



Newsletter

Eastern University, Sri Lanka

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Successful Completion of the Booster Grant Project at EUSL

The Booster Grant Project at Eastern University, Sri Lanka (EUSL) concluded successfully with a closing ceremony held on July 2, 2024. The event was organized by the Department of Geography and the Center for Industry and Community Linkages (CICL). Key dignitaries included Prof. V. Kanagasingam the Vice Chancellor, Mrs. S. Srikanth, the Additional Government Agent, and Dr. T. Prabahararan the Deputy Vice Chancellor.



Highlights included the launch of the GeoMapVista website, the presentation of 39 GN maps for EravurPattu DSD, and the unveiling of a historically significant map. Additionally, the “Magazine of Global Lens” was launched, featuring significant OSM-based content.

The ceremony also recognized outstanding student contributors and concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Sindhuja Sriram, Research Assistant. This successful project was made possible with the support from the Asia-Pacific Hub, project initiator Mr. S. Suthakaran, and various university collaborators.



EUSL Inaugurates Technopark: A Leap Towards Innovation and Collaboration

The Technopark at Eastern University Sri Lanka (EUSL) was officially inaugurated on September 29, 2024, marking a significant milestone in technological advancement and industry-academia collaboration made possible through the collaboration with Gate Institute. The inauguration ceremony, presided over by Prof. V. Kanagasasingam, Vice Chancellor of EUSL, was graced by esteemed guests, including Senior Professor Chandana Udawatte, Vice Chairman of the University Grants Commission, who served as the Chief Guest. Prof. Sanjeewanie Ginigaddara, Chairman of the Committee of Vice Chancellors and the Vice Chancellor of the University of Rajarata, and Prof. Arulampalam Atputharajah, Vice Chancellor of the University of Vavuniya, were the Guests of Honour. Mrs. J.J. Muraleetharan, the Government Agent, was the Special Guest.



This Technopark aims to serve as a platform for students, researchers, and local industries to engage in collaborative projects, fostering cutting-edge innovation. The inauguration event highlighted the university's commitment to promoting entrepreneurship and advancing technological development, with faculty members, students, and distinguished guests attending to celebrate this new chapter at EUSL.



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

Welcoming the Fresh Minds: Orientation Programme for Agriculture Freshers

The Faculty of Agriculture successfully conducted its orientation programmes for the academic year 2022/23 from September 30 to October 4, 2024. This engaging series of events aimed to familiarize new student entrants with the academic environment, resources, and opportunities available at the university. Sessions included campus tours, introductory lectures, and interactive activities designed to ease the transition into university life. The faculty extends a warm welcome to all new students and wishes them a fruitful academic journey.

FACULTY OF ARTS & CULTURE

Faculty of Arts and Culture Hosts 6th Annual Research Session 2024

The Faculty of Arts and Culture held its 6th Annual Research Session (ARS 2024) on August 27, 2024, at the Nalliah Auditorium under the theme “Integrated Social Responsibility: Creating a Better Nation.” The event began with an Inaugural Ceremony, where Dr. S. Jeganathan, Coordinator of ARS 2024, delivered the welcome address, followed by an inaugural address by the Dean, Dr. V. Gunapalasingham. The Abstract Proceedings were officially released during the session, and the Vice Chancellor, Prof. V. Kanagasisingam, addressed the gathering as the Chief Guest. Prof. J. Kennedy presented a citation for the Keynote Speaker, Prof. S. Pirashanthan, Head of the Department of Tamil, University of Peradeniya, who delivered a thought-provoking keynote speech.

The inaugural session concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mrs. Vijitha Thivakaran, Secretary of ARS 2024, followed by insightful technical sessions that showcased diverse research contributions aligned with the session's theme.

FACULTY OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES

Professor Varagunam Oration: A Milestone Event



The Professor Varagunam Oration was successfully conducted for the first time on September 3, 2024, marking a significant academic milestone of the Faculty of Health-Care Sciences. The event commenced with a formal academic procession, followed by the distinguished Oration delivered by Professor P.T. Jayawickramarajah.

This inaugural oration honors the legacy of Professor Varagunam, celebrating his contributions to academia and enriching the intellectual fabric of the institution. The occasion was a momentous gathering, reflecting the academic excellence and scholarly traditions upheld by the university.



Annual Research Session ICETHS 2024 : A Global Platform for Healthcare Innovations

The Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, successfully organized its Annual Research Session (ICETHS) on September 3, 2024, hosting the 2nd International Conference - Emerging Trends in Healthcare Sciences (ICETHS 2024). The theme, "Path to a Comprehensive Healthcare in the Changing World", provided a dynamic platform for educators and healthcare professionals worldwide to exchange ideas, renew collaborations, and showcase innovations.

Keynote speakers included Vidya Jyothi Professor Vajira H.W. Dissanayake, Chair and Senior Professor at the Department of Anatomy, Genetics, and Biomedical Informatics, University of Colombo, who spoke on "Strengthening Health Care with Digital Technologies and Genomics." Professor Krish Nirantharakumar from the University of Birmingham shared insights on "Data and Digital Technology-Enabled Learning Health Systems to Improve Care in Low and Middle-Income Countries". The conference featured 45 selected abstracts, with 38 papers published in the proceedings, marking a significant milestone in advancing research and collaboration in the healthcare sector.



Faculty Week Celebration-2024: A Vibrant Showcase by FHCS

The Faculty of Health-Care Sciences (FHCS) successfully hosted its Faculty Week Celebration-2024 from September 2nd to 6th, marking a significant event in the university's calendar. The celebration featured a range of activities and workshops designed to engage local stakeholders and raise awareness about health-related issues. This dynamic week not only highlighted the contributions of the FHCS to the community but also strengthened its ties with stakeholders, further promoting the importance of health awareness and education in the region.



New Internal Roads Opened at the Faculty of Health-Care Sciences



The Faculty of Health-Care Sciences celebrated the opening of its newly constructed internal roads on 13th July 2024. The event was graced by Hon. Dr. Bandula Gunawardena, Minister of Transport, Highways, and Mass Media, alongside Hon. S. Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development and Chairman of the DCC Batticaloa.

The new roads will greatly enhance accessibility and improve infrastructure within the faculty, benefiting students, staff, and visitors alike. This development is a significant step forward in the Faculty's ongoing commitment to enhancing its facilities and services.



FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Successful Orientation Program for New Entrants at the Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science successfully conducted its Orientation Program for the new student entrants of the academic year 2022/23 from September 9 to 13, 2024. The programme provided comprehensive insights into Course Structures, Discipline, and the Learning Facilities available to students. Additionally, a session on Public Rapport was also included, ensuring that students were well-informed and prepared for their academic journey. The orientation aimed to help students acclimatize to university life and set the stage for a successful academic experience.

Cluster B Review of Hons Degree (Physical Science) to Enhance Academic Standards

The regular programme review of the Hons Degree in Physical Science was successfully conducted for two days on the 24th and the 25th of September, 2024 by external programme reviewers from various universities. The review aimed to assess the current standard practices and identify areas for improvement in the degree programme. The findings of this review will contribute to strengthening the curriculum and enhancing the quality of education within the Physical Science stream. This reflects the commitment to maintaining high academic standards and ensuring the continuous improvement of degree programmes.

FACULTY OF COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT

Welcoming New Beginnings: Orientation Programme for Commerce and Management Entrants

The Faculty of Commerce and Management conducted its Orientation Programme for New Student Entrants of the Academic Year 2022/23 from August 21 to 30, 2024. The programme commenced with an Inaugural Session that featured a warm welcome address by Prof. Jeyaprabha Suresh, followed by inspiring awareness addresses from Mrs. D. Thavakumar, Acting Head of Management; Mr. M. S. Thayaraj, Head of Commerce; Prof. T. Bhavan, Head of Economics; Prof. N. Rajeshwaran, Dean of the Faculty; and Prof. V. Kanagasisingam, Vice Chancellor of the university.

The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Mr. T. Paranthaman, Senior Lecturer. The orientation aimed to familiarize students with the faculty's academic environment while fostering a sense of community and enthusiasm as they embark on their academic journey.

Fostering Excellence: 3rd Annual Inter-School Quiz Competition

The Faculty of Commerce and Management of Eastern University, Sri Lanka, successfully hosted the 3rd Annual Inter-School Quiz Competition on September 19, 2024. This highly anticipated event brought together Advanced Level Commerce stream students from across the Batticaloa District, promoting academic excellence, healthy competition, and collaborative learning.

Coordinated by Professor Jeyaprabha Suresh, with the dedicated support of the faculty's academic and non-academic staff, the competition provided a platform for students to enhance their knowledge and showcase their talents. The event also strengthened the ties between regional schools and the university, fostering mutual growth and academic engagement.



LIBRARY NETWORK NEWS

Library Automation Training for Northern Province Librarians

A training session on library automation was successfully conducted for librarians and library staff from five selected public libraries in the Northern Province. The event took place at the Management Development Training Unit, Kilinochchi, from August 24 to August 25, 2024.

Mr. M.N. Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, served as the Resource Person for this training, where participants gained valuable insights into the automation of library processes, aiming to enhance efficiency and modernize library operations across the region. The initiative highlights the commitment to improving library services and supporting professional development in the Northern Province. The programme is organized by the National Library and Documentation Services Board, Sri Lanka.



CAREER GUIDANCE UNIT

Unlocking Active Learning: Guest Lecture on Programming and AI

The Career Guidance Unit organized an enlightening guest lecture titled “Programming and AI as Tools for Active Learning in Higher Education” on July 22, 2024, at the Nalliah Auditorium, EUSL. The session was tailored for second, third, and final-year students across all faculties.

Dr. Torstein Unstad, a lecturer and researcher from the University of Tromsø (UiT) – The Arctic University of Norway, served as the resource person. He shared valuable insights into leveraging programming and artificial intelligence to enhance active learning in higher education. The lecture sparked meaningful discussions and inspired students to explore innovative approaches in their academic pursuits.



Enhancing Futures: Seminar on Employability Skills

The Career Guidance Unit conducted a seminar on “Employability Skills” on August 14, 2024, at the Seminar Hall, Faculty of Agriculture, EUSL. This session was specifically designed for second-year, first-semester students of the Faculty of Agriculture.

The seminar was led by Eng. S. Mohanarajah, Retired Director General of the Department of Irrigation, who shared practical insights and strategies to develop key employability skills for a competitive job market. The session provided valuable guidance, equipping students to align their academic and professional aspirations effectively.



Inspiring Success: Guest Lecture on Potential and Entrepreneurship

The Career Guidance Unit hosted an impactful guest lecture titled “Realizing Your Potential & Achieving Success in Entrepreneurship” on August 28, 2024, at the Seminar Hall, Faculty of Agriculture, EUSL. This event was part of the Common Programme for students of the Faculty of Agriculture. Dr. Sabesan Sithamparanathan, a renowned expert in entrepreneurship, strategic business development, and innovation leadership, served as the resource person. He delivered an engaging and motivational session, empowering students with the tools and mindset needed to unlock their potential and excel in entrepreneurial ventures.



Empowering Learning: Workshop on Programming and AI in Education

The Career Guidance Unit organized a hands-on workshop titled “Programming and AI as Tools for Active Learning in Higher Education” on August 30, 2024, at the Centre for Information and Communication Technology, EUSL. This workshop was part of the Common Programme for students of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Led by Mr. S. Sotheeswaran, Senior Lecturer in Computer Science from the Department of Computing, Faculty of Science, EUSL, the session provided practical insights into utilizing programming and artificial intelligence to enhance learning experiences. Students actively engaged in exploring innovative approaches to integrate technology into their academic pursuits.



Preparing for Success: Coaching Class on All Island Service Examinations

The Career Guidance Unit conducted a coaching class on “All Island Service Examinations” on August 30, 2024, at the Nalliah Auditorium, EUSL. The session targeted second-year, first-semester students of the Faculty of Arts and Culture.

Mr. V. Vasuthevan, Divisional Secretary of Manmunai North, Batticaloa, served as the resource person. He shared valuable insights and strategies for excelling in competitive service examinations, equipping students with practical knowledge and motivation to achieve their goals in public service careers.



Empowering Entrepreneurs: Workshop on Entrepreneurship Development

The Career Guidance Unit organized a dynamic “Entrepreneurship Development Programme” on September 7, 2024, at the Department of English Language Teaching, Eastern University, Sri Lanka. This workshop catered to second-year, second-semester students of the Faculty of Arts and Culture.

The resource persons included: Mr. S. Rajasingam, Master Trainer, SIYB Association of Sri Lanka, who delivered a session on “How to Make a Successful Business”, Mr. S. Kamalanathan, Master Trainer, SIYB Association of Sri Lanka, and Enterprise Development Officer, Berendina Micro Investment Company LTD, who guided students on “How to Prepare an Own Business Plan and Business Game”, Mr. V. Manirajah, Trainer, SIYB Association of Sri Lanka – Know About Business (KAB), and Career Guidance Counsellor at EUSL, who added valuable insights to the session. The interactive workshop provided students with essential skills and strategies to build and manage successful entrepreneurial ventures.



ENACT PROJECT

Empowering Sri Lankan Universities: ENACT Project Field Monitoring Visit for Governance and Reform

As part of the ongoing monitoring efforts under the Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (E+CBHE) action, the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) conducted a field monitoring visit for the ENACT Project on 27 June 2024 and 5 July 2024.



The purpose of this visit was to assess the activities undertaken, review the outcomes and deliverables achieved thus far, and address any challenges faced during project implementation. This initiative aimed to ensure smooth progress and identify solutions to potential issues.

On 27 June 2024, Ms. Elisabetta Necco, an independent external evaluator, met with the ENACT project team members from Sri Lankan partner universities at the Oak Ray Hotel, Kandy. During this in-person evaluation, she focused on the project's performance, particularly its results, including outcomes, outputs, and impact.

Following this, on 5 July 2024, Mr. Eugenio Delfino, the Project Officer for the ENACT Project at the EU Agency, and Ms. Elisabetta Necco engaged in discussions with coordinators from Sri Lankan partner universities and other project stakeholders at the premises of the European Union Delegation in Colombo. Both expressed their immense satisfaction with the project's implementation and its alignment with the intended objectives.

The successful field monitoring visit reflects the ENACT Project's commitment to excellence and its significant progress in achieving its goals.



CENTRE FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE (CQA)

Ensuring Excellence: Quality Audit for BSc Honours in Agriculture Programme

The Centre for Quality Assurance (CQA) conducted a Quality Audit on the Bachelor of Science Honours in Agriculture study programme at the Faculty of Agriculture (FAG), Eastern University, Sri Lanka, on August 27, 2024. The audit, held from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., aimed to evaluate the programme's compliance with the Programme Review Manual standards and the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF) requirements.

The audit team, comprising Dr. P. Elango, Acting Director/CQA, and Ms. Madusha Senanayake, Assistant Registrar/CQA, reviewed the necessary documentation with the assistance of Dr. (Mrs.) B. Raveendrakumaran, FQAC Coordinator for FAG. Discussions were held with Prof. (Mrs.) P. Premanandarajah, Dean/FAG, and departmental visits included consultations with respective Heads. This comprehensive review underscored the faculty's commitment to maintaining the highest academic standards and delivering a robust educational experience.



Enhancing Academic Excellence: Workshop on Sharing Best Practices

The Centre for Quality Assurance conducted a Workshop on Sharing Best Practices on September 12, 2024, at the Staff Development Centre. This interactive session brought together FQAC Coordinators and senior academics from various faculties, to exchange innovative approaches adopted in their study programmes. Two exemplary practices were highlighted:

1. Mentoring the Students by Dr. (Mrs.) Roshini Murugupillai, Senior Lecturer, Department of Medical Education & Research, and FQAC Coordinator, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, EUSL.
2. Course Evaluation by Dr. (Mrs.) Suthamathy Santhirakanthan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Biosystems Technology, and FQAC Coordinator, Faculty of Technology, EUSL.

Participants from faculties of Agriculture, Arts & Culture, Commerce & Management, Health-Care Sciences, Science, and Technology of EUSL, as well as faculties from the Trincomalee Campus and Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, engaged in a productive brainstorming session. The workshop, conducted as an interactive Q&A session, aimed to foster collaboration and inspire the adoption of proven strategies to enhance teaching, learning, and programme quality across the university.



Enhancing Understanding: Awareness Session on the Revised Programme Review Manual

The Centre for Quality Assurance (CQA) conducted an Awareness Session on the Revised Programme Review Manual - 2023 for the staff of the Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, on September 24, 2024, at the Boardroom of the Faculty.

The session aimed to provide in-depth knowledge and understanding of the revised standards outlined in the Programme Review Manual. Attended by the Dean, Heads of Departments, and both academic and administrative staff, the session offered valuable insights into the updated guidelines to ensure compliance with quality assurance practices. The session was led by Dr. P. Elango, Acting Director of the Centre for Quality Assurance, EUSL, and served as an important step towards enhancing the faculty's commitment to academic excellence and program quality.



NEW APPOINTMENT

DIRECTOR



Mr. R. Sakundaraj

Senior Lecturer Gr. II
in Computer Science

DIRECTOR
CENTRE FOR INFORMATION and
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
Extended 3 Months period

ACTING DIRECTOR



DR. E. A. C. Priyankara

Senior Lecturer Gr. II in Economics

Actg. DIRECTOR
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICE
& WELFARE
For 3 Months from 16/08/2024

NEW APPOINTMENT

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS



Prof. T Bhavan
Professor in the Dept. of Economics
Head /
Dept. of Economics
Faculty of Commerce & Management
For Three Years from 21/07/24



Mrs. D. Thavakumar
Senior Lecturer Gr. I in Management
Head /
Dept. of Management
Faculty of Commerce & Management
For Three Years from 25/09/24
(Actg. Head – From 25/07/2024 – 24/09/2024)

ACTING HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS



Mr. A Kanneraj
Senior Lecturer Gr. I in Political Science
Department of Social Sciences
Acting Head /
Dept. of Comp. Religion
& Social Harmony,
Faculty of Arts and Culture,
For One month from 23/08/2024
Additional one month from 23/09/2024



Mrs. Umaramani Mathiventhan
Senior Lecturer Gr. I in Botany
Acting Head /
Dept. of Botany
Faculty of Science
For One month from 25/07/2024
Additional one month from 06/09/2024



Eng. T. VINOTHRAJ
Lecturer in Computer Science / CICT
Faculty of Science
Acting Head /
Dept. of
Information Technology,
Faculty of Arts and Culture,
For one month from 11/07/24
Additional one month from 11/08/24.

SENIOR STUDENT COUNSELLOR



Mr M. Ravi
Senior Lecturer Gr. I
Dept. of Philosophy and Value Studies
Faculty of Arts and Culture
Senior Student Counsellor
Extended One Year from 01/07/2024

STUDENT COUNSELLOR



Dr (Mrs) V Prasannath,
Senior Lecturer in
Bio Systems Technology,
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Technology
One Year from 26/08/2024

STUDENT COUNSELLOR



**Dr. (Mrs.) Baggya
Sharmali Karunarathna**
Senior Lecturer in
Chemistry,
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Science
One Year from 26/08/2024.



**Mrs. Vasanthakumari
Selvanayagam**
Senior Lecturer in
Geography,
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Arts & Culture
One Year from 26/08/2024.



Mr. I. M. Thalib
Senior Lecturer in
Arabic,
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Arts & Culture
One Year from 26/08/2024.



Mr. S. Santharooban
Deputy Librarian
Student Counsellor
**Faculty of
Health-Care Sciences**
One Year from 26/08/2024.



Ms. R. Krishnananth
Lecturer (Prob)
in Agric. Chemistry,
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Agriculture
One Year from 26/08/2024.



Mrs. Luckmizankari Delima
Lecturer (Unconformed)
in Management
Student Counsellor
Faculty of Com & Mgt.
One Year from 26/08/2024.

CO-ORDINATOR



Mrs. T PIO JUDE NAVINTHAN
Senior Lecturer in Mathematics
Faculty of Science
Co-ordinator
Gender Equity / Equality (GEE)
Three Months from 01/07/2024.

ACDAMIC CO-ORDINATOR - BOS



Dr. M. B. Fowzul
Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies
Faculty of Arts and Culture
Academic Co-ordinator
Board of Study – Arts and Culture
Three Years from 07/08/2024.

ACADEMIC SUB WARDEN (Part-Time)



Mr. A. L. M. RIFKY
Lecturer (Prob.)
in Bio System Technology
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Men's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024



Mr. I. M. THALIB
Senior Lecturer Gr. I in Arabic
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Men's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024



Ms. R. Krishnananthy
Lecturer (Prob.) in Agric. Chemistry
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Women's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024



Ms. G. NAMASSEVAYAM
Senior Lecturer in
Supplementary Health Care
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Women's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024



Ms. L. P. S. B. MENIKE
Temporary Demonstrator in Physics
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Women's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024



Ms. M. ARULANANTHAM
Temporary Demonstrator in Physics
Academic Sub Warden
(Part-Time)
to the Women's Hostel,
One Year from 26/08/2024

PROGRAMME MANAGER



Mrs. R. Archsana

Assistant Registrar

Faculty of Science

Programme Manager

to

Staff Development Centre (SDC)

One year from 18.07.2024.

LOOKING AFTER THE DUTIES



Ms. Paheerathy Moses

Senior Lecturer Gr. I in Sociology & Anthropology

Department of Social Sciences

Faculty of Arts and Culture

**Look after the duties of
Head/ Dept. of Social Sciences,
Faculty of Arts and Culture,**

From 06/09/2024 until further notice

ATTENDING TO THE DUTIES



Mr. S. Thibakaran

Instructor in Physical Education Gr. II

Physical Education Unit

**Attending to the Duties of
the Director/**

Physical Education Unit,

Three months from 07.07.2024



Newsletter

Eastern University, Sri Lanka

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Chief Editor
University Newsletter
Eastern University, Sri Lanka
jeayarajwj@esn.ac.lk

