

Uva Wellassa University

# UWU NEWS

January - June 2018

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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 and Uva Rayon Media Club of UWU for providing photos.

## Opening of the Senate Room

The opening of the newly furnished Senate Room was held on January 2, 2018. The ribbon cutting was done by Dr. G. Chandrasena as the Chief Guest. Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera, the Vice Chancellor, Deans of the Faculties, Registrar, Librarian, Heads of the Departments, academic staff and administrative staff, as well as other invitees entailed in this event.



# Reaching New Heights

## The Maiden Newsletter of UWU



The maiden Newsletter of the UWU, “UWU NEWS” was ceremonially launched on January 2, 2018 at the Senate Room of UWU with the presence of Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera, the Vice Chancellor and Dr. G. Chandrasena, the former Vice Chancellor as Chief Guests. Deans of the Faculties, Registrar, Librarian, Heads of the Departments, Directors of the Centres/Units, academic staff, students, administrative staff and non-academic staff took part adding glamour to this event.

## Sakura Tree Planting Ceremony



A Sakura (Japanese Cherry) Tree Planting Ceremony (a Pilot Project in Tourism Promotion in Badulla District) was held at the UWU in collaboration with Badulla District Secretariat and Meijo University of Japan on January 3, 2018 with the participation of Hon. M.P. Jayasinghe, the Governor of Uva Province, Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera, Vice Chancellor of the UWU, Mr. Mahindapala Jopheus, Additional District Secretary of Badulla, Professor Anada Kumara, Meijo University of Japan and many other invitees including members of JICA and JOCV.

# Reaching New Heights

## Stakeholder Meeting on proposed BBM (Hons) in HRD

The stakeholder meeting on proposed curriculum of Bachelor of Business Management (Honours) in Human Resources Development Degree Programme, Faculty of Management was held during February 2 - 3, 2018 at the university premises with the involvement of academics, industrialists and students being the key stakeholders.



## Introductory Session on AHEAD Programme

The introductory session on Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD), World Bank funded programme was conducted at the Senate Room of the university on April 25, 2018 with the participation of Dr. Harsha Aturupana/Lead Economist, The World Bank, Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera/Vice Chancellor of UWU, Prof. Thusitha Abeythunga, Dr. Romola Rassool, Dr. Kumudika Boyagoda, members of AHEAD project team, Dr. Ruwan Ranasinghe, Director/OTS, UWU and senior academic staff of the university. Introduction to AHEAD programme, scope and key result areas were introduced by the experts followed by a question and answer session.



# Reaching New Heights

## Launching Ceremony of “ANS NEWSLETTER”

Animal Science Society of the UWU proudly launched the first “ANS NEWSLETTER” on April 25, 2018. The ceremony took place at the Senate Room with the participation of Vice Chancellor, Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera as the Chief Guest and over 30 distinguished guests including academic staff, non-academic staff and students of ANS.

Mr. Dinesh Dunukara, the Vice President of Animal Science Society welcomed all the guests for the event and Mr. Nalin Jayantha, Junior Editor of Animal Science Society explained the objectives.



## “Upadhidhari Vyawasayakathwa Udanaya” Programme



To build up successful graduate entrepreneurs, to create employment opportunities for community and to encourage educated youth community towards the business sector, “Upadhidhari Viyawasayaka Udanaya” (Graduate Entrepreneur Programme) was conducted by the Career Guidance Unit of UWU in collaboration with the National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA).

Awarding Ceremony of Graduates Entrepreneurship Grants was held on April 25, 2018 at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce under the distinguished patronage of the Hon. Minister Rishad Bathiudeen. Six students of UWU; W.S.P. Wijesinghe, Mr. J.A. Dilipa Sandaruwan Jayakody - Hospitality Tourism and Event Management Degree Program (3rd year), Mr. Hasitha Madusanka Edirisinghe - Science & Technology Degree Program (2nd year), Ms. Subodha Uthpalawanna Silva, Ms. L.B.A. Sandeepani Balasooriya - Aquatic Resources and Technology Degree Program (2nd year) and Mr. Yashodha Niyomal Wijewardana - Export Agriculture Degree Program (2nd year) were awarded at this ceremony.

# Reaching New Heights

## The Library with a New Phase of Technology

The Library launched Online Catalogue and Library Management System with the aim of improving and expanding services for users and this system is based on open - source software “KOHA”. The formal launching of the Library Management System took place on February 5, 2018 at the library with the participation of the Vice Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Registrar, academicians, non-academic staff and students. The library website was also launched by the Vice Chancellor.



## Launching the Journal of Agriculture and Value Addition (JAVA)

Journal of Agriculture and Value Addition (JAVA) was launched on May 31, 2018 as the maiden Research Journal of the Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture in UWU. Launching was undertaken as an amiable ceremony at the Senate Room of the university. Prof. Saman Herath, Editor-in-Chief, gave an overview about the JAVA after welcoming the gathering. Thereafter, Prof. Thilak Attanayake attached to the Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture on sabbatical basis, delivered a speech on 'Agriculture and Value Addition' presenting the potentials that are available for adding value to the agriculture and related disciplines taking examples from the present domain.



# Beyond the Horizon - Collaborations and Linkages

## Resource Person in International Seminars

Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian participated as a resource person in international seminars and workshops organized by a number of higher educational institutes and universities in India during February 26 - March 10, 2018. It was consisted with lectures and sessions comprised of topics in Research Management Tools and Techniques, Reading habits for research endeavors, Open Access Digital Resources for academicians and Open Source Library Management System.



## Training Programme on Strategic Management



The Vice Chancellor Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera and Registrar Mr. M.F. Hibathul Careem attended a training programme on Strategic Management during February 28 – March 7, 2018 in Australia organized jointly by the Business School, University of Sydney and the Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The event was an important step towards building a strong, dynamic network for future development of the UWU.

## Managerial Competency Development Programme

Dr. J.P.R.C Ranasinghe, Head/Department of Management Sciences and Mr. R. Sharweswara/SAR participated in Managerial Competency Development Programme organized by the National Human Resource Development Council at University of Putra, Malaysia during February 26 - March 2, 2018. The event was designed with a purpose of getting different exposure in team building, problem solving and Strategic Management etc.



## Days for Freshers: The Perfect Start to UWU Life



Ceremonial Inauguration was organized to welcome the newcomers to the UWU Family during January 15 - 30, 2018 providing all newcomers with knowledge basically required in continuing their academic career at the UWU.

Signifying the conclusion of this programme, "Afinidad" - the talent night offered an extraordinary opportunity for newcomers to manifest their talents refreshing their minds where the Vice Chancellor, academic staff, administrative staff, non-academic staff and students could gain a memorable as well as pleasing aesthetic experience.



# International Research Symposium 2018 - "IRSUWU 2018"



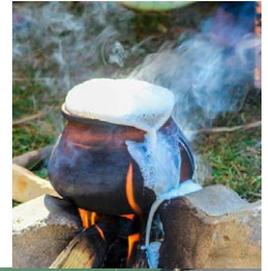
The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Research Symposium of UWU (IRSUWU 2018) was held during February 1-3, 2018 at UWU Premises. The inaugural session was presided by the Vice Chancellor, Dr. J.L. Ratnasekera, Mr. H.M.B.C. Herath, Additional Secretary, Mr. P.M. Dharmatilake, Project Director of Ministry of Science, Technology and Research. The Project Director - COSTI, Prof. Ajith De Alwis, the Guest of Honour delivered a speech on "Nature - The Final Frontier". Prof. L.C. De Silva (Brunei), Prof. Girish Nath Jha (India) and Prof. Shireen Assem (Egypt) delivered keynote speeches in the plenary session chaired by Prof. Ajith De Alwis. The Technical Sessions for 12 thematic areas were conducted where 425 research papers were presented. On February 3, 2018, the IRSUWU 2019 was successfully concluded with the symposium tour to Horton Plains via Nuwara Eliya, having gained a impressive experience with enjoyment.



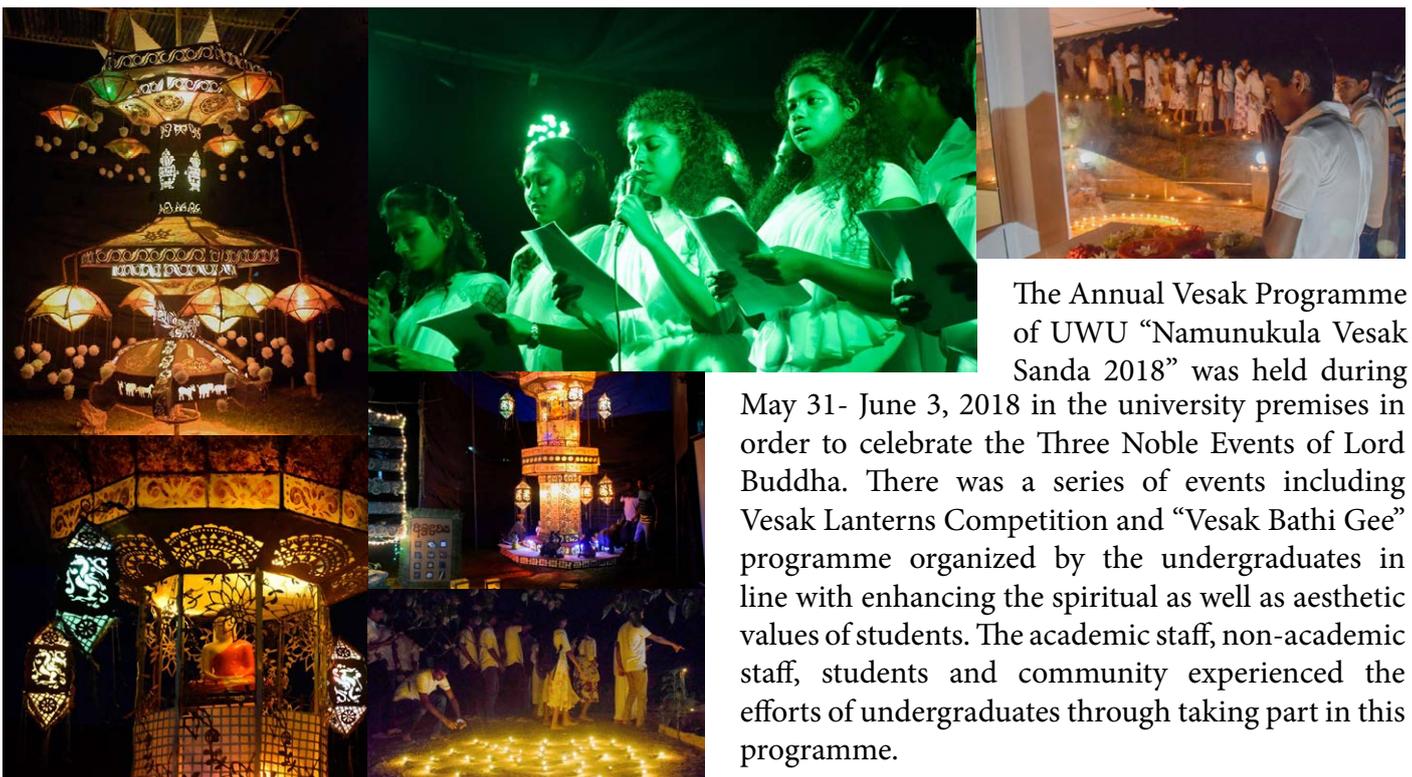


## “Wellassa Kona Mangalya – 2018”

“Wellassa Kona Mangalya – 2018”, the annual New Year festival of the UWU was held on April 22, 2018 at the university premises. This glamorous event was organized with the prime intention of valuing Sinhala and Tamil rituals and customs while enhancing the unity and harmony of undergraduates beyond the ethnic and religious boundaries. The event was comprised with New Year games and other entertaining activities where Sinhala and Tamil sweets delighted the New Year dining table.



## “Namunukula Vesak Sanda 2018”



The Annual Vesak Programme of UWU “Namunukula Vesak Sanda 2018” was held during May 31- June 3, 2018 in the university premises in order to celebrate the Three Noble Events of Lord Buddha. There was a series of events including Vesak Lanterns Competition and “Vesak Bathi Gee” programme organized by the undergraduates in line with enhancing the spiritual as well as aesthetic values of students. The academic staff, non-academic staff, students and community experienced the efforts of undergraduates through taking part in this programme.

## Galena 2018 - "Aloha-Let's Escape the Typical"

Galena 2018 was held in the university premises on May 16, 2018 with the theme of "Aloha - Let's Escape the Typical" creating a once in a lifetime experience for 180 guests, familiarizing them with the vivid colours of the Hawaiian culture through a fine dining. Under the guidance of the academic advisor, Dr. Ruwan Ranasinghe and the academic staff in the Department of Public Administration, third year undergraduates of Hospitality, Tourism and Events Management Degree Program organized this colorful evening. This has become a major annual event in the academic calendar of HTE Degree Programme.



## "Athambula" –The Harmonious Eve



"Athambula" – the harmonious eve was staged at University Auditorium on June 11, 2018 to enrich art appreciation skills of UWU undergraduates. Voice of Veteran Musician Visharada Sarath Peiris added allure to the eve while art critic Mr. Janahitha Wijebandara made a resourceful critique on Sri Lankan Art and Musical arena. This workshop was conducted as a partial fulfillment of the subject "Aesthetic Studies", which is a part of Broad General Education of UWU unique curriculum.

# Amusement through Sports: Playing and Enjoying

## “IIT Rugby 7’s”

“IIT Rugby 7’s”, the Inter University Rugby Tournament organized by the undergraduates of Industrial Information Technology Degree Program for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year was successfully held on February 17, 2018 at the playground of UWU. This event provided a platform for rugby players of Sabaragamuwa University, University of Jaffna, 4 school teams and Uva Club Rugby teams to exhibit their talents while strengthening the team spirit where the Sabaragamuwa University emerged as the champions.



# Amusement through Sports: Playing and Enjoying

## “ANS Trophy 2018”

The 2<sup>nd</sup> year undergraduates of the Animal Science Degree Programme organized the “ANS Trophy 2018” football tournament on June 12, 2018 for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive time encouraging the students of the fellow departments to brush up their ingenuities while encouraging the team spirits among students. The tournament created an entertaining atmosphere for both freshers and professionals to play the game. UWU Fire Birds representing former football players of the university secured the championship while MGT Ball Blusters bagged the Runners Up title adding pride to the Department of Management Sciences.



# Amusement through Sports: Playing and Enjoying

## Inaugural Meeting of Sports Council



The inaugural meeting of the Sports Council of UWU was held on June 4, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce new office bearers of the council and to improve the knowledge on UWU sports. The Director of Physical Education, in charge of Physical Education, Senior Students Counselor, academic staff, non-academic staff, captains, vice captains and the players participated in this occasion.



## Cricket Tournament and “Paduru Party”

The Welfare Society of the UWU hosted a Cricket Tournament and a Cultural Event on June 28, 2018 for the staff members of the UWU to mark their third anniversary. The cricket tournament consisted of 11 teams representing all categories of the staff members in the UWU. The final match of the tournament was held between the teams of Faculty of Animal Science & Export Agriculture and Department of Science & Technology where Faculty of Animal Science & Export Agriculture won the championship.

The event was then continued in the evening with “Paduru Party” having musical performances of UWU Family.



# Widening Participation: Our Work towards Community

## Bridging ICT Knowledge and Skills Gap

The Department of Computer Science & Technology conducted a Workshop on “Computer Networking” strengthening its long-lasting relationship with the school community on June 15, 2018 in order to bridge the Information Communication Technology (ICT) knowledge and skills gap. The target audience was the students and teachers of GCE A/L at R/ Karawita Central College.



## “Poson Dansala”



The students of Certificate in English for School Leavers (CESL) organized a Dansala on Adhi Poson Full Moon Poya Day, May 29, 2018 in front of the Provincial Council at Badulla. The prime objective of this event was to practice alms giving which has been pointed out by the Lord Buddha while strengthening the unity and harmony as well as team spirit among the students who pursue CESL course at UWU where students from multi ethnic and multi-cultural backgrounds got together in organizing this Dansala. The Coordinator of CESL, lecturers and other invitees with students actively involved in this event where more than 2000 pilgrims got the opportunity of having tasty noodles with a soy devil prepared by the students.



# Widening Participation: Our Work towards Community

## “Sipmankada” 2018

“Sipmankada” 2018, the Annual activity under community service organized by UWU Art Club held at Metigathenna Maha Vidyalaya on June 12, 2018 with the participation of lecturers and undergraduates. The morning session was conducted to highlight the “Importance of Education Today” while the afternoon was coloured with artistic skills of undergraduates providing pupils with aesthetic experience. The Cinema Eve was remarkable event for the audience comprised of school children, parents and villagers.



Parallel to “Sipmankada” 2018, a novel approach has been taken to inspire students of Technical College, Badulla while broadening its scope targeted for “Attitude change for a better future”. Lecturers and undergraduates organized the session with the participation of hundreds of students from Technical College.



## Workshops and Seminars

### Workshop on Applications of Nanotechnology in Science & Technology

A two-day workshop on “Applications of Nanotechnology in Science & Technology” organized by the Department of Science & Technology and International Collaboration Center of UWU (UWU-ICC) in collaboration with Shizuoka University, Japan was held during June 8-9, 2018 at the university premises for academic staff members and final year undergraduates the Faculty of Science & Technology.

Professor Masaru Shimomura, Director of Hamamatsu Campus Center for Instrumental Analysis, Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shizuoka University, Japan was the key resource person and many other invited experts in academia and industry shared their knowledge and experience in Applications of Nanotechnology in Energy Production, Environmental Remediation, Biotechnology, Rubber Industry, Smart Textiles Development & Medicine as well as on adding value to Local Minerals.



### Java-script and NodeJs Workshop



Java-script and NodeJs Workshop organized by Mozilla Campus Club of the UWU was held on April 19, 2018 at UWU. Speakers discussed the importance of Java-script, Java-script basics, HTML Manipulation, Start coding on NodeJs. The event was powered by UWU CodeMasters and Codechef.



## Lifesaving Training Camp for UWU Students

Aqua Club of Aquatic Resources Technology Degree Programme organized a five-day lifesaving training camp for undergraduates of UWU during January 15-19, 2018 at Sri Lanka Coast Guard Lifesaving Training School, Balapitiya with the collaboration of Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG) for the second time. The main objective of this workshop was to provide the practical exposure on the importance of lifesaving and improve the lifesaving skills of undergraduates.

Commander Mr. L.R.J. Gunawardena, Officer In Charge (OIC)/Sri Lanka Lifesaving Training School addressed the participants at the inauguration ceremony and Mr. N.P.P. Liyanage, Head/Department of Animal Science, UWU delivered a speech at the closing ceremony valuing the contribution of SLCG for conducting this camp. Mr. J.D.M. Senevirathna, Lecturer, Department of Animal Science coordinated this training programme with the support of committee members, Mr. P.C.B. Dias (Demonstrator) and Mr. H.N.S. Wijethunga (final year AQT student).



## Derana Field Visit

Fourth year undergraduates of the Hospitality, Tourism and Events Management Degree Program participated in the workshop on “Media Strategies for Tourism” on June 8, 2018 at Derana TV where the journalist, Chathura Alwis conducted a session on “Travel Documentaries” to enrich skills of students in creating travel documentary in Sri Lankan tourism sector.



## Outbound Training at Maduruoya



An Outbound Training Programme (OBT) for UWU staff members was organized by Staff Development Centre during June 30 - July 1, 2018 at Maduruoya. Staff 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 organizational goals.

The Vice Chancellor, Deans of the Faculties, Heads of the Departments, academic staff, administrative staff, non-academics actively entailed in the training.



## Staff Outstanding Accomplishments and Awards

### Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award



Dr. R.M.S. Indunil Rathnayake attached to the Department of Science & Technology was awarded with the Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award 2017: Executive Dean's Commendation by Queensland University of Technology (QUT) for her Doctoral thesis on "Synthesis, characterization and application of inorganic-organic clays for water purification".

The theses can be found through the link: <https://eprints.qut.edu.au/104320/>

### Research Grant Awarded

Prof. EPSK Ediriweera, Department of Science & Technology, UWU has been awarded a research grant (LKR 18 million) to conduct a research at Sinharaja Forest Dynamics Plot. The UWU and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute-USA signed an agreement on November 22, 2017. The Forest Global Earth Observatory (ForestGEO), previously known as Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS) is a global network of forest research sites and scientists dedicated to the study of tropical and temperate forest function and diversity. The multi-institutional network comprises over 60 forest research plots across the America, Africa, Asia, and Europe, with a strong focus on tropical regions. CTFS-ForestGEO monitors the growth and survival of approximately 6 million trees and 10,000 species (<https://forestgeo.si.edu/>).

The Sinharaja Forest Dynamics Site was founded in 1993 by Prof. C.V.S. Gunatilleke and Prof. I.A.U.N. Gunatilleke of the University of Peradeniya, the Department of Forests, Sri Lanka and Forest GEO.



# Staff Outstanding Accomplishments and Awards

## UWU Research Awards - 2016



### Outstanding Young Researcher - 2016

Prof. D.K.D.D. Jayasena, Department of Animal Science was awarded with the Vice Chancellor's award for Outstanding Young Researcher - 2016 at the International Research Symposium of UWU (IRSUWU 2018) held during January 19-20, 2018.

### UWU Research Award for Highest Citations

Prof. D.K.D.D. Jayasena, Department of Animal Science, Dr. W.A.J.P Wijesinghe, Department of Export Agriculture and Dr. H.M.J.C. Pitawala, Department of Science & Technology were awarded the UWU Research Awards for researcher having the highest citations in 2016 at the IRSUWU 2018 held during January 19-20, 2018.



### UWU Research Award for articles published in Indexed journals

Prof. D.K.D.D. Jayasena, Dr. E.D.N.S. Abeyrathne, Prof. H.M.S.K. Herath, Prof. P.M Sirimanne, Dr. D.T. Udagedara, Dr. H.M.J.C. Pitawala and Dr. P.B. Rathnaweera were awarded the UWU Research Awards for scientific papers published in indexed journals for the year of 2016. It was held during January 19-20, 2018 at the IRSUWU 2018.

# Appointments, Promotions and Retirements

## Appointments



Dr. J.T.V.C. Jayawardena  
Department of Science &  
Technology  
Senior Lecturer (Grade II)  
With effect from 02.04.2018



Mr. N.P.R. Deyshappriya  
Department of Management  
Sciences  
Senior Lecturer (Grade II)  
With effect from 20.06.2018



Dr. R.M.S.I. Rathnayake  
Department of Science &  
Technology  
Lecturer (Transitional Grade)  
With effect from 02.04.2018

## Promotions - Professors



Prof. H.M.S.K. Herath  
Department of Export  
Agriculture  
Professor  
With effect from 18.04.2018



Prof. E.P.S.K. Ediriweera  
Department of Science &  
Technology  
Professor  
With effect from 29.05.2018

## Promotions - Senior Lecturer Gr.1



Dr. H.M.W.M. Herath  
Department of Management  
Sciences  
Senior Lecturer (Grade I)  
With effect from 01.02.2017



Dr. H.R.N. Peiris  
Department of Public  
Administration  
Senior Lecturer (Grade I)  
With effect from 01.03.2018

## Retirement



Dr. G. Chandrasena  
Department of Export  
Agriculture  
Senior Lecturer (Grade I)  
Retirement Date 26.01.2018

UWU Authors	Title of the Paper and the Source
RPD Gunathilaka et al.	<p>Adaptation to climate change in perennial cropping systems: Options, barriers and policy implications</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Environmental Science &amp; Policy</a></p>
NM Wijesundara et al.	<p>Essential oils from <i>Origanum vulgare</i> and <i>Salvia officinalis</i> exhibit antibacterial and anti-biofilm activities against <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i></p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Microbial Pathogenesis</a></p>
EDNS Abeyrathne et al.	<p>Antioxidant, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitory activity and other functional properties of egg white proteins and their derived peptides - A review</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Poultry Science</a></p>
HASL Jayasinghe et al.	<p>Modelling shoot growth and yield of Ceylon tea cultivar TRI-2025 (<i>Camellia sinensis</i> (L.) O. Kuntze)</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Journal of Agricultural Science</a></p>
MGPP Mahindaratne et al.	<p>Developing a model to explore the information seeking behaviour of farmers</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Journal of Documentation</a></p>
SN Kumari et al.	<p>Modeling and Forecasting Volatility Series: with Reference to Gold Price</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Thailand Statistician</a></p>
AS Ratnayake et al.	<p>An analysis of beach profile changes subsequent to the Colombo Harbor Expansion Project, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Environmental Earth Sciences</a></p>
PB Ratnaweera et al.	<p>Serpulanines A to C, N-Oxidized Tyrosine Derivatives Isolated from the Sri Lankan Fungus <i>Serpula</i> sp.: Structure Elucidation, Synthesis, and Histone Deacetylase Inhibition</p> <p>Source: <a href="#">Journal of Natural Products</a></p>

Source: Web of Science

## Upcoming Events

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

The 8<sup>th</sup> General Convocation of UWU is scheduled to be held at BMICH, Colombo on August 11, 2018 to acknowledge students' success before moving on to the next phase of their career. The Chancellor of UWU will confer the Bachelors Degree on graduands.



### International Research Conference 2019 - “IRCUWU 2019”



The International Research Conference of the UWU will be held during February 7-9, 2019 under the theme, “Sustainable Business Transition through Technology and Innovation” in the premises of UWU.

Abstracts for the Symposium are called under 18 tracks: Aquaculture & Fisheries, Biodiversity & Conservation, Bioprocess Technology, Computing & Information Science, Entrepreneurial Agriculture, Entrepreneurship & Organizational Development, Environmental Science, Food Science & Technology, Hospitality & Events Management, Humanities & Social Science, Genetics and Biotechnology, Library Science & Information Management, Marketing, Accounting & Finance, Material & Mineral Sciences, Mechanical Engineering & Mechatronics, Sustainable Animal Production Technology, Sustainable Crop Production Technology, Travel & Tourism.

**Abstract Submission Deadline is November 16, 2018.**

For further information, please contact; Dr. J. Sutha, Conference Coordinator, Uva Wellassa University, Badulla 90 000, Sri Lanka. +94-55-3053766, Email: [conference@uwu.ac.lk](mailto:conference@uwu.ac.lk)

*“Being innovative in thoughts  
Having happiness in mind  
Creating amiability with others  
Will lead towards a journey  
Adding rainbow colours to your life...”*



## Editorial Board

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**Layout Designer: Uvindu Bowala**

### **News to be Sent,**

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