

# BUSINESS DIALOGUE



OCTOBER 26, 2021

RECOLLECTIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS IN SUCCESS

**2021**

SPECIAL  
COMMEMORATIVE  
ISSUE

## THE DAWN OF A LEGACY REMINISCENCES FROM THE VISIONARY LEADER

PROF. E. A. WEERASINGHE  
VICE-CHANCELLOR,  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

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## VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY



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IN THE HIGHER  
EDUCATION SECTOR"**



**"AN IMMENSE  
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OF OUR NATION"**

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SENIOR PROF.  
SUDANTHA LIYANAGE  
VICE CHANCELLOR,  
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# VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES...

CELEBRATING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY



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In celebration of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
NSBM Green University,  
the Hon. Minister of Education, Provincial Education,  
Higher Education and Vocational Education,  
Sri Lanka, has graciously visited the  
NSBM Green University, Galle, Sri Lanka,  
to inaugurate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
celebrations on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, 2019.

Hon. Minister Dr. Seetha Arambepola  
State Minister of Public Department, Provincial Education,  
Higher Education and Vocational Education of the  
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

on the occasion of  
Prof. E. A. Weerasinghe,  
Vice-Chancellor,  
NSBM Green University





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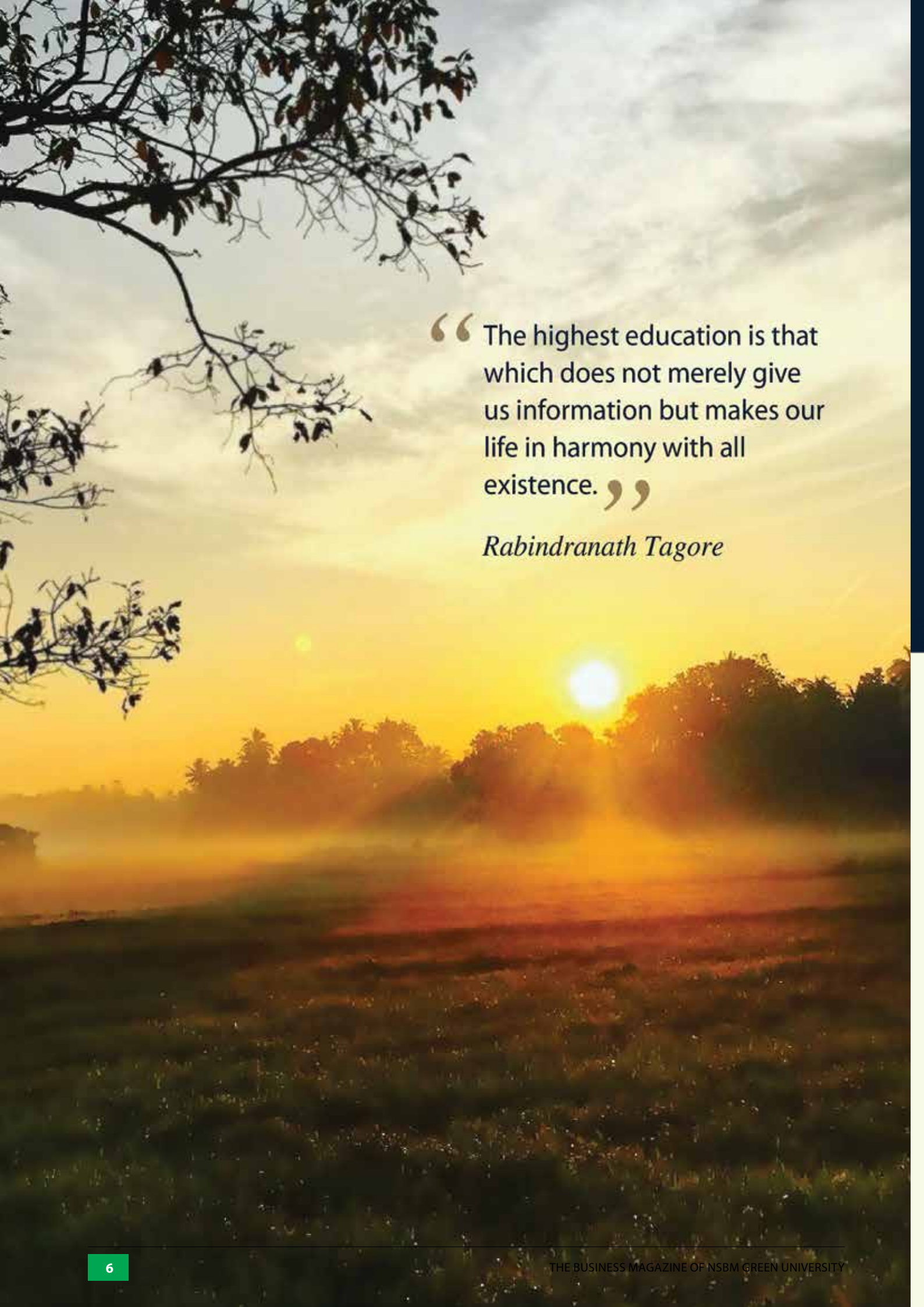




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“ The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence. ”

*Rabindranath Tagore*





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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி  
PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA



## MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT GOTABAYA RAJAPAKSHA ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

The main objective of a country's higher education is to fortify the human resource of the country with a set of multi-skilled personnel knowledgeable in critical thinking.

To accomplish this, we should enable opportunities to pursue higher education for the student community of the country that has lost the opportunity to enter into state universities even if they qualify after GCE Advanced Level examination. As long as there are no opportunities and the environment is not conducive to pursue courses that are curated on global job market requirements, the youth unemployment of the

country will not be resolved.

The NSBM University which has identified these requirements has become an active institution in the higher education sector of the country that produces professionals suited to the global job market since it provides lasting solutions to the issue of unemployment.

As a self-financed institution being operated under the State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovations, it is commendable to note how the University is achieving its vision, mission and objectives gradually.

Without being limited to providing

education to the children of the nation, the NSBM Green University is making a direct contribution to strengthen the national economy by expanding the higher educational opportunities available for foreign students.

I offer my best wishes to the NSBM Green University on the occasion of celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of its successful journey, and I also extend wishes to continue the endeavours to empower the youth generation of the country with knowledge, skills and attitudes.

**Gotabaya Rajapaksa**  
President of the Democratic  
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



“ Education is not the learning of facts,  
but the training of the mind to think ”

*Albert Einstein*







## MESSAGE FROM HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA FOR THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

I am pleased to send this message on the occasion of the 5th anniversary celebration of the NSBM Green University. This is an important achievement in its short but triumphant journey. This milestone offers a remarkable opportunity for all of us to reflect upon the success of NSBM and the contribution it has made to Sri Lanka's higher education sector since its establishment in 2011 and the opening of NSBM Green University in 2016. While being a self-financed higher education institute under direct government supervision, NSBM Green University has undoubtedly added a new dimension to national university education with its high-standard global education here in Sri Lanka. Bestowing the nation and region the first-ever green university in South Asia, NSBM has taken an interest in shouldering the national responsibility of driving the nation towards a knowledge-based economy. It is this unflinching sense of responsibility that strengthens its success on its path

towards conquering the global arena.

In this journey of five victorious years, NSBM Green University has made an immense contribution to the future generations of our nation. Along with new opportunities, NSBM has created an unparalleled international university setting through modern pedagogical approaches and state-of-the-art facilities. In view of this, I believe that NSBM has become the epitome of standardization and modernization in higher education, which uplifts its status as a responsible higher education institute. For Sri Lanka, it has constantly been a place that bridges the gap between the high demand for Sri Lankan university education and the lack of capacity. By creating local pathways for both Sri Lanka's youth and international students through world-renowned degree programmes and a holistic university experience, NSBM Green University has placed Sri Lanka on the global map of quality higher educational opportunities.

I personally witnessed and was greatly impressed by the university complex and the international standards maintained at the NSBM Green University. The modernist, progressive and self-reliant approach of NSBM is definitely praiseworthy. This major project that commenced in 2011 has reached beyond its own goals and expectations in a short span of time and created its own benchmark of success. I take this opportunity to congratulate the entire NSBM community as you mark five years of excellence. You have every right to be proud of the journey you have come on thus far and be excited about the institution's future potential. I am certain that NSBM will continue its successful journey for many more years to come by gifting the nation a community of globally competent graduates, gearing the nation towards sustainable development.

**Mahinda Rajapaksa**  
Prime Minister of the Democratic  
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka





## WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY!

It is with great pleasure that I, the State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovation, convey my wishes for the 5th anniversary celebration of NSBM Green University, which operates under the purview of our Ministry.

NSBM Green University, which commenced a journey towards success on 26 October 2016, mainly functions with the noble objectives of contributing to the Sri Lankan Government's goal of becoming the Knowledge Hub in the region and serving the nation to ensure its youth generation's right to higher education. Over these past five years, it has embarked on a very proud journey of expanding the horizons of professional higher education in Sri Lanka.

In our Ministry's drive to transform

Sri Lanka towards sustainable development with a knowledge-based skilled workforce, the contribution of NSBM Green University is instrumental. As the first-ever green university in South Asia, NSBM Green University has made everyone realize that it is well-resourced with modern education and state-of-the-art facilities to offer an international university experience in Sri Lanka. Moreover, I greatly appreciate the role NSBM Green University plays in producing a generation of globally competent graduates and timely updating its study programs and university experience to meet the current demands of the constantly evolving modern world of work.

As for me, NSBM Green University is a turning point in Sri Lankan higher education. I make this an opportunity to extend my gratitude to all

those who have committed to elevating NSBM Green University to its present status. May NSBM have the brightest journey ahead, opening up new avenues in modern higher education and producing a generation of knowledgeable and skilful graduates who can lead our country forward. I sincerely wish NSBM Green University the best of luck in its success journey!

**Dr. Seetha Arambepola**  
**State Minister**  
**State Ministry of Skills**  
**Development, Vocational**  
**Education, Research and**  
**Innovation**





# HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY ON ITS 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

NSBM Green University makes a significant contribution to the mission of our Ministry as well as to the development of the nation by producing a talented young workforce competitive in the global job market. As a responsible higher education in Sri Lanka, NSBM has been on a commendable journey since 2016. The university provides the Sri Lankan youth generation with an international university experience, well-adapting to the current global environment and incorporating new technology and state-of-the-art facilities. Accordingly, it has provided an excellent opportunity for the youth of this country to identify their talents and abilities, orient themselves towards the right career goals and become a global graduate who is in tune with the labour market demands.

In addition, the globally demanding degree programmes offered by NSBM Green University with the approval of the University Grants Commission and offered in affiliation with top-ranked universities have opened doors of opportunities for the Sri Lankan student community. The plethora of degree programmes and the holistic university experience on offer at NSBM have contributed to the national economy by saving and earning foreign exchange to the country since its onset. In its five year journey, NSBM has become a centre of knowledge for Sri Lankan students attracted to foreign educational institutions and the South Asian students who aspire to pursue Western education. Therefore, I regard this institution as a great gift our country has ever received. I wish NSBM Green University

success in all its future endeavours and in its constant quest to endow the nation with a generation of professionally qualified young graduates!

**Deepa Liyanage**  
**Secretary**  
**State Ministry of Skills**  
**Development, Vocational**  
**Education, Research and**  
**Innovation**





## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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**I**t is with immense pride that I pen this message for the second issue of the Business Dialogue magazine 2021 commemorating the 5th anniversary of NSBM Green University. At the initiation of the magazine, the key objective was to establish lively and noteworthy dialogues on a plethora of business-related subjects. It is with this goal in mind, the Business Dialogue team ventured on to explore various corners of the field of business and the success stories of business giants who have raised the name of our country in the world. Today, Business Dialogue has become much more than a mere magazine and created a platform that brings together academics, local and

international business personalities, business practitioners and policymakers to disseminate new knowledge in the business world for future generations. NSBM Green University is a proud nurturing ground for the undergraduates in business studies who will one day be leading the business world, and it is our goal to provide everything necessary for them to reach there. This magazine serves them as a source of inspiration so that they can look up to these brave and successful personalities who have weathered many storms to gain what they have achieved.

This issue of the magazine, however, strides beyond the said objective as it is published in commemoration of the fifth-year anniversary of NSBM Green University. This issue celebrates

the journey of the university and the unparalleled success it has gained within a short period of time. The magazine features many individuals who have been an immense source of strength to the university throughout this journey. It also presents an account of the victories NSBM Green University gained over the years ranging from student affairs to the Phase II of the university in construction. The magazine gives a grain of the victorious journey of the university through the eyes of both nationally and internationally renowned academics, business leaders, alumni, and our dear students.

The magazine is not only a celebration of the marvellous five years we are leaving behind but a testimonial to all the challenges we rose above to reach where we are now. Moreover, the magazine compiles a valuable collection of insights into the rapidly changing landscape of Sri Lankan higher education system. The magazine holds witness, as you will see, to the fact that NSBM Green University has upheld its duty as a higher education body while redefining its boundaries.

This comes to you as a collective effort of many individuals. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all contributors, including the distinguished persons and academics who were a part of the magazine. The continuous hard work of the Business Dialogue team, academics, administrative staff, and students are always appreciated for their dedication to make this a success.

In closing, let me extend my warm wishes to NSBM Green University to soar high and to continue this victorious journey in the many more years to come.

**Prof. J Baratha Dodankotuwa**





# BUSINESS DIALOGUE

## VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

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# THE DAWN OF A LEGACY

## REMINISCENCES FROM THE VISIONARY LEADER

PROF. E. A. WEERASINGHE  
VICE-CHANCELLOR, NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

“ WHEN WE DO SOMETHING NEW, WE FACE MANY CHALLENGES; THAT IS NATURAL. HOWEVER, A LEADER SHOULD HAVE THE STRENGTH TO FACE THEM WITH GRACE AND AN IRON-WILL. A SUCCESSFUL LEADER SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CHALLENGES ”

### What inspired you to establish this iconic university?

The concept of NSBM Green University crossed my mind when I was the Director General at the National Institute of Business Management (NIBM). At that time, the role of NIBM was to conduct professional courses; we went beyond that and established NIBM as a degree awarding institute. After a while, we found it impossible to cater to the needs of our students with the limited resources and infrastructure available. I was personally never satisfied

about a learning environment in which the students were confined to a classroom. I always thought a proper graduate cannot be produced in such an environment because learning goes beyond the four walls of a classroom. So, I thought of developing a fully-fledged university complex and submitted a proposal to the academic governing council. Initially, many considered it an unrealistic dream, but I was not discouraged. I must appreciate the constant support provided by Hon. Minister Dallas Alahapperuma, who was in-charge of our ministry at the time; the guidance and support





extended by him when securing cabinet approvals was extremely encouraging. After getting the approval, we were able to secure a land thanks to Hon. Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardane.

While we were in the process of designing the Green University Town, I visited some well-known universities such as Harvard and MIT,

with a few directors at NIBM, in hopes of gaining inspiration to design an iconic university compatible with the demands of the 21st century. Along with the smooth running design process, came the issue of funding such a massive project; with the aid of Hon. Minister Dallas Alahapperuma, we were provided with a treasury guarantee through which we were able to

process a loan. With the financial strength gained, I was able to initiate the construction of NSBM.

**What were the main challenges you faced at the inception of this university?**

When we do something new, we face many challenges; that is natural. However, a leader should have the





*EVEN DURING THIS PANDEMIC, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION WITH THE SUPPORT OF BOTH ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBERS. WE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING ONLINE LECTURES EVER SINCE THE RISE OF THE PANDEMIC AND I HAVEN'T RECEIVED A SINGLE COMPLAINT REGARDING THE DELIVERY OF LECTURES TO DATE. WE STRIVE TO KEEP THE PROCESSES AND PRACTICES QUINTESSENTIAL FOR AN EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION RUNNING AT THEIR BEST EVEN DURING SUCH TRYING TIMES*

strength to face them with grace and an iron-will. A successful leader should be able to handle both internal and external challenges.

Speaking of challenges, I must mention that working with 12 ministers during the past five years was quite challenging. Usually, with every new appointment of ministers, the governing bodies of institutions running under the respective ministries changed. Fortunately, I never had to face such a situation, for all the ministers appointed noticed the hard work and effort I had put into successfully completing this risky, yet rewarding initiative. Moreover, the decision to establish such a project in the suburbs of Homagama was criticized since many were under the assumption that students wouldn't prefer to choose such a distant location to pursue their tertiary education. In order to overcome this challenge, we

rented out a building in Nugegoda and commenced our operations. In fact, we were lucky enough to expand ourselves in this initial stage thanks to the increased demand for our degree programmes and student satisfaction.

Despite all the barriers, we were able to commence the official functions of NSBM Green University at Homagama, with the participation of 4000 students already studying at Nugegoda. I must note that there were no concerns from the students' end as predicted by denigrators, since we provided luxury transport facilities free of charge. Today, I am so proud of the accomplishment we have achieved; We built a state-of-the-art university with all the required facilities for students; a university which wasn't limited to a single building, but a university town that comprised of all the essential units such as a supermarket, a bank,





“ *FACING CHALLENGES IS PART OF OUR DAILY ROUTINE; THE PANDEMIC FOR EXAMPLE, APPEARED OUT OF THE BLUE AND STILL INFLUENCES OUR DAILY LIVES. WE NEED TO ALWAYS BE PROACTIVE AND STRATEGIC. THE MOMENT WE STEP INTO THE COMFORT ZONE UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT EVERYTHING IS RUNNING SMOOTHLY, WE START LOSING FOCUS AND STABILITY. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE SHOULD BE DREAMERS; AND EVERYONE SHOULD WORK TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE DREAMS. THE MINUTE PEOPLE STOP DREAMING, THEY STOP SUCCEEDING IN THEIR LIVES. PEOPLE SHOULD ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR TO BE CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE; THEY SHOULD ALWAYS TRY TO THINK OUT OF THE BOX* ”

playground, gym, several canteens, and even a press.

Currently, we are providing education for students whose parents are renowned academics in state universities. I believe that we have been able to reach such huge success within a short span of time for doing things right. I am very proud of our successful journey which has already left a positive impact on the entire tertiary education in Sri Lanka.

### **How concerned are you when recruiting employees for NSBM?**

Unlike other government universities, where thousands of non-academic staff are being

employed, here at NSBM, we only have around one-hundred. I must say that they all do their tasks quite well and contribute towards the smooth management of the institution. We have never recruited academic staff under any political influence; in fact, we deploy a rigorous mechanism to recruit academic staff in order to ensure that we recruit the cream of the crop. Even during this pandemic, we have been able to maintain the quality of education with the support of both academic and non-academic staff members. We have been conducting online lectures ever since the rise of the pandemic and I haven't received a single complaint regarding the delivery of lectures to date. We strive to keep the processes and practices

quintessential for an educational organization running at their best even during such trying times.

### **As the Vice Chancellor of this university, you are truly playing the role of a visionary leader. As you believe, how have you acquired these leadership skills? How have you acquired the strength of facing challenges and making the impossible, possible?**

I believe that leadership is really a skill to be mastered. I remember the time when I was doing my PhD in Japan;





my professor was so appreciative of me and said that I was eligible for the PhD, even before the submission of the final thesis, because I already had the practical knowledge required. I got the opportunity to visit many countries with him and therefore was highly exposed to international standards. I learnt a lot and gained vast experience during the time I was in Japan; the management style, the discipline, and the customer-care service in Japan was of a very high standard. I believe that I was greatly influenced by that exposure.

When accepting a position, one should think whether they have enough confidence to accept it. Confidence stems from knowledge and experience, not from political backing. As the Vice Chancellor of NSBM, I never gave in to external influences. I have never recruited our academic staff under the influence of anyone; any talented individual is given an opportunity at our university. Candidates do not need the support of any politician or political party to get a job opportunity at NSBM; those who are talented and accomplished are always welcome at our institute. I do my job well not with

the intention of gaining fame or special credit, but with the hopes of creating a better future for the next generation. During my tenure, I will do my best.

I started my career as a statistician at the Department of Census and Statistics. Then in 1985, I joined the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and then worked my way up from an Assistant Lecturer to the Head. After completing my Master's and PhD, I was offered the Director General position at NIBM. I held that position for 12 long years, setting the longest track record for a Director General in Sri Lanka. I never wanted to be a Vice-Chancellor of an existing university; I wanted to build a university and be part of the future. I see this as a great accomplishment that cannot be achieved by everyone. Regardless of the success we have gained within such a short period of time, I must note that we have not reached the comfort zone yet. I continue to hold the position of Vice-Chancellor, as the right leadership is integral to stabilize our position further.

This is a fully-fledged university with a

beautiful surrounding. These are the factors we have been marketing so far, but now it's time to move forward. Facing challenges is part of our daily routine; the pandemic for example, appeared out of the blue and still influences our daily lives. We need to always be proactive and strategic. The moment we step into the comfort zone under the assumption that everything is running smoothly, we start losing focus and stability. I firmly believe that everyone should be dreamers; and everyone should work towards achieving the dreams. The minute people stop dreaming, they stop succeeding in their lives. People should always endeavour to be creative and innovative; they should always try to think out of the box. I am fortunate to have a talented team that is eager to implement my ideas in practice.

### **How strongly do you believe in the impact of a peaceful learning environment on student learning?**

I firmly believe that it is imperative for students to have an environment that is conducive for studying. In the Phase





II, we plan to make further improvements; I believe that a peaceful, natural surrounding would benefit our students greatly. The modern infrastructure and amenities provided at NSBM are also fundamental in creating a learner-friendly mindset. I must appreciate our students' positive attitudes while noting that none of them have damaged the property within these sacred grounds. We, as a university dedicated to nurture the future generation, firmly believe in the maintenance of discipline. We make sure to gift career-ready professionals to the society adept in both academics and social skills by instilling positive attitudes throughout their undergraduate life.

### **How do you envision the future of NSBM?**

A university is a sacred place that instils knowledge, values, and attitudes. This university will survive for many years to come and will provide guidance and support to thousands of students. The progress we have made within the short time span of five years as a higher educational institute is exemplary in comparison to that of other

“ *EVERYTHING IS CHANGING AND EVOLVING AND IF WE WANT TO STAY IN THE GAME, WE NEED TO KEEP UPDATING OURSELVES AS WELL. AS A SRI LANKAN, I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE SERVED AND FULFILLED MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY MOTHERLAND. I ENCOURAGE THE YOUNG GENERATION TO USE THEIR TIME WISELY, TO PLAN THEIR FUTURE, AND REACH ACCOMPLISHMENTS STEP BY STEP. THERE ARE NO SHORT-CUTS TO SUCCESS. THERE WILL BE SEVERAL UPS AND DOWNS IN LIFE AND EACH OF THOSE BITTER-SWEET EXPERIENCES WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS CREATING A BETTER LEADER. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ADVISE OUR YOUNG GENERATION NOT TO BE VICTIMS OF THE NEGATIVITY PROJECTED BY SOCIETY AND BY CERTAIN RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL, OR ETHNIC LEADERS. WE SHOULD ALWAYS LOOK AT LIFE POSITIVELY, EMBRACE IT, AND STRIVE TO MAKE THE BEST OUT OF IT* ”

long-standing universities in Sri Lanka. One of our latest achievements is the approval of our PhD programme conducted in affiliation with foreign academics. I believe that the implementation of the PhD programme at NSBM will be highly beneficial for our own academics and other professionals in their journeys towards success. In fact, one of the prominent elements in the upcoming five-year plan, along with the completion of Phase II, is the further improvement of the standard of education; the development of the internal academic staff is one major element of focus.

### **As an extraordinary leader who turned a new chapter in the modern higher education system, what message do you have for the young generation?**

The first thing I should highlight is that the world is changing; people are evolving. There was once a time where students believed and accepted their lecturers' teachings without question. However, the modern generation no longer blindly

trusts in someone else's words; they would make sure to double-check facts and gather additional information. The current job market also seeks for all-rounders equipped with both professional qualifications and practical knowledge. Everything is changing and evolving and if we want to stay in the game, we need to keep updating ourselves as well. As a Sri Lankan, I believe that I have served and fulfilled my responsibility to my motherland. I encourage the young generation to use their time wisely, to plan their future, and reach accomplishments step by step. There are no short-cuts to success. There will be several ups and downs in life and each of those bitter-sweet experiences will contribute towards creating a better leader. I would also like to advise our young generation not to be victims of the negativity projected by society and by certain religious, political, or ethnic leaders. We should always look at life positively, embrace it, and strive to make the best out of it.

*By Gayanthi Mendis & Roshni Samarasinghe*

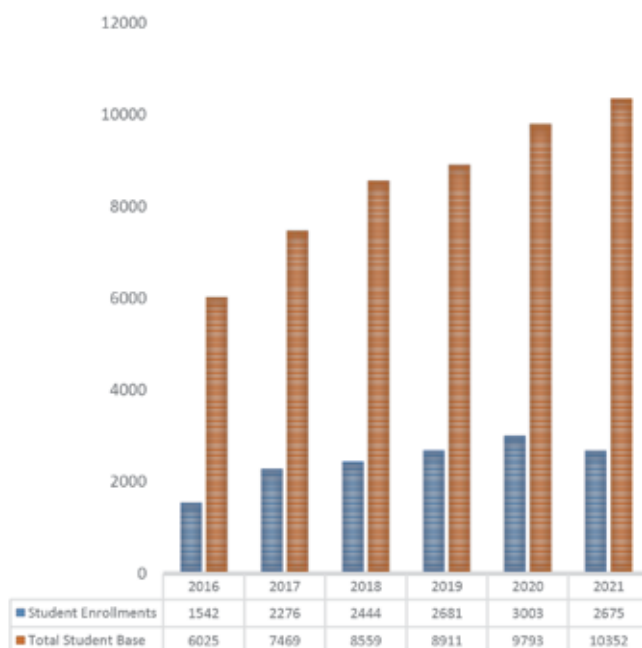


# REDEFINING THE LIMITS OF SRI LANKAN HIGHER EDUCATION

The victorious journey pursued by the NSBM Green University since its inception in the year 2016, up to the present, is remarkable and its trend of success depicts clear signs of continuity. All faculties of the NSBM Green University are solidly dedicated towards delivering knowledge, inculcating skills and molding competencies of exceptional quality, to the most precious treasured in our possession who are our very

own student base. Since the university has been extremely successful in meeting and perhaps exceeding student expectations about the quality of its service, the number of students proudly embarking on their higher education journey with the NSBM Green University, has shown a steady increase across the years.

YEAR ON YEAR STUDENT ENROLLMENTS & TOTAL STUDENT BASE (2016-2021)



\*Year 2021 figure indicates students enrolled in one intake only. The subsequent intake was delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic.

THE STUDENT  
BASE OF  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY  
HAS INCREASED BY

**71%**

FROM  
2016 TO 2021





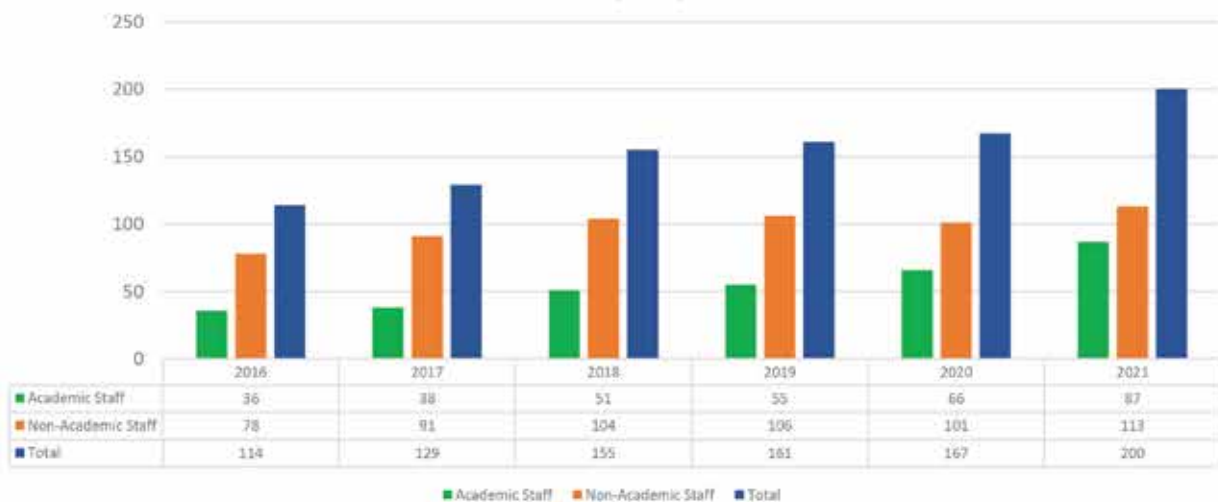
FACULTY-WISE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN OFFER BY NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY  
2016-2021



The plethora of degree programs in offer to our valued student base by the different faculties at the NSBM Green University is another solid indication of its victorious progress. The multitude of various recognized and high-quality programs create a well-diversified option range for those students looking forward for an exciting and interesting higher education journey. The number of qualifications in offer by the NSBM Green University has increased from 23 programs in 2016 to 50 programs in 2021.

The range of programs in offer to the student base who is willing to pursue graduate and postgraduate studies in this quality higher education setting, is expected to increase in the future years to come in line with the strategic plan triggering this victorious journey.

ACADEMIC & NON ACADEMIC STAFF OF NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY  
(2016-2021)



The Academic Staff of NSBM Green University has increased by

**141%**

from 2016 to 2021

When the holistic picture of the NSBM Green University's progress across the five years is analyzed, an all-round boost in key success indicators such as student enrolments, overall student base, program count in offer by different faculties of the university, staff endowment is evident.

The overall sustained trends are expected to continue in the future years to come when current trends are extrapolated.

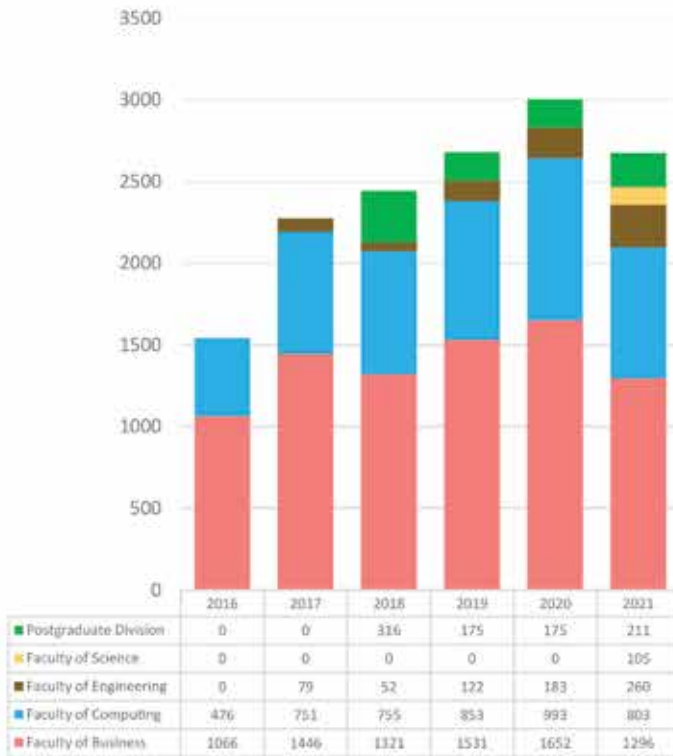
The Total Staff of NSBM Green University has increased by

**75%**

from 2016 to 2021



FACULTY-WISE STUDENT ENROLEMENTS (2016-2021)



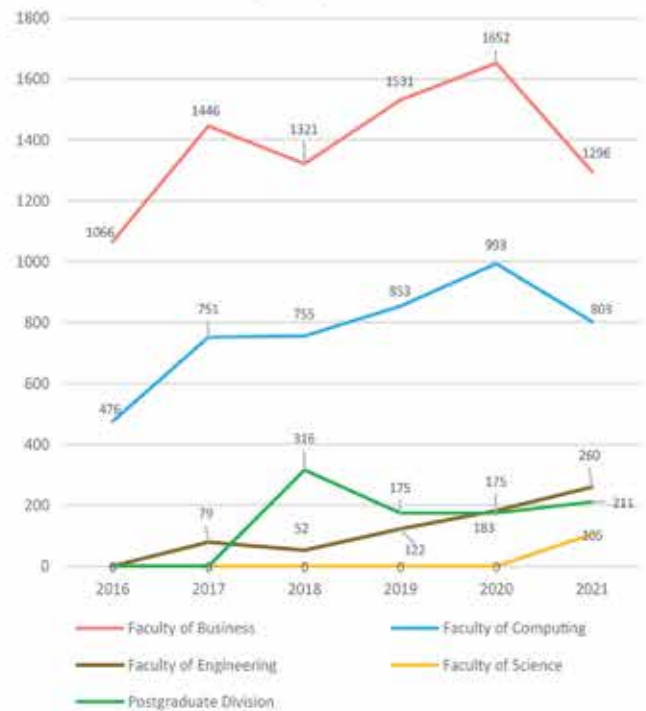
\*Year 2021 figure indicates students enrolled in one intake only. The subsequent intake was delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic.



GRADUATION COUNT FROM THE NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY (2016-2020)



FACULTY WISE STUDENT ENROLEMENT TREND (2016-2021)



\*Year 2021 figure indicates students enrolled in one intake only. The subsequent intake was delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic.



Year	Award	Awardee	Citation
1. 2020, 2021	Silver Award	Best Web.Ik	Best University & Education Institute website
2. 2019, 2018, 2016	Gold Award	Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka	Annual Report Awards- State sector category
3. 2016, 2017	National Business Excellence Award - Gold Award	National Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka	Excellence in business management - state sector
4. 2019	Janabhimani Gaurava, Helaye Mahaviru Ravana Rajabhimani Gaurava	Government of Sri Lanka	Janabhimani Honorary Awards
5. 2018	National Business Excellence Award	National Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka	Excellence in business management in the state sector
6. 2017	Gold Winner	Best Web.Ik	Sri Lankan Best Website-Education and Professional Services Category
7. 2017	Bronze Winner	Best Web.Ik	Best Website in Sri Lanka (overall)
8. 2016	Gold Award	DS Senanayake College's DS Students' Brand Award	Students' higher education institute of the year
9. 2016 - present	The Certified Green Building	Ceylon Institute of Builders	Green building concept evaluation



Silver Award for Best Higher Education Website 2020 organized by Best Web.Ik



Gold Award for Best Higher Education Website 2017 organized by Best Web.Ik



Janabhimani Honorary Awards 2019, Government of Sri Lanka



Gold Award for the Best State Sector Annual Report organized by CA Sri Lanka 2018



Excellence Award for State Services Sector, National Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka, 2016



Business Excellence Award for state services sector, National Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka, 2018



Gold Award for the most popular Higher Education Institute, 2017, DS Senanayake College's DS Students' Brand Award, 2016



Bronze Award, for the Best Website in Sri Lanka (overall), 2017, organized by Best Web.Ik



Gold Award for the Best State Sector Annual Report organized by CA Sri Lanka, 2017

Complied by Vageesha Rajapakse



# Nurturing Future Business Leaders

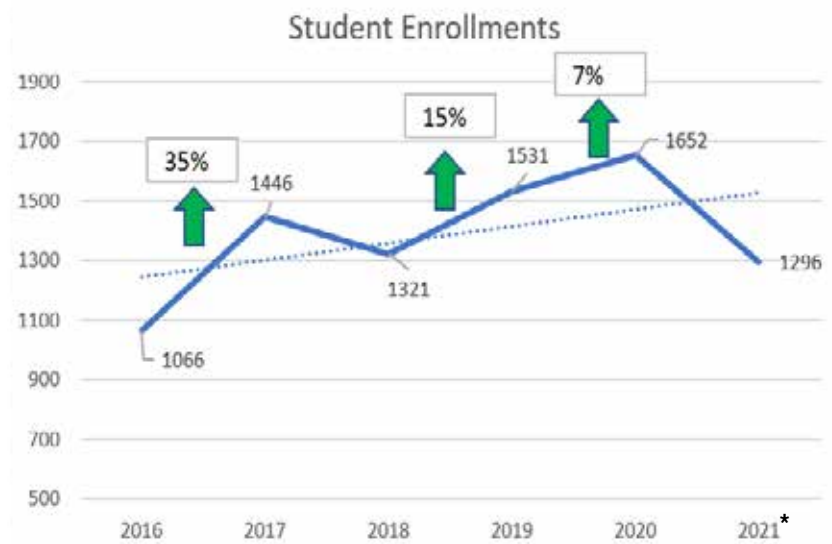
## FACULTY OF BUSINESS

**T**he Faculty of Business of NSBM Green University is the ideal faculty for any undergraduate interested in pursuing a career in the business field. The faculty nurtures students with a business mind and molds them into fully-fledged business leaders of the future. The drive behind achieving this goal is the passion for excellence and perfection that surrounds the Faculty of Business in its methods of teaching, learning, research, and networking with the business community.

The Faculty of Business offers both local and foreign-affiliated degree programs in Business

Management, Human Resource Management, Accounting and Finance, Operations and Logistics, Marketing, Tourism, and Hospitality to meet the industry requirements.

This allows undergraduates to gain a holistic understanding of the business world.



\*Year 2021 figure indicates students enrolled in one intake only. The subsequent intake was delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic

**Student base of the Faculty of Business has increased by 35% from 2016-2021**



Study Programme	Awardee University
BSc. in Business Management (Human Resource Management) (Special)	NSBM
BM (Hons.) in International Management	NSBM
BA in Business Communication	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) International Management and Business	University of Plymouth - UK
BSc. (Hons.) in Business Communication	University of Plymouth - UK
BM (Hons.) in Accounting and Finance	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Accounting and Finance	University of Plymouth - UK
Bachelor of Business: Banking and Finance and Finance Risk Management	Victoria University - Australia
BSc.in Business Management (Logistics Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. in Business Management (Industrial Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. in Business Management (Project Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Operations and Logistics Management	University of Plymouth - UK
Bachelor of Business: Management and Innovation & Supply Chain and Logistics Management	Victoria University - Australia
BM (Hons.) in Tourism, Hospitality, and Events	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Marketing Management	University of Plymouth - UK
BSc. (Hons.) Events, Tourism and Hospitality Management	University of Plymouth - UK

Students will find learning at the Faculty of Business quite a unique and interesting experience as undergraduates are also given the taste of real-life business experiences while learning the theories behind it, in class. Through this process, the faculty strives to prepare business undergraduates to face any challenge in the real business world as they will be equipped with excellent problem-solving and analytical capabilities. The Faculty of Business takes special care to ensure that all students are provided with intellectual depth and abundant resources as well as individual attention.

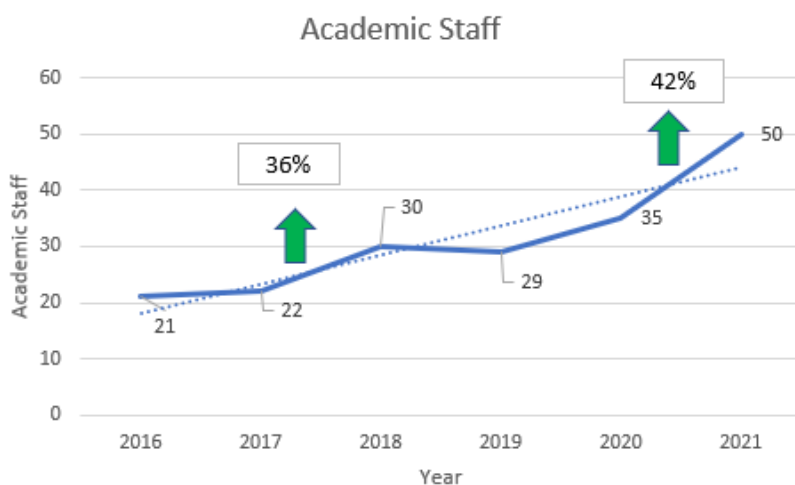
Faculty of Business is always abuzz with excitement and vivacity, with students participating in immersive academic activities and soft skills development programs.

#### Professional Advancement Centre (PAC)

Professional Advancement Centre (PAC) is the center for all the professional and personal development activities within the faculty. The PAC provides professional services to students and consultation/education to the NSBM community to address students' personal, academic, and social issues.

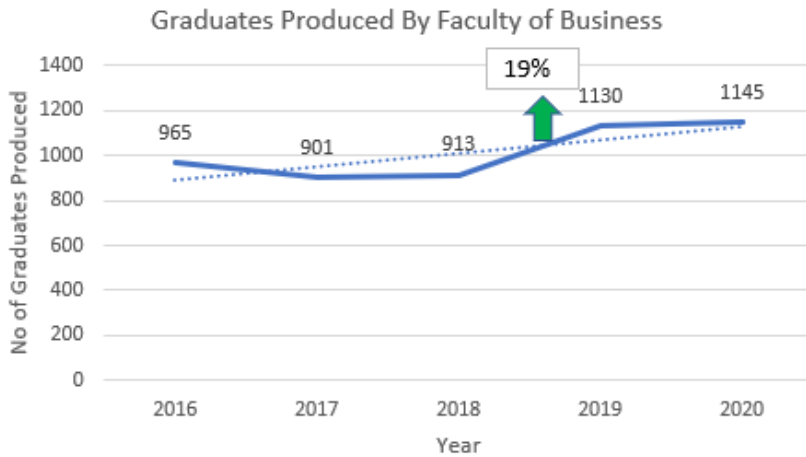
#### Association of Business Management (ABM)

Association of Business Management (ABM) is the umbrella association that supports bringing together students' circles, clubs, and societies constituted within the faculty.



**Academic staff of the Faculty of Business has increased by 58% from 2016 - 2021**





**Faculty of Business has produced more than 900 graduates each year from 2016-2020**

With the vision of the Vice-Chancellor, the Faculty of Business was departmentalized in 2020 based on the following academic interests; Department of Management, Department of Accounting and Finance, Department of Marketing and Tourism Management, Department of Operations and Logistics, Department of Economics and Decision Sciences, and Department of Legal Studies. Each department of the Faculty of Business is dedicated to its' students and provides them the best possible educational experience.

## Department of Management

*Connect, Collaborate, Create*

The Department of Management Studies takes pride in being the largest department at the Faculty of Business and in the whole university. The department offers its services to all the faculties and all the degree programs

in the university. It offers a dynamic learning environment for scholarship and research in broader business management aspects. The department's primary objective is "to educate future business leaders with a strong ethical mindset for the demanding contemporary global business environments". The department mainly focuses on advancing knowledge and critical scholarship in the broader field of management and organization studies.

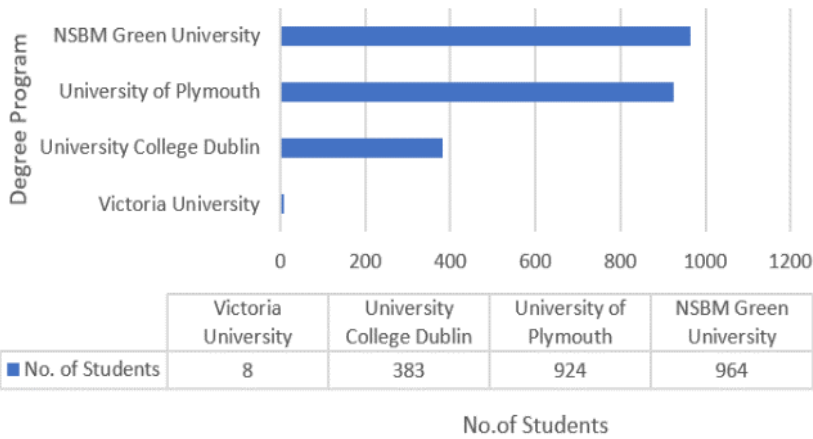


Study Programme	Awardee University
BSc. in Business Management (Human Resource Management) (Special)	NSBM
BM (Hons.) in International Management	NSBM
BA in Business Communication	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) International Management and Business	University of Plymouth - UK
BSc. (Hons.) in Business Communication	University of Plymouth - UK

It provides a holistic learning experience for the undergraduates with the assistance of well-qualified academic staff. The academic programs ensure that the graduates are up to date with industry-relevant competencies via high-quality academic delivery. The department also takes entrepreneurial skills development as a crucial part of the curriculum.



### Student distribution across programs



Further, the department facilitates personal, as well as professional development of the students with various student-led projects.

Moreover, the department is equipped with student circles providing a platform to showcase student performance.

Subject Circle	Key activities
HR Circle	CV Fest, CV Proof Reading Project, Skill Up Webinar Series, Knock Knock Webinar Series, LinkedIn Essentials, Become an Employee Champion Webinar Series
IBM Circle	Business Wave; a series of Social Media posts, one world International Forum, Initiative in Partnering up with Jobeka. lk to help NSBM undergraduates, IBM E-Magazine
Entrepreneur Circle	YES, Physical Store: The physical, "Expedition" - Webinar, "Biz-Talk" Webinar Series, "Sparks" - Career guidance and leadership workshop.
English Literary Association	Drop the Mic - an open mic event, Academic Writing, and Referencing Workshop- to develop the academic writing skills of the students' Story Pitch; and idea-sharing platform for the budding authors, Monthly Book Club

The Department of Management affirms that their graduates are fully-fledged to encounter the challenges in the modern business world.

## Department of Accounting and Finance

### *Beyond the numbers*

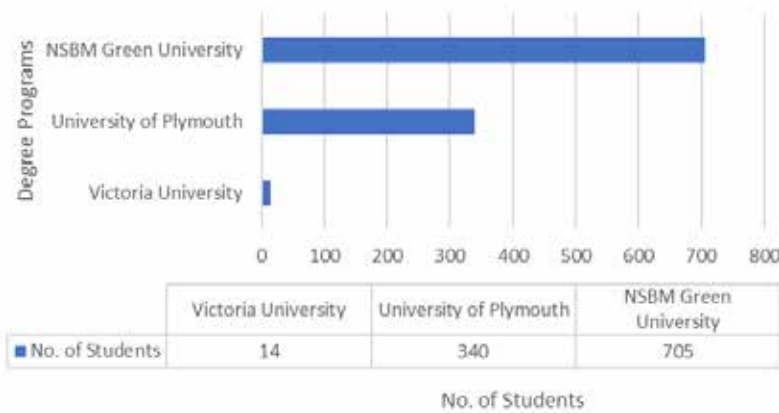
The Department of Accounting and Finance, setting its heart on becoming the epitome of creative Accounting and finance education in Sri Lanka is dedicated to producing employable and ardent graduates in Accounting and Finance and their allied disciplines. Thus, the quintessence of the department is enriched with its focus to redefine and stretch the boundaries of Accounting and Finance education in Sri Lanka.



As one of the largest departments at the Faculty of Business, the Department of Accounting and Finance provides unique teaching, research, and learning experience to undergraduates to mold them to be business leaders and quality citizens of the country. The department aims to prepare students for multiple career opportunities in the field and direct them to further academic studies and professional certifications through diverse and continuous curriculum improvement. We encourage the students to behave in a socially responsible way, endowed with high ethical standards, to become leading personalities in their chosen field in the future.



Student distribution across programs



The department facilitates a unique learning environment comprised of research-oriented novel teaching techniques and industry-focused teaching through industry collaboration. The department also maintains a strong network with the related professional bodies providing opportunities for personal and professional development for the students. Most importantly, the department houses a dedicated team of academics who work their level best to provide a quality education while the non-academic staff ensures the best service to our students.

The department is currently catering to a student population of over 2000 students and offers a range of local degree programs and international degree programs from affiliated foreign universities.

Study Programme	Awardee University
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BM (Hons.) in Accounting and Finance	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Accounting & Finance	University of Plymouth - UK
Bachelor of Business: Banking and Finance & Finance Risk Management	Victoria University - Australia

The radical approach to Accounting and Finance education by the department makes its graduates well acquainted with knowledge, skills, and the attitudes demanded by the corporate world.

## Department of Marketing and Tourism Management

*Explore, Experience, Expedite*

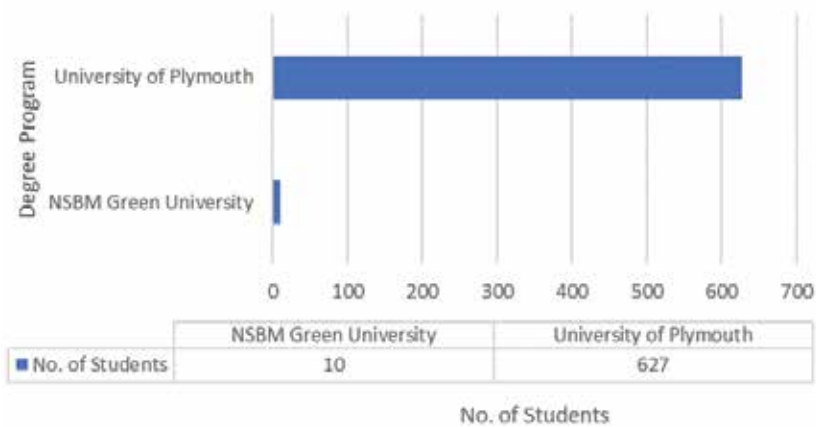
Study Programme	Awardee University
BM (Hons.) in Tourism, Hospitality & Events	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Marketing Management	University of Plymouth - UK
BSc. (Hons.) Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management	University of Plymouth - UK

Students will experience learning and a real business atmosphere through different interactions with the department. Through this

process, the department will ensure to create competent graduates to the industry with the necessary analytical skills.



Student distribution across programs



The department shapes undergraduates with both academic and extracurricular activities.

The subject circles that operate under the department inculcate

teamwork and leadership skills of the undergraduates along with different activities such as outbound training, hotel visits, workshops, seminars, and guest lectures.

Subject Circle	Key activities
Marketing	ENVISION'19 – Marketing Day, Marketing Exhibition, Enliven 19, Sparks 19, Digital Marketing webinar series, Originals Marketing agency, The marketing blueprint, TIK-TOK - Not your ordinary social media, Inspiro webinar series, Enliven 21
ICTH	Culinario episode 1 - live cooking show, food and beverage training session, WEST wine education, Cocktail training sessions, DAD food competition, Traversa - Tourism Day, Viaggio lecture series, Food stalls, IH webinars series, Student Research Symposium.

The research and development are a new venture which department pursues in developing competent researchers in the fields of marketing and tourism.

The department also has partnered up with industry and professional giants; John Keells Holdings, The Chartered Institute of Marketing, Institute of Hospitality. Further, the DMT Spearhead initiative is the newest arm of the department established to combine graduates to exchange their industry experience and exposure with current students. In addition, department launched the magazine, "Sparkle" with the objective of getting reviews from industry experts and also to set a stage for young undergraduates and academia alike.

As the departmental futuristic goals, we are striving to achieve academic recognition and excellence through departmental research and to bring out the novelty and creativity of our young budding undergraduates through many more student activities.

Eventually, as the Department of Marketing and Tourism Management, we aspire to become the best in the country with the prospects of being holistic, innovative and adventurous. Our ultimate goal is to gift future marketers and trailblazers in the fields of marketing and hospitality who set trends and redefine the limits.

## Department of Operations and Logistics

*The origin of a pioneer to be*

The Department of Operations & Logistics, with its vision to produce the most sought-after graduates who are thought leaders in bringing transformation to the industry, research & society strives to create the best undergraduate experience for students. The collaboration of the dynamic and experienced academic staff, industry experts working closely with the department as mentors and consultants, a strong bond developed with the professional bodies in domain areas, and the research culture inculcated within the department have made the department a nurturing environment for talented undergraduates.



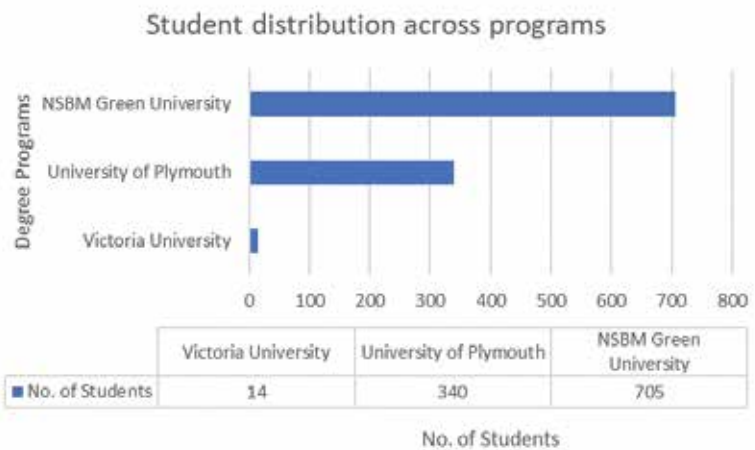


Study Programme	Awardee University
BSc.in Business Management (Logistics Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. in Business Management (Industrial Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. in Business Management (Project Management) (Special)	NSBM
BSc. (Hons.) Operations & Logistics Management	University of Plymouth - UK
Bachelors of Business: Management and Innovation & Supply Chain and Logistics Management	Victoria University - Australia

The department offers an insight to its' undergraduates of the contemporary business management practices combining the arenas of logistics management, operations management, industrial management, and project management. Students get exposed to a world-class learning experience via business laboratories, workshops on professional qualifications, real-world exposure to case studies on top of in-class lectures to mold the graduates to cater to the modern business requirements. The department has cooperated with the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in affiliating the logistics special degree programs and Project management Institute (PMI) in affiliating the

project management special degree program. Furthermore, the department has taken steps to offer professional qualifications such as Lean certificates by partnering with Lean six sigma company- Asia. The stimulating learning environment created within the department motivates students to enhance their analytical and critical thinking ability to re-engineer and optimize business processes and become thought leaders of the future industry.

Department of Operations & Logistics being surrounded by energetic undergraduates creates a vibrant atmosphere full of new events happening day after days such as seminars, workshops, guest lectures, field trips, and many more. The key contributors of these various activities are the subject circles under the department and the student association of operations and logistics.



Subject Circle	Key Activities
Logistics circle	Logistics Challenge Inter-University Competition, the launch of the official website, Invizia webinar series on Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Facts and Insights daily knowledge sharing, Logistics Day, Field visits
Industrial Management Circle	Envizio - specialization awareness webinar series, Get up and Go Soft skill development program, Green Win Challenge Sustainability competition
Student Association of Operations and Logistics	INSIGNIA – Bi-annual department magazine

The student-oriented activities conducted by the department have created new opportunities for students to develop their soft skills, analytical thinking ability, leadership, and entrepreneurial ideas for the betterment of the self and society at large. Therefore, the Department of Operations and Logistics has become successful in providing value-added graduates to the society enriched with academic knowledge, soft skills and leadership, and humanness.

## Department of Economics and Decision Sciences

*Home for the most innovative thinkers*



“The art of economics consists in looking not merely at the immediate but at the longer effects of any act or policy; it consists in tracing the consequences of that policy not merely for one group but all groups.” This department is not only limited to economics but it has been merged with decision sciences as well with the expectation of producing graduates, who can engage themselves in issues that confront society at large with the aid of critical and analytical thinking.

Proposed Program	Awardee University
BSc (Hons) in Applied Economics	NSBM
BSc (Hons) in Business Analytics	NSBM

Currently, this department is operated with a well-qualified panel of lecturers; and conducts industry-oriented knowledge sharing sessions by parenting with professionals.

Student Circle of Economics and Decision Sciences	UPSURGE webinar series, EconLib video series, the launch of the official social media page, Contributing to the IMPACT magazine
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The department supports undergraduates to build up professional relationships with academic institutions, corporate entities, and other industry partners, making it an ideal place for producing influential economists to the entire globe.

## Department of Legal Studies

*Fortuna Eruditus Favet  
Fortune favors the prepared mind*



Legal Study is an interdisciplinary field that deals with the mutual influence between law and other disciplines of studies. Sri Lanka has a major void in interdisciplinary study areas for students inculcating law or legal studies. The department of legal studies of NSBM Green University was formulated and initiated to fill the educational gap in Sri Lanka. Currently, the department of legal studies caters to the Faculty of Business, Faculty of Computing, and Faculty of Engineering as a service department with a futuristic view to introducing interdisciplinary degree programs.

Proposed Program	Awardee University
BM in International Trade and Law	NSBM
BM in Business and Law	NSBM
BM in E-commerce and Law	NSBM

The department takes a holistic approach towards teaching a variety of legal aspects demanded globally while exploring current legal issues. The vision is to be one of the leading Department of Legal Studies of the country which envisions preparing outstanding lawyers and professionals to serve their national and global communities with excellence, integrity, and professionalism.

The department is committed to develop and sustain the standards of legal education and research in the nations through global exposure, promoting respect for diversity and academic freedom. ■

*Compiled by Dinusha Sathsarani & Manisha Dias*







# A CLOSE-KNIT FAMILY DEDICATED TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

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## Ms. Thilini De Silva

*Dean -Faculty of Business*

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### How would you describe your role as the Dean of the faculty?

I think working as a Dean of a faculty is a very responsible job because in a university the degree programs are awarded through the faculty. In the Faculty of Business, we award all the degrees relating to business management. In NSBM Green University out of the 11,000 students, nearly 6,000 students are learning in the Faculty of Business. So, we are the biggest community in the university in terms of student numbers and we are awarding 27-degree programs across seven departments. We also award both NSBM and foreign affiliated degree programmes; University of Plymouth and Victoria University. So, as the Dean, my responsibilities spread across all the academic and examination related activities, subject circle related activities to the faculty members related activities. I think it is a very responsible job and it requires a lot of effort in terms of thinking, the ability to listen to people's queries and implement relevant policies and procedures to smoothly operate the functions of the faculty and the departments. The role of the Dean is like a role of a manager.





I have to play different roles at different times. Sometimes I'm a spokesperson, monitor, disseminator, a disturbance handler and a new thinker. Though the title is given as the Dean, I play many roles in par with the activities which are assigned to me as the Dean. Also, I personally believe it is a very responsible job and not a 9 am – 5 pm job. I have to always be prepared to fulfil my duties and I'm trying my best to play my role as the Dean of the Faculty of Business.

### **What are the unique qualities about your faculty?**

The most unique quality about the faculty is the team. I think this is why my faculty is different from any other faculty in the university and other universities. It comprises with myself and 55 permanent internal academic members and 7 non-academic members who are running this entire faculty with much dedication. I think we are all passionate about the tasks and challenges given to us. Also, we consider our team as our family by having a very good rapport with each other. The culture

we have established at the faculty makes all the comprehensive roles very simple and happy. Further, the student community of the faculty are empowered to engage with different student activities, under every department we have established subject circles where students can come up with various projects to polish their personalities. Hence, it is evident that the positive attitudes of the student community and the staff are the uniqueness of the faculty.

### **What is the most challenging task in managing your faculty and how do you face those challenges?**

The expansion of the faculty is a bit challenging with the growth of student and faculty members. Also, as a university we have many stakeholders, including students, parents, ministries, foreign affiliated universities etc., so working with different stakeholders who have different interests which cause conflicts is challenging. However, as a faculty we have agreed different procedures for tasks that we perform



**I'm a proud member of NSBM, who was there as a contributing team member along with the pillar of strength of this university, our Vice-Chancellor. All the challenges we faced made us stronger. Also I am truly humbled say that I've been a part of many success stories in the last 10 years.**



with the approval of the Vice Chancellor to deliver a quality service to our stakeholders. Being on par with international standards and working ahead with our competitors are some other challenges; nevertheless, as a team, we are facing it successfully with the help of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. E.A. Weerasinghe who has a very good intuition about the higher education system in local and international contexts. We also receive immense support from our Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Chaminda Rathnayake and Head of Academic Development and Quality Assurance, Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa.

### **How does the future look like for the faculty?**

I see a very bright future of the Faculty of Business in terms of academic and extra-curricular activities with the strong foundation we have laid since 2016 and the establishment of departments. Also, as the

largest faculty, we have trained our academic staff to deliver any kind of administrative role on par with their academic excellence. The faculty strives with a unique culture where all the faculty members are adhering to the policies and procedures despite the position they hold. Also, the faculty has collaborated with professional bodies like ACCA, CIMA, SLIM and CIM. Further, as a faculty that always thrive to have quality, we are in the process of achieving the AACSB accreditation, and Commonwealth accreditation. And the industry collaborations play a vital role in terms of getting placements for our students. Moreover, now we are in the process of absorbing the quality products of our own university to the faculty as academic members as to improve the loyalty towards the faculty. So, I think with the things we do now, we will have a tomorrow.

### **What message would you like to share at this special moment of celebrating successful 5 years at NSBM Green University?**

I'm a proud member of NSBM, who was there as a contributing team member along with the pillar of strength of this university, our Vice-Chancellor. All the challenges we faced made us stronger. Also I am truly humbled to say that I have been a part of many success stories in the last 10 years. I think from 2016, the five years we spent in this state-of-the-art facilities university is the best five years of NSBM with the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor along with staff members and our students. Today we are celebrating five years with a happy note, and we have a very long way to go by strengthening our team. I wish the leadership, Prof. E.A. Weerasinghe, Prof. Chaminda Rathnayake, Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa and the NSBM family to enhance the all the power, energy, positive attitude to serve this university to shape our future generation and ultimately serve our country for years to come. ■

*By Dinusha Sathsarani*





# CATERING TO GLOBAL DEMANDS

## FACULTY OF COMPUTING

The Faculty of Computing (FOC) provides world class education and training in Computing and Information Technology, both at undergraduate as well as post graduate levels with a view to producing internationally recognised graduates who will contribute to the industry as well as further the discipline through research. FOC offers a plethora of pathways and specializations for its undergraduates. This vast choice ensures that the academic

component of all interests and dream careers are fulfilled, whilst also promising a holistic educational experience in any discipline of their choice.

FOC places equal emphasis on both theory and practice of all aspects of the computing field, enabling students to have sufficient hands-on experience to take up any working assignment in their respective IT fields at the end of their degree programs. Moreover, FOC provides

top notch research, training and development services that will help students acquire new knowledge along with the best practices in their respective disciplines. FOC aims to be among the foremost center of excellence in Research and Development (R&D) and advance education in computing while taking into consideration national as well as regional requirements for Information and Communication Technology.





## STORY OF FOC

FOC WAS STARTED IN 2012 WHEN NSBM WAS OPERATING IN NUGEGODA. AT THAT TIME BSC (HONS) IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN WAS THE ONLY DEGREE PROGRAM OFFERED BY FOC. THERE WERE AROUND 100 STUDENTS REGISTERED AS THE FIRST BATCH OF FOC. UGC APPROVED DEGREE PROGRAMS AND UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH PROGRAMS WERE STARTED FROM 2013 ONWARDS. THE LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE UGC APPROVED DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED BY FOC IS BSC (HONS) IN DATA SCIENCE WHICH IS STARTED IN 2021.

In 2016 FOC started the IEEE student branch at NSBM to provide their undergraduates the opportunities to meet and learn from fellow IEEE Student and Graduate Student Members and engage with professional IEEE members locally.



Moreover, FOSS, standing for Free and Open-Source Software community was started at FOC as an international movement in the faculty.

Keeping in line with NSBM's vision of producing globally employable graduates, in 2018 FOC pioneered establishing Business Incubation Centers at university premises. At this phase three companies namely, 99x technology Limited, Omobio Pvt Ltd, and Creative Technology Solutions Pvt Ltd commenced operations and offered around 30 fulltime internship opportunities to undergraduates of NSBM.





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## Remarkable growth

The FOC has recorded a remarkable growth in several respects from 2012 to-date. It has also partnered with the world top ranking universities, University College Dublin in Ireland, University of Plymouth in UK, and Victoria University in Australia to provide undergraduates with

highly recognized International Degrees. The student numbers have risen from 100 to 3,061 academic staff from 12 to 55, study programmes from 3 (local) to 10 (5 local and 5 foreign) and over 700 resourceful graduates to the industry.

Degree Program	Student Enrolment per degree program (2016-2020)									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
BSc in Management Information Systems (Special) NSBM	86	127	53	111	113	73	72	156	81	120
BSc (Hons) in Software Engineering NSBM	0	0	0	0	24	60	34	32	75	125
BSc (Hons) in Computer Science NSBM	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	12	39	54
BSc (Hons) in Computer Networks NSBM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	19	12
BSc (Honours) Software Engineering Plymouth	51	170	221	248	366	244	288	307	400	205
BSc (Honours) Computer Networks Plymouth	0	0	0	0	58	82	59	50	39	24
BSc (Honours) Computer Security Plymouth	0	0	0	0	49	56	76	58	50	39
BSc (Honours) Computer Science Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	34
BSc (Hons) Management Information Systems UCD	615	357	221	81	0	39	0	119	33	0
BSc (Hons) Computer Science UCD	286	261	321	290	34	36	0	0	0	0
BIT in Web and Mobile Application Development VU	0	0	0	0	0	49	54	24	35	10

Figure 1: Student Enrolment per degree program (2016-2021)

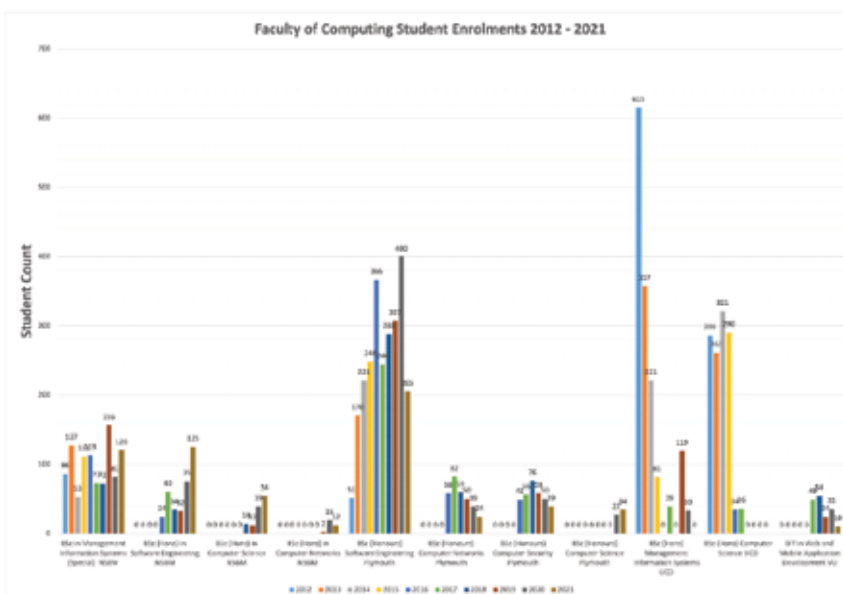


Figure 2: Comparison of student enrolments per degree program (2016-2021)

The FOC is in possession of a rich and diverse portfolio of study programmes. While they are spread over four broad themes (Computer Science and Software Engineering, Information and Systems Sciences, Networks and Security, and Data sciences). Further, more study programmes will be introduced under each theme as well as new themes including cyber security, networking, and information technology. To be in alignment with the rapid advancements taking place in industry and to be in touch with local and global professional bodies, the faculty updates its course modules periodically. In addition, the faculty conducts short term training programmes that address specific industry requirements.

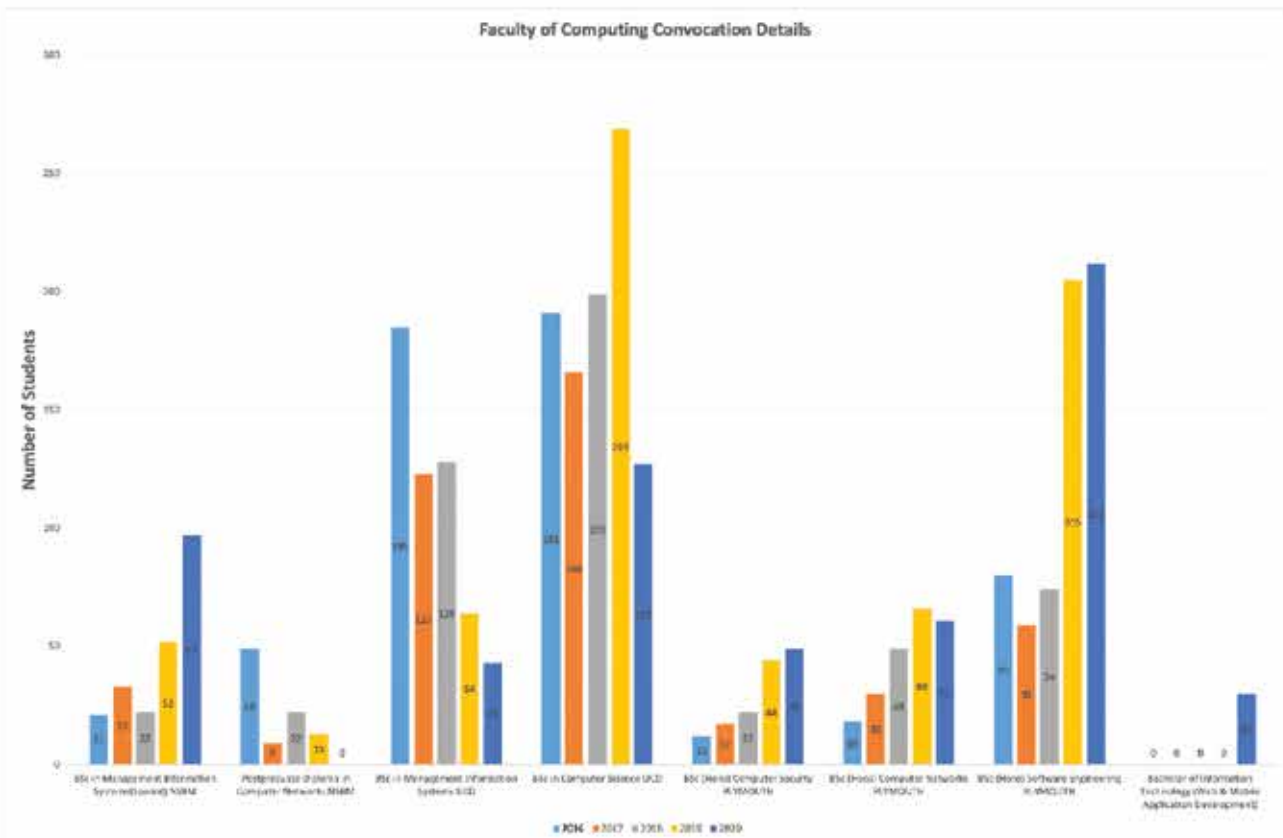


Figure 3: Summary of the graduates produced in each year (2016-2010)

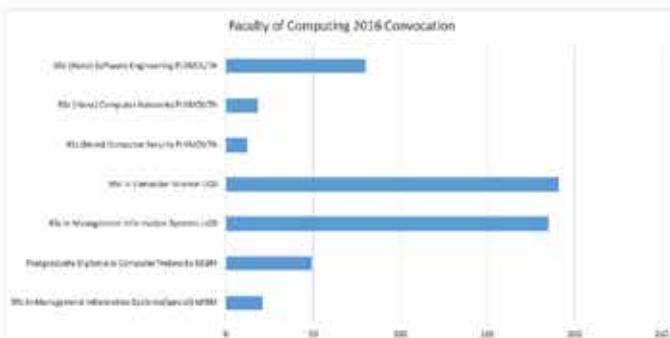


Figure 4: Number of graduates per degree program in 2016

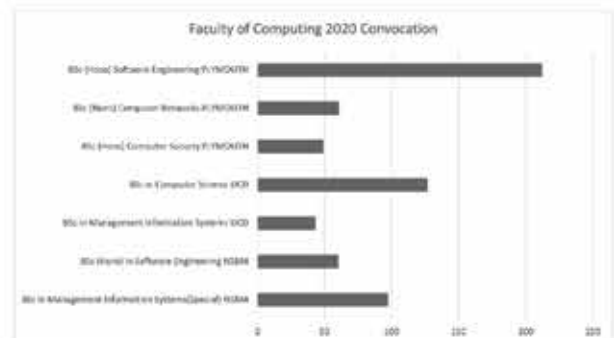


Figure 8: Number of graduates per degree program in 2020



## Departments

The faculty consists of four main departments based on the current and future trends of the computing arena and prestige universities structures related to computing discipline. The common foundation and bridging programs are delivered by the faculty with collaboration with all departments.





## Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering (CSSE)

The Department of Computer Science & Software Engineering is the largest department of the Faculty of Computing. It offers industry-focused, local, and international degree programs in relation to the most demanding skills in Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Web & Mobile Application Development. From institution inception to today, thousands of high-caliber graduates are produced, and they are employed at leading IT related industries in Sri Lanka and overseas.

### Student Activities:

The plethora of activities planned and executed under four primary categories, 1. Technical Skills, 2. Soft Skills, 3. Skills match and 4. High-quality research project and research culture.

## Department of Information and Systems Sciences (ISS)

The Department of Information and Systems Sciences is established under the Faculty of Computing,

with a current student population of over 1000+ undergraduates. The core of our curriculum reflects quite well the model created by the Association of Information Systems (AIS), an international society of ISS researchers and teachers. The employment rate of our students is extremely high, and they get right positions in both IT and Management sectors organizations recognizing their expertise in both business and IT domain.

### Student Activities:

The academic activities at the department range over a wide field characterized by interdisciplinary elements and are focused on developing and adapting the use of

IT to the needs of people, organizations, and society. Moreover, the DISS conduct several activities apart from the continuous academic delivery to enhance students' engagement, knowledge, and skills in different aspects.

## Department of Data Sciences (DS)

The Department of Data Science of NSBM Green University is established with the intention of focusing to be the leader in the discipline of Data Science in Sri Lanka, which includes knowledge contribution from the key areas of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language processing, Data Mining, Statistical Modeling, Simula-







tion, Optimization and Visualization.

The department currently offers the BSc (Hons) in Data Science degree program and will certainly be including more in-demand subjects in the near future. The Data Science program mostly focuses on individuals who are passionate about seeking solutions for societal issues.

In addition to the above, the Department of Data Science targets to deliver a variety of technical understandings of related fields, present the importance of the link between theory & practice, communications & organizational skills, data curation & computational skills, statistical / probabilistic skills and many more.



## Department of Network and Security (NS)

Network security is a broad term that covers a multitude of technologies, devices, and processes. In its simplest term, it is a set of rules and configurations designed to protect the integrity, confidentiality and accessibility of computer networks and data using both software and hardware technologies.

Department offers industry-focused local, and international degree programs specialized in the field of networking and security.

### Student activities:

As part of the process of making a graduate ready for the industry the department has initiated signing agreements with industry professional bodies. Currently FOC has signed agreement with RedHat as an official Learning center where Students can enjoy 50% reduction on professional Exams and products. Already CISCO and Microsoft agreements are on the pipeline.

*Complied by Chalani Oruthotarachchi & Pramudya Thilakarantne*





# Creating Career-Ready Professionals

**Dr. Rasika Ranaweera**  
Dean-Faculty of Computing

## How would you describe your role as the Dean of the faculty?

The motto of the Computing Faculty is to create "technically competent, ethically sound, socially liable, creative & innovative thinkers." To achieve that goal, I must make sure the smooth delivery of lectures, tutorials, practicals, workshops, training programs across all the programs we conduct under the faculty. Since there are affiliated universities like Plymouth University, UK and Victoria University, Australia, I must maintain proper communication with them. IT industry is highly attractive yet highly competitive where technical skill plays a key role when a student is seeking a job. Therefore, improving the students' technical as well as

personal skills is also one of the most important responsibilities. We need to continuously track students' performance by conducting various interviews like viva to individually assess the student as well as to identify and find solutions for their weaknesses. Not only that but also keeping up with the ever-changing IT technologies and planning for the future come under my responsibilities.

## What are the unique qualities about your faculty?

According to the National IT-BPM workforce survey 2019 conducted by ICTA, the apex ICT institution of the Government of Sri Lanka, there is over twenty thousand skilled IT professionals' shortage annually. We are catering to that requirement in the country as one of the leading computing faculties in Sri Lanka.

We provide extensive hands-on workshops, laboratories, and viva because applied knowledge is essential for an IT graduate. We also prepare our students just before they go to the industry via a unique program dubbed "Industry Preparation Training (IPT)" in which the invited industry experts spend over a week with the participants explaining and sharing their experiences about what the industry is looking for from a graduate. Green.EXE, the annual software competition among all the IT students, which we started recently, allows our students to showcase their talents, meet investors, and make their dream products a reality. The program is well-aligned with the semesters so that most of the students get a chance to participate and compete. Our students are also encouraged to participate in the National ICT Awards (NBQSA)







followed by the Green.EXE. We take student research seriously. All students have research supervisors in their final year, which enables them to publish research articles with their supervisors.

### **What is the most challenging task in managing your faculty and how do you face those challenges?**

The biggest challenge is to maintain the quality while the number of students is increasing. But with the sheer dedication of the faculty members along with the supporting staff, we have been successfully guiding the students to greater heights. Students who graduated recently have been able to join some companies where our students were constrained before. Some students have even joined public universities as lecturers, which proves that we had taken the challenge positively. Another challenge is to keep up with the rapidly changing technology. With an exceptionally good partnership and collaboration with the industry leaders, the academic

staff frequently gets updated about these modern technologies and fields.

### **How does the future look like for the faculty?**

I believe in the expression, "you reap what you sow," meaning the quality graduates we produce today will be leading the industry someday. Therefore, creating high-quality graduates, especially entrepreneurs, would increase the visibility of the faculty both locally and globally. With such visibility, the campus, as well as the students, will be recognized and respected in the industry. Now we are seeing our students work in globally recognized companies as well as higher education institutes including public universities. With that I believe the faculty will be well received in the industry and our students will become the driving force behind the success of the places they work.

Even though the faculty is not offering master's degrees yet, with the master's proposal being approved and a substantial amount of our academic staff members

→ The biggest challenge is to maintain the quality while the number of students is increasing. But with the sheer dedication of the faculty members along with the supporting staff, we have been successfully guiding the students to greater heights.

completing their doctoral degrees, the faculty will soon be able to provide not only master's but also doctoral degrees. With such strong background I believe the faculty can receive both Australian Computer Society (ACS) and British Computer Society (BCS) accreditations which allow the faculty to be globally recognized.

### **What message would you like to share at this special moment of celebrating successful 5 years at NSBM Green University?**

Even though I was not a part of the NSBM at its inception, I feel so lucky to be working at this ever-green university, the NSBM Green University. With the implementation of Phase II and the high number of academic members committed to their doctoral qualifications, I can affirm that the university has managed to flourish even during a pandemic situation. With this pace I am certain that our campus will be the largest and the best in the country in the near future. I wish NSBM all success in this special moment of fifth-year celebration. ■

*By Chalani Oruthotaarachchi*

BUSINESS | COMPUTING  
ENGINEERING | INTERIOR DESIGN



State Ministry of Skills Development,  
Vocational Education, Research & Innovation



# TOMORROW BELONGS TO YOU

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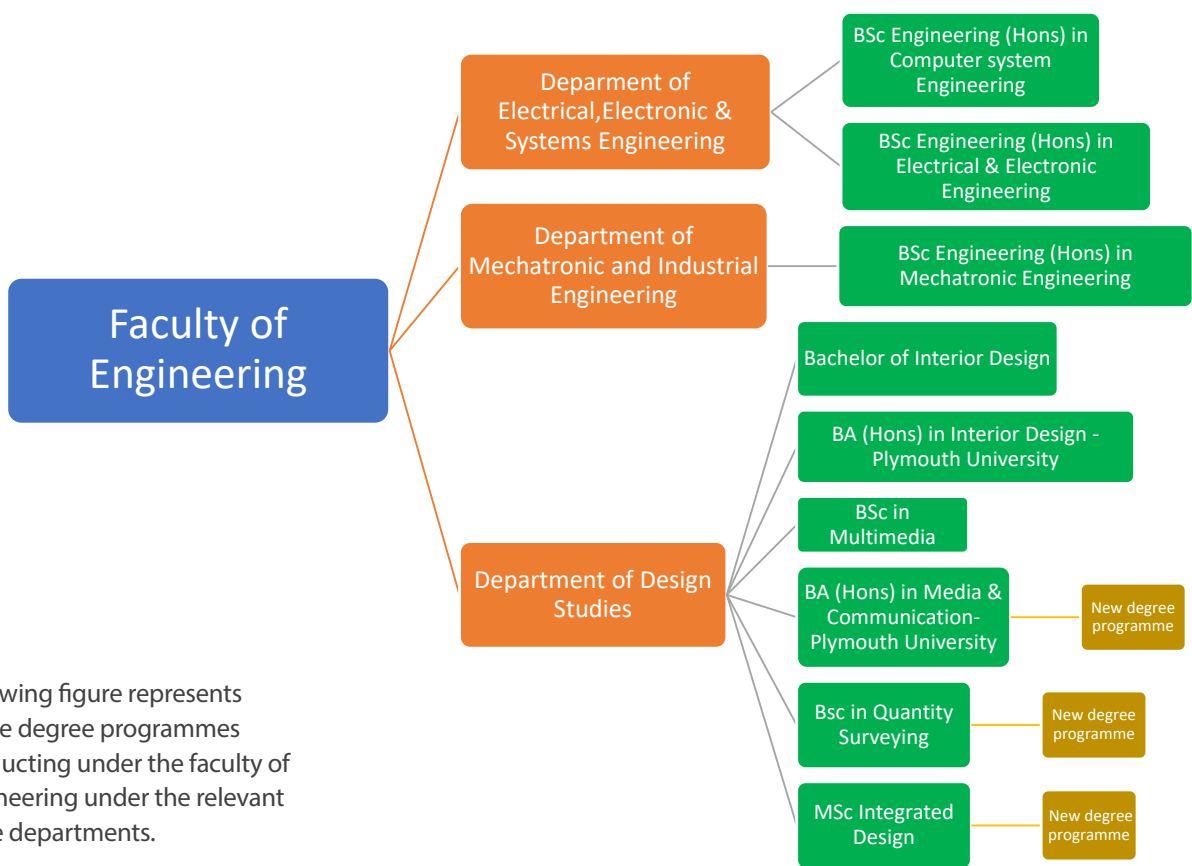
# Gearing Up Towards Industry 4.0

## Faculty of Engineering

The application of science to the optimum conversion of the resources of nature, to the uses of humankind is called 'Engineering'. It is divided into three major disciplines, each of which can be mapped to different industrial domains. The ultimate goal of the Faculty of Engineering is to produce professional engineers and scholars

(Interior Design and Multimedia) who will be ready to accept challenges even in a situation when the society, country or the world is facing any critical condition. Thus, our graduates will bring the country to its highest peak of development state on par with the international industries and developed nations. In the future, they will perform their best, holding professional engineering positions and professional designers in smart industries by amalgamating the skills related to their domains.

Strategically the Faculty of Engineering was established at the right time with the introduction of the most demanding fields of Engineering and Design that led the world into the fourth Industrial Revolution with smart technologies. The Faculty of Engineering will be the place where any complicated problem would find up to date solutions. We will be the governor of the industry 4.0.



Following figure represents all the degree programmes conducting under the faculty of Engineering under the relevant three departments.



All engineering programs are four (4) year degree programmes (B.Sc. Engineering Honours) in the following three disciplines currently and will be introducing some other most demanding programs near future. We ensure that all our engineering degree programmes are approved by the UGC and the Ministry of Higher education and are developed as per Washington Accord and IESL guidelines. We aim to produce career-ready professional engineers who can tackle problematic situations via a scientific approach involving the latest technology to cater to the trending demands of the industry.

All the design degree programs are conducting under the Department of Design Studies. The department of Design functions with the vision of the empowering the inherent creativity of the young learners by offering holistic state of art university experience through logical explicit, creative verities of Design Degrees in following discipline.

## Unique Qualities of the faculty

The Engineering Faculty of NSBM Green University is continuously evolving every day! It would be the most modern and improved faculty even after ten years. One most unique quality of our faculty is that we will continue being an industry leader always, setting examples and inspirations to the industry by providing unique concepts.

Nearly all the projects are highly engaged with the requirements of the society and provides the most modern and innovative solutions with using the student management centers and laboratories that we own.

## Smart Laboratories

The NSBM Green University is incessantly investing in laboratory facilities to maintain the international standard by providing the ultra-modern technology on par with the developed countries. Thus, it is no wonder that the Faculty of Engineering is continuously evolving with the latest technology and facilities. Considering the requirements of students in the “new normal”, The NSBM took the initiative in introducing cyber-physical laboratories to the tertiary education sector in Sri Lanka. With the guidance of well-experienced academics, the students can now access any laboratory equipment from home. It is indeed a privilege for the students as the NSBM equips them with theory as well as practice to meet the expectations of the global market.

- Electronics Laboratory, Electronics Design Engineering Laboratory and Electronics Workshop facilitate students to develop their confidence to design technologically advanced electronic systems from fundamental level to complex versions. Modern technology for thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and material testing laboratory facilities establish the core of Engineering for all students who follow these three-degree programmes.
- Electrical Engineering laboratories and real-world models used by the industry allow students to engage with the industrial level experience in their laboratory experiments. That lays the foundation for young undergraduates to become a career-ready professional engineer. The Faculty of Engineering facilitates studying fundamental to modern renewable energy concept

and smart grid concept through these smart laboratories.

- The mechatronics laboratory consists of modern equipment, from fundamental application to advance setups that can access and control all the sensors, actuators, and mechatronics modules from home through online mode. We are well equipped with several robots which can be utilized for several industries. Moreover, industrial robot arms prove our in-depth knowledge and experience to develop robotics technology for real industrial contexts.
- System engineering laboratories facilitate a range of vast experiences, from Single Board Computer to Cloud Technology, providing the first-hand experience to design a computer system with Unix with the aid of our own operating systems. There are several computer laboratories such as System Security Laboratory that are furnished with the latest computers as well as well-equipped network.
- Telecommunication laboratory renders the required technology to experience and design communication systems with advanced simulation technologies and real physical communication systems which can be manipulated by RF (Radio Frequency) for data communication.
- Modern Studio and workshop facilities for design studies specially interior design multimedia and quantity survey degree programs to excel their skills with to match with the fast growing industrial environment.

NSBM Green University has all the qualities that an extraordinary University should possess. They have identified the requirements of a fast-growing world and taken the initiative to build the best environment to work. Building the Engineering Faculty in 2018 was a

huge milestone that enabled the students of our country to get the best learning experience.

Therefore, it's a great pleasure to groom innovative individuals to the country, whom have experienced the best learning methods! The

industry can recruit our fresh, young graduates to aid their projects.

On the other hand, students are fortunate that they obtain a degree at NSBM Green University, which will not lose its value even after fifty years.



## DEPARTMENT OF MECHATRONIC AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

Mechatronics engineering is an interdisciplinary branch of engineering that focuses on the integration of mechanical, electronic and electrical engineering systems,

and also includes a combination of robotics, electronics, computer science, telecommunications, systems, control, and product engineering.

Through collaboration, the mechatronic modules perform the production goals and inherit flexible and agile manufacturing properties in the production scheme. Modern

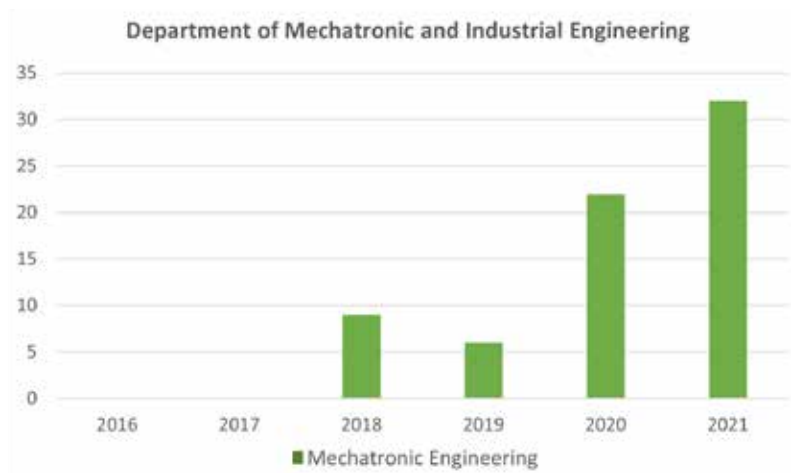
production equipment consists of mechatronic modules that are integrated according to a control architecture. The most known architectures involve hierarchy, polyarchy, hierarchy, and hybrid. The methods for achieving a technical effect are described by control algorithms, which might or might not utilize formal methods



in their design. Hybrid systems important to mechatronics include production systems, synergy drives, planetary exploration rovers, automotive subsystems such as anti-lock braking systems and spin-assist, and everyday equipment such as autofocus cameras, video and hard disks etc.

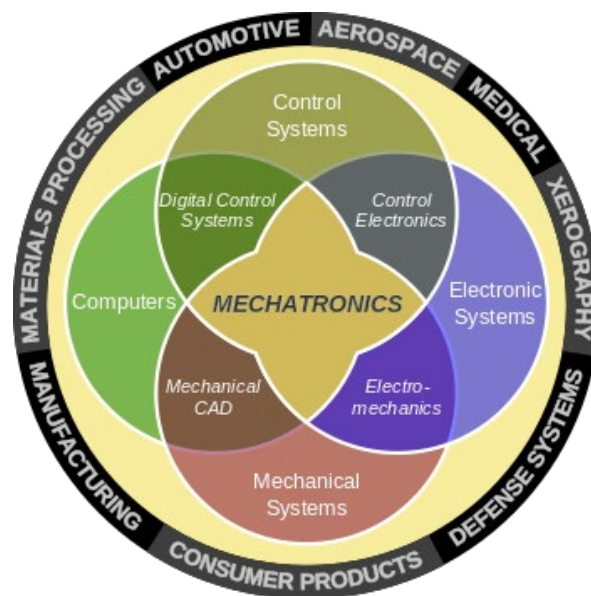
Department of Mechatronic and Industrial Engineering is offering very modern industry demanding B.Sc. Engineering Honors Degree in Mechatronics Engineering. Our engineering students get exposed to Industry Automation, Robotics, Manufacturing, Manufacturing Process Designing, Electronics and System Designing areas where highly demanding areas of smart industry of the future evolving today with the 4th Industry revolution occurring today. We are offering modern laboratory facilities certain can connect through online mode even. This unique opening is enhanced with highly qualified academia, leading edge laboratory complex and industry partnerships. Adhering to professional engineering practices and being touched with neighbour disciplines, mold our graduates career-ready to head start with the fourth industrial revolution – Industry 4.0.

Since the Department of Mechatronic and Industrial Engineering has established in 2018 it is having a considerable improvement in student enrolments.



Our leading-edge facilities and research move hand in hand with continuously advancing industry. Above all our culture maintains

professionalism, ethics and sense of responsibility to nurture future generation.



## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONIC & SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

### Description

Department of Electrical, Electronic & Systems Engineering offers

opportunities for students who are keen to be qualified beyond a traditional engineering discipline. Our engineering students get exposed to power & energy systems, electromechanics, communication systems, control systems, robotics & automation systems, electronics

& micro-electronics, modern computing systems while focusing on their preferred key specialization area. This unique opening is enhanced with highly qualified academia, leading edge laboratory complex and industry partnerships. Adhering to professional engineering practices and being touched with neighbour disciplines, mold our graduates career-ready to head start with the fourth industrial revolution – Industry 4.0.

Degree programmes offered under the department.

Degree programme title	Offering University
B.Sc. Engineering (Hons) in Computer System Engineering	UGC approved-offered by NSBM (offered through MoHE as well)
B.Sc. Engineering (Hons) in Electrical & Electronic Engineering	UGC approved-offered by NSBM

The vision is to produce professional engineers excel in their major with a thorough understanding of parallel disciplines to suit with highly competitive industry requirement. We reach our vision through dedicated academic culture which leads to research and innovation.

First, our exceptional blend of staff from academia and industry fosters the roots of engineering education, laying a strong foundation for multidisciplinary specialization opportunities. Electrical, electronic and computer system engineering undergraduates get access to a wide variety of subject areas including mathematics, electromagnetics,

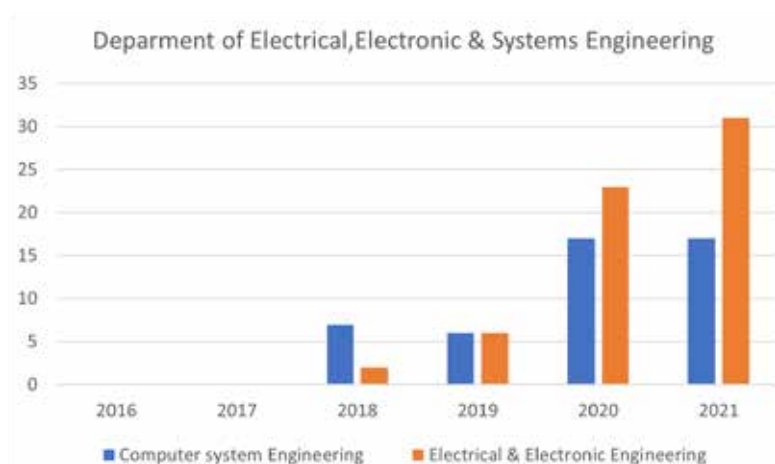
electromechanics, power & energy, communication systems, electronics & micro-electronics, modern computing systems, robotics & automation. To produce unique graduates, we create openings to be exposed to neighbour wings of engineering with multidisciplinary projects.

Second, our leading-edge facilities and research moves hand in hand with continuously advancing industry. Above all our culture maintains professionalism, ethics and sense of responsibility to nurture future generation.

Department of Electrical, Electronic and Systems Engineering (EESE) has a dynamic environment where new updates take place in line with advancing technology. Multiple co-curricular activities and extra events in department calendar gives openings to improve technical literacy and discover

student talents while providing a showcase to innovative ideas. Students at Department of Electrical, Electronic and Systems Engineering get immersed in a diverse range of novel opportunities from excellent academia to dynamic industry level engagements to nurture young engineers. Beyond the professional engineering background, clubs & society activities shape their personalities with teamwork, coordination and leadership skills.

Following figure represents the student's intake improvement of the Department of Electrical, Electronic & Systems Engineering over the years. The Department of Electrical, Electronic & Systems Engineering has started from 2018 and it is having a good improvement upon the relevant degree programmes.



## DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN STUDIES

### Background

The Department of Design Studies commenced with the vision of empowering inherent creativity of

young learners by offering holistic, state of art university experience through logical, explicit, creative varieties of Design Degrees. Department of Design studies is addressing the current industrial needs of the globe and creating



unique, creative design thinkers who could solve real life problem scenarios through their implicit and explicit knowledge domains. The Department of Design studies at NSBM is giving a unique learning experience to novice designers through a rich curriculum which is oriented on building a solid foundation for their inherent skills.

## Our Vision

Our vision is to create unique, outstanding, multi skilled, creative designers who could address critical real-life problem scenarios through their implicit and explicit knowledge

## Our Mission

- Educate highly motivated, passionate, creative thinking individuals.
- Empower people to seek excellence and be perpetually curious.
- Dilivering high qualy learning outcome which could be proved in any compititive context
- Enable graduates to obtain occupations in top-level design and industry firms.

## Core Values

### a. Student empowerment and success

- We are engaging in the process of empowering our young learners to build their confidence to face real challenges in the competitive design market.
- We give individual, student oriented, face to face collaboration in order to build creativity and confidence

### b. Excellence

- Highly qualified experienced academic staff
- A state of art university experience with modern design studios and lab facilities



Providing high quality lifelong learning experience

### c. Inclusiveness

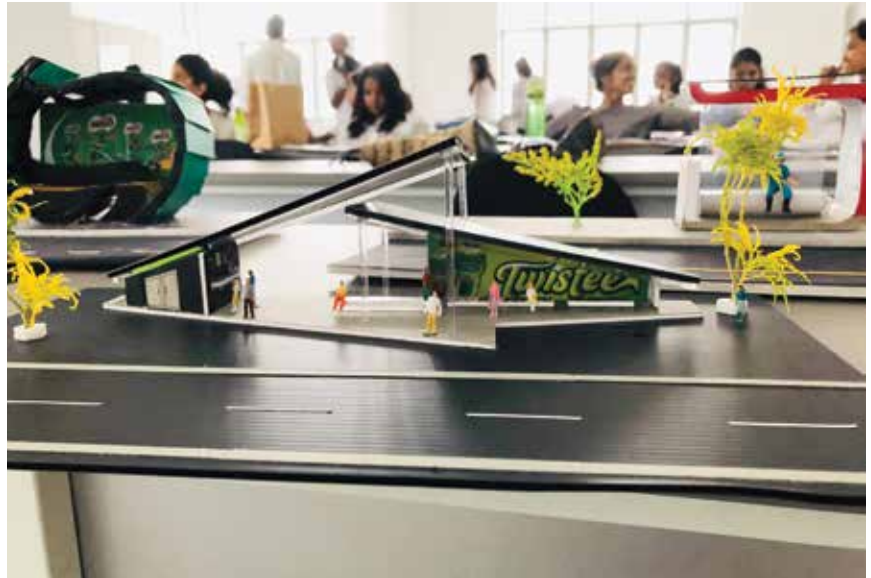
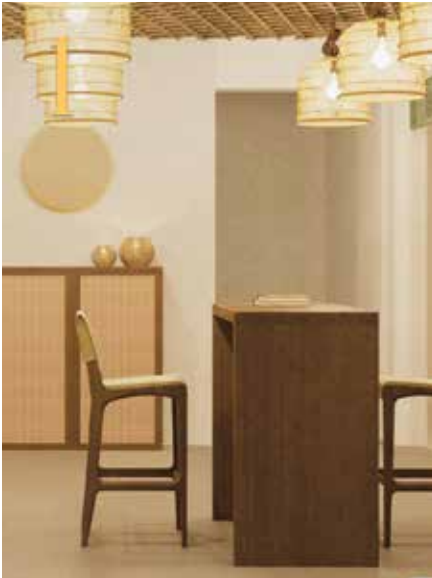
- We are committed to deliver inclusive, outstanding learning experience by connecting real world problem scenarios to academia to solve through innovative design solutions.
- Our design programs are product oriented to give the best explicit, diversified learning experience to the novice learner.

### d. Community

We foster relationships and a culture of service within and beyond our university

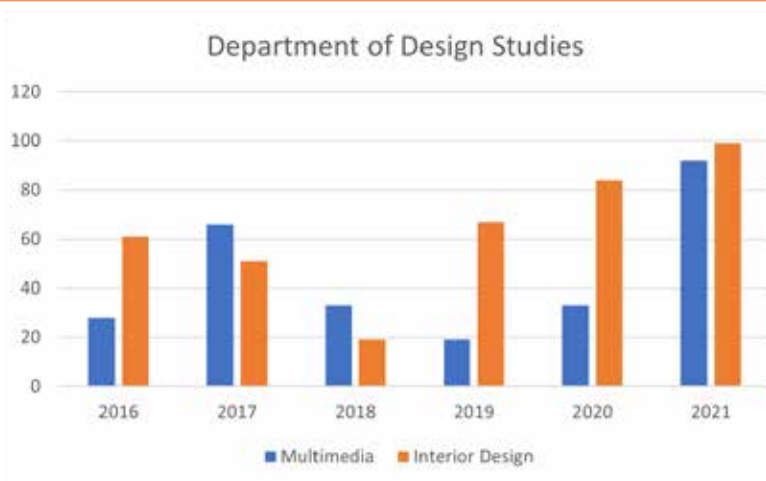
## Growth of the department

After the establishment of the department multiple initiations were taken to uplift the standards of the program. Special attention was given to Bsc in Multimedia Degree program because it was transferred form Faculty of Computing with very less number of students of 2020 October



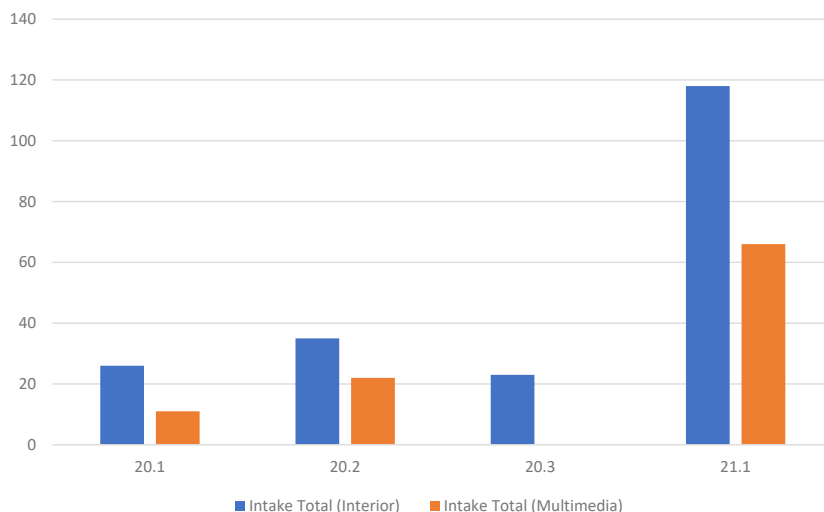
intake. The department has to take necessary measurements to improve the student numbers and it was the biggest challenge at the beginning.

Initiation of New Degree Programs



After establishment of the department, necessary measurements were taken to introduce new degree programs in order to expand the spectrum of the Department of Design Studies. Following degree programs will be started from Sept 2021 intake with the affiliation of Plymouth University, United Kingdom. And the master's program developed to catch up the graduates who are graduating under design disciplines.

Growth of the student numbers



- BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying – 3 years – starting March 2022
- BA (Hons) Creative Media and Communication – 3 years – starting March 2022
- MSc Integrated Design – for UGC approval – 2 years ■

Complied by Ashendra Konara



# Providing Practical Solutions Through Research

**Dr. Chandana Perera**  
Dean-Faculty of Engineering

## **What is the overall goal of the Faculty of Engineering?**

The application of science to the optimum conversion of the resources of nature to the uses of humankind is called 'Engineering'. It is divided into three major disciplines, each of which can be mapped to different industrial domains. For instance, electronic and electrical disciplines are not solely about electronics; they could also include components of

automation and telecommunication. Mechatronics includes mechanical knowledge, manufacturing knowledge, project management knowledge as well as automation robotics. By the same token, there are many domains that a single discipline could fit to.

Thus, NSBM graduates are reinforced with knowledge where they can fit to those domains unrestrictedly. Our main objective lies in the ability to release our graduates with such

remarkable and distinguished qualities where they shine out in the industry compared to the other state and non-state universities.

Moreover, maintaining the quality of the deliverables is important as I envision to upbring the profile of our graduates to match the Washington Accord and other responsible accords. I believe graduating highly performing individuals and sending them out into the world is also a significant duty as a dean.





In addition, there are different ventures in Civil Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Multimedia, Interior Design, Quantity Surveying as well as Automobile Technology that have not been catered yet. Finding those new ventures and catering them to advanced degree programmes by forming new curriculums let us consistently enter a new market share.

## What makes the Faculty of Engineering different?

The Engineering Faculty of NSBM Green University is continuously evolving every day! It would be the most modern and improved faculty even after ten years. One unique quality of our faculty is that we will continue being an industry leader, setting examples and inspirations to the industry by providing unique concepts.

Nearly all the projects are highly engaged with the requirements of the society and provide the most modern and innovative solutions using the student management centers and laboratories that we own.

## What is the most challenging task you face as the Dean of the faculty?

Recruiting pertinent academic personalities for the faculty is strenuous because regardless of academic qualifications, a true academic should have good exposure to the industry. Having both exposure and academic qualifications in one person is very rare. However, having those rare personalities in the faculty is the best! Otherwise, all the technical assets, laboratories, or money would not matter.



## What would be the future of the faculty?

As the Dean, I hope to maintain the faculty in its attractive and innovative form, and this will be the most earning faculty in the future. The Faculty of Engineering will be the place where any complicated problem would find up to date solutions. We will be the governor of the industry 4.0!

## What message would you like to share at this special moment of celebrating successful five years at NSBM Green University?

NSBM Green University has all the qualities that an extraordinary University should possess. We have identified the requirements of a

fast-growing world and taken the initiative to build the best environment to work in. Building the Engineering Faculty in 2018 was a huge milestone that enabled the students of our country to get the best learning experience.

Therefore, it's a great pleasure to groom innovative individuals to the country who have experienced the best learning methods! The industry can recruit our fresh, young graduates to aid their projects.

On the other hand, students are fortunate to obtain a degree at NSBM Green University, which will not lose its value even after fifty years. ■

*By Kavishna Wijesinghe*

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State Ministry of Skills Development,  
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# STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES TO ENCOURAGE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Establishing the Faculty of Science was a wise and timely decision taken by the NSBM Green University to expand its degree portfolio through the inclusion of the discipline of Science. This strategic plan initiation created an excellent opportunity to transform students' dreams of pursuing higher education in the science-stream into a reality, while adding to the real essence of university culture at NSBM.

Equipped with the vision of being

an academic community with excellence and impact in the field of science, education, and research, the faculty will serve the environmental and industrial needs by producing highly qualified scientists to meet the needs of the market while conducting pure and applied research to support national development. To accomplish this, the faculty has dedicated itself to achieve distinction in teaching through designing innovative degree programmes to build links,

collaborations, and partnerships with the industry in order to create job opportunities of our future graduates.

To achieve these objectives the Faculty of Science is enriched with a well-qualified and highly accomplished full-time and a visiting lecture panel, and state-of-the-art laboratories with high-tech instruments and facilities.

As the first step, two UGC



approved degree programmes in the discipline of health science were initiated namely, B.Sc. (Hons) in Biomedical Science and B.Sc. (Hons) in Public Health and Nutrition. The faculty officially inaugurated by enrolling students to these two programmes in June 2021. As the first batch, 90 students enrolled to follow the degrees showing the current demand for such undergraduate programmes that align with the dynamics of the job market. Both programmes are equipped with highly theoretical and practical knowledge with laboratory skills. To facilitate the students with required practical knowledge, NSBM continues to make enormous investments.

The graduates of these programmes have ample career opportunities in different industries. The knowledge as well as skills gained during a Biomedical Science degree helps one to embark on a range of scientific careers while discovering vital medical developments and improving the lives of others. The direct career opportunities available include: biomedical scientists, biotechnologists, healthcare scientists, medicinal chemists and microbiologists in industry, research institutes and healthcare settings. Apart from these direct career opportunities, our graduates can also pursue their higher studies at either local or foreign universities. The Public Health and Nutrition programme opens up careers mainly in the health sector, food industries, and research institutes.

All the degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Science include a compulsory internship in the industry after the completion of the third academic year and a compulsory research project at the end of the fourth year. The internship will be a training as well



as a guide to the final year research project for the students. The Faculty of Science is a dedicated place for education and research. Research activities that are aimed at solving the challenges of present will get the expertise and input from various academic fields in order to be successful. Such multidisciplinary research is exactly what our faculty is focused on, and it will be the keystone to our success in scientific research.

The Faculty of Science will be expanded further with the addition of a new faculty building after the completion of phase II of NSBM. It will comprise of state-of-the-art lecture halls and a laboratory complex including labs for anatomy, physiology,

biochemistry, molecular biology, and microbiology; a pathology museum; modular wards; and a skill laboratory. With the development of the physical resources required for the undergraduates of Science, the designing, approval, and introduction process of new degree programmes is in pipeline.

NSBM has built academic strength in the fields of Business, Computing and Engineering. One priority of NSBM's future is to strengthen the Sciences. The ongoing development projects prove that NSBM has already made an enormous investment in strengthening the facilities for undergraduates of the Faculty of Science.

#### NSBM DEGREE PROGRAMMES

B.Sc. (Hons) in Nursing  
B.Sc. (Hons) in  
Pharmaceutical Science

#### FOREIGN AFFILIATED DEGREE PROGRAMMES (UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH)

B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing  
B.Sc. (Hons) Psychology  
B.Sc. (Hons) Biomedical Science



# Moulding Highly Qualified Scientists

**Dr. Nuwanthie Katuwawila**  
Head-Faculty of Science

**The Faculty of Science is a newly established department of the university. Can you briefly give us an overview of the unit?**

The Faculty of Science was established recently as a strategic plan initiative. Currently, two UGC approved degrees named B.Sc. (Hons) in Biomedical Science and B.Sc. (Hons) in Public Health and Nutrition are being conducted at the faculty. With the high market demand for health science related degrees, we succeeded to enrol 90 students to the first batch. The undergraduates gain both theoretical knowledge and practical skills required to be a professional, under the guidance of our experienced panel of lecturers. The diverse opportunities available to the graduates in this discipline have made our faculty degree programmes successful.







## What are the unique features of the faculty?

Although the Faculty of Science offers only two degree programmes at the moment, there are plenty of opportunities to branch out into many disciplines. The management of the university has understood the potential of science related degrees clearly, and is currently investing in building the necessary infrastructure and facilities for the development for the faculty. The Faculty of Science will be expanded further with the new faculty building currently under construction in phase II of NSBM. The new faculty building will comprise of state-of-the-art lecture halls and a laboratory complex for anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, molecular biology and microbiology; a pathology museum; modular wards; and a skill laboratory. All the high-tech instruments and facilities provided to the students to feel more confident in their future professions is a great advantage for all students who enroll themselves under the Faculty of Science at NSBM. The Faculty of Science is not only a dedicated space for education, but it is also a place for research. We have focused on building

The management of the university has understood the potential of science related degrees clearly, and is currently investing in building the necessary infrastructure and facilities for the development for the faculty.

a multidisciplinary research culture and it will be the keystone to our success in scientific research.

## What type of new additions could we expect in the future from the faculty?

With the development of the physical resources of the faculty, new UGC approved degrees as well as affiliated degree programmes will be introduced. The B.Sc. (Hons) in Nursing programme is already in pipeline. We are in the process of designing and implementing a pharmaceutical degree programme as well. In addition to these, Plymouth affiliated degree programmes in Psychology and Physiotherapy are in progress. In the near future, we look forward to introducing science-based degree programmes in-line with industrial needs with all the laboratory facilities, high-tech instruments, and our well-qualified academic staff. ■

By Lakruwani Wimalarathne & Upeksha Hettithanthri

# EMPOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS TO MOVE OUR COUNTRY FORWARD

## NSBM FACULTY OF SCIENCE



### BSc HONOURS IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

Aim of the Biomedical Science degree program is to well prepare the undergraduates to collaborate on scientific investigations of human structure and function in health and disease at a molecular, cellular and whole systems level.

#### DIRECT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Biomedical scientist and healthcare scientist in industry, research institutions and health care settings in various fields including Biochemistry, Genetics, Haematology and Microbiology. Employment at large pharmaceutical companies or biotechnology companies.

Duration: **4 YEARS** Study Method: **FULL-TIME**

### BSc HONOURS IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

This programme is designed for students who are committed to health promotion and disease prevention through healthy eating. The curriculum strongly emphasizes food access, nutrition policy, community nutrition interventions/programmes, health disparities, nutrition assessment, and healthy eating throughout the life course.

#### DIRECT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Food industries, public health services, nutraceutical product industries, pharmaceutical industries, public health services, health agencies, research institutes.




Duration: **4 YEARS** Study Method: **FULL-TIME**

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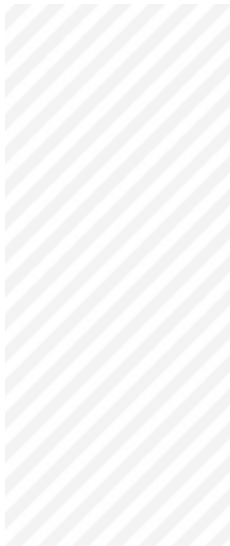
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## VENTURING INTO EXTENSIVE RESEARCH

### Postgraduate Unit



**E**stablished under the State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovations, NSBM Green University offers a plethora of exciting and intellectually enhancing programmes through the Postgraduate and Professional Advancement Unit. The programmes offered by the unit are purpose-designed to create pathways for business professionals, government officials, and entrepreneurs to strengthen their professional potential, while inevitably enabling their organizations to attain sustainable growth. The programs offered by the unit extends across multi-disciplines namely, Business, Computing, Engineering, Language, and Design which are exceptionally delivered to the learning community by a well-versed panel of academics and industry experts.



The Faculty of Business currently offers the below courses.

- **Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management (PGD-BM)**
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management (PGD-HRM)**
- **Master of Business Studies (MBS)**
- **Master of Business Administration (MBA)**

Ensuring an all-rounded university experience, the courses available under the unit will ensure that participants are fully geared to meet the opportunities and challenges of the world beyond local grounds.

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management / Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management**

Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management is a systematic and

a comprehensive programme specifically designed for the managerial and supervisory level executives in private and public sectors, who wish to pursue higher education in the area of advanced management studies. The foremost aim of the programme is to build knowledge, skills, attitudes of the participants and create an effective manager for the modern business world that will fulfill the managerial responsibilities using innovations.

Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management is designed to provide in-depth knowledge in Human Resource Management along with an understanding about the foundation and strategic background of the discipline. Moreover, this programme will cover all the relevant subject areas such as Financial Management, Economics, and Information Technology, which are essential at the present time. There is an importance of having

HRM professionals since they are managing the most valuable resource in the business context and this programme is successful in fulfilling that duty to the nation by producing strong individuals with required qualifications.

### **Master of Business Studies (MBS) / Master of Business Administration (MBA)**

Master of Business Administration is the highest academic qualification NSBM offers so far aiming to nurture and create high-quality professionals to the nation. The programme has five specializations: Operations, Managing People, Entrepreneurship, Tourism and Finance. The second year of the programme, in addition to the common year, consists of all required management related modules under the main gateway of Master of Business Studies (MBS)





**In 2019, Postgraduate Diploma, MBS and MBA students visited NSBM's higher educational affiliate partner Victoria University of Melbourne which was one of the prestigious groups of eight universities in Australia for an educational tour.**

The societal impact of the programme is always at its pinnacle as the programme is designed to add value not merely by producing capable managers but also most needed entrepreneurs and vital researchers to the society by cultivating the essential characteristics of innovative thinking, negotiating, technical expertise and leadership in graduates. Each year, the MBS and MBA programs are proud to create over 150 global postgraduates who are prepared with all of the necessary skills to serve the nation as well as the rest of the globe.

### **NSBM Postgraduate Life**

Postgraduate life at NSBM is colourful, educational and entertaining; it is indeed another chance of enjoying the real essence of university life with the added prestige of reading for an advanced degree.

The programme entails residential workshops, foreign tours, outbound training programmes, and many more interesting sessions which provide several important take-home messages. These sessions are essentially developed to build an effective leader, and an innovative thinker who shall transform into an expert in managerial work.

### **Foreign Tours**

This is a one-week programme that will be conducted in a foreign country on a selected theme of relevance to the postgraduate community. The study tour will consist of several components such as interactive workshops in a reputed foreign university, field visits and meetings with industry leaders. At the end of the study tour participants are required to submit a report on their learning outcomes.





In 2019, Postgraduate diploma, MBS and MBA students visited NSBM's higher educational affiliate partner Victoria University of Melbourne which was one of the prestigious groups of eight Universities in Australia for an educational tour. The tour integrated educational inspiration with excitement and fun, including exposure in terms of interactive meetings and a corporate visit.

### **Outbound Training**

A training and facilitation methodology used to enhance the effectiveness and performance of postgraduate students through use of Experiential Learning Activities, Games, and Adult Learning Principles. It is mandatory for all the Masters-level students to participate in outbound training to enhance their managerial skills and competencies.

### **Guest Lectures**

The PG Division conducts a series of guest lecture with the name "INTELLECT 1.0" for the students of MBA, MBS, and PG Diploma. The main purpose of the guest lecture series is to enhance the knowledge and skills of the students about current practical applications and to strengthen the practical aspects in the areas of Business Management. Some prestigious guest lecturers are Mr. Kishu Gomes – the award winning former CEO of Coca Cola Inc. and Caltex Chevron Lubricants Plc., Ms. Gayani De Alwis – former chairperson CILT / Management Consultant and lecturer / Board Member WCIC, Mr. Sarinda Unamboowe – CEO / Managing Director - MAS Kreedha and Mr. Dinethrius Perera – Senior General Manager – Toyota Lanka.

### **Residential Workshop on Communication**

Communication is one of the most basic functions of management in any organization. Effective communication is required for constructing personal as well as business relationships. The programme plans to provide business communication skills by way of a residential workshop that is held at a venue outside Colombo. The workshop focuses on providing skills in writing and speaking processes, selecting communication choices for effective outcomes, written, visual, and oral presentations, critical and reflective thinking.

### **Post Graduate Research Journal and Research Symposium**

The division has taken the first step to publish its first issue of Research Journal with its selected research papers through an internal moderation and review process, followed by a research symposium, as an extremely responsible unit with the goal of promoting and cultivating a research atmosphere among post graduate students.

### **Human Resource Day**

Human Resource Day is an event organized by the MBA and MBS students of the Postgraduate Division, which will enhance their intellectual skills, abilities. This provides practical exposure to the students about the Human Resource Management discipline.

### **Community Services**

Being a legitimate corporate citizen with an accurate understanding, the PG division never hesitates to extend its hand for CSR activities as well. The academic community of Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management joined hands with the students of Master of Business Studies to donate fire extinguishers worth of LKR 200,000 to the Homagama, Nagoda and Kaluthara, Hospitals.

When the overall scope of activities conducted by the Postgraduate Division is considered so far, and when its strategic plan for the future is carefully reviewed, it could be safely inferred that the Postgraduate Division of the NSBM Green University will become one of the best postgraduate divisions in the country in coming years. ■

*Compiled by: Maneesha Dias and Tharani Sooriyaarachchi*



# Empowering Industry Professionals

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**Prof. Ganga Karunathilake**

Head- Postgraduate Unit









## The Postgraduate Unit is a newly established department of the university. Can you briefly give us an overview of the unit?

The Postgraduate Unit was established under the Faculty of Business with the intention of designing pathways for business professionals, entrepreneurs, government officials to strengthen their professional potential while helping their organizations to achieve sustainable growth. The Postgraduate Unit is currently offering a range of certificate programmes, advanced certificate programmes, postgraduate diplomas, and MBAs that are approved by the University Grants Commission and the Ministry of Higher Education. It is with pride that I mention the fact that we have produced more than 1000 graduates who have reached top positions in both the corporate and government sectors from the Postgraduate Unit at NSBM Green University.

What are the unique features of the unit that ensure quality post graduate education for the students?

The unit has several unique features. Firstly, the postgraduate programmes offered by us are designed to provide theoretical and practical knowledge that cater towards the advancement of academic and professional competencies. Secondly, our program content is not limited to lectures but comprises of out-bound training, foreign tours, business forums and community services. Thirdly, we have a highly talented panel of lecturers comprised of qualified academic members and industry experts. Last but not least, I can say that we execute our programmes in an eco-friendly and an intellectually stimulating learning environment.

## What type of new additions could we expect in the future from the unit?

Several new additions and changes are expected to be made to the unit in the future. We expect to expand the number of master's

degree programmes offered by the unit. Apart from that we are hoping to start a PHD programme. Furthermore, we are planning to hold a Postgraduate Research Symposium and publish a multi-disciplinary postgraduate research journal with the intention of developing a strong research culture among the Postgraduate candidates.

## As the Head of the Postgraduate Unit what would be your message to the graduates and postgraduate candidates?

I am optimistic that the programmes offered by our Unit will assist our graduates to climb up the corporate ladder and attain significant achievements in their careers. I believe that further research will be needed for the future sustenance of both our students and the country. ■

*By Maneesha Dias & Tharani Sooriyaarachchi*

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# STRIVING TOWARDS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

**Prof. J. Baratha Dodankotuwa**

*Head-Academic Development and Quality Assurance*

*"The AD & QA unit at NSBM is the key body assisting teaching staff for improving performance in academic education, developing research skills, and sharing various experiences in the fields of education, research, and social service. Today's community is no longer limited to industrial production; the production and dissemination of knowledge through modern, advanced, and accelerated scientific techniques have become integral in the field of education."*

**F**rom this point onwards, NSBM Green University will endeavour to qualify the teaching staff and promote their teaching and research skills through various training programs and activities conducted by the Academic Development and Quality Assurance Center. The professional development of the university teaching staff will contribute to achieve quality and academic accreditation that is sought









various programs and activities. The training programme designed to give our staff holistic academic guidance includes workshops on innovative teaching policies, curriculum development, effective communication, and soft skill improvement conducted by both internal and external experts.

### Research Council

The Research Council at NSBM Green University was established in February, 2021 with the recognition of research as an integral part of the university. Designing the research council as an independent body with 22 research centres spanning across the four faculties, has given a streamlined focus on key research areas to be developed as academics. The council, with its internal fund allocated for research, has encouraged the staff members to actively seek for new projects with both internal as well as external partners.

**NSBM Student Research Symposium, is a unique product offered by NSBM Green University under the guidance of Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa, with the objective of inculcating research consciousness among the students of Sri Lanka.**



New project ideas are actively encouraged from the level of deans to the respective heads of departments and the projects submitted to the research council are systematically analysed for its feasibility and impact factor through the research council policy document list. The projects which have been cleared at the research council level through the council head are finally approved by the Vice Chancellor. The research council has currently initiated several international and local research collaboration projects with the participation of our staff.

### NSBM Journal of Management

NSBM Journal of Management is a scholarly publication of the Academic Development and Quality Assurance unit of NSBM. The NSBM Journal of Management is an ideal platform for local and international researchers to publish scholarly, empirical, and theoretical research articles that have a high impact



on the management field. The journal encourages innovative ideas which could create sustainable development in the world. These objectives rightly coincide with Sri Lanka's national policy towards creating knowledge-based economy.

NSBM Journal of Management was launched in year 2015 under the editorial leadership of Prof. Managala Fonseka who was a visionary academic in the field of management in Sri Lanka. He initiated this journal with the ambition of encouraging the budding generation of researchers at NSBM while providing a cooperative platform to national and international researchers. Since then, the journal has provided a platform for many national and international scholars to publish their research findings. The journal is peer reviewed by an elite panel of scholars from the field of management and business. Thus, the quality of the articles published are ensured, in order to maintain the academic standards of the university.

NSBM Journal of management will be a significant part of the university's future research output. AD&QA unit is now working closely with several reputed research databases to index this journal in their respective data banks. We believe that this measure will ensure the recognition and impact of valuable research output published in this journal.

### Postgraduate Research Centre

Postgraduate research centre of NSBM was initiated in the year 2018, under the guidance of Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa. The Postgraduate Study Centre offers postgraduate students and research staff dedicated social circles and study spaces. The main objective of this study centre is to enhance the research capabilities of postgraduate students and academic staff of the NSBM Green University. It is the main hub for networking and promoting a sense of research community within

the university. This centre provides access to a range of development activities to postgraduate students and research staff such as training courses, academic discussions, conferences, academic publication services, and seminars. Furthermore, this unit is actively working towards collaborative research and postgraduate partnerships with reputed foreign universities.

NSBM Research forum is another important seminar series organized by the Postgraduate research centre; this is an internal colloquium of researchers who meet on a monthly basis to discuss contemporary research in different areas. This provides an ideal platform for the young academic staff to share their ongoing research projects with senior academics and receive vital feedback to enhance the impact of their research projects. The Postgraduate Study Centre is also dedicated to assisting NSBM academic staff members





who are following their doctoral studies. Accordingly, the centre provides the numerous services to PhD Candidates such as internal supervision, library services, and doctoral training courses. Currently, more than 20 academic staff members of NSBM are reading for their doctoral degree. The Postgraduate Research Center will continue to support the research agenda of NSBM Green University through enhancing the research skills of staff and postgraduate students.

## International Conference on Business Innovations (ICOBBI)

International Conference on Business Innovations (ICOBBI) was started in 2018 under the guidance of Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa, with the objective of creating a platform to enhance the quality of higher education and contribute to the development of the world tomorrow.





ICOBI is an ideal platform for local and international researchers to present their scholarly articles. The theme of the first international conference was on “Business Resurgence and Green Living” as the generations of today are responsible for the living conditions of tomorrow. In 2019, NSBM presented ICOBI for the second consecutive year under the theme of “Reviving Talent and Green Living”, as it has become the objective for many academics, researchers, and strategists over the past decades. ICOBI 2020 was carried out under the theme “COVID-19 Transcending Challenges, Recovery Measures and Resilience”. And as the fourth consecutive international conference, ICOBI 2021 will be focusing on the theme of “Revitalizing the Economy”. The conference will continue its success for many more years with the support and participation of academics, researchers, and practitioners in diverse fields.

### Student Research Symposium

NSBM Student Research Symposium, is a unique product offered by NSBM Green University under the guidance of Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa, with the objective of inculcating research consciousness among the students of Sri Lanka. Every year young researchers from NSBM and other higher educational institutes will present their research outputs to an esteemed panel of senior researchers in their relevant fields. SRS started in year 2018 by selecting best undergraduate research articles. In 2019, the research symposium SRS was successfully conducted for the second consecutive year. The NSBM Student Research Symposium will continue for many more years by encouraging and uplifting research culture among Sri Lankan undergraduates.

### Business Dialogue

Business Dialogue is a bi-annual magazine issued under the publications of the university. Its most compelling quality is its collaborative nature, with both students and lecturers contributing as editors and authors. Each issue captures the brilliant words and advice of business gurus and experts from multiple industries across the world. The inception of Business Dialogue was in 2018 under the guidance of Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa, with the theme of celebrating visionary entrepreneurs. The latest magazine in 2021 under the theme of Sri Lankan brands branching in the world portrays that every issue of Business Dialogue shall indeed act as a stimulus to all our aspiring undergraduates. ■

*Complied by Sulakshana De Alwis & Dinusha Sathsarani*



# Strengthening the Research Culture through International Collaborations

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**Dr. Isuru Koswatte**

Head – Research Council

## **What is the role of Academic Development and Quality Assurance Unit at NSBM Green University?**

The division takes responsibility in solving educational problems, designing objectives, analyzing, and suggesting innovative ideas, teaching, and learning in order to demonstrate that students have

met standards of international accreditation bodies. It also monitors and evaluates instruments and activities aiming at improvement at the university level. The unit serves one of the key functions at NSBM Green University and it is headed by Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa and under his guidance, we have not only been able to develop quality assurance systems but also been able to get every academic involved and ensure that all providers of education

are accountable for the quality of their work.

---

## **How is the Academic Development and Quality Assurance Unit shaping up for the future for NSBM?**

The division has been playing an integral role up-to-now in aligning the overall educational process at



the university. However, as the University now aims to target global accreditation standards such as AACSB as well as have a goal to improve rankings and academic excellence, there is a rearrangement of the internal Academic Development and Quality Assurance Unit to fit into the requirements of global standards. With the support of the respective deans and other heads, we are now aligning

certain processes and making them transparent in areas such as the University: Mission, Vision and Objectives, Strategic Plan, Governance and Decision-Making. We are working on establishing the basic elements for internal quality which ensure that our internal standards are at a satisfactory level to reach global expectations which is our target for the next few years.

**How would you describe the place NSBM has provided for research?**

NSBM as a university has always grown from strength to strength. Now it has changed and placed the university parallel to other global universities. Also, there is a lot of interest coming from the top management in building





the research culture inside the university. The establishment of the research council dedicated towards the research initially for our fellow academics to search what kind of avenues that they can explore with their knowledge. As well as in the long run we are trying to develop our student body to be engaged in research that is outside their curriculum work. So, building that culture becomes important because people will start realizing doing research is a part and partial of their careers, not simply another job. So that is the kind of culture we have now initiated and we have already seen real positives during this very short period.

---

**What are the unique features of the research council that facilitates an encouraging environment to conduct research?**

Research council was established recently. Given the fact that our university is really young, we looked at some of the universities which have grown both locally and internationally. The council has 22 dedicated research centers spread across four faculties. To encourage researchers we have developed a grant process where potential researchers can submit their proposals to the research council, then after a rigorous examination of those proposals we fund to go ahead and conduct the research. Apart from that, since we have established as a research council through our existing networks that we have in other universities; local and foreign, we have initiated some new projects and we are encouraging junior academics to join these projects and get an

experience. And now we have expanded our links with the industry, and are trying to bring research-oriented projects to the university. Also, we have designed a quality framework as well as documentation process from the moment an individual submits the proposal, to request funding. So, I believe, we have now laid the foundation and the platform for new a new research culture.

---

**What are the future plans of the research council for extending opportunities for research within the university?**

I think this is something that university takes very seriously from the moment that interest started to grow. We have looked at various avenues, for example, we have started research workshops for academics. Apart from that, we have other sessions conducted by well established academics to share their experience. And for the future, what we believe is to bring in new research projects to show that we are capable, and to attract much more renowned academics from other international universities, I think we have laid the foundation and it is a matter of initiation and creating dedication among internal staff to deliver as promised. So, I think the future for NSBM Green University is very bright and this aligns with other goals of the growth potentials of the university. ■

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*By Dinusha Sathsarani*

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BSc in Business Management (Logistics Management) (Special)  
BSc in Business Management (Project Management) (Special)  
BSc in Business Management (Industrial Management) (Special)  
BM (Honours) in Accounting & Finance  
BM (Honours) in International Business  
BA in Business Communication  
BBM in Tourism Hospitality and Events

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BSc (Honours) Accounting & Finance  
BSc (Honours) Marketing Management  
BSc (Honours) Operations & Logistics Management  
BSc (Honours) Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management  
BSc (Honours) Business Communication

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Bachelor of Business: Supply Chain & Logistics Management



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# ARCHIVING THE WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE

## NSBM LIBRARY

The Library of NSBM Green University offers its students a peaceful location to read, research and study. It is the core resource centre of the university which is geared to cater for information, curriculum and research needs of the students and staff members. Complete with a useful and ever-expanding collection of textbooks, manuals, periodicals, academic journals and CDs, the

primary goal of the library is to support the learning culture that pervades through the university. The library is spread over five floors, and it houses the postgraduate study centre, a seminar room, a multipurpose hall, group study rooms, and separate social and quiet study spaces for students and staff.

The NSBM Library, the storehouse of knowledge, is gaining strength and stature in terms of the number

of volumes and the coverage which range from essential textbooks and manuals to classics on philosophy, management, and research methodology. This collection consists of volumes encompassing a wide range of disciplines including Management, Accounting and Finance, Marketing and Tourism, Operations and Logistics, Economics, Legal Studies, Computer Science and Software Engineering, Network and Security, Data



Science, Information Technology, Electrical, Electronic and Software Engineering, Mechatronic and Industry Engineering, Multi-media, Interior Design and Biomedical Science which are relevant to students from various disciplines. The library also contains a growing collection of academic journals and periodicals of interest. Further, it possesses a good collection of Sinhala and English fiction aimed at stimulating the aesthetic sense of students which forms part of holistic education. Bound volumes of thesis and dissertations of students of different programmes are arranged in a separate section. Further, the students and the staff have access to a wide range of scholarly articles

through the emerald Insight database within and outside of the university premises.

The NSBM Library provides a wide range of services to its users. Reference Service helps users to make full use of library resources and services. It provides necessary assistance to users in locating information or documents of their choice. An “Inquiry Service” which is attached to the reference service entertains readers for their subject and academic information requirements. NSBM library users have the facility of engaging in reading and reference work in the spacious reading area of the library. The NSBM

Library provides whiteboards to encourage collaborative studies. Photocopying, scanning and printing machines are available where students and staff may obtain these facilities at a nominal fee. New entrant users are provided with an orientation towards library resources and services for their better utilization. A few re-orientation programmes are also conducted for regular users as per the requirement. The library serves all the study requirements of undergraduates of different disciplines to facilitate the quality education NSBM Green University holds at the core of all operations. ■





## A Long-standing Partnership University of Plymouth

**Professor Dafydd Moore**

Deputy Vice-Chancellor International and Planning, Office of Vice-Chancellor

### **The Plymouth-NSBM academic partnership has been a long-standing one. How do you view this academic partnership?**

The University of Plymouth values its partnership with NSBM highly indeed. NSBM is our largest transnational partnership and the cornerstone of the delivery of our mission, vision and principles with overseas partners. We are delighted that the partnership is going from

strength to strength, with new programmes in development that significantly broaden the scale and disciplinary reach of our collaboration. At the same time as institutions, we remain true to the principles upon which the partnership was founded and of which we at Plymouth are proud of : genuine partnership that respects the role of each institution and from which a model of higher education can develop that is culturally sensitive, appropriate to the country where it is delivered, and brings the best of each education system

together. Our vision remains as it always has been: a UK education framed by a Sri Lankan context delivered by academic staff from the University of Plymouth and colleagues from NSBM.

**As a relatively young university, NSBM has been able to expand the limits of the local higher education system. Where would you place the potential of the NSBM**



## Green University in the future?

We are well aware that NSBM is already the nation's premier degree awarding Higher Education Institute and South Asia's first green university. We are delighted to see NSBM growing rapidly, especially with its Phase II campus developments under the visionary leadership of its founder and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. E A Weerasinghe along with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chaminda Rathnayake, and we are excited to see the accompanying expansion of NSBM's subject base and disciplines. Through the continued support of leading academic and non-academic staff, NSBM is broadening the range of students able to benefit from its unique '360-degree' higher education, its powerful blend of academic and real-world experiences aligned to current industry trends. The University of Plymouth is delighted to be supporting this significant portfolio development and, by ensuring a truly rich international

learning experience, assisting NSBM to achieve its ambition of providing exceptional global education locally. It is clear then that NSBM is rising to the challenge it has set itself 'to be Sri Lanka's best performing graduate school and to be recognized internationally' with vigor, imagination and energy.

## What new strategies would you suggest to strengthen the partnership between the two universities?

Universities are always going to be most successful when they are creating knowledge and pushing the boundaries of understanding as well as teaching. Universities have three key missions teaching, research and knowledge exchange applying the research. These are not separate activities but clearly symbiotic and each supports the other providing world-class opportunities for students.

As our partnership grows we look forward to future collaborations within both the research and sustainability agendas that are core principles for both institutions.

## Before the pandemic, the University of Plymouth flying faculty has been a prominent feature in the academic setup of NSBM. What are your thoughts on this model and what benefits both universities can gain through this?

The University is proud of our flying faculty model with NSBM, through which leading academics from Plymouth are able to work alongside both staff and students at NSBM and directly contribute





their knowledge into our joint programmes at NSBM. Academics working together building understanding across borders and cultures is at the heart of our mission in transnational education and cooperation. As such physical interaction in the shape of Flying Faculty will always be at the heart of our partnership. Yet the pandemic has taught us much about how we can supplement this through the use of technology to work even more closely together promoting sustained, interactive, engaging synchronous and asynchronous blended learning. And as institutions with global sustainability at the heart of

our mission, we should be excited about the possibilities for our globalised student experience to be supported through sustainable, digitally-backed practices that complement the unique and irreplaceable experience of face-to-face teaching.

**Another important feature of this academic partnership is the University of Plymouth Summer School. According to your viewpoint, what values and advantages are provided to the**

## **participants of this programme?**

The University always looks forward to welcoming students from NSBM to our campus here in Plymouth, Britain's Ocean City. It enables students to experience first-hand more of our academics and our facilities, to build lifelong friends through meeting Plymouth students from the UK and the rest of the globe and to experience our local community here in Plymouth. Global education is about broadening horizons, and time spent in Plymouth can be an introduction to the postgraduate opportunities open to students who want to come and spend more time in the UK on the completion of their studies in Sri Lanka, working for a further degree at the University of Plymouth.

## **NSBM is proudly celebrating the 5th anniversary this year, what message would you like to extend on this occasion?**

The University of Plymouth would like to congratulate NSBM on this milestone, pay tribute to its achievements so far, and wish it all the best for the next exciting stage of its journey. The University is proud of its partnership with NSBM and is looking forward to exciting future developments, further extending the strength and breadth of our partnership. It has been a privilege to be involved over the last 5 years, and we look forward to the future with excitement. ■



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# Forging Cross Cultural Links

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**Prof. Adam Shoemaker**  
**Vice-Chancellor of Victoria University**

**The VU-NSBM partnership is an integral part of our academic set up at NSBM Green University, how do you view this link between the two universities?**

Victoria University has a long history of offering our programs with international partners outside Australia. When we decided to offer our programs in Sri Lanka more than five years ago, it was because we knew that Sri Lanka was a tremendous partner nation with a fast-growing market for international higher education. We also valued the long and distinct linkages between Sri Lanka and the state of Victoria – creating one of the largest diaspora communities outside Sri Lanka. NSBM Green University was our first choice. Both institutions have placed great value in nurturing international

partnerships. We are proud that VU's partnership with NSBM is the first – and to date – still the only Australian university partnership with a public university in Sri Lanka offering education programs in-country.

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**What has your experience been like to date of this academic partnership with NSBM Green University?**

I have been Vice-Chancellor of Victoria University since December last year, so I am personally still quite new to this partnership. However, having worked in the tertiary sector for many years, I know that partnered academic delivery has many challenges and opportunities. Our team here at VU have extensive experience and expertise in delivering programs offshore, and we recognise that it takes hard work, patience and commitment

to build mutual understanding and trust, and to align different work cultures and practices. NSBM is a young university, but has also had experience in partnered delivery with UK institutions. For us, it has been a matter of getting a good grasp of what was the same and what was different for both sides.

**VU is a partnering institution, and we are proud to be the first Australian university to partner with a public university in Sri Lanka, offering our exceptional business and IT degree programs in-country. We have already graduated more than 100 students during this short time, and I look forward to celebrating many more graduations with NSBM students and staff in the future.**







Despite these challenges, the benefits have been enormous. For students and graduates, they can distinguish themselves in the global market with a distinctly Australian educational experience – with excellent employability and cross-cultural skills - while remaining firmly embedded in the Sri Lankan community and its networks. For staff, we have strengthened understanding and built friendships. More recently, we have grown closer through our shared experience of the many challenges that COVID has brought to our institutions and to our countries.

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### **There are many of universities that are affiliated with Victoria University; what unique features do you identify in NSBM that sets it apart from other partner institutes?**

Both institutions are strongly aligned in our commitment to planetary health and what we will now call in our new Strategic Plan 'Protecting Country'. There is much potential for us to work on our sustainability goals together. Our presence at NSBM builds the Australian brand and reputation in Sri Lanka. In turn, our

growing understanding of Sri Lanka's education system, community, culture, and economy, will continue to benefit Victoria University in countless ways.

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### **NSBM Green University is a swiftly growing and developing university. How would you see the potential of it reaching the global higher education standards that it aims for?**

I am very confident that NSBM has a decidedly bright future. The fact that you are partnering with overseas universities for the delivery of foreign award programs, meant that your own programs will benefit from cross-fertilisation. Your partnership with highly ranked universities has meant having to work with different curricula, university systems, quality assurance and regulatory frameworks. It's a lot of effort and we appreciate the hard work involved, as we're also partnered in different jurisdictions with a variety of partners and models.

An unwavering commitment to academic quality and to achieving the best experience for students and their future careers will see NSBM

reach its future potential, and we are very happy to be part of that journey.

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### **NSBM Green University is celebrating its 5th anniversary, what message would you like to share with the students and the staff?**

On behalf of Victoria University, I send my warmest congratulations to NSBM on the five-year milestone you have achieved. We are thrilled to share in this milestone with you, especially as the VU-NSBM partnership is also celebrating its five-year anniversary at the end of this year.

VU is a partnering institution, and we are proud to be the first Australian university to partner with a public university in Sri Lanka, offering our exceptional business and IT degree programs in-country. We have already graduated more than 100 students during this short time, and I look forward to celebrating many more graduations with NSBM students and staff in the future.

I am looking forward so much to meeting you all soon and to visiting your wonderful campus. ■



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# NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY VICTORIOUS JOURNEY

OCTOBER  
2011



Victorious journey begins by establishing National School of Business Management (NSBM) as the degree awarding body of NIBM

MARCH  
2012



Establishing NSBM City Campus

JULY  
2012



Laying the foundation stone for NSBM Green University Town in Pitipana, Homagama.

JULY  
2012



Publishing first NSBM Business Dialogue Magazine

VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES

MARCH  
2013



Commenced UGC approved Undergraduate and Postgraduate Degree Programmes in Management and Computing

APRIL  
2013



First ever 'Siyapathsiya Aurudu Udanaya'

AUGUST  
2013



First NSBM students group participates in Plymouth University Summer Camp

SEPTEMBER  
2013



Obtaining the membership from AACSB as the proud 2nd member of Sri Lanka

OCTOBER  
2013



Opening the NSBM School of Computing

DECEMBER  
2013



First ever Student Talent Show



DECEMBER  
2014



Inception NSBM convocation of UGC approved Degree BSc in Business management (special) and BSc in Management Information Systems

DECEMBER  
2015



Publication of NSBM Journal of Management ISSUE 01

OCTOBER  
2016



Opening NSBM Green University Town at Mahenawatta, Pitipana, Homagama

NOVEMBER  
2016



Formation of 50+ NSBM co-curricular and extra-curricular clubs and societies for students

DECEMBER  
2016



Gold Award /Business Excellence Award 2016, State and Statutory Boards Sector. (Organized by Chamber of Commerce) Talent Show

DECEMBER  
2016



Gold Award in Annual Report awards Competition 2016, State and Statutory Boards Sector. (Organized by the institute of Chartered Accountants in Sri Lanka)

VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES



FEBRUARY  
2017

Gold Award for the Best Education and Professional Services Website- 2017



FEBRUARY  
2017

Conducting NSBM's first ever inter-school debating tournament – Vivada



MARCH  
2017

Launching new degrees in Management and IT with Victoria University – Australia



MARCH  
2017

NSBM's first China – Sri Lanka Student Exchange Programme



MARCH  
2017

First ever Inter House Sports Meet



MAY  
2017

First ever NSBM Industry Partnership Programme



AUGUST  
2017



First International Workshop for Business Executives organized by NSBM in Dublin, Ireland

AUGUST  
2017



NSBM's first international summer camp held with participants from United Kingdom, China, and Egypt

SEPTEMBER  
2017



Introducing top-up degrees with University of Western Australia

SEPTEMBER  
2017



Conducting NSBM's first ever inter-school English Day competition

OCTOBER  
2017



Celebrating NSBM 1st Anniversary at Green University Town

DECEMBER  
2017



Gold award for the third consecutive year at "Quintessence of eminence", 53rd Annual Report Awards which was held on 5th December 2017

## VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES

DECEMBER  
2017



Conducting NSBM's first ever Career Fair

DECEMBER  
2017



Entering in to MoUs with ACCA, CIMA and CISI to provide concessionary benefits to NSBM Graduates for the advancement of their professional qualifications

DECEMBER  
2017



Gold award for being the most excellent business organization in the state sector at National Business Excellence Awards

MARCH  
2018



Initiation of School of Engineering of NSBM and introduction of UGC approved Engineering Degree Programs

JUNE  
2018



Introduction of NSBM's island wide CSR programme 'Chaturwidha Manpeth'

JUNE  
2018



Opening of NSBM's IT R&D and Business Incubation Center



AUGUST  
2018



NSBM's first International Conference on Business Innovation - ICOB I 2018

SEPTEMBER  
2018



NSBM USports – First ever inter-university sports tournament organized by NSBM

SEPTEMBER  
2018



NSBM Green Rugby 7s – Inter-school Rugby Championship organized by NSBM

SEPTEMBER  
2018



NSBM's first Business Forum organized Academic Development and Quality Assurance Division - "Comprehend – Align & Compete to Succeed"

SEPTEMBER  
2018



The Inauguration of NSBM Alumni Association, first Annual General Meeting and NSBM Alumni Get-Together

OCTOBER  
2019



Reached the Gross Income of Rs. 3 Bn while celebrating the 3rd year Anniversary of NSBM Green University

## VICTORIOUS JOURNEY CONTINUES

NOVEMBER  
2019



Unveiled the NSBM Green Board Room

DECEMBER  
2019



Gold Award under State Sector Category in the Annual Report Awards organized by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka

JANUARY  
2020



Visit of Hon. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to NSBM Green University

MAY  
2020



Donated Rs. 10 million to COVID - 19 Healthcare and Social Security Fund

SEPTEMBER  
2020



Won the Silver Award for Best University & Education Institute website at the BestWeb.lk

JANUARY  
2021



The foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of NSBM-Phase II



FEBRUARY  
2021



Opening of Departments at the Faculty of Business

- Department of Management
- Department of Operations & Logistics
- Department of Economics and Decision Sciences
- Department of Legal Studies

The Postgraduate Division

- Department of Marketing
- Department of Accounting and Finance

FEBRUARY  
2021



Opening of Departments at the Faculty of Computing

- Department of Information and Systems Sciences
- Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering
- Department of Network and Security
- Department of Data science

FEBRUARY  
2021



Opening of NSBM Investment Centre- February 2021

MARCH  
2021



Opening of the International Center for Modern Languages (ICML)

OCTOBER  
2021



Obtaining the approval for NSBM PhD programme



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# REVOLUTIONIZING SRI LANKAN HIGHER EDUCATION

PROF CHAMINDA RATHNAYAKE  
DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR

## How would you describe your journey with the NSBM Green University?

**A**s a pioneer member of the team, I am so happy to say that I've been part of this journey since the very first step: the establishment of NSBM City Campus. As a well established permanent employee of another institute, I, and few others took a massive risk by joining a very new organization to turn a budding concept into reality. Accepting an academic position at NSBM, which was only a concept at that time, was one of the biggest risks and accomplishments of my life. Seeing that our dream to build a brand new university has come to

fruition, I am more than happy and proud of my decision.

In Sri Lanka, many students do not get the opportunity to pursue higher education due to limited resources. We are a team of government employees who've taken up the challenge of solving this problem sans financial assistance from the government. Our journey has been a focused effort towards the enrichment of higher education levels in Sri Lanka. "NSBM Green University" is our solution to the students who are willing to pursue higher education in their motherland. The conception, implementation, and development of this iconic State organization is a process that I reminisce with great pride.

“THE CITY CAMPUS WAS THE FIRST STEP TAKEN TO INITIATE THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AS A NOTEWORTHY INSTITUTE IN THE VAST ARENA OF HIGHER EDUCATION. THE CAMPUS AT NUGEGODA WAS ESTABLISHED FORESEEING THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE VISIONARY LEADERSHIP OF OUR VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. E.A. WEERASINGHE. WE MANAGED TO DESIGN DEGREE PROGRAMMES, SECURE PARTNERSHIPS, STRENGTHEN FINANCES, AND DEVELOP A BRAND NAME FOR OURSELVES, ALL WHILE CONTINUING WITH THE CONSTRUCTIONS OF GREEN UNIVERSITY TOWN AT HOMAGAMA, THANKS TO THE FORETHOUGHT OF OUR LEADER”



### **How would you describe the transformation of NSBM from a City Campus to the Green University it is today?**

The City Campus was the first step taken to initiate the National School of Business Management as a noteworthy institute in the vast arena of higher education. The campus at Nugegoda was established foreseeing the challenges and opportunities under the visionary leadership of our Vice-Chancellor, Prof. E.A. Weerasinghe. We managed

to design degree programmes, secure partnerships, strengthen finances, and develop a brand name for ourselves, all while continuing with the constructions of Green University Town at Homagama, thanks to the forethought of our leader.

The transition from the Nugegoda City Campus to NSBM Green University Town was a grand event to behold. The opening was graced by the then President, Prime Minister, distinguished delegates, including foreigners, parents and students. We

made sure that our students got accustomed to the pleasant surroundings of the calm and serene area by providing them with the best facilities. The birth of the NSBM Green University brought about the dawn of a new era for higher education while benchmarking and setting standards that were never seen before.

### **Where would you place the NSBM Green University in the Sri Lankan higher education landscape?**



At the moment, we are a higher educational institute on par with the facilities provided at well-renowned international universities. We cater to the needs of the 21st century generation while retaining the values and standards of higher education in Sri Lanka. In short, NSBM provides an international university experience with local values.

How would you describe your experience in managing over 10 000 youth, and what have you identified as the main challenges in this process?

The students of the 21st century are one of the best generations; we are aware of and respect them and their culture. We put in an extra effort to understand our students' feelings, so I personally don't find "managing" to be a difficult task.

We enjoy mingling with our students, and we are also very passionate about our jobs. There is one speciality of the staff at NSBM Green University; both academics and non-academics take an active part in guiding our young students. The top management has an effective mechanism running to ensure that all guidelines are adhered to. The team at NSBM acts as one single entity; quite like a car's engine, I would say. Each and every cog of the "engine" plays an integral role in assuring the smooth management of the organization. This strong team ethos at NSBM stems from the close-knit community and the passion and hard work of each and every individual.

**NSBM Green University has gained unparalleled success within a short period of time. What do you see as the key strengths behind this success?**



Any organization should have two main strengths: managerial and financial. We at NSBM have perfectly aligned ourselves with these strengths through the dedication of our valued staff.

Just as we make sure that our academic programmes and services in high quality, we also make sure to maintain our financial stability. The strength we gain through both these sectors allows us to take new decisions and expand our horizons; Phase 2 of the NSBM Green University is one such initiative.

**What are the major developments, events that we can look forward to in the future?**

Apart from the ongoing constructions related to the proposed Phase 2 of NSBM, we plan to further enrich the academic and research sectors of the university. We are and will encourage and guide

both our academics and students to conduct more practical and applied research. With the development of new postgraduate and doctoral degree programmes, the establishment of new faculties, and the addition of new staff members, we hope to see a significant advancement in the academic field. We hope to see some bright NSBM alumni joining the academic staff as well.

We will make sure that we are well-positioned in the academic field in the future, and I am sure that NSBM will become a force to recognise in the years to come, as our students lead the country towards success.

**How do you describe the management system that we implemented during the pandemic situation?**

That's a good question. Regardless of the time, incident or its magnitude, we have always made sure to take prompt action. In life as well as in organisations sometimes the issue is not the problem; but how we face it. We at NSBM made sure to overcome the hardships caused by the pandemic by handling it in the most appropriate manner. We continued our university in an online manner while adapting new technologies when needed. Further, we worked hard and turned the threat into an opportunity. In fact, a larger number of students registered at our institute during the past year than in the pre-pandemic situation. I would say that the secret to our success lies in our ability to stay on track amidst all the hardships. We were able to continuously conduct lectures while prioritizing the health of both our staff and students. Even the pandemic affecting the entire world has not been able to undermine our progress.

*By Kasun Dissanayake & Roshni Samarasinghe*



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# An Architectural Perfection for University Education

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**Representing Academic Governing  
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**Senior Professor Sudantha Liyanage**

*Vice Chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

**A**

n academic with vast knowledge and over three decades of experience in academia, Prof. Sudantha Liyanage is the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He obtained his B.Sc. Special degree in Chemistry at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and his PhD in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Wales, Cardiff, the United Kingdom, in 1996. Prof Liyanage is also the recipient of Post-Doctoral Research

Fellowships from the University of Cardiff, UK and the University of Ibaraki, Japan. He has been serving as a member of the Governing Council of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura from 2010 to date.



## **What is your perspective on the role of NSBM Green University as a higher education institute in Sri Lanka?**

In the Sri Lankan education system, it is a known fact that both general education and higher education are entirely free of charge. Consequently, I believe that a dearth exists in relation to opportunities available in the higher education sector. Honestly speaking, more than a hundred and fifty thousand students are eligible to enter universities annually, passing the G.C.E. They advanced Level examination. The discrepancy here is, though it is assumed that there are equal opportunities for the school leavers to enter a state university, the reality unveils that only a limited number of students are fortunate to pursue higher education at the state universities in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, with a demi-justifiable formula like z-score, sometimes excellent performers fail to succeed in the competition to access tertiary education. Therefore, when considering all the aforementioned justifications, I strongly aspire to the development of non-state sector higher education institutes/ universities.





At present, twenty-three non-government institutes are provided with the degree awarding status in our country. Among them, undeniably, NSBM Green University is one of the best leading universities which caters to undergraduate requirements, benefiting them with an all-encompassing university experience. In contrast, many of the other non-state sector institutes in our country usually begin their journey at a rented building and continue their service giving much prominence to education in terms of academics. The uniqueness of NSBM lies here as Green University envelopes all sorts of facilities, ranging from academics to extra-curricular activities, which ultimately result in producing career-ready professionals who have the potentials to compete in the modern job market. As a matter of fact, NSBM, from its initial step, thrived on providing a holistic university experience to young adults. Especially, I am pleased to witness the astounding infra-structure facilities at NSBM that have led the way to transform a typical higher

education institute into a world-class university. Adding to that point, I believe NSBM undergraduates are well privileged, as even in state universities, some faculties are not on par with the status of the Green University. So, as per my insights, this could be the top secret behind the ceaseless high demand for NSBM. When students are facilitated with everything they require, the Green University automatically becomes the spotlight among other higher education institutes.

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### **What is your standpoint on the initiative taken by NSBM to emerge as a higher education institute in Sri Lanka?**

If we look at the Sri Lankan education system, it is obvious that less opportunities are there for students who face the A/L examination in the Commerce stream. Nevertheless, in other streams like physical science and arts, many students receive the opportunity to enter the state universities. The interesting point

here is, despite the fact that a huge competition is there in the Commerce stream, the demand for the Commerce subjects is surprisingly increasing day by day. The statistics from the previous year's G.C.E. A/L results best prove this idea. Therefore, at the onset of its opening, NSBM Green University appeared as an invaluable platform to provide a solution to this deep-seated concern which has been there since the past. As there are less opportunities for Commerce students in the government sector universities still, I admire NSBM's practical approach taken at the right time.

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### **How can you comment on the current status of NSBM?**

A university is discerned as a multifarious institution comprising of different graduate and professional schools that confers a plethora of degree programmes in various fields of study. This is a predominant feature that should be reflected in the university culture. NSBM's efforts

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If we look at the Sri Lankan education system, it is obvious that less opportunities are there for students who face the A/L examination in the Commerce stream. Nevertheless, in other streams like physical science and arts, many students receive the opportunity to enter the state universities.



in pooling and upgrading physical and human resources and social infrastructure have a tremendous impact on creating a live university culture. All things considered, I believe that NSBM is now on par with the state universities in Sri Lanka. Similarly, as far as the world rankings are concerned, NSBM Green University is swiftly moving up in the rank list. It is enthralling to say that NSBM is already maintaining high standards in both academic and non-academic activities to form stellar graduates. Along these lines, NSBM should continue to strive for perfection in quality.

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### **What are your recommendations for the future of NSBM? How can it help to redefine the Sri Lankan Higher Education System in an international context?**

As I mentioned earlier, I believe that there is a “vacuum” in Sri Lankan higher education. So, it is

of paramount importance to cater to this by bridging any gaps in the teaching-learning process. My advice here is, both teacher quality and teaching quality should be earnestly taken into consideration. I believe NSBM should now focus more on strategies such as modifying the curriculum and upgrading the quality of human resources. In my opinion, NSBM should further concentrate on improving its rankings as it can be used as a valuable marketing insight. With the introduction of the Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF), now all the state universities are working towards ameliorating the quality of the Sri Lankan higher education system.

Furthermore, most international universities now calculate both staff-to-student ratio and doctorate-to-bachelor's ratio when assessing different aspects of quality. So, I believe now it is high time for NSBM to start working on converting all the lecturers into PhD holders. In this endeavour, NSBM could subscribe to government scholarship positions and discuss the possibility of

getting PhD placements for young lecturers at NSBM with its affiliated universities. That can also be a great initiative to promote the research culture at NSBM.

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### **What is the message that you would like to extend on the 5th anniversary of NSBM?**

As a very senior academic, I am beyond elated to witness the massive progress of NSBM. Although NSBM has commenced the journey from the Faculty of Business, the university stepped towards immense success with the gradual development of its other faculties; Faculty of Computing, Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Science. Most importantly, I am impressed to witness the progression of many more novel faculties in its second phase. With the expansion of the university's second phase, NSBM has taken another commendable step towards advancing towards success. In my opinion, the initiative to provide hostel facilities for both boys and girls will be a great benefit for the students.

I also really appreciate the efforts of NSBM in rendering quality service to the young generation of the country. NSBM is already showing signs of significant improvements in the time to come. That is largely manifested in the current student population of the university. With the new faculties opening up at the university, I believe it will unfasten the latches of many new doors for those who want to quench their thirst for learning. Thus, I am pretty sure that NSBM will soon become one of the top-class universities in the world. ■

*By Gishan Abhayagunaratna and Isuri Caldera*



# TEAMWORK: MAKING THE DREAM WORK



**MR. SUJEWA  
MUDALIGE**

MANAGING PARTNER, PWC  
REPRESENTING  
GOVERNING COUNCIL,  
NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

**At the initiation, what was your perspective of NSBM Green University? And how did it turn out? Is it exactly what you expected?**

Initially, my relationship was with NIBM where Prof. E. A. Weerasinghe was the then Director-General. I was impressed with how Prof. Weerasinghe revamped NIBM from being a loss-making, lethargic organization to a vibrant and profit-making organization within a short time. At this time, during a conversation, I remember Prof Weerasinghe mentioned this unique

and special NSBM concept. He always wanted to do something different and unique, so he came up with this idea to build NSBM, which stands out from the rest of the higher educational institutes in Sri Lanka. Around ten years back, Prof. Weerasinghe took me to the coconut estate where the NSBM is located today. He explained the vision he had for the future generation of this country; to gift them an international university experience within the country. Initially, I felt this was very challenging, especially with finding funds. However, Prof Weerasinghe was so confident from the beginning that he firmly believed that we could

make this dream a reality.

As we stand in this moment, the joy of birth and the memories of the years of growth and struggle fill us with pride and a true sense of accomplishment. This institution, is the national flagship of higher learning, stands tall with its magnificent record of delivering quality multi-disciplinary educational programs designed to empower this nation. Five years ago, NSBM caught the nation's attention with the opening of the new facility. You will do so again next year, when media broadcast images of the fantastic new phase 2 development is completed. NSBM is clearly an institution that acts as well as speaks

when it comes to equity and excellence. The record of enrolments of students of all backgrounds, is an example and is an outstanding accomplishment that the university should be proud of. However, it is not just the enrolment of students that matters, it is the success of those students once they are enrolled and ensuring that they are successful in their studies, successful in creating opportunities for them to go on to further study, to gaining employment, to having productive lives that are richer and more fulfilled because of the university experience they have had at an institution like the NSBM.

Honestly, when we look back on the journey that we have achieved over the past 10 -12 years, we all can witness a miracle despite the challenges we had throughout. It is a fact that NSBM is a world-class facility, and it is further amazing to see the team Prof.Weerasinghe has gathered around him. I am truly honoured to be able to witness this journey and be part of this success story.

**You have played an essential role in the transformation of NSBM from a city campus to the Green University today. How would you describe that journey and your role in it?**

I have always played a minor role behind the scenes because I'm not an academic. My role has always been to support the Vice-Chancellor in all his endeavours by working through government red tapes and building up institutional and private sector relationships that are academically and financially significant. Initially, it was difficult because we did not receive any funds from the government. NSBM is a Rs. 10 billion facility excluding the new developments which are taking place right now. The entire facility was funded through debt. That is an enormous amount of



*HONESTLY, WHEN WE LOOK BACK ON THE JOURNEY THAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST 10 -12 YEARS, WE ALL CAN WITNESS A MIRACLE DESPITE THE CHALLENGES WE HAD THROUGHOUT. IT IS A FACT THAT NSBM IS A WORLD-CLASS FACILITY, AND IT IS FURTHER AMAZING TO SEE THE TEAM PROF.WEERASINGHE HAS GATHERED AROUND HIM. I AM TRULY HONOURED TO BE ABLE TO WITNESS THIS JOURNEY AND BE PART OF THIS SUCCESS STORY*

money. This university was built from nothing, and it has become an extraordinary masterpiece within a very short period. In my capacity, initially, I provided some professional services. As I serve as a member of the Academic Governing Council and the Governing Council, my message to the Vice-Chancellor is that I am ready to support, especially in bringing links with the private sector, people and resources whenever and wherever they are

required. I know that I play an extremely insignificant role compared to the work of the entire team, but I'm very proud of being a part of this great journey.

**What do you see in the future for NSBM? On both national and international levels?**

We have a long way to go. To become a successful educational organization,



*THIS INSTITUTION CELEBRATES THE THOUSANDS OF PROUD GRADUATES WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE COUNTRY'S NATIONAL WELL-BEING IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. OUR GRADUATES HAVE MADE US PROUD WITHIN THE REGION AND ACROSS THE DIASPORA, IN LOCAL AS WELL AS IN WORLD-CLASS INSTITUTIONS. WE CAN BE PROUD OF OURSELVES FOR WHERE WE ARE TODAY. WE HAVE A SOLID FOUNDATION NOW TO BUILD ON, AND THE SKY SHOULD BE OUR LIMIT. THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS WHICH WE CAN ACHIEVE AS A TEAM.*

in my view, we need to focus on five key areas. Firstly, we need world-class academics, and we have to develop them continuously. Secondly, we must make sure our subject content is up to date with the changes that happen locally and internationally. The third point is we need to keep developing the world-class infrastructure, which we continuously do. A good example is the phase 2 development and the acquisition of 15 acres of land adjoining the existing facility. We must have collaborations with academic institutions and private sector organizations. The university's strategic collaborations are very impressive and need to keep expanding our relationships. Finally, we have to create a learning environment conducive for academics and the students to pursue their aspirations. If we do all these, the rest of the things will fall into place, and we will receive the due recognition. We are already doing an exceptional service.

### **What recommendations would you offer for the further improvement of NSBM?**

Overall, NSBM is engaged in so many things. Academic and non-academic opportunities provided for students are unbelievable. I wish I had those opportunities when I was straight after school. The commitment, energy and enthusiasm that everyone at NSBM has is amazing. Especially, the academic

staff is unparalleled. This would not have happened if there weren't people to take the initiatives. The credit should go to Prof. Weerasinghe, Prof. Chaminda Rathnayake, Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa and the entire team. What is important is maintaining this teamwork, the unity among the team, and the enthusiasm that keeps the adrenaline level high. It is pretty challenging. You can't do the same thing that you do every day; you have to be innovative. I think it is the key to success.

NSBM should attract young academics and convince them that this is where they belong and that this is truly an inspiring career. Also, the NSBM should be mindful of the competition. Especially, other private institutions which are UGC accredited who will compete with NSBM. Considering the student numbers, we should be proud of what we have achieved so far, but the important thing is maintaining our no 1 position. Everyone else would want to compete with us and replicate what we are doing. We are attracting overseas students now and need to expand on that initiative. It is worth emphasizing that, in most cases, the initial students who contributed financially knew that the facilities they were supporting would not be completed before they graduated. They were contributing to future NSBM students and to the growth and success of their campus. This example typifies the sense of community that makes NSBM so special. Of course,

today's students are tomorrow's alumni. And NSBM's alumni are fiercely dedicated to their alma mater.

Another important thing is government policies. Now the city campuses have been opened. We should be able to attract the best students coming from schools. They need to see that the opportunity provided by the NSBM is far more rewarding than getting a degree from a state university. We should be able to give some scholarships to outstanding students. Also, I would like to emphasize financial stability, which is critical since we are self-financed; not funded by the government. If we make weak financial decisions, it will backfire on us someday. So, we should be mindful of that as well. These are a few important points that I wanted to add.

### **Finally, what message would you like to extend to the students and staff on the 5th anniversary of the NSBM Green University?**

All of us, including the academics, non-academics, students, past students, and all the stakeholders, are fortunate to be a part of this successful journey. This institution celebrates the thousands of proud graduates who have contributed to the country's national well-being in the public service and in private enterprise. Our graduates have made us proud within the region and across the globe in local as well as in world-class institutions. We can be proud of ourselves for where we are today. We have a solid foundation now to build on, and the sky should be our limit. There are a lot of things which we can achieve as a team. I wish Vice-Chancellor, Senior Management, academics, non-academics, and the students all the very best. I am incredibly proud to be a part of this incredible journey and to witness this success.

*By Chandhima Yapa & Tharushi Hettiarachchi*



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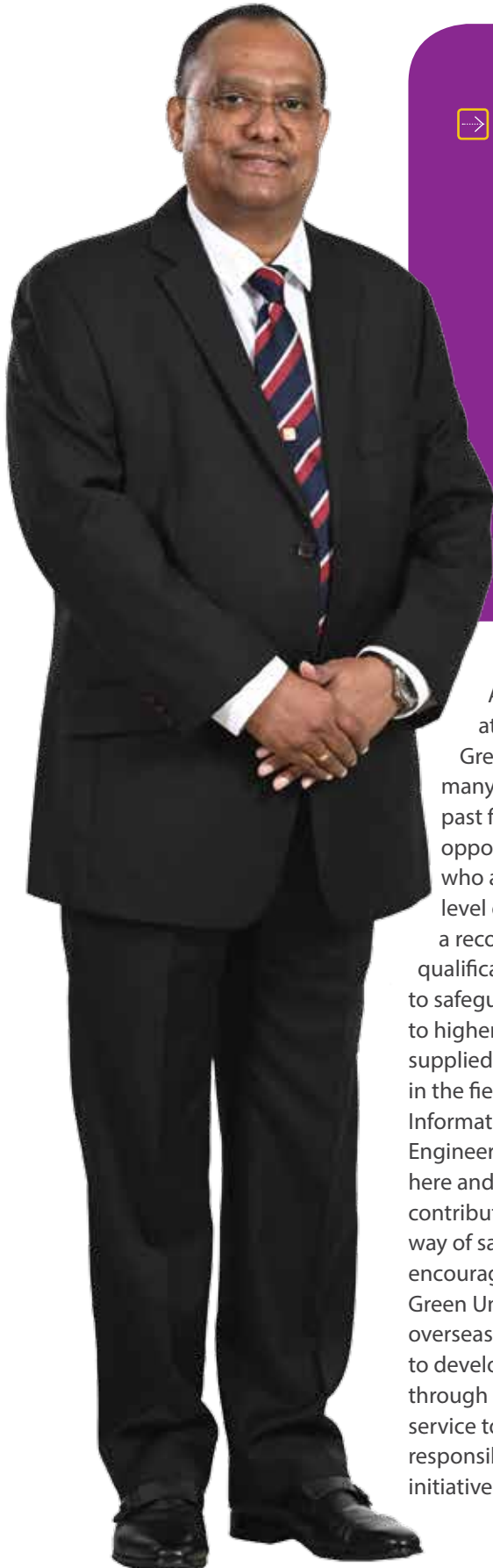
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REPRESENTING GOVERNING  
COUNCIL, NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

## **Professor Harendra Kariyawasam**

*Head, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce , University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

As a longstanding resource person, well-wisher and member of the Board of Directors, I have great pleasure in sending this congratulatory message in celebration of five years of dedicated service by the NSBM Green University to the nation's sons and daughters and the society from its magnificent and environment friendly abode in Pitipana Homagama. I have noted with admiration how the little seed that was sown a decade ago by Professor E A Weerasinghe and his team has now grown to be a tree full of greenery offering flowers, fruit and shade to large numbers in the annals of higher education in Sri Lanka. It is evident that the University's journey, studded with many accomplishments, to be a household name among the student and research communities and the industry far exceeds the envisaged.



➔ **As visualized by pioneers at the inception, the NSBM Green University has reached many a landmark during the past five years. First, it provided opportunities for school leavers who are deprived of university level education to acquire a recognized educational qualification and thereby strive to safeguard the right of youth to higher education.**

As visualized by pioneers at the inception, the NSBM Green University has reached many a landmark during the past five years. First, it provided opportunities for school leavers who are deprived of university level education to acquire a recognized educational qualification and thereby strove to safeguard the right of youth to higher education. It has also supplied resourceful graduates in the fields of Management, Information Technology, and Engineering for the job markets here and overseas. Further, it has contributed to the economy by way of saving foreign exchange via encouraging locals to study at NSBM Green University instead of going overseas. In addition, its contribution to developing new knowledge through research and being of service to society via corporate social responsibility projects and green initiatives are commendable.

With such an enviable past, the NSBM Green University looks at the future with great confidence and promise. It has already embarked on the second phase of its development with many a novel plan in the areas of academic development, research and societal advancements on the cards. Further, its commitment to high quality and continuous improvement will lead to attracting overseas students and researchers to join the University with positive implications on the economy.

While congratulating the founder, management and the staff for their significant achievements in the past, I take this opportunity to wish the NSBM Green University every success in becoming Sri Lanka's best performing Graduate School and to be recognized internationally, its cherished vision, in the shortest possible time. ■





Managing  
A Local  
University with

# International Standards

**Mr. Kapila Liyanage**

*Senior Manager – Administration*

## How would you describe the unparalleled success NSBM has gained over the last five years?

Sri Lanka had a dire need for higher education opportunities where a limited number of students who sit for the Advanced Level Examinations entered the National University System while a vast majority of the remaining students had to look for different avenues to pursue higher education. NSBM Green University virtually identified this as an opportunity. I think that consumer need identification was vibrant and focused, and there was sufficient demand for higher education locally as well. This was the starting point of the University, and it is undeniable that NSBM started with the right thought and mindset. NSBM managed to identify the correct opportunity and the required educational dimension at an appealing value from the very beginning itself in order to effectively deliver its core activity. The synergizing effect of this fundamental planning process itself has helped NSBM to establish the sound path that we are operating in today.

NSBM has gone through a lot of brainstorming and this planning process starts from the mind of the founding Vice-Chancellor. He typically thinks 4-5 steps ahead of what we would traditionally think. So, when someone is working with a leader of that calibre, naturally, they also need to think at least 1-2 steps ahead of what a normal person would think. Without that, I don't think this journey would have been possible, and I believe we have always displayed this level of organizational commitment because

of the leadership. Our strategic plan for the University was never a nicely bound book that was kept on display. Instead, we always used it as our working document. And I believe that our top management truly inspired and guided us to achieve what we have achieved during the last 5 years.

Additionally, as an organization we have a culture where we believe that everyone should deliver and when everyone delivers, all of us will be collectively benefitted and that is a great factor that has helped us in our journey. NSBM operated with comparatively a smaller team from the very beginning and even amidst the growth of student numbers and programmes and the expansion in our staff cadre we are still comparatively a small team. Our teams have always delivered when and where needed. Be it junior staff, senior staff and academics, no one has been constrained by rigid rules and regulations which could hinder the thinking.

If you look at what we do as a university, almost every week we as a team do something of significance. This small team has managed to make this a project that is financially sustained despite an investment of over Rs. 10Bn and the reason as to why we were able to achieve this with a small team is because of our performance-driven culture. Everyone who works here has an organic feeling towards the University where they think of the institution as their own place or second home. In essence,

each one of our staff had to play a role in this success. Therefore, the teams' commitment has been very high and conversely our staff is also well taken care of especially if you compare the benefits and facilities offered for our staff to any other similar institution.

In addition to our human resources, NSBM Green University has also made timely investments in technological and other aspects that has helped us in delivering an optimal service to external and internal customers.

In business management, you got to deal with standard methods, procedures, practices, rules and regulations, circulars and so on. As an organization, we are never constrained by or considered any of these to limit achieving our fullest potential. I think we have also effectively capitalized on the high level of networks our top management has established over the years to successfully expedite several functions and initiatives that we do here at NSBM. Because of these efforts, we have managed to achieve much more than what we would have originally achieved if we let ourselves work in a confined bubble governed by a range of internal and external factors.

As a final point, I believe NSBM Green University as an organization naturally goes back to the basics here no matter what activity we engage in. Whenever we are going to do something, we always think of the impact we are going to create. We are very logical in that sense in our operations, and I believe that this





has been a huge positive for NSBM's remarkable growth and financial sustainability over the last 5 years.

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### **NSBM is expanding its facilities with the construction of Phase 2. Would you like to give us a brief description of what Phase 2 would add to the University?**

Since its inception, the entire NSBM Green University project was planned on 50 acres of land. In accordance with this plan, NSBM secured another 15 acres of land adjoining the current project from Urban Development Authority in 2019 for Phase 2 of the Green University project, which was initiated based on the further expansion requirements of Phase 1, prevailing market opportunities in

multiple new domains and in line with the holistic strategic plan of the University.

Phase 2 of the university intends to add three new faculties in the form of Faculty of Science, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Social Sciences along with a breath of new facilities and amenities for students including, a multipurpose conference hall with a capacity of 2,000 seats, a state-of-the-art sports ground with extended facilities for numerous sporting activities, an open air theatre with a capacity of over 500 seats, extended parking facilities for students, a hostel complex that can accommodate over 1,000 students and a vast natural water harvesting pond inclusive of its own recreational area and jogging path.

### **According to your opinion, what does the future look like for NSBM Green University?**

The future is not something that we can miraculously create. I believe that what we do today will determine our future. We are a relatively young institution, and we still have a very long journey ahead of us. Even in the future, we will most definitely work towards making our key customers - our students and parents - happy and satisfied and financially sustaining the project. It is also important to be in line with industry demand and to maintain the quality of delivery that we need to work towards as well. For instance, we have looked at several emerging new areas and disciplines at a global and local scale and we are looking at introducing



**The future is not something that we can miraculously create. I believe that what we do today will determine our future. We are a relatively young institution, and we still have a very long journey ahead of us.**

new programmes which will help us in creating a better portfolio of degree offerings in the future and deliver this dynamic job market what it really wants from a higher educational institution.

As an organization, we have challenges in balancing the financial sustainability of the project, but we need to keep on monitoring the incremental ROIs on certain new investments and certain decisions we have made. I hope our next 5-year strategic plan will help us to achieve it where academics that are performing the core service will be benefitted even further as well as students especially in terms of the new facilities and services that are currently in the pipeline as a part of the expansion of the University.

As a higher educational institution we have had a set of key objectives since the very beginning. Our prime consideration is to provide our students an unparalleled learning experience that is on par with international standards. Also we work towards saving the country's foreign exchange by retaining the students who are leaving the country to pursue higher education while bringing in foreign exchange to the country by becoming a knowledge hub in the region to attract foreign students. Therefore, regardless of what the future may present I believe we need to continue sustaining this core factor.

Finally, I would like to end this interview with a positive sentiment. In marketing there

is a theory which elaborates that a brand must strive towards achieving 'top-of-mind' amongst its potential consumers. So, I think we as an institution need to work on making and sustaining NSBM Green University as the top-of-mind brand amongst the general population when it comes to the higher education sector in Sri Lanka. ■

*By Janith Iddawela and Daupadee Gamage*



# ENSURING A PROMISING FUTURE

## MS. KAILASHINIE THIRANAGAMA HEAD-FINANCE

### How would you describe the journey of last five years?

I would say that NSBM had a very successful journey so far. As promised, NSBM was able to turn a new chapter in the history of Sri Lankan higher education. I can quite confidently say that we stand among the most prestigious local and international universities.

In terms of my area of expertise, which is finance, I would say, at times it was challenging, as the university had to struggle with a significant amount of external debt especially

during the first few years following inception, but by now, we have overcome the most challenging period in terms of managing finances and has gradually been able to reach status of financial stability. Also, it is with great pride that I say I was able to be a part of this successful journey from the very beginning.

### What is the secret behind the success as you believe?

NSBM has been able to create a substantial national level impact over a very short span of time. The driving

force behind this success story is definitely our visionary leader Prof. E.A. Weerasinghe and his firm view on how the future of NSBM Green University should be and his ability to drive all organizational members towards the strategic goals. His clear vision on the strategic priorities and direction for the organization has driven the NSBM Green University to achieve greater heights during a very short time. Another salient feature is his ability to maintain the right balance between empowering individuals to make decisions for the betterment of the organization while granting them freedom to



**From 2016, we have come a long way, but we also have a long way to go. As of now, what I can say is that the future of NSBM is very promising and secure.**



think, making them accountable and responsible for the decision. His unique leadership style also inspires many young employees joining the organization to take the legacy forward because until today he is not only aware about the strategic aspects of the organization but also, he willingly takes an effort to know all the operational aspects of the organization as well. Thus, the leadership of NSBM Green University has been the key secret behind the success, when the leadership element of the organization is strong, its positive impacts trickle down to lower levels of the organization as well.

### **How will be the future of NSBM Green University?**

From 2016, we have come a long way, but we also have a long way to go. As of now, what I can say is that the future of NSBM is very promising and secure. Now we are at a significant juncture where we have to focus on what the demands of the world and cater to the international market continuing our efforts to improve and enhance the quality of the graduates we gift to the world. ■

*By Daupadee Gamage and Narmada Balasuriya*



# Striving for



# Perfection



## Registrar- Examination

### Ms. Piyumi Jayalath

#### Would you please give us an overview about the examination procedures at NSBM Green University?

We conduct a Scrutiny Board to ensure that all our Examination Papers are relevant, reliable, accurate and meet the needs of test takers. We also have Examination Marks Moderation process to make sure the marking of the 1st examiner. Most importantly, the deans and the heads of the departments are continuously reviewing and improving our examination processes and they do the necessary changes accordingly to ensure the standard of marking. Here at NSBM Green University, we have a separate fully-fledged department for examinations with improved facilities and staff to secure the quality of examinations as well.





## **What are the main challenges you face as the Registrar – Examination and how do you face them?**

The huge number of students is the main challenge that I face in the job role. When we are going to conduct examinations, we need many number of exam halls, invigilators, and other resources to conduct examinations due to the increased number of students in the degree programs. Despite that, I manage them all by taking necessary action at all times. I would like to pay my gratitude to the top management, all the deans, HODs, academic members in all 3 faculties, all the administrative members at NSBM and my wonderful team who works with me in my division, for the commitment and

support provided to me to face all the issues and obstacles in delivering a quality service.

## **What improvements do you see happening in the future to maintain the quality and the standard of examinations here at NSBM?**

We would like to provide all the services of the examination division with the engagement of our new UMI System. Then it would be very convenient for our students, Internal academic members as well as visiting academic members to work with the examination division. We also can provide more efficient services for our customers both internal and external. Due to the huge student

numbers and the number of offering degree programs, it is mandatory that expedite our University Management Information System establishing to improve our quality, as well as to provide excellent service to all, as the NSBM Examination Division. I would also like to I take this opportunity to convey my sincere gratitude to our Vice Chancellor sir, Prof. E A Weerasinghe for giving me this opportunity to improve and grow myself with NSBM Green University. I am truly very lucky, very happy, and so proud to be a part of NSBM Green University During this successful journey,

I wish NSBM all the very best to achieve more, serve more to the nation. ■

*By Praveen Ranaweera*



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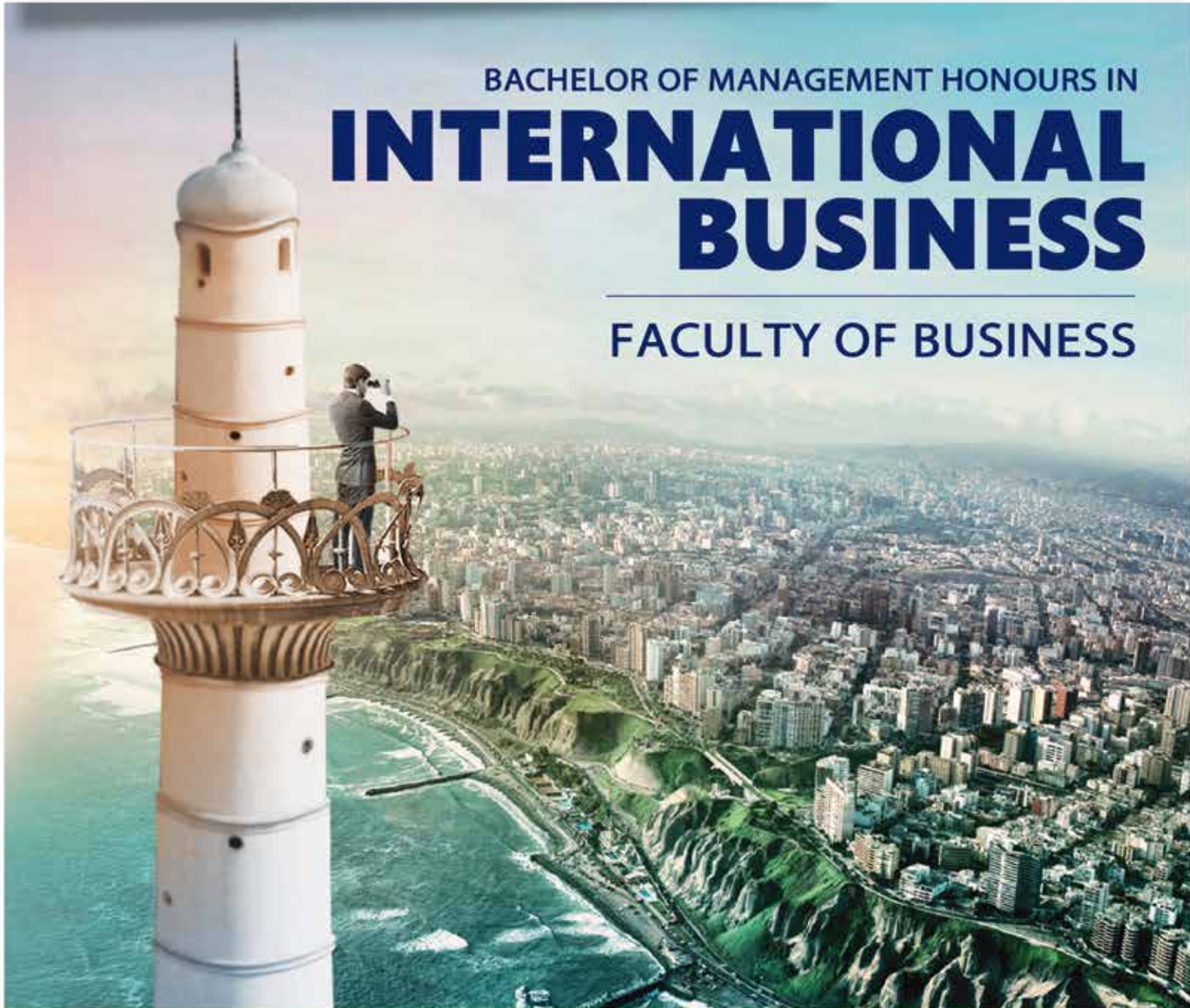
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- BSc Business Management (Industrial Management) (Special)
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- BM (Honours) in Accounting & Finance
- BM (Honours) in International Business

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- BSc (Honours) Business Communication

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- BSc (Honours) Management
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# THOUGHTS FROM THE TRAILBLAZERS

**MR. CHAMINDA WIJESINGHE**  
SENIOR LECTURER  
HEAD-DEPARTMENT OF DATA SCIENCE

I am glad that I was with NSBM Green University from its very beginning and am more than proud to be experiencing its success today. I believe that NSBM created a new culture in the higher education landscape in Sri Lanka giving hope and confidence to the youth and their parents about a brighter future.

A University will exist for centuries on this earth, be cherished by many people for its existence and contribute towards the creation of knowledgeable individuals. However, a journey so great

begins with many challenges and hurdles to overcome. Within the last five years, NSBM has demonstrated that the impossible is possible if you have enough perseverance and determination to focus on your targets and goals. We are constantly thriving to create new knowledge and opportunities for the development of the country's economy. On this memorable day, I wish NSBM the strength to give birth to thousands of youth who are capable and willing to make others' lives better!



**MR. MOHAMED SHAFRAZ**  
SENIOR LECTURER  
HEAD-DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

On the day that NSBM commemorates its fifth anniversary, I am delighted to pen down this message to share my thoughts as an employee involved in academics and operations since its inception. As a member of the NSBM team, I am so proud and delighted to see the progress and achievements of the institution. If someone asked me the reason for success, I would confidently say that it's solely due to the visionary leadership of NSBM's

Vice Chancellor, Prof. E A Weerasinghe. His determination, risk-taking ability, guidance, and ability to foresee the future made NSBM a pioneer of higher education and a role model for others to follow. We are delighted to witness the success of the graduates we produced in the past through the positive feedback received from employers. I am so humbled and privileged to be a part of the NSBM Team and its journey since inception.





## BRIG. SANATH WICKRAMASINGHE

SENIOR LECTURER  
DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS

It is my great pleasure to congratulate all the staff of NSBM Green University as we celebrate our 5th anniversary. Along the 5 years at NSBM, I have had the privilege to serve as a Senior Lecturer to lecture in the university's Business, Engineering, and Computing faculties.

NSBM Green University has become a highly recognized hub of the higher education sector as an institute that takes the responsibility of nurturing eligible students who did not have an opportunity to pursue their university education in Sri Lanka.

By now, NSBM has become highly recognized for its innovative approaches in education and for producing skilled, passionate, and confident professionals to the industry.

A big thank you to our visionary leader, Vice Chancellor, Prof E.A. Weerasinghe, for creating this magnificent university fully equipped with all necessary facilities. I would also like to express my gratitude to all the academic and non-academic staff and wish the university continued success in the years to come.

## ANNE PATHIRANAGE

SENIOR LECTURER  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ACCOUNTING & FINANCE

NSBM introduced a "Novel Standard to Basic Measurements"; most importantly, it is a place that nurtured thousands of students in the country. Creating a remarkable turning point, NSBM has added a different flavor to the Sri Lankan higher education system by striving towards challenges, with the pure purpose of upgrading the higher education to a globally recognised level. To serve this purpose, students and other stakeholders are provided

with state-of-the-art facilities to experience the essence of the teaching and learning process, to seek knowledge, and to acquire skills, ensuring the production of masterful personalities than a mere graduate with theoretical knowledge. This journey was not smooth, but it has always been true to the promise of being the next era in the arena of higher education in Sri Lanka. Wishing the best of luck to mother NSBM: the place where I grew and keep growing!





## MANOJA WEERASEKARA

SENIOR LECTURER  
HEAD-DEPARTMENT OF  
INFORMATION AND SYSTEMS SCIENCES

I joined NSBM in the year 2013, and I am proud to say that this is my 8th year at this prestigious institution. I believe NSBM is not just another university or academic institution, but one of the best places for our younger generation to pursue their higher education and secure their dreams. Each of us was challenged throughout this journey, yet motivated to bring

the best out of us for the betterment of our students. NSBM's empowering nature helped me grow as an individual by opening up many windows of opportunity and introducing a new network of friends for life. At the 5th anniversary of the NSBM Green University, I whole-heartedly wish NSBM the best, to achieve success in every aspect.



## CHATHURIKA RANAWEERA

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR  
FACULTY OF COMPUTING

NSBM grew; so did I. Taking humble steps from 2012, I have been a part of this big family since its inception. Over the years, not only did NSBM change the lives of thousands of youth, but it also changed the higher education landscape of the entire country. NSBM transformed higher education into an affordable yet high-quality experience.

I have seen countless students and parents walking in through our

gates carrying dreams and ambitions in their heart; it has been an absolute pleasure to have assisted the realization of them. Seeing the fulfillment of our students' dreams 3 or 4 years down the lane is a priceless happiness that no words can express. I have given my best to NSBM so has NSBM. I am proud to be a part of this exemplary journey of NSBM and more than excited for its bright and promising future.



## NADEE GUNATHILAKA

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR  
FINANCE, RECOVERY, AND COLLECTION

I feel deeply connected to the 5th anniversary of NSBM Green University. Looking back at its history, NSBM Green University has always overcome its challenges and made the best of its opportunities. It is time for all of us to make renewed efforts to propel the University further into the future. Our anniversary is not only about sharing 5 years of accomplishments; it is also about recognizing the tremendous growth

of our university and the dedication that has driven us towards success.

I am proud to have been a part of NSBM's journey for the entirety of 5 years, and look forward to being a part of NSBM Green University in the future as well. I wish NSBM Green University every success and may our university continue to lead the way in quality education for many decades to come!





# YASHODHA WETTASINGHE

## MANAGER HR

"Teamwork makes the dream work"; that's how we achieved the dream of NSBM Green University 5 years ago. Being a member of the NSBM team from its inception, I'm deeply honored and humbled to pen down this note on its 5th anniversary. NSBM has been a shelter for thousands of students and hundreds of staff members over the years and contributed to

uplift their lives immensely. We, as employees, are very much fortunate to experience a world-class university working environment while improving ourselves both professionally and personally. I wish NSBM a remarkable journey in the coming years and more strength to serve the nation with pride.



# DILRUKSHI ABHAYAWARDHANA

## PROGRAMME MANAGER

It has been an incredible 9 years of working in this environment with enrolling the students in different generations. NSBM students have been blessed to study in this wonderful environment with an international university experience. It is an exciting time for NSBM. Since its inception in 2012, we have been growing our programs by leaps and bounds, achieving our goal of advancing the business, computing, engineering

and science disciplines and educating students to become highly skilled professionals. NSBM has become a renowned higher education institute in Sri Lanka in less than a span of 10 years under the visionary leadership of Prof. E. A. Weerasinghe, vice chancellor and founder of NSBM, and we as a nation is very grateful to him for his continuous dedication and leadership.

# SENANI KARUNARATHNE

## ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Ever since its inception, NSBM always strived to provide an opportunity for its students to maximize their potential to add value to the society. For the past 5 years, NSBM has given its students education, experience, cultural awareness, and understanding through integrative study, research, immersive education, and exposure to the world.

There's no doubt in my mind that NSBM plays a significant role in educating the young generation in both national and international arenas in the hopes that they may live full and honest lives with dignity, quality, and respect. I wish to extend my best wishes to the NSBM for a continuous journey towards success in the years to come.









# PAVING THE WAY TO AN EXCEPTIONAL FUTURE

## MARKETING DIVISION

### About NSBM Marketing Division

From the inception of the NSBM as a city campus and importantly from 2016 October onward at NSBM Green University premises, the Marketing Division of NSBM has played a vital role in achieving its success in numerous ways. The marketing division of NSBM is led by the Head of Marketing under the supervision of the Director-Operations and Vice-Chancellor of NSBM. There are several student counsellors and a programme manager to handle the front office, call centre, NSBM official website, NSBM official social media platforms and other activities

demanding marketing officers' service. Furthermore, there are a full-time creative designer and a trainee creative designer and copywriter to produce creative materials and branded materials of NSBM.

### The unique blend of Marketing Mix of NSBM

The marketing Communication mix of NSBM consists of a versatile range of above the line, below the line and through the line marketing activities. NSBM official website acts as the main platform for disseminating information about the degree programmes, faculties, facilities, staff





**NSBM open days play a significant role in building a unique and fruitful interaction with society and prospective students and parents.**



members and student intakes, and it also includes a platform where inquiries can be generated. NSBM official Facebook page, Instagram account, YouTube channel, LinkedIn page play a significant role in disseminating updates of the ongoing student activities, student intakes and other important events of NSBM. Also, these platforms keep the students tuned about the NSBM while gaining the attraction of the whole society. NSBM Open Days and events organised for brand activation and information sharing play a vital role in creating a unique interaction between the prospective students and parents and NSBM.

### **NSBM Open Days**

NSBM open days play a significant role in building a unique and fruitful interaction with society and prospective students and parents. Starting from the Year 2016 October until 2020 March, the NSBM marketing division continuously organized NSBM open days with various activities

to create a unique experience for its students, staff members, and, importantly, prospective students and parents. In organizing NSBM open days, the academics, non-academics, and students are instrumental in organizing activities of divergent nature such as student exhibitions, sport tournaments, aesthetic activities blended with dancing, drama and music, media exhibitions and food stalls and other merchandises related to higher education.

The NSBM marketing division takes necessary steps to invite school students and teachers to visit NSBM for open days to witness the state-of-the-art facilities. This event also helps them to explore more information through a knowledge sharing session on "Life after A/ Ls and planning for a better future through higher education". Every NSBM open day program was equipped with a team of academics and student counsellors to provide NSBM degree programme details and provide necessary guidance for after A/L students and their parents to select the best degree programme for the best prospects. Faculty wise organized information desks and new student registration counters can be considered the focal point of NSBM open days where the public will be sufficiently informed and guided towards this unique experience.

### **Responding to Challenging Time: Adapted Strategy during COVID-19 pandemic**

NSBM marketing division has adopted a unique strategy in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Understanding the mentality of the target customer

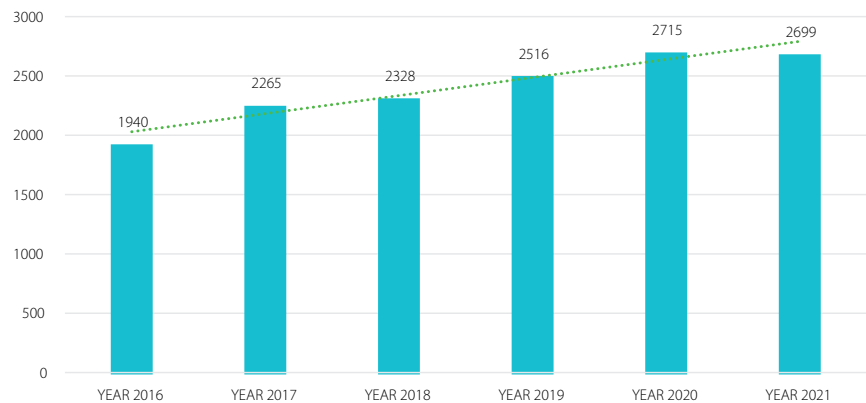
base vast spread in the society, the NSBM marketing division has improved its services to be fully operated via NSBM web, on-call assistance via NSBM call centre and NSBM mobile hotline numbers. Furthermore, all email and call inquiries are treated equally important and responded through carefully managed databases. All the new registrations and prospecting tasks are well managed through online registration and payment systems. In them the NSBM marketing division has carefully adapted its marketing communication investments based on the changed media preferences of the society with the COVID-19 pandemic. These key initiatives acted as pillars of the success of the NSBM marketing division to keep its top performance continued from March 2020 up to now without letting the pandemic interfere and interrupt.

## Overview of the energized victorious journey of NSBM- Marketing Performance

Overview of Annual Undergraduate Degree Registrations- Year 2016-2021

Operation Year	Total Number of Undergraduate Registrations
YEAR 2016	1940
YEAR 2017	2265
YEAR 2018	2328
YEAR 2019	2516
YEAR 2020	2715
YEAR 2021	2699

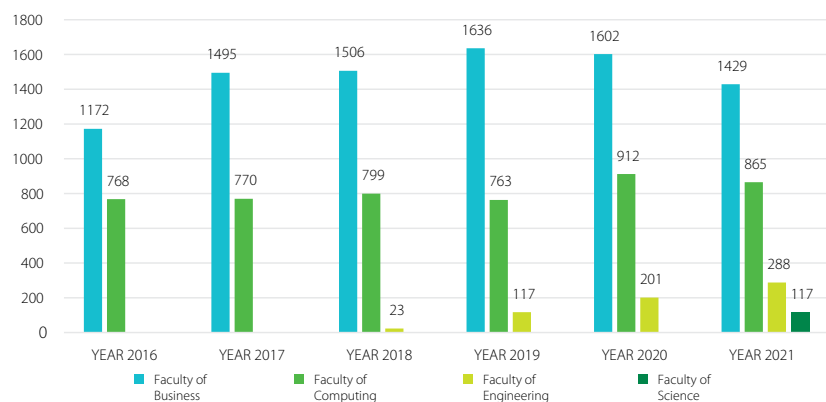
Overview of Annual Undergraduate Degree Registrations - Year 2016-2021



Overview of Annual Undergraduate Degree Registrations- Year 2016-2021 Faculty Split

	Faculty of Business	Faculty of Computing	Faculty of Engineering	Faculty of Science
YEAR 2016	1172	768		
YEAR 2017	1495	770		
YEAR 2018	1506	799	23	
YEAR 2019	1636	763	117	
YEAR 2020	1602	912	201	
YEAR 2021	1429	865	288	117

Overview of Annual Undergraduate Degree Registrations - Year 2016 -2021 Faculty Split



Complied by Tharani Sooriyaarchchi & Vageesha Rajapakse



# Energizing the Victorious Journey

**Mr. Venura Colombage**  
**Head-Marketing**

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**NSBM Green University has become a synonym with the new face of global higher education in Sri Lanka. How would you describe the place the university holds in the higher education landscape of the country?**

The NSBM Green University can be recognized as the only higher educational institute with such level of potential to provide an international level exposure to the Sri Lankan students. As per the available statistics, 194,000 students have qualified for the higher education during the year 2020 among the total population of 300,000 plus G.C.E. Advance Level candidates. However, only around 41,000 students (21% out of qualified students) will be able to attend a government university. In Sri Lanka, it is considered that obtaining a degree, is a prerequisite to secure a better job and a comfortable life but the lack of opportunities available will restrain the majority from reaching their university dream. NSBM Green University concept has inaugurated a finer solution for this massive gap existing in the higher education platform. The NSBM Green University offers the opportunity to the crowd who miss this rare chance of being enrolled to a government university to perceive their undergraduate degree dream. In the meantime, NSBM Green University is also maintained strong bonds with many foreign universities within this five years' time since its inception. Whilst looking through this paradigm I would say, "Yes, NSBM is the synonym in Sri Lankan context where the global level higher education exposure is granted".





**NSBM Green University can be considered as Sri Lanka's International university when looking at the infrastructure of the university, facilities offered, and the foreign exposure provided. When the NSBM Green University town concept was initiated all the key stakeholders including students, society, the government, and others were taken into consideration.**



## **What opportunities students can gain uniquely from the NSBM Green University?**

NSBM Green University can be considered as Sri Lanka's International University when looking at the infrastructure of the university, facilities offered, and the foreign exposure provided. When the NSBM Green University town concept was initiated all the key stakeholders including students, society, the government, and others were taken into consideration. The university town was designed and constructed in a manner that all the necessities for its occupants like banking, saloons, shopping facilities are established within the premises

with the intention of endorsing the in campus living concept. It is with pride I mention that the NSBM Green University premises are expanding with the upcoming Phase II of the university that is currently being constructed.

Apart from the infrastructure and the premises of NSBM Green University, when the macro view is considered, its visible that the NSBM Green University is collaborating with the society through its CSR engagements. The local community living around the university premises have been granted with new business opportunities like providing accommodation facilities, food deliveries and providing transport facilities. Considering all these I

believe that we are a university standing up along with society.

Currently the university is operating with four faculties, occupying more than 11,000 students including undergraduates and postgraduates in a spacious environment which is spread across 26 acres of land. NSBM Green University has entered to foreign affiliations with leading international universities including University of Plymouth, University of Victoria, University of Western Australia, and Stokholm University to up lift the academic quality and expand the foreign recognition.

As a self-financed institute NSBM Green University have been accomplished the target of allowing students to retain a standardized



university degree along with the best university experience by giving a best solution to the prevailing limited capacity for the higher education opportunities within the country.

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**According to your view NSBM Green University is the best investment a student can make for his or her future?**

NSBM Green University provides a holistic learning opportunity to the undergraduates focusing on three pillars: academic, skills and social.

The students are provided with both theoretical and practical

knowledge and experience through lectures, field visits, industry expert forums, and student circle activities that enhances the knowledge of the undergraduates. Several International Centres have been established under the Academic Development and Quality Assurance Unit for international collaborations with academia, and industry experts from foreign nations which provides the undergraduates with the opportunity of foreign exposure within the University.

NSBM has sixteen sports clubs, eighteen activity-based clubs and societies, and five international clubs operating under the Student Affairs' unit which provides the undergraduates with the opportunity

to improve their sporting abilities, and skills. Further, four religious clubs have been established giving all the students equal chances to practise their religious activities with the intention of improving the wellbeing of the undergraduates.

I believe that the holistic university experience provided by the NSBM Green University backed up with the government assurance makes NSBM Green University the best investment a student can make for his/her future. ■

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***By Tharani Sooriyaarachchi & Vageesha Rajapakse***



# GIFTING GLOBAL GRADUATES TO THE NATION

## STUDENT AFFAIRS UNIT

**I**NSPIRED BY THE MISSION OF CREATING A HOLISTIC, GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE GRADUATE, NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED THE STUDENT AFFAIRS UNIT IN 2017 UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PROF. BARATHA DODANKOTUWA. HIS LEADERSHIP LED TO THE INCEPTION OF NUMEROUS CLUBS AND SOCIETIES WHICH WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN BUILDING THE CHARACTER AND PERSONALITY OF NSBM UNDERGRADUATES. THE UNIT NOW ENCOMPASSES 43 CLUBS AND SOCIETIES THAT REPRESENT VARIOUS INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS THAT FALL UNDER THE CATEGORIES OF SPORTS, ACTIVITY-BASED, RELIGIOUS, AND INTERNATIONAL. AFTER A SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN 2017, MR. MOHAMMED SHAFRAZ TOOK OVER TO CONTINUE THE VICTORIOUS JOURNEY FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS. THE UNIT IS NOW UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MR. KASUN DISSANAYAKE WHO IS CARRYING THE LEGACY FORWARD, AMIDST THE MANY CHALLENGES POSED BY THE PANDEMIC. THIS IS A REMINISCENCE OF THE FIVE-YEAR JOURNEY OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS UNIT.

### Sports Clubs

NSBM sports expeditiously reached a whole new level of greater heights with the inception of its journey at the Green University Town. Despite NSBM sports marking its presence in the university sporting arena even before stepping into the green university town, the opportunities at hand were limited. Since its inception, NSBM fostered the vision of creating multi-faceted graduates who were readily willing to lead the society by example, and thus, sports were no stranger to the home ground of NSBM. The green university permits the

students to enjoy the state-of-the-art facilities while inducing students to reap maximum advantage of such facilities in showcasing their

talents. The idea behind introducing these facilities is to create opportunities for the young undergraduates to pursue their passion.







SPORTS CLUB	ACHIEVEMENTS
NSBM Athletics Club	USPORTS 2018 – Overall Runners – up, USPORTS 2019 - Champions
NSBM Badminton Club	APIIT Extravaganza 2017 – Champions, UMISF 2017 - Runners-up, SLIIT Shuttlebuds 2018 - Champions, GSF 2019 -Champions
NSBM Cricket Club	KDU Leaders Trophy 2018 - Runners up
NSBM Soccer Club	APIIT Extravaganza 2017 – Champions, St. Thomas’s 7’s Tournament 2019 – Runners-up
NSBM Swimming Club	SLIIT Fliturn 2017– Overall Champions, APIIT Sports Extravaganza 2018 – Overall Champions
NSBM Basketball Club	USPORTS 2019 – Overall Champions, KDU Leaders Trophy 2019 – Runnersup, KDU Leaders Trophy 2018 – Champion, KDU Leaders Trophy 2017 – Runners-up,
NSBM Table Tennis Club	KDU Leaders Trophy 2018& 2019 - Runners up (Women’s), USPORTS 2018 - Champions (Women’s)
NSBM Netball Club	KDU Leaders Trophy 2019 – Joint Champions, USPORTS 2019 – Runners up
NSBM Rugby Club	KDU Leaders Trophy 2017 & 2018 – Cup Champions, ICBT 7’s 2018 - Plate Champions, UITM International Sports Fiesta 2018 – Bowl Champions, UITM International Sports Fiesta 2019 – Plate Champions
NSBM Martial Arts Club	National Youth Kyorugi & National Poomsae Taekwondo Championship 2019 - Champions
NSBM Hockey Club	USPORTS 2019 – Champions, KDU Leaders Trophy – 3rd place
NSBM Chess Club	USPORTS 2019 – Champions (Women’s), USPORTS 2019 – Runners up (Men’s)
NSBM Powerlifting Club	National records for 93 weight category – 120kg bench press, National records (105 weight class) – 250 kg of deadlift, 137.5 kg of bench press and a total of 607.5kg





## Activity-based Clubs

With 18 activity-based clubs running events and projects throughout the year, NSBM Green University was never short of excitement, vigor, and cheer for the past five years. As a university that fosters the global graduate concept, students are always encouraged to pick different extra-curricular activities they are passionate about. Backed with such encouragement, students have formed several clubs and societies representing an array of interests during the past five years. Since their inception, these clubs have remained very active, and they have organized and undertaken numerous events and projects that added value not only to student life but also to the community at large.

Any event by a club, especially by the Drama Club, the Music Club, or the Dancing Club, is a never-miss event at NSBM. Drama Club of NSBM, remaining true to its purpose, makes sure to create a spark now

and then to light up the university atmosphere. The club has not only conducted several workshops to educate and nurture passionate young artists but also celebrated their unique talent through major-scale events such as 'Emotion' and 'Backlash' during the 2017-2020 period.

The Music Club bounds everyone with their music spells and adds rhythm to the days spent at the university. From major musical events such as Encore 2017, Haritha Iswara 2018, Pason Bakthi Gee, and virtual musical shows to performing at different events organized by various other clubs and societies, the music club did it all.

The club takes pride in composing the theme song of one of the iconic events at NSBM- 'Siyapath Siya Udanaya'.

The Dancing Club of NSBM unites passionate young dancers and celebrates their talents in almost every event here at NSBM. Hardly an

event would conclude without a mesmerizing performance by the Dancing Club. The Media & Photography Club is another prominent club that shoulders the responsibility of covering all the media aspects including photography, videography, sound editing, DJ operations, live streaming, and compering of events taking place throughout the year.

Among the very active clubs at NSBM, is the Wellbeing Association which advocates mental, physical, social, and spiritual wellbeing among the undergraduates and takes pride in organizing a large number of events including major projects such as 'Bhaava', 'Green Challenge' and 'Lockdown Stories'.

Oratory & Debating Club of NSBM takes the center stage every year with its annual signature event - "VIVADA" - an all-island inter-school debating competition. The club operates with the vision of uplifting the oratory skills of the youth across





the country and so far, the club has conducted several competitions and workshops to improve the oratory skills of the youth.

As a 'Green University', we have to be very concerned about the impact we make on the natural environment. In this process, student engagement to foster environmental protection and conservation was identified as a key focus area by the Student Affairs. Hence, clubs such as Green Task Force, Nature and Wildlife, and Explorers' Club were formed to initiate projects and events to promote environmental-friendly practices while creating awareness on the same.

The Literature Circle of NSBM has been instrumental in sparking creativity among students while nurturing them with the knowledge required for a deep appreciation of literary work and languages. So far the circle has organized major events such as 'Harithabhinandana',

'Hangum Thotilla', and several other virtual events to promote creative thinking and appreciation of written art.

Among the rest of the activity-based clubs, the Foodies club takes charge of all the food stalls and food festivals at NSBM. Within a very short period, the club was able to win the hearts of everyone owing to its uniqueness.

Every activity-based club at NSBM holds a special place in the heart of students and academics alike. Activity-based clubs are what add colour, energy, and excitement to the otherwise monotonous student life.

### International Clubs

As a university that welcomes both national and international student communities, NSBM has taken steps to create strong links with international student associations

such as AIESEC, Leo Club, Rotaract Club, Toastmasters' Club, and UN Student Forum. International clubs at NSBM provide a platform for the students to gain international exposure, build connections across borders, explore and respect different cultures, ethnicities, religions and develop their leadership potential. Activities conducted through these clubs help the students to carve their path in becoming global graduates.

AIESEC has been one of the most active international clubs at NSBM. In 2018 and 2019, NSBM partnered with AIESEC Sri Lanka to host their annual national event called 'Global Village' where over 200 foreign undergraduates gather to celebrate multi-ethnicity, develop cross-cultural understanding, and global citizenship.

Leo Club of NSBM has organized numerous CSR projects such as blood donation campaigns, optical distribution projects, elderly care





projects, beach clean-up projects, educational programmes, etc. to improve social well-being.

Rotaract club of NSBM is one of the first-ever student clubs formed in the university and it has acquired a significant membership of over 100 capable youth leaders. The club has already marked its name as strong and vibrant with several notable achievements.

## Religious Societies

As a global university, NSBM Green University has always been a place where diversity is recognized, respected, and celebrated. Religious societies of NSBM provide students with opportunities to find balance in their spiritual life with all the other facets of university life. Religious societies thus provide a platform to practice their faith, celebrate their religious festivals, and engage in different religious activities while fostering spirituality, compassion,

and unity. Religious societies include Buddhist Society, Catholic and Christian Society, Islamic Society, and Hindu Society.

The Buddhist society of NSBM operates intending to mold religious citizens for a better Sri Lanka. The society has conducted several dhamma sermons, pririth chanting ceremonies, and many other CSR projects in celebration of Poya days and the anniversary of the Green University every year.

Catholic and Christian society has been established primarily to serve the spiritual needs of the Catholic and Christian communities at NSBM. The society has organized various religious events such as May novenas, Ash Wednesday Mass, Carol services, and many other events to enhance the unity among the students and to cultivate faith towards God.

Islamic society allows the Muslim community at NSBM to practice

their faith and to celebrate important religious occasions while upholding core Islamic values. Iftar ceremony organized by the Islamic society is one of the most anticipated events at NSBM.

On the other hand, Hindu society adds more colour and vibrance to the student life with various Hindu observances, and of course the most anticipated Pongal celebration in January every year.

The religious societies at NSBM have been instrumental in fostering peace, harmony, brotherhood, unity, and love among the student community.

## NSBM Sports Fiesta – A Celebration of Sportsmanship

The NSBM Sports Fiesta, the concept of 'NSBM Sports Meet' was initiated and led by the Head of Student Affairs at that time, a former rugby





player, Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa in 2017 with the great purpose of cultivating the sports culture at NSBM. This remarked a benchmark event in the NSBM history where it paints the NSBM sky in red, yellow, blue, and green every year and celebrates great sportsmanship in every way to shape up more well-rounded graduates under four different houses namely Ruby Adventurers, Citrine Warriors, Sapphire Heroes, and Emerald Fighters. There will be no existence of any barriers such as faculties or departments or any degree programme wise but only true warriors who complete under one flag, NSBM Green University. It has been one of the biggest and most anticipated events at the NSBM Extracurricular Event Calendar. It runs for almost two weeks with key athletic events, games, and many more entertainment items.

The competitive environment usually kicks off with the

commencement of NSBM March intake which embeds with its initial house meetings and bringing athletes from all across the university to compete for fourteen championships. NSBM Sports Fiesta is a true representation of great sportsmanship and even though it is organized for NSBM students, most academic and non-academic staff members join their hands and actively partake in all aspects of Sports Fiesta to express their tremendous support to the students to make the event colourful and successful. NSBM Sports Fiesta depicts the true victories of the NSBM students in molding their personalities towards becoming exceptional leadership-oriented people in the society, upholding values of teamwork, risk-taking, and many more while balancing both academic life and extracurricular activities. Hence, products of NSBM will always stand on a valued place in both academic and corporate sectors with all these treasured

capabilities.

## **Siyapath Siya Udanaya – keeping the traditions alive**

“Siyapathsya Udanaya” was initiated in 2012, to further embrace one of the greatest celebrations of Sri Lanka – The Sinhala and Tamil New Year. This event is intended to embrace the core traditions of Sinhala and Tamil New Year and to create an authentic experience associated with NSBM. This iconic event also provided a platform for all its undergraduates and academics to participate in many fun and traditional games throughout the day.

After a full day of engaging in fun and exciting activities, the event concludes with the crowning of the Avurudu Kumara and Avurudu Kumariya- which is the main event that everyone impatiently awaits.



The students get the chance to dress up in traditional attire and present themselves in front of an esteemed panel of judges to compete for the title and the crown. This is the most iconic event in the NSBM calendar that brings together everyone in celebration of unity in diversity.

## Green Flames

August 9, 2019, marked an iconic day in the history of NSBM as the vibrant talents of NSBM undergraduates were showcased on a creative masterpiece of a stage giving the audience an exceptional entertainment experience. This was the first-ever groundbreaking youth talent show and pageant, organized by the Student Affairs Unit. The talent show entailed three main stages and was judged by renowned personalities in Sri Lanka. After a few rounds of fierce competition, on the final day, Dulmi Geekiyanage an energetic and enthralling solo

dancer, emerged as the winner while Blaze beatboxers and Naveen Mannapperuma came in the second and third places respectively. Shanith Ayeshmantha and Chirath Ratnayake won the hearts of everyone for their hilarious drama act - Raja Sabhawa and they took away the most popular award of the night. The beauty pageant was a great success where Ms. Nisa Perera won the title of Ms. NSBM while Mr. Hemain Jayasekara won the title of Mr. NSBM.

This iconic event concluded successfully with mesmerizing performances by popular artists and undergraduates, yet again proving the talent and potential of NSBM youth.

## Green Fiesta – A Musical Extravaganza

Green Fiesta is a musical extravaganza that everyone at NSBM

looks forward to every year. The event was organized successfully for the third consecutive year in 2019. The first-ever Green Fiesta kicked off in 2017 in celebration of the first anniversary of NSBM and the proceeds collected from the event were donated to Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama.

Over the years, the event featured performances by popular bands and personalities in Sri Lanka including Hot Chocolate, The infinity, Yaka Crew, Daddy, and Washi Productions. The event also featured performances by NSBM Music Club, Drama Club, and Dancing Club providing the undergraduates a performance to showcase their talents to a larger audience.

## NSBM Colours Awarding Ceremony – A celebration of sportsmanship





NSBM Green University has always been a pioneer in creating young graduates with the ability to take multiple extracurriculars, to enhance their capabilities as global graduates. The university thus, along its journey established more than 40 clubs and societies including 16 sports clubs. To end the years on a defining note with the true spirit of sports, NSBM Green University celebrates the achievements gained by NSBM's sportsmen & sportswomen at the prestigious NSBM Colours Awarding Ceremony. The NSBM Colours Awarding Ceremony 2017 & 2018, which was held together marked a milestone in NSBM history by being the first-ever colours awarding ceremony to present colours for sports including, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Netball, Rugby, Soccer, Swimming, and Table Tennis. Each sports team is awarded a Best Player Award, which recognizes the most dedicated, hardworking, and passionate male and female player

of the game for the year. Another highlight of the ceremony is the set of awards given to the undergraduates with exceptional performances. Recognizing the great service rendered to their alma mater in the respective year for the numerous efforts to uplift the Students' Affairs Unit, various clubs & societies are awarded certificates of recognition. The ceremonial event, NSBM Colours Night Awarding Ceremony concludes with a scintillating award bestowed to the most outstanding sportsman and the sportswoman of that year; an individual who is recognized as the best among all the sports. Unfortunately, with the impending pandemic, Colours Awarding Ceremony was not held since 2019.

### **USPORTS – Learning the art of battle while refining the character**

USPORTS is an annual

inter-university tournament where state and non-state universities take part to compete in a plethora of sporting events comprising of Basketball, Rugby, Swimming, Soccer, Table Tennis, Athletics, Hockey, Chess, and Netball. USPORTS commenced its expedition back in 2018 with the lead of Mr. Mohamed Shafraz; the head of student affairs together with the Sports Council of NSBM. The objective of this event was to provide more opportunities to university-level sportsmen and sportswomen as well as to strengthen the friendship between state and non-state universities through mutual respect for sports. In September 2018, the inaugural event kick-started with the participation of 10 different higher education institutions battling it out with 22 different sporting teams. As anticipated, USPORTS 2019 was instigated with the participation of more than 15 higher academic institutions including public universities and that time around the excitement and the enthusiasm were even higher with the elevated competition. The NSBM Athletic Club became Dual Champions displaying the best in stamina, speed, team spirit, and pure talent in all relay events. After a well-fought tournament, Swimming (men's), Basketball (men's), Chess (women's) teams of NSBM were able to secure championships. The closing ceremony was augmented with a mesmerizing display by yet another winning team, the NSBM Taekwondo Club. The sporting festival which engulfed the sporting arena in a week of healthy competition, team spirit, cheer, and true sportsmanship concluded on the 25th of November 2019.

**Compiled by Narmada Balasuriya & Thisal Yatawara**







# PREPARING THE UNDERGRADUATES FOR THE WORLD BEYOND

**Mr. Kasun Dissanayake**

Head-Student Affairs

**Extra-curricular activities are an integral part of undergraduate life-especially in moulding a holistic graduate. How does NSBM Green University facilitate this aspect for its large student community?**

Here at NSBM Green University, our goal is to offer holistic education to create global graduates. To achieve this, we rely on the 3-H concept – Head,

Heart and Hand. So, a successful global graduate must not only possess the required subject knowledge, but also the skills and attitudes needed to face life's many challenges. While co-curricular activities equip students under the 'knowledge' pillar, extra-curricular activities inculcate right attitudes and vital soft skills such as leadership skills, team spirit, collective responsibility, and decision-making skills. As the Student Affairs Unit, we are responsible for promoting and coordinating all the extra-curricular activities among our student community. So, as the Head of Student Affairs Unit, I

would say that we are in the crucial process of nurturing students to grow into such holistic graduates.

**What opportunities the students are given through the Student Affairs Unit? How does the unit cater into the various talents and skills of the students?**

Well, currently we have 43 clubs and societies under Student Affairs Unit.





**I am very happy to say that student participation for all the extra-curricular activities is very high. One thing we have noted when we analysed our student base was that our students are more forward, talented and they love sports and aesthetics.**



Among these clubs and societies, we have 18 activity-based clubs, 4 religious societies, 16 sports clubs and 5 international clubs. All these clubs are led by students under the guidance of academic advisors and membership is on voluntary basis. So, there are ample opportunities available for students to join or form a club they want, pursue their passions, and improve their soft skills.

Also, I must mention the world-class infrastructure facilities we have at NSBM Green University to carry out all these extra-curricular activities. The Recreation Centre located within the premises, includes a swimming pool, outdoor sports ground, cricket nets, observation deck, a pavilion and a multi-purpose indoor sports



building including a basketball court, badminton court, table tennis court, and a gymnasium. So, our students have all the facilities they need to engage in all these sports.

### **How would you describe the student participation of non-academic events in the university?**

I am very happy to say that student participation for all the extra-curricular activities is very high. One thing we have noted when we analysed our student base was that our students are more forward, talented and they love sports and aesthetics. So, our management foresaw this back in 2015 (that was even before we opened the NSBM

Green University for students), and it was this foresight that led to the establishment of the Student Affairs Unit.

And, as anticipated, our annual calendar is filled with many exciting events. Hardly a week goes by without any event or activity organized by a club. U-Sports, Sports Fiesta, Green Flames, Green Fiesta, and Siyapath Siya Udanaya are a few major events that our students look forward to participate in every year.

### **What are the main challenges faced by the Student Affairs Unit and what are the future plans the Unit has at the moment?**

Well, I should begin with the challenges we overcame in the last few years. 2020 and 2021 were tough years for us, as for the rest of the world, but we didn't give up. We adapted to the new situations and continued our activities despite all the challenges. Amidst the pandemic, we were able to conduct more than 200 events. From webinars to student forums to virtual musical shows, drama competitions, and digital Vesak celebrations, we adapted accordingly and continued our activities.

Our main goal for year 2022 is to conduct all the major events we missed during the last two years due to the Easter attack and the pandemic. We hope to make 2022 the best year in NSBM Green University's history in terms of extra-curricular activities. We are also planning to organize several inter-school and inter-university competitions through our clubs

and societies. As a university, we want to provide as many opportunities as possible for students across all ages to showcase their talents.

Also, I am happy to share the news that, under Phase II construction, NSBM Green University will be adding a new state-of-the-art sports complex to its many facilities. And on the day of the 5th anniversary of NSBM, we are planning to officially declare the playground area in Phase II open for students. This will be a great value addition to the university and to our students.

### **What is the message you would like to share with the undergraduates?**

What I always say is that a graduate should not only possess academic knowledge. For an undergraduate to become a successful graduate, he or she should be able to grow into a good professional. This is where the students will need their soft skills. So, my message to the undergraduates is to think of this time you spend in the university as the last chance you would get to perform and engage in the extra-curricular activities you love. Every student must try to pick and engage in at least one activity that they like as the university has presented them with ample opportunities to pursue their passion.

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*By Narmada Balasuriya & Thisal Yatawara*



# TOWARDS A BETTER TOMORROW

**The** NSBM Green University is a unique platform to pursue higher education in Sri Lanka, which enables its academic community to not only win lives individually by being endowed with exceptional levels of knowledge and skill profiles but also to make a positive impact on the society they are a part of, by encouraging actions and deeds which will create positive spillover benefits to the needful society at large. The CSR Society is one of the student associations in the university which is extremely active and highly committed to extending a helping hand to the needful parties in the society on a continuing stance. The CSR Society of NSBM Green University is powered and energized by the relentless academic leadership of Brigadier Sanath Wickramasinghe, who has been rendering an untiring effort to instill the culture of social and community service and attitudes of helping the needful in the mind of the young academic community at the university setting.

In this immensely meritorious and worthy journey, the CSR Society of NSBM has engaged in a plethora of social and community serving activities which could be broadly classified into project categories such as construction and renovation, blood donation, healthcare donation, educational donation, elderly-care upliftment, child-care, upliftment environmental sustainability, agriculture upliftment, and Covid-19 Pandemic recovery. The funds required for these CSR activities are generally sponsored by organizational sponsorships, fundraising activities organized by students as well as donations granted by generous internal and external well-wishers. The CSR projects hosted by the CSR society of NSBM Green University under different project categories could be elaborated as follows.

## **Construction and Renovation Projects**

The CSR Society of the NSBM Green University carried out two major projects falling under this category named “Asarana Sarana”

and “Senasumata Arunak”. Project “Asarana Sarana” was initiated to build a house for an underprivileged family in Kataragama, which consisted of six members. This project was carried out under the guidance of Ven Koggalle Vijitha Thero who is a professor serving at the University of Ruhuna. The house built under this project accommodated two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, and an external bathroom.

“Senasumata Arunak” project was hosted by the CSR Society targeting Pulukunawa Raja Maha Viharaya in Ampara, which is a temple of immense historical value. This was a temple that suffered negative consequences due to the war situation in the country. Upon identifying that this temple lacks a preaching hall (Dharma Shalawa), a project was initiated to construct a dharma shalawa for the temple. The project value was LKR 700,000 and the construction was completed within two weeks amidst an array of challenges. The opening of the Dharma Shalawa was done



ceremonially by conducting a pririth ceremony and pirikara offerings to the maha sangharathnaya.

### Blood Donation Projects

The CSR Society of the NSBM Green University conducted two blood donation projects to render a positive contribution in response to the increased demand for blood to save the lives of the needful patients. Since the Blood Bank's bloodstock was reducing at a relatively rapid speed with increased stock utilization, these timely projects were executed to support the national blood bank to restore the stock, as per the capable capacity of the CSR society.

A blood donation program was held in the NSBM medical center successfully on 8th August 2017, where over 500 donors donated their blood by being a part of the donation project. This project was facilitated by the valued service of the medical staff of the National Blood Bank.

The second blood donation project hosted by the CSR Society was "Apeksha Blood Donation Project". The project was held at the Jesus Infant Church, Ragama on 07th of August 2021 in accordance with

the mandated health guidelines issued by the government due to the adverse conditions which prevailed in the country. Despite the rapid spread of the corona pandemic, over 75 generous blood donors contributed to make this humanitarian cause a success.

### Healthcare Donation Projects

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic which left the entire world at a huge shock and tragedy, the healthcare sector across the world was drastically affected. When the context of Sri Lanka was concerned, the rapid boost of the pandemic resulted in hospital capacities reaching full occupancy and hospital resources depleting.

The CSR Society of NSBM identified this as a potential requirement that could be supported via the efforts of the society; hence projects were initiated to donate drugs, beds,

mattresses, water tanks, sanitary items, oxygen masks with cylinders, foods, etc, for needful hospitals. Accordingly, the CSR Society of NSBM in collaboration with the Association of Business Management (ABM), conducted a project to fulfill an urgent need at the Homagama Hospital. In par with this project 'Adult non - rebreathing masks with head straps and 2.1m oxygen tubing which were collectively worth over LKR 160,000 was donated to Homagama Base Hospital. These non-rebreather masks are special medical devices that help provide oxygen in emergencies. These are usually supporters which help people who can still breathe on their own







but need a lot of additional oxygen to survive. As the COVID-19 virus caused difficulties in breathing which led patients towards hypoxemia and hypoxemia conditions, these devices were expected to provide support and contribute towards saving the lives of many.

Over ten CSR projects were conducted targeting the Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama from time to time by the CSR Society of NSBM. These projects entailed the donation of essential items, drugs, medical equipment, food, masks, and surgical supplies for more than 500 patients who were undergoing treatments at the hospital. Further several entertainment programs were conducted targeting the child

ward at the Apeksha Hospital which was followed by give-ways in terms of fruits and sweets to the children to make them happy and put a smile on to their innocent faces.

## Educational Donation Projects

Children who receive a sound and impactful education turn out to be endowed with knowledge, attitudes, and skills required to facilitate meaningful changes to the future of any country and its systems. Therefore, education becomes a key for determining the individual's as well as nation's success. The CSR Society of NSBM Green University, therefore, extended

its focus towards facilitating the needful and underprivileged students in possible capacities via implementing different projects targeting them.

As one of the projects falling under the educational donations category, the CSR Society organized a project to donate essential stationery on 27th November 2018, for the primary section students of the Pahala Hanwella Kanishta Vidyalaya which consisted of 50 students who were not even having the basic stationery required for effective curriculum learning. Accordingly, all students were gifted with a full stationery pack which included a set of essential stationery items. The smiles of the student faces upon receiving their stationery packs projected genuine happiness of being gifted with the most needful items to learn happily and effectively.

"Manudam Wiyamana" was another project hosted by the CSR Society, which entailed donating five LED televisions and required





sports equipment for the utilization of students in the Pitipana Junior School. The LED Televisions were donated because the school lacked resources to facilitate impactful teaching via new devices. The project was successfully hosted on 18th August 2020.

### Other Projects

The CSR Society of NSBM continuously strives to do something worthy for the people in the society at large. On par with ensuring the

wellbeing of the needful children who are differently-abled, the project "Spandana 2021" was hosted by the CSR Society. In line with this project, several families were selected where the composition included differently-abled children and these families were granted packages containing daily essentials. A special pack dedicated to children was included in the full package donated for each family. The project benefited an audience of seventy-five.

The CSR Society of the NSBM Green University has been conducting different projects targeting different needful people, bringing smiles to innocent faces by vivid means. These wholesome and virtuous efforts of the CSR Society will keep growing steadily in the future to come powered by the strong mindset of the NSBM Undergraduates to serve the community at their possible capacities. ■

*Complied by Vgeesha Rajapakse & Pramudya Thilakarathne*







# NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY

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A HALLMARK OF  
SUSTAINABILITY AND  
GREEN PRACTICES



Amidst the plethora of reasons that make NSBM Green University a pioneering educational institution in the country, one reason that sets itself apart from the rest is its remarkable commitment towards operating as a 'green' entity. NSBM brands itself as a 'green' university; yet it is the University's resounding dedication towards being environmentally conscious across all its operations that truly personifies this brand ethos. The green concept is well identified through the University's unwavering focus for minimizing adverse environmental impacts, conserving energy and materials, enriching the indoor environment for better mental well-being and providing directions for making continual improvements to the environment.

## A Unique and Flamboyant Architectural Masterpiece

NSBM Green University's cornerstone in green practices lies in its architectural design itself. The University is a purpose-built university complex with a clearly defined location and facility with a strong underlying focus on sustainability and environmental preservation. The University's overall architectural design harmonizes with the existing physical and natural environment of the area while visually reconnecting individual buildings, thereby ensuring continuous interaction between students, staff and the University.

The University epitomizes the importance of human's harmony with nature for survival and graceful existence. The prevailing terrain of the area has been retained with tremendous success offering an aesthetic appeal to the University where natural peaks, valleys and

water bodies can be seen throughout the premises. As an example, the University playground lie at a comparatively lower elevation than the rest of the University, ensuring minimum cut and fill was done during the construction phase. Moreover, the University has been built by preserving several natural rock boulders intact in their original locations which is visible in areas such as the open-air amphitheater and the student centre, which has aptly contributed towards breathtaking backdrops across key buildings of the premises.

The overall design of the University also capitalizes on maximizing natural daylight and natural ventilation through wide open spaces across the premises. Large open spaces of double and triple heights supplemented with open courtyards is a common sighting across all the university buildings, especially in the main faculties. Several lecture halls across faculties are built to optimally utilize natural ventilation, where windows open towards the rear of the premise, opening to paddy fields that allows conducting lectures with optimal natural ventilation and lighting as and when required. The University also house a number of informal learning spaces where students can gather for study and group discussions. This phenomenal and environmentally conscious design structure is further supplemented by several other sustainable design strategies such as green rooftops that reflect heat, green walls that cut off heat entering the buildings, plant troughs that contribute to overall air purification and green pavers that reduce heating and pollution.

NSBM's Green University's prodigious architectural design immeasurably

aided it to also obtain the gold rating in the CIOB Green Mark Rating System consecutively in 2016 and 2018 thereby further evidencing that the NSBM Green University was designed, built and operated in an eco-friendly and sustainable manner.

## Green Governance and Education

NSBM Green University's commitment to protection, conservation and upliftment of the environment goes beyond its iconic built environment. The University has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that environmental considerations are given the highest priority in its future planning and its day to day operations as well.

In line with this thought process, NSBM Green University has established a management framework and corporate sustainability policy under the direction of the Vice-Chancellor within which a dedicated pillar focuses on the environmental aspect of the University to develop and carry out impactful, feasible and effective internal and external sustainability initiatives.

Moreover, NSBM Green University made a novel transformation to its degree programmes in 2021 with the introduction of a non-credit but mandatory course module titled 'Introduction to Sustainability Development' for the benefit of 1st year students, across all faculties and study programmes. This module that spans across a 30-hour duration, provides students with an understanding of environmental devastation as a global issue as well as the University's contribution towards its containment from a holistic perspective.



**“The University epitomizes the importance of human’s harmony with nature for survival and graceful existence. The prevailing terrain of the area has been retained with tremendous success offering an aesthetic appeal to the University**







## A Safe Haven for the Natural Environment

Any visitor to NSBM Green University is often mesmerized by the complete environmental transformation they witness as soon as they enter the premises. Natural flora has been optimally used across the University to further beautify the overall environment. Over 300 shade and flowering trees have been planted within the University which will eventually give an unprecedented natural canopy to the University premises amidst a number of other environmental benefits.

One of the most iconic green initiatives of NSBM Green University is its Ceylon Ironwood (Naa) tree plantation project both within and outside the University. As of today, 134 Naa trees have been planted by the University, with the vast majority being planted on the aisle of the approach road to the NSBM Green University. When fully grown, these trees will offer the wayfarers a shady canopy full of flowers of a heavenly aroma, reminiscent of the nation's traditional woodlands.

Furthermore, the university premises is meticulously designed and landscaped by using the varying terrain of the area to its advantage. The overall landscaping strategy allows for the wide-open spaces of the University to intermingle with the scenery by prioritizing the importance of maintaining a natural setting. A dedicated team conducts landscaping activities on a pre-scheduled basis, with their scope of work being consistently regulated by the management to ensure that it continues to align with the University's overall sustainability policy.

## Championing renewable energy usage

NSBM Green University has taken significant strides in optimally using renewable energy sources to facilitate University's functions. The University currently houses a 50 Kw, 192 panel roof-mounted solar power system (as a pilot project) that generates approximately 3-5% of the University's monthly electricity requirement. Furthermore, the University is currently working on expanding its solar energy

generation capacity by way of using the widely available roof tops of several key university buildings to mount solar panels with the intention of adding a further 600 Kw of renewable energy supply in the future.

The University also house its own rainwater harvesting system where rainwater is primarily collected in the main pond located in front of the library building and the administration building which is used to beautify and improve the natural ventilation of the University. Any excess water from here is automatically flown directly into the rainwater collecting lake through a network of drains to join with the flow of any rainwater accumulated in other areas of the University.

## Ardent Participant in the Circular Economy

NSBM Green University is an enthusiastic advocate of the widely acknowledged 3R concept, with a number of its green initiatives aligning with reducing, reusing and recycling limited resources. For instance, the University maintains



its own inhouse sewage treatment plant that treats waste water generated within the campus prior to releasing it to the environment where it is used for gardening and irrigation purposes, thereby reducing the overall water consumption by the University. The University also uses several landscaping-based wastes generated (primarily grass) to produce compost within the university premises itself. The compost is produced in an open pit, and the produced manure is re-used internally for gardening purposes within the University's gardens.

NSBM Green University also commits to the reduction of single use plastic and polythene within the University premises through a number of initiatives adopted as a part of its overall sustainability policy, including and notwithstanding presenting all academic staff members refillable glass water bottles for personal use and the installation of water filters in key public and staff areas for both staff and students to refill water bottles as and when needed. More importantly, the University also recently partnered with Plastic-cycle, a social entrepreneurship project



initiated by John Keells Group aimed at reducing plastic pollution as well as creating awareness among students.

### **A Trailblazer in Facilitating 'Green Events and Initiatives'**

The need to uphold the green concept within and beyond the University in all its activities is well evidenced in the co-curricular activities done by the University as well. During the last five years of operations, NSBM Green University has conducted a remarkable number of projects and initiatives in line with the 'green' concept with the active participation of the University's students through its core CSR arm, the University's Green Task Force and a number of other student-led clubs, societies and student circles.

Amidst these monumental projects; 'Green Future' a large-scale tree planting project in Wilpaththu and Silwathura, 'Green Hope' a reforestation project in Kanthale, 'Green Capture' a photography competition based on the green concept for University students,

'Free to Live' an ocean clean-up project based in Panadura and 'Green Revolution' an annual tree planting programme and awareness building session within the University remains emblematic of NSBM Green University's resounding commitment towards the environment.

NSBM Green University's avid commitment towards conducting environmental related activities has also become a natural part of the University's DNA as it often showcases on several occasions that, in essence, does not fundamentally require a 'green' element in an ordinary scenario. For instance, NSBM Green University has adopted a practice of planting trees to mark special milestones of the University across a wide variety of important dates, including visits by VIP guests to the University. Moreover, the majority of University's clubs, societies and circles has also initiated gifting plants and plant saplings as tokens of appreciation and gifts for special guests attending the University's events in order to broaden its environmental responsibility beyond its internal environment. Most importantly, as





**“During the last five years of operations, NSBM Green University has conducted a remarkable number of projects and initiatives in line with the ‘green’ concept with the active participation of the university’s students**

**”**



a higher education institution with its own profound set of key academic objectives NSBM Green University has also managed to emphasize the 'green' concept across a majority of its trademark publications, including the conference proceedings of ICObI (International Conference on Business Innovation), Business Dialogue the bi-annual business magazine of

the University and Talk-back the bi-annual newsletter publication of the University as well.

As a premier higher educational institution in Sri Lanka, NSBM Green University has opted out from the mundane practice of considering 'green' activities as a supplement of an organization's core functions. Rather in the case of NSBM, it is indisputable that green practices are a 'way of life'

embedded in the very foundation of the University's overall value system. Hence, whilst NSBM continues its journey of setting a new benchmark in the Sri Lankan higher educational spectrum, it is undeniable that NSBM Green University will also continue to thrive and prosper as a touchstone for 'green organizations' both locally and internationally. ■

**Compiled by Janith Iddawela & Thisal Yatawara**



# Growing Under the Wings of NSBM



**Buthmi Ashini**

*President of the Sports Council  
(2021/2022)*

## **Why NSBM?**

Once I finished my A/Ls, I was searching for a university to pursue my higher education and was already aware of NSBM since my brother was a graduate of NSBM. I wasn't interested in going to university but NSBM Green University changed my mind. I am a person who has excelled in sports and has a strong passion for sports, so seeing the facilities NSBM offers to its students, I was certain that NSBM Green

University is the ideal place for me to pursue my degree. Most importantly, NSBM Green University is one of the universities which gives us the opportunity to study world class degrees by staying at the home country.

## **The study Environment**

When it comes to the studying environment of the university, it's obvious that NSBM Green University is different from other universities. The eco-friendly environment is

brehtaking and makes the students love the university. We have lecturers who are not only good at teaching but also extremely helpful whenever we got to them with a concern. The lecturers do not hesitate to help their students at all times. I have never loved going somewhere more than going to the NSBM Green University every day.

### Cost Effect

NSBM Green University offers world-class degrees from renowned universities across the globe. The affordable yet high-quality education I receive is valuable and sustainable for my future. NSBM gives the opportunity to learn foreign degrees for a fair value and we get the advantage of the eco-friendly environment, library facilities, sports facilities all in one place.

### Extra curricular Activities

I enjoy most of the extracurricular activities which NSBM provides for the students. Being able to represent the NSBM Badminton Club was a major achievement of my life. And as a national player the support and the guidance we are getting from our lecturers for our extracurricular activities and the academic activities made it easier for me to reach my goals. Balancing both academic and extra-curricular activities is not an easy task but NSBM taught me how to balance everything in life. It is an honor for me to serve NSBM Sports by being the Sports Council President for the year of 2021-2022 because I believe that I am who I am today because of what NSBM Green University offered me.



**Dinith Senaratne**  
*President of the Association of Business Management (2021/2022)*

### Why NSBM?

I joined NSBM for two reasons. The first being that NSBM was one of the few universities in Sri Lanka to be affiliated with a university that ranks amongst the top 1% in the world and the second, being able to experience holistic university life. For anyone that's looking to join, from my experience having studied at this phenomenal university, all I have to say is to join for the opportunities. NSBM isn't a regular university that simply pumps out thousands of graduates a year, but rather a university that helps their undergraduates discover who they are, and a university that empowers them to become the best version of themselves.

### The study Environment

It's beyond amazing. NSBM has one of if not 'the best' studying environments in the country. All lectures are delivered in a professional manner by well qualified and a very supportive panel of lecturers. The advanced, fully-equipped lecture halls also provide a great push to the students by minimizing distractions and offering

all comfort to ensure a smooth flow of study and engagement in the classroom. Apart from that, well equipped, updated library facilities and study spaces facilitates the students' learning significantly.

### Cost Effect

You truly get your money's worth at NSBM. This is because no other private university in Sri Lanka is capable of providing its undergraduates a world class education while giving them the opportunity to experience a well-rounded campus life for a competitive price.

### Extra curricular Activities

NSBM has almost all clubs and societies a university could offer and provides world class facilities to all sorts of athletes to pursue their sporting journey without any hindrance. Personally, I'm a huge believer of the many benefits extracurriculars bring into our lives, so having an encouraging atmosphere that supports our pursuits of excellence in sports and other activities is something NSBM undergraduates are truly blessed with.



**Heeshala Weerasuriya**  
*Software Engineering (19.1 batch)*



## Why NSBM?

When looking for an institution for my higher studies I really wanted to choose to university which would provide me with a similar experience to a foreign university. When considering the quality of the degree, recognition comes first when we join the industry. Looking through the institutions providing computing degree programs, I found that NSBM is a government institution that functions under the Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training to have a good international connection with the universities and having a university inside its own town is convenient and unique. So, I chose to join NSBM to follow a University of Plymouth degree program.

## The study Environment

Usually, the students who start degree programmes after school find it hard to adjust to the curriculum and delivery of the content but at NSBM, I found it easy to adjust and understand what I learn just as it was in school time. The lecturers at the university are always available and ready to sort out our academic issues so you never need to leave the premises having doubts about the subject. The facilities provided to us as students are immensely useful for our studies. Free licenses to many paid software, free cloud storage to keep all the academic documents safe are just a few of what as a computing undergraduate at NSBM we are provided with to ease the education. The latest technologies like MOODLE platform makes the study easy and effective. A whole building just dedicated to the library has all the facilities to study, refer books and articles. Studying and working as groups is a core component in undergraduate life and the study rooms with whiteboards

to plan and discuss our ideas helps us to build the co-working environment that one day we will need to experience. Computer labs with the latest technology components help us to realize what the world is seeking from us as graduates.

## Cost Effect

As a computing student reading for a foreign degree, the first thing that comes to mind is how much will I be spending by the end of my studies if I were to complete my studies elsewhere. If I had to fly to the UK to get the same degree program that I am pursuing at the moment I would have to spend way more than what my whole degree costs at NSBM as tuition fees for one semester in the UK. The majority of Sri Lankans are not capable of spending that amount of money on a degree program. For students like us NSBM provides the opportunity to obtain a world class degree at an affordable cost.

## Extra curricular Activities

You name it and NSBM has it. When it comes to NSBM, major attention has been given to extracurricular activities along with academics. Clubs and societies are just like a part of our undergraduate lives here at NSBM. Before the pandemic, we had a lot of amazing events organized by both NSBM and the faculty, and even during the pandemic, many events were organized via virtual platforms. Going for a swim with my friends and playing Badminton in the evening at our recreational center is just a part of our lives and memories we will treasure for the years to come.



**Pasindu Wijesuriya**

*Archery Captain 2021/2022*

*President IBM Circle 2021/2022*

## Why NSBM?

I come from a science background. I needed to get into the business field, and I thought NSBM would be the best place. Going through various courses offered at NSBM, I was able to choose what was right for me which also aligns with my passion. As an active personality, I wanted to have a university experience that provides me with more than just academics. With all the extracurricular activities and events which engages with different people, I found a comfortable environment to learn and to grow.

## The study Environment

In terms of study environment, NSBM provides you with many opportunities. Since we are provided with extremely qualified lecturers, learning the course content is not much of a trouble. Even when it comes to clarifying doubts, we always have opportunity to reach out to the lecture panel.

Even with the library facilities, we have a very calm and quite environment for our self-study

sessions. As a student following a degree under University of Plymouth, we were provided with E library facilities as well.

Even though we were unable to physically participate in educational events and forums due to worldwide pandemic, with multiple workshops and webinar sessions organized by student circles and NSBM, studying has been much easier and practical.

### Cost Effect

Considering a country like Sri Lanka, it's difficult for parents to send children overseas for education. In the corporate world, respective to different fields, having a degree from a reputed university adds a lot of value. When it comes to NSBM, there are degrees to choose from various reputed universities, and that is also for an affordable price. Not only the price is affordable, and since it has to be paid per semester in installments, it makes it even more convenient to make the payments.

### Extra curricular Activities

NSBM extracurricular activities and the encouragements we receive are top-notch. As I actively take part in multiple community-based, activity-based and sports clubs, I must say the things I've added to my life is immeasurable. It's all about balancing your academics and extracurricular activities, but I highly recommend anyone to join such clubs. Starting from clubs like Rotaract and Toastmasters, NSBM has subject circles for every degree specification. Any student will find a place that resonates with their passion. As NSBM gives such opportunities to learn and engage, I believe that it's a huge a value addition that can help one grow.



### Sanduni De Fonseka

*Asst. Secretary, Rotract Club  
2021/2022*

*Secretary Toastmasters Club  
2021/2022*

### Why NSBM?

They say you have to kiss the frog before you meet the prince, and that was my journey in discovering NSBM. Having just completed my advanced level, I had high hopes and expectations for my higher studies, however, acceptance and cost played major roles in my settlement for a local university. From one institute to another I floated without interest or objective. Finally stumbling upon NSBM, I walked through its gates and fell in love with it. Battling with the typical decision of doing a business degree or going against the odds and choosing the interior design programme was my first phase at NSBM. Its faculty and opportunity shown to me drove me to choose the road not taken. With fear and doubt I enrolled, and NSBM guided me in my passion with a steady hand, a caring attitude and with a will to produce the best. I exploited this to my best advantage and have no regrets for the molding that NSBM has given me for these few years.

### The study Environment

It's an all-in-one package, from experienced lecturers to amazing visiting lecturers, and a library equipped with all the necessary material. The university offers many options for its students and being an avid reader, I was not disappointed when I explored the university library. They also put in an extra effort to make sure the students are well-read and knowledgeable on the subject, with site visits, innovative challenges being given for our design assignments, by pushing the pandemic as a hurdle we can jump over. The lecturers in the design area are engaged with the students, offering an open and safe space for creativity to flourish.

### Cost Effect

Coming from a background where the cost of things determined what we received, I was happy that the degree offered me more than I thought I could get an affordable price. It is a good opportunity for people to make their dreams come true.

### Extra curricular Activities

Knowing very well that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, I was determined to get involved in as many activities as I could, and NSBM offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. I was able to learn and grow through these as NSBM not only offers such activities but pushes its students to be the best version of themselves. Through this opportunity, the lost girl that walked into NSBM will be walking out of those gates, confident and ready to face the world. ■

**Compiled by Gayanthi Mendis & Shehani Joseph**



# Memoirs of the Vibrant Alumni



## Sachin Rodrigo

I am Sachin Rodrigo from 16.1 UGC Batch, a proud product of the Faculty of Business. I graduated in 2019 with a First-Class Honors in BSc in Logistics Management.

I currently work at the Manitoba Government in Canada as a Digital Engagement Officer. I worked as an intern at Globactiv Logistics Pvt Ltd which was my first stepping stone to gain experience in my professional life. Then I worked at Access Engineering as a Customer Service Executive for 2 years.

NSBM has always been my home away from home. This paradise is filled with endless opportunities for a person to grow as a global graduate.

From the moment I enrolled myself to the degree programme in 2016 until the day I graduated in 2019, NSBM has been by my side by providing me with all the possible opportunities to grow as a student leader while balancing my academics and extracurricular activities.

I would like to thank Prof E. A. Weerasinghe, the Vice Chancellor of NSBM, and the entire team for building this beautiful paradise for all of us. This has become a world stage for all of us to showcase our talents, find what we can do in life, etc. I would like to mention Ms. Thilini De Silva for being the role model behind my success during my time at the university. The friendly academic staff has always motivated us academically and also by teaching about the life ahead of graduation. I held the position of becoming the first president of the Association of Business Management belonging to the Faculty of Business which holds the largest student group in the university. My time serving as the president has been the best days of my life. I was also appointed as the president of the Catholic and Christian Society in which we always stood strong and collaborated with other religious societies showing respect and love for one another.

NSBM shaped me into who I am today. Currently I am in Canada and landed on a good job because of the experiences I gained not only academically but also by doing extracurricular activities to sharpen my skills.

NSBM Green University is the best place to start your higher studies. It comprises of all the facilities and is equipped with the latest technology. Above all, the friendly environment, the culture, the love, respect, peace, and togetherness are valued throughout the whole university.

My advice to the students of NSBM is, be an all-rounder. Level up your academics whilst shaping yourself to be an outstanding character by doing extracurricular activities. Always love NSBM. Make NSBM proud. Raise the flag higher and reach new heights. We as past graduates would always love to see NSBM and you shining in this world!



**Chamila Gunetilleke**

### Experience at NSBM as an undergraduate

NSBM is both a second home and school to me where I learned more than my subject matter; I learnt to work together with my teachers, academic colleagues, and batch mates, to achieve synergies and great relationships which last long beyond successful achievements. In my co-curricular activities: doing athletics, announcing, event organizing and more, I learnt that one must achieve success, respect, and elegance to build on even further.

### How NSBM assisted in excelling in my career

Apart from the lesson material, my lecturers and the NSBM staff taught us solid life lessons, for which I feel very grateful for as I gain more experience. I will always treasure the honest pieces of advice shared by many good people - lecturers, batch mates, managerial staff - all honest and good friends.

### Why do you think a student should study at NSBM

You will be exposed to a strong culture emphasizing teamwork, creativity, persistence, and respect, in the excellent physical and social setting at NSBM. It influences and changes a life for the better.

### Message to current students

There's a difference between studying and learning. The first gets you marks, the second gets you lifelong knowledge.

Discover your passions - for this, do everything, extracurricular activities and studies, talk to your lecturers, and more. Push yourself to the limit and break it.

Build real human connection, not just virtual ones. Stop browsing the phone, and go have a chat with someone. Trust me, people who are confident in themselves and with others, shine in the corporate world. That begins with you getting the guts to start the conversation.

Build credibility - do what you say, and say what you will do.



**Ishani Karunaratne**

I'm Ishani Karunaratne from the 2012 batch, otherwise known as Batch 04 of the Interior Architecture degree programme offered by the National School of Business Management in affiliation with Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, Malaysia. I graduated in 2016, top of my class with the award for best performance of the year for Interior Architecture from the National

School of Business Management and Limkokwing University of Creative Technology.

### What is your current status in the industry?

Since my graduation, I had worked as a full-time lecturer for Interior Design degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Engineering at NSBM Green University until my recent departure for higher studies overseas. I have also been pursuing my passion as a freelance Interior Designer during my spare time over the past five years.

### Experience at NSBM as an undergraduate? (Both academic and extracurricular)

I had a wonderful experience as a Design undergraduate at NSBM, and it sure did shape me into who I am today. We had a well-versed teaching staff with industry exposure. It was not at all teaching in a closed lecture hall. Site visits, field trips and workshops also gave us much-needed practical experiences. I remember forming study circles with my colleagues to visit monumental places with design values within Sri Lanka on our free days, and often, one or two lecturers would accompany us to give their expertise. I believe that showed the extent to which the academic faculty would go to make sure we had a good design sense. Although we didn't have many amenities as the current students do, we still got plenty of extracurricular activities to take part in. A few of my fondest memories at NSBM include the NSBM Got Talent and the annual Open Day Exhibitions.

### How did NSBM assist/support you in excelling in your career?

The student-centred teaching-learning process at NSBM helped



me a lot as a young designer. I was trained to think holistically when approaching a design, and the theoretical and practical knowledge I needed to do that was instilled through the subject material of my degree. I got to experience this process as a student as well as an educator at NSBM, and our graduates have a good reputation in the industry because of it as well.

## Why do you think a student should study at NSBM Green University?

Our current generations are fortunate with the number of opportunities they have for tertiary education. But more opportunities means that your choice needs to be very discrete and the best possible choice for your future. I did my fair share of research through alumni and the internet before choosing NSBM. But what compelled me to start my degree at NSBM was the amount of information and the genuine care NSBM showed me during my first visit before registration. A degree is a stepping stone towards your dream career, and the 19-year-old me didn't really know the first thing about being a degree holder at that time. But my first ever face-to-face information session with NSBM proves to be right even today. A university acts as the bridge between the school and professional world that every degree holder should cross when it's time, and I'm glad I chose NSBM as that bridge. I believe that everyone who's thinking about achieving their goals in life should do as I did.

## Message to the current students.

Students nowadays are very brave for choosing to continue their education during these challenging times. As a past member of the NSBM

academic faculty, I can tell that the lecturers genuinely care about the overall wellbeing of the students, not just the academics. So, talk to your lecturers as they are your facilitators, mentors, and advisors, regarding all things related to your education. Do not let the pandemic or any other matter postpone your education. There are so many extracurricular activities you can participate in through virtual platforms, therefore don't forget to enjoy your university life despite the pandemic. After all, it's the memories we will remember from our university life, not the number of hours we studied. So, make sure to have a memorable university life as much as possible. I wish you all good luck!



## L. Senal Dewanjith Fernando

Throughout my years at NSBM Green University, not only did the university lay my foundation academically but it also enriched my life with experience and advices that enabled me to groom myself into a better and successful person in every way. If at the end of the chapter of your life at NSBM Green University, all that you have gained was a degree certificate, then you have definitely done it all wrong. The way to success isn't just a paper-qualification. It is also about networking and inspiring others, being a leader encouraging change for the betterment of the world; it is

the power that connects you to the future world!

If I start narrating my childhood from the beginning, I should mention that I was able to build a unique personality thanks to my family background and healthy upbringing. Living in Colombo, I studied at Ananda College, did Biology for A/Ls, and then joined NSBM Green University to complete my first degree. I selected the B.Sc. in Management Information Systems (Special) Degree programme approved by the UGC (University Grants Commission) and I selected it because that degree programme provided an ideal environment that catered to the current trends and needs of both IT and Business-related industries in Sri Lanka. Further, this degree programme had an interdisciplinary curriculum that focused on both computing and business aspects. So, I joined as a student for the 16.1 UGC MIS Batch and graduated in 2019 with a Second-Class Upper. My entire journey at NSBM Green University as a student and a Network Instructor was truly amazing and rewarding. It helped me enrich my life with experiences and advices that enabled me to groom myself to be a better and successful person in every way. Thereafter, I completed my Master's studies at the University of West London, UK. I also completed several industry related certifications in order to perform well in the IT Sector. Currently, I'm working as a Senior Associate Functional Consultant for Browns Group IT thanks to the guidance of my beloved lecture panel and back-office staff at NSBM Green University.

## What is your current status in the industry?

- Designation: Senior Associate Functional Consultant (Microsoft D365)
- Current Work Place: Brown and Company PLC – Browns Group IT [ERP]

I started my carrier journey in 2018 after getting an opportunity to work as a Network Instructor at NSBM Green University. Working as a Network instructor for nearly one year was really amazing since I got a wonderful opportunity to teach and supervise students using lectures, demonstrations, discussion groups, laboratory workshop sessions, seminars, and many more during my period as an instructor.

Thereafter I got a great opportunity to work as an Associate ERP Functional Consultant for attune Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. attune Lanka is one of Sri Lanka's biggest IT Consulting companies in the ERP Implementation industry and it transforms the biggest brands in the Fashion and Lifestyle industries with technology-enabled solutions using Cloud Platforms, Web, and Mobile Technologies.

The turning point in my professional life, I think, was in 2020 where I got an opportunity to work as a Senior Associate Functional Consultant for Brown and Company PLC. Brown and Company PLC is one of the biggest conglomerates in Sri Lanka and it's the very first corporate company in the South East Asian region to implement the latest Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central cloud-based solution [SaaS]. I'm so proud to tell you that I'm one of the Senior Associate Consultants in Browns

Group ERP Implementation team, where I have given my valuable contribution and dedication towards the successful completion of cloud-based ERP Project powered by Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business central and CRM Project to facilitate the entire business operation of the Browns Group. With the commitment made with extended hours of work and interest shown in reaching the completion of the given projects, I was also awarded the highest Service Appreciation award in 2021 by the Browns Group PLC.

In this current fast-paced competitive industry, in order to work as an ERP Consultant, you need to have a comprehensive knowledge on IT and Business concepts with functional exposure to various ERP platforms. As a Senior Associate ERP Consultant, I was able to provide consultations on various ERP Platforms like BC D365, S/4 HANA, SAP ECC 6.0, and many more using Sure-Step and Agile Methodologies. Furthermore, thanks to the guidance and tremendous knowledge of my beloved lecture panel at NSBM, I was able to uplift my programming skills and academic capabilities. Because of that, I was able to integrate a fully functional SMS Integration solution for all SBU's in Browns Group with the help of the ERP Team in Browns Group.

## Experience at NSBM as an undergraduate

As soon as I finished my A/L's, I was looking for a university which had a good academic record and with other facilities which any undergraduate would like to have. When I explored the NSBM Green University on the first day, I really had a positive impression of the

cutting-edge facilities, staff members, and senior students at the university. The industrial exposure and a bunch of extracurricular activities pushed me further towards the NSBM Green University and I was really happy about my decision at that time. As an undergraduate during the period of 2016 to 2020, NSBM has challenged me to step out of my comfort zone, work very hard, and develop my potential future to become a successful person in life. The lecturers and the instructors at NSBM Green University are so friendly with the students, and therefore the students can directly consult them and get the advantage of finding answers for all their academic and non-academic concerns. On the other hand, as a senior member of the swimming team, I identified that this university is a very attractive place for all sports and extracurricular activities; during my undergraduate period, I was a member of several societies and clubs like Association of Aviation, DevOps Community, and FOSS Community. Furthermore, I am proud to tell you that I was one of the founding Members of AIESEC in NSBM, and during my undergraduate period at AIESEC, I was lucky enough to become the Project Vice President and the Organizing Committee Vice President for Finance in the Incoming Global Volunteer (IGV) Team. Finally, I want to reassert that this is one of the best places to do your tertiary studies.

## How did NSBM assist/support you in excelling in your career?

NSBM Green University is committed to ensuring that its graduates are not only well-educated but also holistic citizens who are capable of adding value through the companies in which they work or through their own businesses. NSBM, School of



Computing provided me with the right platform not only to excel in my field of interest but also to enhance my skills and abilities to shape my personality, build confidence, and most importantly to make me "Industry-Ready". Selecting NSBM was the best decision that I have made as it widened my horizons by providing me with many opportunities and real-life experiences that assisted me in achieving my career goals.

## Why do you think a student should study at NSBM Green University?

"In short, NSBM is the biggest Green University in South Asia and it's connected with top branded industries in Sri Lanka. It provides highly certified degree and MBA Programmes for Sri Lankan and Foreign Students"

NSBM Green University is a career focused university that has maintained a strong reputation for high quality education closely linked to employment. Furthermore, NSBM inspires students to become more creative professionals, connecting them to exciting and rewarding careers. The university also has a range of highly qualified lecturers, with a wealth of knowledge and experience in their respective disciplines, and strong connections with key industries.

## Message to the current students,

"Don't try to be perfect. Just try to be better than you were yesterday and try to become an expert in your specialization. Everything you need will come to you at the perfect time!"



## Senuli Abeysinghe

I, Senuli Abeysinghe, am a graduate at NSBM Green University representing the first batch of Victoria University Melbourne Australia, with the successful completion of bachelor's in Business Banking and Finance and Financial Risk Management in the year of 2020.

Right after my graduation, the knowledge and expertise I acquired through the professional qualification in Human Resource Management, qualified me to become a Junior Human Resources Executive at Kanrich Finance Limited, which is a fully-fledged finance company in Sri Lanka. The recruitment as a Junior Human Resource Executive was a turning point in my professional life.

I consider it as a great opportunity to gain career experience in onboard processing, the handling of career accounts, preparation of Board Papers, Employee Provident Fund handling, Employee Trust Fund handling, recruitments and other HR related documentation processes for every department and branch at Kanrich Finance Limited. Being a finance graduate, the promotions I received with the

recognition of my performance by higher authorities at Kanrich Finance Limited itself is a great achievement that I have accomplished recently.

The ample experience I gained through the application of theoretical knowledge in practice together with employee relations, analytic skills, team work, and collaboration with my on-the-job-training, contributed tremendously to my successful professional journey.

Being a graduate who has completed a dual major degree covering a vast content of knowledge, I must say that the immense support I received from academic staff of both NSBM Green University and Victoria University was highly admirable. The knowledge content representing every aspect of the finance industry, including banking, investment, and insurance fields of study, groomed VU students to cater towards the needs of the corporate sector.

The experience I gathered through the active engagement in extracurricular activities greatly aided me in unleashing my hidden skills and talents to reach unimagined success while living a well-balanced undergraduate life. University level contributions I have made as the Athletic Girls' Captain, Treasurer of the University Sports Council, University Sports Chief Organizer, Chief Organizer of the Banking-Finance-Insurance Forum 2019, and Secretary of Association of Business Management uplifted my leadership skills throughout my undergraduate life.

The University Colours Awards I've received for Athletics and Chess which make a significant value addition to my profile, bring back the most remarkable memories I have had as an undergraduate.

The guidance and supervision by well qualified lecturers, in enhancing the knowledge of undergraduates together with the cooperation extended towards extracurricular activities, developed a personality with a great capacity to accept challenges in the corporate world and aided with climbing the career ladder.

In addition to the presence of a well-qualified academic staff, the modern infrastructure at NSBM Green University make it more convenient to focus on studies facilitated by a methodical teaching-learning process. Due to the same reason, the NSBM Green University is highly recommended to students with the preference of having a unique and independent personality as a graduate to serve the corporate sector with a higher degree of professionalism.

It is advisable to the current student community at NSBM to become all-rounders with a proper plan who apply the skills, talents, knowledge, and expertise acquired to serve the corporate sector as an exceptional professional. I wish to emphasize that, an undergraduate should prioritise their disciplines, attitudes, and humane qualities, apart from achieving academic excellence.

**Thank you!**  
**Wishing you all the best!**



### Supun Wickramasekara

Hi! My name is Supun Wickramasekara, NSBM Alumni from the batch of 2012. I am delighted and honored to be selected as one of the interviewees for the NSBM Business Dialogue Special Edition 2021 published in celebration for the 5th Anniversary of NSBM Green University Town. When I started my university journey as a freshman in the year 2012 at the School of Computing majoring in B.Sc. in Computer Science, I never thought it would become the biggest turning point of my life. I joined NSBM at a point where I was second-guessing my potential to pursue higher education. I successfully graduated in 2015 with a Second-Class Upper, whilst working as a demonstrator during the last year of my degree.

### What is your current status in the industry?

Currently, I am working as an Associate Business Analyst Lead, in Axiata Digital Lab; an innovative software service provider, offering telco focused digital and IT

services and solutions including Fintech, solution, IoT solution, Big Data Analysis solutions and Machine Learning solutions. I joined Axiata Digital Labs as a Senior Business Analyst in the year 2019 and worked my way towards my current position through the skills and knowledge I gathered under the wings of NSBM as a young graduate. Today I am working as a Business/Product Specialist and a Product Owner/Scrum Master for multiple products (IoT applications) integrated with Axiata-Core IoT Platform globally: from Malaysia, Indonesia, Mongolia, and Sri Lanka, positively influencing collective company goals and personal goals. For the 7 years, I have worked in the industry as a Business Analyst I have gotten the opportunity to handle many local and foreign clients, build sustainable partnerships, and achieve the given targets promptly and efficiently.

During my work years in Synergen Health (PVT) Ltd. (before joining Axiata Labs), I was awarded the best performer award for 2 consecutive years as well.

### Experience at NSBM as an undergraduate?

Life at NSBM was much more than a mere academic experience. I've made lifelong friendships, gathered unforgettable memories, developed strong interpersonal



skills, and simply lived my best life during the four years of my degree period. For me, NSBM was the source where I could find my true self and passion. Experiencing the company of a like-minded community and skilled staff, sustained my urge to discover more and more every day and strengthen my values to present the best version of myself to society. Even though we had fewer resources in comparison to what undergraduates at NSBM University are given today, the administration and staff ensured that each student is supervised and evaluated positively whilst supporting their future goals with guidance and resources. During my undergraduate years, I also had the chance to join the Rotaract Club and work as the Charter Sgt arms of Rotaract Club of NSBM (2012/2013). When I look back at my university life, I am thankful that I chose NSBM as the foundation to build my future goals.

## How did NSBM assist/support you in excelling in your career?

Working as an Associate Business Analyst Lead is a role full of critical responsibilities. As client handling is a key role in my job, I have to always maintain professionalism, possess good communication skills, propose and implement effective strategies, and work

under immense pressure to achieve the targeted goals in the given lead time. I believe that the academic and interpersonal skills I mastered during my university years truly supported in making my job easier and frictionless. The exposure I received through joining the Rotaract club sharpened my communication and event handling skills which in turn reflect on my current work pattern.

NSBM courses always comprised of updated knowledge, which helped us habitually stay updated on every aspect of life. The technological knowledge and skills I use to make my work efficient, productive, and easier today are vastly based on the educational experience I gained from NSBM.

## Why do you think a student should study at NSBM Green University?

Why I believe that NSBM provides the correct foundation for a student to start their higher education is because it offers an overall academic experience while moulding the students to become independent in making major life decisions that require strategical, communicational, professional, and interpersonal skills. Students at NSBM not only excel in academics, but also construct strong networks with the changing world, whilst being responsible citizens who sustain the future growth of the country.

*So, wait no more. Your future awaits you at NSBM!*

**Compiled by Udani Dilrangi & Pramudya Thilakarathne**









# Words of Appreciation from the well-wishers



## Bandula Nanayakkarawasam

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appointment letter එකක් මට! මගෙන් ඇතිල්ලක් බැලිල්ලක් හැ. CONSULTANT - Aesthetic " Creative " and .....Affairs !

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NSBM වෙනුවෙන් දෙවුන්දර  
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 වැඩමුළු තිබ්බා. මගේ ක්ෂේත්‍ර  
 නොවන අංශ වෙසරද NSBM  
 ඇදුරන් පූර්ණ කළා !

ගාල්ල නිලධාරීගොඩ කොළඹ  
 විවිනියාව යාපනේ මේ හැම තැන ඒ  
 සුළු කාලයේ මා NSBM මෙහෙවරේ  
 යෙදුනා. අපේ බුද්ධි නිවසනය ගැන  
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 spread අතිරේක නිර්මාණය කළා, මා  
 කළ කී හැම දෙයකම සෙවනැල්ල  
 සේ උපකුලපති, සමස්ත ඇදුරු  
 මඩුල්ල, සුළු සේවකයා දක්වා කාර්ය  
 මණ්ඩලය චිතරක් නෙමේ මගේ  
 ලොකු දුවට වඩා ගොඩක් බාල සිසු  
 දරු දැරියන් පවා ! මා ඔවුන්ගෙන්  
 පවා ඉගෙනගත්තා !!!

NSBM එකේ පුද්ගලික ප්‍රශ්ණ  
 නෑ, පොදු දේවල් චිතරයි! අපි  
 කොහොමද මේ ප්‍රශ්නට විසඳුම්  
 හොයන්නෙ. උත්තරය තියෙන්නේ  
 උද්‍යාන සේවකයා ළඟ වෙන්න  
 පුළුවන්. හරි දේ ගන්නා !!!

මේ සියල්ලෙ සමුදායාර්ථය තමා  
 TEAM WORK

ඒ නිසයි මේ ආශ්චර්යවත් අඩ දඟකයේ  
 ලස්සන. මේ ගමන යහපත්ව චින්න  
 හේතුව !

අදටත් NSBM පියස මට ගෙදර වගේ.  
 පිටිපනින් හැරල NSBM පාරේ වුද්දි  
 දැනෙන්නෙ අවුරුද්දට අම්මලා, හෑදෑ  
 මිත්‍රයෝ බලන්න ගාල්ලෙ බෝපේ ගමට  
 ඇතුළු වෙනවා වගේ !

ඉතින් මහා ආකාසෙ වගේ තව ලියන්න  
 පුළුවන්. නතර වෙන්නෙ, හැම දෙකම  
 අවසානයක් තියෙන්න ඕන නිසා !  
 NSBM අචිත්තයි - හිතල ඉවර  
 කරන්න බෑ  
 NSBM අසුරුවයි - පෙර නොවු විරූ  
 NSBM සුදුරුවයි - ලේසියට පහල  
 වෙන්නෙ නෑ !



**Gayani de Alwis-FCILT**  
*Global Chairperson Women in  
 Logistics & Transport (WiLAT)  
 Director Singer Sri Lanka PLC*

It gives me a great pleasure to pen this message for the special edition of "Business Dialogue" magazine on the fifth anniversary celebration of NSBM Green University. I have been associating with NSBM Green University closely for the past four years. It is well known that you have touched many students' lives positively during these past five years. As an advocate of sustainable living, my visits to NSBM always resonated positive vibes in this green environment leaving an ever-lasting impression. The learning environment that you have created certainly is special and I believe it is well above the norm

that is witnessed in many other educational institutions in the country. Through my interactions, I have seen the special attention and improvements that you constantly strive to provide to students. As a forward-thinking school in higher education, with fifty internationally recognized degree programs in four faculties, you provide a wider choice in a unique environment. I am sure the prospective students will make the right decision to realize their dreams at your Green University. I am wishing the university a successful journey ahead, with innovative thinking to create waves in higher education in the country.





**Hilmy Cader**  
CEO – MTI Consulting

It is with great pleasure that I write this note to the special edition of NSBM Business Dialogue to commemorate five years since the conception of NSBM Green University. Since that day, NSBM has stayed true to its vision and mission, to be one of Sri Lanka's

leading higher education institutes. NSBM offers the full university value proposition and experience to develop globally competitive and responsible graduates.

NSBM has contributed to Sri Lanka's overall growth by producing over 15,000 strong and resilient graduates who have excelled in their chosen

fields. Furthermore, the NSBM Green University concept has provided both direct and indirect benefits to the country and should be acknowledged as the archetype of a self-funded state entity that has reached the pinnacle of development. I believe it is accurate to state that NSBM Green University has reshaped the standards of higher education in Sri Lanka.

I sincerely appreciate the management and the whole team at NSBM Green University for their utmost dedicated efforts to achieve the organization's strategic goals. NSBM Green University has become one of the premier choices for higher education in Sri Lanka in a short timeframe, thanks to the efforts of a devoted staff guided by visionary leadership. I am truly inspired by their team spirit and I am confident that they will continue to take on new challenges and strive for higher achievements in the future.



**Jayantha Chandrasiri**

**හරිත නගරයක ශ්‍රේණි විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය**  
මිනිස් සත්ත්වයා යම් යම් දේ වටහා ගැනීම අරභයා ක්‍රම දෙකක් අනුගමනය කරන්නේ ය. එකක් නම් තර්ක ශ්‍රේණිය ය. අනෙක නම් අන්තර්ශ්‍රේණිය ය. මිනිස් ඉතිහාසයේ

ආරම්භක යුගවලට වඩා අද මේ ද්‍රවයම පෝෂණය කරනු ලබන්නේ අධ්‍යාපනය විසිනි. එහෙයින් අද අධ්‍යාපනය සලකනු ලබන්නේ කේවල මිනිසකුගේ භෞතික ජීවිතය සාධනය කරනු ලබන දැනුම් ප්‍රාග්ධනයක් වශයෙන් පමණක් නොව අනාගත ශිෂ්ටාචාරය විවිධ ලබන

විඤ්ඤාණික දැනුමට (intuitive knowledge) ඉවහල් වන පද්ධතියක්ද වශයෙනි.

NSBM හරිත සරසවිය මා දකිනුයේ ඒ සඳහා අපගේ මාතෘකාවෙන් ඉදිරිපත් කළ හැකි හොඳම සහ කදිම හිදිර්ශනය වශයෙනි.

අසුරු කළ කෙටි කාලය තුළ වුව මා දන්නා එහි විශිෂ්ට දිසාපාමෝක්චරත් සහ ගුරු නායක කාරකාදීන් මෙන්ම, මෙම සමස්ත හරිත සරසවි නගරයම වුව යම් සාර්වත්‍රික බවක් සහ සනාතන චම්ප්කාරයක් මා තුළ ගොඩ නගන්නේ ය.

එහි සෙවනට මම ප්‍රිය වෙමි. එහි උපන්දිනයට ඉත සිහින් සුභ පතමි! ■

**AFTER  
A/L**

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DEGREE AWARDING SCHOOL**



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### UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH - UNITED KINGDOM

BSc (Hons) Software Engineering  
BSc (Hons) Computer Networks  
BSc (Hons) Computer Security

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA

Bachelor of Information Technology





# The Legacy Continues

**T**he promising journey of NSBM Green University over the past five years gives unwavering faith about its future.

The journey ahead and its impacts would be far longer and wider than the journey so far, which would pave the way gradually in reaching towards the vision of being the best performing graduate school in Sri Lanka and being recognized internationally. The strategic leadership has driven the university for its present success and also has succeeded in taking giant steps in crafting the future as well. Phase 2 developments currently in progress will be a key driver of the university's future growth to further expand its impact on the world at large.

NSBM Green University, since its very inception, was planned for a total area of 50 acres of land. While Phase 1 was in operation with the substantial growth achieved in a shorter period of time, the university realized the need for further expansion with the available opportunities in the market in multiple domains in line with the strategic plan of the university.

In order to capitalize on the identified opportunities and also to

cater for the expansion requirements, another 15 acres of land adjoining the current project was acquired from the Urban Development Authority on 30-year lease and prepared plans for the Phase 2 of the Green University. Another key aspect of Phase 2 is the reliance on internally generated excess funds for each phase of development. Phase 2 is already in progress and development will be completed on an incremental basis of priority, initially been given to fund generating development activities considering the self-financing nature of the organization.

Considering the emerging requirements, the market developments and further expansion requirement of Phase 1 of the project, the master plan for Phase 2 consist of the following main components.

## **New Faculty Building Complex**

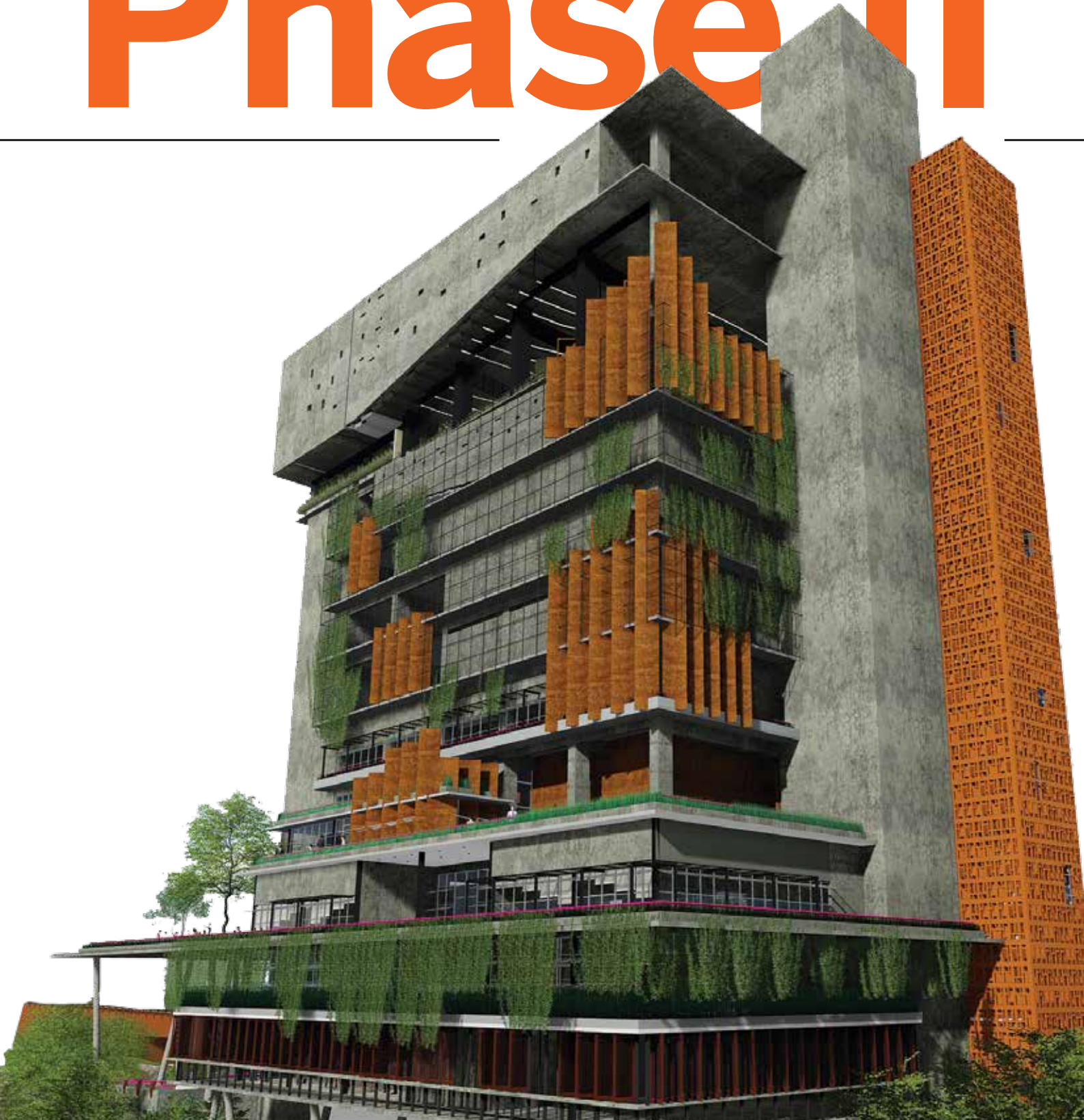
This includes a new faculty building for the proposed Faculty of Science, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Social Sciences. In addition to the main three faculties, the new faculty building complex will include student gathering areas, outdoor student gathering terrace area and also expanded education facilities in terms of one 500 seating capacity

lecture hall, one 250 seating capacity lecture hall and seven 100 seating capacity lecture halls, computer labs, tutorial rooms and other related amenities.

**In further improving the sustainable practices, a rainwater harvesting pond with a central island will be established with a total area of 2,500 square meters. With the intention of improving the overall well-being of the students, this would be further accompanied by an outdoor student gathering and recreational area, jogging path and a butterfly garden.**



# NSBM Phase II







## Female and Male Hostel Buildings

Each hostel complex consists of 169 rooms accommodating 505 students in total, a kitchen, a dining area with a seating capacity of 152 seats, laundry, administration facilities and warden's accommodation. The complex consists of two interconnected wings with nine and eight stories, respectively.

## Multi-functional Hall

With a total floor area of 13,500 square meters and consisting of five floors. Facilities further extend

to a total seating capacity of 2,000 seats, a lounge, a VIP lounge, two mini-conference rooms with a total capacity of fifty people, cafeteria, vehicle parking area of 100 slots in total, student gathering & activity area, workshop area, post office, bank & ATMs and outdoor student gathering area.

## Open Air Theatre

An open-air theatre with a total seating capacity of 500 seats and changing rooms.

## Natural Rainwater Harvesting Pond

In further improving the sustainable practices, a rainwater harvesting pond with a central island will be established with a total area of 2,500 square meters. With the intention of improving the overall well-being of the students, this would be further accompanied by an outdoor student gathering and recreational area, jogging path and a butterfly garden.





### A Playground

A playground with a total area of 14,000 square meters which includes a 400m running track, cricket/rugby grounds and a sports pavilion (inclusive of a VIP area); changing rooms, and cafeteria.

### Student Car Park

The student car park consists of 150 car parking slots, 10 bus parking slots, 100 motorbike parking slots which offer safe parking with CCTV Cameras for students.

### Day Care Centre

To bring about a welfare service to the staff, Phase 2 will also include a day care center which would facilitate 25 kids along with early childhood education service.

### Minor Staff Accommodation

Designed to facilitate the minor staff in terms of providing lodging facilities on a full time / short term basis.

The expansion happening in

terms of development in physical facilities is aiming at producing holistic graduates who are capable of meeting the requirements of the evolving world and sensible for the emerging needs of the society. Therefore, beyond Phase 2 development, the NSBM Green University focuses on expanding the scope of its own degree programmes, creating the culture required to develop a regional knowledge hub in terms of research and consultancy, broadening the impacts to the wider society and working towards higher global rankings. ■

**Compiled by Daupadee Gamage & Janith Iddawela**





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