

University of Colombo Alumni Association of New South Wales

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



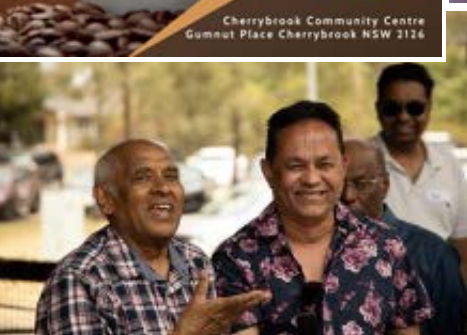
January
COFFEE NIGHT

January
31st

From
8pm
onwards

**Have fun
Drink Coffee**

Cherrybrook Community Centre
Gumnut Place Cherrybrook NSW 2126



Colombo Chats
Your questions... Answered by a professional!

Organized by University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW

Session 1
Chat with a cardiologist
Dr Kanishka Kamaladasa
34th October 2020 Saturday
at 6 - 7 PM via Zoom

Join us (Zoom) <https://zoom.us/j/8820934064>
Meeting ID: 8820934064 pass code: 013207
Send your questions (option - anonymous) to: info@colombochats.com.au or 0295 3191

? ? ? ?



CHURCH
CHRISTMAS BBQ 2019



PHOTOBOOTH SPONSORED BY
WWW.ITELASOFT.COM.AU




Happy Vesak Day
UCANSA Celebrates Vesak with you and your family
(A Happy Vesak Day)

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Poem by Nalika Kodituwakula




University of Colombo Alumni Association

රන රංග
RAN R
Room
with
DADDY

Saturday 13th June 6:30pm
at
DaySpring Auditorium - Castle Hill
15, Salisbury Rd, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

For more info, contact:
• Tel: 02 9511 4222
• Email: info@daypring.com.au

All proceeds go towards UCAANSA





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OUR OBJECTIVES

To encourage, foster and promote close links between the University and its alumni in Sri Lanka and overseas, and amongst the alumni themselves and also engage in matters of common interest to people of Sri Lankan origin living in Australia

To provide regular information on scheduled events, relevant Association and University matters and updates in education and professional training

To conduct welfare activities, fund raising events and projects for the benefit of the students and staff of the University and victims of disasters and/or faced with hardships in Australia and Sri Lanka

To foster greater cohesiveness amongst the members of the association and the greater community

To provide a mutually beneficial link and networking between students, graduates, staff and the business community

To affiliate, coordinate and work with the Alumni Association of the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka and help in its activities wherever possible

To formulate and uphold other objectives reasonably necessary to promote its main objectives.

Message from Vice Chancellor

I am very pleased to touch base once again with the President, Executive Committee and members of the University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW Inc. (UCAANSW). I do hope this finds everyone safe and well in these very stressful times of dealing with the COVID19 threat and its implications.

I also take this opportunity to thank you all for your warm hospitality shown to me and my family in September 2019 in Sydney; and in particular for your expressed enthusiasm to support the UoC through multiple means. Upon my return to our University following your fund-raising event, I briefed our academic and administrative leads, the staff and students of your initiatives, and they remain very humbled and appreciative of your commitment.



The Memorandum of Understanding signed between our University and your Association strengthens the bonds created and will uplift numerous deserving students in the coming years. Additionally, the Wellbeing Project that your association supported us, helped our Senior Student Counsellor and the Welfare Branch to enhance our human resource in charge of student wellbeing and in developing stronger systems. Indeed, this initiative had a meaningful impact when the threat of Corona struck Sri Lanka in March 2020, when we converted overnight to on-line systems. Your hearts will certainly be gladdened to learn that we were able to initiate a very simple system of staff-student WhatsApp groups that helped build bridges that were previously not thought of. This connectivity provided the much-needed psycho-social support through the trained academic counsellors and sub-wardens. We were able to support our student population in coping with on-line learning and to overcome financial and gender issues that emerged. You will also be glad to learn that your President and her executive team supported our central administration who found through a needs assessment that a proportion of students required support with ITC hardware. Your contributions from the remaining funds of the Wellbeing Project supported our quest in raising matching funds from all the UoC's alumni groups. The recipients are learners from very poor socio-economic settings and include those with special needs. I take this opportunity to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for this support to function on a digital mode whilst ensuring that no student is left behind.

The UoC greatly values your commitment to promote better opportunities and provide financial assistance to the current student community, through the provision of scholarships. Your genuine support to this cause is indeed a tribute to your Alma Mater, who remains steadfast in carrying her mission forward despite the many challenges and constraints in these very troubled times.

I wish you the Best of Health and Safety.
Yours truly,

Professor Chandrika N Wijeyaratne
Vice Chancellor
University of Colombo

Message from the President

It is with great pleasure and honour that I provide this President's message to the University of Colombo Alumni Association of New South Wales Australia (UCAANSW) Annual Report.



It was on the 3rd November 2019 that the new committee was appointed and within a short period, we made great strides in our commitment to create a more vibrant and engaging alumni community whilst further strengthening links with our Alma Mater, the University of Colombo. The fun-filled out-door family BBQ was held in early December.

Amidst the Christmas cheer, singing Christmas carols to nursing home residents was such a wonderful and fulfilling experience to both the residents of the nursing homes and us all. With help from alumni members, we supported the bushfire appeal in Sydney, donating 1000 bottles of water along with a financial donation in support of 'Fund and Fight'. This facilitated the purchase of two new fire ground radios needed for the Killara Rural Fire Brigade. We were also fortunate enough to organise and have the first-ever, relaxing overnight camping get-together on Cockatoo Island on the leap day of 2020.

While our planned agenda was ticking off well, Mother Nature has had other plans for 2020. In March, we were faced with truly unprecedented circumstances – the global coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which adversely impacted our way of life and affected our families and our communities. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to those who lost their loved ones during the pandemic. It was challenging to all of us to adapt to the virus mitigation strategies. Along with NSW restrictions on gatherings, we had to make drastic amendments to our plans. Sadly, this eventuated to the cancellation of the musical extravaganza "Ran Roo 2020" show with eminent Sri Lankan artists, the main scholarship fund raiser of the year planned to be held in June 2020.

Adjusting to the new norm, we embraced technology to conduct many online social gatherings to stay connected with each other while sharing expertise within the community and providing timely advice to our alumni in the fields of law, finance, medicine and education. We invited our sister alumni association in Victoria and celebrated Vesak by organising an online Buddhist sermon and Bakthi Geetha programme. We helped the most vulnerable group in Sydney, Sri Lankan university students as well as supported our undergraduates in Sri Lanka to transition to online learning platforms. Our Face Mask sale project was considered as a timely effort to cover the expenses of the year. The feedback we have received from the members for the recently held inaugural session of "Colombo Chats" a Q&A program was indeed encouraging. We have committed to extend the financial scholarship support till end of 2021 to the current recipients from Medical Faculty, University of Colombo via the Sarasavi Mithuro Foundation.

The biggest achievement, in my opinion, is the establishment of the self-sustaining scholarship programme in collaboration with the University of Colombo. The interest earned from the fixed deposit at the People's Bank in Sri Lanka will service the ongoing scholarship programme offered to the undergraduate students. My wholehearted gratitude goes to the Vice Chancellor, Senior

Professor Chandrika N Wijeyaratne, for her inspiration, guidance and support. My thanks also go out to the Bursar, assistant registrar student welfare and the student counsellor who will provide on-going support to administer the advertisement, selection, and disbursement scholarship funds.

Most importantly, I must thank “YOU” for extending your continued support during the year to transform our vision into reality. Without your support, none of the projects would have been completed successfully. Thank you for having your faith in me and my Committee. Last but not least, I wish to offer my sincere thanks to the members of my Committee for their friendship, resilience and positive spirit throughout the year. It was an absolute pleasure working with you all. I wish to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our 30 new members who have joined this year, incoming President and the new Committee. I wish all our members, their families and friends a safe and healthy year ahead.

Dr. Nalika Kodituwakku
President
UCAANSW 2019/2020

UCAANSW Committee 2019-2020



Back Row (From Left): **Mr Sarath Wijekoon, Mr Chaandana Senevirathne, Mr Sumith Ranasinghe, Mr Anton Fernando, Mr Sam Wimalasiri(Vice President), Dr Chaminda Egodage**

Front Row (From Left): **Dr Kamali Kannangara (Secretary/Public Officer), Dr Nalika Kodituwakku (President), Dr Ranjalee Liyanasuriya, Mr Chameera Jayasekera (Media Officer)**

Not in Photo: **Mr Buddhika Edirisinghe (Treasurer), Dr Ruwan Walpola**



2019/2020 SNAPSHOT

OUR IMPACT

UCAANSW hosts the Christmas BBQ and Family Get Together

The new UCAANSW committee of 2019/2020 kicked off their first project – Christmas BBQ and Family Get Together on 8th December 2019 at Rouse Hill Regional Park. It was great to see more than 140 alumni with their families enjoying the festive ambience and the company of each other. The food was mouth-watering; included not only traditional Aussie BBQ, but also Sri Lankan kiribath, katta sambol, pol sambol, manioc and many more.

Live music by alumnus Ranindu Alahakoon provided everyone a boost to sing and dance. The kids were thrilled with Santa's arrival and gifts. A novelty item, the Balloon Lady, kept our kids amazed throughout the event- with balloon twisting and creating all kinds of animals, super heroes, cartoon characters, and weapons. The photo booth was another attraction as almost everyone was excited to get their memorable photograph souvenir printed. The feedback received for the photo booth was positive and therefore, we are sure to have it every year! The committee was thankful to have the generosity of sponsors to make this event a great success.



In addition, the Committee launched the sale of tickets for the UCAANSW main fundraiser of 2020 for the Scholarship fund, "Ran Roo 2020" show with Rookantha & Chandralekha with No 1 Sri Lankan youth band, Daddy, to be held at DaySpring Auditorium, Castle Hill in June 2020.

Amidst of all the weather challenges in Sydney and suburbs especially experiencing an unusual environmental condition with a haze and trapped air from bush fires, it was wonderful to see so many members turned up to make it a success. We, UCAANSW Committee of 2019/2020, wish to thank you all for your participation and support.

UCAANSW sings Christmas Carols at the two Elders Homes

UCAANSW Committee has been busy organising community engagement and welfare activities during the months of December 2019 and in the New Year.

As a new initiative, a group of alumni and their families together with some of the musically talented Sri Lankans from Sydney, Mr Bonny Fernando, Dr Palitha Ganewatta and Mrs Priyani Ganewatta, Mr Sanjeewa Warnakulasuriya and Mrs Samanalee Jayasuriya and their son, Sevin, visited two of the Elders villages (Kings Langley Nursing Home and ARV Castle Hill) on the 22nd December 2019 to sing Christmas Carols and to spread the Christmas cheer. We were very warmly welcomed by the staff and residents. It was such a beautiful fulfilling experience to the residents and staff of the retirement villages as well as to all of us. UCAANSW committee wishes to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our musically talented friends, alumni participants and their families for their willing support with the rehearsal sessions, their encouragement and the positive and friendly vibe. We wish to continue such community engagement activities even in the future!



Donations to the Bush Fire Appeal during Summer of 2019/2020

In summer of 2019/2020, we have witnessed the worst bush fire emergency ever seen in Australia. There were numerous stories unfolded on survival, the devastation to property and wildlife, businesses and tragic loss of lives including firefighters. It has also demonstrated the generosity of people, with heart-warming stories of communities banding together to help those affected by the fires, rescuing wildlife and supporting our firefighters as they battle with nature.

The University of Colombo Alumni of NSW did not think twice in helping our community during the ravaging bushfire season. It was just an email and a few telephone calls which made many of us unite to collect 1000 bottles of water to be handed over to Kenthurst Rural Fire Service.

Financial donations from our alumni members came rolling in to “Fund and Fight” campaign



organised by the Bendigo Bank to purchase the much needed firefighting equipment to the Killara Rural Fire Brigade.

The President of the Killara Rural Fire Brigade, Stuart Clarke AM greatly appreciated the UCAANSW alumni members' financial contribution to fund the purchase of two new fire ground radios and associated accessories (Mr Clarke pictured here) for a cost of nearly AUD 1,000. "These radios are so critical to crew safety on the fire ground and will be put to good use" he said.



The UCAANSW Committee 2019/2020 would like to sincerely acknowledge the generosity of our alumni members helping this worthy cause.



UCAANSW Committee continues with the Coffee nights

To wind down and energise our lives as a close knit group, to face day-to-day challenges, the University of Colombo Alumni Association of New South Wales, continued with the last Friday of the Month Common Room Coffee nights. With great enthusiasm, the members and their families and friends attended the night in Cherrybrook Community Centre in Gumnut Place, Cherrybrook to hang out, relax, enjoy board games, sing songs and of course have the well awaited cup of coffee! The last gathering was held in February 2020 and with the unforeseen restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, it had to be cancelled for the rest of the term.



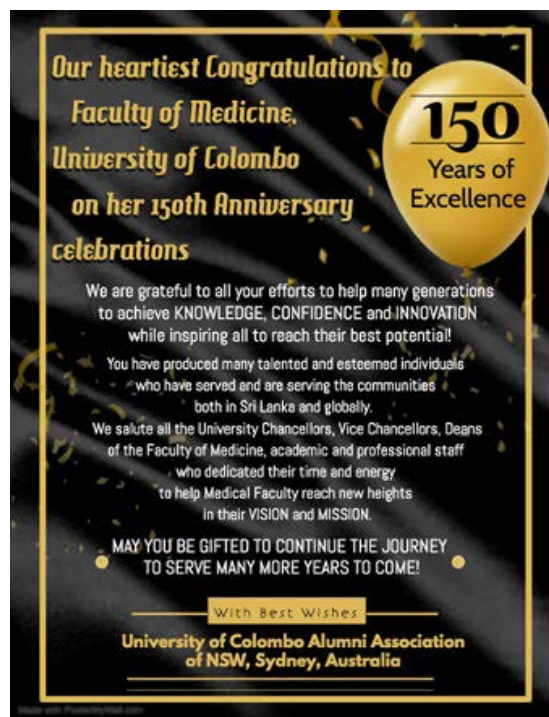
UCAANSW sponsors Prizes for Best Oral and Poster Research....

The year 2020 was special to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo celebrating the 150th year! It is the second oldest medical school in South Asia. To mark this major milestone, the Faculty of Medicine organised the "Colombo Medical Congress 2020" in February 2020 bringing together several components including Pre-Conference Workshops, Plenaries, Guests Lectures, Seminars, Pre-formed panels, Oral Abstracts and Posters. This was perhaps the largest ever medical congress held in Sri Lanka with over 300 lectures, 230 abstracts and 9 workshops at the Faculty of Medicine. The Inauguration Ceremony was graced by distinguished alumni, Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran as Chief Guest and Prof Emeritus Kamini Mendis Guest of Honour who delivered the Keynote Address.

The academic sessions were held on three full days with a series of concurrent lectures and oral/poster presentations at the Faculty of Medicine itself. The concluding sessions had an awards

ceremony for the best research papers. **We, the University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW, were privileged to contribute towards this historic moment by sponsoring the cash awards (worth AUD 933, over Rs 111,000) presented to the best Oral and Poster Research presentation winners. The UCAANSW appreciate all the donations received from our alumni members.**

On behalf of the UCAANSW community, a congratulatory email with an e-card was sent to the Vice Chancellor of University of Colombo, Senior Professor Chandrika Wijeyaratne. The Vice Chancellor warmly acknowledged and commented “ On behalf of the University of Colombo my heartfelt gratitude for not forgetting your Alma Mater”



First ever overnight Camping Experience on the Cockatoo Island

It was truly a coincidence that the UCAANSW Committee planned to have the first-ever overnight camping experience on the leap day – 29th February 2020

The 60 campers, University of Colombo alumni, their families and friends got an opportunity to share good times together as a group in a relaxing setting, on an island, away but not too far from the hustle and bustle of Sydney city overlooking the Sydney Harbour bridge! The weather was perfect for plenty of indoor and outdoor activities including games, and a camp fire sing along. The night filled with the aroma of mouth-watering ‘Kotthu’ made fresh with many accompaniments followed by a BBQ breakfast next morning. Everyone enjoyed the overall vibe and many were thinking of this to be one of our annual events!



UCAANSW supports 80 undergraduates in their transition to online learning during COVID-19

The well-being project was designed by UOC Alumni Association of NSW, committee of 2017/18 to financially support the programs conducted by the University of Colombo in order to uplift the well-being of the students and staff of the university. The necessary funds were raised by this committee through fund raising activities and the project was handed over to the 2018/19 committee for implementation. The project was designed to budget many aspects of well-being including mental health, physical health and hygiene and leadership and team building training of undergraduates and staff of the university. The committee of 2018/19 managed to transfer Rs150,000 in March 2019 to fund a successful outbound leadership and team building training program for the student Marshals.

Unfortunately, for the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the year 2019 was inundated by several unforeseen difficulties and the activities were withheld. However, in October 2019, the same committee of 2018/19 transferred an amount of Rs. 400,000 to further assist in the activities already budgeted for.

In March of 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the circumstances were changed and the budgeted activities became impractical. The university identified that there were 504 students with financial difficulties not coping with the transition from face-to-face to on-line learning. The University allocated one-time payment of Rs 5,000 per student to ensure that they could continue with their studies while in home-based rural living conditions. This group of students included 80 students who were disabled and had special needs. There were many concerns regarding accessibility to on-line teaching and availability of devices and data connection for these students from very remote areas of Sri Lanka. Under the competent guidance from the Vice Chancellor, Senior Professor Chandrika Wijeyaratne, the Senior Student Counsellor of the university, Dr.Rajitha Silva reached out to UCAANSW to gain permission to use the remaining funds of approximately Rs 400,000 for the benefit of these rural home-based students, to continue their learning by on-line modes.

The University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW, committee of 2019/20 approved and consented the redirection of the remaining funds for this valued student on-line learning COVID-19 support program.

UOC Quaranteam - Discussion and initiative to provide support

The first-ever, on-line, live zoom panel discussion with the COVID-19 Support team called “UOC Quaranteam”, and an array of expertise within our alumni community was conducted in May 2020.

The Panel of experts in the “UOC Quaranteam” included the following:

Medical – Dr Charith Horadagoda, Dr Ranjalee Liyanasuriya and Dr Chaminda Egodage

Psychology – Dr Abey Bandaranayaka

Legal - Mr Maithri Panagoda AM

Accounting and Finance- Mr Anton Fernando and Mr Rohana Vithanage,

Academia: Dr Kamali Kannangara

Information Technology: Mr Chameera Jayasekara

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting in progress. The interface includes a top bar with 'Recording' and a 'Speaker View' button. The main area is a grid of 20 video thumbnails. The participants are arranged as follows:

- Row 1: Pad, Chameera, Chaiminda Egoilage, rana, Sumad
- Row 2: Rohana Vithana..., ruwanwalpola, jayawardana, Alam Yoosuff
- Row 3: Damarambhi, rishi, Natika, Bhadrant's iPhone, Kalyani, mathiripangodu
- Row 4: Charith HORADAG, ibey Sanderanayaka, Buddhika's iPad, Anton Fernando, Kamali Kannigara
- Row 5: Anil, Kiliyan Senaderra, Sriyani Manchana, Rimali's iPad G2, Gayatri Kalubanda

On the right side, there is a 'Speaker View' window showing a close-up of a participant. At the bottom, there is a toolbar with icons for 'Stop Video', 'Participants', 'Chat', 'Share Screen', 'Record', and 'Reactions'. The bottom right corner shows the user's name, 'Laksh Muthu'.

Vesak Celebration: Buddhist Dhamma Sermon and Bodu Bathi Gee

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting grid with 18 participants arranged in a 6x3 grid. The participants are: Row 1: Subhoda, Karthi Kannan..., Lakshmi..., Nisha Kishore...; Row 2: Chandras..., Corcoran..., Chennu..., dcran, Mohan Kannan...; Row 3: Sujana..., Chandra..., Kumar..., Sylvain March..., Xibin..., Xibin..., Xibin..., Xibin...; Row 4: Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti...; Row 5: Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti...; Row 6: Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti..., Jyoti...

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UCAANSW supports the international students from Sri Lanka in Sydney

While adapting to the incredible changes of varying magnitude as a result of COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee was eager to lend a hand to one of the most vulnerable groups in our Australian-Sri Lankan community – international students from Sri Lanka. We coordinated the task of collecting dry rations from our members and handing over to Sri Lankan Consul General in Sydney, Mr. M H M N Bandara to be distributed among these needy students. In a letter to the Committee, Consul General Mr Bandara was very appreciative of our active support from the membership in providing the dry rations to be distributed among the cohort of students who lost their part-time employment due to the pandemic.



Face Mask Fundraising Project during COVID-19 pandemic



As the pandemic restrictions were all in place for most part of 2020, it was obvious that the opportunities to raise funds to cover the expenses incurred during the year were very limited.

The UCAANSW Committee decided to place an order for high quality three layer re-usable masks made in Sri Lanka to sell to our members, friends and families. The product orders were delivered via Australia Post at 3 masks for \$17 including postage. The project was all managed by Committee Member, Anton Fernando. It was a success and provided a profit of \$1300 including the \$500 donation made by alumnus Upul Mahen de Silva.

Your participation in this fundraiser helped the Association as well as kept yourself and the community safe.

UCAANSW establishes Self-Sustainable Scholarships

One of UCAANSW's biggest missions has been to establish and sustain scholarships to financially challenged students of the University of Colombo, who have not received financial assistance. This came to fruition in 2018 and since then, we have helped 36 students by awarding financial scholarships during their undergraduate candidature totalling 1.85 million rupees (Approximately AUD 16,500).

In 2020, the scholarship project reached new heights with the establishment of a self-sustainable Scholarship program directly at the University of Colombo, sponsored by UCAANSW. This was facilitated



by the hard work and accomplishments of past and current committees since the association's inception. At present, we have placed a fixed deposit of AUD 30,000 (Approximately Rs 4 million) at the People's Bank in Sri Lanka. The interest earned from this deposit will help support 9 scholarships of Rs 30,000 each year, commencing in 2021. We wholeheartedly acknowledge the immense support and guidance received from the Vice Chancellor, Senior Professor Chandrika Wijeyaratne and other staff including the Senior Assistant Registrar-student welfare and Bursar & Student Counsellor of the University of Colombo.

Though the planned fund-raising events of 2020 were stalled due to unforeseen COVID-19 restrictions, establishing a self-sustainable scholarship project has proved to be a great achievement. Further, the potential to enhance capital exists, which will allow us to help more future students in genuine need of support, achieve their career aspirations.

If you wish to contribute towards the UCAANSW scholarship fund to support undergraduate students at the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka please be kind enough to make a donation. Any amount you donate will help enable a deserving Sri Lankan student look towards a brighter future.

Please make your contribution referencing to the SCHOLARSHIP FUND & your name in the transaction.

Commonwealth Bank, Australia

Name: University of Colombo Alumni association of NSW Inc.

BSB: 062-347 Account number: 10798581

For any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us on uoc.alumni.nsw@gmail.com.

UCAANSW Committee 2019/2020 sincerely acknowledges all of the hard work and dedication demonstrated by past committees, members, alumni and the wider Sri Lankan community in achieving these endeavours.

UCAANSW contributes to the Student Distress fund of UOC

During the difficult times with COVID-19, the Vice Chancellor of University of Colombo, Senior Professor Chandrika Wijeyaratne, made a humble appeal for donations following the assessment and identification of some basic requirements for on-line education of rural based undergraduate students. She indicated that the most fundamental challenges recognised and needed assistance were in the areas of providing an equivalent of a 'dongle' through a service provider and providing hardware to make on-line education possible.

As a response to this appeal, University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW members managed to make a \$500.00 contribution towards this "Student Distress Fund of the UoC" which was set up in coordination with the Senior Student Counsellor and a team from the Welfare Branch and the Network Operating Centre (ICT).

The UCAANSW Committee 2019/2020 wishes to sincerely acknowledge the kind donations made by alumni members towards this worthy cause.

UCAANSW commits to extend the current scholarships to students from the Medical Faculty until end of 2021

Our financial scholarship scheme supported 36 students (Rs 22,500 per annum) during their undergraduate candidature since 2018. Out of 36, 30 completed their studies at the end of 2019. The UCAANSW continued to support the 6 students from the Medical Faculty in 2020. As 3 students in the physiotherapy course will complete their studies in 2020, the UCAANSW has already committed to extend the scholarship support to the remaining 3 students (Rs 22,500 each per annum) who will be completing their Medicine degree at the end of 2021.

We wish to sincerely acknowledge all the support extended by teams, both current and past, to disburse the scholarship funds to the students.

UCAANSW Hosts Inaugural Online session “Colombo Chats”

The UCAANSW Committee 2019/2020 hosted the Inaugural Online Q & A session called “Colombo Chats” with our alumnus, cardiologist Dr Kanishka Kamaladasa on Saturday 24th October at 6 -7 pm, with an aim to provide the alumni, members from other Sri Lankan Associations in Sydney, their families and friends valuable information on an important health topic on “How to stay healthy from a cardiologist’s point of view”. The session was coordinated by Chameera Jayasekera and moderated by Dr Chaminda Egodage.



Dr Kamaladasa shared his experience as a cardiologist in Sri Lanka and in Australia while providing insights into how the differences in diet, life style and other risk factors could contribute to heart diseases. He also explained the value of maintaining cholesterol with high in HDL and low in LDL levels, the role of antioxidants, as well as daily aerobic exercises for a healthy heart. The session was well received by more than 40 participants. We have received positive feedback from the participants thanking Dr Kamaladasa for taking time and said that “his explanations were very informative, clear, thorough and scientific”.

The UCAANSW Committee 2019/2020 wish to thank Dr Kanishka Kamaladasa and all the participants for their active engagement. We plan to continue this series in the future on medical as well as non-medical topics, bringing the experts to your home for you to ask questions.

Disclaimer: The University of Colombo Alumni Association of NSW hopes this discussion will enlighten you on some aspects of health and wellbeing. We would like to advise that it will not substitute a medical consultation. If you have symptoms and need medical advice, we advise you to see your doctor.

30 JUNE 2020

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Committee members' report
30 June 2020**

The committee members present their report together with the financial statements of the association for the year ended 30 June 2020.

No significant change in the nature of the Association's activities occurred during the year.

On behalf of the committee members,



Dr Nalika Kodituwakku
President

30th September 2020

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Statement of surplus or deficit
For the year ended 30 June 2020**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue			
Membership fees		3,220.00	750.00
Sale of t-shirts		60.00	220.00
Surplus from musical show		-	17,454.60
Bank interest received		148.89	-
Surplus from Cockatoo Island camping event	3	239.96	-
Surplus from harbour cruise – Golden Ball event	4	18,362.20	-
Medical congress contributions received from members	5	900.00	-
Total Revenue		22,931.05	18,424.60
Expenses			
Medical congress contributions	5	(1,000.00)	-
Insurance		(1,365.00)	(1,315.00)
Registration fee - Department of Fair Trading		-	(94.00)
Venue Hire – AGM		(84.00)	-
Venue Hire – coffee nights		(372.00)	-
Cruise certificates written-off		(950.00)	-
Event calendar banner, banner holder and printing		(73.41)	(210.10)
Rookantha show expenses	6	(678.81)	-
Deficit from Christmas Party/ BBQ expenses	7	(773.90)	(769.47)
Well Being project organised by UOC		(3,450.63)	(1,269.87)
Admin expenses		(135.82)	-
Merchant fees		(303.63)	(30.00)
Bank charges	8	(743.52)	-
Vesak expenses		(300.00)	-
Audit fee		(250.00)	-
T-shirts		-	(165.00)
Website renewal fees		-	(37.38)
Bus trip to Kiama expenses		-	(187.20)
Scholarship expenses		(112.49)	-
Paypal fee		-	(11.56)
Total expenses		(10,593.21)	(4,089.58)
Surplus for the year		12,337.84	14,335.02
Less: Provision for scholarships			
Provision for scholarships		(25,000.00)	-
Provision for members welfare		(3,041.00)	-
Surplus / (deficit for the year)		<u>(15,703.16)</u>	<u>14,335.02</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2020**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	52,472.31	35,560.58
Deposits and prepayments	10	276.00	17,121.00
Total assets		<u>52,748.31</u>	<u>52,681.58</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Deferred revenue membership fee 20/21		100.00	1,140.00
Trade and other payables	11	3,697.57	14,964.50
Provision Scholarship Fund		25,000.00	-
Provision Scholarship Fund – People's Bank a/c in SLR		3,770.71	3,734.89
Members Welfare Fund		3,041.00	-
Total liabilities		<u>35,609.28</u>	<u>19,839.39</u>
Net assets		<u>17,139.03</u>	<u>32,842.19</u>
Equity			
Retained surpluses		32,842.19	18,507.07
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		(15,703.16)	14,335.02
Total equity		<u>17,139.03</u>	<u>32,842.19</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2020

Note 1. General information

The financial statements are for University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated as an individual entity and as incorporated association in NSW. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated's functional and presentation currency.

University of Colombo Alumni association of NSW is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 30th September 2020.

Note 2. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The committee members have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated.

The financial statements are prepared to meet the needs of its executive committee and its Association's members and complying with the New South Wales legislation of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associated Regulations.

Revenue recognition

The association recognises revenue as follows:

Scholarships Certificates and Advertising income

Scholarship, donations, certificates, and advertising income committed by donors are initially recorded as income on accrual basis and the corresponding recoverable amounts as assets in the statement of financial position. These amounts are expected to be collected as early as possible. Unrecoverable certificates and advertising income are written off at the end of the financial year to reflect the actual income collected.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method.

Revenue from Christmas party (BBQ), Harbour Cruise, Cockatoo Island Camping and other events

Revenue from these events are recognised upon completion of such events.

Exchange rate

A fixed exchange rate of 1 AUD = 120.01 SLR has been assumed for conversion of People's bank account balances and transactions.

Income tax

As the association is a tax-exempt entity in terms of subsection 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Trade and other receivables

Receivables are recognised at cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2020**

Note 3. Surplus Cockatoo Island camping event

	2020 \$
Income from campers	3,785.00
Camp site bookings, food and other expenses	<u>(3,545.04)</u>
Surplus form Cockatoo Island camping event	\$ 239.96

Note 4. Surplus from Golden Ball – Harbour Cruise event

	2020 \$
Income	
Advertisement income	10,560.00
Ticket sales	38,525.00
Certificate sale	15,540.00
Donations	500.00
Silent collection	<u>1,235.00</u>
Total Income	66,360.00
Expenses	
Artists and band	(3,065.00)
Cruise hire	(22,067.50)
Decorations	(1,080.00)
Dinner supply	(13,410.00)
Donations – deaf and blind school	(1,000.00)
Gift card- air ticket from Sri Lankan	(505.95)
Labour hire	(400.00)
Other expenses	(573.53)
Printing and stationery	(2,000.00)
Raffle barrel	(104.50)
Smart bags	(235.03)
Dancing floor hire	(929.50)
Advertising – E-Lanka web	(480.00)
MC expenses	(250.00)
Non-recoverable advertising income written off	<u>(1,896.79)</u>
Total Expenses	<u>47,997.80</u>
Surplus from Golden Ball – Golden Ball- Harbour Cruise event	<u>18,362.20</u>

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Notes to the financial statements
30 June 2020**

Note 5. Medical Congress

	2020
	\$
Contributions received from members	900.00
Total amount paid for the congress	(1,000.00)
Association's contribution (net)	<u>100.00</u>

Note 6. Rookantha Show Expenses

	2020
	\$
Printing – tickets	96.00
Printing – banner	99.00
Printing – flyer	126.00
Event cancellation fee	357.81
Total Rookantha show expenses	<u>678.81</u>

Note 7. Deficit from BBQ/ Christmas Party

	2020
	\$
Sponsorship income received	250.00
SMS charges	38.50
Food, Venue booking, and other expenses	(1,062.40)
Deficit from Christmas party/ BBQ expenses	<u>(773.90)</u>

Note 8. Bank fees

Bank fees charges for the use of EFTPOS machine held by the Association for the use at events and point of sales.

Note 9. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Transaction account – Commonwealth Bank – A/C 20042	22,132.76	23,107.03
Projects account – Commonwealth Bank – A/C 00325	1,568.84	8,375.00
Scholarship Account – Commonwealth Bank – A/C 98581	25,000.00	343.66
Scholarship Account – People's Bank Sri Lanka – A/C 98581	3,770.71	3,734.89
Note 9A		
	<u>52,472.31</u>	<u>35,560.58</u>

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2020

Note 9A. People's Bank Account – Movement During The Year

	AUD	SL Rupee	Ex- Rate 1 AUD= SLR
Opening balance	3,734.89	448,209.99	120.01
Less: Scholarship paid	(112.49)	(13,500.00)	120.01
Add: Interest received	148.31	17,798.71	120.01
Closing balance	3,770.71	452,508.70	120.01

Increase/ (decrease) during the year \$35.82

The scholarship provision has increased by this amount \$35.82 (\$3,734.89 to \$ 3,770.71).

Note: Fixed exchange rate has been used to convert the Sri Lankan Rupee.

This assumption has been taken on the basis that the funds in the account are meant to provide scholarships and the Association has no intention to repatriate the funds to Australia.

Note 10 – Deposits and prepayments

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Advance paid for Cruise	-	12,000.00
Receivable – advertising income Priya	-	1,450.00
Receivable – decoration balance	-	150.00
Receivable – tickets sales income	-	3,521.00
Gumnut Hall booking	276.00	-
	<u>276.00</u>	<u>17,121.00</u>

Note 11. Trade and other payables

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Income received for cruise	-	14,490.00
Payable for after party expenses	-	302.00
Payable to photographer	-	125.00
Payable for printing souvenir	-	47.50
Payable for Cockatoo Island expenses	415.54	-
<u>Rookantha Show expenses/liabilities payable</u>		
Payable – deposit	750.00	-
Payable – hall booking	660.00	-
Payable – cancellation of accommodation	357.81	-
Rookantha show – ticket sale income to be refunded	600.00	-
Rookantha show – printing cost	126.00	-
Event calendar banner holder	38.22	-
Vice Chancellor Appeal payable	500.00	-
Audit fees payable	250.00	-
	<u>3,697.57</u>	<u>14,964.50</u>

Note 12. Events After The Reporting Year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2020 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the association's operations, the results of those operations, or the association's state of affairs in future financial years.

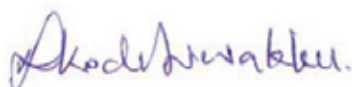
University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

**Committee members' declaration
30 June 2020**

In the committee members' opinion:

- as described in note 2 to the financial statements, the financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the New South Wales legislation the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associated Regulations;
- the financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 2 to the financial statements;
- the financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the committee members



Dr Nalika Kodituwakku
President

30th September 2020

Compilation Report

University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated For the year ended 30 June 2020

Compilation report to University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated, which comprise the balance sheet as at 30 June 2020, the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 2.

The Responsibility of the Committee of the University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated

The committee of University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs, and for the purpose that financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

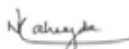
On the basis of information provided by the University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements and APES 315 *Compilation of Financial Information*.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 2 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of the University of Colombo Alumni Association NSW Incorporated who is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.



Nimal Ranjith Ratnayake
Chartered Accountant
12 A Algernon St
Oatley NSW 2223

Dated: 14 September 2020



University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated
ABN 29 922 710 278

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To Committee Members and Members of University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit review; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit review.



Vindran Vengadasalam
Registered Company Auditor
Chartered Accountant

Dated: 30 September 2020

Independent Auditors Review Report

To Members of University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated

Report on the Financial Report

I have reviewed the Statement of Surplus or Deficit, Statement of Financial Position and notes to the Financial Statement of University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated as at 30 June 2020.

Committee Member's Responsibility for the Financial Report

Committee members are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statement and has determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the Committee members. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation of the Statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the Financial Statement based on my review. I have conducted my review in accordance with Standard on *Review Engagements* in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the Financial Statement is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies *Corporations Act 2001*. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated. Standard on *Review Engagements* requires us to comply with the requirements of the applicable code of professional conduct of a professional accounting body.

A review consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable me to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit review, I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. I confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, provided to the committee of University of Colombo Alumni Association New South Wales Incorporated, would be on the same terms if provided to the committee members as at the date of this auditor's report.

Conclusion

Based on my review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the Financial Statement as at 30 June 2020 is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies used.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee Members' financial reporting responsibilities under the Incorporated Association in NSW. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



Vindran Vengadasalam

Registered Company Auditor

Chartered Accountant

Dated: 30 September 2020

Acknowledgments

- Ven. Kotte Santhindriya Thero, Daham Nikethanaya Temple in Melbourne for Vesak Day Buddhist Sermon
- Vice Chancellor of UoC, Prof. Chandrika N Wijeyaratne for encouragement and guidance
- Dr Rajitha Silva, Senior student Counsellor, Ms Gayani De Silva, Assistant registrar, Student and Staff Affairs, Mrs KSTS Jayasooriya, Bursar of UoC for their collaborative effort towards the New Scholarship project
- Mr. Layan Chathuranga, System Analyst UoC for web promotion of UCAANSW Achievement
- Professor Saroj Jayasinghe for assistance with organising the sponsorship of prizes at “Colombo Medical Congress 2020”, 150- year celebrations of Medical Faculty, UoC
- Former Sri Lankan Consul General in Sydney, Mr. M H M N Bandara
- The Scholarship Committee of Sarasavi Mithuro, Sri Lanka for help with disbursement of scholarship funds
- Staff at People’s Bank, Head Quarters Branch, Colombo 2
- Staff at Central Bank, Sri Lanka
- Sister Alumni association in Victoria for their participation and support
- Members of University of Peradeniya and University of Jayewardenepura Alumni Associations in NSW for their participation
- Non-alumni and Alumni panellists of our Zoom presentations, especially Dr Abeyrathna Bandaranayake, The Consultant Psychologist
- Dr Kanishka Kamaladasa, Cardiologist and panellist in the Inaugural ‘Colombo Chats’
- All our sponsors this year for financial support; Upul De Silva, Rohana Vithanage, Complete Health Australia Medical Clinic, Rousehill and Mr Ravi Samasinghe for Photo booth
- Mr Maithri Panagoda for legal advice
- Mr Nimal Ratnayake, Chartered Accountant for assistance with preparation of financial reports
- Mr Mr.Vindran Vengadasalam, Registered Company Auditor
- Mr Don Manjula Arachchige from Digital Copy Centre
- e-Lanka and Ozlanka community websites for UCAANSW promotions
- Past committees for the support and collective effort towards UCAANSW
- Australian-Sri Lankan Community for active engagement and support towards UCAANSW
- Families of the current committee members for the support and understanding

And

- Members of the Current UCAANSW Committee for their Time, Effort and Energy

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