



University of Colombo Sri Lanka
 Association of Colombo
 Science Faculty Batch of 1974
 Thorathuru No: 11, Dec 2022



Contributions to Thorathuru

Thorathuru is our Association's news-letter published periodically and circulated to the Science Faculty Batch of 1974. Please forward your thoughts, down memory lane stories, photographs, experiences, achievements and articles to Tissa Perera (Kalpage_perera@yahoo.com)

Current Office Bearers

President

Dharmasiri Karunaratne(SL)

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Dr. W. Ramasinghe(SL)

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Dr. Ransi Devendra (NZ)

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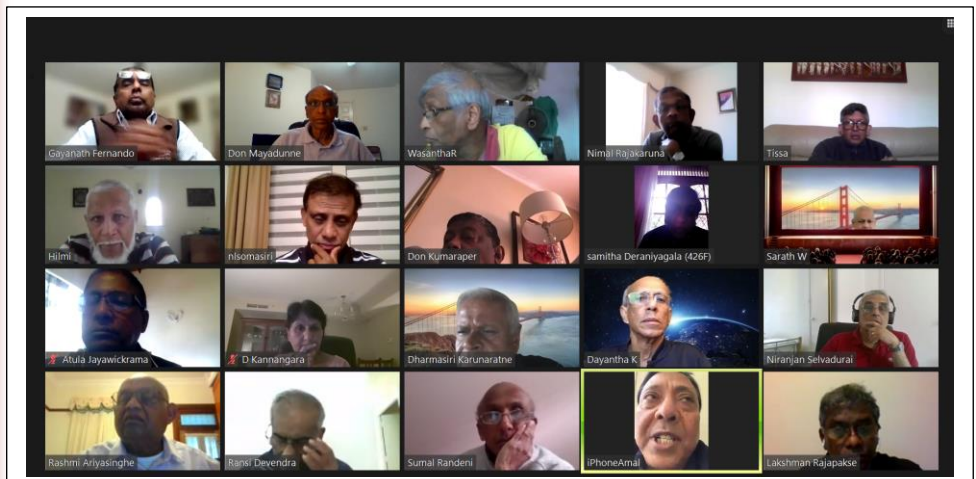
Tissa Perera (Aus)

Dayantha Kurukulasuriya(USA)

Association News

The Association had its Annual General meeting on October 2nd, 2022 using Zoom and a new committee was appointed.

Some of the Batch Mates who attended the Zoom meeting



Our Association's future is very important to us and we have entered into an agreement with the Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown for transition of duties with a trial period of three years.

This will assure all batchmates that the charitable work will continue beyond our retirement.

Primary Objectives of the Association:

- To assist the science undergraduates of Colombo University in their studies by financial or other means, as agreed by the Management of University of Colombo
- To organise activities promoting relationship among its members and their families
- To assist the Management of University of Colombo in carrying out the development activities related to either academic or welfare of the science undergraduates
- To assist its members and their families in emergency or distress situations

Can you assist?

Most of our scholarship recipients are from rural schools, hence generally their English is poor. If any batch mates in Colombo are in a position to help these undergraduate's please contact the Association by sending an email to secretary@uocsc74.com

We would like to connect with all batch mates. If you are in touch with any batch mates that do not receive the Association emails, can you please ask them to send an email to secretary@uocsc74.com

Next Batch Reunion

We are hoping for the next batch reunion of the 1974, May Science Batch on 2024 July. This will be the 50th Anniversary of the start of our university education at the then **University of Sri Lanka Colombo Campus**.

Our first reunion was held on 18th July 2015 at Kalutara. This reunion was the birth of this **Association of Colombo Science Faculty Batch-1974**.

If you have any thought of how and where we should organize our next batch reunion, please drop an email to secretary@uocsc74.com

*We take this opportunity to
Wish You All A Very
Happy Christmas and all the
Very Best for 2023*



Scholarship Fund - Financial Summary (as at 22 November 2022)

Total funds Collected – RS. 11,020,105.66

Contributor	Amount	Percent	Country	Amount	Percent
Batch Mates	Rs. 5,911,295	53.1%	Australia	Rs. 6,857,221	62%
Well-wishers	Rs. 5,216,485	46.9%	North America	Rs. 2,418,463	22%
			Sri Lanka	Rs. 1,576,000	14%
			Unknown	Rs 276,096	2%

No. of Students supported: 17

The Summary of Scholarship Status

Currently the Association is providing scholarships for a total of seventeen undergraduates which includes the eight selected from the 2022 intake, four of whom are fully sponsored by two batch mates, a well-wisher and the Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown (RCCU). We suspended payment to one Undergraduate as the person has not complied with requirement agreed at time of offering scholarship. (No communication) After a number of warnings, we had to take a difficult decision to suspend the scholarship.

We continue to provide English classes for our undergraduates as and when it is necessary by finding new sponsors.

A.H. M. Madusanka was an Undergraduate we selected in 2021 and after the second Semester he was able to get a transfer to Peradeniya University to study Dentistry. Since he was from a very poor family in Anamaduwa and an extra contribution from a batchmate the Association Committee decided to give him our initial commitment for four as a lump sum of Rs 180,000 and he has been very grateful so that he can continue his studies. We had given him a refurbished Laptop which we allowed him to take with him to Peradeniya.

We have so far handed over four Laptops to undergraduates as some of the undergraduates were using their phones to study and this need will continue. These Laptops were donated by our batchmates. See in last page the last Laptop handover photo.

To date six of scholarship recipients have graduated, five of them completing four-year courses and all have graduated with very high grades.

We appreciate all the monetary donations received and thank all those who helped our students in numerous ways

Name	Course	Address	Status
Danukarage Chathuri Hansika Madushani	Finance & Insurance (Hons)	Ratnepura	Completed 2nd Upper
R.D.C. Madhumali Dilrukshi	Finance & Insurance (Hons)	Bandarawela	Completed 2nd Upper
Piyumi Harshani Loku Ralage	Finance & Insurance (Hons)	Weligama	Completed 2nd Upper
O.V. Jayani Chandula	Finance & Insurance (Hons)	Elpitiya	Completed 2nd Upper
Halpage Pramodya Manori Dilhara	Physical Science	Galle	Completed
Harithas Ravikumar	Industrial Statistics Mathematical Finance	Chenkalady	Completed
Kumar Kavithas	Molecular Biology & Biochemistry	Jaffna	
Dileshan Prasad Buddhika	Industrial Statistics and Mathematical Finance.	Lunuwaththa	
Lakshika Raveendranathan	Physical Science	Madampella	Payment Stopped
U.Tharuka Janith Roopasingha	Physical Science	Karaveddy	
B.M.Dinusha Madhuwantha Chandrapala	Biological Science	Anuradhapura	
R.G.Dilki Prabhani	Physical Science	Matara	
S.A.D Nethmi Tharika Sathsarani	Physical Science	Mathugama	
M.Shakila Kavindi Perera	Biological Science	Kurunduwatta	
Mihiri Dewmini	Biological Science	Gatahette	
Aurelia Perera	Physical Science	Dambadeniya	
Navod Madhuwantha	Physical Science	Balapitiya	
R.M.K. Milan Kumar Rathnayaka	Molecular Biology & Biochemistry	Bandarakoswatta	
W.G.G. Sasanka Malshan Gunarathna	Biological Science	Kegalle	
K.A.G. Hansini Gangani Kariyawasam	Physical Science	Ampegama	
K.M. Rashmi Kavishka Somasiri	Bio Science – Plant Science, Zoology and Chemistry	Eheliyagoda	
E.G. Kavinda R. Egodage	Pure Math, Applied Math, Physics and Computer Science	Hiriwadunna	
Janadari Dissanayaka	Physical Science	Kegalle	
A.L. Gayashan Madhuranga	Physical Science	Beliatte	
D.M. Charitha Udayanga Dissanayaka	Biological Science	Rambukkana	
A.H. M. Madusanka	Biological Science	Anamaduwa	Transferred to Dentistry

Sponsorship of Undergraduates

A number of batch mates and well-wishers have committed to fund nine undergraduate scholarships for the full term of the course. The generosity has allowed us to support more undergraduates and also build up our funds so that we can handover money to the Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown (RCCU) to create perpetual scholarships for four undergraduates by 2024. The generous donors are

Prof Gayanath Fernando and Batch mate

Sisira & Lakshmi Mayadunne

Dr. Somasiri Nanayakkara

Sathis & Christine De Silva (Well-wisher)

Ananda and Yamuna Dassanayake (Well-wisher) (Two Scholarships)

Dr. Lal Ariyaratne

Tissa Perera

Batch mate

It's important to note that all funds (100%) collected go directly to funding scholarships. All members who are involved in the administration of the duties do so as volunteers.

Any time we interviewed applicants from a short list it is a fact that most of them needed financial assistance though we cannot afford to give everyone the opportunity to take advantage of our sponsorships. Due to prevailing issues in Sri Lanka it was decided by number of committee members to fund a one-off payment of Rs 5000 to all unsuccessful applicants. Only thirteen undergraduates took up the offer and Committee Members Prof Gayanath and Rashmilal facilitated the payments from their personal accounts.

How to Donate

Life Membership: LKR 5000.00

Donation Amount: Based on your preference

Bank Name: Sampath Bank PLC, Nawala Branch, 143, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka.

To become a member deposit the money to the Membership Account as detailed below.

Name of the Bank Account: Association of Colombo Science Faculty Batch - 1974

Bank Swift Code: BSAMLKLM

Account No: 008260000072

To make a "Donation" deposit the money to the Donation Account as detailed below.

Name of the Bank Account: Association of Colombo Science Faculty Batch - 1974

Bank Swift Code: BSAMLKLM

Account No: 108261002087

When you make a deposit, please send an email to Wasantha and Maya indicating the nature of your donation (if you want to be an anonymous donor or a life member, etc).

Wasantha: rmampage@yahoo.com Maya: secretary@uocsc74.com

If you are in **Australia** and like a Tax-Deductible receipt, please use the link below. If you need assistance, please contact Tissa Perera

[RAWCS | Donation](#)

Planning for the Future of our Association

Our initial strategy was to collect sufficient funds to support eight undergraduates at any given point in time. We intended to offer these scholarships on a permanent basis. This strategy remained our primary focus as we built the required reserve fund. We now believe we have adequate reserves to meet this ongoing commitment. During the last seven years we have supported or are continuing to support a total of 26 undergraduates.

The **Association of Colombo Science Faculty Batch-1974** considered options on how this reserve fund can be efficiently managed and scholarships continued to be offered to less fortunate undergraduates registered at Colombo University Science Faculty on an ongoing basis, even after this association ceases to exist.

As an outcome of these considerations, a trial was commenced with the **Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown (RCCU)** for a period of three years to jointly manage the scholarship awarding process to needy students. A formal Memorandum of Understanding was signed between our Association and the Rotary Club in June 2022. The final decision on the way forward will be made at the end of the trial period.

Several drivers prompted the decision to consider RCCU as a viable option:

- I. Our current major sponsor in Australia, the Rotary Club of Liverpool has a preference that our project has a Rotary club involvement in the base country of the project.
- II. Due to the Sponsorship of Rotary Club of Liverpool, all Australian Donations are tax deductible. This has enabled us to raise funds from well wishes. This has helped us to raise A\$ 9800 in 2022.
- III. Rotary Clubs have a continued existence and are service oriented.
- IV. One of our former committee members is a member of the Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown and can assist managing the project.

During the initial three-year period we will fund two undergraduates each year and transfer the students to the RCCU after selection, to organise monthly payments. They will mentor the students and assist them in finding internships and Jobs where possible. To date the progress has been very positive and the Rotary Club of Colombo Uptown has raised funds to support an additional student hence the number of students has increased by one. They are considering more fund raising and more involvement in the next two years.

Signing of the MOU with RCCU

Dharmasiri Karuneratne (President) and Wasantha Mapage (Treasure) signed on behalf of the Association



Handing over a Laptop to one of the 2022 undergraduates

