



University of Vavuniya

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It gives me immense pleasure that University of Vavuniya is publishing its first newsletter for the period of January - June ,2023 after becoming an independent university. This newsletter provides the details of academic programmes, research, sports, culture, and community outreach activities.

I am sure that the newsletter will become a must-read chronicle of happenings around us. This half year has witnessed many milestones in the progress of the University. All the Faculties, Departments and Centres of the University have been strengthened to deliver more academic programmes, research and new courses. The University plays a vital role in teaching, learning, research, and community outreach activities. May this newsletter benefit the students, staff and community.

I extend my gratitude to each contributor, editor, members of the newsletter committee, designer, and everyone involved in bringing this newsletter informative. Your collective efforts have culminated in a publication that showcases your passion, talent, and dedication. I congratulate the editorial team for their initiative and wish them success.

Prof.T.Mangaleswaran
Vice Chancellor

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ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Opening ceremony of the Centre for Russian Language and Culture at University of Vavuniya

The University of Vavuniya with the collaboration of the UI. Y. Yakovlev Chuvash State Pedagogical University, Russia opened a Centre for Russian Language and Culture at the University of Vavuniya. The Centre was inaugurated by Vladimir Nikolaevich Ivanov, Acting Rector, Ed.D., Senior Lecturer Igor Vladimirovich Kozhanav, Vice-Rector for Scientific and Innovative Work, Ed.D. and Mr. Alexander Alekseevich Kirillov, Head of the Department of Scientific and Innovative Work in the presence of Dr Y.Nanthagopan, Acting Vice-Chancellor and the officials of the university.



Workshop on “Technical Accessibility”

A workshop on “Technical Accessibility” was held on 06th of June 2023. Dr. Jennifer George, Head, Department of Computing, Goldsmiths University of London served as a resource person at the workshop for the students of the Faculty of Technological Studies.



Workshop on “Substance Misuse and its Impact in the Community”

The workshop on "Substance Misuse and Its Impact in the Community" was organized by the Career Guidance Unit for undergraduate students at the University of Vavuniya on 15th of February 2023. Dr. Amirthalingam Ravi Baheerathan, Consultant Psychiatrist, UK, served as a resource person at the workshop.



Workshop on “Creativity and Leadership”

The Career Guidance Unit of the University of Vavuniya organised a workshop on Creativity and Leadership for third-year students of the University of Vavuniya on 05th of May 2023. Prof. (Dr). Panchanatham Natarajan served as the resource person. It is an excellent initiative to help students develop crucial skills for their personal and professional growth.

Workshop on “Communication Skills”

The “Communication Skills” workshop was held on 19th of April 2023 at the University of Vavuniya. Ms P. Sarmatha, Lecturer (Probationary), Department of English Language Teaching, University of Vavuniya, served as the resource person for this workshop. Twenty employees participated in this training session and enjoyed this interactive session.



Training Programs to “Implement 5S System”

The “Implement 5S System” training program was held on 25th of January 2023 at the University of Vavuniya. Mr. A. Nusry and Mr. P. R. Robin Jeyaruban, District Productivity Coordinators, National Productivity Secretariat served as the resource persons.



Workshop on “Audit Practices”



The “Audit Practices” workshop was held on 15th of February 2023 at the University of Vavuniya. Mr. G. Thevagnanan, Retired Deputy Auditor General, served as the Resource person for this workshop. Forty-seven staff participated in this training programme.

Workshop on “Paper Setting and Conducting Examination”

The workshop on Paper Setting and Conducting Examination was held on 23rd of February 2023 at the University of Vavuniya. Prof. Gamini Senanayake, Former Vice Chancellor University of Ruhuna & Council Member, University of Vavuniya, served as the Resource person. Sixty-one staff participated in this training programme.



Workshop on Quality Parameters for Higher Education

A workshop on “Quality Parameters for Higher Education” was held on 04th of May 2023. Deans of the Faculties, Heads of the Departments, and Academic staff participated in the workshop. Prof. N. Panchanatham, Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Teachers’ Education University and Former Registrar, Annamalai University was invited as the resource person.



Workshop on Handling Plagiarism Detection Tools and Research Evaluation Metrics

A workshop on Handling Plagiarism Detection Tools and Research Evaluation Metrics was conducted by the AHEAD project, Faculty of Applied Science in collaboration with the Centre for Quality Assurance on 25th of February 2023. The workshop was organized for the Temporary Staff and students of the Faculty of Applied Science. Mrs. Thivya Janen, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Engineering, University of Jaffna served as the resource person.



RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENT AND DISSEMINATION

International Conference on Harmony and Reconciliation

The first International Conference on Harmony and Reconciliation (ICHR 2022) was organized by the Harmony Centre, University of Vavuniya, Sri Lanka under the theme of “Harmony and Development through Knowledge and Innovation towards Nation Building” on 19th and 20th of January 2023.



INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

MOU signing event between Harmony Centre, University of Vavuniya and the GATE Foundation and Centre for Media, Human Rights and Peacebuilding

The MOU signing ceremony with the GATE Foundation and the Centre for Media, Human Rights, and Peacebuilding was held on 18th of January 2023 at the University of Vavuniya. Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, Vice-Chancellor, University of Vavuniya, Dr. Senthana Selvarajah, Co-Director, Centre for Media, Human Rights and Peacebuilding in London and the Gate Foundation in UK, Prof. Rajib Timalisina, Assistant Professor, Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies of the Tribhuvan University in Nepal, Dr Y.Nanthagopan, Dean, Faculty of Business Studies, Dr. M. Malaravan, Council Member, and senior officials of the University participated in the MOU signing event.



CULTURAL EVENTS

Thai Pongal Ceremony

The Harmony Centre of the University of Vavuniya conjointly with the Students' Union of the University of Vavuniya arranged and celebrated the "THAI PONGAL" ceremony on 27th of January, 2023 in the University premises. The Vice Chancellor, Deans of the Faculties, Directors of the Units and Centres, Heads of the Departments, Council members, religious leaders, academic and non-academic staff members, and students participated in the special pooja, Pongal and the sun prayer.



Sinhala & Tamil New Year Celebration

The Harmony Centre in collaboration with the Students' Union of the University of Vavuniya organized a vibrant and joyous "Sinhala & Tamil New Year Celebration 2023" on 29th of April. All the staff and students of the university participated in the festival.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Collaboration and Policy Development for Disability-Inclusive

Dr. Jennifer George, Head, Department of Computing, who works with Equity and Equality, and Disability Centre, Goldsmiths University of London visited to the University of Vavuniya on 5th & 06th June 2023. She briefed out how technology can remove the barriers to the learning ability of disability and how the LMS can be modified for easy access for disabled students. Further, she shared her experience at Goldsmiths University, London as well.



Occupational Guidance Programme



The Career Guidance Unit of the University of Vavuniya organised an occupational Guidance programme for school students and teachers of Vavuniya North Zonal Education Office on 27th of April 2023. 100 students and teachers actively participated in this workshop.

Dr. S. Wijayamohan, Dr. Y. Nanthagopan and Mr. P. Sasitharan served as the resource persons. It aims to help youngsters explore their interests, skills, and potential career paths.

Career Guidance Work Shop and Awareness Session for School Students

The Career Guidance Unit organised a Career Guidance Workshop and awareness session for the A/L students (Jaffna Central College Commerce Stream Students) on 29th of May 2023. Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, Mr. Jude Leon, Mr. S. Hariharan, Mr. Ram Ramanan and Mr. P. Sasitharan served as the resource persons. This event aims to provide valuable insights and support to students as they navigate their future career choices.



Inauguration Ceremony of the Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management programme



The Inauguration Ceremony of the Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management programme held on 20th of May 2023, marks the beginning of an educational journey for aspiring entrepreneurs. It inspired the enrolled students to embark on their entrepreneurial path with enthusiasm and determination.

Peace Education Program

The Harmony Centre of the University of Vavuniya conjointly with the Prem Rawat Foundation organized the Peace Education Program, was an innovative series of video-based workshops that help people discover their own inner strength from 20th to 29th of March 2023 via Zoom. Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, the Vice-Chancellor, Mrs. S. Mathivathany, Director Harmony Centre, staff members, students of the university, public and schools students participated in the Peace Education Programme. The Programme provided the opportunity to the participants focusing and reflecting on humanity, and inner resources such as choice, hope, and dignity.

Social Media for Reporting and Peace Building

The Harmony Centre of the University of Vavuniya conducted a workshop on “Social Media for Reporting and Peace Building” for all students of the Advanced Certificate Course in Media Literacy and Journalism on 22nd of July 2023 at Centre for Distance and Continue Education, University of Vavuniya. Mr. Mohamed Buhary Mohamed Fairouz, Editor of a National Tamil Daily News Paper named Vidivelli and Vidivelli Webcasting site, and professional trainer on Media and Reconciliation, Sri Lanka was the resource person for this workshop.



Inauguration Ceremony of Advanced Certificate in Media Literacy and Journalism

The University of Vavuniya inaugurated Advanced Certificate Course in Media Literacy and Journalism on 28th of May 2023 at the University. Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, the Vice Chancellor of the University, attended as the Chief Guest, and Mr. J. Yograj, a Media Consultant (SLRC), Dr. S. Senthnan, the Co-Director of the Centre for Media and Human Rights, UK, and Mr. N. Kabilnath, a Senior Media Journalist from the Vavuniya District attended as Special Guests. This course has 15 credits according to the SLQF standards for Level two and it was inaugurated through Center for Distance and Continuing Education, University of Vavuniya.



The Inauguration Ceremony of Advanced Certificate Course in Women Empowerment in Politics

The University of Vavuniya inaugurated Advanced Certificate Course in Women Empowerment in Politics on 11th of June 2023 at the University. Mrs. Senthilkumaran Sumithra, Women Development Officer, Divisional Secretariat, Vengalcheddikulam, Vavuniya, Mr. Saravanamuththu Arivalagan, Consultant/ Facilitator and Master Trainer, Mr. J. Yograj, Media Consultant, SR. Gloria Joseph, Holy Cross Convent, Ukkulankulam, Vavuniya attended as Special Guests.



Inauguration of the Higher Diploma in English Programme

The inauguration of the Higher Diploma in English, an extension programme was held on 27th of May 2023. Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, Vice-Chancellor, University of Vavuniya, Dr. Y. Nanthagopan, Dean, Faculty of Business Studies, Dr. G. Jeyaseelan, Head, Department of English Language Teaching, Mr. S. A. Jude Leon, Director, CDCE, Mrs. P. Sarmatha, Academic Coordinator - HDE, staff and students participated in the programme.



SPORTS

Inter University Elle Championship

The Inter University Elle Championship 2022 was held from 6th to 9th of January 2023 at University of Vavuniya. The University of Vavuniya organized its first Inter-University Game which was telecast live on Gaja TV for the first time in the university history.



Inter University Chess Championship

The Inter University Chess Championship 2022 was held from 6th to 8th of January 2023 at the University of Visual and Performing Arts. There were 16 students represented the University of Vavuniya.



Sri Lanka National Novices Division Chess Championship 2023

The students from the University of Vavuniya participated in the Sri Lanka National Novices Division Chess Championship 2023. It was organized by SWOT Chess Academy, Vavuniya which was held from 9th and 10th of February 2023 at V/Vavuniya Muslim Maha Vidyalayam.



Sri Lanka National Major Division Chess Championship

Two female students from the University of Vavuniya participated in the Sri Lanka National Major Division Chess Championship 2023 Northern Division, organized by the Jaffna District Chess Association which was held from 15th to 18th of February 2023 at Jaffna Hindu Primary School – Jaffna. Ms. N.Mathurankani and Ms. J.Ananthitha got ranked among 34 participants.

Rugby World Cup Trophy Display

The Rugby team of University of Vavuniya visited to the Rugby World Cup Trophy display on 21st of February 2023 at the Excel World, Colombo.



Gnaneshwaran Memorial Tournament

In memory of the former Work Supervisor Mr N. Gnaneshwaran, the Gnaneshwaran Memorial tournament was held on 22nd of February 2023. There were three games such as cricket, netball and badminton conducted for all the staff of University of Vavuniya.



Vavuniya District Badminton Clubs League Championship 2023

The men's team of the University of Vavuniya participated in the Club Championship Badminton league matches among the Vavuniya district clubs from 27th of February 2023 to 1st of May 2023 at UC indoor stadium Vavuniya. The tournament was organized by the Vavuniya District Badminton Association.



First Anniversary of Rugby Team



The rugby team of the University of Vavuniya celebrated their first anniversary. It was held on 11th of March 2023 at the university playground. The rugby team was divided into two teams and played friendly match.



Staff Cricket Tournament

The Physical Education Unit organized a Staff Cricket Tournament among the University staff which was held from 21st of March 2023 to 16th of June 2023 at the university playground.



Inter Faculty Fresher's Meet

The Inter Faculty Fresher's Championship-2023 for the students of the academic year 2020/2021 was conducted from 21st of April to 2nd of May 2023 at the university playground and the Indoor stadium.



The Sri Lanka Universities Colours Awarding Ceremony

The Sri Lanka Universities Colours Awarding Ceremony for the year 2022 was held on 10th of May 2023 at the Faculty of Technology Auditorium, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Pitipana. From the University of Vavuniya two students received colours awards; Mr. S. D. Mendis for Karate and Mr. P. J. Prashanth for Elle.



First Aid Workshop



The First Aid Workshop was held on 17th of May 2023 at University of Vavuniya. It was conducted by the Red Cross Society for the members of University. The students and staff participated to the theory and the practical sessions of the First Aid workshop.

Friendly Rugby match with Wayamba University

The Physical Education Unit, University of Vavuniya conducted the friendly Rugby match with Wayamba University of Sri Lanka which was held on 02nd of June 2023 at Vavuniya University playground.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

National Level Winners of IEEE YESIST12

Youth Endeavors for Social Innovation using Sustainable Technology (IEEE YESIST12) is an international talent show that encourages the next generation of engineers and innovators to think creatively about solving social and humanitarian issues. Team Detach from University of Vavuniya, consisting of brilliant minds S. G. Seyone, M. G. Sonali Kalpani Jayarathne, and Menakan Vijeyanathan, impressed the judges with their outstanding performance in the Innovation Challenge Track. The innovative team has secured a place in the finals, where they will represent Sri Lanka and compete against other talented participants from around the world.

Their project holds the potential to make a significant impact and contribute to a sustainable future. Ms. P. Shorubiga, the branch counselor, served as the mentor for Team Detach during their participation in IEEE YESIST12 and A. Harish Kavinda from University of Vavuniya acted as the single point of contact from Sri Lanka for the competition, facilitating communication and ensuring a smooth participation process for Team Detach.



PROGRESS OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Milk Boiling Ceremony of the Library

The Milk Boiling Ceremony of the partially completed new Library Building of the University of Vavuniya was held on 18th of January 2023. This function was graced with the presence of Prof. T. Mangaleswaran, Vice Chancellor, Deans, Registrar, Bursar, Librarian, Council Members, Academic Staff and Non-Academic staff of the University. The library provides services for both staff and students of the university.





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