



AAUP e-Newsletter

News update of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Annual Trip
- Thursday Forum
- ExCo Meetings
- Award of Studentships
- Road Safety: Exhibition & Awareness Program
- An Appreciation: Late Professor Ashley Halpe
- New Souvenirs

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ISSUE I

NEWSLETTER: MARCH - AUGUST 2016

President's Message



I am very happy to send this message on the occasion of the first issue of the E-Newsletter of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya.

For many years, I felt a strong need to give back to my alma mater what I received from it over the past 20+ years. Our Association is a vital source of learning, connection, inspiration and enjoyment as we advance through our careers and into retirement. The AAUP takes pride in planning diverse events of community service and student-related events. One of the important tasks that we set out for ourselves during this year is to significantly increase the Association membership. We hope we will be successful in achieving this. Through emails, we communicate

regularly with our membership regarding the activities of the Association. However, with the launch of this biannual e-newsletter I trust we will be able to send more information on past and future activities to our membership.

I invite you to stay connected! There are many opportunities for involvement, such as participating in events, volunteering in our activities, and staying in touch through our e-newsletters and Facebook page. I welcome your thoughts, reflections and ideas as we move forward. Please feel free to contact me at aaupslk@gmail.com. You can also reach me by contacting the AAUP office at the WUS building +9481 206 8370. If you would like to get involved, by attending an event or taking on a leadership role, please inform us. We welcome your ideas and commitment.



The 27th AGM

The 27th Annual General Meeting was inaugurated by the traditional lighting of the oil lamp by the Chief Guest, Eng. Nihal Rupasinghe, Secretary to the Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development; Prof. Upul B. Disanayake, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya; Prof. Anura Wickramasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Science;

Dr. Jayalath Edirisinghe, the President/AAUP; Dr. Hemalie Nandalal, the General Secretary/AAUP; Mr. C. Sooriyaarachchi, the President/Colombo Chapter; Mr. T.L Chandrasiri, President/ Ruhuna Chapter; Mrs. Pushpa Jayakody from the Victoria Chapter; Mr. Gamunu Samarawickrama from Wayamba Chapter; Prof. Piyaseeli Wijemanna and Prof. Ashley Halpe.

AGM 2015-Lighting of the Oil Lamp



Inauguration of the 27th AGM on 27 March 2016. Prof. Upul B. Dissanayake (L), President of the AAUP, Dr. Jayalath Edirisinghe (R), Vice-Chancellor, President Ruhuna Chapter, Mr. T. L Chandrasiri (C), Mrs. Pushpa Jayakody from the Victoria Chapter lighting the Oil lamp.

Venue - Chemistry Upper Lecture Theater, Faculty of Science.

Participants at the AGM 2015



A total of over 75 Alumni attend the 27th AGM held at the Chemistry Upper Lecture Theater. In addition to the members of the Alumni of the Peradeniya branch representative from sister chapters from the Colombo Chapter, Ruhuna Chapter, Wayamba Chapter and

Felicitation of an extraordinary alumnus at the AGM
Emeritus Professor Piyaseeli Wijemanna was felicitated for her excellent contribution to the field of Sinhala literature



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Upul B. Dissanayake, presenting the Felicitation souvenir to Prof. Piyaseeli Wijemanna.



Prof. Piyaseeli Wijemanna addressing the gathering at the AGM.

Award of Scholarships at the AGM

The following scholarships were awarded at the AGM.

- The Sydney NSW Alumni Award for Excellence - for the best performance at the 1st year examination.
- The Prof. Ashley Halpe Scholarship - for the best performance in English at the 1st year examination.
- The Y.W Gunawardena Memorial Scholarship - for the best performance in Geography at the 1st year examination.
- The Prof. K.N Jayathilake Memorial Scholarship - for the best performance in Biology at the 1st year examination.
- The Prof. B.L.T de Silva Memorial Scholarship - for the best performance in Biology at the 1st year examination.
- The Prof. I Balasooriya Memorial Scholarship - for the best performance in Botany at the 1st year examination.
- The Prof. H.W Dias Memorial Scholarship - for the best performance in Chemistry at the 3rd year examination.

The Victoria Chapter Merit Awards

- The Prof. Shelton Kodikara Memorial Scholarship – best performance in Political Science at the end of the second year (Sinhala Medium)
- The Prof. Shelton Kodikara Memorial Scholarship – best performance in Political Science at the end of the second year (Tamil Medium)
- The Dammika Gunaratne Memorial Scholarship – best performance in Economics at the end of the second year.
- The Prof. Wimal Weerakkody Memorial Scholarship – best performance by a special needs student (SNRC)
- Peradeniya University Alumni Australia Victoria Chapter Scholarship for excellence in Electrical & Electronic Engineering 2015.
- The Victoria Chapter Scholarship for The Victoria Chapter Scholarship Computer Science & Statistics 2015.
- The Victoria Chapter Scholarship for excellence in Mathematics 2015.
- The Victoria Sasha Samalie Chapter Scholarship for excellence in Chemistry 2015.

Award of Swimming Equipment donated by the Western Australia Chapter.

Swimming equipment worth approx. Rs. 100,000.00 donated by the Western Australia Chapter was officially handed over to the Swimming Captains of the University of Peradeniya for the year 2016.

A distinguished Alumnus presenting the award for the Best Performance in English at the 1st Year Examination.



Misses A.H.M.I.A Bakmeedeniya and R.T.K Abayakoon accepting the certificates & cash awards from Prof. Ashley Halpe.

Election of office bearers for 2016/17



Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna was unanimously elected for the post of President. Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna on assuming duties declared the election of the office bearers for the year 2016/2017.

The Executive Committee Elected at the AGM 2015

President :	Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna
Immediate Past-President :	Dr. Jayalath Edirisinghe
Vice-Presidents :	Dr. Anura P. Dantanarayana
	Mrs. Lalitha Gunawardana
	Prof. Siril Wijesundara
	Mr. Srath Senevirathne
	Prof. Swarna Wimalasiri
General Secretary :	Dr. Pradeepa Bandaranayake
Assistant Secretaries :	Prof. Chantha Jayawardana
	Prof. Terrence Madhujith
Treasurer :	Dr. Amalka Pinidiyaarachchi
Assistant Treasurer :	Dr. Hemalie Nandalal
Editor :	Prof. Jayanthi Edirisinghe
Committee Members :	Dr. Shyama Banneheka
	Mr. Ashvin Wickramasooriya
	Dr. Ayesha Jayasinghe
	Ms. Kamani Sylva
	Mr. Niluka Amarasinghe
	Prof. Savitri Kumar
	Mrs. Asoka Dissanayake
	Mrs. Chandra Weerawardana
	Prof. Chandani Perera
	Dr. Anoja Wanigasekara
	Mr. Sisira Priyarthna
	Mr. Ravi Mulleriyawa
	Dr. Leena seneheweera

Fellowship and Lunch at the Lodge

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In the lobby of the Lodge—AAUP Fellowship



An Alumnus sings with Oriental musicians



Guests at lunch—Marquees in the back garden of the Lodge



Very senior Alumni enjoying the rhythm of music



Prof. Ashley Halpe & Mrs. Bridget Halpe in conversation



Alumni at the buffet

Alumni enjoying lunch



AGM 2016

General Convocation 2015

26 March 2016



The Convocation procession led by the Vice-chancellor & the Deputy Vice-chancellor, making its way to the convocation hall.



The Vice-Chancellor garlands a graduand



The inauguration of the General Convocation 2015 with the singing of the National anthem.



A section of the audience-degree recipients, academic staff & guests.



The Vice-Chancellor Declaring the convocation open.



The AAUP stall at the Convocation

The AAUP organized a make shift stall at the Geology block on convocation day. T-shirts & Car stickers, with the university logo, on display were snatched up by members of the large crowd who attended the two sessions of the convocation. A record number of T-shirts (215) was sold; the profit of Rs. 45,150.00 enriched the income of the AAUP.

Workshops conducted

A one day workshop was conducted on “What Makes a Graduate Employable?” for 3rd & 4th year undergraduates as well as the graduates of 2015. The workshop held on Saturday 18th June 2016 at the Career Guidance Unit was attended by 52 Undergraduates from the faculties of Arts, Science & Engineering. The two resource persons, Mr. Lionel Fernando (former SLAS officer & Provincial Governor & Ambassador) Mr. Ananda Hettiarachchi (formally from Haycab & currently at

SLINTEC) volunteered their time to explain, with examples, the qualities expected by employees and how one should prepare for employment. Students actively participated by asking questions and discussing problems they are likely to face at interviews. Students express their desire to participate in programmes of this nature in the future. Refreshments were provided by the Sri Lanka Federation of University Women (SLFUW) Kandy.



Mr. Lionel Fernando addressing the students

**“What
Makes a
Graduate
Employable?”**



The participants of the workshop.



Mr. Ananda Hettiarachchi making a power point presentation.



Mrs. Arosha Perera of the Career Guidance & Counseling Unit, addressing the undergraduates on career opportunities.

The workshop on “What Makes a Graduate Employable?” was jointly organized by the Committee on Continuing Education of the AAUP and the Career Guidance & Counseling Unit of the UoP. The workshop was held in the auditorium of the Career Guidance & Counseling Unit of the University of Peradeniya.

Kawshalya Fernando's latest theater production "Dutu Thena Allanu" was staged as a fund raising event in aid of the Needy Student Fund of the AAUP. This was an event organized by the Finance Committee of the AAUP. Members of the ExCo worked tirelessly to stage this play. A souvenir was printed for the occasion. Advertisements from well-wishers, banks, industries and suppliers of scientific equipment, added to the income that accrued from the event.

Dutu Thena Allanu is a musical adaptation of 'Opera Wonyosi' by the Nobel-Prize winning artist and poet Wole Soyinka. The play is based on the translation by Somalatha Subasinghe, adapted to suit the current scenario in Sri Lanka. Kawshalya Fernando, daughter of the late Kalasoori, Kalakeerthi Somalatha Subasinghe, is a proud product of the University of Peradeniya.



At the Ediriweera Sarachchandra Open Air Theater -12 July 2016



The life sized poster at the entrance to the Wala.



An anxious moment - awaiting the arrival of the audience.



The Open Air stage prior to the performance.



The Souvenir.



A scene from the play 'Dutu Thena Allanu'.

The “Thursday Forum” lecture series


This year, the AAUP Continued the last year’s interesting new project – the Thursday forum. This program was initiated by the Reunions and Recreation Committee of the AAUP with the intention of creating public awareness on issues of importance to the community, whilst providing an opportunity for alumni to meet frequently. The Thursday Forum comprises a talk by an eminent alumnus followed by a fellowship dinner.

The second lecture for the year in the series, was held on Thursday, March 17th, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Chemistry Auditorium, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. The guest speaker, a distinguished Alumnus of the University of Peradeniya & Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at Princeton University, U.S.A, Professor Gananath Obeyesekere, spoke on “A Note on the Fate of the Kandy Lake Complex Circa 1808-1815 and there-after”.

AAUP
Thursday Forum

Topic
 "A Note on the Fate of the Kandy Lake Complex, Circa 1808-1815 and There-After"

Speaker
Prof. Gananath Obeyesekere
Distinguished Alumni of the University of Peradeniya,
 Emeritus Professor of Anthropology
 at Princeton University



Date & Time
17th
March,
2016
at 6:30 PM

Venue
Auditorium,
Department of Chemistry

Followed by Dinner
All are Welcome
Alumni Association of University of Peradeniya (2015/16)


For further information on all activities of the AAUP visit our website

The third lecture for the year in the series Thursday forum was held on Thursday June 16th, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Chemistry Auditorium, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. The guest speaker, Emeritus Professor ,S.N. Arsecularatne spoke on knowledge- its scope and its acquisition.

AAUP
Thursday Forum

Topic
 “Knowledge - its content and its acquisition”

Speaker
Prof. S. N. Arsecularatne,
MBBS (Cey.), D.Phil (Oxford)
 Emeritus Professor of Microbiology
 of University of Peradeniya



Date & Time
16th of June, 2016
at 6:30 PM

Venue
Chemistry
Upper Lecture Theater,
Faculty of Science

All are Welcome!

You are welcome to join the dinner at Peradeniya Rest House immediately after the Seminar.
 Dr. Anura Dandanaarachana (071 5775094)
 Chairperson/Event Public Relation - AAUP

Resolutions adopted at the AGM

Resolution 1

Sub Section 2.1 of Section 2 (Eligibility criteria) of article IV: Membership be amended to include:

Any applicant with a degree from a recognized university is eligible to become a full member provided he/she has served in the permanent cadre of the University of Peradeniya for three years.

Resolution 2

Appendix A / Section 14-Registration Fee to read as

The subscription for life membership be Rs.1500.00; a member who requests an Identity Card should pay an additional Rs.500.00.

Monthly ExCo Meetings of the AAUP

During the six month period (March to August 2016) six ExCo meetings were held on the following dates:

13 March 2016
10 April 2016
08 May 2016
12 June 2016
10 July 2016
14 August 2016

The Meetings were held at the AAUP office on the second Sunday of each month, with the President, Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna in the chair.

Benefits for AAUP Membership Holders



Compiled & Edited by:

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&
Mrs. Lalitha Gunawardena

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