

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

# ITUM NEWS



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## Awards

### Dr. (Mrs) M.C.W Somaratne and the team Win the President's Award for Outstanding Research in the Field of Applied Science and Technology



Dr. (Mrs) M.C.W Somaratne, Senior Lecturer, Division of Polymer and Chemical Engineering, Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa, Dr. (Mrs) NMVK Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Materials Science, University of Moratuwa and Dr. S.Walpalage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa won the first place in the category of Applied Science and Technology at the President's Awards held on 26th November 2018. The team had invented a novel method to reinforce natural rubber latex products by incorporating modified silica dispersions. The trio will be representing Sri Lanka at the upcoming International Exhibition of Inventions to be held in Geneva.



## General News

### A CA Appointed



Major General (Retired) S.K Thirunavukarasu RSP VSV USP assumed duties as the Competent Authority (CA) of the ITUM in May 2019.

### 200th BOS Meeting



A special Board of Studies (BOS) meeting was held to mark the 200th BOS meeting on 04th October 2018. The meeting was chaired by the Vice-chancellor of the University of Moratuwa and Former Director of ITUM, Prof. Kapila Perera. Former Directors of ITUM, Dr. T.A. G. Gunasekara and Dr. T.A Piyasiri added colour to the occasion with their thought-provoking and eloquent speeches.

### ITUM News Launch

ITUM Newsletter was officially launched on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Mrs. M.P.D.S Samarasekera officially handed over a copy of the newsletter to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa, Professor K.K.C.K Perera. The first issue covered the laudable achievements of academic divisions and the vibrant life of ITUM students.



## The Inauguration Ceremony of the 2018/2019 Batch of Students



## Sports Meet

A sports meet was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019 to improve physical and mental well-being of the first-year students of ITUM in the ITUM playground. The event was organized by Ms. Dilini Jayakodi, Lecturer -in- Charge of Sports Studies and the physical education instructors of ITUM. Students participated in both field and track events. Mrs. M.M.P.D Samarasekara, Director, ITUM , Dr. S. Mathugama, Head, Division of Interdisciplinary Studies and Mr.K.R.D.C. Rathnamudali, Director, Physical Education Unit, University of Moratuwa graced the occasion and awarded certificates to the participants.



## Establishment of the Division of Information Technology

The IT Division welcomed its first batch of students to the study programme, NDT in IT on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Mrs. K. Galappaththi, Head, Division of IT, Mr.D K Withanage, IT Consultant and the lecturers attached to the Division briefed the first batch of students of the Division about the NDT in IT programme.



## Establishment of the Division of Textile and Clothing Engineering Technology

Textile and Clothing Engineering Technology section which had been functioning under the Division of Polymer, Textile and Chemical Engineering Technology was established as a separate Division in February 2019, with Mrs. K.M.W. Abeyakoon as the Head of the Division.



## Staff Development News

### Workshop on Moodle



A workshop was conducted by Mrs. Uthpala Athukorala, lecturer (probationary), Division of IT to give the academic staff at ITUM hands on experience in handling MOODLE to streamline the teaching and learning process.

### Workshop on Counselling



A workshop on counselling was conducted for academic staff of ITUM by Mrs. P.S. Yatapana, Senior Lecturer, Division of Interdisciplinary Studies and the former chief student counsellor of ITUM on 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 at the Staff Development Center. Mrs. Yatapana educated the staff members on how to identify the warning signs of destructive mind control groups. Explaining the repercussions of destructive mind controlling she mentioned that “Activities of destructive mind control can turn an intelligent, educated person with a strong family background to a stranger.”

### Awareness Session on Safety and Security Measures



Officers from Kahatuduwa police station visited ITUM to educate the staff members on safety measures that should be taken to strengthen the security at universities in Sri Lanka.

## Divisional News

### Workshop on Goal Setting and Industry Requirements

Polymer and Chemical Engineering Technology Division organized a workshop on Goal Setting and Industry Requirements for the first year students of the Division. This session was conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 by Mr. Namal Premarathna, Safety, Health and Environmental Consultant, Teacly (S) Private Limited, Singapore and Mr. Janadara Jayawardhana, Assistant General Manager- factory operations, Laugfs Corporation (Rubber) Ltd.



### Project Management and Total Productivity Maintenance (TPM)

An Educational session on Project Management and Total Productivity Maintenance (TPM) was organized by the Division of Polymer and Chemical Engineering Technology for the second-year students of the Division on 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2018. The resource person was Mr. Suranga Hettiarachchi, Assistant Manager, Dipped Products PLC. This program was organized to make the students aware of the modern tools used in the industry.



### Field Visit to Mattala Rajapaksha International Airport



Students attached to the Division of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering Technology visited Mattala Rajapaksha International Airport on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The aim of the visit was to expose the students to aviation and other communication systems.

### Field Visit to Sri Lanka Telecom Training Center in Kalutara

A training session was conducted on latest technologies used in the telecommunication field for the second year students of the Division of Electronics and Telecommunication on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018.



## Industry Consultative Forum Organized by The Division of IT

The Division of IT organized its first industry consultative forum on 11th January 2019 at the Staff Development Center. The theme of the forum was “Experience a New Discipline in IT Leading towards a Knowledge Technology”. The forum aimed at achieving the following objectives.

- Make the IT industry, the government and the education sector aware of the NDT in IT programme.
- Obtain constructive feedback on the NDT in IT curriculum from the experts in the IT industry, the government and the education sector.
- Establish a link between the IT Industry and the NDT in IT programme.

Mrs. M.M.P.D. Samarasekara, Director, ITUM, Dr. T.A.G. Gunasekara, Chairman of the State Engineering Cooperation, Mr. D.K. Withanage, Former Dean, Faculty of IT, Mr. B.H. Sudantha, Head, Department of IT, Faculty of Information Technology, University of Moratuwa, Dr. Rasika Dayarathna, Senior Lecturer, University of Colombo School of Computing, invitees from the IT industry, Directors from the Department of Education, members of the Information and Communication Technology and Industry Skill Council, Deputy General Manager-IT, CECB, representatives from NAITA, representatives from the NDT Alumni, Heads of the Divisions of ITUM and Academic and Administrative staff of ITUM participated in the forum.



## Short Course on Total Station

## Survey Camp

The Division of Civil Engineering Technology successfully held a survey camp at the International Training Institute of Irrigation and Water Management, Kothmale (KITI) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The survey camp provided an opportunity for civil engineering students of ITUM to integrate theories of Surveying and Levelling learnt in the classroom with real world issues. Further, they got hands-on experience in procedures and processes in surveying and levelling. This event was organized as a group project in order to sharpen innovative thinking, planning skills and critical thinking skills in the students. The survey camp concluded with the students presenting their construction project proposals to a panel of experts. On the last day, students organized a campfire.



In the field of Civil Engineering, technicians have to be keep abreast with the latest technological advancements in the field of surveying. Total station is one such technologically advanced instrument used in surveying. The Division of Civil Engineering Technology commenced a short course on Total Station as its first self-financing activity under the UGC Circular 04/2016. The course provided advanced knowledge and hands on experience in handling ‘Total Station’ for technical personnel who have little or no prior experience. The short course was delivered through a combined series of lectures and fieldwork that spanned six Saturdays from 31<sup>st</sup> of March to 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2019. The course content included basic theories, traversing, detailed surveying, contouring and setting out using ‘Total Station’.

### Pirith Ceremony



An all night pirith ceremony was organized by the first year students of ITUM on 16th November 2018 to evoke blessings on the Institution. The event was followed by offering alms to the Buddhist monks on the following day.



### Green Troops

Identifying the urgent need to conserve the environment, the students of ITUM formed "Green Troops", an association to combat environmental pollution. The theme of 'Green Troops' for the year 2018 was 'Beat Plastic Pollution'. In line with this theme, a forest cleanup was organized to free ITUM premises from plastic and polyethene. Additionally, they displayed informational banners and eye catchy notices on the value of conserving the environment around

the premises. Also a beach cleanup campaign was held in December at Koralawella beach, Moratuwa with the participation of over 50 students. In the year 2019 Green Troops is going to gear their campaign on the theme, " Stop Deforestation". In order to gather young people towards this theme the team recently collected signatures of 1000 young people who volunteered to unite and act against deforestation in Sri Lanka.



# "Asani"



## Staff News

### Heads of the New Divisions



#### HOD of Textile and Clothing Technology

Mrs. K. M. W. Abeykoon, Senior Lecturer (Gr.I) was appointed as the Head of the Division of Textile and Clothing Technology with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2019.

#### HOD of Information Technology

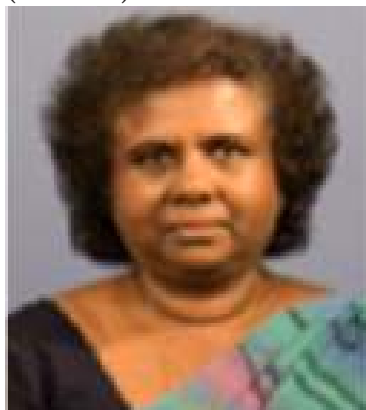
Mrs. K. Galappaththi, Senior Lecturer (Gr.II) was appointed as the Head of the Division of Information Technology with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2019.





## Retirement of Mrs. Shiranika Lilanthi Jayasuriya

Mrs. Shiranika Lilanthi Jayasuriya, a Senior Lecturer (Grade I) attached to the Division of Polymer, Textile and Chemical Engineering Technology and the coordinator of the Division of Textile and Clothing Engineering Technology retired from her service after serving the institution in many capacities. She has chaired many committees and was a member of the Board of Studies and a member of the Board of Management of ITUM. We wish her a healthy and joyous retirement.



Dr. Niranjali Premila Kumari Semananda joined the Division of Civil Engineering Technology on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 as a Senior Lecturer (Grade II), after successfully completing her PhD Degree in Water Engineering at the University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia.



## Dr. P. D. Chandima Kumara



Dr. P. D. C. Kumara a lecturer attached to the Division of Mechanical Engineering completed his Ph.D in Solar Thermal Energy from the University of Colombo with effect from 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019 .

## Dr. Dinusha Shamain Saparamadu



Dr. D. S. Saparamadu a lecturer in mathematics and statistics attached to the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies completed her Ph.D in Airport Planning from the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratwa.

## Obituary Notice

It's with great sadness that we announce the sudden demise of Mr. Gunarathne Banda, Assistant Librarian, ITUM and the driving force behind ITUM news on 26th March 2019. Mr. Gunarathna Banda was known to be a person with a wealth of knowledge about library science with more than 30 years of experience in various Higher Education Institutes. *May he attain the supreme bliss of nirvana!*



## Retirement of Mr. D. Kandamby

Mr. D. Kandamby Senior Staff Management Assistant attached to the Finance Division retired from his service on 4th October 2019.

## New Appointments

We welcome the following lectures who have joined ITUM staff Ms. L. P. Kumarasiri, Ms A. U. P. Athukorala, Ms. D. A. Jayakody, Mr A. U. V. B. Bulathsinghala, Mr. W. I. S. Maduranga, Mr. L. G. Chamath, Mr. H. M. S. Bandara, Mr. N. D. I. Kumarage, Ms. I. R. Samarathunga, Ms. V. G. P. Pabasara and Ms. R. L. P. Ramasinghe.

## 25 Years of Service

Mrs. R. D. S. Ranwala, Technical Officer attached to the Division of Polymer, Textile & Chemical Engineering Technology, received the long service award for her commendable service of 25 years to the university from the vice-chancellor, Prof. K. K.C.K Perera at the function held at the James Georje auditorium of the University of Moratuwa on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.



# Forthcoming Events

## Aptitude Test

The aptitude test and the English proficiency test will be conducted in September 2019 to select students for the 2019/ 2010 intake of the National Diploma in Technology program.

## Research Symposium

The annual research symposium will be conducted on 9th August 2019. The theme for 2019 is " From Challenges to Opportunities."

## New Developments

### Opening of ITUM BOC Branch



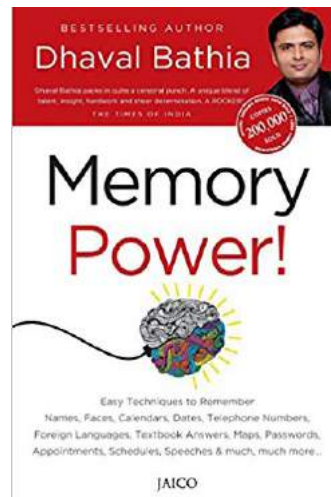
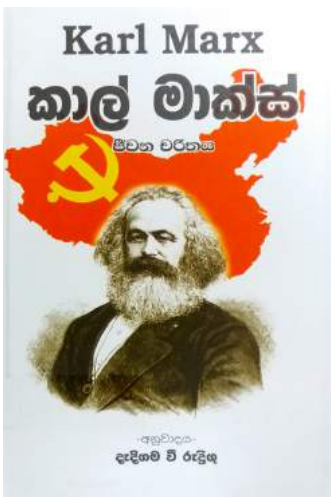
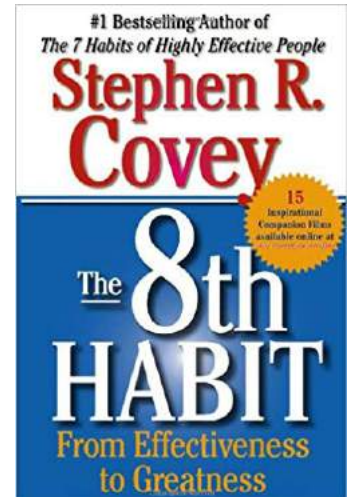
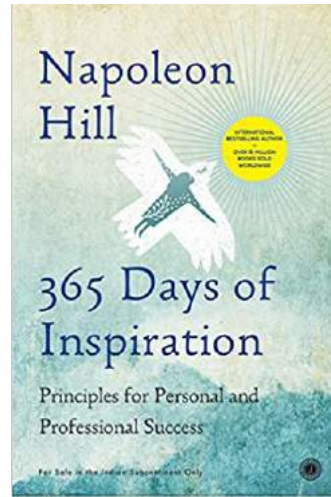
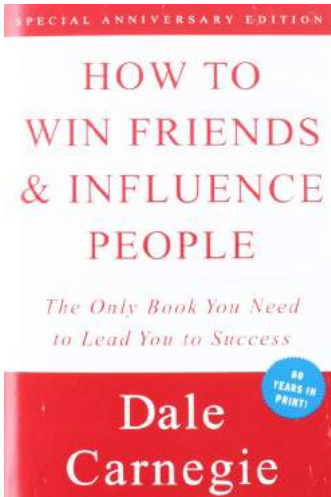
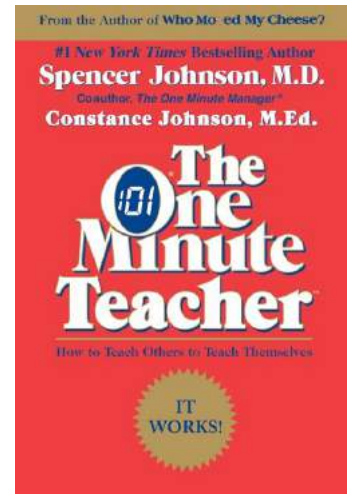
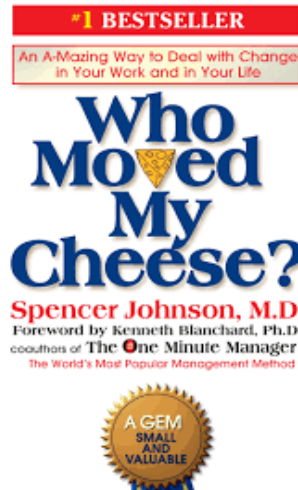
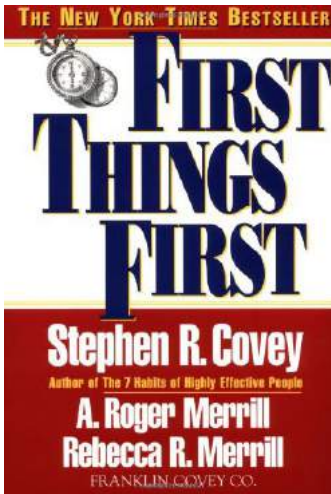
### Opening of "Ambasevana" Pre- school and the Daycare center.



### Opening of the ITUM Shopping Complex



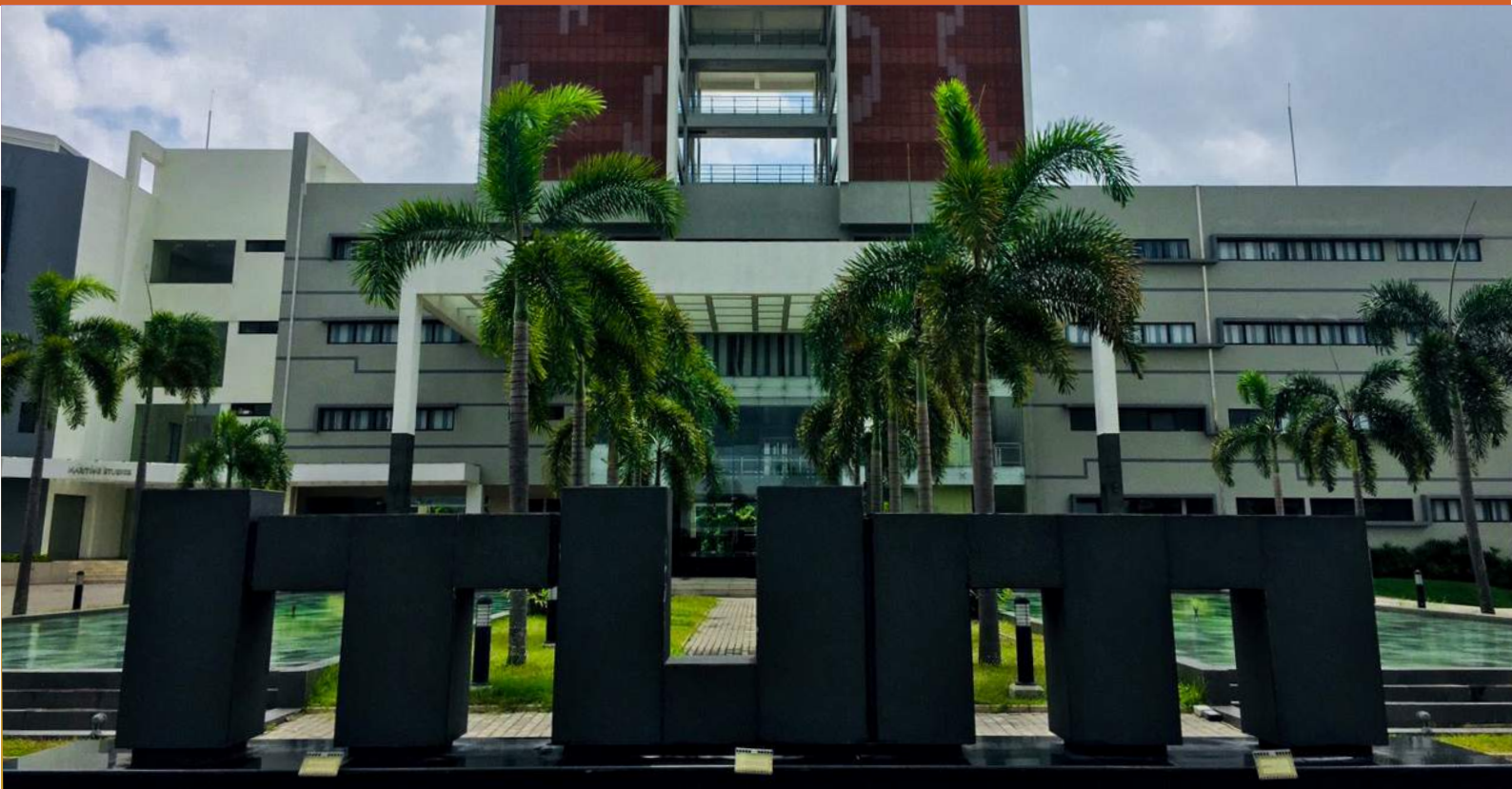
## New Additions



## Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the following Divisional Coordinators for gathering news.

- Mrs. Kokila Abeykoon
- Mrs. Chaturangi Atugoda
- Mrs. Imesha Samarathunga
- Mrs. Uhtpala Atukorla
- Mr. Wathsarindu Karunarathne




### *Advisory Committee*


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