# UCSC
# NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2022



June 2022

Volume No 8

Issue No 1

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# DR. D.A.S. ATUKORALE ASSUMED DUTIES AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE UCSC



Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale assumed duties as the 5th Director of the University of Colombo School of Computing on the 1st of June 2022 at 9.00 a.m., at the UCSC premises, in the presence of the former Director of the UCSC Prof. K. P. Hewagamage, all academics and non-academic staff of the UCSC.

Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale completed his primary education at Karunaratne Maha Vidyalaya, Mahabage, and secondary education at Thurstan College, Colombo 3, and De Mazenod College, Kandana. Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale earned his B.Sc. (Hons) Degree with a first class in Computer Science from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 1995.

He was awarded Prof. Mohan Munasinghe Award for the performance in Computer Science for the year 1995, Computer Award for the best undergraduate project by SLAAS and CINTEC Award for the best Computer Science final year project in 1995.

He obtained his Ph.D. in Computer Science in the area of Neural Pattern Recognition from the University of Queensland, Australia, in 2002. After returning from postgraduate studies, he held a number of important positions at the UCSC. Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale was the Secretary to the Board of Study of Research and Higher Degrees, from 2002 to 2012. He was appointed as the Coordinator of Master of IT and the overall Coordinator of the Master's Programs, in 2002. He was also appointed as the Coordinator of the Computer Science undergraduate degree program in 2013.

From 2002 to 2022, he held positions as the Acting Coordinator of the Network Operations Centre, and as the Acting Head of the Department of ICT, Faculty of Technology from 2018 to 2019. Dr. Ajantha Atukorale played an important role as the Head of the Department of Computational & Intelligent Systems during the period of 2015 to 2022. As the Deputy Director of the UCSC, he contributed significantly to the institutional development of the UCSC, during his term of office from 2016 to 2022.

In March 2006, Dr. Ajantha Atukorale joined the Computer Society of Sri Lanka (CSSL), which is the apex body representing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) professionals in Sri Lanka.
Thenceforth, he served as the Student Counselor from 2014 to 2015, the Assistant Secretary in 2016, the Treasurer from 2017 to 2019, the General Secretary in 2020 and the Vice President from 2021 to 2022 of the CSSL.

He was a member of the UGC Computing and Technology Standing Committee. He was also a member of the Ministry of Education's Standing Committee on Accreditation and Quality Assurance (SCAQA) for Non-State Higher Education. Dr. Ajantha Atukorale has worked for various higher education institutions as a curriculum reviewer and an external reviewer. Also, he has participated in a number of Cabinet-appointed procurement committees and government tenders. He has over 60 publications to his credit, including journal articles, book chapters, conference papers, and abstracts.

# FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE UCSC, PROFESSOR K. P. HEWAGAMAGE



After providing an outstanding service for 06 years, Professor K. P. Hewagamage who contributed significantly to the institutional development of the UCSC in diverse capacities, completed his two terms of the post of Director/UCSC in June 2022.

Professor K. P. Hewagamage obtained his B.Sc. (Hons) Degree with a first class in Computer Science from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and he secured Professor Mohan Munasinghe Award (1993) for the most outstanding student in Computer Science in 1994. At the same time, he received the D. P. P. Samarasekara Peace Award for fostering goodwill and harmony in the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. In 1996, he was awarded Japanese Government Monbusho scholarships to follow his postgraduate studies in Japan.

Professor Hewagamage started his career as a Software Developer in 1993. He joined the University of Colombo as a lecturer in 1994. He was promoted to the post of professor in 2014. Prof. Hewagamage was appointed as the Director of University of Colombo School of Computing in 2016. Since then, he had been actively involved in both the academic and the administrative affairs of the UCSC.

Increasing the number of cadre positions at the UCSC is one of the most important tasks he did during his term of office. Considering the requirements of the organization as well as the actual work that had to be carried out by both academic and non-academic staff, he took a leading role to increase the number of cadre positions from 127 to 272. And also, during his period, curriculum revisions of the undergraduate programs were done twice, and the relevant bylaws and the regulations were updated according to the SLQF and other UGC conditions.

Also, to provide more learning opportunities to the students, he took the necessary steps to increase the student intake of the undergraduate, postgraduate and BIT courses during the last six years. Professor Hewagamage played a major role in establishing the international master's degree programme in Cyber Security of the UCSC. Apart from that, he served as the coordinator of the e-Learning Centre at the UCSC, and he obtained several e-learning projects to both UCSC and UoC from UNESCO, Word bank and UGC/Ministry of Higher Education.

Under his administration, he initiated several development projects, expanding the physical infrastructure of the UCSC. In addition to that, the IT infrastructure of UCSC, including facilities of the NOC were improved according to the current technologies and requirements of the organization to carry out both academic and research development.

Professor Hewagamage contributed to formalizing the operations of all centers at the UCSC while making them financially sustainable entities and facilitating the provision of its services efficiently for both internal and external parties. And also, he enhanced and formalized the welfare activities at the UCSC, according to principles of good governance.



# CEREMONIAL GRADUATION OF EXTERNAL DEGREES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO- ACADEMIC YEAR 2019

On January 30, 2022, the Ceremonial Graduation for the External Degrees of the University of Colombo was held at Vidhya Jyothi Prof. V. K. Samaranayake Auditorium, University of Colombo School of Computing, for graduands from three external degree programs carried out by the University of Colombo School of Computing and the Cyber Campus of the University of Colombo. 284 students received the Bachelor of Information Technology degree, while 28 and 34 students received Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Automation Technologies and Bachelor of Science in Financial Engineering degrees, respectively. Due to the present pandemic scenario in the country, the event was held in three sessions with rigorous attention to health and safety guidelines.

The Chancellor of the University, Sasana Keerthi Sri Buddha Sasana Shobhana Venerable Muruththettuwe Ananda Nayaka Thero, presided over the ceremony, which was also graced by the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Director of Cyber Campus, Director of UCSC, and Deputy Director of UCSC. In addition, the Deputy Registrar/Exams of the UOC, EDC Coordinator of the UCSC, Deputy Bursa of the UCSC, Deputy Registrar/Exams of the UCSC, Senior Assistant Registrar of the Cyber Campus, and other academic and administrative staff members of the University of Colombo school of Computing attended the ceremony.









# ENROLMENT OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT INTAKE 2020/2021 UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

Student enrolment for the Undergraduate Degree Programme of 2020/2021 took place on 5th May 2022 at the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC). The eligible students were brought for face to face registration following the prescribed health guidelines. The student enrolment process was done for Computer Science (CS) and Information Systems (IS) Degree Programmes. Accordingly, 220 students enrolled out of 222 students for the CS degree programme and 98 students enrolled out of 106 for the IS degree programme.

A meeting for the parents was also conducted on the same day and both students and parents were made aware of the future opportunities for the two degree programs; CS and IS. Also the UCSC staff explained to them the facilities available to the students in UCSC such as physical facilities, academic facilities and counseling facilities.

# ORIENTATION AND INAUGURATION PROGRAMME OF UCSC- 2022

The orientation program was conducted for the new intake from Monday, 23rd May to Tuesday, 31st May, 2022 via blended mode. At the event, the UCSC welcomed 318 students who enrolled for the University Undergraduate Programme (Bachelor of Science in Information System and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science) of 2020/2021 intake.

Student orientation program is designed to initiate the integration of newly admitted first-year undergraduate students into the academic, cultural, and social climate of the University of Colombo School of Computing.

The primary purpose of the orientation programme of the University of Colombo School of Computing is to help new undergraduates understand the nature of the institute, the educational opportunities available to them, the values and functions of the institute's community, and the central objective of the university as an academic enterprise. It also permits students to participate in academic advising and to learn about matters relating to student registration, housing, campus activities, and other aspects of life in the University of Colombo School of Computing. The Orientation Programme conducted in a blended mode for the first year students.

The Inauguration Ceremony for the undergraduate academic year 2020/2021 of the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) was held on 06th June 2022 at the Vidya Jyothi Professor V.K. Samaranayake Auditorium. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo; Senior Professor H.D. Karunaratne was the Chief Guest and the Director of UCSC, Dr. D.A.S Atukorale, Former Director of UCSC, Professor. KP Hewagamage, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Upul Sonnadara, academic, and non-academic staff members of the UCSC participated in this occasion.







# THE LONG SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY 2020/2021

"The Long Service Awards Ceremony 2020/2021" of the University of Colombo was held on 11th March 2022, at the New Arts Theater of University of Colombo. Staff members who had completed 40, 35, 30, and 25 years of service respectively to the University of Colombo, were honored at this event. The staff members of the UCSC, Prof. G.D.S.P. Wimalaratne, Department of Communication and Media Technologies, Dr. M.D.J.S.Goonetillake, Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Systems Engineering, Dr. T. Sritharan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Systems Engineering, Dr. H. A. Caldera, Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Systems Engineering, and Mrs. G.A.D.N.S. Jayawardhana and K.P. Chithra Rathnalatha, Senior Staff Management Assistant of the Finance Division, were honored for their services in this ceremony. Each recipient received a certificate with a personalized commemorative plaque and a token of appreciation for the services provided to the University of Colombo. The Awards Ceremony was graced by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne, and other honored guests.








# "HACKTITUDE 2022", THE WINNER AND THE TOP 10 TEAMS

Five teams, representing the UCSC, dominated the top 10 teams of "Hacktitude 2022", the Inter-university Hackathon organized by the 99x. Among them, the "Team NamakNA", was the winner of the competition, and the winning team members were 2nd year students; Dalana Dharmathilake, Ashan Rathnaweera, and Visal Jayathilaka. The Team 'AOLWFi', secured the 4th place and the team members were 4th year students, Pasindu Wijesena, Ravindu Perera and Chamath Ekanayake. Representing "Team MAC Hunters", 3rd year students; Nandula Perera, Dilan Perera, and George Raven, obtained the 5th place, and the "Team CODE 200"; Sanoj Silva, Sachini Samaraweera and Dumidu Rajakaruna secured the 6th place of the top teams in the competition. "Team YTS3X" was in 8th place and the team members were 3rd year students; Sahan Dissanayaka, Thatsarana Weerakoon and a 2nd year student, Yasith Samaradiwakara. The teams were supervised by Mr. Pasindu Marasinghe, Lecturer, Department of Computation and Intelligent Systems and Mr. Kavinda Athapaththu, Lecturer, Department of Computation and Intelligent Systems of the UCSC.





# ANNUAL HEALTH PROGRAMME – 2021

The Annual Health Programme – 2021 was held on 18th and 19th January 2022 at the S202 and S203 lecture halls from 8.30 am onwards. This Annual Health Programme was conducted by the Durdans Hospital since they were the lowest bidder among other bidders.

The following list of essential medical tests was done during the medical camp.

1. Serum Creatinine
2. Full Blood Count
3. CRP
4. Urine Full Report
5. Renal profile
6. Lipid Profile
7. Fasting Blood Sugar
8. Vision Check
9. Blood Pressure Check
10. Height, Weight & BMI Check
11. ECG
12. Physical Examination & Reports by a MBBS Qualified Medical Officer
13. Checking of Waist Circumference
14. Creatinine & eGFR
15. Liver profile
16. HbA1c
17. TSH (Thyroid profile)

The doctor consultation of the Annual Health Programme – 2021 was held on 26th and 27th January 2022 at the S202 and S203 lecture halls from 8.30 am onwards. Hence, we invited the staff who had done their medical tests during the Annual Health Programme at UCSC premises. In addition to that, the Vision check and Height, Weight & BMI Check were done in the above-mentioned location. The staff brought the NIC for the identification and if they had been vaccinated they brought the vaccination card for doctor consultation. In the medical consultation, staff were instructed that if the doctor recommends, a person can do the below-mentioned tests at the Durdans hospital personally.

Medical Package - Optional

Echocardiogram
X-ray Chest-AP
US Scan Abdomen
Medical Package - Optional

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA)
Pap Smear
Progesterone
Testosterone

Moreover, all the staff adhered to the Covid-19 health safety guidelines during the Annual Health Programme – 2021.

# WORKSHOP ON PROGRAM REVIEW

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the UCSC held a half day workshop on Program Review 2020 on 31st March, 2022 at the UCSC premises. The workshop was designed primarily for all academic and administrative staff of the UCSC who take part in Program Review 2020.

Program Review 2020 was postponed due to the sudden eruption of the COVID pandemic, in a situation where the Self Evaluation Reports (SER) and most of the required evidence to support the standards were collected. Now, according to the UGC sources the postponed Program Reviews are to be scheduled in this year. As two years have passed from the date it was scheduled, revisiting the resources had become a necessity. The objective of the workshop was to revisit documentation and evidence prepared and to identify the evidence that are unaccounted, if any.

The main resource person of the workshop was Professor K. P. Hewagamage, the Director of the UCSC. As the first event of the workshop, Prof. Hewagamage welcomed all who were present in the workshop and introduced the Program Review by highlighting its importance. He further described how Program Review evaluates the effectiveness of the institute's processes for managing and assuring quality of study programs, student learning experience and standards of awards within a program of study. According to the agenda of the workshop the next event was a group work where the staff worked on each criterion in groups. Each group consisted of 8-10 members including several academic staff and one administrative staff member. Each group worked on a criterion in the Program Review and they got an opportunity to discuss the documentation and evidence that comes under each criterion. Various questions raised by the group members during the group discussions were answered by the QAC team headed by Prof. Hewagamage. It was a fruitful event that helped each group to get a clear understanding about the criteria for study programmes, and corresponding 'best practices' and 'standards' for each criterion.





# STAFF PROMOTIONS



**Prof. M G N A S Fernando**
(Academic Staff)

promoted to Professor from Senior Lecturer (Grade I) with effect from October 2020

**Prof. M D J S Goonetilake**
(Academic Staff)

promoted to Professor from Senior Lecturer (Grade I) with effect from December 2020





**Ms. S D Chandralatha**
(Administrative Staff)

promoted to Deputy Registrar from Senior Assistant Registrar with effect from 11th May 2022

**Ms. V G M Priyangika**
(Finance Officer)

promoted to Deputy Bursar from Senior Assistant Bursar with effect from 11th May 2022






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ISSN 2579-1494

