



KDU NEWSLETTER

GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

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NEWS

Awarding of the President's Colours and University Colours

The General Sir John Kotelawala University (KDU) inherits a story of 42 years. The KDA was formally established with the aspiration of producing graduate officers and strengthening solidarity among the tri-forces of Sri Lanka. Subsequently, the academy was elevated to the status of a university in 1988, and it was ceremonially renamed as General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) in 2007. The quality of education provided by KDU and its infrastructure facilities were enhanced in 2009 by establishing academic faculties, and in 2012 KDU opened its doors to civilian day-scholars to provide them with opportunities to pursue internationally benchmarked degrees. Presently, KDU has flourished into a fully-fledged university including eleven faculties, a University Hospital equipped with ultramodern facilities, the Southern Campus and the City Campus in keeping with its motto, 'For the Motherland Forever'. The university identifies its national responsibility of addressing issues of national significance through teaching, learning, research and innovation.



On August 25th, 2022, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Ranil Wickremesinghe, awarded the President's Colours and University Colours to General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University in recognition of its four decades of exceptional excellence in maintaining important aspects of military education: discipline, training and knowledge. The president expressed his strong belief that KDU authorities and staff would protect and safeguard the status of the university by respecting the President's Colours and University Colours awarded.

Addressing the gathering, the President further appreciated the valiant service rendered by KDU officers during the height of the civil war in the country. He highlighted that KDU has gained local and international acclaim and thus the need for protecting the university as an essential education stake holder of the higher education sector in Sri Lanka. Further, he appreciated the enrolment of civil students for KDU degree programmes, extending higher education opportunities in dynamic study streams.



“The world is changing and in future we won’t see the sort of war that we have experienced in the past. New technology and new knowledge is developing. Especially the war is not limited to land, air and sea. Cyber technology is also developing. Also, climate change should be taken into consideration when you engage in your duties,” the President stated.

Major General Milinda Peiris, RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil, Vice Chancellor of KDU made a solemn declaration on behalf of all staff of KDU and its student population pledging to protect and safeguard the President’s Colours and the University Colours awarded.

Honourable Minister of Education, Susil Premajayanth; Chief of Staff to the President and Senior Advisor to the President on National Security, Mr Sagala Ratnayaka; the High Commissioner of the Republic of Indonesia; the High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; the High Commissioner of the Republic of Maldives; the Consul for the Republic of Rwanda; the High Commissioner of New Zealand; Secretary of Defence, General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd); Chief of Defence Staff, General Shavendra Silva; Tri-Forces Commanders; Inspector General of Police; the Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Professor Sampath Amaratunga; Additional Secretary Defence Mr RMPS Rathnayake; the Treasury Representative, Ms JC Weligamage and many other distinguished invitees graced the occasion.

‘Story of Colours’ in page 15



General Convocation of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University 2022



The General Convocation 2022 of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was ceremonially held at the BMICH on 10th and 11th of November 2022, and its first three sessions were successfully completed with the participation of the Vice Chancellor, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc whilst the Chancellor, General Gerard Hector de Silva (Retired) RWP VSV USP ndc graced the occasion as the Chief Guest with eminent academia.

The final session of General Convocation 2022 of KDU was held on 11th November 2022, and Hon. Ranil Wickramasinghe, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka graced the occasion as the chief guest with many other dignitaries who witnessed the grand occasion. With 40 years of reputation in the international realm, going beyond the restriction of offering degrees to only military personnel, KDU broadened its scope and opened its doors to qualified civil students in 2009 to realize their dream of obtaining a degree in a disciplined environment on par with other local or international universities.



Having a student base of 6055 undergraduates in-house at present, General Gerald Hector de Silva (Retired) RWP VSV USP ndc, the Chancellor of the University, conferred 1619 graduands from all faculties and affiliated military institutions and 269 Masters graduands and postgraduate Diploma holders, consisting of Tri-Services, Police as well as Executive Officers in Public and Private Sector, from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and affiliated institutions, at the 2022 Convocation.

Officer Cadet, C/5510 WMJC Weerakoon, NRE 4144 Sub Lt SASV Hapuarachchi and Fg Off EWDH Egodawaththa were awarded the best Cadet Officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force respectively. The Sword of Honour for the Best All-Round Performance of Intake 35 was awarded to O/5496 Fg Off CL Udumullaarachchi.

Convocation Dinner - 2022



The Annual Convocation Dinner of Intake 34, 35 and 36 of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) was glamorously held at Eagles' Lakeside Banquet Hall Attidiya on 12th November 2022 to Officers of the Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy and the Sri Lanka Air Force and Day-Scholars.

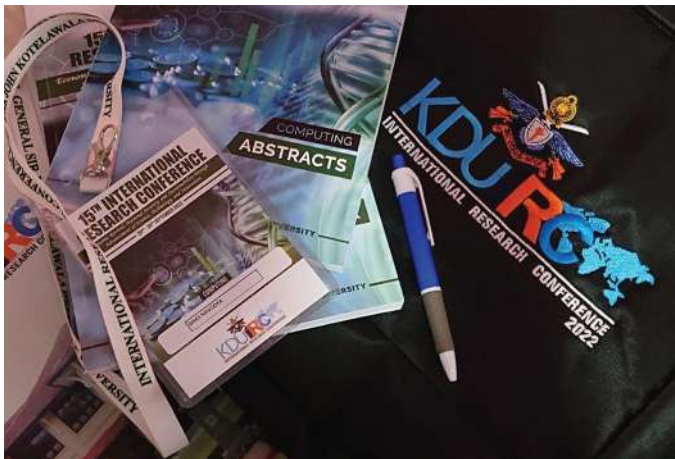
Vice Admiral Nishantha Ulugetenne RSP and Bar VSV USP ndc psc, Commander of the Navy graced this glorified occasion as the Chief Guest. In addition, Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana WWV and Bar RWP and Bar RSP and three Bars VSV USP MSc (Def Stu) MPhil ndc psc, the Commander of the Air Force, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil, Vice Chancellor of KDU, Major General CD Weerasuriya RWP RSP ndu, Deputy Chief of Staff of Sri Lanka Army, Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police S Medawaththe, former Vice Chancellors of KDU, former Commandants of then General Sir John Kotelawala Defence Academy (KDA), Senior Military Officers, Graduated Officers, Day-Scholars, Academic and Administrative Staff of KDU participated in this memorable event.

The Convocation Dinner was replete with Military decorum and traditions along with the display of the President's Colours and University Colours. Further, the seven-course menu that was served reflected a parsimonious adherence to long-preserved customs and traditions in the military, and the loyal toast was to HE the President followed with the musical accompaniment in attendance to mark the loyalty of the Tri-Forces to the First Citizen of Sri Lanka. In addition, another five toasts: a toast to the graduates by the Vice Chancellor of KDU, a toast to the staff of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University by the graduates, a toast to the Navy & the Air Force by the Sri Lanka Army, a toast to the Army & the Air Force by Sri Lanka Navy, and a toast to the Army & the Navy by the Sri Lanka Air Force were offered to consolidate fraternity among the Tri-Forces in Sri Lanka with the graduates of KDU.



The event was a delightful climax for the series of events related to the graduation of more than 400 officers, and day scholars in different disciplines, and it signified the final accomplishment of their relentless journey at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.

15TH INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE (IRC 2022)



Inaugural session

The Inaugural session of the 15th International Research Conference 2022 of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was successfully held on 29th September 2022 at the Faculty of Graduate Studies auditorium, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana. The event's welcome address was delivered by Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil (Ind) PGDM, the Vice Chancellor of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.

Welcoming the participants of the International Research Conference, the Vice Chancellor emphasized how the university can contribute positively during the ongoing economic crisis, as the first and only Defence University in the country becoming stable. He further emphasized the necessity of using challenges as opportunities for the development of the nation. The Vice Chancellor further commended the efforts exerted by the organizers and the stakeholders of the conference who “converted challenges into opportunities.”

The Chief Guest of the event was General (retd) GDH Kamal Gunaratne WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, who was introduced to the audience by Brigadier Wipula Chandrasiri Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence & Administration). General Kamal Gunaratne stated that he considers it a great privilege to attend the 15th International Research Conference as the Chief Guest and pointed out how the IRC serves as an exemplary platform for academics, researchers and practitioners all around the world to share their findings and expertise, and mutual challenges in their fields, pointing out how it also provides an opportunity for wide interaction and networking with national and international scholars in respective fields.

The Keynote Speech of the conference was delivered by Hon. Professor Subramanian Swamy. Dr. Pandula Athaudarachchi had introduced the speaker to the audience. Professor Swamy initiated his speech by extending his gratitude towards the Vice Chancellor Major General Milinda Peiris for the invitation bestowed on him.

The Southern Campus, inaugurated the southern chapter of the IRC 2022 on 29th September 2022, and its pre- conference session – KDU IRC 2022 of the Faculty of Built Environment and Spatial Sciences hosted by the Department of Quantity Surveying was held at the Southern Campus on 28th September 2022.

The pre-conference workshops of the Faculty of Computing were successfully conducted on the 27th and 28th of September in hybrid mode under the themes of ‘Emerging Technologies for an Innovative Future’, ‘Internet Governance for National Development’ and ‘Digital Transformation for Defence and National Security’.

The Plenary Session on Law of IRC 2022 was held on 29th of September 2022. It was chaired by His Lordship Jayantha Jayasuriya PC, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka.

Dr. Kalpa W. Samarakoon, Chair of IRC 2022 delivered the Vote of Thanks marking the conclusion of the inaugural session of the 15th International Research Conference of General John Kotelawala Defence University and thanked sponsors of the event; Peoples Bank, Bank of Ceylon, Technomedics, George Steuarts Health, Gamma Interpharm, Allianz Insurance, Southern Construction, Youth Trading and Great Enterprises.



IRC 2022 –Research Excellence Award

The Best Research Award of the Academic category was awarded to Captain Engineer SU Damage (Retd), Dean Faculty of Engineering KDU. Dr. AD De Silva and Dr. AMNL De Silva were awarded as Runners-up. Mr. VSS Nanayakkara won the student category best research excellence award.

The Oath Taking Ceremony of Nursing Undergraduates 2022

The Oath Taking ceremony of nursing undergraduates of Intake 37 & 38 was held on 31st October 2022, at the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Werahera. The Vice Chancellor, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil graced the occasion. The Chief Guest of the ceremony was Mr. Janaka Sri Chandraguptha, Secretary, Ministry of Health. One Hundred and Twenty-six (126) nursing undergraduates of Intake 37 and Intake 38 took their oath after receiving the lamp and the nursing cap. The Vice Chancellor congratulated all the nursing undergraduates who stepped onto the new journey of nursing career after taking the oath.



Naval Nurses Training School – Certificate Awarding Ceremony 2022

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Diploma in Nursing Programme of Naval Nurses' Training School (NNTS) Welisara, organized by the Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, was held on 21st October 2022 at the FGS Auditorium General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Ratmalana. Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil Vice Chancellor of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour was Surgeon Rear Admiral GSR Jayawardena VSV USP. The welcome speech was done by the Dean – Faculty of Allied Health Sciences Surgeon (Capt.) Ranga Perera. The Vice Chancellor and the Chief Guest congratulated all the diploma holders.

Certificate Award Ceremony – CTHE Programme X – SDC

The certificate awarding ceremony of the Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education Programme 2021/ 2022 (CTHE Programme X) was held on 24th November 2022 at the Staff Development Centre – KDU. Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil the Vice Chancellor of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University graced the event as the Chief Guest. Mr. KAM Chathuranga received the best performance award in CTHE Programme X.



Launching of the National Digital Repository Centre on Defence Studies

The Inaugural Session marked the official launching of the National Digital Repository Centre on Defence Studies as Sri Lanka's first Defence-related digital library collection centre- a collaborative project of the KDU Library and the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies. The project was generously sponsored by Professor Emeritus Kusuma Cooray in memory of her late husband MG Cooray. The repository has been launched by General GDH Kamal Gunaratne (Retd.) WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil, Secretary—Ministry of Defence, on September 29, 2022, at the opening ceremony of the university's International Research Conference. This is Sri Lanka's first defence-related digital library repository. As the only defence university in Sri Lanka, the KDU serves as the hub of information on defence and security studies through this repository center to users who seek reliable information sources on defence and security studies.



External Review Programmes of the IT and IS degree programs

External Review Programmes of the Information Technology and Information Systems degree programs of Department of IT, Faculty of Computing were held at Southern Campus on 04th November 2022 and 16th November 2022. Dr. Ruwan Wickramarachchi, University of Kelaniya participated as the external reviewer on 04th of November 2022 and Dr. S Premarathne, University of Moratuwa, participated as the external reviewer on 16th of November 2022. Both the reviewers were satisfied with the quality of the two-degree programs.



Installation of the Executive Committee 2022/ 2023 of the Technical Sciences and Management Society (TSMS)

The 5th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Technical Sciences and Management Society (TSMS) of General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University was held on 24th August 2022 at the Main Auditorium of FDSS. This event was graced by the distinguished presence of the Dean of Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Kithsiri Amarathunga, the Head of Department of Management and Finance, Dr. Wasantha Premarathne, Senior Lecturers and Lecturers of the Department. The Dean of the Faculty enlightened the gathering with opening remarks emphasizing the importance of soft skill development to an undergraduate.

The Inauguration Ceremony of the Short Course on 'Cultural Linkages Towards an Asian Ideology' 2022/2023

The virtual inauguration ceremony of the Short Course on 'Cultural Linkages towards an Asian Ideology' 2022/2023 was held on 4th of October 2022. The course was ceremoniously inaugurated with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Defence and Administration, Brigadier Wipula Chandrasiri gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. Registered students from all the faculties of KDU Participated in the event and Professor Hajime Tozaki of Oberlin University, Japan delivered the guest speech. Also present were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Academic, the Dean of the Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities, Deans of the other Faculties, Directors, Heads of Departments, Senior Academics and Senior Military Officers.

The Cadet Government for The Year 2022 : Declaration and the Awarding of Ribbon and Insignia – 2022

The Cadet Government for the year 2022 was sworn in on 22th October 2022 at KDU Ratmalana and there are 13 Officer Cadets from Intakes 36, 37 and 38 who received their appointments on this occasion. The Vice Chancellor, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil graced the event as the Chief Guest and the members of Military and Academic staff also witnessed the event. The appointments of Cadet Government encourage Officer Cadets to shoulder responsibilities and provide opportunities to demonstrate their leadership. Cadet Government Declaration and Awarding Ceremony of Ribbon and Insignia 2022 of KDU was held on 18th October 2022 at the Indoor Basketball Court of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. The aim of awarding Ribbon and Insignia is to uplift the standards of the Officer Cadets by appreciating the progress shown during the period of training. Further, this event is organized to motivate other Officer Cadets to reach high performance beyond call of duty in their tenure as Cadets. Ribbon and Insignia were awarded for the following categories: 'Military Excellence', 'Academic Excellence', 'Good Conduct', 'Perfect Attendance', 'Physical fitness', 'Marksman' and 'Sportsman'. A total of 564 Officer Cadets from Intakes 36, 37 and 38 (including 42 Officer Cadets in Southern Campus) were awarded Ribbon and Insignia for the year 2022. The duties of the Cadet Government are implemented according to the standing orders given by KDU. The Cadet Government comprised with the ranks of University Under Officer (UUO), University Cadet Sergeant Major (UCSM), University Cadet Quarter Master Sergeant (UCQMS), Squadron Under Officer (SUO), Squadron Cadet Sergeant Major (SCSM), Squadron Cadet Quarter Master Sergeant (SCQMS), Troop Under Officer (TUO), Cadet Sergeant (C/Sgt), Cadet Corporal (C/Cpl) and Cadet Lance Corporal (C/L/Cpl).

DICB of the Department of Computational Mathematics

The Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) of the Department of Computational Mathematics, Faculty of Computing was conducted on 3rd August 2022 at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. This aimed to evaluate the curriculum of the Data Science and Business Analytics degree offered by the department. The Dean Faculty of Computing, Heads of the Departments, academic staff members with a wide range of eminent senior academia from various universities and industry experts mediated a fruitful discussion by contributing expertise views to revise the programme structure, and to take measures to improve the professional conduct of the degree programme for future intakes.

DICB of the Department of Information Technology

The Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) of the Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Computing was conducted on 23rd November 2022 at the Southern Campus. This meeting aimed to evaluate the curricula of Information Technology and Information Systems degrees offered by the department. The Head of the Department, all academic staff members of the department along with a wide range of eminent industry experts mediated a fruitful discussion by contributing expert comments and views. The opinions obtained will be used to take measures to improve the professional conduct of the degree programme for future intakes.



DICB of Mechanical Engineering department

The Department – Industry Consultative Board (DICB) Meeting for the year 2022 of the Department of Mechanical Engineering was held successfully by virtual mode on 7th September 2022.

DICB of the Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering



The Department-Industry Consultative Board (DICB) of the Departments of Computer Science and Computer Engineering of the Faculty of Computing was collaboratively conducted on 20th October 2022 at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana. The intent of this gathering was to evaluate the curricula of the Computer Science, Software Engineering and Computer Engineering Degrees to be in line with the current industry best practices and standards. The Dean Faculty of Computing, Heads of the Departments, academic staff members and a wide range of industry experts and senior lecturers from various universities contributed their expert opinions and suggestions for the discussion.

Field Visit of Intake 38 International Relations Students

The undergraduates of Intake 38 following the BSc in Strategic Studies & International Relations attached to the Department of Strategic Studies of the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University went on a three-day field visit to Hambantota from 28th October 2022 to 30th October 2022.

A total of 21 Officer Cadets, 29 Day-scholars, three senior lecturers, five military officers and staff from the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies participated in the field visit. The Head of the Department Dr. Harinda Vidanage headed the contingent with Lt Col Lasith Amarasekara as the overall coordinator



The aim of this field visit was to build a comprehensive team of students who study Strategic Studies and International Relations while providing opportunities for undergraduates to experience the functioning of seaports and airports.

The visit officially commenced on 28th October 2022 with a tour of the Hambantota seaport where the undergraduates witnessed the functioning mechanisms of the Hambantota Harbor. In addition, they also visited Magam Ruhunupura International Convention Center and Birds Park / Birds Research Center on the

same day. On October 29th and 30th, the undergraduates visited the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium, Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport and Sri Lanka School of Military Engineering. The visitors were provided food and accommodation by the KDU Southern Campus at Sooriyawewa. The field visit stimulated fruitful discussions and widened the horizons of the undergraduates. Furthermore, they were made aware of their footing as young international relations policymakers and how these resources and facilities could be directed toward Sri Lanka's greater good and sustainable development.



Industrial Visit/Guidance programme of the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics

Intake 38, Mechanical (27 nos) and Mechatronics (28 nos) Engineering students conducted their Industrial visit to Ideal Motors (Pvt) Ltd, Dehiwala- Mount Lavinia on 23rd and 24th August 2022. Intake 37 Mechanical (20 nos) and Mechatronics (7 nos) Engineering Officer Cadets conducted their visit to the School of Artillery, Minneriya on 9th September 2022. The industrial visit was planned to obtain the practical knowledge on the Ballistics Engineering module in their curriculum. Intake 38 Mechanical (27 nos) and Mechatronics (28 nos) Engineering students conducted their industrial guidance programme at State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation (Pvt) Ltd, Ratmalana on five consecutive Fridays from 09th September to 07th October 2022 and Intake 38 Mechanical (27 nos) and Mechatronics (28 nos) Engineering students conducted their visit to Unichela Private Limited, Panadura on 13th October 2022

Field Visit to MAS Intimates- Unichela (Panadura) by Social Sciences Students

Students of the Department of Social Sciences from the 39th Intake visited MAS Holdings Intimates- Unichela in Panadura on the 26th of August 2022. The objective of this visit was for the students to receive an introduction and exposure to the field of management practices prior to their industrial training. The visit provided an opportunity for students to observe up close and personally the operations of one of Sri Lanka's largest exporters and manufacturing plants. The officials from MAS Unichela provided an overview of the management structure of the company as well as a guided tour of the factory.

Opening of the British Council Digital wall at the KDU Library

Newly introduced user service of the Library, the British Council Digital Wall opened on 7th September 2022 which enables access to the information sources at the British Council. This QR-sensitive screen is accessible through IOS and Android phones and users can download resources for education, leisure reading and access to training materials for IELTS examinations.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence & Administration), Brigadier W Chandrasiri RSP USP psc, along with the Library Staff, proclaimed the Digital Wall open.



Live Firing in Panaluwa

A live firing event was conducted on 07th August 2022 at the Field Firing Range in Panaluwa by Officer Cadets of Intakes 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39. This is an event organized by Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies every academic semester.



MESS NIGHT - INTAKE 38

The Annual Mess Night of Intake 38 of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was held at Officer Cadet's Mess on 18th November 2022, in a very glamorous environment. The Vice Chancellor of Kotelawala Defence University, Major General MP Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil graced the glorified occasion as the Chief Guest. In addition, the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence and Administration), Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Registrar, Deans of the faculties, Senior Military Officers, Senior Lecturers, Squadron Commanders and Troop Commanders of the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies (FDSS), University senior-most Officer Cadet and 270 Officer Cadets from Intake 38 participated in the memorable event.



The Mess Night of Intake 38 was replete with Military decorum and traditions along with the display of the President's Colours and University Colours. A five-course menu that was served reflected a parsimonious adherence to long-preserved customs and traditions in the military. The musical accompaniment in attendance followed with the loyal toast. A total of three customarily toasts were offered, including a toast to HE, the President. This was a perfect opportunity for the Officer Cadets of Intake 38 to learn about traditional military customs and values related to Mess nights.

The Mess Night of Intake 38 was the last event of the annual events of Officer Cadets of Intake 38 and their last event to celebrate as a whole Intake during their stay at KDU. It was planned to mark the completion of the Academic Tenure of the Officer Cadets of Intake 38, who will be leaving for their respective Military Academies in January 2023.



MOU with Verité Research

General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) signed an MOU with Verité Research Pvt. Ltd with the objectives of recruiting interns from faculties of Management Social Sciences and Humanities, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies. Verité Research Pvt. Ltd is a private think tank that provides strategic analysis for Asia.



The AIT Thailand Signs an MOU With KDU

An MoU signed with Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand came to effect on 28th August, 2022. The Vice Chancellor signed the MoU in the presence of Registrar and AIT officials, were was present online.



KDU and Unilever Sri Lanka

The MoU was signed by the Vice Chancellor of KDU Major General Milinda Peiris, and Ms. Ananya Sabharwal, Director of Human Resources and Mr. Niroshan Jayasuriya, National Finance Director signed the MOU from Unilever Sri Lanka Limited. The event was held on the 30th August 2022 in hybrid mode at KDU in the presence of Mr. V.D Kithsiri, Registrar, Dr. Namali Sirisoma, Director Career Guidance Unit and Dr. Kalpana Ambepitiya, Career Guidance Advisor of Faculty of Management Social Sciences and Humanities who participated in the event representing KDU.



General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Signs MOUs with NAVESTA Pharmaceuticals for Two Bioequivalence Projects

Greater demand for Bioequivalence (BE) Studies has been created over the past couple of years due to the exponential growth of the local pharmaceutical industry. As a leading university in Sri Lanka, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) is now capable of catering to the local demand for BE studies by utilizing its Smart Hospital and State-of-the-Art Research Laboratories. KDU is currently offering commercial BE studies for pharmaceutical companies and is the only institute in Sri Lanka that offers this kind of commercial programme for the industry.



Two MOUs were signed between KDU and Navesta Pharmaceuticals on 01st July 2022 to carry out two BE studies for Flucloxacillin and Co-Amoxiclav. Major General Milinda Peiris, Vice Chancellor KDU and Prof. Thushara Weerawardane, Director- Institute of Combinatorial Advanced Research and Education (KDU-CARE) signed the agreement on behalf of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. Dr. Janaka Wickramasinghe, Director/COO, and Amitkumar Ashokbhai Prajapati, Head of Plants of Navesta Pharmaceuticals signed the agreement on behalf of Navesta Pharmaceuticals (Pvt) Ltd. Senior Prof. Rohini Fernandopulle – WHO National Consultant on Regulatory Functions to NMRA, Lt. Col. Dr. PH Pamarathne, Assistant Director/KDU-CARE, Dr. Pandula Athaudaarachchi, Consultant Interventional Cardiologist & the Clinical Principal Investigator, Dr. Himali Jayasinghearachchi, Senior Bioanalytical Principal Investigator, and Dr. Nadeesha Rathuwadu, Bioanalytical Principal Investigator also participated in this occasion. The way forward of the projects and future scope with other BE studies were also discussed at this occasion.

KDU Enters into an MOU with JF Oberlin University, Japan



General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) and JF Oberlin University of Japan signed an MOU on 30th August 2022, for academic cooperation. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a general framework for cooperation between two Universities. Both institutions intend to participate in student exchange programmes, joint research projects and the exchange of educational and academic materials. The MOU was made possible as a result of the strong collaboration maintained by Dr. Hemantha Premarathna of the Department of Social Sciences with the academia of Oberlin University.

Visit of Representatives from the Commonwealth Secretariat and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

A team of representatives from the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) visited KDU on September 12th, 2022 to have a discussion on the project implemented in KDU in 2021, on Promoting Nonviolent Communication and Responsible Use of Media. The aim of this meeting was to understand the successful achievements of the project and look for future partnerships between KDU, UNDP and the Commonwealth Secretariat to promote non-violent communication for social cohesion.



From 'The Vendor of Sweets' to 'Rasa Kevili Velenda': Translation Transcending Cultures

Rasa Kevili Velenda, a Sinhala translation of R.K. Narayan's novel 'The Vendor of Sweets', by Mr. Kithsiri Amaratunga, the incumbent Dean of the Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities (FMSH) of KDU, was ceremonially launched on 02nd, September 2022 at the Faculty of Graduate Studies auditorium. The publication is a milestone as it is the first publication by the KDU Press since its establishment as the publication arm of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.



Release of KDU Law Journal (KDULJ) , Vol 02, Issue 02



KDU Law Journal completed the second year of publication with its Issue II of Volume 2 being released at the Plenary Session on Law at the 15th International Research Conference (KDU - IRC) on 29th September 2022. KDULJ has been indexed in the HeinOnline database as a recognized scholarly publication with effect from 30.08.2022. A copy of the Journal Volume 2 Issue II of the Law journal was handed over to the Vice Chancellor Major General Milinda Peiris by the Dean of the Faculty of Law. It consisted of nine peer-reviewed articles covering different areas of Law. Its copies were also presented to the invitees of the Law Plenary Session, namely His Lordship Jayantha Jayasuriya PC, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, Hon. Dr Wijeyadasa Rajapakse PC, Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms, Hon. Dr Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Education, Hon. Prof GL Peiris, Member of Parliament, Dr Athula Pathinayake, Principal of the Sri Lanka Law College, Palitha Kumarasinghe PC, Chairman, Standing Committee on Legal Studies of the University Grants Commission, Justice Priyantha Fernando, President of the Court of Appeal, Hon. Sanjay Rajarathnam PC, Attorney General of Sri Lanka, and Ms Indika Demuni De Silva, Solicitor General.

The Faculty of Computing launched IJRC, July Issue, 2022

The faculty of Computing launched its journal, 'International Journal of Research in Computing' Issue 2 of Volume 1, 2022, on 08th December 2022. Dean of the Faculty of Computing, Dr. Asela Gunasekera had presented its first copy to the Vice Chancellor, Major General Milinda Pieris.



Story of Colours

‘Colour’ is the name given to flags that represent the regiments of an Army. In the military, Colours originally acted as a rallying point for the troops and for locating the Commander on the battlefield amidst the dust, smoke, noise and confusion of battle. It was the focal point of a regiment even if the commander was killed, the light of hope was still there, whilst the Colours remained intact and on the edge of defeat the troops would rally around and follow the colours as the beacon of last defence.

The application of the word ‘Colour’ to such insignia, dates from 16th century. It was formalized in the armies of Europe in the middle ages with standards being emblazoned with the commander's Coat of Arms. However the practice has been carried out since ancient times originating in Egypt around 5000 years ago.

The term ‘Colours’ encompasses four distinctive forms of honourable insignia that symbolize a regiment's spirit. Apart from the Coat of Arms of the commander, the colours borne on them are the battle honours and badges granted to the unit in commemoration of gallant deeds performed by members of the unit from the time their unit was raised. Four distinctive forms of Honourable Insignia that are currently in use are Standards, Guidons, Colours and Banners. The full history of a regiment is contained within written records, but as these are not portable in a convenient form, the Colours, emblazoned with distinctions for long and honourable service, are something that proudly symbolizes the regiments history, and creates a feeling of solidarity in soldiers and ex-soldiers alike.

Today Colours are no longer carried into the battlefield due to the advancement of technology and different complexities in modern warfare. They are now used as a part of a regiment's tradition and used in events as a celebrative symbol of recognition.

In Sri Lanka eligibility for ‘President's Colours’ is considered the highest honour that any military establishment or a wing could achieve from the Head of the State in recognition of exceptional service to the nation. Thus this magnificent award has been bestowed upon General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) on the 25th day of August 2022.



The message from His Excellency Ranil Wickramasinghe president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Commander and Chief of the armed forces asserted that,

“....Thus having recognized the enormous contribution to the national security, concurrent contribution to the defence services, and national development of Sri Lanka by grooming an educated workforce with admirable values and multifaceted skills in various disciplines, I extend my highest appreciation to KDU by bestowing President's colours and university colours to General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. May it be a tribute to those who contributed to its formation and growth in diverse ways over the years and to those men and women produced through its portals and served the nation through sweat and blood.”

The chairman of the Board of Management of KDU, General GDHK Gunaratne, WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc MPhil (Retd), and Chancellor of the University, General GH Silva, RWP VSV USP ndc (Retd) issued messages on this memorable and significant occasion.

PRESIDENT'S COLOURS FLAG

The President's Colours is a specially designed national flag of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presented by His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka to General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University of Sri Lanka. The flag's colors are embroidered on a Ribbon made of silk thread mixed with durable fabric, with gold thread, and emblazoned with the state emblem of Sri Lanka in silver and gold on two green and orange stripes on the left side of the flag. The image of the Lion and four Bo leaves are embroidered with gold thread. The flag is 125.7 cm long and 102 cm wide, trimmed with gold tassels.

The President's colours awarded to the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University is a dignified and proud symbol of the service rendered by all University Officers and Officer Cadets to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.



UNIVERSITY COLOURS FLAG

The KDU colours flag is a symbolic composition representing the Tri-Services with three different coloured stripes as Orange for the Sri Lanka Army, Dark Blue for Sri Lanka Navy and Light Blue for Sri Lanka Air Force. Further, KDU crest in the flag symbolizes KDU's role of serving the motherland by catering to the professional and academic needs of the Tri-Services of the country, as the first ever Defence and Security-oriented educational institution in Sri Lanka. The KDU crest incorporates the three emblems; the two cross swords, the anchor and the two wings to represent Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Air Force respectively. The torch in the middle of the crest symbolizes the focus of the institution; 'Education'. The KDU Motto 'For the motherland forever' engraved in the bottom of the crest and the state emblem on the top of the crest signifies the KDU's unwavering allegiance to the nation.



Flag masts of the two colour flags are made of brass coated with 18 carat gold and are decorated depicting the state symbol on top of the President's colour flag mast, and KDU symbol on the University Colour flag mast. The two masts consist of blooming two lotuses representing purity, two spherical structures depicting all life on earth, four lotus petals fixed to the spheres indicating four directions, four blocks attached embedded with 40 blue gems representing 40th anniversary of KDU and 40 years of service to the nation and four rings at the bottom of the structure that depict Metta, Karuna, Muditha and Upeksha.



ACHIEVEMENTS

SDC achieves Certificate of Conformity ISO 9001:2015 / SLS ISO 9001:2015

The SDC has received SLS ISO 9001:2015 accreditation from the Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI). The certification indicates the Coordination of Design, Development and conducting the CTHE and Certificate in Teaching for University Instructors Programme for Probationary lectures and Instructors of Higher Educational Institutes in Sri Lanka. The SDC also provides tailor made programmes for other academic and non-academic staff members for pre-determined specifications. Staff Development Centre has been accredited with ISO 9001:2015, SLAB and MGMT.SYS RvA C 155.



ROBO FEST 2022 – KDU team wins the ‘Consolation prize’

The team consisting of Intake 38 Mechatronic Engineering students; DV Lokuranamuka, LLD Perera, IRG Wijerathna, GRA Senaratne, and OBH Thanthreee which competed under the name ‘KDU-Team C’ emerged as the best performing team at the event and they were awarded the Consolation Price under the university category at the ROBOFEST 2022, the annual robotics competition organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) on 25th and 26th September 2022.

Best Paper Awards at 29th IET Annual Technical Conference, 2022

The best paper award for the paper titled “Design and Development of Wearable Text Reading Device for Visually Impaired People” authored by MWP Maduranga, NT Jayatilake, PADV Pannala and SPARS Jayatilake and the third place for the paper titled “Study on Designing a High-Performance IoT Sensor Node Using a Single Board Computer Cluster (SBC)” authored by YR Samarawickrama, NT Jayatilake, MWP Maduranga, WAAM Wanniarachchi and WMSRB Wijayarathna were received at the 29th IET Annual Technical Conference 2022 held on 20th August 2022, Colombo. The conference was organized by the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET), Sri Lanka Network



KDU Research Excellence Award 2021



Mr. VSS Nanayakkara, a student from Intake 35 is attached to the Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Computing. He is a research enthusiast and has published several research papers on machine learning, consumer behavior, cyber security and data mining. He received the Research Excellence Award 2021 for the Best Research Student at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University by considering his research skills, publications and presentations in highly recognized journals and conferences.

Co-convener for Asia Pacific Region Internet Governance Forum 2022 (APRIGF 2022)



Dr (Mrs) Nirosha Wedasinghe of the Faculty of Computing has been selected as a Co-convener for the Asia Pacific Region Internet Governance forum 2022 (APRIGF 2022). She also has been awarded a travel grant from Sri Lanka .lk Domain Registry by the recommendation of the Internet Society of Sri Lanka, to represent Sri Lanka as a speaker in the event which was held at Singapore Grand Hyatt Hotel from 11th to 15th September 2022.

Best Paper Award – University Librarians Association 2022

Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Medical Faculty won the award for the Best Overall Presenter at the International Conference of University Librarians Association-2022, (ICULA,2022) which was held on 27th October 2022 at Hotel Mirage, Colombo. Mrs. Rajapaksha presented her research titled “Research visualization of Post – COVID publications: Bibliometric analysis of PubMed database” in a session themed ‘Performance Indicators and Evaluators’.



WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURES

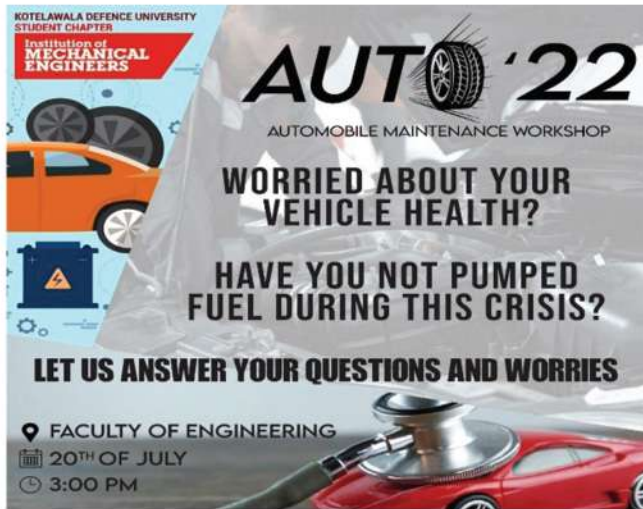
Cloud Computing and DevOps Workshop conducted by Global Wavenet

A workshop on Cloud Computing and DevOps was conducted by Global Wavenet on 28th October 2022 at the Faculty of Computing, KDU Southern Campus for Intake 38 students of the Department of Information Technology. The session was conducted by Mr. Varatharaja Kijamugan, and the DevOps session was conducted by Mr. Bakthi Madusanka, Lead Architect. The students were also enlightened about the present IT Culture by Mr. Deshan Wijesinghe, Vice President. The students had hands-on skill experience with many interactive and fun-filled activities.



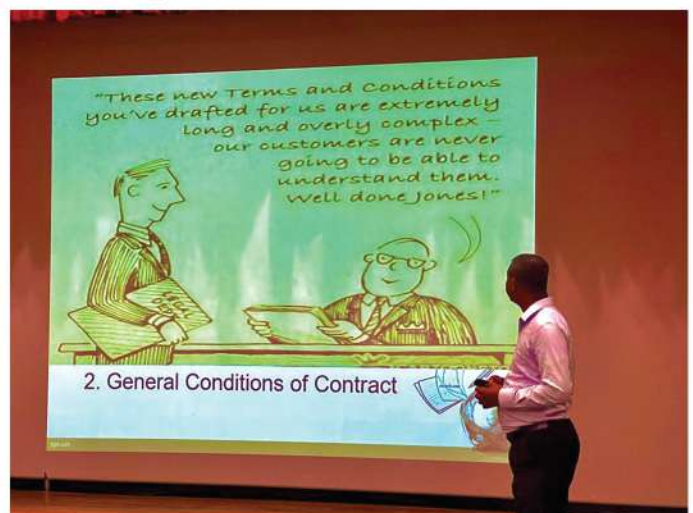
AUTO '22 – A Workshop/ Guest lecture, on 'Vehicle maintenance' organized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, KDU Chapter

The second Guest Lecture for the year 2022, organized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), Student Chapter of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, was successfully held on 20th July 2022 with the participation of the Engineering undergraduates of Mechanical Engineering Department. The resource person was Mr. UDK Mahanama, training engineer, Ceylon German Technical Training Institute.



A Guest Lecture on 'Claims Management and Dispute Resolution in Construction Industry'

In an effort to address the timely need of effective dispute management in the construction industry, a Guest Lecture on 'Claims Management and Dispute Resolution' by Ch QS Jayantha Jayakody (MBA (PM), B.Sc. (QS), Dip. Arb., MRICS, MCI Arb, AIQSSL, GreenSL® AP) was held on 25th of October 2022, at the KDUSC Auditorium. The event was organized by the Department of Quantity Surveying to inculcate knowledge on the methods and procedures of Claims Management and Dispute Resolution in Sri Lanka. The lecture was of vital importance to the public and upcoming construction industry workers. Academic staff, officer cadets and day scholars of the Department of Quantity Surveying participated in this valuable lecture to acquire a better understanding of the importance and applicability of the topic on effective dispute resolution and claims management.



CSR PROJECTS

DESIGNATHON 2022 – A Collaboration between KDU & Oklahoma State University, U.S.A.

Department of Architecture of Faculty of Built Environment and Spatial Sciences (FBESS) of Southern Campus, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) took part in a 3-day workshop in Interior Design, organized by Oklahoma State University (OSU), USA. The workshop entitled 'DESIGNATHON' organized by Mixed Reality Lab operating under Department of Architecture of OSU took place on the 14th, 15th and 16th of October 2022.

Intakes 38 and 36 took part in the exercise. The workshop saw the participation of groups from the US – from OSU and University of Miami and University of Iran. Further details of the workshop can be viewed on

<http://www.osuhack.com/> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIFDi0vF_50

and, all submitted student presentations are available at, <http://youtube.be/9Plfc6QKLsw>.



The Inauguration Ceremony of the Second Certificate Course on 'Promoting Non-Violent Communication and Media' 2022

The inauguration ceremony of the 'Certificate Course on Nonviolent Communication and Media' was held virtually on the 20th of August 2022. The course was ceremoniously inaugurated with the Vice Chancellor Major General Milinda Peiris gracing the occasion as the chief guest. The inaugural event was attended by other guests, including Prof. KAS Dhammika, the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, and Ms. Himali Jinadasa, the Country Focal Point for Sri Lanka at the UNESCO Cluster Office. KDU is pleased to be able to provide this course free of charge for the second consecutive year.

Information Session at The Embassy of Japan for Students Participating in Study Tour to Japan

Eight students of the Department of Social Sciences of KDU were selected for a Study Tour to Japan in September 2022 under the International Youth Exchange Programme (Sakura Science Programme) funded by the Japanese Government. With the motive of helping students better prepare for their upcoming tour, a pre-departure information session was hosted by His Excellency Mr. MIZUKOSHI Hideaki the Ambassador to Japan in Sri Lanka on the 23rd of August 2022. The Dean of the Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities – Mr. Kithsiri Amaratunga, Senior Lecturer, Dr. Hemantha Premarathne and Assistant Registrar – Ms. Gayanika Silva accompanied the students.



'Intelligent IP Network: Unlocking the Value of Datacom' – a Webinar

The webinar titled 'Intelligent IP Network: Unlocking the Value of Datacom' was organized by Huawei ICT Academy of KDU and was held on 25th October 2022 via Zoom. The speaker was Mr Kasun Sri Wadimuna, Senior Engineer at Sumathi Information Technologies. The speaker shed light on how Huawei achieved the intelligent IP network technology and functionality of the invented devices which was highly beneficial to those who are hoping to make a career in the network profession.



Representing Asia Pacific Region Youth IGF

Dr (Mrs) Nirosha Wedasinghe represented Sri Lanka as a speaker for the Asia Pacific Region Youth IGF which was held at Singapore National Library on the 10th and 12th September 2022.

Visit to the Faculty of Computer Science, Dresden University of Technology, Germany

Staff members attached to the Faculty of Computing visited Faculty of Computer Science, Dresden (TUD), Germany, during their official visit to TUD. The objectives of the visit were to explore the possibilities for mutually beneficial collaboration and the possibility of providing training to KDU students at TUD, especially for undergraduate and post-graduate studies, including research collaborations. Representatives of each university presented overviews of the administrative and academic environment of their respective universities, and the discussions were focused on the student exchange programmes in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

CSR Project by Students of the Department of Information Technology – Intake 38

The undergraduates of Intake 38 of the Department of IT/IS, Faculty of Computing conducted an English camp for the student community of Bandaranaike Secondary School, Sooriyawewa on 31st October 2022. The project ended on an extremely good note, receiving positive feedback from all parties involved, while simultaneously achieving the very objective of this project, of teaching English in an environment of fun and joy.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Solid Modelling and Simulation workshop

Solid Modeling and Simulation workshop organized by the Student Chapter of IMechE at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, was successfully concluded on 26th August 2022 with the participation of over seventy participants.

Blood Donation Campaign at Southern Campus



The blood donation campaign of KDU Southern Campus was held on 24th August 2022 at the Southern Campus premises for the first time along with the participation of the Academic and Non-academic staff, military personnel and students. The Blood Bank of District General Hospital, Hambanthota has supported in conducting the program and over 150 donors have contributed their donations. The Rotaract Club of KDU Southern Campus has aided in a great deal in making the campaign a success.

Inter-Departmental Debate

Southern Campus held its inaugural Inter-departmental debate with the participation of QS and IT/IS undergraduates (Intakes 38 and 39) as competitors on 15th September 2022. The event was organized by the English Language Teaching Unit (ELTU) to develop the communication and presentation skills of students while enhancing their confidence in speaking English. Rector – Southern Campus, Dean – FBESS and Senior Deputy Dean of FDSS were present at the event along with military and academic staff. The competition was won by the team IT/IS with the highest number of votes from the participants. The enthusiasm demonstrated by students and their competency in language were highly commended by the audience. The event concluded with a performance by the Aesthetic Club of Southern Campus.



Survey Camp -2022

Department of Quantity Survey organized Survey Camp from 05th December to 09th December 2022 at KDU Southern Campus. 141 students selected from the Department of Building Economy, University of Moratuwa participated in the programme.



The 'HOKI' - 2022

The 'HOKI 2022't Holi and Kite festival organized by the undergraduates of the Rotaract Club of the Southern Campus was held on 23rd September 2022 at the campus grounds.



8 Mile Run



8 Mile run of Southern Campus was held on 25th September 2022 covering the distance from Sewanagala to Southern Campus. The biannual event organized by the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies intends to enhance the physical fitness and stamina of Officer Cadets.

Annual Beach March

Annual Beach March was conducted on 16th October 2022 to enhance endurance, physical fitness and stamina of Officer Cadets from Godawaya Beach to Kalamatiya Beach in Hambanthota area. Total distance was approx. 14 Km.



Disaster Management Exhibition 2022

Under the theme 'Evergreen', the Disaster Management Exhibition 2022 was held on 06th October 2022 at the Academic Building. The exhibition focused on creating awareness of the preparedness measures for droughts, Tsunamis, forest fires, cyclones, war, epidemics, floods, landslides and industrial disasters. This event was organized by Intake 39 students of the BSc in Logistics Management and BSc in Management & Technical Sciences degree programmes of the Department of Management and Finance under the guidance of Dr Kalpana Ambepitiya.



SLIA Student Jamboree – 2022

Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Organized the Students Jamboree at the KDU Southern Campus from 09th December to 11th December 2022. SLIA conducted its annual Student Jamboree for students of four accredited Campuses of Architecture in Sri Lanka, namely the University of Moratuwa (UOM), City School of Architecture (CSA), Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) and KDU. A total of 191 selected architecture students from the 04 campus participated in this programme.



Social Sciences Students Shine at Shihan Bonnie Roberts Cup National Karate Championship

The Shihan Bonnie Roberts Cup National Championship was held on 09 the April 2022 at the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium, Colombo. Ten (10) cadets following BSc Social Sciences degree programme participated as KDU karate team, in which O/C KMMM Bandara led the team as the Vice captain. The cadets were able to achieve great success in the tournament with 6 gold medals, 2 silver medals and 5 bronze medals.



Student Exchange Programme to Japan – Department of Social Sciences



Eight students of the Department of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities (FMSH) of the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) were given the valuable opportunity to take part in a Student Exchange Programme to Japan from 1st to 10th September 2022. The programme was conducted under the International Youth Exchange Programme (Sakura Science Programme) funded by the Japanese Government. Both staff and students of KDU and the Chang Jung Christian University (CJCU) in Taiwan Participated and

they were hosted by J.F. Oberlin University (JFOU) in Japan.

Language Improvement Camps by BA IN TESOL Undergraduates

Students of the BA in TESOL degree programme (Intake 38) conducted two English Language Camps at Kandawala M.V., Ratmalana and St. Clare Girls' School, Colombo – 06 on 07th October 2022. These language improvement camps were conducted to enhance the English language skills of Grade 8 and 9 pupils of both schools. The pupils of the two schools got language exposure throughout the programme and the camps were conducted to the entire satisfaction of the school authority of both schools.

The Dawn of a New Era at ELC: the 2nd Installation of the English Literary Club of KDU

The 2nd Installation Ceremony of the English Literary Club of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was held on Tuesday, 29th August 2022, at the Main Auditorium of the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies.

Annual Case Study Tour of Intake 38 - BSc Social Sciences Degree Programme



The Department of Social Sciences organized its annual case study tour of Intake 38 to Ratnapura district on September 22nd and 23rd 2022, for the purpose of acquiring knowledge on the gem industry and disaster risk reduction efforts related to floods and landslides. On the first day, the students attended a number of informative sessions on the formation of gems, environmental aspects of gem mining, cutting and shaping at the National Gem and Jewellery Authority in Ratnapura. They also visited a gem market, a gem cutting factory, and a mining site on the same day. On the second day, they attended a few sessions related to disaster management efforts in the Ratnapura at the District Secretariat and also conducted a number of focused group discussions with the victims of flood hazards in Batugedara village of Ratnapura.

'IMMODERATIOGENZ'

IMMODERATIOGENZ was organized by the undergraduates of Intake 37 of the Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Computing on 14th October 2022 as an inaugural E-Marketing Day under the theme of 'Empowering Markets through Modern Technology'. The event was graced by Major General Robin Jayasuriya – Rector of Southern Campus, Dr Asela Gunasekera – Dean of the faculty of Computing, Mr Kithsiri Amaratunga – Dean of the Faculty of Management Social Sciences and Humanities, Dr Faiz Marikar – Director Staff Development Centre and all the Department heads attached to the Faculty of Computing. In addition, there were two intellectual dialogues involving academic/industry experts and an exhibition.



Mathematical Society – Department of Mathematics Faculty of Engineering

The Department of Mathematics at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University proudly announces the formation of the Mathematical Society under the patron of the Faculty of Engineering.



This society aims to improve the mathematics knowledge and skills of KDU Undergraduates and to share their experience with the outside community, such as students in schools and other universities. There are several objectives of our society. The first annual general meeting of the Mathematical Society was held on 29th August 2022 at the Departmental premises with the presence of the Dean Faculty of Engineering, academic staff and the undergraduates of the Faculty of Engineering. The executive committee members were elected during the meeting.

Eco - Legal Creativity - 2022 Exhibition and Competition

The Environmental Assistance, Research and Training Hub (KDU - EARTH) of the Faculty of Law organized an Art, Literary and Video Competition titled 'Eco-Legal Creativity 2022' on 12th October 2022. It was formally declared open by Brig. Wipula Chandrasiri, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence and Administration) of KDU. The students of the Faculty of Law were provided with an opportunity to showcase their talents and creativity, in the form of written, visual and auditory media. Essays, poetry, art and videos were displayed in the open areas of the Faculty premises, depicting the beauty of nature and the harm caused by human activities.



Eagles' Night 2022



Students Get-together organized by the Faculty of Law, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was held on 30.08.2022 under the theme 'Eagles' Night'. The theme was meant to reflect courage, fortitude and willpower, as symbolized by the Eagle, reflecting the characteristics of the Legal Profession. The Chief Guest of the event was Vice Chancellor of KDU, Major General Milinda Peiris.

The night showcased various talents of the law undergraduates, including dancing, singing, compering and decor, while emphasizing the social skills, hidden strengths and competencies of the student body as a whole. Dance items such as Ballroom, Jive and Bachata competitions had many enthusiastic participants, culminating in an award for the 'Best Dancing Couple'. Also, the 'Prince of the Night' and 'Princess of the Night' were selected, who were judged on their appearance, demeanor, confidence, intelligence and communication skills. Students were also given the opportunity to perform group fusion dances, solo and group singing performances. Building on its success, 'Eagles' Night' will be made an annual event to facilitate social skills and cohesion among the students, outside the classroom. The entire event was made a reality due to the tireless efforts and unstinting support of the members of staff in the Faculty of Law and other officials of the University. It was indeed a celebratory occasion depicting the student life at KDU.



Inter-Faculty Debating Championship for the Vice Chancellor's Trophy - 2022



The final rounds of the Inaugural Inter-Faculty Debating Championship for the Vice Chancellor's Trophy organized by the Moot Court & Debating Society of the Faculty of Law, KDU was held on 13th October 2022, at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, KDU.

Prior to this event, the Preliminary Rounds and the Semifinals were held on 3rd October, with the participation of teams from the Faculty of Law, Faculty of Built Environment and Spatial Sciences, Faculty of Technology, Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities, Faculty of Computing, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Criminal Justice, and Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies. The finalists were the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Criminal Justice, who vied for the Championship at the event held on 13th October. The debate was extremely interesting and showcased the analytical, oratory and presentation skills of both teams. The team of judges comprised of Prof. Piyadasa Hewage of Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities, Prof. Puhulwella Rathnasiri of Faculty of Technology, and Brigadier Upali Rajapakshe, Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, who provided invaluable insights to both teams. The Award Ceremony was graced by the Chief Guest, Major General Lal Gunasekera, Rector Metropolitan Campus, KDU. Certificates of participation were given to all participants and the semifinalists. Mr Ravindu Wijesinghe from the Faculty of Engineering won the award for Best Debator. The Faculty of Criminal Justice emerged as Runners-Up, whilst the Faculty of Engineering won the Vice Chancellor's Trophy as Champions. The event provided a platform for undergraduates of all Faculties to develop their critical thinking skills, and public speaking skills and present material in a factually and academically sound manner.

Student Research Forum – 2022

The Student Research Forum 2022, (SRF), organized by the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University was successfully conducted on 04th October 2022, at the FGS auditorium. Themed as 'Perspectives of a World in Transition', the SRF was conducted for the second consecutive year, including the participation of several other universities and Military Academies.

The Vice Chancellor of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil (Ind) graced the forum as the Chief Guest. In his opening remarks, the Vice Chancellor highlighted the many merits a research forum of this calibre would pose on the students and featured how the forum would contribute towards the inculcation of research culture among undergraduates.

Delivering the keynote speech, Mr. Shanaka Jayasekara; Programme Coordinator for the Global Maritime Crime Programme, UNODC accentuated on the multiple career pathways available for the International Relations graduates. At the end of the forum, the young researchers were commended for their research efforts and were presented with tokens of appreciation. Aligning with the customs of the immediate past year, HRUS Wijerathna, Officer Cadet of FDSS was awarded the title of 'Best Researcher'. With that, the forum drew to a conclusion, marking another milestone in the roadmap of the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies of KDU.



Henry Dunant Memorial National Moot Court Competition (Sinhala) 2022

The Henry Dunant Memorial National Moot Court Competition (Sinhala) 2022 jointly organized by the Faculty of Law, KDU and the International Committee of Red Cross was held on 06th December 2022 with the participation of teams from the University of Colombo, University of Jaffna, Open University of Sri Lanka and General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. Teams of the University of Colombo and the University of Jaffna were selected for the Finals. The team from the University of Colombo emerged as Runners Up, while the team from the University of Jaffna won the Championship. The team of judges comprised of legal practitioners in the field of International Humanitarian Law and Legal Advisers of ICRC. The Award Ceremony was graced by Prof. Sanath Dammika, DVC (Academic) and Mr Tim Philip Ross, Head of Operations, ICRC Colombo.



NEW APPOINTMENTS



Brigadier DCA Wickramasinghe USP

Assumed duties as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence & Administration)
On 19th December, 2022



Cdr (ND) HPM Hewawasam psc SLN

Assumed duties as the Senior Deputy Dean of Southern Campus on 28th November 2022



Prof George Dias

Appointed as an Adjunct Professor (Teaching & Research), in the Department of Biosystems Technology, FOT on 01st November 2022.



Dr.(Mrs) W Seneviratne

Assumed duties as the Librarian (oab) on 01st July 2022.



Brigadier LWSR Wettasinghe of SLAC

Assumed duties as the Director Administration of UHKDU on 04th August 2022



Dr B Hettige

Appointed as the Head of the Department of Computer Engineering, FoC on 01st November 2022



Capt GHDC Ganegoda

Assumed duties as the Lecturer (Probationary) at Department of Mechanical Engineering on 17th October 2022.



Capt AAM De Zoysa

Assumed duties as the Lecturer (Probationary) at Department of Mechanical on 31st October 2022



LCdr (E) AATD Priyashan

Assumed duties as Lecturer (Probationary) at Department of Mechanical Engineering on 02nd October 2022.



Maj BU Edirisinghe SLEME

Assumed duties as the Mechanical Engineering Officer UHKDU on 05th July 2022.



Lt Col GJP De Silva
Assumed duties as the Staff Officer (I) - FGS On 14th November 2022.



Wg Cdr WGBG Wanasinghe
Assumed duties as the Staff Officer I Medical - UHKDU on 29th July 2022.



Lt Col DIP Dikkumbura RSP USP GW
Assumed duties as the Staff Officer- Medical General UHKDU on 15th October 2022.



LCdr (VNF) ASR Jayarathne
Assumed duties as the Facility Manager UHKDU on 21st November 2022.



LCdr (L) US Sampathsiri
Assumed duties as the Senior Electrical & Electronic Engineer (Bio Medical Engineering I) - UHKDU on 19th December 2022



LCdr (L) KAMH Kodikara
Assumed duties as the Senior Electrical & Electronic Engineer (Bio Medical Engineering II) - UHKDU on 19th December 2022.



LCdr (L) PGD Godakanda
Assumed duties as the Senior Electrical Engineer - UHIWU on 12 August 2022.



Cdr (L) CA Godellage
Assumed duties as the Chief Bio Medical Engineering Officer of UHKDU on 13rd May 2022.



Lt(QM) KIT Janaka SLAMC
Assumed duties as the Log Officer, Medical Instrument of UHIWU on 29th July 2022.



Lt Col RDC Munasinghe SLNG
Assumed duties as the Human Resources Officer UHKDU on 16th December 2022



Lt MMGKJ Sameera SLN
Assumed duties as Troop Commander Southern Campus on 03rd September 2022



Major HMTA Herath VIR
Assumed duties as the Troop Commander Southern Campus on 03rd September 2022.



Lt DMVF Dissanayaka SLEME
Assumed duties as the Motor Transport Officer of UHKDU on 05th December 2022



Maj MHS Kumara
Assumed duties as the Catering Officer UHKDU on 01st August 2022.

PROMOTIONS



Dr. (Mrs.) DDTK Kulathunga
was promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr I in Civil Engineering W.e.f. 01.04.2022.



Mr. KM Vignarajah
was promoted to Senior Lecturer Grade I in Civil Engineering W.e.f. 28.04.2022.



Dr. (Mrs.) RAM Padmaja
promoted to Senior Lecturer Gr.II in Faculty of FBESS W.e.f. 31.08.2022.

SPORTS

Colors Night 2020 / 2021

Celebrating and honouring the achievements of 133 sportsmen and women for their exceptional performance in sports during the years 2020 and 2021, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University ceremonially conducted its Colours Night 2020/2021 on 15th December 2022. The event was held at the Main Auditorium of the Faculty of Graduate Studies with the gracious premiership of the Vice Chancellor, Major General Milinda Peiris RWP RSP VSV USP ndc psc MPhil.

The Rector, Metropolitan Campus, Maj Gen ALDM Gunasekara RSP USP psc, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Defence & Administration) and Chairman of the Sports Council of KDU Brigadier W Chandrasiri RSP USP psc, The Director of Sports of Sri Lanka Army, Brigadier KAWNH Bandaranayake usp, The Director of Sports of Sri Lanka Navy, Commodore AKR Athukorala RWP RSP psc, The Director of Sports of Sri Lanka Air Force, Air Commodore SN Fernandopulle USP, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof. KAS Dhammika, Deans of Faculties and members of the academic and military staff also participated in this important event.



Colours were awarded for 07 sports events as Athletics, Badminton, Karate, Lifting Power, Rowing, Swimming, and Squash. Special Award Winners (2020 - 2021) were O/C BAAU Balasooriya and SCSM GDC Kariyawasam for fittest cadet (male), C/L/CPL TKAGW Chathurangi and C/SGT JAHK Jayasinghe for fittest Cadet female, O/C ADS Nimalarathna for fittest Swimmer (male), Lt DD Dharmasiri and O/C SMACV Madushan for best Sportsperson.

VC's Honours (2020/2021) were also awarded for O/C KA Jayashanka, O/C JAN Nethmina, TUO BDTM Biyanwila, TUO MGP Bimsara, O/C LHK Santhusha, O/C LAWMMMD Athapaththu, O/C RMBP Rathnayaka, TUO P Sanji, O/C WGAM Rajapaksha and C/SGT RGYK Rajapaksha for fittest Cadet, Lt MWA Dimesh and 5805 O/C TJ Wijesekara for fittest Swimmer.

In addition, certificates were awarded to the best two Syndicate Presentation Groups of Intake 38, admiring their academic skills and teamwork. Best Syndicate Presentation Intake 38 was awarded to the topic – 'There are Three Kinds of Lies :Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics'. Runners-up award was awarded to the topic – 'Grapefruit and Drug Interactions'.

The event was colourfully and spectacularly entertained by a variety of cultural events, traditional, contemporary and modern dancing, drama and singing.



Volleyball Tournament - 2022

The Volleyball tournament 2022 of KDU Southern campus, organized by Intake 38 of Department of Quantity Surveying was held on 10th and 11th August at the Campus grounds. 17 teams participated in the tournament while the Final match took place between Intake 39 ICT students and Spatial Sciences Intake 37 male students and Quantity Surveying Intake 38 and Intake 36/37 female students on 12th August which was graced by the Rector Southern Campus, Major General LCR Jayasuriya RSP ndc psc as the Chief Guest. Military officers and academic staff members were also present at the occasion.



Basketball Coaching Camp – 2022

Basketball Coaching Camp was held on 27th and 28th August 2022 at KDU Southern Campus with the participation of the academia and undergraduates. The assistance rendered by the Sri Lanka Basketball Federation in this endeavor is much appreciated. The Coaching Camp was conducted to enhance the students' enthusiasm and their skill in the sport.

Rector's Challenge Trophy '22

The Rector's Challenge Trophy 2022, the iconic annual event of the Inter- Intake Football Tournament organized by the Department of Quantity Surveying undergraduates of Intake 37 was held on 19th October 2022. The Championship went to Intake 38 and Intake 36 became Runners-up. Major General LCR Jayasuriya RSP ndc psc the Rector of the Southern Campus graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and a large number of military and civil staff also witnessed the event. The event aimed to build comradeship among undergraduates by allowing them to reveal their sports skills.



Student Achievements of NSBM Green University U-Sports Events

Students of the FOC shined brightly during the recently held U-Sports events that were organized by Green University. FOC athletes were able to come into the medals in the Table Tennis and swimming events, which were held on 21st and 30th September respectively.



Runners Up at Inter-Faculty Basketball Tournament 2022

The FOC Basketball team came Runners-up at the KDU Inter-Faculty Basketball Tournament 2022 which was held at the basketball court located within the university premises on 8th and 9th September. The FOC team became second to the Faculty of Engineering in a nail-biting final game that took place in a packed sporting arena. The Captain Mr MGS Perera and the team competed with an excellent line-up and great energy throughout the competition.





Religious activities of KDU

Several religious programmes were conducted at KDU to get the students and staff involved in religious activities. Several poya-day programmes and preachings of Buddhist, Catholic and Islamic sermons were organized through the Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies. Chief incumbent of Kandawala Sri Punyawaradanaramaya had involved in Bana preaching and poya-day programmes, Rev. Prageeth Chamara Perera of Catholic Church Ratmalana and Maulawi Shiraj of Zayed Naina Mosque, Ratmalana were involved in Catholic and Islamic religious programmes respectively.