



**CINEC**  
CAMPUS  
*Beyond A Graduate*



# NEWSLETTER

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# CINEC CAMPUS

**2022/2023**

**June – August**

The Newsletter covers the significant activities of the CINEC Campus from 01st June to 31st August 2023



# KEY NEWS

Newsletter 2023 June-August

## The Glory that was CINEC Edu Expo 2023

CINEC Edu Expo 2023, the first ever innovation and invention exhibition organized by CINEC Campus, Malabe, was held successfully for three consecutive days on July 27, 28, and 29. The exhibition saw a record number of participants, from school communities to families to university communities from around the country, come to experience the once-in-a-lifetime event. More than 8,000 participants came to witness the Edu Expo.



Undergraduates from all fields of discipline on campus participated in the exhibition event to bring forth their knowledge and creativity to the general public. Exhibits presented by students of Maritime Sciences, Maritime Engineering, Health Sciences, Information Technology, Engineering, Management, English, and Education were shown to the audiences during the three days of the Edu Expo.

### The Press Conference

To promote the event and let the general public know about the development of the expo's various activities, a press conference was held on July 13, 2023 at the CINEC Auditorium.



The meeting was presided over by Capt. Ajith Pieris who is the president of the CINEC Campus. Those in attendance included Prof. Manik Hettihewa, head, Faculty of Health Sciences, and other committee members of the expo. Many media channels and print media organizations participated in this.

## Some Highlights

### Faculty of Health Sciences

#### Puppy Therapy at the Mental Health Stall

Visitors got the opportunity to hold and cuddle cute canines and let their worries melt away. As one of the most popular of the stalls presented by the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Puppy Therapy section was in high demand over the course of the three days of the Expo.



### Chemistry Stall

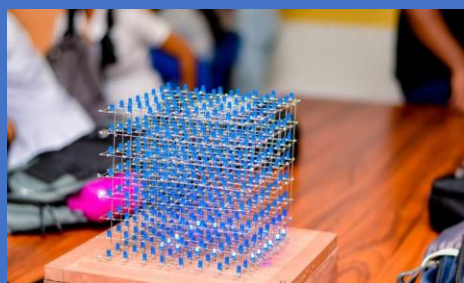


With a magic show based on titrations and chemical experiments, and chemistry-based games for visitors to interact with, the Chemistry Stall became one of the most entertaining exhibits the undergraduates of the faculty conceived.

### Faculty of Engineering and Technology



Each department of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology put their minds to work and came up with exhibits unique to their subject fields. Some of these exhibits stood out more than others.



## Department of Information and Technology

### Gaming Station

Taking a different approach to most gaming stations present in Sri Lanka the undergraduates of the Department of Information and Technology developed a game that relies on text-based storytelling and decision-making. Each decision in the story was presented to the player via prompts, and the player's choice would determine the outcome of the game. It ranged from simple puzzles to complex narratives with multiple endings.

### Virtual Reality Project

This project aimed to create a virtual reality training program for construction safety that would provide a realistic and immersive learning experience.

## Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering

The main stall created by the department was aptly named Circuit City with the inclusion of seven stations, each featuring a different aspect of the subject discipline. However, the station that highlighted itself was the WARRIORBOTS Competition that marked a collaboration between two departments.

In a remarkable joint venture between the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering and the Department of Mechanical and Automotive Engineering, the WARRIORBOTS Competition called on all enthusiastic robotics creators at the school level. The competition took place during all three days of the exhibition and featured two main categories; the Junior category required competitors to build a Line Following Robot whereas the senior category required to build a Maze Solving Robot.

Prior to the competition, MagicBits (Pvt.) Ltd. conducted an industry-collaborative workshop to help the young creators.

## Department of Mechanical and Automotive Engineering

In the same vein as the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, the Department of Mechanical and Automotive Engineering named its main stall the Grease Lab. True to their department's goals, the undergraduates of the department showcased various aspects of their field and industry, going so far as to have a separate station to feature industry collaborations they boast outside of the campus.



## Department of Civil Engineering

Under the name “Buildings Beyond Boundaries,” the undergraduates of the Department of Civil Engineering presented various disciplines within the scope of Civil Engineering. The six stations they presented included Structural Engineering, Hydraulic and Hydrology Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering, Transportation Engineering, and Collaborative Industrial Stations. It also showcased the highly anticipated spaghetti bridge competition.



They organized a spaghetti bridge competition to empower young minds to showcase their exceptional talents and skills in the field of engineering. The event saw the collaboration of over 200 students pursuing the Physical Science and Engineering Technology streams for the Advanced Level examination, who displayed an epic fiesta of talents in building bridges.

Prior to the competition, a workshop was conducted to instruct the students regarding the essentials of building bridges and structures on July 4, 2023.

The Spaghetti Bridge Competition culminated with the young, innovative minds creating a variety of robust and efficient bridges using uncooked spaghetti as the primary ingredient. As the competition concluded, the students of Malabe Boys’ Model School emerged victorious, while the second and third places were secured by the schools of Mahanama College Colombo, and Royal College Colombo, respectively.



## Department of Aviation

Four stunning stations were prepared by the undergraduates of the department for the visiting general audience.

### The Wind Tunnel

A model of a wind tunnel was created to show how aircraft aerodynamics affect aircraft shapes and to show laminar flows.

## Faculty of Maritime Sciences

### Department of Marine Engineering and Marine Electrical Engineering

In order to showcase their creativity and diverse skills, the undergraduates of the two departments collaborated to create different exhibits. They also aimed to provide an opportunity to network with industry professionals, potential employers, and other students through their stalls.

A model of a shell-and-tube type boiler was demonstrated in one of the stations of the stall. Another station gave viewers the chance to see how cargo operations were undertaken. They also showcased a RAM steering system, made from syringe fluid and stepper motors.

### Department of Navigation

What stood out in the stalls of the Department of Navigation was undoubtedly seen in the building in front of the Moonraker open cafeteria. The concept of the Panama Canal and the Falkirk Wheel of Scotland attracted many viewers from the arriving guests due to the sheer scope of the two exhibits.



The Panama Canal was brought to life in miniature by the students of the Department of Navigation in order to help the general public visualize the strategic waterway administered by the Republic of Panama. While the true Falkirk Wheel is gigantic, the one built by the students was a miniature model and that helped the general public get an idea of how the titanic structure works.

## Faculty of Management and Social Sciences



The Faculty of Management and Social Sciences took a more industrial approach than the rest of the faculties. The special exhibits they featured were focused on emphasizing the World Bank AHEAD projects implemented through the Technology Transfer office at CINEC Campus. Under these exhibits, the faculty ceremonially launched the INTELO educational software that was created under the directives of the World Bank. It is the first ever online tool developed that helps students to select the most suitable educational system. An innovative product under the name CONET was also launched during the exhibition. It is an innovative method and system for container inventory management.

## Faculty of Humanities and Education

One of the most artistically inclined of the stalls, the viewers who witnessed the exhibits by the Faculty of Humanities and Education deemed it “the place where creativity was brought to life.” The two departments of the faculty, the Department of English, and the Department of Education, brought to life the concepts that they study on a daily basis to impress the guests with their creativity.



## Department of English

The undergraduate scholars of the Department of English brought to majestic life the literature and the language they so vehemently study. There was a shrine dedicated to the Bard himself, William Shakespeare, with a model of the famous Globe Theater built from the ground up. Hell, as presented by Alighieri Dante, was also created in the form of lanterns in the “Dante’s Inferno”



The Language Center emphasized different aspects of the English language including the development of the language, the Silk Road that contributed to the English colonizing Sri Lanka, the Idioms Jellyfish and so much more. The campus’ own book club, Candlelight Book Club, featured two interactive exhibits: Date a Book, a book-inspired game where players won a book if they guessed the name of the book correctly based on clues given by the prompt; and Bookflix, a Netflix home-page-inspired exhibit that featured all the trending books of social media.

The Human Library won many people over. Inspired by Shakespeare's *The Seven Ages of Man*, the exhibit became a place to remind viewers of the many untold stories of humanity and the cycle of life as presented by the Bard. It also showed the impact of literature on human lives.

### Special Mention: The Flash mobs

The imaginative and daring undergraduates of the department also devised three distinct flash mob performances, all three inspired by a different aspect of world culture. *The Tragedy of Medusa* brought the ancient Greek myth to excruciatingly detail-oriented yet unspoken life with a haunting soundtrack playing in the background. The dance performance, titled *The Journey to the West*, was inspired by Irish, Scottish, and Mexican cultures and left viewers wanting more a long time after its conclusion. Another performance of songs, titled *The Fairy Folk Collection*, was performed by a group of undergraduates. The act was inspired by popular English folk songs found on social media and in movies.



### Department of Education

The stalls of the Department of Education were comprised of exhibits presenting innovative ideas based on Information Technology and Education Philosophy and Methodology. The third batch of the B.Ed. (IT) presented a two-fold stall exhibit structured around the launch of the FOHELEARN website, an original resource website that focuses on teaching programming languages to the general masses. A data analysis application was also featured, which helped the creators of the website keep track of the guests who registered for the FOHELEARN website.

The second stall by the Department of Education was a collaboration between the fourth and second batches of the B.Ed. (IT) undergraduates. The fourth batch highlighted the workings of contemporary educational applications that are popular on the market. The second batch introduced four educational sites, namely Edutopia, Cora, ChatGPT, and Google Classroom, to the general audience.





## CINEC BRANCH NEWS

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### Introducing CINEC Campus Metro Branch, Nugegoda

The CINEC Metro Campus branch at Nugegoda was conceived during the effort to magnify the reverberating effect of the main branch of the campus at Malabe. It started in 2009 as the CINEC Management School but was later rebranded as the CINEC Campus Metro Branch to better represent its diversified delivery of education.

Since its rebranding, it has served as a place of higher education for many opportunity seekers from various fields of discipline.

Located in the heart of the cosmopolitan suburb of Nugegoda, CINEC Metro Campus offers leading bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and higher national diplomas in Sri Lanka in the fields of IT, logistics, and business administration.

The campus deals with well-known foreign universities to teach their students, ones from Germany and the UK in particular. The University of Wolverhampton and Pearson are some of these well-known education providers.

With visiting lecturers from government universities and industries becoming invaluable resource personnel, the campus continues to inspire students and allow them the ability to spread their wings and soar to greater heights.

### New Degree Programs to Start at the Metro Branch

The launching of four new degree programs- a new bachelor's degree, two master's degree, and an LLM degree- took place at CINEC Campus, Malabe, on August 18, 2023. The president of CINEC Campus, Capt. Ajith Pieris, presided over the ceremony, and Prof. Chaminda Pathirage Associate Head of School for Research and Professor of Brownfield Research and Innovation at the School of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Wolverhampton, was the guest of honor for the event.



## CINEC Jaffna Relocated

The Jaffna branch of CINEC Campus was relocated to a more spacious and popular location at Palali Road, Jaffna City, in an 8000 square feet building where 200 students can be accommodated with improved student facilities.



The building was officially opened ceremoniously by the president of CINEC, Capt. Ajith Pieris, on May 25, 2023.





## **Workshops for the CINEC International Research Symposium 2023 Conclude**

Abstract writing workshops in parallel with the CINEC International Research Symposium 2023 (CIRS 2023) targeting the young researchers of the CINEC Campus in various fields of discipline were held on two different occasions.

The first workshop was held on July 4, 2023, in two sessions: one started at 9.00 a.m. as a hybrid online and onsite session, and the other started at 1.00 p.m. as an exclusive onsite session. The resource person was Dr. Sujeewa Hettiarachchi, Head, Department of English, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and a visiting lecturer of the Faculty of Humanities and Education at CINEC Campus.

The second workshop was titled *The First Step to Become a Researcher* and was conducted by Prof. Sudesh Wijesinghe, a visiting lecturer of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at CINEC Campus. It was held on August 8, 2023, at the CINEC premises. It was also conducted as a hybrid online and onsite session.

## **CINEC Campus Showcases Academic Excellence: Ground-breaking Research and Commercialization Achievements**

CINEC Campus was recently recognized and awarded for its achievements at the "Recognizing Successful Commercialization Efforts of University Research" event held on May 2, 2023, at BMICH. The event was organized by the Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) operation office in Sri Lanka. It is a World Bank-funded project of the Sri Lankan government to support the higher education sector. The primary objective of the event was to recognize research teams and companies that have made exceptional contributions to the commercialization of research outcomes.

CINEC's wide-ranging research areas create a unique academic environment, providing an abundance of opportunities for future students to explore and excel in various disciplines. As a testament to this, CINEC is proud to have had five research commercialization projects accepted by AHEAD. This accomplishment highlights CINEC's commitment to Research, Development, Innovation, and Commercialization (RDIC).

CINEC has always been committed to fostering innovation and excellence in research, and it was with this vision that, in 2019, the institution embarked on a journey to strengthen and secure the commercialization of its research outcomes. In 2019, the Faculty of Management & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Maritime Sciences at CINEC Campus were successful in securing two World Bank-funded Development Oriented Research (DOR) grants, marking a significant milestone for the institution's research efforts.

Following this significant milestone, the CINEC Technology Transfer Office (TTO) was established to play a critical role in the research commercialization journey. The TTO supports researchers in commercializing their research outcomes and protecting their intellectual property. With the backing of the AHEAD Operation of the Ministry of Education, funded by the World Bank, the TTO has effectively bridged the gap between academia and industry, facilitating the transfer of intellectual assets from the campus to the industry for the benefit of society, the campus, and researchers.

CINEC's research commercialization success is a product of three years of sustained effort by the respective faculties, research teams, and the Technology Transfer Office (TTO). This journey has led to the development and transfer of various innovative technologies across multiple disciplines, as highlighted by the following products, commercial partners, research teams, and faculties:

### 1. Marine Simulation, Providing Services to Hambantota International Port Services Company (Private) Limited (HIPG).



- The project overview: Many ports, such as Hambantota Harbour and Colombo South Harbour, are unavailable in marine simulators, yet they are essential for pilot training and risk assessments. Having acquired the Wartsila Transas design tool, CINEC can now create any port on demand, attracting foreign investment. The Hambantota International Port has been developed, and the Hambantota International Port Services Company requested testing for the largest ship it can accommodate under different conditions.
- Research team: Capt. Prasanna Sedrick, Capt. Harindra Perera, Prof. Rohini Chandrica Widyalandara, Mr. Samadhi Medawaladisanayake.
- Faculty: Faculty of Maritime Sciences

## 2. Method and System for Container Inventory Management

**The technology was successfully transferred to Cargoserv Shipping Limited.**

- **The Project Overview:** This method and system optimize container exchange among shipping alliances and consortiums, reducing container repositioning costs, which constitute 22% of overall management expenses. Utilizing real-time data, the system proposes exchange options to decrease empty repositioning costs by 20%, enhancing efficiency across multiple shipping companies.
- **Research Team:** Prof. Lalith Edirisinghe, Ms. Tharindi Amarathunge.
- **Faculty:** Faculty of Management and Social Sciences
- This project was externally assisted by Dr. I. Mahakalanda of the Department of Decision Sciences, Faculty of Business, University of Moratuwa, and Mr. Gihan Nadeera of Evoke Technologies.



## 3. Lower Body Foot Deformities Monitoring System

**The technology was successfully transferred to Global Bridge International, Dhaka, Bangladesh.**



- **The Project Overview:** This affordable, easy-to-use solution offers real-time gait analysis with precise joint angular and plantar pressure data. Enhance diagnostics and patient care with this cutting-edge technology, revolutionizing physiotherapy, and medical practices worldwide.
- **Research Team:** Mr. Dhishan Dhammearatchi, Mr. Randeera Liyanage, Mr. Kalpa Maduranga, Mr. Yasith Weerasinghe, Ms. Sewmini Jayaweera, Mr. Chandima Rathnayake, Mr. Isira Dabare, and Ms. Chrishani Obris.
- **Faculty:** Faculty of Engineering and Technology

#### 4. Apparatus to Identify Defects of Even Surfaces in an Enclosed Environment

**The technology was successfully transferred to D. Samson industries (Pvt) Ltd. - Synthetic Materials Plant.**

- **The Project Overview:** This real-time image processing algorithm detects minor imperfections in even-surfaced synthetic leather within an enclosed environment, ensuring accurate defect detection. The method eliminates human errors, offers a fully autonomous system for multiple production stages, and alerts operators, reducing machine speed or stopping it automatically upon defect identification.
- **Research Team:** Mr. Randeera Liyanage, Mr. Deshan Adithya Bandara, Mr. Nipuna Nilupul Samarakoon, Mr. Yasith Weerasinghe, Mr. Manuja Induwara
- **Faculty:** Faculty of Engineering and Technology



#### 5. Machine for Removing Rattan

**The technology was successfully transferred to the National Crafts Council (supported by the state ministry of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion).**



- **The Project Overview:** This portable, manual device simplifies rattan extraction with its advanced chain drive system, offering three stages of speed and torque. Benefit from reduced manpower and full-length rattan vine extraction, transforming the industry with this pioneering technology.
- **Research Team:** Mr. Ishan Virantha
- **Faculty:** Faculty of Engineering and Technology

The wide-ranging research areas and successful commercialization efforts at CINEC reaffirm its status as an outstanding private higher education institute of global stature. This diverse academic environment and commitment to Research, Development, Innovation, and Commercialization provide its students with invaluable opportunities to excel in their chosen fields and strongly encourage its prospective students and parents in their future deliberations in selecting the desired best undergraduate education. Furthermore, 16 state universities and 2 higher education institutes' research teams were recognized for their contributions to 52 products derived through academic research.

The event was graced by the State Minister for Education, the Secretary of the Ministry of Education, the Chairman and members of the University Grant Commission, senior officials from the World Bank, officials from the AHEAD office, vice chancellors of state universities, senior officials from degree-awarding non-state higher education institutes, senior figures from industry, academia, and well-wishers.

## **The Passing Out Ceremony of the Navigation Officer Cadets (Seychelles): 2023**

The graduation of the Navigation Officer Cadets (Seychelles) for the year 2023 was held on July 21, 2023, in the Main Auditorium of the CINEC Campus, Malabe. Ten cadets received their certifications after completing their program. The ceremony was attended by the senior management of CINEC Campus, including Capt. Ajith Pieris, president of CINEC Campus.



## The Feast 2023

“The Feast 2023”, an official welcoming of the sophomores, organized by Batch 21-10 of the Logistics and Transportation Department, was held at the Auditorium on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2023. The event was a spectacular moment for the students as they showcased their talents through dancing and singing, along with fun activities that bonded the batches.





## Shithijaya 2023 Freshers' Welcome

A captivating evening that was decorated with the finest performances of the talented 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students. The event took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June at the CINEC Auditorium, organized by the HRM and BA 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of the Faculty of Management. It was a memorable moment filled with various dancing, singing and drama items, including a short-film in tribute to the endless efforts and sacrifices performed behind the curtains.





### **University of Wolverhampton Validation Event**

The University of Wolverhampton Validation Event for four proposed programs at Metro Branch took place at CINEC Campus Malabe on June 13, 2023.

### **Delegation from the Korea Shipowners' Association Visits CINEC Campus**

A delegation from Korea Shipowners' Association visited CINEC on June 9, 2023, from 10.00 a.m. onwards.

### **French Ambassador, and Advisor for Maritime Security Visit CINEC**

His excellency Jean-Francois Pactet, French Ambassador for Sri Lanka and Maldives, and Commander Jean-Baptiste Trouche, French Navy, Advisor, Maritime security visited CINEC Campus on July 5, 2023. They were given a tour of CINEC Campus as part of their visit.

### **A Delegation from Seatrium Ltd. with officials from SLHC and the Foreign Employment Bureau Visited CINEC**

A delegation from Seatrium Limited of Singapore, together with officials of the Sri Lankan High Commission in Singapore and officials of the Foreign Employment Bureau of Sri Lanka visited the CINEC Campus premises on June 22, 2023. They also toured the campus on the same day.

### **Johann Diercks Pays a Visit to CINEC Campus**

Mr. Johann Diercks, Managing Director of Peter Dohle Schiffarts, KG, visited CINEC Campus, Malabe, on July 24, 2023.



## A Conversation with Capt. Medagama



He is a graduate of CINEC Campus and now serves as the vice president of the same institution he once studied at. He is the Vice President in charge of International Cooperation and Foreign Projects, Capt. Peshala Medagama.

- **What are your primary responsibilities as the vice president, and how do they align with the goals and missions of the institution?**

I serve as the Vice President of International Cooperation and Foreign Projects. We have several areas that we try to align with the vision and mission of the campus. The whole purpose behind this alignment is to make sure that we stay true to our promise, which is to make our students, “Beyond a Graduate,” as well as work ready.

- **How do you address the challenges that you face as vice president?**

The challenges that come with the areas that I look after are akin to the ever-changing dynamics of the economy, society, and everything else. So, when my wonderful team and I face such challenges, we evaluate them to figure out how we can best overcome them. We sit together and identify the areas that I have to solve, and we do our best to ensure that it doesn’t become a problem to us or the institution.

- **Since you are a leader in higher education, how do you use your position to inspire your peers to pursue a leadership role in higher education?**

We work with two entities to fulfill our foreign projects; one is in Fiji and the other is in the Seychelles. We also have branches of the campus and the various faculties that give education to our undergraduates. From all of these places, we identify the people who are really good at what

they do, and we ensure to mentor them and advise them on what they need to function at their optimal level. The next thing we do physically place them in academies overseas, to thrust these individuals into the deep end so to speak. This allows them to actually function by facing difficult challenges that will help them in the work force. We are always there for the student though, to address their concerns, and to advise them as best we can.

This mentoring allows us to inspire them, in turn, to maybe one day take on the role that I myself am filling at the moment. We also give holistic faculty-wise skill development programs, self-improvement programs, and training programs that give everyone the abilities to take on the role of leadership in whatever field they want to thrive in.

- **Where do you see the undergraduates of various faculties when it comes to their current academic progress?**

They are in a very good place. When you walk around the campus, you can see that we have not only focused on the curriculum but also co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. We have made sure to give our students the best campus life we can offer which is improve their academic work. This is the only institution to have won the National Quality Award for five consecutive years and also the only institution to have won the Presidential Award for quality. These reflect the optimal campus life that we offer our students and the academic work that the undergraduates produce.

- **Can you explain some of the collaborations you have been a part of that ensured the success of the campus?**

There were quite a few over the years. I myself am very much involved with the maritime programs we have been developing in collaboration with Fiji and Seychelles. We have had to go and discuss this with ministers and senior managers in order to help them manage their state maritime training academies. Right now, CINEC Campus is managing these academies in order to elevate and upgrade their maritime education to international standards. We also collaborated with different personnel to develop our own Aviation programs and they help us in placing the trainees for on-the-job training. On a regular basis, I have been dealing with countries like the UK and Australia, especially with certain universities in these countries, to identify what programs we can conduct over here. These collaborations help our trainees get vocational training that allows them to get internally approved Australian qualifications in certain disciplines.

- **What are your strategies when it comes to dealing with these foreign institutions and undergraduates of said institutions?**

At this moment in time, we have foreign students studying alongside our Sri Lankan undergraduates within the premises. We have to let them know that CINEC has something to offer and that this situation is a win-win. There are certain qualifications that they can get only in Sri Lanka due to the infrastructure of programs, and so they come here to complete their training. Of course, they can't limit themselves to education while they're here, so we make sure to show them

what Sri Lanka has to offer them apart from the campus, especially the rich culture, the cuisine, the nature, and every other multi-faceted aspect of life they can get involved with once they're here.

- **You are a product of the CINEC campus; you are a graduate of the campus. And now you are the Vice President of the same institution you studied at. How do you feel about that?**

It's such a nice feeling. This situation is what we call in nautical terms "circum-navigation." I was a member of the second batch, way back in 1991. I have seen how much this campus has grown. When I studied here, we only had a couple of classrooms, and even certain kinds of training were not available for us in-house. But from there, we have been developing this place, slowly but surely. What is nice is that when you get to work in a place where the senior management pushes you to be as creative as you want to be, it matters a lot because CINEC is about identifying opportunities in order to see how we can make it better. It has been a challenging but enriching experience to do everything I have done in the very same place I have come to call a second home.

- **What advice would you give someone who comes to you asking about life?**

You need to be focused on being the best human being you can possibly be because, even after everything you have done, at the end of the day, you have to answer your own conscience. I would want them to be courageous, to use a lot of common sense, and to have the urge to develop themselves. At the end of everything, you have to be able to confirm that you have given it your best shot.

## Our Talk with Ms. Dilrukshi



It is undeniable that, in the grand scheme of things within a campus, the unsung heroes of the staff do a lot that often goes unnoticed. Therefore, we decided to take the time to interview quite an important person within the campus infrastructure in order to get to know what she does and how she does it.

One special attribute of her career at CINEC Campus is that her current position is the result of 18 years of hard work and climbing up the institution's hierarchy. She began her career as a store assistant in May 2005, and was promoted to store administrator in 2010. Her third position within the campus was executive procurement operations and her rise as the assistant manager, procurement operations was inevitable due to her dedication. In January 2021, she was promoted as manager of procurement operations.

Let us introduce the current head of procurement operations at CINEC Campus, Ms. Dilrukshi Gangodage.

- **How did you first join CINEC Campus?**

There was a newspaper advertisement in 2005. I merely responded to it. I faced two interviews and then was employed.

- **Can you tell us a little bit about your experience at CINEC Campus?**

This is my 18<sup>th</sup> year at the campus, and so I have gained a number of experiences through the years. In my career as a part of the procurement operation at CINEC, I got to interact with aspects of my field that I didn't know about during my former employment.

- **What is your opinion on the working environment at the CINEC campus?**

The senior management of the campus has been an immense support to me over the years. They do not hesitate to teach us, particularly when it comes to purchasing maritime products, since the process of that kind of purchase is almost polar opposite to the process of the ordinary kind of purchases we make on land. The herculean support they provide when it comes to maintaining and developing my career should also be mentioned.

- **Would you be kind enough to indulge us and explain the process of the stores here at CINEC Campus?**

I handle procurement operations, so I have the responsibility of covering quotations, and after that we give those documents to the stores. A process of requisition takes place through a computerized system. Faculty personnel request what they need through that system, and after taking a printout of that particular requisition. If there are expensive items that they require, those are the ones we give priority to. Then we get all requisitions approved by the president of the campus, Capt. Ajith Pieris. Then deans have to sign the requests for their faculties.

- **As the head of procurement operations, what are your responsibilities, and how much weight do they carry in relation to the entire process on campus?**

They do carry a lot of weight in relation to the overall goings-on of the institution, if I'm being honest. We always have to make sure there is a constant reorder level within the requisition system. For example, there is a huge demand within the campus for photocopy papers, so there needs to be a constant flow of that particular product. If our process gets cut off or halted, the entire academic staff will feel the effect of it.

- **What kind of sacrifices and challenges do you encounter in your journey to fulfill your responsibilities?**

There are challenges, to be sure. One constant criticism I get is that I'm too serious, although, as I see it, that's the result of my job. It does not allow me to be as flexible as I would like to be with my subordinates. As I said before, making sure that procurement operations run smoothly is of the utmost importance. Otherwise, the entire campus community is going to be adversely affected. So, I continue on with these challenges to fulfill the responsibility that was thrust upon me.



## **CINEC Chemistry Degree Program Reviewed by Reviewer Panel**

A panel of reviewers visited CINEC on May 15, 2023, to conduct a comprehensive review of the Chemistry degree program provided by CINEC Campus. They observed several aspects of CINEC Campus during their visit, including the learning and related student environment, and the facilities provided by the campus.





## CINEC SA Selects a New Executive Committee for the Year 2023-24



The CINEC Students' Association wrote a new chapter in its journey on May 12, 2023, as the outgoing executive committee transferred student powers over to a new executive committee filled with dedicated students of CINEC Campus. The new board of officials for the Students' Association for the year 2023-24 is as follows.

- Yashitha Gunasekara, Student President
- Nadee Balasuriya, Secretary
- Ashen Kularathna, Senior Vice President
- Oshada Bandara, Student Vice President
- Binula Kaveen, Student Vice President
- Ewmini Gangodavile, Assistant Secretary
- Dilumdika Hasarangi, Assistant Secretary



New student directors for the board of directors were also appointed during the ceremony.

- Charana Yapa, Student Director, CINEC Students' Media Circle
- Desindu Sankaja, Student Director, CINEC Students' Medical Unit
- Udana Herath, Student Director, CINEC Sports
- Dulshan Chamika, Student Director, Adjudicating Committee
- Ishanka Weerasinghe, Student Director, Aesthetics Circle
- Ashan Senevirathne, Student Director, Logistics
- Tharushi Lakshika, Student Director, Finance
- Sawinde Weerasinghe, Student Director, Green Sustainable Development Unit
- Diluk Mihiranga, Student Director, CINEC Tech Strike

## Wrapping up a Memorable Musical Extravaganza: Medusa '23

The largest crowd gathering ever in the history of CINEC Campus, Medusa '23, took flight on November 15, 2023, making it a night to remember. The success of this music concert was a result of months of hard work and dedication by the CINEC Students' Association, backed by CINEC Campus. With ancient Greek aesthetics and modern visual effects, the legendary tale of Medusa was brought to life, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who attended. Electrifying energy resonated from the audience, proving that it was not just another concert; it was a celebration of collaboration, creativity and artistry. The renowned artists, Hana, Wasthi, Dinesh and Kaizer, Raini, backed by the amazing Sarith Surith and the News, and presented by Shaasha, breathed life into the songs, captivating the audience, with the production team that ensured flawless visuals and sounds, doing justice to the blood, sweat and tears put in by all behind the scenes. This enchanting fusion of myth and modernity made for an unforgettable experience that left everyone in delighted spirits, reminding us of the beauty of the universal language of music.



## The Zero Plastic Trail

The Zero Plastic National Movement envisions a world that is free from plastic, aiming to preserve the natural balance of the environment. CINEC Campus joined Sri Lanka's largest environmental walk with the Zero Plastic Movement and the Intrepid Foundation on July 8, 2023. The Zero Plastic Trail was organized by the Green Sustainable Development Unit of CINEC Campus and was a huge success.



The plastic and polythene that accumulated around the area from CINEC Campus to CINEC Junction were collected in garbage bags and handed over to Kaduwela Municipal Council.



## Members of CSMC Shine in Allusion 2023

Akash Perera and Chamalka Senevirathna of the CINEC Students’ Media Circle brought home the award for Best Announcing Duo, Sinhala Medium from the media competition, Allusion 2023, organized by the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Chamalka Senevirathne took it a step further and managed to win the titles of Best Program Presenter and Best Live Reporter at the competition.



## Finals Bound: CSMC Dubbing Artists Secure Spots as Finalists in Rawa

Three students from the CINEC Students’ Media Circle’s Dubbing Division secured a spot as finalists in the prestigious all-island dubbing competition, Rawa, organized by J’Pura Voice, the official media unit of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The three students represented CINEC Campus as a team and were able to solidify their submission as quite a popular video. The team consisted of Akash Perera, Jimni Shashikani, and Thushima Dilrukshi.

## The Cleostica Club’s Inauguration: The Science of Beauty for the Public

Undergraduate students of Cosmetic Science at the CINEC campus inaugurated the first-ever cosmetic undergraduate society of Sri Lanka, “Cleostica Club,” on May 18, 2023, at the CINEC auditorium. The event was graced by the presence of Captain Peshala Medagama, Admiral Thisara Samarasingha, Vice President Tharanga Gamage, Prof. Sugandika Suresh, Prof. Menik Hettihewa, and representatives from invited industries. It was a splendid event that showcased the students’ talents in dance, art, and drama, as well as featured an insightful lecture from Prof. Sugandika.



In an interview with the club president, Tharushi Dharmapala, she mentioned that the vision of the club is to be the best society of cosmetic scientists while offering the best and most precise comprehension about proper skincare routines and cosmetic products to improve public health and wellbeing. The mission of the club is to disseminate scientific information, innovation, and research in the cosmetic and personal care industries through education, events, and publication. Further, she mentioned that they are planning to conduct webinars to raise awareness among young generation about natural treatments, frequently occurring dermatological conditions, and choosing a skin care product suitable for the Sri Lankan climate; conduct workshops related to the scientific aspects of the cosmetic industry, and educate the community through social media platforms.

At the end, Tharushi mentioned that, “our ultimate goal is to take the current cosmetic industry in Sri Lanka to another level with a strong scientific background behind it. As a society, we hope to serve the country by uplifting the current knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the general public by educating them according to international standards.”

The event was also made possible by the guidance of Dr. Kalpani Ratnayake and by the hard work and enthusiasm of the club secretary, Vishwa Bandara, and the club members, who contributed to the event’s success.



## **CINEC Padura: A Musical Extravaganza of Elegance**

The Faculty of Engineering and Technology of CINEC Campus organized a classical musical show, “CINEC Padura,” on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, which commenced at 4.30 p.m. The event roared with success with the participation of numerous vocalists including Supun Perera, along with two Voice Sri Lanka contestants, namely Miyuru Somarathna and Thilina Sudesh. More than 1500 students joined the captivating tunes of the classical music night.

## **CINEC Poson Celebrations Sparkle Novel Festivities**

Poson Poya is regarded as the day on which Buddhists commemorate the establishment of Buddhism in Sri Lanka with the arrival of Arahata Mahinda Thero. In lieu of the Poson Poya, the students and staff of CINEC organized a Bhakthi Gee program, “CINEC Shraddanjali,” along with a yellow rice dansal. The event was hosted on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6.30 p.m. The Bahkthi Gee program showcased the devotional talents of both students and the staff while entertaining the multitudes of people who joined the yellow rice dansal.

## **Vibration’23, Where the Navigators Shined**

A mind-blowing fusion of stunning ambiance and acoustic rhythms, Vibration ’23 was held as one of the most successful events in the CINEC calendar for 2023. The CINEC Navigators took the stage and the university by storm with their electric performance in two shows held on May 10, 2023. The shows were held in the CINEC Auditorium during the day, with the morning show held from 10.30 a.m. onwards and the evening show held from 4.30 p.m. onwards, with equally immense crowds attending both. Both students and staff attended the occasion, filling out the auditoriums for both shows. Participation from the audience and an amazing performance from the CINEC Navigators meant that the concert was triumphantly concluded with multiple calls for encores from the crowd.



## May Day

It is a very significant day on which people around the globe commemorate and appreciate the historic struggles and gains achieved by workers and labor movements across the world. This particular day is to appreciate the work force of countries, which is paramount to a country's socio-economic development.

May Day, also called Workers' Day or International Workers' Day, is celebrated annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Initially, this day had a very different history. May Day was initially celebrated as the arrival of spring, which was rooted in Pagan culture. The declaration of Workers' Day has its origins in the labor movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the United States, this holiday was first celebrated in 1886, as part of the struggle for an eight-hour workday. Hundreds of thousands of people had gone on strike, demanding a better working environment and shorter working hours. This protest was peaceful at first until May 4 of the same year, when a bomb exploded at a labor demonstration in Chicago's Haymarket Square, killing and injuring several. This led to a renewed effort, which eventually led to the establishment of May Day as a day of labor solidarity and protest.



This day, henceforth, has been declared a public holiday in most of the countries around the world. Protests and demonstrations are organized by workers and labor unions who advocate for workers' rights, fair wages, and better work conditions. Festivities are also organized to celebrate the achievements. In addition, the day is also marked by various parades and marches, where people come together to show support and solidarity for a range of social justice causes.

From its humble beginnings in Pagan culture, marking the arrival of spring, to International Workers' Day, or May Day, this day has become a day for people to band together and call for a more just and equitable society for all.

## Mother's Day

*Mom, mummy, maman, madre, amma...* They all mean the same and refer to the same person, Mother. If not for her, many of us would not be in the position we are now, and she is a person who deserves our eternal gratitude.



Mother's Day is a very special occasion that is celebrated annually on the 14th of May. It is a day to celebrate a mother's unwavering love, and devotion and the countless sacrifices she has made on behalf of her children. She is a person who has nurtured us through our infancy and is a guiding light in her child's life, making sure her child faces and overcomes the challenges faced in life.

Celebrating mothers can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals to honor the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern paradigm is the early Christian festival known as 'Mothering Sunday'. Over time, this tradition shifted to a more secular holiday where children would present their mothers with gifts and tokens of appreciation, but the official Mother's Day arose in the 1900s as a result of Anna Jarvis, who intended to honor her and all mothers for their sacrifices. She campaigned for it, urging the adoption of a special day to honor motherhood.

Her efforts paid off, but later on she actively denounced the holiday, claiming that it had been capitalized by various corporations.

We remember her unconditional love, her numerous sacrifices for the betterment of her child, and immeasurable strength. Her love is very unique and incomparable. Her love transcends boundaries and is a fountain of compassion and care. She is the person who stands with us through thick and thin, providing valuable advice and support. A mother loves selflessly without expecting anything in return; her only wish is to see her child well and happy. Her journey as a mother is filled with sacrifices. From the moment her child is born, she dedicates herself to fulfilling her child's needs. The countless sleepless and tiring nights, missed opportunities became a part of her life. She is a person who willingly gives up her time and energy for the betterment of her child. A mother is also a beacon of strength and a child has a lot to learn from her. Her ability to juggle so many responsibilities make her a great role model for her children. Her strength is a guiding force, empowering her children to navigate life confidently. She is also the person to impart valuable life lessons, advice and essential virtues, which benefits her child a great deal.

Mother's Day is more than just a calendar event marked with different colors of ink. It is a day to honor the pillar of love, strength, and resilience known as a mother. It is hoped that everyone remembered to show their appreciation to their mothers not just through fancy flowers, cards, and



an expensive brunch but through the actions we take that reflect the values our mothers instilled in us. We celebrate you every day and the immeasurable impact you've had on our lives.

## Father's Day

The silent pillars of strength and support behind every child, a force to be reckoned with who leads their children with a firm guiding hand. Just like mothers, many of us would not be here without the guidance of our beloved fathers.

Father's Day is also a special occasion, celebrated annually on the 16th of June. This day allows us to celebrate the love, support, and guidance they give us, which molds us into the people we are now. This day reminds us of their ever-present presence and the impact they have on our lives. Influenced by the observance of Mother's Day, Sonara Smart Dodd, a woman who grew up as one of six children raised by a widower, endeavored to establish an official equivalent for fathers. She drew support, and she was successful when it was first celebrated on June 19, 1910 in the United States of America, which eventually spread to other countries.

A father stands as a pillar of strength, providing a sense of security and stability to his family. He is with you through every hurdle and challenge, offering a helping hand whenever necessary. Though he is silent in his support most of the time, his steadfast support is much appreciated. He is also a role model of character and integrity, teaching his children the importance of taking accountability and fulfilling responsibilities.

He instills the importance of proper ethics and values, which help build a child's moral compass and principles. He is also a part of cherished and core memories. Be it helping us ride a bike for the first time or even frantically giving out instructions when we drive for the first time, he has valuable advice to navigating the complexities of the current world and the society we live in.

He may not outright express his love, just like most of our mothers do, but the extent of his love is seen in his actions. He enables us to be resilient and independent, hoping that these lessons will not allow us to crumble under pressure from the outside world.

On Father's Day, we celebrated the unsung heroes of our lives, an ever-present source of strength. We appreciate you for all that you have done for us, and our gratitude cannot be expressed in words. We celebrate and love you every single day.





## Flash mob 2023

The flash mob organized by the Aesthetic Unit of the Student’s Association of the campus was a vibrant event that hyped the audience. Despite the one-hour time limit, students immersed themselves in unforgettable entertainment with the DJ and the fire-breathing event. It was rather a shoutout for the three main houses– Lions, Giants, and Titans- of the sports fiesta as they focused in on the sports and the current ranks of the houses.



## CINEC Boys' Basketball Team Wins Runners-Up of University Pro-League

In an admirable display of excellence, the CINEC boys' basketball team gave an outstanding performance, securing the runners-up position in a fiercely contested finals match of the University Pro-League organized by the University of Moratuwa.

Akshitha Madushan of CINEC Campus was also crowned the best offensive player.

## Fitness Soars to the Sky with the Grand Opening of CINEC Fitness



Encouraging undergraduates to embrace fitness, the CINEC Fitness Gym was declared open on the 20<sup>th</sup> July. The gym marks a new beginning for all CINEC undergraduates, who now have the opportunity to tone and sharpen their bodily fitness with the novel equipment at the CINEC Fitness Gym.



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