



College of Chemical Sciences

CCS News Letter



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A Government approved Charity, Founded 1971: Incorporated by Act of Parliament No: 15 of 1972, Successor to the Chemical Society of Ceylon, Founded 1941

Excerpts from the Eleventh Convocation Address



Professor Savitri Goonasekera

'Information, Knowledge & Wisdom'

• We live in an era where information technology and new scientific developments are propagating the public message that education is simply a path to certification, qualification and acquisition of technical skills.

- "In learning lies knowledge and in knowledge lies wisdom." Learning involves more than information gathering, it must create a relationship of trust and confidence between student and teacher, in expanding the horizons of and meet high standards of professional excellence, and citizen responsibility in a nation.
- Though Information Technology has revolutionized learning and the acquisition of knowledge, there must also be an opportunity for thought and reflection, discussion and debate with teachers and scholars.
- Experience also tells us that study, research, and scientific knowledge, if they are to be used for human wellbeing, must be connected to some ethical standards and values on how we use knowledge and learning with a sense of social responsibility.
- One of the challenges that will face you, as you move into the world of work and professional engagement, will be to combat the growing "de-professionalisation" that has been enthroned in this country in the name of development.
- It is also important for you to understand the personal responsibility of professionals to resist erosion of professionalism in our country.



Professor S.P. Deraniyagala

Honorary Rector of CCS

On the recommendation of the Academic Board, the Council has appointed Professor Samitha P Deraniyagala as the second Honorary Rector of College of Chemical Sciences with effect from 6th March 2015.



Ms. Renuka Jayasundara

Inauguration of the Graduateship Programme

The 37th Graduateship Programme in Chemistry of CCS was ceremonially held on Saturday, 3rd January 2015. The event was inaugurated by one our own Graduate Chemist, Ms. Renuka Jayasundara, Head of Analytical Instruments (Pvt) Ltd. at Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo. This was followed by the annual College Luncheon Reception.



Dr. Manuja Lamabadusooriya

New Academic Appointments (on contract)

Dr. Manuja Lamabadusooriya, *PhD (Washington State)* has been appointed as a Full Time Academic with effect from 1st March 2015 for a period of 6 months.



Prof. J.N.O. Fernando

Obituary - Professor J N Oleap Fernando

Former Honorary rector Prof. J N O Fernando passed away on 2nd March. His remains were brought to Adamantane House on 3rd March and the funeral was held on the 5th of March at his residence in Moratuwa.

32nd Batch of 106 Graduate Chemists at the Eleventh Convocation



Christian Thanksgiving Mass on January 3rd

A Christian Thanksgiving Mass to mark the new year was held for the seventh successive year at Adamantane House. Rev. Fr. Prasad celebrated the Holy mass and blessed the staff and the students for a successful academic year 2015.



"Athwela" - Fresher's Workshop and Sports Day

This annual event was organized by the students of CCS and was concluded successfully on 16th February 2015 at the T B Ilangarathne Ground, Angoda. Flexus was the official photographer of the event.



Rotaract Champions League 2015

The biggest sports festival organized by Rotaract District Committee, where 36 University based and community based participated. The CCS was placed 5th in the overall championship and in individual events; Shainey Mahaliyana was placed 1st in Women's 100 m and 400 m, Ovini Amarasekara was placed 3rd in Women's Shot Put, Damion Weerakoon was placed 2nd in Chess and Thilinia Anjana was placed 4th in Men's Shot Put.



'Rugby Fever'

The CCS Rugger team played off a friendly match against the Sri Lanka Law College on the 02nd February 2015 at the University of Colombo Grounds. The CCS team comprised of students of Levels 2,3 and 4. The Sri Lanka Law College won the friendly 2-1.



Fresher's Night 2015

The annual Fresher's Night organized by the level 2 students of the CCS was held on 22nd February 2015 at the 'Arena Reception Hall', Kotikawatta.



Certificate Course in Separation Science *with hands-on experience*

We are happy to announce that CCS is offering a certificate course in separation sciences with hands-on experiences. This course is offered especially for those who are practicing gas/chromatography mass spectrometry (GC/MS) as well as anybody interested in learning chromatography. The course includes concepts of chromatography, GC, HPLC, size exclusion chromatography and supercritical fluid extraction. The classes will be held for 10 weeks from 7th June to 9th August (Sundays), 3-6 pm. Dr. R Parthipan, Dr. U. K. Jayasundara and Dr. R. Gunatilake will be conducting the classes. The early bird course fee until May 10th is Rs 6000/= and the regular course fee after May 10th is Rs 7500/=. Application forms can be obtained from CCS office, 341/22, Adamantane house, Welikada, Rajagiriya or can be downloaded at <http://www.ichemc.edu.lk/>. Last day of calling applications is June 9th. Please contact 011 4015230, 011 2861653, 011 2861231 or email Dr Parthipan at parthiraj@gmail.com for any inquiries.

Public Lecture

A public lecture on "Ancient Chemistry and Modern Chemistry" was held on 10th February 2015 at the P P G L Siriwardene Auditorium. This was delivered by Dr. N Gopalakrishnan, Ph.D, M. Sc, M. A, D. Lit.

AURA

Aura 2015 - the Talent Show organized by the Students' Association of the College of Chemical Sciences, was held on the 18th January 2015 at Kularathna Hall, Ananda College. The evening was mesmerized with fabulous dancing, singing and many performances by the students from all levels. Renowned artist and beat boxer Mr. Julius Mitchell was the Chief Guest of the event while Xtreme Youth was the official photographer.



'Inter –University Debates'

The Inter- University debating competition was held on the 14th of February 2015 at Adamantane House. Six universities participated in this competition. The University of Colombo emerged as the champions and CCS team was placed second, while the University of Sri Jayawardenapura and the University of Peradeniya were placed 3rd.



Photography Club

CCS Students together with the Students' Association of CCS initiated the First Ever Photography Club of the College, which would cover all events conducted by CCS. This gives a wonderful opportunity to all those talented students who love photography.

Upcoming seminars

"Seminar on Cosmetic Chemistry"

This will be held on 3rd June 2015 at the Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon. The key note speaker for this seminar will be Dr. Rathika Samarasekara of ITI and the seminar is co-ordinated by Dr. M Infas.

"Scientific Measurements & Calculations"

The above seminar will be held on 31st July 2015, at Adamantane House. The chief coordinator of the seminar is Professor Srianthie A. Deraniyagala, Senior Professor in Chemistry, University of Colombo and Visiting Senior Professor, CCS.

Seminar on "Applications of Genetechnology"

This seminar will be held on the 7th August 2015 at Adamantane House. The key note speaker for this event will be Dr. Dharshan De Silva of the Genetech Research Institute. This seminar will be organized by Dr. R Kandiah and Dr. R Parthipan. For further details please contact Ms Sharon Corea (csharon91@gmail.com) and Ms. Nayantara Dharmarathne (nud811@yahoo.com).

Seventh Inaugural Professorial Oration

The Seventh Inaugural Professorial Oration titled ' -Lactams & Lactamases' by Professor Sriyanthie A. Deraniyagala, C.Chem (Senior Professor of Chemistry, College of Chemical Sciences) was held on the 5th of February 2015 at the P P G L Siriwardena Auditorium, Adamantane House.



Inter-school Titration Competition IV

In order to enhance the laboratory skills of A/L students, the College of Chemical Sciences Organizes the 'Interschool Titration Competition' from 06th – 08th May, 2015 at Adamantane House, Rajagiriya. The chief coordinator for this event is Dr. R. Kandiah. This event will be re conducted for the schools in Jaffna region in June 2015, and the coordinator for this event is Dr. R. Parthipan.

Popular Lecture

Lecture on 'Chemistry in Kitchen' by Prof. S Sotheeswaran was held on 21st February 2015, at Adamantane House. A large number of students gathered for this lecture.

"A simple way to cook rice that dramatically cuts the calories"



Sudhair A K James, our very own Graduate Chemist gave an overview of his research on the simple way to cook rice that could cut the number of calories absorbed by the body. Sudhair developed this new method along with his mentor Professor Pushparajah Thavarajah.

He presented research study findings at the recently held 249th National Meeting & Exposition of the American Chemical Society, Denver. The findings were published well over 35 languages and have taken the utmost interest of many Asian and American countries. Over 300 interviews including the BBC news, Washington post, Time magazine, and yahoo were handled by the combo in and out of the country. Sudhair also acknowledged and dedicated his success to CCS, ITI, RRD and Late Prof. J N O Fernando (Former Rector, CCS), for the support rendered for his research project.

Teaching Assistant Appointments:

Ms R S G Corea, Ms. W S M Fernando (our own Graduate Chemists) and Mr. Lasith Kariyawasam (University of Colombo) have been appointed as New Teaching Assistants from January and March respectively.

Dean's list for level 1 (2012), level 2 (2013) and level 3 (2014) in order of merit

1. Ms AVK Munasinghe
2. Ms MSN Ranasinghe, Ms HKCK Halloluwa & Ms ASN Kurian
5. Ms LA Wijesekara
6. Ms DS Yapa & Ms JPS Vidyani
8. Mr PVY Cooray
9. Ms R Jayawardena

Research Grants

The College of Chemical Sciences has awarded two research grants this year.

1. Structure determination and biological activity of secondary metabolites from Endolichenic Fungi isolated from *Parmotrema* sp. available in Hakgala. The Principal supervisor is Dr. R. Kandiah, Co-Supervisors are Prof. P A Paranagama & Dr. Dinara S Gunasekara. Ms. M A T P Manthirathna [BSc (Colombo)] is the Research Assistant.
2. A study of absorption of toxic elements: Cd, As, Cr, Pb and Hg in selected rice varieties (*Oryza sativa* L.) in relation to their status in two different management systems. The Principle Supervisor is Dr. R Parthipan and Co-supervisors are Prof. K A S Pathiratne and Dr. W. M A D B Wickramasinghe. Mr. N M C M Navaratne (Graduate Chemist) is the Research Assistant.

CCS Alumni

The Alumni of the College of Chemical Sciences jointly celebrated the 'AGM and Graduateship Dinner' on 27th February, 2015 at The Light House Galley, Fort. The office bearers of the alumni were elected and the evening was filled with singing, dancing and the fellowship among many passed students of CCS.

Inauguration of the DLTC Programme



The 41st intake of the DLTC Diplomates was inaugurated by DLTC Diplomate Mr. Upali Jayasundara, Shell Petroleum, Asian Region Quality Assurance Consultant on Friday, 9th January 2015.

Institute of Chemistry Ceylon (IChemC) News in brief

'M U S Sultanbawa Award'



Mr. S C D Fernando (M.Sc., Grad. Chem., M. I. Chem. C.) has been awarded the M U S Sultanbawa Award – 2014 for his research paper titled "*In vitro* radical scavenging properties, anti-inflammatory and -amylase inhibitory activity of *Eriocaulon quinquangulare* aqueous extract".

Currently he is serving as a senior teaching assistant at the College of Chemical Sciences, Institute of Chemistry Ceylon. The research work has been carried out at the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Faculty of Medicine and University of Colombo. His work was supervised by Prof. S S S B D P Soysa, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. The award will be presented to him during the Annual Sessions 2015 of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon.

Australian National Chemistry Quiz 2014

The Eighteenth Award Ceremony of the Australian National Chemistry Quiz Competition was held on Friday 30th January, 2015 at Adamantane House. Mr. K. Sivarajah, C.Chem (Consultant, Distilleries Company of Sri Lanka) was the Chief Guest for this event.

NOMINATION OF OFFICE BEARERS

By-Law 11.1(b) of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon requires the outgoing Council to nominate the following office bearers (from amongst the Corporate Members of the Institute) at the 44th Annual General Meeting 2015.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| Two Honorary Secretaries | Honorary Treasurer |
| Assistant Treasurer | Editor |
| Assistant Editor | |
| Secretary for International Relations | |
| Chairman, Admission and Ethical Practices Committee | |
| Secretary, Admission and Ethical Practices Committee | |
| Chairman, Academic Board of the College of Chemical Sciences (AB/CCS) | |
| Secretary, Educational Affairs of AB/CCS | |
| Chairman, Board of Trustees | |

The Council would be pleased to entertain suggestions from Corporate Members of persons suitable and willing to be nominated by the Council. Corporate Members are therefore invited to send their suggestions for one or more of the following posts to reach the Honorary Secretary not later than 30th April 2015. These nominations will be placed before the Council when it takes up the question of office bearers for the next Council year (2015/2016) at the Council meeting scheduled for 1st May 2015.

GRADUATESHIP (OVERALL) AWARDS

- 1st Shireen Jayasuriya Memorial Gold Medal for the Best Ms. D M K C Dissanayake
 2nd Graduateship Silver Jubilee Commemoration Award Ms. N U Dharmaratne
 3rd Graduate Chemist (25th Batch) Silver Jubilee Award Ms. K M Perera



Ms. D M K C Dissanayake Ms. N U Dharmaratne Ms. K M Perera

AWARDS FOR OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN ALL LEVELS (THEORY)

- Prof. J.K.P Ariyaratne Memorial Award (Inorganic) Ms. K M Perera
 Professor Leslie Gunatilake Award (Organic) Ms. D M K C Dissanayake
 Haniffa Award (Physical Chemistry) Ms. N U Dharmaratne
 Professors Saman & A Pathirathne Award (Analytical) Mr. N M C M Navarathna



Mr. N M C M Navarathna Mr. O T R Ranaweera Mr. M A T N Karunarathne

AWARDS FOR OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICALS

- Prof. R. S. Ramakrishna Memorial Award Mr. O T R Ranaweera
 Mr. & Mrs. Sivarajah and Family Award Mr. M A T N Karunarathne
 B A Jayasinghe Memorial Award Ms. K M Perera
 Fourth best Performer: CCS Award Ms. J A Vanlangenberg

Good Performer CCS Awards

Ms. M W A M S Fernando, Mr. H M G K E Herath, Mr. S A K James, Ms. W A I U Jayawickrama

LEVEL 3 & 4 OVERALL (THEORY) AWARDS

- 1st RSC (Sri Lanka Section) Award Ms. N U Dharmaratne
 2nd Professor and Mrs. H.W Dias Award Mr. C D R Pathirana
 3rd R Nayomi Jayathissa Memorial Prize Ms. K M Perera & Ms. A M G A Ranasinghe



Ms. J A Vanlangenberg Ms. M W A M S Fernando Mr. H M G K E Herath

SUBJECT PRIZES FOR INDIVIDUAL COURSES

- W R O Fernando Memorial Prize for Energetics and Kinetics Mr. N M C M Navarathna
 Mr. & Mrs. E. Gajanayake Prize for Atomic Spectroscopic Methods Mr. N M C M Navarathna
 P Rohan K Fernando Prize for Special Topics in Chemistry Ms. N U Dharmaratne
 Vasanthan and Menaka Prize for Further Management, Economics & Marketing Ms. J A Vanlangenberg

- Prof. Eugene De Silva Prize for Industrial Chemistry & Technology Ms. J A Vanlangenberg
 Microchem Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd Prize for Environmental Chy Ms. K M Perera
 Pincock Prize for Photochemistry Mr. C D R Pathirana

- Mr. & Mrs N I N S Nadarasa Prize for Special Topics in Organic Mr. C D R Pathirana
 Mevan Pieris Prize for Polymer Chemistry & Technology Mr. C D R Pathirana
 Prof. Paul & Rune Prize for Fundamental of Chemical Process Eng Ms. S Balachandrarajan
 Denzil & Christobel Fernando Prize for Agro Industries Ms. S Balachandrarajan
 Mr. A M Jayasekara & Mrs. Kusum Aththanayaka Family Prize for Separation Science Ms. D M K C Dissanayake

- Marina & R O B Wijesekera Prize for Molecular Biology & Biotech Ms. R S G Corea
 Mr. Cyril Suduwela Prize for Petroleum & Petrochemicals Ms. H K Maduwage
 Dr. Lakshman Ponnampereuma Prize for Special Topics in Inorganic Mr. R T De Silva
 Dr. & Mrs. Swaminathan Memorial Prize for Information Technology Ms. M Ranjan & Ms. A Rathnakumar
 Susila Jayaweera Memorial Prize for Advanced Biochemistry Ms. A Rathnakumar



Mr. S A K James Ms. W A I U Jayawickrama Mr. C D R Pathirana



Ms. A M G A Ranasinghe Ms. S Balachandrarajan Ms. R S G Corea

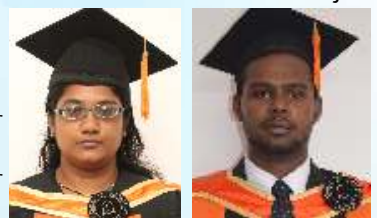


Ms. H K Maduwage Mr. R T De Silva Ms. M Ranjan

GRADUATESHIP ALL ROUNDER AWARDS

- Dr. R O B Wijesekera Felicitation Award for the Best Mr. Thisath B Alahakoon
 Chamikara Wijesinghe Award for the Second Best (equal) Ms. N U Dharmaratne
 Prof. Noel G Baptist Memorial Prize for the Second Best (equal) Mr. S A K James
 Certificates of Honourable Mention Ms. J A Vanlangenberg & Mr. M A T N Karunarathne

The following Convocation Prizes were not awarded this year: Mr & Mrs Suppiah & Seethadevi Prize for Analytical/ Industrial Biochemistry, N M S Hettigedara Family Prize for Pharmaceutical & Medicinal Chemistry, Dr. Rohan Perera Prize for Chemical & Molecular Toxicology, Professor P P G L Siriwardene Memorial Prize for Further Topics in Inorganic Chemistry, Piyadasa and Kalyanawathi De Silva Memorial Prize for Quality Management, Mrs. Careen Manel Abeywardene Memorial Prize for Natural Product Chemistry, Dharmachandra & Thamarasa Gunawardhana Memorial Prize for Selected Topics in Analytical Chemistry, Mr. P Rohan K Fernando Prize for Industrial Safety and Environmental Technology, Prize for Green Chemistry, Dr. Sudath Kumarasinghe Memorial Prize for Special Topics in Physical Chemistry, Egodawatte G Somapala Prize for Food Chemistry and Technology, Professor A P de Silva Prize for Chemical Sensors, Mr & Mrs H S Dias Memorial Prize for Geochemistry, President 1979 Award for Industrial Safety, Health & Environmental Technology, Lakshmi Award for Chemistry of Gem Minerals & Synthetic Gem Materials



Ms. A Rathnakumar Mr. T B Alahakoon

DLTC Overall Prize List - 2014

- First Prize - G C N Jayasuriya Award for the Best Performance - Mr. M S Latheef
 Second - Dr. Sentheshanmuganathan Appreciation Award - Mr. D S Fernando
 Third - Dr.G.C.N.jayasuriya DLTC award - Mr. M S D Fernando
 P R K Fernando's Prize for Industrial and Food Chemistry - Mr. M S Latheef
 P. D. Luckmal De Zoysa Prize for Clinical Laboratory Technology - Mr. M S D Fernando
 Dilanka Fernando & Sajeevani Narasinghe Special Award for the Overall outstanding performance - Mr. M S Latheef



Mr. M S Latheef Mr. D S Fernando Mr. M S D Fernando

Eleventh Convocation – 106 Graduate Chemists and 80 DLTC Diplomates Pass Out

106 Graduate Chemists, 2 Advanced Diplomates and 80 DLTC Diplomates who successfully completed their respective studies, received their certificates and medals at the 11th Convocation held at the Eagle's Lakeside on 19 Feb. Law Academic, Emeritus Professor Savitri Goonasekera graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the Convocation Address on 'Information, Knowledge & Wisdom'. Excerpts appear in Page 1. Dr. M Mahendran was the Guest of Honour.



Head Table: Officers & Officials
Behind: Academic Staff

Academic Procession



Graduate Chemists in Procession



Shireen Jayasuriya Gold Medallist



Chief Guest

Ms. D M K C Dissanayake

Dr. G C N Jayasuriya (DLTC) Awardee



Mr. M S Latheef

Graduate Chemists in Audience



Guests and invitees



Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen -
Sir Winston Churchill

Institute of Chemistry Ceylon / College of Chemical Sciences

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