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# 42<sup>nd</sup> Convocation

## University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

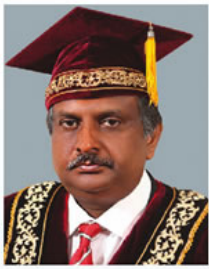
02-03 August 2016 | Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo



*'I wish all the best to all those who are becoming graduates today.'*

**Chancellor**  
**Ven. Prof. Bellanwila Wimalaratna**

Deputy Incumbent of Bellanwila Rajamaha Viharaya and Anunayake of the Kotte Sri Kalyani Samagri Dharma Maha Sangha Sabha of the Syamapali Maha Nikaya



**Message of the Vice Chancellor**

It is indeed a great pleasure to send this message on the occasion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura which is to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2016. First of all, as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, let me warmly congratulate both the undergraduate and postgraduate students of our university who will be conferred upon their respective Degrees today. As you are aware, being the largest University in terms of student population, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has always strived to achieve excellence not only in education and research, but also in fulfilling its social and national responsibility concerning all other areas of human life. The university had a glorious beginning as Vidyodaya Pirivena in 1873 under the pioneering leadership of the chief Buddhist Monk, the Most Venerable Hikkaduwé Sri Sumangala Thero, and since then, it has reached a number of milestones to be one of the leading national universities in Sri Lanka.

On this memorable moment when you have achieved success after a tremendous amount of perseverance and dedication, let me remind you that you owe a debt of gratitude to all your family and your teachers for their untiring efforts to make you what you are today. At the same time you should not forget the people of this country who have financed your education with their hard-earned money in the form of taxes to the government. Therefore, the best way to pay back is to do your best with integrity, commitment and a great sense of responsibility in whatever future capacity you will be called upon to serve this country. You can become role models such as the internationally acclaimed academics, leading businessmen, reputed administrators, and charismatic politicians that this university has produced. Please remember that these people too started their university career like you so that there is no reason why you too cannot be shining examples to your junior brothers and sisters. Then only you will receive both the blessings and the love of the people of this country.

While congratulating you on your success once again, let me tell you that we too share your happiness with all the best wishes for a glorious future.

**Prof. Sampath Amarantunga**  
Vice-Chancellor

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura dates back to 1873, when the Most Ven. Hikkaduwé Sri Sumangala Thero laid the foundation stone for the university as the "Vidyodaya Pirivena". In 1958, Vidyodaya Pirivena was given the status of a university under the Vidyodaya University and Vidyalkara University Act No. 45 of 1958. The Most Ven. Welivitiye Soratha Thero, who was the principal of the Vidyodaya Pirivena at that time was appointed the first Vice-Chancellor of the university. The university was ceremonially opened on 16th February 1959 as the Vidyodaya University of Ceylon. In 1977, the university was re-named as the University of Sri Jayewardenepura along with the introduction of several other structural changes in the higher education sphere of the country.

Since then, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura has evolved into a fully fledged university with new Faculties, Departments, and other innovations and expansions thus becoming the largest university in terms of student population in Sri Lanka, with more than 13,000 students. The most significant recent breakthroughs are the additions of the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Technology which makes the total number of Faculties 07. These two have also introduced a number of new academic departments so that now the University serves its student body through 63 such departments.

In achieving excellence in research, which is a vital role expected from a university, 10 research centres including Environment Quality Management Research such as Water Quality and Nano Technology, Humanities and social Science Research, Management and Business Development Research, Medical Research such as Dengue, Cancer and Kidney research, and Postgraduate Research Coordination have been established over the last few years which are coordinated by the Research Council of the university. Accordingly, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura aspires to be the centre of excellence for research in the South Asian region as well as a driving force behind the prosperity and growth of mother nation, staying true to its noble vision: 'Prosper Lives Through Education'.



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

On behalf of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, I congratulate the graduating students of 2016. You have accomplished great things during your time at the university and we wish you every success at this turning point of your career journey.

Our vision of the university is to prosper lives through learning and it motivates the work of everyone at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. We are in the belief that every child born deserves higher education regardless of his or her ethnicity, religion, caste, income level, physical appearance, etc. In keeping with our vision, we follow a process of transformation of young adults into an academic community with valuable human capital that has no limitations whether they are coming from urban or rural settings or mansions or shelters. As far as the graduates are concerned, the increased productivity can be viewed in two main ways. The first is the increased productivity in understanding the reality of the world. The second is the increased productivity in the work they engage. Although our graduates are rich in understanding the reality of the world, their increased productivity at work is determined up to the extent that they have improved both hard and soft skills during the full length of education from the nursery to undergraduate education. In consequence of the scarcity of productive resources, you may encounter challenges in being employed. However, your continual attempt empowered with determination will finally bring you the success that is expected at local and international level.

On behalf of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, I once again congratulate you on all your achievements and wish you a bright future filled with boundless opportunities!

**Dr. D.P.S. Chandrakumara**  
Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Graduate Studies**

It is with great pleasure I confer this congratulatory message to you on the occasion of your convocation - a memorable event that gives you a sense of pride, fulfilment and joy. This moment would not have become a reality if not for your dedication, commitment and perseverance. We too are happy at the opportunity we got to facilitate this process with the able cooperation and collaboration with all the Faculties in the University.

We are also grateful to all of you for contributing to achieve our vision in of firmly establishing itself as the center of excellence for advanced learning, research and scholarship both within and outside the domain of Sri Lanka. Despite the fact that this Faculty had been established rather recently (in 1996) during the past 19 years Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) has awarded 121 Ph.D degrees, 160 M Phil degrees, 101 MA degrees, 1100 MSc degrees and 281 Master of Business Administration 1421 Postgraduate Diplomas from 1996 to 2015 and there is a significant increase of student numbers registered for postgraduate degrees. I am delighted to mention that students have made valuable contributions in these respective disciplines in solving burning issues experienced by all sectors of the society.

The journey to acquire knowledge and skills does not end with the conferment of the degree but needs to continue to climb and aspire excellence. Knowledge, skills and positive attitudes are the key to success for all human beings. We as citizens of a developing country has a greater stake to be active partners in both the global and local effort in bringing on sustainable development which is economically feasible, socially acceptable and environmentally sound - which will ensure high quality of life for us as well as for our future generations. Sri Lanka is a signatory country which signed the global initiative to achieve this by adopting 'Sustainable Development Goals' in September 2015 at the United Nations General Assembly. I sincerely request all of you to give your level best to contribute to this noble effort. You can start this today by resorting to sustainable lifestyles which will contribute to reduce your own carbon footprint which will lead to the larger reduction of the carbon footprint in the world.

I wish all graduates who are being convoked today all success in their



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**Congratulations!!!**  
It is with immense pleasure and a great honor that I acknowledge the graduation ceremony of the graduates of the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura extending my heartiest congratulations on the giant breakthrough you have made in your academic life. This occasion undoubtedly marks the dawning of a new era which requires skills and your ability not only to expand and disseminate the knowledge acquired during your academic journey with us, but also to nurture and exploit your potential to excel in the professional arena withstanding challenges and uncertainties. Highly empowered and nurtured by academic excellence, our graduates forge ahead to new heights of accomplishments in the world of work by readily adapting to the challenging demands of the professional environments.

Being the largest Faculty of Applied Sciences in Sri Lanka, we are glad to inculcate a lifelong learning culture which caters to the job-oriented study programmes in collaboration with national and international institutions while having committed to the process of producing an outstanding graduate with required knowledge, skills and attitudes. We are proud to witness continuous developments in the physical and academic resources in the faculty to their full potential. Having well-qualified, dedicated and eminent academic staff, the faculty is continuously in an effort to produce highly employable graduates who are capable of contributing to the development of the country, serving their utmost to preserve cultural heritage and national values in Sri Lanka. The B Sc degree programmes well designed by our faculty as a gateway to the world of sciences, is consisted of diverse disciplines of basic sciences and Applied Sciences: such as Biology, Food Science and Technology, Forestry and Environmental Management, ICT, Statistics, Management Science, Economics, Sports Science & Management and Aquatic Resource Management and it opens avenues for undergraduates to ground-breaking scientific research and innovations. Furthermore, the newly introduced Extended Degree Program offered by the faculty for the fourth year students strengthens and promotes the university-industrial linkage enhancing academic and professional opportunities for undergraduates to excel in their studies.

I encourage you to engage in lifelong learning which will allow you to mould and enhance your knowledge that will accelerate your professional journey in keeping with the demands and challenges of the globe. I thoroughly believe that the taught undergraduate degree programme will provide you with ample opportunities to pursue postgraduate studies to broaden your scope of knowledge in chosen disciplines. I, on behalf of the Faculty of Applied Sciences extend my heartiest congratulations in all your future endeavours.

**Prof. Sudantha Liyanage**  
Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences



**Message of the Acting Dean Faculty of Technology**

It is with great pleasure that I write this message saluting you on the occasion of your graduation from this august institution, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This is indeed a joyous occasion for all of you and we in the Faculty would like to recognize your accomplishment and share in your success. Please savor the moment.

On this memorable moment of your future life, let me outline the scope, role and contributions of the Faculty of Technology sixth faculty benchmarked offspring of the Sri Jayewardenepura Family. Faculty of Technology will be serving the nation by providing the higher education opportunity for the prospective undergraduates who will be enrolling to the Sri Lankan university system through the newly introduced Technology stream to the school system. The strategy behind is to harness the talents of the youth to capture the advantage of relevant emerging technologies to drive the economy by providing an education that encompasses competencies to satisfy the needs of the society. Faculty of Technology consists of three academic departments offering highly practical oriented, professional bachelor degree programs of (i) Bachelor of Engineering Technology, (ii) Bachelor of Bio-Systems Technology, and (iii) Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology for the first time in Sri Lanka to initially cater 300 prospective undergraduates in 09 study fields.

Dear Graduates, You have accomplished an enormous amount, and you have even greater potential than when you began your studies here. You have earned a degree, but you have done more than grow intellectually. You have also matured emotionally and socially. Your newly acquired education will serve you well throughout your life, and the Sri Jayewardenepura University friendships and memories are ones I hope you return to often. Graduates, your achievements here are impressive, but you have not realized success on your own. You have been



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce**

First of all, I as the Dean, convey my Warmest Congratulations to our students whose convocation ceremony is scheduled to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016 at the BMICH.

I have no any hesitation to mention that you all have secured a prominent position in the society having graduated from the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC) of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. I strongly believe that with this valuable investment in terms of time and effort, you are now more competent to walk into the society and face challenges with self-confidence and self-esteem with a distinctive competitive advantage. Therefore, as the Dean of the FMSC, I feel extremely proud of you.

It is a well-known fact that the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is the pioneer in management studies in Sri Lanka, and hence, has earned the status of being 'the Center of Excellence in Management Education in Sri Lanka'. Our Faculty is the largest faculty in Sri Lankan university system in terms of student population and, as a faculty, we enjoy a unique position with respect to student admissions by absorbing the best students of the Commerce stream of highly competitive GCE Advanced Level Examination.

The FMSC is dedicated to equip the undergraduates with specialized knowledge, essential skills and attitudes and the required practical training to face challenges not only in the professional life, but also in the personal life. As a result, the graduates produced by the FMSC are of the highest quality that surpasses national and international standards. The higher rate of graduate employment both in local and international contexts and also the higher demand for them in the employment market provide testimony in this regard. The immense contribution of our graduates to both the private and government sectors is tremendous and noteworthy.

Therefore, I have no any doubt that you who have completed your degrees will follow the footsteps of our former graduates and immensely contribute to the societal well-being while making use of your knowledge and skills in the developmental endeavors both at the local and international levels. On behalf of the FMSC, as the Dean, I congratulate you once again and wish you all the success!

**Dr. U. Anura Kumara,**  
Dean, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Medical Sciences**

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura to be held today, Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Nursing (BSc Nursing), Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm), Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Sciences (BSc MLS) and Bachelor of Human Biology (BSc Human Biology) will be conferred on a large number of graduands representing different areas in the field of Medical Sciences. Established in 1993 as the first Faculty of Medical Sciences in Sri Lanka we take a lead role in training annually teams of health professionals required for the country realizing the high national need.

Education is the most powerful instrument which can be used to change the world. In keeping with the Faculty goals, these medical and health graduates are enriched with the necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and mind set to provide health care services in any part of Sri Lanka. The medical undergraduate training includes training in Family Medicine at the modern Family Practice Centre and in Community based medical training.

The Faculty of Medical Sciences of USJ is the first Faculty to enroll the Diploma holders of Nursing and Medical Laboratory Technologists of the Ministry of Health through the lateral entry pathway to undergraduate course to obtain degree level qualifications. Among the graduands to be conferred with degrees will be some of them.

The journey to acquire knowledge and skills does not end with the achievement of the degree but needs to continue to climb and aspire excellence. The MBBS and Allied Health Sciences degrees mark the beginning of a life long journey of acquiring knowledge, improving skills, communication, professionalism and humanism in serving mankind and engaging in health sciences research of national priorities.

While congratulating the happy recipients and their proud parents, I consider it my duty to also commend the commitment and enthusiasm of the excellent academia of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the extended staff of our main affiliated teaching hospitals - Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital and Homagama Base Hospital. I wish all graduates who are being convoked today all success in their future professional endeavors.

**Prof. Surangi G. Yasawardene**  
Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences



**Message of the Dean Faculty of Engineering**

I consider it a privilege to address such a special group of students who have worked so tirelessly to achieve the ultimate goal of your University life. On behalf of the newly established Faculty of Engineering, I would like to congratulate you on this special milestone in your life. The graduation will mark the beginning of your professional career and from the intellect and dedication you have shown so far, I believe it to be a bright and a promising one. Armed with knowledge and experience gained at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, you are ready to conquer the dreams and expectations of you and your family.

The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura was established with a vision to add Engineering graduates to the current repertoire of graduates produced by the University. In merely four years' time, a group of graduates from the Engineering Faculty will join ranks with you in the industry and we are excited about the synergistic effect this addition will create.

As a graduate of this establishment, others will look up to you for leadership and guidance. With this power of influence, you have a social responsibility to drive this country towards sustainable development.



**Message of the Registrar**

It is my pleasure to send this message to the supplement published on the occasion of the General Convocation of the University in my capacity as the Registrar of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

The Convocation day is a day of celebrations with future expectations and recognition of great achievement. We all are inspired to see the results of hard work and successful achievement.

The Convocation is the testimony of the dedication and devotion of Academic Administrative and Non-Academic communities, without which the realization of the University goals is not possible. Therefore I believe this General Convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura showcases the talents and achievements of the passing out graduands.

I congratulate on all graduands for their achievement and wish them all the best in future endeavours.

**K. Gnanasiri Britto**  
Registrar

future professional and personnel endeavors.

**Prof. Hemanthi Ranasinghe**  
*Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies*

supported by parents and other family members, by friends, and by University faculties, staff and other students. And many among you have been supported by generous donors who provided scholarship gifts.

I am confident that every new graduate has the potential for leadership. You will address effectively the world's challenges and seize the most exciting opportunities. Indeed, we are depending on you! You have developed habits of achievement. You are already tomorrow's leaders. Thank you for making Sri Jayewardenepura University stronger, and we will follow your leadership contributions with great interest. Once again, my heartiest congratulations to you and best wishes for success in all your future endeavors.

**Prof. Prashantha B. Mandawala**  
*Acting Dean, Faculty of Technology*

graduates success in their future professional endeavors in their chosen career paths.

**Dr. S. A. M Subasinghe**  
*Dean, Faculty of Engineering*

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