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Cover Story

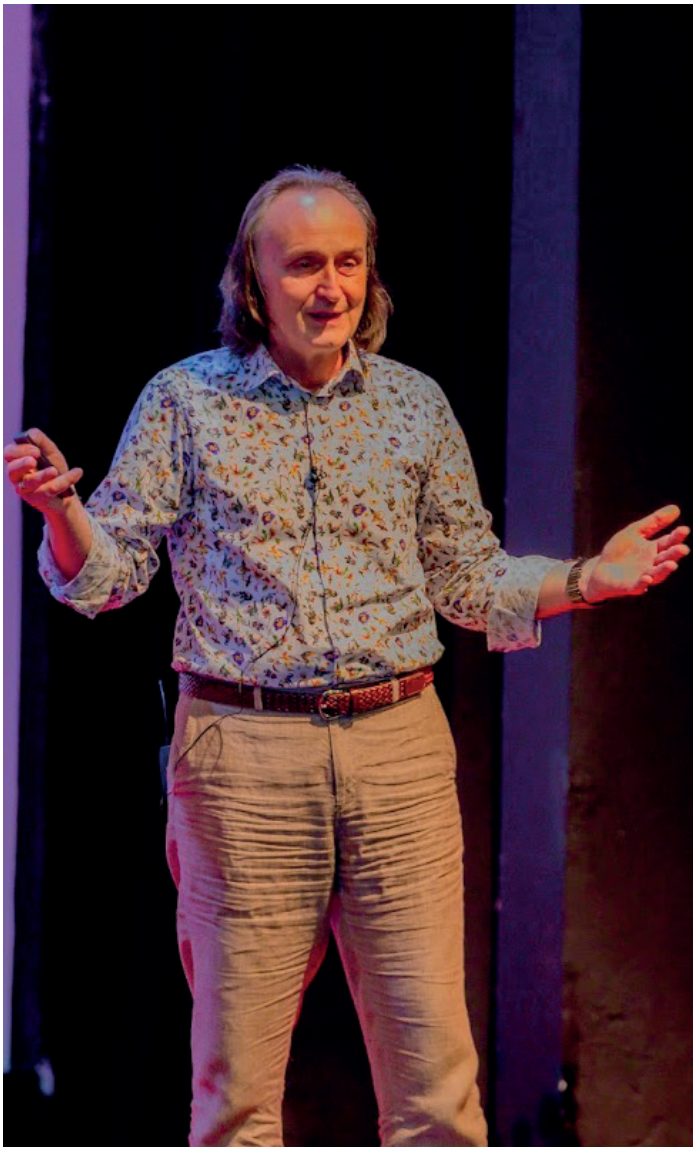
Black Holes, Wormholes & Entanglement

UCSC Welcomes Prof. Frank Leymann for Thought-Provoking Lecture on Quantum Science

The University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) hosted an insightful lecture titled “Black Holes, Wormholes & Entanglement” on 26 January, featuring distinguished guest speaker Prof. Frank Leymann.

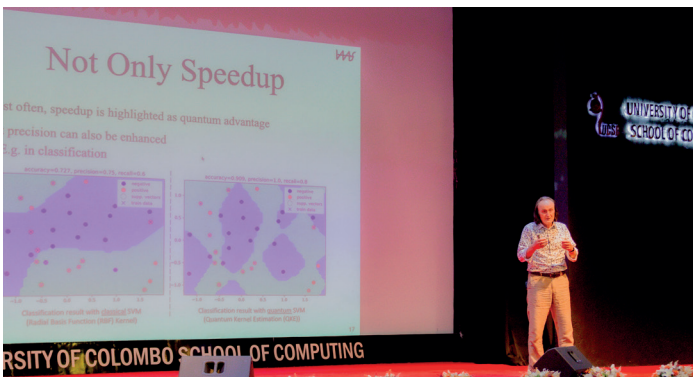
Prof. Leymann, a Full Professor of Computer Science at the University of Stuttgart, shared his expertise on quantum-related concepts, exploring the fascinating intersections between quantum mechanics, black holes, wormholes, and quantum entanglement. Renowned for his research in software architecture, highly distributed applications, middleware, pattern languages, and quantum computing, Prof. Leymann provided participants with valuable insights into emerging developments in the field of quantum technologies.

The session attracted students, academics, and researchers, offering a unique opportunity to engage with cutting-edge scientific ideas and their potential implications for future computing and research.









Prof. Frank Leymann addressing the audience during his lecture

Inauguration of the UCSC Master's Degree Programmes – 2026

The Inauguration of the UCSC Master's Degree Programme 2026 was successfully held on 14th March 2026 at the Prof. Vidya Jyothi V. K. Samaranayake Auditorium. The event marked the commencement of academic activities for the 2025/2026 intake of postgraduate students enrolled in the following master's degree Programmes.

- Master of Computer Science
- Master of Information Technology
- Master of Information Security
- Master of Business Analytics

A total of 257 students registered for the above master's degree programmes participated in the inauguration ceremony. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Professor I. M. Karunathilake, Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo; Dr. D.A.S. Atukorale, Director of the UCSC; Prof. TNK De Zoysa, Deputy Director/UCSC; Heads of Departments; Programme Coordinators of the master's degree programmes; academic staff members; administrative and financial officers; as well as non-academic staff members of UCSC.

Addressing the gathering, the Director of UCSC warmly welcomed the new cohort of postgraduate students and emphasized the growing significance of postgraduate education in the rapidly evolving field of computing. The Vice Chancellor also extended his congratulations and best wishes to the incoming students while highlighting the importance of advanced academic and professional qualifications in today's competitive environment.

The Deputy Director of UCSC shared valuable insights on the academic structure, professional opportunities, and prospects associated with the master's degree programmes offered by UCSC. In addition, the Senior Assistant Registrar of the Postgraduate, Research and Projects Division briefed the students on administrative procedures, while the Deputy Registrar of the Examination and Registration Division provided guidance regarding examination-related matters.

The inauguration ceremony concluded with the enthusiastic participation of the newly enrolled postgraduate students, symbolizing the beginning of their postgraduate academic journey at UCSC.











The Vice-Chancellor, UCSC Director and Deputy Director, addressed the inauguration ceremony, with lecturers and students in attendance.

Digitization in Scandinavia Offers Valuable Lessons for Sri Lanka

The remarkable progress of Scandinavian countries in digital transformation and the lessons they offer for developing nations were highlighted in a thought-provoking presentation titled “Digitization in Scandinavia: Where Are We – and What Can We Learn?” delivered by Prof. Kasun De Zoysa.

Drawing from his experiences in Sweden and other Scandinavian countries, Prof. De Zoysa emphasized that the success of these nations is not primarily due to groundbreaking technological inventions but rather their ability to seamlessly integrate existing technologies into everyday life. According to him, the true strength of Scandinavian digitisation lies in building systems that are reliable, efficient, and trusted by citizens.

Comparing Sweden and Sri Lanka, Prof. De Zoysa noted that while Sri Lanka has approximately twice the population of Sweden within a significantly smaller geographical area, the challenges faced by both societies can be addressed through well-designed digital systems. He stressed that Sri Lanka should focus not on copying Scandinavian applications but on understanding the principles that enable such systems to function effectively.

One of the most striking examples presented was Sweden’s transition towards a cashless society. With digital payment platforms such as Swish, contactless card payments, and mobile wallets widely adopted, cash transactions now account for less than one percent of the total transaction value. Digital payments have become an invisible yet essential part of daily life.The presentation also showcased the extensive use of self-service technologies across Scandinavia. From self-checkout counters in supermarkets to digital ordering kiosks in restaurants, many routine interactions have been transformed into streamlined digital workflows. These systems reduce waiting times and improve efficiency while allowing staff to focus on customer support rather than repetitive tasks.

Another key innovation discussed was BankID, Sweden’s highly successful digital identity system. Rather than relying on a centralized database, BankID operates through trusted financial institutions, ensuring privacy, security, and interoperability. The system demonstrates how trust, strong legal frameworks, and gradual implementation can contribute to widespread public acceptance of digital services.

Public transportation was highlighted as another area where digitization has transformed everyday life. Applications such as Stockholm’s SL App provide journey planning, real-time updates, ticket purchasing, and ticket validation through a single digital platform. Similar innovations are evident in shared electric scooter services, autonomous grocery delivery robots, and intelligent traffic management systems that use real-time data to optimize traffic flow. Airports in Scandinavia have also embraced automation through self-service check-in kiosks, automated baggage handling systems, and integrated tracking technologies. These systems improve operational efficiency while maintaining necessary oversight and security measures.



Prof. Kasun De Zoysa sharing his experience



UCSC staff attending the lecture

However, Prof. De Zoysa emphasized that visible technologies are only the surface layer. The true foundation of Scandinavian digitisation includes clean and trusted national databases, interoperable government systems, standardized data formats, secure APIs, strong cybersecurity practices, and long-term architectural planning. These invisible elements enable digital services to operate reliably and securely.

Concluding the presentation, Prof. De Zoysa observed that “Scandinavia didn’t digitize services – it digitized trust, and everything else followed.” He noted that Sri Lanka’s challenge is not to replicate Scandinavian applications but to build trusted digital systems and infrastructure that can support future innovation. Such an approach, he suggested, would create a strong foundation for sustainable digital transformation and improved public services in the years ahead.

On Your Marks 2026 – Engineering the Future at UCSC

The University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) successfully held its orientation programme, "On Your Marks 2026," to warmly welcome a new cohort of 350 undergraduate students to the university community. The programme began on 3 February 2026 with student registration, marking the official start of their academic journey at UCSC.

To support a smooth transition into university life, the orientation programme was designed as a two-month hybrid initiative. The first phase consisted of online sessions conducted from 4 February to 2 March 2026 through the UCSC Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). These sessions introduced students to foundational academic concepts and familiarized them with the university's digital learning environment. The physical orientation programme, held from 3 March to 26 March 2026, provided opportunities for students to engage directly with faculty members, administrators, and industry professionals.

The physical programme was thoughtfully designed to combine morning guest lectures with afternoon hands-on sessions, fostering a well-rounded learning experience for new students. While the morning sessions featured insights from distinguished speakers in academia and industry, the afternoons were dedicated to collaborative learning through an innovative initiative titled "Vibe Coding."

The first week of the programme focused on institutional heritage and academic foundations. The orientation commenced with an address by Dr. Ajantha Athukorale, Director of UCSC, who welcomed the students and highlighted the opportunities and responsibilities associated with pursuing a computing degree. A session by Dr. S. T. Nandasara provided an overview of the rich history and legacy of UCSC, helping students appreciate the institution's longstanding contribution to computing education in Sri Lanka.



Dr. Ajantha Atukorale addressing the students



Dr. Lasanthi addressing the IS students

Students were also briefed on university regulations and campus conduct by the University Marshals. Academic perspectives were enriched through a session titled "What is Computing?" delivered by Dr. Chamath Keppitiyagama, which explored the evolving role of computing and the limitations of artificial intelligence. Prof. Kasun de Zoysa, Deputy Director of UCSC, further inspired students by sharing his professional journey and encouraging them to embrace lifelong learning.

Several administrative sessions were conducted to familiarize students with university procedures and support services. The Deputy Registrar (Examinations) and the Senior Assistant Registrar (Academic and Publications) introduced students to examination processes and academic regulations, while representatives from the Network Operations Centre (NOC) and the UCSC Library presented the digital and research resources available to support student learning. Programme coordinators also explained the degree structures and graduation requirements for the Information Systems and Computer Science programmes and the awards available.

During the second week, the orientation focused on professional development and student well-being. Guest speakers during this period included Mr. Peter De Almeida, Dr. Chaminda Ranasinghe, Mr. Pubudu Liyanage, Mr. Ajith Rohana, Dr. Dinuni Fernando, and Dr. Kasun Gunawardhana. Students were also introduced to the extracurricular opportunities available at UCSC through sessions conducted by the Student Union and several student clubs. The Physical Education Unit of the University of Colombo conducted a session highlighting sports and recreational opportunities available to students. The week concluded with a wellness session conducted by Dr. Chamin Warnakula.

The third week of the programme focused on computing in the era of artificial intelligence. Sessions during this period were delivered by Dr. Ruwan Weerasinghe and Dr. Roshan Rajapakse. Alongside these sessions, students actively engaged in the Vibe Coding initiative, collaborating in teams to develop software mini-projects using modern generative AI tools.The Vibe Coding initiative was one of the key highlights of the orientation programme. Students worked in teams to develop innovative applications using generative AI tools and collaborative problem-solving approaches. The initiative concluded with a presentation session where the top six teams presented their projects before a panel of academic staff, who then selected the winning project.

The final week of the orientation will focus on career development and personal growth. Sessions will be delivered by Mr. Chamil Jeewantha, Prof. Dhammike Silva, and Mr. Dhanika Perera.The entire orientation programme was coordinated by Dr. Yohani Ranasinghe and Mr. Isuru Nanayakkara, under the guidance of Dr. Ajantha Athukorale, Director of UCSC, and Dr. Chamath Keppitiyagama, Head of the Internal Undergraduate Degrees (IUD). This monumental effort was made possible through the unwavering support and tireless contributions of a committed and talented pool of junior staff members at UCSC.

The “On Your Marks 2026” programme concluded with a vibrant Cultural Event, where students showcased their talents, followed by the Closing Remarks on March 26. This marked the end of the orientation and the beginning of a transformative academic journey for the 2026 cohort.

“In the era of Artificial Intelligence, your greatest asset is not the tools you use, but the fundamental logic and human ingenuity you bring to them. Welcome to the future of Computing.”













Highlights from the orientation programme

Creativity Meets Code:

Vibe Coding Challenge at On Your Marks 2026

As part of the “On Your Marks 2026” orientation programme, the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) introduced an engaging initiative: a series of Vibe Coding sessions. These sessions provided newly enrolled students with the opportunity to experience collaborative software development and explore emerging approaches to application development.

The Vibe Coding sessions, held during the orientation programme, provided interactive, hands-on opportunities for students to work in teams to design and develop small software projects. The sessions introduced participants to the idea of AI-assisted development, in which ideas can be translated into functional applications using modern generative AI tools such as AntiGravity, Claude.ai, Gemini, and other development platforms. Through these sessions, students were encouraged to experiment, collaborate, and develop creative technological solutions while strengthening their logical thinking and teamwork skills.

Over the course of the programme, students worked in groups to design and implement their ideas, turning concepts into working prototypes. The Vibe Coding activities created a vibrant and energetic learning environment, allowing students to interact with peers, exchange ideas, and gain early exposure to practical problem-solving in computing.

The initiative reached its peak with the Vibe Coding Challenge, where 35 student groups showcased their projects in preliminary rounds, presenting demonstrations before a panel of academic staff members. From these, six finalist teams were selected, and the final round was held on 20th March 2026, where the finalists presented their projects before the panel to determine the winner. The panel assessed the projects based on innovation, usability, and overall implementation before selecting the winning teams.

At the conclusion of the challenge, Team “SportsSphear” emerged as the winner, while Team “Unify” was selected as the runner-up. The competition highlighted the impressive creativity and enthusiasm demonstrated by the new cohort of students, many of whom were building and presenting applications for the first time.

The Vibe Coding sessions were facilitated by Ms. Nadeesha Epa and Mr. Bhathiya Vendebona, supported by a team of energetic young staff members, under the guidance of the orientation coordinators Dr. Yohani Ranasinghe and Mr. Isuru Nanayakkara.

The Vibe Coding Challenge emerged as one of the most exciting highlights of the On Your Marks 2026 orientation programme. Beyond the competitive aspect, it provided students with an opportunity to build confidence in presenting their ideas, collaborating, and exploring new technologies from the very beginning of their university journey.

Through initiatives such as the Vibe Coding Challenge, UCSC continues to encourage innovation, experimentation, and hands-on learning, helping students develop the skills and mindset required to thrive in the rapidly evolving field of computing.





Winners of the Vibe Coding challenge

UCSC Hosts Educational Visit for Navy Personnel from Trincomalee Camp

The University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) recently hosted an educational visit for Navy personnel from the Trincomalee Camp. The visit aimed to provide participants with practical exposure to UCSC's academic and technological environment.

The program began with a guided tour of the UCSC museum, where the visitors were introduced to the university's history and key developments in computing education. This was followed by an interactive session at the ADMTC Laboratory, facilitated by assigned staff members who demonstrated ongoing academic activities and technological applications.

The delegation also visited the Network Operations Centre (NOC), gaining insight into network infrastructure management and operational practices at UCSC.

The visit fostered knowledge sharing and strengthened collaboration between UCSC and national defense personnel, highlighting the university's commitment to outreach and professional engagement.













During the visit of the Navy personnel

UCSC Collaborates with Industry Leaders to Strengthen Third-Year Industry Project Curriculum

The University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) recently conducted two successful consultative meetings with leading industry experts and Tech Leads to present and refine its newly designed Industry Project course module. The initiative reflects UCSC's continued commitment to strengthening academia–industry collaboration and ensuring that its curriculum remains relevant to the evolving demands of the technology sector.

The Industry Project is a comprehensive, year-long module designed for third-year undergraduates. Under this new framework, students will work under the direct guidance and mentorship of experienced industry professionals throughout the academic year. This immersive approach is intended to provide students with first-hand exposure to industry workflows, software engineering practices, project management methodologies, and professional work cultures, while also allowing organizations to engage with and nurture emerging technology talent.

During the consultative sessions, UCSC academic staff presented the module's objectives, learning outcomes, structure, and assessment approach. Industry representatives shared valuable insights on the technical competencies, engineering practices, and professional skills expected from graduates entering today's workforce. Discussions also highlighted the importance of agile development, teamwork, communication, critical thinking, problem-solving, and professional ethics in preparing students for real-world engineering projects.

The constructive feedback received during the sessions will be incorporated into the final design of the module, ensuring that students gain a meaningful and industry-relevant learning experience. Importantly, the majority of the participating industry leaders expressed strong enthusiasm for the initiative and committed to serving as mentors, providing guidance and support to undergraduates throughout the duration of the project.

UCSC extends its sincere appreciation to the representatives from Acumatica Lanka (Private) Limited, Arctiq Solutions Pty Ltd, Creative Software, Deloitte Sri Lanka, IFS R&D International (Pvt) Ltd, iVedha Inc., LSEG, Platned Limited, Q4US Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd, Synapse AI Labs, Sysco LABS Technologies (Pvt.) Ltd, and Thomson Reuters for their invaluable contributions. Their partnership will play a vital role in shaping future computing professionals who are well-equipped to contribute confidently to the software industry.



During the Industry Project consultation session

Research highlights

University of Colombo School of Computing

Publication List - 2026

Conference Publications

January to March

01. Chamod Kaushalya, Mohamed Sabri, Anuradha Mahasinghe, Awansika Nimuthumana, Dr. A P Sayakkara, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, "Tailed Grover Search on Cyclic Graphs", International Conference on Computational and Mathematical Modelling (ICCMM), Publication date 2026, Doi: https://asayakkara.org/downloads/publications/Tailed-Grover-Search-2026.pdf (Local)

02. W A S C Perera, Prof. H A Caldera, Sinhala-English Code-Mixed Corpus for Sentiment Analysis: Development and Baseline Evaluation, 2026 International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Computer, Data Sciences and Applications (ACDSA), Publication date: 2026/2/5, Doi: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/11467734/ (Foreign)

03. S Wanniarachchi, K Weerakoon, A Pathirana, Dr. K H E L W Hettiarachchi, "Cloud-Resilient NDVI Estimation for Smallholder Paddy Fields from Single-Date Sentinel-1 SAR Using an Enhanced U-Net++", 2026 6th International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing (ICARC), Publication date: 2026/2/18, Doi: https://doi.org/10.1109/ICARC68737.2026.11454026 (Local)

04. Rukshani Puvanendran, Dr. A P Sayakkara, Titus Jeyarathna, Roshan G Ragel, "Benchmarking Data Leakage and Generalization in Audio Classification: An Empirical Analysis", 2025 IEEE 19th International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS), Publication date: 2026/1/16, Doi: https://doi.org/10.1109/ICIIS69028.2026.11450559 , (Local)

April to June

01. Min Zhang, Arosha K Bandara, Gordon Rugg, Irum Rauf, Dr. Dilrukshi Gamage, Bashar Nuseibeh, Silvia Podesta, Wanling Cai, Sarah Robinson, "Sociotechnical Imaginaries of Responsible Design: A Case for Mitigating Gender-based Online Harm", Proceedings of the Extended Abstracts of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Publication date: 2026/4/13, Doi: https://doi.org/10.1145/3772363.3778700 (Foreign)

Journal Publications

January to March

01. R J Amaraweera, Dr. K H E L W Hettiarachchi, Prasad Wilagama, Prof. K P Hewagamage, "Learning Design and Learning Analytics to Improve Higher Education: A Systematic Literature Review", Electronic Journal of e-Learning, Publication date: 2026/3/11, Doi: https://academic-publishing.org/index.php/ejel/article/view/3645 (Foreign)

02. Geethika Prabhath, Anuradha Mahasinghe, Dr. D N Ranasinghe, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, "A Survey of Quadratization Methods Used in QUBO Formulations and their Usage in Quantum and Digital Annealing", Journal of Computer Science, Publication date 2026, Doi: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Anuradha-Mahasinghe/publication/401174304_A_Survey_of_Quadratization_Methods_Used_in_QUBO_Formulations_and_their_Usage_in_Quantum_and_Digital_Annealing/links/699e4e6e7247bc6473e3c665/A-Survey-of-Quadratization-Methods-Used-in-QUBO-Formulations-and-their-Usage-in-Quantum-and-Digital-Annealing.pdf (Local)

03. Eranga Bandara, Ross Gore, Sachin Shetty, Sachini Rajapakse, Isurunima Kularathna, Pramoda

Karunarathna, Ravi Mukkamala, Peter Foytik, Safdar H Bouk, Abdul Rahman, Xueping Liang, Amin Hass, Tharaka Hewa, Ng Wee Keong, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, Aruna Withanage, Nilaan Loganathan, "A practical guide to agentic ai transition in organizations", Journal: arXiv preprint arXiv:2602.10122, Publication date: 2026/1/27, Doi: https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.10122 (Foreign)

04. Eranga Bandara, Ross Gore, Sachin Shetty, Ravi Mukkamala, Tharaka Hewa, Abdul Rahman, Xueping Liang, Safdar H Bouk, Amin Hass, Peter Foytik, Ng Wee Keong, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, "An Agentic AI Control Plane for 6G Network Slice Orchestration, Monitoring, and Trading", Journal: arXiv preprint arXiv:2602.13227, Publication date: 2026/1/27, Doi: https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.13227 (Foreign)

05. Eranga Bandara, Ross Gore, Sachin Shetty, Ravi Mukkamala, Christopher K Rhea, Brittany S Samulski, Amin Hass, Atmaram Yarlagadda, Shaifali Kaushik, Malith De Silva, Andriy Maznychenko, Inna Sokolowska, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, "Standardization of Neuromuscular Reflex Analysis—Role of Fine-Tuned Vision-Language Model Consortium and OpenAI gpt-oss Reasoning LLM-Enabled Decision Support System", Journal: Biomechanics, Publication date: 2026/2/27, Doi: https://www.mdpi.com/2673-7078/6/1/23 , (Foreign)

06. Dr. M W A C R Wijesinghe, D C Liyanaarachchi, P M Rathnayake, Dr. A R Weerasinghe, "A dual-modal machine learning framework integrating red blood indices and smartphone-captured microscopic images for **β**-thalassemia screening", Journal: BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, Publication date: 2026/3/21, Doi: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12911-026-03451-y (Foreign)

07. Thisaranie Kaluarachchi, Sumedhe Dissanayake, Dr. M I E Wickramasinghe, "Clustering Websites by Salient Design Features", Journal of Image and Graphics, Publication date: 2026, Doi: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Thisaranie-Kaluarachchi/publication/403202171_Clustering_Websites_by_Salient_Design_Features/links/69d256833c6189430673ebaf/Clustering-Websites-by-Salient-Design-Features.pdf (Foreign)

08. Prathibha Samarasekara, Dr. K A K T Karunanayaka, Sanjani Gunathilaka, "Immersive Interventions for Dementia: A Narrative Review of Virtual Reality's Role in Therapy, Well-Being, and Future Care Models",Journal of Computing Theories and Applications, Publication date: 2026/2/20 Doi: https://doi.org/10.62411/jcta.15310 (Foreign)

09. 09. Holly Trikilis, Mr. M A P P Marasinghe, Fariza Rashid, Suranga Seneviratne, "Eliciting Least-to-Most Reasoning for Phishing URL Detection", Journal of arXiv preprint arXiv:2601.20270, Publication date: 2026/1/28, Doi: https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2601.20270 (Foreign)

April to June

10. Eranga Bandara, Asanga Gunaratna, Ross Gore, Abdul Rahman, Ravi Mukkamala, Sachin Shetty, Sachini Rajapakse, Isurunima Kularathna, Peter Foytik, Safdar H Bouk, Xueping Liang, Amin Hass, Ng Wee Keong, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, "AI Trust OS--A Continuous Governance Framework for Autonomous AI Observability and Zero-Trust Compliance in Enterprise Environments", Journal: arXiv preprint arXiv:2604.04749, Publication date: 2026/4/6, Doi: https://arxiv.org/abs/2604.04749 (Foreign)

11. Eranga Bandara, Ross Gore, Sachin Shetty, Piumi Siyambalapitiya, Sachini Rajapakse, Isurunima Kularathna, Pramoda Karunarathna, Ravi Mukkamala, Peter Foytik, Safdar H Bouk, Abdul Rahman, Xueping Liang, Amin Hass, Tharaka Hewa, Ng Wee Keong, Prof. T N K De Zoysa, Aruna Withanage, Nilaan Loganathan, "Flowr--Scaling Up Retail Supply Chain Operations Through Agentic AI in Large Scale Supermarket Chains", Journal: arXiv preprint arXiv:2604.05987, Publication date: 2026/4/7, Doi: https://arxiv.org/abs/2604.05987 (Foreign)

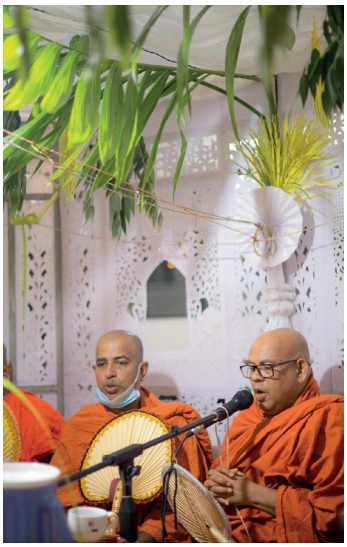
Student's Events

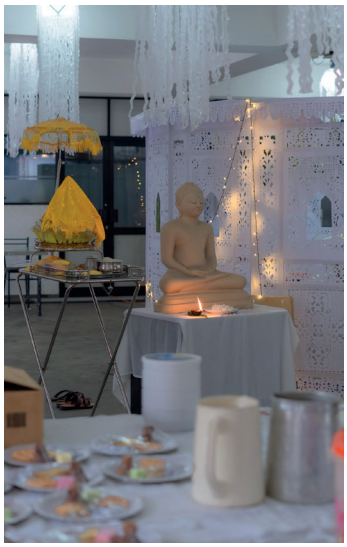
Annual Pirith Ceremony 2026

The Annual Pirith Ceremony of UCSC was held on 12th June 2026 at the UCSC premises, commencing in the evening and continuing until dawn the following day. Organized by the fourth-year students with the support of the UCSC community, the event served as a spiritual gathering to invoke blessings and foster peace and harmony within the university.

The premises were adorned with lights, lanterns, and flowers, creating a serene atmosphere for the ceremony. The religious observances commenced with a traditional Perahera to welcome the venerable Theras, followed by an overnight Pirith chanting session. The ceremony concluded at dawn with the offering of morning alms (dana) to the monks.

The Annual Pirith Ceremony 2026 brought together students, staff, and well-wishers in a spirit of unity and devotion. Special appreciation is extended to the fourth-year students and all members of the UCSC family whose dedication and support made this meaningful event a success.





Highlights from the Annual Pirith Ceremony

UCSC Avare Awrudu

The spirit of togetherness and cultural pride came alive as the staff and students of UCSC gathered to celebrate the Sinhala and Tamil New Year 'Avare Awrudu 2026', held on 16th May 2026 at the university grounds.

The festivities commenced with the ceremonial boiling of milk and the lighting of the oil lamp, symbolizing prosperity and good fortune. Dance performances, a traditional Awrudu dining table, and a variety of Awrudu games added to the festive atmosphere, while the Tug of War and traditional Pillow Fight competitions remained among the highlights of the day. Beautifully crafted decorations reflecting Sri Lankan heritage further enhanced the celebration.

Organized by the first-year undergraduates of UCSC, the event was a memorable celebration of culture, tradition, and togetherness. Their dedication and creativity played a significant role in making Aware Awrudu 2026 a success.







Highlights from the UCSC Awrudu Ceremony

Layal Al Iftar 2026



Layal Al Iftar 2026 was held on 26th February 2026, bringing together the UCSC community for an evening of cultural appreciation and unity. Organized by the Students' Union of UCSC in collaboration with the Muslim community of the faculty, the event transformed the university car park into a welcoming space that reflected the spirit of the occasion.

The evening commenced with Quran recitations and prayers, creating an atmosphere of peace and reflection. Students and staff had the opportunity to experience different aspects of Islamic culture through activities such as the hijab try-on, henna station, and the keffiyeh and thobe experience. The sharing of Iftar further strengthened the sense of togetherness, as participants gathered to enjoy traditional dishes and celebrate the spirit of Ramadan.

The event was graced by the presence of the Director of UCSC, Dr. D. A. S. Atukorale, whose remarks highlighted the importance of cultural understanding and inclusivity. Layal Al Iftar 2026 served as a meaningful celebration of diversity, friendship, and the unity that continues to enrich the UCSC community.





Moments from the Layal Al Iftar 2026

Vaani Vizha 2025

Vaani Vizha 2025 was held on 27th January 2026 at the New Arts Theatre (NAT), University of Colombo, bringing together students and staff in a celebration of art, culture, and tradition. The venue was adorned with grand thoranas, decorations, and photo booths, creating a warm and festive atmosphere for the occasion.

The ceremony commenced with a religious pooja and the traditional lighting of the oil lamp, followed by a welcome dance that set the tone for the evening. The program featured songs, dances, documentary narrations, and a stage drama, showcasing the artistic talents and cultural heritage of the students. The orchestra further enriched the celebration with melodies that accompanied the performances throughout the event.

Vaani Vizha 2025 left behind fond memories and a renewed appreciation for the cultural diversity and artistic spirit that thrive within the UCSC community, standing as a meaningful celebration of heritage and togetherness.








Highlights from Vaani Vizha 2025

Avenora 2026

Friendship, laughter, and cherished memories came together at Avenora 2026, a special celebration organized by the 21st Batch for their juniors of the 22nd Batch at UCSC. The event reflected the warmth and strong bond shared between the two batches.

The evening session, held on 6th June 2026 at the Vidya Jyothi Professor V. K. Samaranayake Auditorium, featured a stage drama woven with humor, music, and dance, filling the auditorium with laughter and joy. A beautifully crafted thorana added to the charm of the celebration, while a printed photograph presented to each junior served as a cherished souvenir of the occasion.

Special appreciation is extended to the 21st Batch for their dedication and creativity in making Avenora 2026 a memorable celebration of friendship, gratitude, and togetherness within the UCSC community.



Highlights from Avenora 2026

Reid Handawa' 25

Music and creativity came together at Reid Handawa' 25, held on 30th January 2026 at the New Arts Theatre (NAT). Organized by Rekha UCSC Music Circle in collaboration with the Students' Union of UCSC, the event was brought to life by the second-year students of Batch 21, with the support of the first and third-year students.

The evening featured a concert of musical performances by the second-year students, complemented by dancing items and short skits - brought on stage by Abhina, Drama and Dancing Circle of UCSC - that kept the audience engaged throughout. Faculty performances added a special touch to the program, while the compering team ensured a smooth flow between each performance. The lively atmosphere and enthusiastic audience made the evening an enjoyable celebration of music and togetherness.

Reid Handawa' 25 reflected the vibrant student culture of UCSC and showcased the dedication and talents of its students, leaving behind memories that will be cherished by all who attended.



Moments of Reid Handawa 2025



Short term Training Programs in UCSC

Computer Services Centre (CSC)

- **Training Course on Data Science with Python**
  Duration - 08 Saturdays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - Some experience in Data Analytics and experience in Programming.

- **Software Quality Assurance Using Test Automation Frameworks**
  Duration - 08 Saturdays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - Better if the participants have fundamental knowledge in JAVA programming

- **Training Course on Python Fundamentals**
  Duration - 08 Sundays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - Participants with little or no programming experience

- **Training Course on AutoCAD**
  Duration - 08 Sundays
  Course Fee - Rs. 30,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - People with basic programming knowledge

- **Java Application Development Using JavaSE**
  Duration - 08 Sundays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - People with basic programming knowledge

Advanced Digital Media Technology Centre (ADMTC)

- **Advanced Multimedia Web Design & Development Techniques**
  Duration - 08 Sundays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - Basic Computer Knowledge

- **Graphic Design & Creativity Development**
  Duration - 08 Saturdays
  Course Fee - Rs. 35,000/=
  Minimum Qualifications - Basic Computer Knowledge

University of Colombo
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For more information
https://ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/training-programmes

Postgraduate Degree Programs in UCSC

- **Master of Computer Science (MCS)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Science in Computer Science (MSc in CS)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Information Technology (MIT)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Information Security (MIS)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Business Analytics (MBAnalytics)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Cybersecurity (MC)**
  Duration - 2 years
- **Master of Computing Technology (MCT)**
  Duration - 1 years

External Degree Program in UCSC

- **Bachelor of Inforation Technology (BIT)**

  UCSC took the initiative to launch the three-year External Degree programme leading towards the award of Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology (External) in the year 2000. This degree programme has been redesigned according to ACM guidelines and Policy Framework for External and Extension programme introduced by the University Grants Commission in the year 2010. BIT Programme is designed to:

  - Produce qualified IT professionals through external mode in addition to the traditional University output.
  - Set professional standards and encourage students to obtain skills in commercial IT applications and in the usage of necessary tools.
  - Enable those who could not enter into a state university to read for a degree in IT due to severe competition in obtaining such a degree from a state university.
  - Provide an opportunity to those non-graduates already working in the IT sector to obtain a formal qualification through self-study.

  The minimum duration of the BIT degree programme will be 3 academic years.



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For more information
https://ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/pg/



News to be sent to:
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