



**CINEC**  
CAMPUS  
*Beyond A Graduate*



# 2024 NEWSLETTER CINEC CAMPUS

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This Newsletter covers the significant activities of the CINEC Campus from 1<sup>st</sup> of January to 31<sup>st</sup> of March



# KEY NEWS

Newsletter 2024 January-March

## National Seafarers' Day 2024: An Indelible Mark on the Sri Lankan Maritime Industry

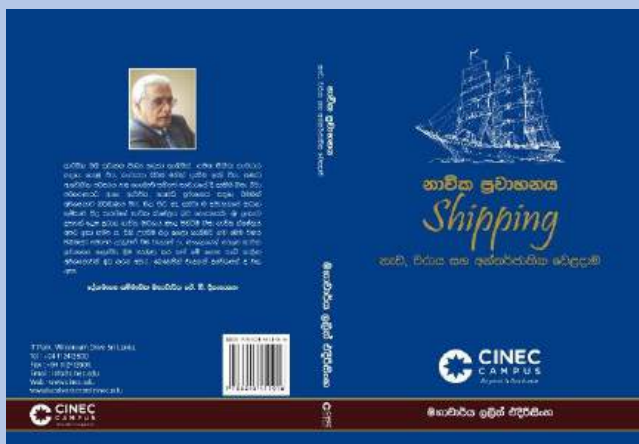
Sri Lanka celebrated the inaugural National Seafarers' Day on March 21, 2024 at Hotel Shangri La, Colombo. This historical event has been organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Aviation in Collaboration with CINEC Campus. It was established in Sri Lanka based on a proposal submitted to Cabinet of Ministers by Hon. Nimal Siripala De Silva, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation. The key objective of this landmark event is to increase the number of seafarers from the current 16,000 to 50,000 by 2030.



A special stamp and a first day cover was issued to commemorate the National Seafarers' Day.

Another major activity on this day was the announcement of introducing a new subject in schools from grade 6, namely, Commercial Shipping and Maritime Science. The textbook of the

new subject that was authored by Chair Professor Laith Edirisinghe and published by CINEC Campus was officially launched on this day. The subject is expected to develop competencies under six major topics: Evolution of Shipping, Commercial and Economics Context, Technology push, Indispensable Nature as a Transport Mode, Practical Skill Development, and Interdisciplinary Connections.



The audience of 300 mainly consisted of ministers namely, Hon. Nimal Siripala De Silva, Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries, Hon. Premalal Jayasekara, State Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation, Hon. Dr. Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Education, and ambassadors and representative from 11 countries, Secretaries to the ministries including Mr. K. D. S. Ruwanchandra, Secretary to the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Aviation who delivered the welcome speech. Hon. Nimal Siripala De Silva addressed the



gathering after the official declaration of Sri Lanka's inaugural national seafarers' day focused on building capacity towards sustainable maritime industry, followed by Mr. Ajith Wijesinghe, Director General of Merchant Shipping, Capt. Ajith Peiris, President of CINEC Campus, the co-organizer of this national event spoke about the historical landmarks about seafarers' training and education. Professor Prasad Sethunga, Director General of National Institute of Education made a historical announcement of introducing shipping as a subject in schools.

The principal aim of introducing Commercial Shipping and Maritime Science (CSMS) to the school system is the personal development of the student through a knowledge leading to employability and entrepreneurship in global perspective, thereby paving the way to national development, thus building a unique, wondrous and prosperous Sri Lanka. Those who secure education in this field will achieve sustainable income in the means of foreign exchange through fast-track job opportunities to Sri Lanka. Later with their lifelong experience at the international arena and the potential for high-income generation during a short span of time it creates a sustainable entrepreneurial environment in the country too. There are indirect social benefits also expected through increasing seafaring community. This action will ultimately reduce the number of unskilled women going to Middle east by way of the male in the family taking up employment on board ships leading higher income to the family. A series of objectives exclusive to the subject of CSMS has been established as a foundation for the progressive achievement of this admirable goal. To reach this target, the student must learn CSMS with passion and enthusiasm. Shipping and maritime are interesting and adventurous phenomena and children of this age usually are very keen on such venturesome and discovering subjects.

The prestigious first National Seafarers' Day award was bestowed upon Capt. Ajith Peiris, Chairman and President of CINEC Campus, and Chairman of Association of Seafarers Recruiting Agencies for the service excellence for over 50 years. Dr. Leslie Hemachandra, Marine Chief engineer, IMO Consultant and Marine consultant was awarded the next award for the service to the industry for over 54 years.





## 4<sup>th</sup> International CINEC Research Symposium



Zora Neale Hurston once stated that “Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.” It is with this same conviction that CINEC Campus views research and why the institution always inspires its undergraduates to conduct research. In order to realize this vision of research-competent undergraduates, the campus hosted its 4<sup>th</sup> International CINEC Research Symposium (CIRS 2024) on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the campus premises.

This year, the research symposium was organized with the theme, “Industry, Innovation, and Inclusion: The 21<sup>st</sup> century way forward,” to ensure that all presenting undergraduates are made aware of what their research can accomplish on the long run. The symposium began with an inauguration ceremony in which a plenary session was held with a panel of experts of different fields as mentioned below.

- Dr. Vivimarie Vanderpoorten, Senior lecturer, former Head of the Department of Language Studies, Open University of Sri Lanka.
- Dr. Ajith Madurapperuma, Consultant, Research and Academic Affairs, CINEC Campus, Malabe.
- Dr. Janaka Liyanagama, Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, CINEC Campus, Malabe.
- Prof. Lalith Edirisinghe, Dean, Faculty of Management and Social Sciences, CINEC Campus, Malabe.
- Capt. Peshala Medagama, Vice President, Maritime Affairs, International Cooperation and Foreign Projects, CINEC Campus, Malabe
- Senior Prof. Menik Hettihewa, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, CINEC Campus, Malabe.
- Mr. Lasantha Basnayake, Associate Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Education, CINEC Campus, Malabe.
- Dr. Sujeewa Polgampala, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Education, CINEC Campus, Malabe.

Faculty wise technical sessions were held afterwards around the campus where undergraduates from CINEC Campus and from several other universities around the country, including state universities, presented their research. Poster presentations were also carried out by undergraduates who had opted for them. We are happy to report that precisely 232 abstracts in total were presented by various undergraduates this year, making it a campus-wide record and a landmark achievement for the research and development unit of the campus.



### Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Faculty of Health Science.

The certificate awarding ceremony for ACPP, ACCS and CSNE courses in Faculty of Health Science, CINEC Campus, Malabe, was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. The ceremony was attended by the chief guest, Dean of the faculty, Senior Prof. Menik Hettihewa and the academic staff. Certificates of graduation for Advanced Certificated course in Pharmacy Practice (ACPP), Advanced Certificate course in Cosmetic Science (ACCS) and Certificate in Special Need Education (CSNE) was awarded to the graduates. The ceremony was coloured by dance items and the impactful speeches delivered by chief guest Senior Prof. Menik Hettihewa and Mr. Bhavantha Dias. The culmination of the ceremony featured the vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Pavithra Kumarapperuma followed by the national anthem.

### Aviation Courses Launch



Three new Aviation courses were launched on January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 with the presence of the Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation, along with Minister of Education, Hon. Susil Premajayantha. The new courses aimed to teach Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, Airline Cabin Crew, and Airport Ground Operations are now available for all prospective students.



## **Prof. Hongjun SHAN, the President and a Dalian Maritime University Delegation Visits CINEC Campus**

A high profile delegation consisting of Prof. Hongjun SHAN, the President and a delegation from the Dalian Maritime University in China visited CINEC Campus, Malabe on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. They were welcomed with a formal welcoming ceremony and toured the campus premises afterwards.

## **Cadet Training Superintendent, Capt. Kishor Shingare Visits CINEC Campus**

Cadet training superintendent Capt. Kishor Shingare visited CINEC Campus premises on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In addition to meeting with relevant personnel and the deans, he interacted with the selected cadets for Seaspan.

## **German Professional Tours CINEC Campus**

Mr. Starke Rainer, Training Manager of Peter Dohle, along with Mr. Kalinga de Silva, Managing Director of Centrum Marine Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., visited and participated in a spot tour of the campus premises on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## **Malaysian Visitors Grace CINEC Campus Premises**

A delegation of Malaysian professionals consisting of Prof. Ts Dr. Lee Ming Tatt, Director of the Office of Postgraduate Studies at UCSI, Malaysia, and Mr. Roland Chan Chih Chien, Senior Manager of the Global Engagement Office visited CINEC Campus on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.



## D-Site Visit, the Brand-New Initiative from the Dubbing Division of the CINEC Students' Media Circle

A historic initiative was undertaken by the dubbing division of the CINEC Students' Media Circle on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 in the form of D-Site Visit. The project aims to nurture future voice actors by exposing them to professionals and the industry and promises to be a continuing endeavor. As part of its first season, a group of five students which consisted of Akash Perera, Anuththata Bandara, Poojani Botheju, Sawinde Weerasinghe, and Piyangie Baduge were selected to visit Hiru Life Studios. They had the opportunity to witness a professional voice actor at work and took part in various voice audition processes.

## The Commonwealth Students' Association Comes to CINEC Campus

On March 19<sup>th</sup> 2024, CINEC Campus became a part of the international student community when it hosted a panel discussion organized by the Commonwealth Students' Association (CSA). It was titled "Building Bridges: A Journey through Skills Development, and Peace and Conflict Resolution." The panel discussion was moderated by CINEC Campus' very own Savin Edirisinghe, who has been working closely with the CSA as the country representative of Sri Lanka for the organization, and a panel of experts in student affairs and international relations took part in the discussion which included:

- Mr. Benjamin Fraser, Chairperson of the CSA
- Ms. Chiranthi Senanayake, Systemic Development Practitioner, and Founder of Hype Sri Lanka
- Dr. George Cooke, Diplomat, and Strategist





It proved to be a successful workshop and served as part of the CSA's overarching "Year of Youth" Tour.

## The Muslim Community and More Come Together in CINEC Campus' Annual Ifthar Celebration



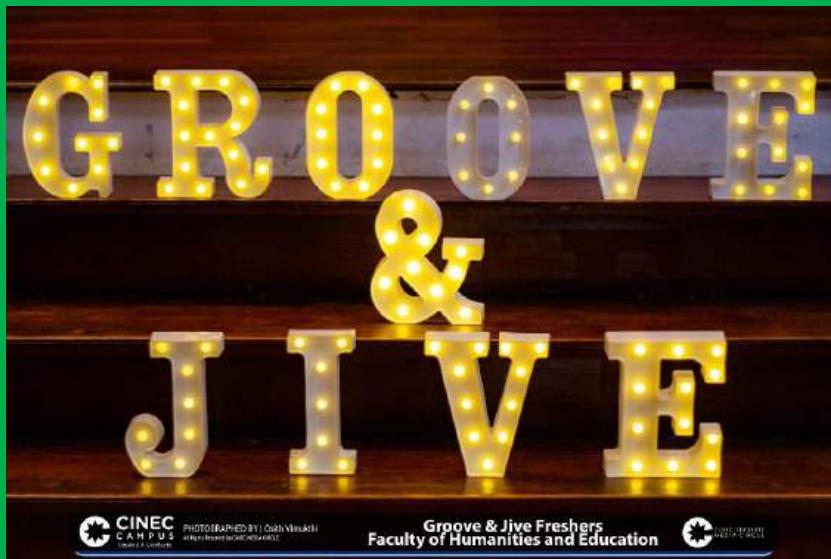
Organized by the Majlis of CINEC, the annual Ifthar celebration of the campus was held on March 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 in a grand manner. It was hosted in order to bring the Muslim community of the campus together in the month of Ramadan and to allow the rest of the campus population to experience a cultural event so crucial to the Muslim community of the world.





## Groove and Jive' 24 Freshers' Welcome: An Explosion of Color and Talent

The CINEC Auditorium came alive with a spectrum of colors and melodious tunes which encompassed, Groove and Jive'24, the freshers' welcome for the year 2024, organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Education which concluded with a roaring success, took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024



Organized by the senior batches of the Bachelor of Arts in English and the Bachelor of Education in IT, along with the guidance of the faculty lecturers, it showcased the evergreen talents of the faculty, much to the delight of everyone. With the extremely chic theme of the 1970s and 1980s eras, everyone was dressed to the nines which added extra color to the event.

With the event beginning with a lively welcome speech and the traditional lighting of the oil lamp, the audience was serenaded by melodious voices of the students who performed several musical acts ranging from an ABBA medley to hit Sinhala songs. It is of no doubt that all of them gave their best and sang their hearts out which enthralled the audience!

In addition to the singing items, the dance items were a hit among the audience. The dance routines, choreographed to perfection and infused with creativity and emotion displayed the talents of the students, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

The Drama performed by the senior batch of the B.Ed. in IT had the entire audience breathless from uncontrollable laughter. With their impeccable acting skills and comedic timing, they had the attention of the entire audience, focusing on the drama leaving everyone howling with laughter and applauding their talent.



Groove and Jive' 24 was not just a freshers' welcome as it was also a celebration and appreciation of the creativity and talent that the students possess. This event was a platform for the students to display their evergreen talents and potential to the entire campus community, showcasing their range of talents throughout the event, never failing to entertain and captivate the audience making Groove and Jive'24 a remarkable event!

## CINEC Thai Pongal 2024



Making significant the spirit of togetherness, the annual Thai Pongal festival of the CINEC campus was extravagantly held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January at CINEC premises. Adjoining with entertainment, fun, laughter, love and delicacy of Pongal food the event brought a mesmerizing experience for all the participants. It's the sacrifice entangled with love and tears of the organizing committee and all the hard workers who made this event bright.



The following parties are greatly acknowledged for their support in providing news and pictures.

CHIEF EDITOR: Chandrawansha, P. Sandamali.

EDITORIAL PANEL:

1. Sawinde, W.M.
2. Balasuriya, D.N.A.

STUDENT WRITERS:

1. Fonseka, H.A.R.N.
2. Asokan, T.L.
3. Kavindi, W.L.

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS:

1. Sawinde, W.M.

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