

Quality-Related News – 2023
Faculty of Agriculture
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

**Summary of Workshops, Seminars, Webinars, Training and Awareness Sessions,
important events, etc. – 2023**

Virtual Inauguration Ceremony of MAgri and Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development, FoA, RUSL 2023

Virtual inauguration ceremony of Postgraduate programmes; MAgri and Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Development was conducted on 22nd January 2023. This ceremony was graced by distinguished guests from the university including Prof. G.A.S. Ginigaddara, the Vice-chancellor of the University. The 4th intake and 2nd batch of students were enrolled for MAgri and Postgraduate Diploma programmes, respectively.



Training programme on Student Counselling

The training programme on student counselling was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 10th January 2023 and sub warden Mrs. M.M.T.M. Madurasinghe participated.

Food Innovators Huddle” by Dilmah Conservations & Food Research Presentation

Gratefully report that representing the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, two final year research were selected for the “Food Innovators Huddle” by Dilmah Conservations and for the “Food Research Presentation and Networking Forum -2023” by the Ministry of Industries.

Mr. M. Nayagedara, Ms. J.N.P. De Silva and Ms. V.A. Wijesekara who took part in the “Food Innovators Huddle” competition organized by the Dilmah Conservations which was held on 30th January 2023 were able to achieve the “Top Pitch” award, competing with other participated state universities, private organizations and other educational institutes, for the research on Instant String hoppers prepared with Jackfruit Seed Flour.



Workshop on Computers and Peripherals Maintenance

The workshop on computers and peripherals maintenance was conducted by the Staff Development Center together with IT Centre on 26th and 27th of January 2023 at the IT Centre Laboratory. The following technical officers of the faculty attended the session.

1. Mr. M.K.R.K. Samarasena
2. Mrs. A.N. Tennakoon
3. Mr. S.M.A.G.B. Senevirathna
4. Mr. J. Wijeweera
5. Mr. A.M. Herath Banda
6. Mr. D.M.L.K. Dissanayake
7. Mr. M.R.N.B. Rathnayake

Training workshop on modern practices in human resource management, university administration and financial management


The training workshop on modern practices in human resource management, university administration and financial management was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 16th, 17th, 21st & 24th February 2023. Managing projects at institutions, financial management and strategic management sessions modules were covered during the sessions. The assistant registrar of the faculty participated in the training.

Workshop on soft skills improvement

The workshop on soft skills improvement “To perform best – be away from stress” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 2nd March 2023. The following staff members of the faculty participated.

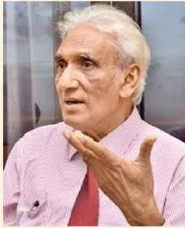
1. C.M.C. Senevirathna
2. P.K.D. Mangala
3. H.R.N.D. Heendeniya
4. M.K.R.K. Samarasena
5. P.H.N.N. Gunasena
6. M.R.N.B. Rathnayaka
7. S.M.A.G.B. Senevirathna
8. B.M.U.R. Rathnayaka
9. J. Wijeweera
10. D.M.L.K. Dissanayake
11. R.M.A. Ranasinghe
12. C.M.C. Senevirathna
13. P.B.N. Udayakumara
14. A.G.N.C. Wijayarathna
15. N.G.P. Kumara

**“To Perform Best- Be Away from Stress”- Workshop on
Soft Skills Improvement for Academic Staff**




Staff Development Centre organizes a workshop on Soft Skills Improvement for academic staff members of the University with an aim of improving their career and professional development.

Resource Person- Mr. Wilson Gunarathna
International acclaimed actor, professional trainer, motivational speaker and senior lecturer



- Date: 2nd March 2023
- Time: 9.30 AM- 1.30 PM
- Venue: Convocation Hall

To register please fill the provided Google form- <https://forms.gle/xhVtd24M2wS4E8UEA>



Contact Staff Development Centre for more details: sdcc@rit.ac.lk 0252266757

Staff Training Session on Using OBE-LCT in Classrooms

This training session was organized by the Faculty AHEAD DP and FQAC on 21st March at the Virtual Learning Centre of the Faculty of Agriculture. TOT trainers; Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe, Dr. A.M.K.R. Bandara, Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena, Dr. W.C.P. Egodawatta, and Mrs. E.D.T. Somaratne conducted the session on “TBL for large classroom teaching” while Prof. S.C. Somasiri, Dr. A.J. Fenando, Dr. K.K.P. Perera, Dr. D.W.M.M.M. Kumari and Mr. N.M.K.C. Premaratne conducted the session on “PBL for small classroom teaching”. Forty-five academic members participated in the programme.



Stakeholder Meeting on Newly Proposed Curriculum



In order to get the stakeholder feedback for the 2021-2025 curriculum a meeting was held on 24th March 2023 at the Faculty of Agriculture. The faculty of Agriculture is in the process of introducing an Outcome-based and learner-centred curriculum to the Special Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Faculty invited key stakeholders of this process and 43 stakeholders

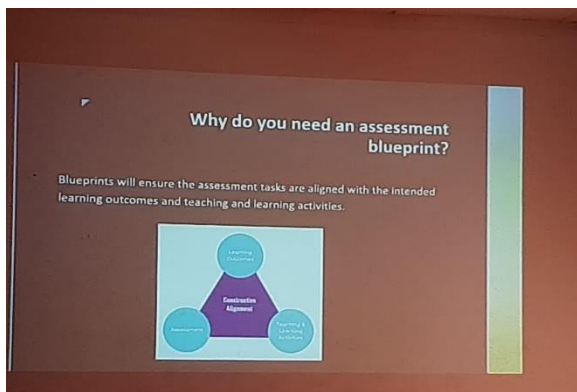
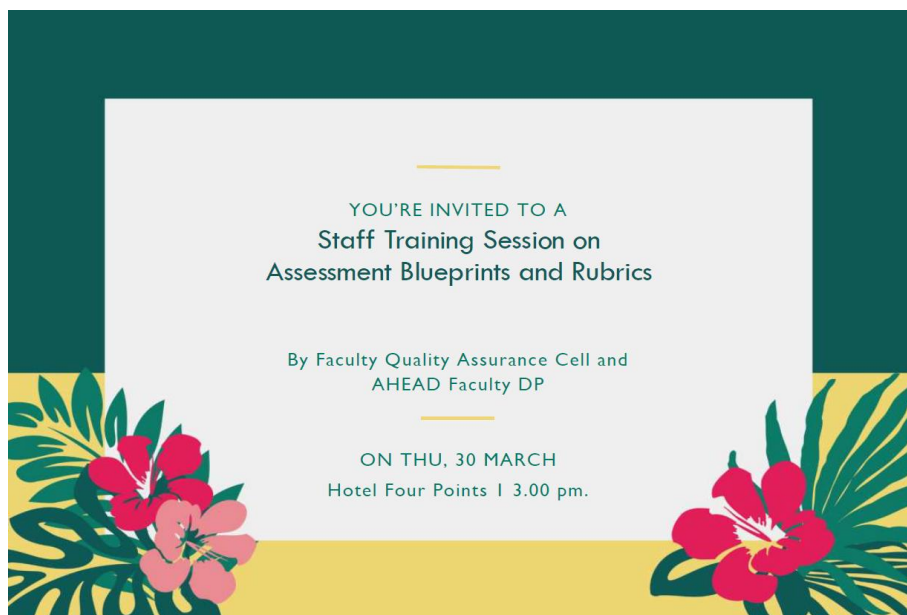
participated to represent the government and private sectors. Forty eight academic members of the faculty participated in this discussion.





Staff training session on using assessment blueprint and rubrics

This training session was organized by the Faculty AHEAD DP and FQAC on 30th March at the Hotel Four Points. Dr. N.W.I.A. Jayawardena conducted the session and other TOT trainers; Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe, Dr. A.M.K.R. Bandara, Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena, Dr. W.C.P. Egodawatta, and Mrs. E.D.T. Somaratne, Prof. S.C. Somasiri, Dr. A.J. Fenando, Dr. K.K.P. Perera, and Mr. N.M.K.C. Premaratne assisted the session. Thirty seven academic members participated in the programme.



Food Research Presentation and Networking Forum - 2023" by the Ministry of Industries

Ms. V.A. Wijesekara and Ms. J.N.P. De Silva participated respectively in the poster and oral presentations, for the “Food Research Presentation and Networking Forum -2023” by the Ministry of Industries which was held on 30th March 2023, at Waters’ Edge. The forum has consisted of public and private sectors who were in interest to commercialise the research prototypes. The high protein cookies made out of soybean and peanut and the instant string hoppers prepared with jackfruit seed flour got the interest of few private parties who would like to commercialize the product in the future.



Visit of Scholar from Cankiri Karatekin University, Turkey

With the agreement with Cankiri Karatekin University and Rajarata University, Dr. Mehmet Sedat a senior academic and international affairs coordinator of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, at Cankiri Karatekin University, Turkey, visited the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 18th of April, 2023. During the visit, Dr. Mehmet met Prof. G.V.T.V. Weerassoriya, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture. The dean thanked Dr. Mehmet and discussed further collaboration. Dr. Memet conducted an informative lecture for second-year students about the similarities and common issues due to economic crisis situations in both countries as a comparison. Furthermore, he visited the faculty farm, laboratories, and units of the faculty. In addition, Dr. Mehmet met the staff members in the Department of Agricultural Systems to discuss future potential collaborative activities related to the subject areas in economics. During the discussion, both parties agreed to prepare an activity plan to be included in the upcoming academic semester. This visit was facilitated by the Erasmus staff mobility programme in teaching.



Training Programme on First-Aid

The training programme on first-aid was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 24th April 2023. The following staff members of the faculty participated.

1. Mr. M.R.N.B. Rathnayake
2. Mr. P.B.N. Udayakumara
3. Mrs. P.K.G.H. Dilani
4. Mrs. B.M.N.T. Kandulawa

An entertainment Event “Husma”

Student Counselling Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture organized an entertainment event “HUSMA” for students on 26th April 2023 at the faculty auditorium. The event was brightened with singing and dancing events by the students and staff. The songs of the event were analyzed for their meaning by two invited resource persons, Dr. Nandana Millagala and Mr. Sampath Gamage, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.





Training Programme on University Financial and Administrative Procedures

The training on university financial and administrative procedures was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 23rd and 28th March, 18th and 25th April and 18th May 2023 for Executive and Academic Staff. The resource persons were Mr. A.M.G.B. Abeysinghe, Mr. U.D. Dodamwala, Mr. Uwaisulkarni, Mr. D.M.R. Samantha, Mr. Sampath Godakumbura. The following members participated from the Faculty.

1. Prof. N. S. Abeysingha
2. Dr. K.K.P. Kopyawattage
3. Dr. K.R.E. Padmathilaka
4. Dr. A.J. Fernando
5. Mr. S.P. Dissanayake
6. Mr. D.M.R. Samantha
7. Ms. T. Luxshana

Crop Clinic - 2023

Department of Plant Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture conducted an awareness programme for farmers of the Bandarapuliyankulama on “Crop Clinic”. The programme was held on 15th of May, 2023 at the Faculty Auditorium. The event was funded by AHEAD DPS project of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Famers were provided with knowledge and practical experience on rice diseases, diseases of fruits and vegetables, management of pests and diseases of field crops, fruits, and vegetables, weed management, nutrient management, identification and management of postharvest diseases, and pesticide application. Also, staff members of the Department of Plant Sciences shared their research findings with the farmers.



In-house Training Sessions for the Nonacademic Staff of the Library

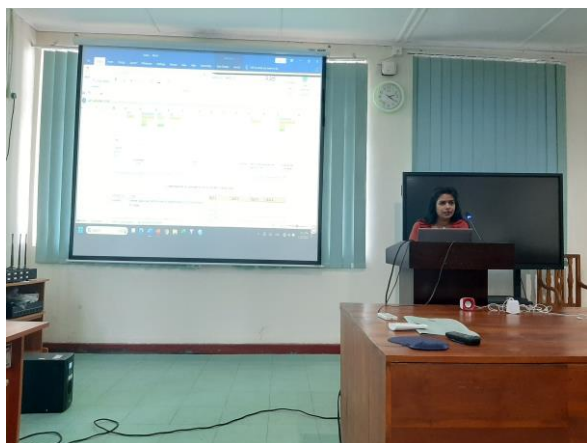
The Library System of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized two in-house training sessions aiming at enhancing the digital skills of its staff members. The first session was held on 3rd March 2023 focusing on MS Office Package, with a special focus on MS Excel. The second



session took place on 25th May 2023 focusing on MS Office Package, with a special emphasis on MS PowerPoint. The target audience for these training sessions included Library Information Assistants, Library Attendants, and Bookbinders, who were keen to improve their knowledge and proficiency in these widely used software tools. The sessions were designed to equip the participants with essential skills related to data management, analysis, and presentation, enabling them to effectively carry out their duties within the library system.

Workshop on Course specification - KSAM and Teaching & learning blueprint

This training session was organized by the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell on 30th May 2023 at the Faculty. Dr. D.A.U.D. Devasinghe conducted the session. Thirty four academic staff members participated in the programme.



Library User Awareness Programme for the 2018 Batch – Faculty of Agriculture

The Library User Awareness Programme was held on 31st May 2023 for the undergraduates of the AG/2018 batch of the Faculty of Agriculture from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm. The programme consisted of a demonstration on how to use the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Electronic Database searching, useful Web links for academic needs and the use of Digital Library. Mrs. W.P.T.Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Agriculture served as the resource person of the session.



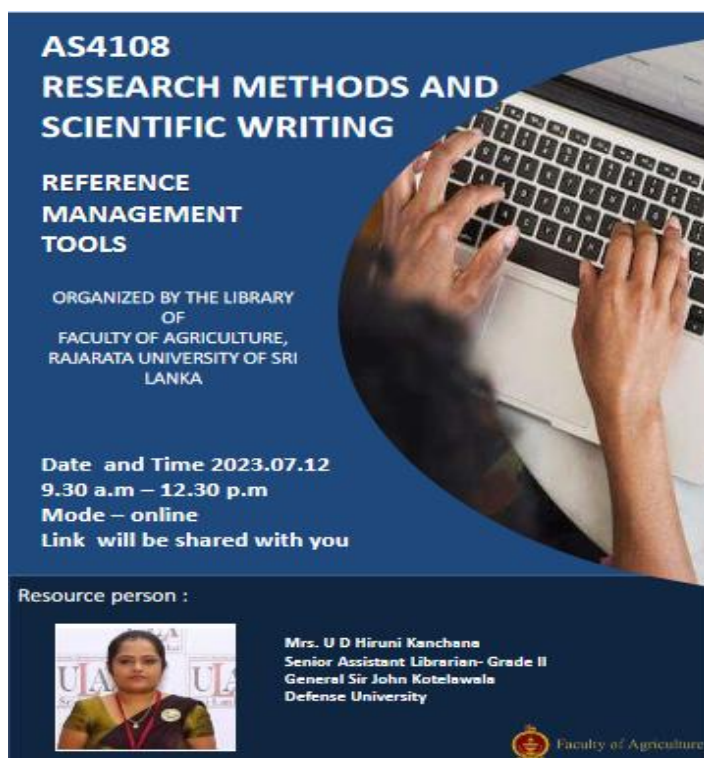
Visit of Prof. Zhou Deyi, Zuazhong Agriculture University, China

A fruitful discussion was carried out with Prof. Deyi and staff members of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences on 9th June 2023 at Faculty Board Room, Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL. Prof. Zhou Deyi, of Zuazhong Agriculture University, who is a consultant to a project related to supply chain management of selected fruits in Sri Lanka, conducted under the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with the National Institute of Postharvest Management, was present for a discussion with the academic staff of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. The discussion was on the supply chain management practices and postharvest technologies of the country. The discussion also included topics such as postharvest losses, fruit waste utilization, development of the dairy sector and opportunities and constraints in doing the same. The academic staff of the department explained related research activities that had been conducted and Prof. Zhou explained his views and recommendations. Avenues for future collaborations were also discussed.



Workshop focusing on “Reference Management tools

Under the purview of the AS 4108 Research Method and Science Writing Project, the Agriculture library organized a workshop focusing on “Reference Management tools” for final year undergraduates on 12th July 2023, via online Mood. The aim of this workshop was to enhance final-year undergraduates’ academic proficiency in the field of reference management. Mrs U.D.Hiruni Kanchana, Senior Assistant Librarian of General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University was the resource person for this workshop.




AS4108
RESEARCH METHODS AND
SCIENTIFIC WRITING

REFERENCE
MANAGEMENT
TOOLS

ORGANIZED BY THE LIBRARY
OF
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE,
RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI
LANKA

Date and Time 2023.07.12
9.30 a.m – 12.30 p.m
Mode – online
Link will be shared with you

Resource person :



Mrs. U D Hiruni Kanchana
Senior Assistant Librarian- Grade II
General Sir John Kotelawala
Defense University

Faculty of Agriculture

Workshop “Introduction to ChatGPT”

The workshop on “ChatGPT” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 13th July 2023 for academic staff members. The resource person was Mr.Prasad Simal, a Javascript expert and front-end engineer. The following members participated from the Faculty.


1. Prof. P.A. Weerasingha
2. Prof. N.S. Abeysinghe
3. Prof. M.K.N. Kumari
4. Dr. D.A.U.D. Devesinghe
5. Dr. U.G.A.I. Srisena
6. Dr. K.R.E. Padmathilake
7. Dr. N.W.I.A. Jayawardana
8. Dr. A.J. Fernando
9. Ms. M.A.A.P. Kumari
10. Ms. K.G.S. Nirmanee
11. Ms. E.D.T. Somarathna

Awareness Session on DrillBit Plagiarism Detection Tool

With the collaboration of the University Grants Commission, trial access to the DrillBit plagiarism detection tool has been successfully implemented across 16 Sri Lankan universities including the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This trial access was granted for one month, from 1st July 2023 to 31st July 2023. DrillBit plagiarism detection tool supports academic communities to write better research papers. The software can be used to scan

students' papers, assignments, synopses, theses, dissertations, and articles and to get plagiarism-free certificates.

The library system of the Rajarata University conducted an awareness session on “DrillBit plagiarism software” on 6th July 2023 for the academic staff of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.



DrillBit
DrillBit – The Most Affordable Plagiarism Detection Software

Plagiarism checker, prevention and similarity detection based on the most advanced artificial intelligence & machine learning technology supporting multiple languages.

Statistics	Content Coverage		
40 M+ pages scanned	91+ Billions of web pages	50+ Million Thesis & Dissertations	40K+ Regional Language Thesis
700+ happy clients	12K+ Publishers	80K+ Journals	13K+ Repositories
27,000+ global users	<i>as of Jan 2023</i>		

Outreach Programmes for School Children

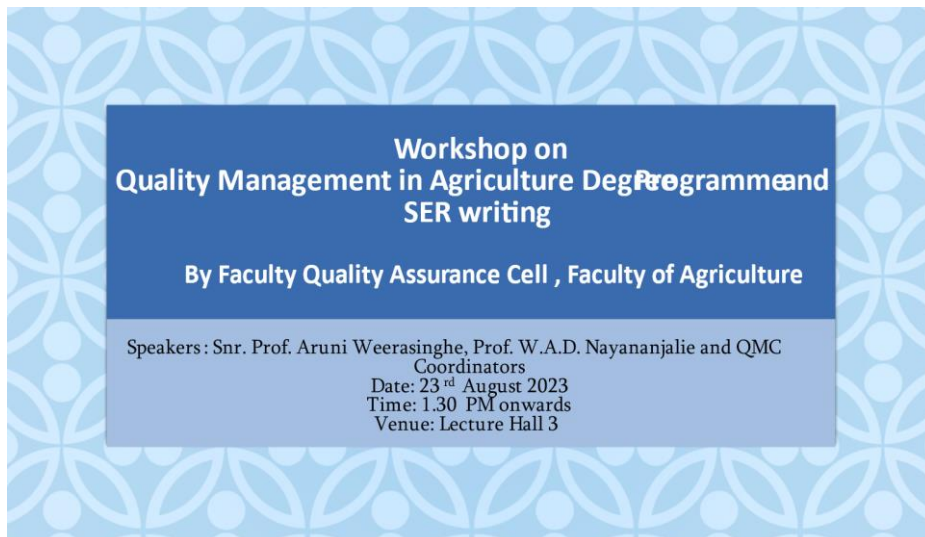
The library of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized an outreach programme for school students of the Yakalla Maha Vidyalaya, Anuradhapura on 15th August 2023. During this event, Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Agriculture, delivered an inspiring speech underscoring the significance of nurturing reading habits. Furthermore, Dr. S.K. Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Technology conducted a session focusing on the functionalities and the Digital services offered by the Library.

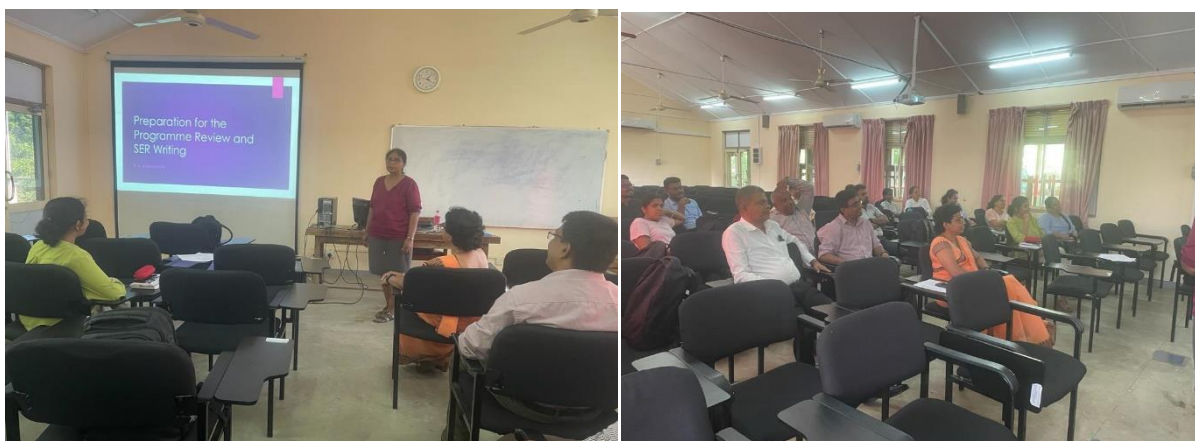




Workshop on Quality Management in Agriculture Degree Programme and SER writing

This training session was organized by the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell on 23rd August 2023 at the Faculty. Snr. Prof. Aruni Weerasinghe conducted the two sessions. One hundred and twenty academic staff, non-academic staff members and students participated in the programme. During the session, QMC chair had a question and answer session with members of each QMC.





Workshop on "How to Become a Professional Driver" for driver staff members

The workshop on “How to become a professional driver” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 28th August and 4th September 2023 for drivers. The resource persons were Cpt. J.C. Wrusawithana, Wo II. G.S. Premarathna and WoII. R.M.M. Rathnayake, ASC School -Thisawewa Army camp. The following members participated from the Faculty.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mr. G.R.D. Gamage | 3. Mr. K.M.S. Kumarasingha |
| 2. Mr. D.B.C.P. Bandara | 4. Mr.S.M.M. Thilakarathna |

Training Programme on Laboratory Procedures and Safety

The workshop on “Laboratory procedures” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 6th September 2023 for laboratory technical staff. The resource person was Dr. Chaturanga Bamunuarachchige, Dean, Faculty of Technology, RUSL. The following members participated from the Faculty.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mr. S.M.A.G.B. Senarathna | 4. Mr. D.M.U.K. Dissanayake |
| 2. Mr. M.R.N.B. Rathnayake | 5. Ms. K.M.A.S. Sirirsen |
| 3. Mr. M.K.R.K. Samarasena | 6. Ms. A.N. Tennakoon |

Elsevier Trial Subscription

The Library of Rajarata University in Sri Lanka coordinated the webinar on 'Empowering Sri Lanka’s Research Ecosystem with ScienceDirect: Read Quality, Publish Quality' for university academics on 6th September 2023. The academics of Rajarata University participated in this event. As part of this initiative, Elsevier (ScienceDirect) provided a trial subscription to Rajarata University in Sri Lanka, valid until 31st December 2023. ScienceDirect offers a

comprehensive collection of authoritative, full-text scientific, technical, and health publications. Its smart and intuitive functionality allows users to stay updated in their respective fields, enhancing their work efficiency.

“Empowering Sri Lanka’s Research Ecosystem with Science Direct: Read Quality Publish Quality”

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Click on the link <http://tinyurl.com/s2c9rasx> or scan the Barcode below:

A workshop organized by **CONSAL** in collaboration with **Elsevier**
On
Wednesday, September 6th, 2023, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

SCAN CODE

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Senior Manager
Elsevier

Ms. Aishwarya Nayal
Customer Consultant
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The ScienceDirect platform, renowned for its high-quality journals, books, and reference content, facilitates an uninterrupted workflow. Researchers can seamlessly navigate between books and journals, exploring various topics and disciplines. This initiative aims to empower researchers and academics at Rajarata University by providing access to valuable resources for quality research and publication.

Workshop on Cultural Heritage of Sri Lanka and Japan

Professor Fugimori along with her students and an experienced local farmer were engaged in the workshop on cultural heritage of Sri Lanka and Japan on 7th September 2023. All 3200 students of Department of Agricultural Systems actively participated in this workshop. The event successfully unfolded through a structured agenda comprising speeches, interactive sessions, and presentations, fostering a profound exploration of cultural differences. The programme was seamlessly concluded, marking an achievement in cross-cultural exchange and knowledge dissemination.





Visits by Japanese Scholars and Students

Prof. Miho Fujimura and Students from Saga University, Japan visited Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 11th September, 2023. It was a great exposure for students to have an interactive session to share the rural charms of Japan and Sri Lanka.



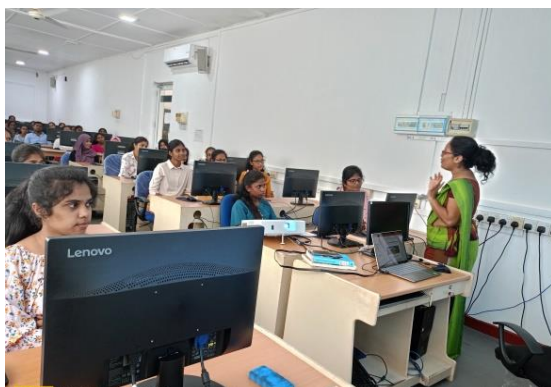
Outreach Programmes for ‘Sisumina’ Library Readers Society, Gampola

The Library of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has initiated an outreach programme for the members of the ‘Sisumina’ Readers Society, Gampola on 15th September 2023. This Society consists of both school children and adults. The main objectives of the programme were to enhance the reading habits of its members, aware them of the services and facilities of the library, and provide inspiration for school children on the importance of obtaining university education. Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Agriculture and Mrs. Hansamali Wickramasooriya, Assistant Librarian provided technical expertise for the programme.



Orientation Programme 2022 Batch - Faculty of Agriculture

An orientation programme was conducted for the 2022 batch in the Faculty of Agriculture on 25th and 26th of September 2023. The aim of this programme was to introduce the library and its services to the students and introduce online public access catalogue (OPAC). Students had the opportunity to physically visit and explore the library during this programme.



Awareness Session Series on Training and Education Opportunities Abroad

According to the annual action plan of the International Relations, Students, and Collaborations unit of the faculty, 4.2 sub-activity is conducting forums to share postgraduate or training experiences of staff and students. As the first activity, it was planned to conduct a seminar on the Erasmus+ EU programme for education, and training. The scope of the seminar covers opportunities for training, funding, and the application process. It was conducted by Dr. A.M.K.R. Bandara, Liaison Officer, Erasmus Mobility Programme, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.



The second activity was conducting an awareness programme on postgraduate opportunities abroad for the faculty staff members and students. This activity was arranged as a seminar series and the following staff members delivered information related to postgraduate opportunities abroad while sharing their postgraduate experiences during the series.

Title	Resource Person	Department
North American Chapter-Canada	Dr. K.R.E. Padmathilake	Plant Sciences
North American Chapter-USA	Dr. A.J. Fernando	Agricultural Engineering and Soil Sciences
European Chapter	Dr. RHGR Wathsala	Animal and Food Sciences

Postgraduate Opportunities in Canada
by
Dr. K. Rasanei E. Padmathilake

Series 03

27th September
@ Board Room
3.30 PM - 4.30 PM




We help you grow better
Organized by International affairs and students collaboration unit, FoA

Postgraduate Opportunities in USA

by
Dr. AJ Fernando

Series 02

AUGUST 09
@ Board Room
3 PM ONWARDS




We help you grow better
Organized by International affairs and students collaboration unit, FoA

Postgraduate opportunities in Europe

by
Dr. RHGR Wathsala

Series 01

We help you grow better




July 10
VLC - FOA
3 - 4 pm

Organized by International affairs and students collaboration unit, FoA

Certificate of Teaching in Higher Education (CTHE) - 2023 Programme

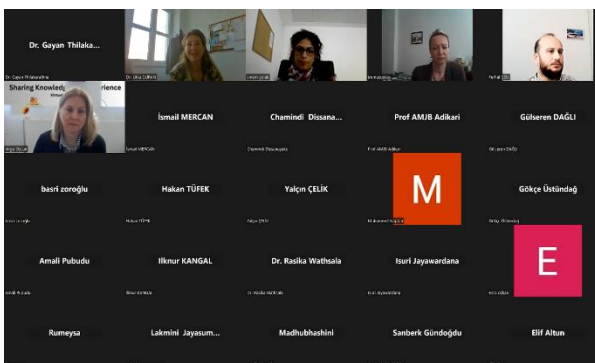
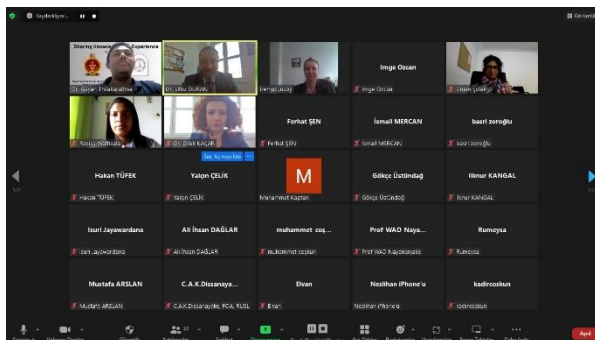
The above training programme for newly recruited academic staff members were started on 7th August 2023 and completed on 7th October 2023 by the Staff Development Center. The following two members completed the training from the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL.

1. Ms. A.N. Kodithuwakku
2. Ms. M.T.L.K. Jayasuman

Research Experience Sharing Session

A virtual Seminar was held on 10th and 11th October 2023 to share the research experiences of scholars in the Food and Agriculture School, Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University, and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, FoA, RUSL. The following staff members of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences shared their research experiences.

- Prof A.M.J.B Adikari - Growth and reproductive variations among turkey birds and its association with CLOCK genes
- Dr. N.W.I.A. Jayawardena - Can Kiwi Combat Gluten Intolerance?
- Dr. R.H.G.R. Wathsala - Protective Mechanisms in Marine Shellfish
- Mrs. C.K. Dissanayake -Agricultural Commodity Supply chains in Sri Lanka



Virtual Seminar on Knowledge and Experience Sharing
 10-11 October 2023
 SRI LANKA & TURKIYE

RAJARATA UNIVERSITY SRI LANKA & ZONGULDAK BOLENT ECEVIT UNIVERSITY

Asst. Prof. İngiç İhsan ÖZCAN
Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

Prof. AMJB Adıkarı
Growth and reproductive variations among turkey birds and its association with CLOCK genes

Asst. Prof. İrem UZUNSOY
Yogurt Production Technology

Dr. NWIA Jayawardena
Cashewnut Canker Gummi Intolerance?

Asst. Prof. Sinem COLAK
Heavy Metals in Agriculture Impact on Fields

Dr. RHGR Wathsala
Protective Mechanisms in Marine Bivalves

Dr. Utku DURAN
Rainbow Trout and Fish Blood Drawing Techniques

Mrs. CK Disanayake
Supply Chains of Agricultural Commodities In Sri Lanka

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Rasika WATHSALA & **Dr. Utku DURAN**
 Coordinator Deputy Head of the Department
 International affairs unit Veterinary Health
 Faculty of Agriculture Çayyama Food and Agriculture VS
 Rajarata University Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University

10-11 October · 13:30 - 15:30
<https://learn.zoom.us/j/63075939179>
 Meeting ID: 630 7593 9179/Passcode: VS@2023rt

Workshop on "Event decoration & floral arrangement" for Non-Academic Staff Members

The workshop on “Event decoration & floral arrangement” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 28th October 2023 for non-academic staff members. The following four members completed the training from the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL.

1. Ms. C.M.C. Senavirathna
2. Ms. N.S. Ranasinghe
3. Ms. D.T. De Silva
4. Ms. I.G.T.S. Ilukgoda

Awareness Session Conducted on UTEL (University Test for English Language)

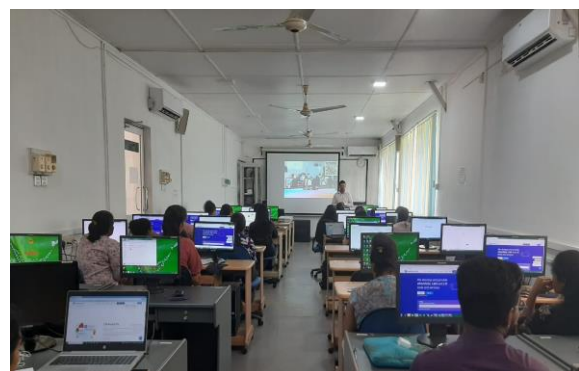
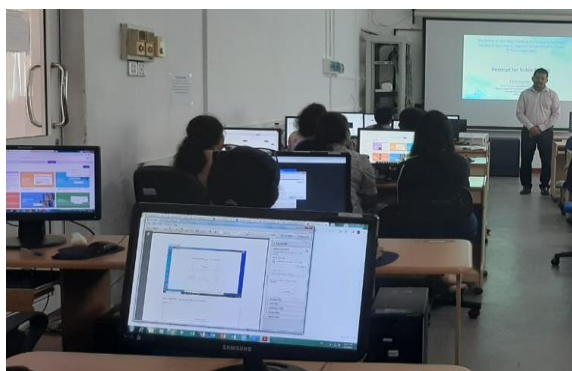
An awareness session was conducted on UTEL (University Test for English Language) for the 2021/2022 batch of students during the Intensive English Programme by DELT on 1st November 2023 at the Faculty Auditorium with the participation of 84 students of the respective batch.

The UTEL is a standardized examination which measures the general English Language proficiency of undergraduates in Sri Lankan universities. It provides opportunities for university students to obtain a certificate for their English Language skills. The objective of this session was to make the students aware of why they are supposed to do this type of a test and how they will benefit from that.



Workshop on Blended Teaching and Learning Methods and Adopting them into Curriculum

This training session was organized by the Faculty Quality Assurance Cell on 3rd November 2023 at the Faculty. Dr. K. A. S. H. Kulathilake, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Applied Sciences conducted the session. Forty academic staff members participated in the programme.





Training programme conducted for School of Agriculture and Livestock, Sri Lanka Army Copes of Agriculture and Livestock, Kilinochchi

Sri Lanka Army Corps of Agriculture and Livestock requested to conduct a practical training programme in the Faculty of Agriculture in order to enhance the professional capacity of officers and other ranks of the Army with the aim of increasing the contribution to agriculture production in Sri Lanka to assist the agriculture development in the country. Faculty staff members volunteered and conducted sessions on livestock management, crop science, soil science and agriculture engineering. This programme was successfully completed on 7th and 8th of November 2023. Activity schedule,

- Practical: Poultry, cattle, buffalo, goat and sheep management - Ms. LBUV Liyanage, Ms. MAYM Amarasooriya, Ms. TN Ekanayake, MS. ND Tissera
- Cattle and buffalo management - Prof. WAD Nayananjalie
- Poultry management - Ms. MAAP Kumari
- Protected Agriculture methods and equipment - Dr. DAUD Devasinghe
- Identification of common pests - Dr. UGAI Sirisena
- Identification of common diseases - Ms. TDC Priyadarshani
- Identification of soil types and soil profile - Prof. MGTS Amarasekara, Ms. MDP Nayanarangani
- Small ruminant management - Dr. RHGR Wathsala
- Irrigation Systems - Ms. SRAS Rajapaksha, Mr. MDD Rodrigo
- Farm machinery - Ms. SR Manawaduge, Ms. KKJ Udeshika
- Soil properties – Ms. RDSD Dayananda, Ms. JLS Hiroshima, Ms. MHVHY Gunarathne
- QA Session - Dr. WCP Egodawatte



Field Visit on Self-employment, Innovations, and Entrepreneurship by National Youth Corps

The faculty of Agriculture at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka conducted a field visit on self-employment, innovations, and entrepreneurship as requested by the National Youth Corp on 29th November 2023. The burgeoning realm of self-employment, innovation, and entrepreneurship among young individuals signifies a transformative potential demanded by the ever-evolving landscape of today's world. The objectives of the visit were to explore and understand the landscape of self-employment opportunities available to young individuals and to identify innovative business models, ideas, or practices adopted by young entrepreneurs that contribute to economic growth and social development. A diverse group of enthusiastic youth, comprising 130 individuals, who completed their Ordinary Level Examination were participated.

Activities and insight

- Welcome speech by Dr. U.G.A.I. Sirisena, Head, Department of Plant Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.
- Introductory speech about entrepreneurship and self-employment by Dr. S.M.C.B. Karalliyadda, Head, Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.
- An interactive session was conducted by Mr. W.V.V.R. Weerasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka about small-scale production of dairy products (Yoghurt and curd).
- Animal Farm – They observed how farm animals are reared on a small scale and learned about their management practices.
- Engineering workshop - They observed new innovative machines which are designed by final-year majoring students. These machines are designed to streamline agricultural tasks and make farm work easier.
- Mushroom Unit – In this session, they observed and studied how to maintain a mushroom unit on a small scale in a fruitful way.
- Bee keeping – During this session, they learned and observed fundamental principles of small-scale beekeeping





The field visit proved to be an eye-opening experience for the National Youth Corps participants. It broadened their perspectives on self-employment opportunities, ignited their entrepreneurial spirit, and instilled a deeper appreciation for innovation within the agriculture sector. The collaborative efforts of the National Youth Corps - Vavuniya and the Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka culminated in an enriching and empowering field visit. By nurturing a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship among youth.

Awareness session on Research Global Opportunities

ORGANIZED BY:
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

For those who are interested in
Postgraduate studies abroad

**REACH GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES:
TIPS FOR SECURING POSTGRADUATE
STUDIES ABROAD**

Date - 2023.12.07
Time - 10.00 a.m - 12.00 p.m
Venue - Board Room, FoA

Speaker:

Dr. Shyama Ratnasiri
Senior Lecturer (Economics)
Accounting Finance and Economics Higher Degree Research
Convener | PhD | SFHEA
Department of Accounting Finance and Economics
Griffith University
Queensland
Australia

A workshop on research global opportunities was organized by Department of Agricultural Systems, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka on 7th December 2023. Speaker was Dr. Shayama Ratnasiri, Department of Accounting Finance and Economics, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia. Thirty five academic staff members participated in the session.

Awareness programme for conducting annual board of survey activities

The awareness session on “Conducting annual board of survey activities” was conducted by the Staff Development Center on 18th December 2023 for non-academic staff members. The following four members participated in the training from the Faculty of Agriculture, RUSL.

1. H.M.A. Abeyarathna
2. I.G.T.S. Ilukgoda
3. P.K.D. Mangala
4. P.R.G.G. Rankothge
5. A.N. Tennakoon
6. S.M.G.K. Samarakoon
7. T. Luxshana