



43rd Convocation

University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

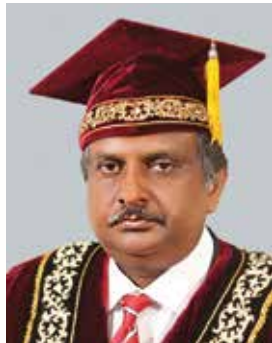
07th & 08th September 2017 | Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo



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

Chancellor **Ven. Prof. Bellanwila Wimalaratana**

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



Message of the Vice-Chancellor

It is indeed a great pleasure to send this message on the occasion of the 43rd General Convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura which is to be held on 7th and 8th of September 2017. 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. This success is something you have earned through your dedication and perseverance and I too share your happiness in this glorious moment of your life.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura had a humble beginning as Vidyodaya Pirivena in 1873 under the pioneering leadership of the Chief Buddhist Monk, the Most Venerable Hikkaduwe Sri Sumangala Thero. In 1958, it was given the status of a University under the Vidyodaya University and Vidyalankara 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, and in 1977, it was re-named as the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Since then, it 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. We have increased the annual student intake with each new batch which shows our readiness to cater to the increasing demands of higher education sector.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura has strived to make a balanced development with respect to both quantitative and qualitative aspects so that while embarking on an expansion drive where new faculties and new infrastructure matter, there has also been an equal concern about maintaining quality. Hence, while reaching significant milestones in the form of two new faculties - the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Technology, we have also given priority to research and training in order to maximize quality. 15 research centers have been established over the last few years which are coordinated by the Research Council of the University. All of them give priority to finding solutions to the acute problems affecting our people and thus help improve human life. In this endeavor, Water Quality and NanoTechnology research, Humanities and Social Science Research, Management and Business Development Research, Medical Research such as Dengue, Cancer and Kidney research have achieved significant breakthroughs thereby fulfilling a tremendous social and national responsibility. We have also initiated Student Conferences in order enhance the research capabilities of our students and thus increase their employability.

One of the most significant aspects of the University's evolutionary trajectory is its distinguished alumni which comprise internationally acclaimed academics, leading businessmen, reputed administrators, and charismatic politicians. Therefore, the students who receive the Degrees today should be determined to become role models in whatever capacity they will be called upon to serve the people of this country. This is how you pledge allegiance to the University vision 'Prosper Lives through Education'.

Prof. Sampath Amaratunge
Vice-Chancellor



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 2017. I believe that you have gained that sense of accomplishment after rising up to the expectations of your loved ones, the society and the country.

In line with our vision, to prosper lives through learning, we follow a process of transforming young adults into valuable human capital. This year the Faculty has transformed nearly 900 young adults into graduates who will contribute to the society as social scientists and humanists. These graduates are enriched not only with academic skills, but also with a sense of ethical, social, environmental and moral responsibility towards the society they serve.

As a developing country, Sri Lanka's economy is not sufficiently strong enough to absorb all the new graduates into the local labor market at once. However, your continual attempt and determination combined with the skills and knowledge that you are currently armed with will empower you to achieve great levels of success in various professions and careers. The path to your success could be available to you anywhere in the globe: transcending geographical and other physical boundaries.

Producing graduates can impact the society in many ways. If employed at the right time to the relevant sector, they could add more to the growth of an economy due to their increased productivity as a result of their exposure to higher education. In addition, the knowledge and the experimental orientation inherited due to university education will generate more beneficial effects on the society and the environment. Meanwhile, the graduates should also take into their minds and hearts about their social responsibility as those who were beneficiaries of free education. Some of the key responsibilities of a graduate among many more should be to help reduce the bureaucracy, red-tape, bribery, corruption, theft and fraud, drug addiction, environmental damage, different conflicts, etc. and to help establish a sustainable and peaceful country where above all people respect each other. People cannot live and remain in this country unless you fulfill this responsibility together with rest of the community.

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

Prof. 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 write this congratulatory message to you on the occasion of your convocation - a memorable event that gives you a sense of pride, fulfillment 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 academic and administrative staff in the University. As such, I take this opportunity to thank on behalf of all of you, sincerely and wholeheartedly to the university that provided you the resources and environment to study.

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 20 years Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) has awarded 135 PhD degrees, 170 MPhil degrees, 113 MA degrees, 1230 MSc degrees and 353 Master of Business Administration degrees 1485 Postgraduate Diplomas from 1996 to 2016 and there is a significant increase of student numbers registered for postgraduate degrees. There is a collaboration with the industry and government partners in the offering of the degrees/training programs which is extremely useful in targeting the recipients of the degrees to appropriate employment. The joint degree programs with foreign universities provide a greater impetus to find solutions to global issues in a more collaborative manner and enhance the reputation of our university in the global scenario. 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. What matters is not a degree certificate, but what you go out and how you contribute to solve problems of the society. We, Sri Lanka needs leaders in all sectors: may it be in industry, business, politics, government or in non government sectors. You are equipped now to take leadership and change this society for the betterment of all. Love your motherland, stop being only a critic but get involved and work hard to deliver results. Be a source of inspiration to others and show that you approach issues wisely. That is the only way you can gain respect to your valued degree.

Once you pass as a graduate, you establish a lifetime connection with the University. Be an active member of the Alumni, visit university, see what is happening in the university and contribute in any form that you can to develop the university. Now, we do not consider you as students any, longer. You are on par with us now and let's work together to create a knowledgeable society.

I am sure you will do well in your professional and personal endeavors. I take this opportunity to wish you all the very best. Further, I look forward very much to see you around the university again and work with you for the development of the university.

Senior Prof. Hemanthi Ranasinghe
Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies



Message of the Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences

Congratulations!
As the Dean of Faculty of Applied Sciences for the 8th consecutive year I take pleasure in congratulating all the students of the faculty at one of the most memorable days in their life. Graduation is a unique occasion not only for all those who will see the fruits of their time at the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura formally rewarded, but also for those who have made such a pivotal contribution to their success. Graduates from our faculty go on to forge their way in the world, changing lives, tackling global issues and shaping the future. Hence, it is appropriate that I mark this event with honor and I do hope the graduation ceremony is memorable.

Established almost fifty five years ago, the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University is one of the oldest among the Faculties of Science in Sri Lanka. It is regarded as the largest Science Faculty with respect to the student numbers. Since inception, it has grown much in intellectual capacity, teaching and research facilities, span of curricular, student number and more importantly, in producing directly employable graduates in diverse disciplines. The conglomeration of highly qualified, dedicated and eminent academic staff members of more than 100 whom have been trained up to Ph.D. level in renowned universities in the globe is among the strengths of the faculty. Their endeavors in offering job oriented study programs to cater the fast growing industries have produced personal rich in knowledge, skills and attitudes, who are highly capable of making an outstanding contribution to the national development of Sri Lanka in many fields.

I am proud that our faculty has always been in the forefront of pursuing challenging and pioneering developments in the science education in Sri Lankan universities, including emphasizing applied aspects of science such as Aquatic Resource Management, Microbiology, Food Science & Technology, Polymer Science & Technology, Forestry and Environmental Management, Statistics, Management Science and Economics in the B.Sc. curricula. Recently the areas have been further diversified to include Sport Science and Management and ICT as well. Biology was reintroduced to the undergraduate curricular after 30 years. I am happy to see that the first batch of BSc Hons Sports Science and Management students receiving their degree at this convocation. It is common knowledge that "The foundation of every state is the education of its youth". We have produced graduates well equipped with IT, English language and soft skills, and are exposed to the competitive professional avenues for their internships, research projects and training programs in keeping with the needs and demands of the local and international job market. We are proud that we have offered our undergraduates the opportunity and strength to achieve their goals making the best of the resources available to them. With humble pleasure I state that our graduates have developed a balanced portfolio of academic and career knowledge which will accelerate their journey to professional success and personal development. I, on behalf of the Faculty, congratulate them all and wish them all success in life!

Prof. Sudantha Liyanage
Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences



Message of the Dean Faculty of Technology

Congratulations to all our graduating students. Our hearts are bursting with joy for your accomplishments, which we also share in some significant measure. You are ours and we are yours, as the threads of scholarship, hard work and achievement bind us together. We expect you to be the beacons that the world needs today as much as ever. You are committed, compassionate, and well-prepared. You are expert educators, no less. You are equipped to understand and engage appropriately the changing demographics that are bringing much more diversity to our social fabric, increasing gaps in economic fortunes that continue to exclude too many from a good life, divisive politics that mock the promises of democracy, and environmental trends that insist on our attention.

Educators cannot stand on the sidelines or be concerned only with their personal advancement. Our graduating students knows that university have purposefully prepared each of you to be courageous leaders, thoughtful collaborators, passionate scholars and educators committed to transforming others.

You - we - are a special breed of professionals. Education and knowledge have always been the forces that unite as well as divide societies. As teachers, educational administrators, or researchers you will have some part of the future in your hands.

Thank you for choosing our University to underpin your life's journey. Thank you for respecting and embracing what we offered you. And thank you for making us so proud. Stay with us into the future. May you become all that you have dreamt you can be. Be assured, in return, that we will travel beside you and will welcome you back on many and varied returns.

Sincere and hearty thanks also, as always, to all in our University community for your contributions to our graduating class's successes. Together we enter another notable page in the history of our University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Prof. Prashantha B. Mandawala
Dean, Faculty of Technology



Message of the Dean Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

As the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, I'm honored to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our promising students graduating on 8th September 2017 at the BMICH in Colombo.

It is with utmost confidence that I, at this significant juncture of your lives note, that you all have indeed secured a prominent position in society having graduated from this prestigious Faculty. By means of this valuable investment in terms of your time and effort, you are now relatively more competent to walk into society and face challenges with confidence and self-esteem.

It is a well-known fact that the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC) of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura is the pioneer in management studies in Sri Lanka; hence has earned the status of being 'the Center of Excellence for Management Education in Sri Lanka'. Our Faculty is the largest in the Sri Lankan University system in terms of student population, and we enjoy a unique position with respect to student admissions by way of absorbing the best students who had followed the Commerce stream at the GCE Advanced Level Examination.

FMSC is dedicated to equip our undergraduates with specialized knowledge, essential skills, right attitudes, and the required practical training to face challenges in both their professional and personal pursuits. As a result, the graduates produced by FMSC are of the highest quality, surpassing national and international standards. The higher demand for our graduates and their higher rate of employment within the job-market provide evidence in this regard. The contribution made by our graduates to both the private and government sectors throughout the ages remains tremendous and noteworthy.

Therefore, I'm certain that you who have graduated at this ceremony will also follow in the footsteps of our former graduates and contribute immensely to the well-being of society, while making use of your knowledge and skills in developmental endeavors at both local and international arenas. On behalf of FMSC, I congratulate you once again and wish you all success!

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



Message of the Dean Faculty of Medical Sciences

Today at the 43rd convocation of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Nursing (BSc Nursing), Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) and Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Sciences (BSc MLS) will be conferred on 217 graduands. Established in 1993 as the first Faculty of Medical Sciences in Sri Lanka we take a lead role in training an entire team of health professionals required for the country realizing the high national need.

In keeping with the Faculty goals, these medical and health science graduates produced by the Faculty of Medical Sciences of USJ are equipped 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 enrol the Diploma holders of Nursing, Pharmacy and Medical Laboratory Technologists of the Ministry of Health through the lateral entry pathway to undergraduate courses to obtain degree level qualifications. Graduands to be conferred with degrees today include some of them.

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. 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 of Degrees 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 offer my very best wishes to all graduates who are being convoked today all success in their future professional endeavors.

I also take this opportunity to fervently hope that saner counsel would prevail and causes for the current disruption in medical studies will get resolved without further delay in the long-term national interest.

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



Message of the Dean Faculty of Engineering

It's 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 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. Established only one year ago, it is already becoming one of the most sought after Engineering Faculties in the Country. The first batch of students who are currently enrolled in the Faculty will graduate and will join ranks with you in the industry, in merely three years' time.

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.

I wish all graduates success in their future professional endeavors in their chosen career paths.

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



Message of the Acting Registrar

It is my pleasure to send this message to the supplement published on the occasion of the 43rd Convocation of the University in my capacity as the Acting 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 realisation of the University goals is not possible.

Therefore, I believe this 43rd 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 endeavors.

L. L. Wasantha Perera
Acting Registrar