

# Inauguration Ceremony of Higher Diploma in Communication and Public Relations

The inauguration ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> intake of Higher Diploma in Communication and Public Relations was ceremoniously held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at the Social Sciences Auditorium, University of Kelaniya.

Dr. Ravi Liyanage, Co-Founder, and Chairman/CEO of the Raigam Group was the Chief Guest of the ceremony and delivered the keynote speech.

The event was graced with the honorable participation of Professor M. M. Gunatilake, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Senior Lecturer Wijayananda Rupasinghe, Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Academic Staff of the Department of Mass Communication, and the Students of the diploma.



## A Career Counselling Programme for Sports Science Students

The Career Guidance Unit (CGU) of the University of Kelaniya conducted a career counselling programme for the 1<sup>st</sup> year students of the BSc Hons in Sports Science (BSSS) Degree Program of the Faculty of Science on 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at the B1343 Hall, Faculty of Science, University of Kelaniya.

The main aim of the programme was to support undergraduates in identifying their skills and interests using the career key psychometric test and provide students with valuable information on career opportunities in their field.





# Team Career Fair 2024 Appointed

The Letters of appointment were handed over to the Career Fair Team 2024 by the Director of the Career Guidance Unit (CGU), Senior Professor Dikushi Wettewe at the auditorium of the CGU on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2024. All the Committee Members of the Career Fair 2024 from the student clubs affiliated with the CGU, with the objective of developing leadership skills in undergraduates and enhancing their involvement in university events.

The President of the Rotaract Club, Roshan Rathnayake was appointed as the Chairperson of CF 2024 and Co-Chair, of Industry Coordination. The rest of the CF 2024 Committee was comprised of the President of AIESEC, Ama Niyangoda as the Co-Chair, Internal Coordination, and Secretary, the President of the Gavel Club, Sithiji Kavishma as the Co-chair, Marketing, and Branding, the President of the Leo Club, Bawantha Wedagedara as the Co-Chair, Treasurer and Events Coordinator, the President of the LED Club, Chathuka Ravindu as the Co-Chair, External Relations.



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## The Initiation of The Graduate Entrepreneurship Circle

The Career Guidance Unit at the University of Kelaniya initiated “The Graduate Entrepreneurship Circle” on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at the Career Guidance Unit Auditorium, University of Kelaniya.

This groundbreaking program aimed to furnish graduates with a comprehensive platform to independently develop entrepreneurial skills, thereby preparing them for success in today’s dynamic business environment. An impressive total of 47 enthusiastic participants are poised to engage in the circle, underscoring the fervent interest among graduates in augmenting their entrepreneurial acumen.

The event featured insightful keynote sessions by Mr. Tharaka Amarasena, Head of Academics at CSE and Council Member of RUSL, and Ms. Princy Withanarachchi, Enterprise Development Officer at NEDA. Both speakers shared their wealth of knowledge on entrepreneurship and its practical applications. Mr. Indika Pushpakumara and Ms. A.P. Samadhi Malsha Lakmali inspired students by presenting their success stories as graduate entrepreneurs from the University of Kelaniya.

Following the sessions, members selected their committee for the year 2024. The newly elected committee members are President: M.G.T.N. Chandrarathne (Faculty of Science), Secretary: H.M. Gihani Dilusha (Faculty of Social Sciences), Junior Treasurer: Indika Pushpakumara (Faculty of Commerce & Management), Organizer: Yasitha Ravihansa (Faculty of Science) and Editor: Shehan Hansaka (Faculty of Humanities).

Executive Committee Members are Nilakshi Nanayakkara (Faculty of Commerce & Management), D.G.R.D. Karunasinghe (Faculty of Social Sciences), Hasitha Nuwan (Faculty of Science), U.M. Bandara, and D.A.I. Dilhara Samaraweera (Faculty of Humanities).

This initiative set the stage for a year of growth and collaboration within ‘The Graduate Entrepreneurship Circle’ at the University of Kelaniya.





# MAS Open Day at Career Fair UoK 2024

MAS Holdings conducted the first open day as part of the Career Fair UoK 2024 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February at the Career Guidance Unit premises.

More than 120 shortlisted candidates attended the interviews. The Open Day aims to provide internship opportunities at MAS Holdings for the students at the University of Kelaniya.



# Nestle Open Day

The Nestle Open Day was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 at the CGU Auditorium coinciding with Career Fair UoK 2024. The interviews were conducted by experts from Nestle. Shortlisted students from the University of Kelaniya attended the event.





# The Open Day hosted by Brandix at Career Fair UoK 2024

Brandix Apparel Ltd conducted the open day as part of the Career Fair UOK 2024 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2024 at the CGU premises. They also conducted a workshop on “Corporate Etiquette”. Ms. Nadeesha Deheragoda - General Manager - Human Resources conducted the workshop which was attended by more than 300 students at the University of Kelaniya. It was held at the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, F4 Hall of the University of Kelaniya. More than 150 students also attended interviews conducted by experts from Brandix. The main aims were to create awareness among candidates in corporate etiquette and provide internship opportunities at Brandix Apparel Ltd for the students at the University of Kelaniya.





# Career Fair UoK 2024 - Open day hosted by BAURS

The Open Day of A. Baur & Co. (Pvt.) Ltd was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 as part of the Career Fair 2024 at the CGU premises of the University of Kelaniya. They also conducted a workshop with a brief introduction about the Company. Mr. Rolf Blaser, Managing Director and CEO conducted the first quarter in the workshop to enhance the awareness of the Baur's. The second quarter of the workshop was "Personal branding and networking in the digital age". It was conducted by Mr. Ken Vijayakumar - HR, Administration, Purchasing & Sustainability at A. Baur & Co. (Pvt.) Ltd. Present at the occasion was Senior Professor Dilkushi Wettewe - the Director of the Career Guidance Unit of the University of Kelaniya. The interviews were conducted by experts from Baur's. The main aims were to create awareness among candidates in "Personal branding and networking in the digital age" and provide internship opportunities at Baur's for the students of the University of Kelaniya. More than 130 students from the University of Kelaniya attended the event.





# Career Fair UoK - Open Day hosted by Ceylon Cold Stores

The Ceylon Cold Stores PLC and Keells Food Products PLC conducted the open day as part of the Career Fair UOK 2024 on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February at the CGU premises. The interviews were conducted by experts from Ceylon Cold Stores. Shortlisted students from the University of Kelaniya attended the event. The Open Day aims to provide internship opportunities at Ceylon Cold Stores PLC and Keells Food Products PLC for the students of the University of Kelaniya.





## Senior Professor C. D. S. Wettewe reappointed as the Director of the CGU

Senior Professor C. D. S. Wettewe was reappointed as the Director of the Career Guidance Unit (CGU) of the University of Kelaniya for a period of 3 years with effect from 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024. As the Director of the CGU, she was instrumental in introducing innovative programmes to engage students in CGU activities during challenging times and for inspiring students to be life-long learners.

Senior Professor C. D. S. Wettewe is attached to the Department of English Language Teaching at the University of Kelaniya. She earned her PhD from the Radboud University, Nijmegen, in the Netherlands. She has previously held the positions of Head of Department (2010-2014) and Director of Staff Development Centre (2014 - 2017) of the University of Kelaniya and has also served as the Senior Research Fellow at the National Centre for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences and Humanities (NCAS).

She has contributed to many national level language projects introduced by the Ministry of Higher Education as a consultant and has served as a consultant of the pre-university Online English Language Programme initiated by the University Grants Commission. Currently, she also serves as a member of the Board of Management of the Postgraduate Institute of English, Open University of Sri Lanka.



## Dr. Anusha Edirisinghe is appointed as the Secretary of the Sri Lanka chapter of the Asian Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF)

Dr. Anusha Edirisinghe, from the Department of Sociology at the University of Kelaniya, has been appointed as the Secretary of the Sri Lanka chapter of the Asian Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF). She holds the distinction of being the first woman to hold this position, having been appointed in 2015. This year marks her third consecutive selection for the same role in 2024.

Dr. Anusha Edirisinghe emerged victorious, clinching the gold medal in the education sector for the Western Province at the prestigious Vanithabhimani competition. This esteemed event, hosted by NDB bank in collaboration with Sirasa TV, celebrated excellence and innovation in various fields.