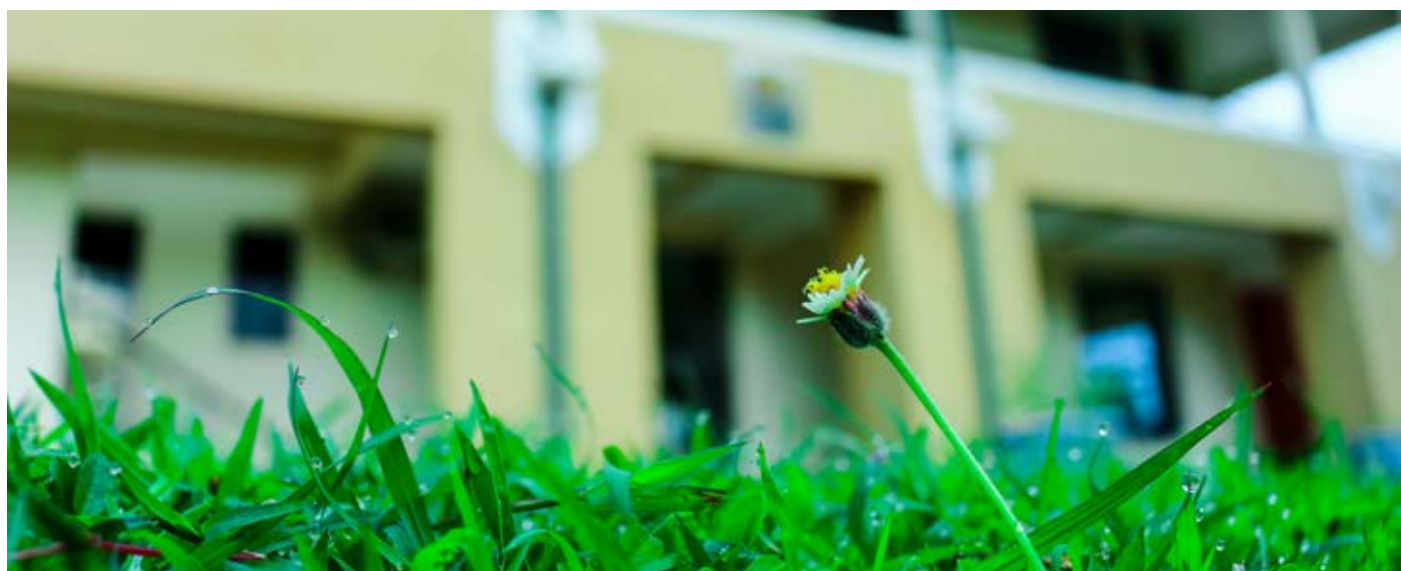


Ms. A.G.A.W. Alakolanga  
Senior Lecturer Gr. (II)  
Faculty of Animal Science &  
Export Agriculture  
With effect from 10.04.2019

UWU Author (s)	Title of the Paper and the Source
SD Rathnayaka et al.	Modelling Sri Lankan consumption patterns using error corrected LA-AIDS Source: <a href="#">Economic Modelling</a>
SD Rathnayaka et al.	Consumption patterns in Sri Lanka: a decomposition analysis Source: <a href="#">Applied Economics</a>
SL Jayasinghe et.al.	Modeling the climate suitability of tea [Camellia sinensis(L.) O. Kuntze] in Sri Lanka in response to current and future climate change scenarios Source: <a href="#">Agricultural and Forest Meteorology</a>
WGC Kumarage et al.	Improvement of the Photo-Activity of CdS Thin Films Using TX-100 Source: <a href="#">Journal of Electronic Materials</a>
J Pitawala et al.	A ceramic composite derived from high-grade rock phosphate as a substitution for human bone Source: <a href="#">Materials Technology</a>
THNG Amaraweera et al.	Synthesis of Li(Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>1/3</sub> Co <sub>1/3-x</sub> Bax)O <sub>2</sub> cathode materials for lithium-ion rechargeable battery by glycine-nitrate combustion process Source: <a href="#">IONICS</a>
AS Ratnayake et al.	Application of geochemical techniques for prospecting unconventional phosphate sources: A case study of the lake sediments in Eppawala area Sri Lanka Source: <a href="#">Journal of Geochemical Exploration</a>
SR Senevirathna et al.	Effect of microstructural arrangement of MDI-based polyurethanes on their photoproperties Source: <a href="#">Journal of Applied Polymer Science</a>
T Cooray et al.	Assessment of Groundwater Quality in CKDu Affected Areas of Sri Lanka: Implications for Drinking Water Treatment Source: <a href="#">International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health</a>
KMMCB Kulathunga et al.	How Does Financial Literacy Promote Sustainability in SMEs? A Developing Country Perspective Source: <a href="#">Sustainability</a>
BVASM Bambaranda et al.	Optimization of Macroalgal Density and Salinity for Nutrient Removal by Caulerpa lentillifera from Aquaculture Effluent Source: <a href="#">Processes</a>

UWU Author (s)	Title of the Paper and the Source
PB Ratnaweera et al.	Stable isotope feeding studies reveal a steroid 5(6 → 7)abeo ring contraction biogenesis for the antibiotic solaniolic acid produced by cultures of the fungus <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> Source: <a href="#">Journal of Antibiotics</a>
NM Wijesundara et al.	Bactericidal and Anti-Biofilm Activity of Ethanol Extracts Derived from Selected Medicinal Plants against <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Source: <a href="#">Molecules</a>
GTD Chandrakumara et al.	Akaganeite nanorices deposited muscovite mica surfaces as sunlight active green photocatalyst Source: <a href="#">Royal Society Open Science</a>
AS Ratnayake et al.	Molecular indicators of early stage diagenesis in the tropical coastal Bolgoda Lake, Sri Lanka Source: <a href="#">Journal of The National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka</a>
AMNL Abesinghe et al.	Effects of ultrasound on the fermentation profile of fermented milk products incorporated with lactic acid bacteria Source: <a href="#">International Dairy Journal</a>
T Bandara et al.	Microalgae <i>Scenedesmus</i> sp. as a potential ingredient in low fishmeal diets for Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> L.) Source: <a href="#">Aquaculture</a>
ID Singhalage et al.	Profitability of strawberry ( <i>Fragaria ananassa</i> ) production with biofilmed biofertilizer application Source: <a href="#">Scientia Horticulturae</a>
DPN De Silva et al.	Transcriptomic analysis of immunoglobulin novel antigen receptor (IgNAR) heavy chain constant domains of brownbanded bamboo shark ( <i>Chiloscyllium punctatum</i> ) Source: <a href="#">Fish &amp; Shellfish Immunology</a>

Source: Web of Science



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## Upcoming Events

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### 9<sup>th</sup> General Convocation

The 9<sup>th</sup> General Convocation of UWU is scheduled to be held at Magam Ruhunupura International Convention Centre (MRICC), Hambantota on August 31, 2019 to acknowledge the students' success before moving to the next phase of their career. The Chancellor of UWU will confer the Bachelors' Degree on Graduands.







## News to be Sent,

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