# 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
FACULTY OF COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA





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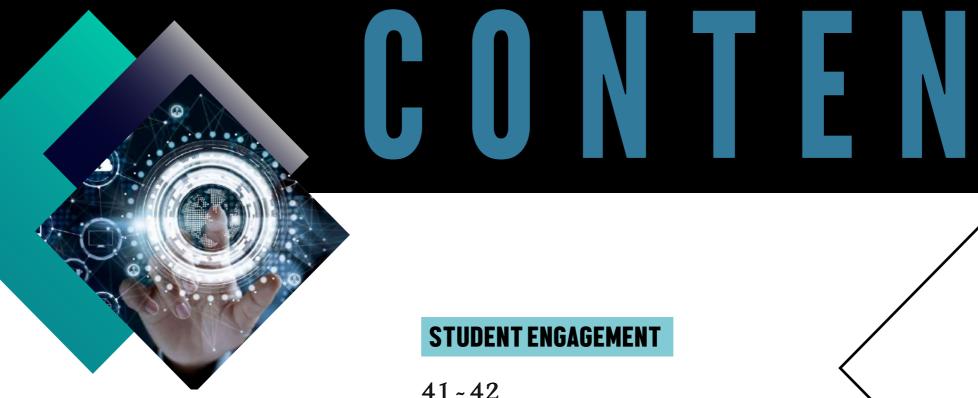
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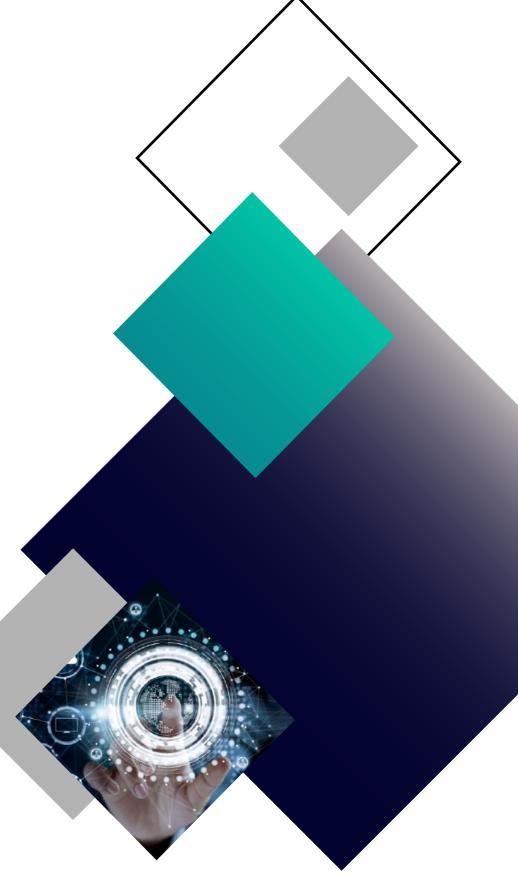
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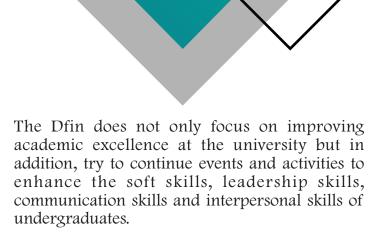
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# ABOUT THIS REPORT

his is the annual report of the Department of Finance (Dfin) of Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies of University of Kelaniya, designed for the academic year 2019/20 which was commenced on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and ended on 05<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The information included in this report has been organized to give users an in-depth review on the achievements, activities and engagements took place at Dfin.

We begin the review of the academic year 2019/20 by highlighting our operational structure and programmes that we conduct. In the second section, we discuss the achievements made by our academic staff and students. Finally, in the third section, we discuss the activities which were performed by the Finance Students' Association of the Department throughout the year amid the COVID 19 pandemic.



Through this report we proudly present our journey of the academic year 2019/20.

To find out more about who we are and what we aspire to be, please visit http://www.kln.ac.lk/fcms/dep/dfin/

We welcome your comments and inquiries on this report.

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**Telephone:** 

Department of Finance Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies University of Kelaniya Dalugama

Office : 011 2 903 554

Head : 011 2 903 553

# ABOUT US

## OUR MISSION

To be a powerhouse of financial expertise which can push the boundaries of business thinking by providing internationally competitive human capital and to serve expectations of stakeholders.





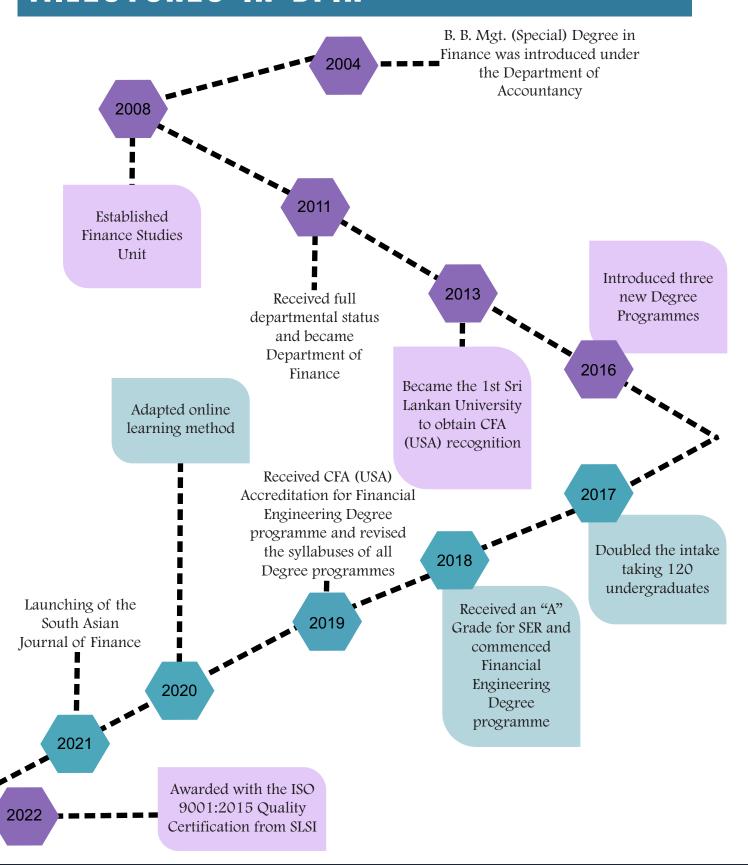
## OUR VISION

To deliver first-rate finance education and contribute to the financial and economic development in Sri Lanka and other regions. In addition, Department of Finance is looking to prepare future business leaders and scholars for success in the field of finance. Department of Finance strive to be at the forefront of knowledge through teaching, research, service, and outreach.

# OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES....

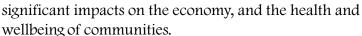
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## MILESTONES IN DFIN





**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE** 



Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, we were able to continue teaching, research, and other co-curricular academic activities via digital platforms adhering to the health guidelines.

The academic year 2019/2020 was a remarkable one for DFIN as we obtained the ISO 9001: 2015 quality certification for our department. Further,

the 'Teaching Excellence Award' was introduced to recognize and appreciate the outstanding contributions made by the academic staff to their profession and to their students. Moreover, the Online Certificate in Financial Literacy was launched with the aim of improving financial education

among Sri Lankans.

The way forward......

As we advance through 2021, a new set of plans and targets have been set for the coming academic year. During the

coming academic year. During the academic year 2020/21 we are planning to launch two Master's degree programmes and the Diploma in Insurance programme offered by DFIN. Further, we are expecting to launch the 'Short Course in Banking: Exposure to the Industry' to enhance the practical knowledge of the students on the Banking functions.

Prof. R. Abeysekera Head – Department of Finance Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies University of Kelaniya



The Department of Finance (DFin) has become the most progressive department in the University of Kelaniya after establishing it as an independent department in 2011. Currently, the Department of Finance offers Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Finance, Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Banking, Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Insurance and Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Financial Engineering. In 2021, the department enrolled 219 undergraduates for these degree programmes. DFin has always become the most preferred and demanded department by undergraduates.

Currently, the DFin is strengthened with 21 Academic Staff with one Senior Professor, two Professors, eight Senior lecturers, one lecturer and nine Probationary lecturers. The current student/teacher ratio of the department is 26 which is quite higher than the acceptable norm of 18. Looking at the year in review, 2021 was an unusual and challenging year, with

## ACADEMIC STAFF



## ABSENT IN THE PHOTOGRAPH



Senior Prof. R. P. C. Ranjani
PhD (Panjab), M.Com (Panjab), B.Com.
(Kel'ya)
Cadre Chair and Senior Professor of
Finance



Mrs. Nisansala Kulathunga
MBA in Finance (C'bo), B.B.Mgt (Finance)
(Kel'ya), MAAT
Senior Lecturer II
Reading for PhD, Australia



**Mr. C.S.P.K. Fernando**Msc (USJP), B.Sc. (Mkt.Mgt) (USJP)
Senior Lecturer I
Reading for PhD, New Zealand



Mr. M.R.P. Wijesinghe
MBA (C'bo), B.B.Mgt.(Finance) (Kel'ya),
CA Passed Finalist
Senior Lecturer II
Reading for PhD, New Zealand



Ms. H.L.D.J. Chathurika
B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), Reading for
M.Sc. in Applied Finance (USJP)
Lecturer (Probationary)



Mr. Prabath S. Morawakage MBA (C'bo), B.B.Mgt.(Finance) Hons. (Kel'ya) Senior Lecturer II Reading for PhD, Australia



Mrs. W. B. M. D. Basnayake
MBA (USJP)-PIM, B.B.Mgt (Finance)
(Kel'ya), ACMA, CGMA(UK)
Senior Lecturer II
Reading for PhD, Australia



PhD (Bournemouth- UK), MBA (C'bo),
B.Sc. (Hon) (Kel'ya), Dip.M (UK)
Professor
Head – Department of Finance

### 3 Dr. P. N. D. Fernando

PhD (CCNU), MBA (WBUT), B.B.Mgt. (Acc) (Kel'ya)
Senior Lecturer I
Dean – Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies

### 5 Dr. Chatura Liyanage

PhD (OUSL), MBA (C'bo), B.B. Mgt. (Acc) (Kel'ya), ACMA(UK), CGMA, PMP (USA) Senior Lecturer II

### 7 Mr. A.J.P. Samarawickrama

M.Sc. (Computer Science) (USJP), B.Sc. (Bus. Ad-IS) (USJP), MCS (SL) Lecturer (Unconfirmed)

### 9 Mrs. S. D. P. Piyananda

MBA (USJP)-PIM, B.B.Mgt.(Finance) (Kel'ya), ACA, MAAT, Reading for MPhil (Col)
Lecturer (Probationary)

### 11 Mr. W. D. J. D. Weerasinghe

B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), Reading for M.Sc. (USJP)
Lecturer (Probationary)

### 13 Mrs. H. M. N. P. Herath

B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), CFA, DBF(IBSL), Reading for MPhil (Colombo) Lecturer (Probationary)

### **2** Prof. S. S. Weligamage

PhD (Panjab), MBA (AIT-Thailand), MEB (ESCP-EAP-UK), B.Com. (Ruhuna), PGD in Counselling (Colombo), CBA (ICASL)
Professor

### 4 Dr. J. M. R. Fernando

PhD (University of Waikato-NZ), MSc (USJP), B.B.Mgt.(Finance) (Kel'ya)
Senior Lecturer I

### 6 Mr. H. J. R. Buddhika

MBA (USJP)-PIM, MA (Buddhist Studies) (Kel'ya), B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), ACPM, Reading for MPhil (NIIBS)
Lecturer

### 8 Ms. P.W.G. Madhushani

M. Sc. in Applied Finance (USJP), B. Sc Finance (Special) (USJP), CIMA Exams Qualified Lecturer (Unconfirmed)

### 10 Mr. L. A. S. Perera

M.Sc. (USJP)
Lecturer (Probationary), CoordinatorDiploma/Higher Diploma in Business
Finance

B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), Reading for

### 12 Mr. H. M. A. L. Gunasekara

B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), CIMA passed finalist, Reading for M.Sc. in Applied Finance (USJP) Lecturer (Probationary)

### 14 Mrs. W.G.I.D. Premarathne

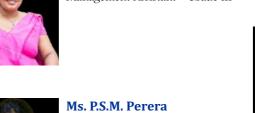
B.B.Mgt (Finance) (Kel'ya), Reading for M.Sc. (USJP)
Lecturer (Probationary)

## **NON ACADEMIC STAFF**



Mrs. S.M.G.M.Kusum

Management Assistant – Grade III

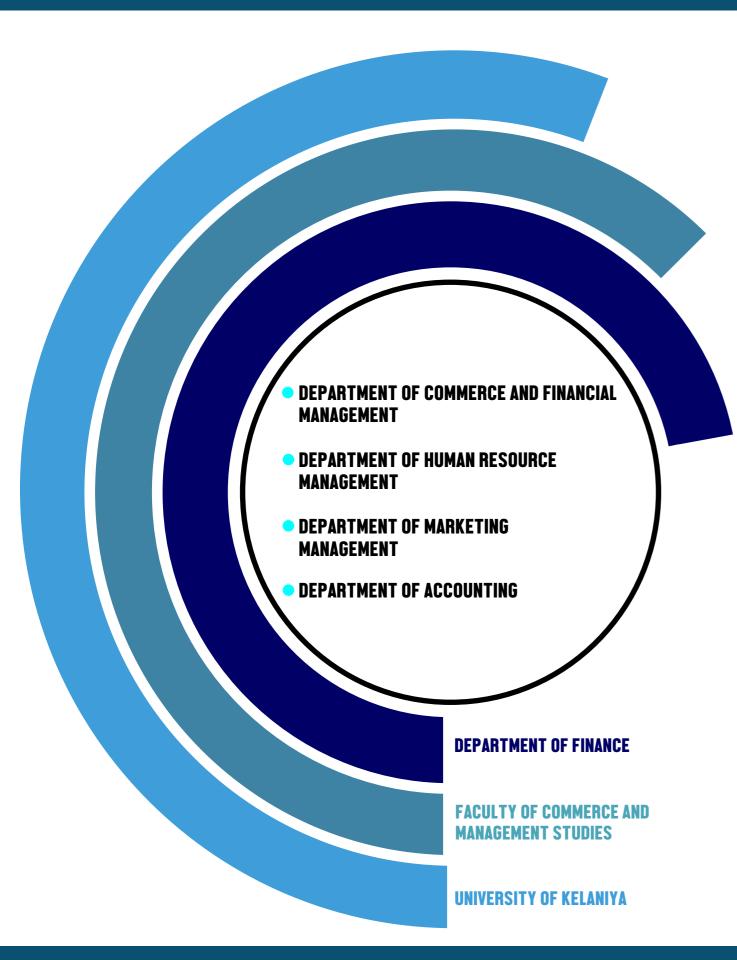


Mr. G.G.D.B. Kulathunga Labourer – Grade III



Management Assistant – Grade III

## OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE



## UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA (UOK)

University of Kelaniya has its origin in the historic Vidyalankara Pirivena which was founded in 1875. Since then, it had been recognized as one of the two great national centers of traditional higher learning of the country. Then, in 1959, the Vidyalankara Pirivena became the Vidyalankara University. Later with the University reforms and transformations, it was converted to a university named the Vidyalankara Campus of University of Sri Lanka and ultimately in 1978, it was named as the University of Kelaniya. Now, the University of Kelaniya is well recognized as one of the greatest avenues for Higher Studies in the South Asian region. Currently, the University consist of 07 Faculties, namely, Commerce and Management Studies, Humanities, Social Science, Science, Medicine, Graduate Studies and Computing and Technology. There are 55 academic departments under the above-mentioned faculties.

## FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES (FCMS)

Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies (FCMS) was established in 1995, and the present student population is over 2,200 under various degree programs offered by five academic departments namely, Department of Commerce and Financial Management, Department of Human Resource Management, Department of Accountancy, Department of Marketing Management and Department of Finance (DFin). Annually the faculty receives three separate groups of students to Commerce, Management and Financial Engineering schemes directly from the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Currently, the faculty offers following 15 Degree programs

- Bachelor of Business Management (Special) Degree in Accountancy
- Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Auditing and forensic Accounting
- Bachelor of Commerce (Special) Degree
- Bachelor of Commerce (Special) Degree in Entrepreneurship
- Bachelor of Commerce (Special) Degree in Business Technology
- Bachelor of Commerce (Special) Degree in Financial Management
- Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Finance
- Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Insurance
- 9. Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Banking
- 10. Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Financial Engineering 11. Bachelor of Business Management (Special) Degree in Human Resource Management
- 12. Bachelor of Business Management (Special) Degree in Marketing
- 13. Bachelor of Business Management (Honors) in Digital Marketing
- 14. Bachelor of Business Management (General) Degree (External)
- 15. Bachelor of Commerce (Special/General) Degree (External)

Facts & Figures in Academic Year 2019/2020



3136 Undergraduates



**585 +** Postgraduates

Apart from that, FCMS offers Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), Master of Business Administration (MBA) programmes and various diploma and higher diploma programs. FCMS has so far produced more than 8,000 graduates and the most of them are in the forefront of managerial ranks in public and private sector organizations both locally and internationally. Currently more than 2,500 undergraduate enrollments and more than 585 postgraduates' students' enrollment is with the FCMS.

## DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DFIN)

The Department of Finance was established in 2008 as Finance Study Unit under the Department of Accountancy and was granted the full departmental status in June 2011 and named as Department of Finance (DFin). There is an intense competition among students to select the finance degree programme due to increasing demand for finance graduates in the job market. In the year 2014, the Department was able to obtain the accreditation of Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) institute, USA. In the academic year 2016/17, department received an "A" Grading in SER. Further, in the academic year 2019/20, the department is awarded with the ISO 9001:2015/SLS ISO 9001:2015" Quality Management System Certification. At present, Department of Finance offers four-degree programmes in the areas of Finance, Banking, Insurance and Financial Engineering.

# DFIN ACCREDITED ISO 9001:2015/SLS ISO 9001:2015

## **QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION**







ISO/IEC: 17021 QMS-001-01

The gradual increase of the complexity and the size of the Department of Finance led to inspire the Department to recognize and implement an international quality management system. Out of the numerous standardizations available, the department initiated working with the latest edition of ISO 9001; ISO 9001:2015, the flagship Quality Management Standard of ISO in the academic year 2019/2020.

Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) awarded the "ISO 9001:2015/SLS ISO 9001:2015" to the Department of Finance of the University of Kelaniya in Sri Lanka on February 23, 2022 at a ceremony conducted at the Vice Chancellors' office of the University of Kelaniya. The certification covers the design, development, and delivery of Certificate, Diploma, Higher Diploma, Undergraduate and Post graduate programmes and conducting research and publications in the areas of Finance, Banking, Insurance, and Financial Engineering.







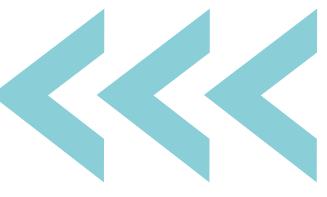


Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kelaniya; Dr. (Mrs) Siddhika G Senaratne, Director General, Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI); Mrs. Samanthie Narangoda,

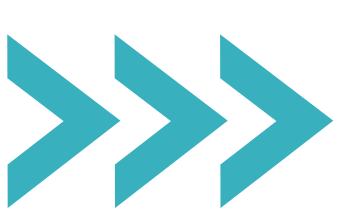
Director Systems Certification (SLSI); Dr. Nihal Attygalle, QMS Consultant, Department of Finance; Dr. Narada Fernando, Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies; Prof. Ruwan

Abeysekera, Head, Department of Finance; Dr. Chathura Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, and few other academic staff members of the Department of Finance graced the event.





Being accredited with "ISO 9001:2015/SLS ISO 9001:2015" provided a number of benefits to the department. It facilitated to organize an effective Quality Management System within the department through establishing an efficient recording system, document identification mechanism and structuring the department processes.





QMS Coordinator, Mr. Shanaka Perera with the Head of the Department Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera

# NURTURING LEADERS IN FINANCIAL SERVICES DISCIPLINE

## **Bachelor of Business Management Honors in Banking**



The structure of Banking Degree Programme has been designed in par with Banking Industry expectations. The aim of this Degree Programme is to provide future Banking Professionals who can play a major role in the Banking Industry, utilizing knowledge, skills, attitudes, practice and insight gathered over four years. The programme consists of subjects in the key areas of Banking such as Credit Management, Treasury Management, International Banking, Micro Finance, Non-Banking Financial Business, Investment and Development Banking, International Trade Finance, Banking Law and Regulations etc.

## **Bachelor of Business Management Honors in Insurance**

This degree programme is introduced with the purpose of producing graduates with specialized knowledge in insurance to cater to the requirements of the rapidly changing insurance business world. The programme consists of subjects in the key areas of Insurance such as Underwriting Management, Reinsurance, Insurance Claim Management, Risk Management in Insurance, Actuarial Valuation, Insurance Law, Insurance Brokering etc. The curriculum is designed to provide future Insurance Professionals with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, practice and insight they need to create value for their organizations and for the society.



## **Bachelor of Business Management Honors in Financial Engineering**



This degree programme is offered through a separate window and the degree programme is introduced to produce graduates with specialized knowledge in Financial Engineering to cater to the requirements of the dynamic Financial Services Industry. The curriculum is designed to provide future Professionals who are skillful and Knowledgeable in Risk Management, Financial Model Building and Product Development. The programme consists of subjects in the key areas of Financial Engineering such as Mathematical Modeling for Finance, Simulation Techniques in Finance, Efficient Mathematics and Optimization, etc. Bachelor of Business Management Honors Degree in Financial Engineering programme has been accepted by Chartered Financial Analysts Institute ~ USA as a CFA recognized degree programme.

## **Bachelor of Business Management Honors in Finance**

Bachelor of Business Management Honors in Finance programme has specifically been designed to cater to the tremendous growth in demand generated by financial services industry both in Sri Lankan and global context. Accordingly, the programme consists of subjects in the key areas of Finance and Economics such as Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, Portfolio Management and Wealth Planning, Managerial Economics, Econometrics and Monetary Economics etc. Bachelor of Business Management Honors Degree in Finance programme has been accepted by Chartered Financial Analysts Institute - USA as a CFA recognized degree programme. Nevertheless, being the first-degree programme in Sri Lanka with CFA recognition has enabled the Department of Finance to develop and maintain a healthy partnership with key industry partners which has opened the gateway for students to local and international job markets.



# STUDENT SATISFACTION TOWARDS THE DEGREE PROGRAMMES

The monitoring and measuring the student satisfaction is crucial to maintain and to further enhance the quality of the degree programme offered by the department. In response to this need, the annual student satisfaction survey on the degree

programme was conducted in the academic year 2019/2020 by the Department of Finance with more than 80 responses. It was accounted for 65% of the study population. The results are therefore robust and reliable.

The student satisfaction towards

the Banking, Insurance and Finance degree programmes were measured and monitored separately. The major findings obtained from the survey are as follows.

## Above 75% Overall Student Satisfaction on Quality of the Degree Programme



Student Satisfaction	Banking (%)	Finance (%)	Insurance (%)	Overall (%)
Teaching	78.26	83.65	79.11	79.76
Clear Goals and Standards	74.68	80.48	77.00	76.55
Workload	67.78	69.20	76.00	69.60
Assessment	73.91	76.57	77.87	75.28
Skills development	80.00	80.95	80.00	80.24
Satisfaction ~ Quality of the programme	82.50	80.85	73.33	80.48

- The overall student satisfaction on the quality of the degree programmes was 80.48%.
- According to survey findings, the graduates with the highest level of satisfaction were from Banking Degree Program (80.85%) and satisfaction on the quality of Finance and Insurance degree programmes were 80.85% and 73.33% respectively





## Above 80% Overall Student Satisfaction on University Experience

- The overall student satisfaction on the university experience was 82.62%.
- According to the survey findings, the graduates with the highest level of university satisfaction were from Insurance (84%) stream



Student Satisfaction	Banking (%)	Finance (%)	Insurance (%)	Overall (%)
Academic Performance - I am satisfied with my academic performance	76.67	78.09	74.67	76.67
Learning Reflection - The programme provided me with a broad overview of my field of knowledge	82.08	80.95	78.67	81.19
Life Long Learning - I consider what I learned valuable for my future	80.41	78.09	76.00	79.04
Overall, my university experience was worthwhile	82.91	80.95	84.00	82.62

## FINANCE TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

## **ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020**



Reaching a remarkable milestone in the Dfin journey, the first episode of Teaching Excellence Award was held in the Academic year 2019/2020. Prof. S.S Weligamage was the pioneer of organizing the Teaching Excellence Award where it was aimed primarily to motivate the staff members and enhance the quality of the programmes offered by the Department. Moreover, it

designed in recognizing and rewarding excellent teaching and raising esteem for teaching. The evaluation was done based on undergraduate teaching in yearly basis and in there, the teacher was evaluated by students and course evaluation members nominated by the Department and Head of the Department. According to the evaluation process, lecturers of the Department were awarded

under four categories of excellence in teaching for Year 01, Year 02, Year 03 and Year 04
In Recognition of the inspirational and excellent teaching performance at the department during the academic year 2018/2019 the following lecturers were awarded at the Finance Teaching Excellence Award held on 13th January 2022.

Awarding Category: Year 01

Mr. Shanaka Perera

Awarding Category: Year 02

Mr. Daminda Weerasinghe

Awarding Category: Year 02

Ms. Dhanushka Piyananda

Awarding Category: Year 03

Mr. Daminda Weerasinghe

Awarding Category: Year 03

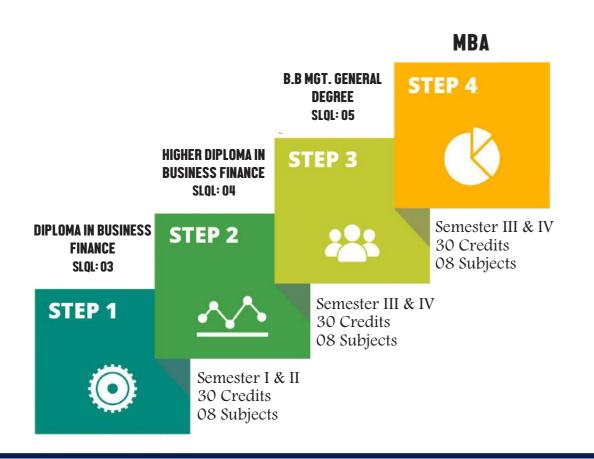
Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera

Awarding Category: Student Feedback Evaluation

Mr. Asitha Gunasekara

## HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS FINANCE

"The step advancing your career"



been designed with the objective of crafting education up to Bachelors and Master's degree Banking.

Students with Advanced Level qualification in any offered by University of Kelaniya.

Higher Diploma in Business Finance program has stream are eligible for the Higher Diploma in Business Finance program. All the candidates will knowledgeable and competent personnel for the be interviewed and only selected candidates will field of business finance. Also, it paves a path for be enrolled to the course. Upon the successful the students who are willing to continue their completion of the Higher Diploma, making a step ahead in the dream of being graduated, students level in the field of Finance, Insurance and are eligible to enroll in the third year of Bachelor of Business Management (External) Degree

## MOVING FORWARD AMID PANDEMIC WITH ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Continued Covid~19 pandemic in the country made academic year 2019/2020 as another challenging year for the Higher Diploma in Business Finance program due to the continued lockdowns and government rules and regulations. Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, we were able to continue teaching and learning on time and other student related activities via digital platforms. To mitigate the effects of disrupted learning, we took various actions and successfully shifted into the online teaching and learning. Parallel to the online teaching and learning, both continuous and end semester assessments of Higher Diploma in Business Finance were conducted without any delay through online via the Moodle-based learning management systems.



## HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS FINANCE IS AN ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED PROGRAM



Amid all the challenges, the academic year 2019/2020 added a milestone for the history of Higher Diploma in Business Finance program. The Higher Diploma in Business Finance program accredited with the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System Certification from Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI). The certification covers the design, development, and delivery of the Higher Diploma in Business Finance program.

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## HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS FINANCE

"The step advancing your career"

### INAUGURATION CEREMONY - HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS



The Inauguration Ceremony of 6th Batch of Higher Diploma in Business Finance Program was held on 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2021 via zoom platform. Dr. P.N.D. Fernando - The Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. R. Abeysekera - The Head, Department of Finance, Mr. L.A.S. Perera -Coordinator, Higher Diploma in Business Finance Program, other lecturers of the Department and all the newly enrolled students for the program were participated via zoom platform in the inauguration ceremony. Mr. Nuwan Withanage, Head of Finance at Softlogic Life Insurance PLC was the Guest of Speaker for the day.



### CERTIFICATE AWARD CEREMONY - HIGHER DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS FINANCE

26<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 Kelaniya. A total of 92 students of third and fourth batches who successfully completed the Higher Diploma in Business Finance were

awarded in the

The certificate ceremony by creating them possibilities to excel in career awarding ceremony and higher education. Mr. Nuwan Jayawardana, Director of third and fourth - Investment Research in Acuity Knowledge Partners was batches of the Higher present at the occasion as the keynote speaker and his Diploma in Business insightful speech on the development of future career Finance was held on inspired the audience. The certificate awarding ceremony was graced by Dr. P. N. D. Fernando - Dean of the Faculty at the Auditorium of of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. R Faculty of Commerce Abeysekera - Head of the Department of Finance, Mr. and Management L.A.S. Perera - Coordinator of the Higher Diploma in



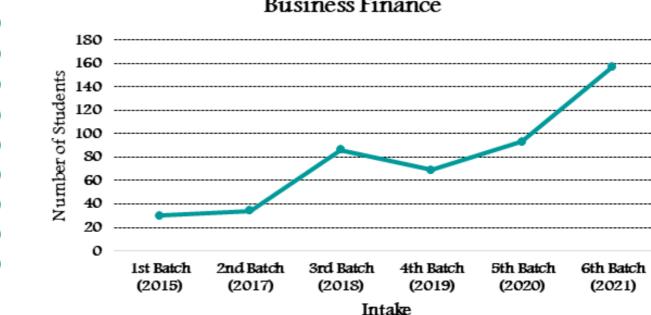
### FACTS & FIGURES OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020

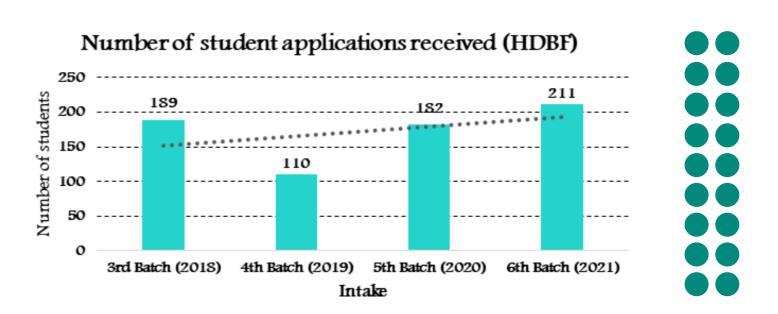
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With the excellent quality that we maintain in the program, we receive a large number of student applications each and every year. In year 2021, we received 211 applications for the sixth intake and 157 students were selected after reviewing the qualifications of the applicants.

As depicted in figure above, our student intake for the Diploma in Business Finance has been increased over the years. In year 2021, student intake has escalated by 69% compared to the previous year.

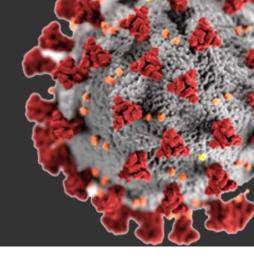
## Student Enrolment to the Higher Diploma in **Business Finance**





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# MOVING FORWARD AMID PANDEMIC BY RESHAPING TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES



Like all other Sri Lankan Higher Education Institutions and their departments, we were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to continued lockdowns and government rules and regulations, universities across the country were physically closed from 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020, but academic activities were conducted online.

Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic continued, we were able to continue teaching, research and other student related activities via digital platforms and in hybrid modes. To mitigate the effects of disrupted learning, we took various actions and successfully shifted into the online and hybrid teaching and learning.

### COVID-19 RESHAPED THE TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES ...

- Academic staff of the department successfully continued online and blended teaching while being familiar with the technology tools.
- Efficient utilization of existing Moodle-based learning management systems under university web servers and Zoom platform for online teaching and learning.
- Conducted number of sessions to increase the student awareness on our learning Management System (Moodle) and Zoom platform.
- Various virtual workshops, seminars and activities were conducted to enhance the soft skills of the students.

Online education enabled continuous teaching and learning without spreading COVID-19, where it saved time and physical space in delivering course content, facilitated information sharing and on-demand learning, and provided flexibility in teaching delivery. Parallel to the online teaching and learning, both continuous and end semester assessments were conducted online via the Moodle-

based learning management systems. As per the decisions took by the University and the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies (FCMS), weightage given for the continuous assessment was increased compared to the previous years to maintain the continuous student engagement with the course modules over the period.

Despite the pandemic, we dedicated time for co-curricular activities and they were held both in online platform and in hybrid modes. Various workshops and seminars were designed virtually to improve the soft skills of the undergraduates and to increase mental wellbeing. With all these actions, we were able to continue the teaching and learning successfully amid the pandemic.

# ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE IN FINANCIAL LITERACY

s a nation, Sri Lanka is having a high literacy level. However, it is surprising to discover that Sri Lanka's financial literacy rate is at a lower level. It is revealed that Financial literacy rate in Sri Lanka is 35% compared to an average rate of 65% in more developed economies. With the lack of Financial Literacy, it appears that financial decision making by individuals are also

becoming onerous which in turn leads to negative consequences on their financial well-being.

Thus, the Department has realized that Financial Education is increasingly important not just for investors, but also for the average family trying to decide how to balance its budget, buy a home, fund the children's education and ensure an income when the parents retire. With this context, the

Department has identified that disseminating knowledge on Finance discipline among Sri Lankan is of national importance. Accordingly, the department initiated the "Online Certificate Course in Financial Literacy" with the aim of improving individual knowledge on the value of money and thereby enable them to handle Finances better.

The course has been initiated by Ms. Dhanushka Piyananda, lecturer at Department of Finance under the guidance and supervision of the Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera, Head – Department of Finance and Dr. Narada Fernando, Dean-Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies with the support of all the other lecturers of the Department.

The Online Certificate Course in Financial Literacy has open access to the public and anyone interested can follow the course and obtain a valid certificate from a qualified state university in Sri Lanka. The online course structure has ten modules to be completed and a participant first need to visit the website (<a href="https://fcms.kln.ac.lk/edu/courses/">https://fcms.kln.ac.lk/edu/courses/</a>) and register to follow the course.

The participants who have actively accessed to all the modules of the course can complete the online test under each module in the website. In there, obtaining an average mark of 40 for the all the 10 online tests under each module will make the participant eligible to award with the certificate of course completion.

## THE COURSE AIMS,

- 1. To promote Financial Literacy across the country for all sections of the population with the aim of improving their knowledge, understanding, skills and competence in managing money effectively.
- 2. To help people to improve their socioeconomic financial status by taking informed Finance decisions.
- 3. To raise a generation that is mentored to become financially stable and independent.

### **COURSE MODULES**

Module 01	Title of the Module	Course Status
Module 01	The Basics of Money	Compulsory
Module 02	Financial Fitness	Compulsory
Module 03	Personal Financial Management	Compulsory
Module 04	Saving Money	Compulsory
Module 05	Wasting Money	Compulsory
Module 06	Borrowings	Compulsory
Module 07	Budgeting	Compulsory
Module 08	Investment & Wealth Planning	Compulsory
Module 09	Taxes	Compulsory
Module 10	Insurance	Compulsory



# STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

### DR RUWAN ABEYSEKERA PROMOTED TO A PROFESSOR

Prof. (Dr.) Ruwan Abeysekera currently works at the Department of Finance as a Professor with more than 16 years of experience in teaching and research and he has been serving as the Head of the Department since June 2020. He made a significant contribution to establishing the Department of Finance and became the first Head of the Department. Apart from that, he has worked as the Coordinator

of the Master of Business Administration Programme (MBA) at the University of Kelaniya.

Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera graduated with a BSc (Hon) in Industrial Management from the University of Kelaniya in 1996, later he obtained a Master of Business Administration from the University of

Colombo in 2004 and obtained his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Entrepreneurship (UK) in 2015. He has conducted many researches in the disciplines of Microfinance and Entrepreneurship. His Teaching interests are Microfinance, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Business Mathematics, Management Science Applications, Research methodology, Statistics and Management.



Dr. J. M. R. Fernando, a Senior Lecturer attached to the Department of Finance assumed duties as the Technical Coordinator of Master of Business Administration Programme (MBA) of the Faculty of Commerce & Management Studies, University of Kelaniya on 01<sup>st</sup>

of May 2021

Dr. J. M. R. Fernando was graduated with a B.B.Mgt (Finance) Special Degree from University of Kelaniya and she earned an MSc in Management from University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Then, she obtained her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) special in Finance from University of Waikato New Zealand in 2019. She has conducted many researches in the disciplines of Bank Risk Management, Corporate Governance and Behavioural Finance. Her teaching interests are Econometrics, Risk Management and Corporate Finance.

### DR. J. M. R. FERNANDO PUBLISHED IN AN"A" RANKED JOURNAL

Dr. J. M. R. Fernando has been able to publish one of her recent researches done in collaboration with two international authors; Leon Li and Greg Hou in an "A" ranked journal (in ABDC ranking), "International Review of Economics & Finance". The research entitled "Heterogeneity in capital structure adjustment revisited: Default versus non-default firms and short versus long time horizon".



# STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



### MR. PRABATH S. MORAWAKAGE PUBLISHED IN AN "A" RANKED JOURNAL

Mr. Prabath S. Morawakage is a Senior Lecturer attached to the Department of Finance. He has published his one of the recent paper articles in an "A" Ranked Journal - "Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics". "Housing Risk and Returns in Submarkets with Spatial Dependence and Heterogeneity".

Mr. Prabath S. Morawakage was graduated with a B.B.Mgt (Special) Degree in Finance from the University of Kelaniya in 2009. Later, he earned his MBA (General) from University of Colombo and currently he is reading for a PhD in Australia. He has conducted many researches in the disciplines of Asset Pricing, Real Estate Finance and Risk Management. His teaching interests are Econometrics, Alternative Investments and Corporate Finance.



Mr. Sandun Fernando received a placement for PhD at University of Otago in New Zealand.



Ms. Dananjani
Basnayake
received a placement for
PhD at University of
Griffith in Australia.



Mr. Ruwan Wijesinghe received a placement for PhD at University of Canterbury in New Zealand.



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## **CFA RESEARCH CHALLENGE**

It is with great achievement that the team representing the Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya was able to shortlist in the report round to the top three out of eighteen other participating university teams in the CFA Research Challenge 2021/22 organized by the CFA Society Sri Lanka. The team conducted an indepth analysis of the subject company, Haycarb PLC and delivered a detailed investment report and recommendation of the stock. With the leadership of

Dimani Silva and team members, Risini Siyara, Julian Sugeevan, Zaeema Jihan and Anne Nithiya the team performed explicitly in the local finals where they presented their investment thesis followed by a Q&A session by industry professionals. The team was guided by the academic mentor Mrs. Nethmi Herath, CFA and industry mentor, Mr. Nuwan De Silva, CFA, Managing Director, Alrerics Dairy Producs Ltd.



# EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Over the years the Department of Finance has identified that higher education is going through a paradigm shift. The dimensional changes are globalization, growing importance of knowledge, information and communication revolution. Therefore, the Department has developed a challenging curriculum which enables the

students to obtain an in-depth knowledge in the field of finance.

The Department offers five gold medals for the graduates who have completed and excelled in their course of study during the four years.

### GOLD MEDALS AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE



- Gold Medal offered by the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) Society Sri Lanka for the most outstanding student in B.B.Mgt Honours Degree in Finance.
- Gold Medal offered by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) for the student who obtains the highest aggregate marks in B.B.Mgt Honours Degree in Finance
- Gold Medal offered by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) of Sri Lanka for the student who obtains the highest marks in Capital Market related subjects.
- Gold Medal offered by Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) for the student who obtains the highest marks in Capital Market related subjects in the B.B.Mgt Honours Degree in Finance.
- Gold Medal offered by Softlogic Life Insurance PLC for the best performed student in the B.B.Mgt Honours Degree in Insurance.
- Gold Medal offered by Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka (IBSL) for the best performed student in the B.B.Mgt Honours Degree in Banking.

The Department of Finance has a proud history of excellence in academic performance over the past years by continuously generating the graduate who obtains best results among all the degree programs offered by the faculty and the university. During the academic year 2019/2020, Mr. R.M.T.M. Rathnayake was awarded the Gold Medal offered by the Institute of Chartered

Accountants of Sri Lanka. Ms. S.L.Sudasinghe was awarded the Gold Medal offered by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka and Chartered Financial Analysts Society Sri Lanka. Due to the prevailing situation in the country, university yet didn't hold physical convocation ceremonies.

## **GOLD MEDAL WINNERS IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020**

Ms. S.L.Sudasinghe





Mr. R.M.T.M. Rathnayake

## LIST OF GOLD MEDALISTS OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS

9		Medals Awarded		Current Status			
Academic Year	Warne of the Graduate	Faculty Gold Medal	ICASL	SEC	CFA	Softlogic Life PLC	
(5	Ms. E.M.N.S. Ekanayake	V	~				Director - Tax Jayasinghe & Company Chartered Accountants
2014/2015	Mr. D. C. Wijesinghe			~		~	Senior Fund Accountant Horseshoe Fund Services
20	Mr. H. J. R. Buddhika				1		Lecturer Department of Finance University of Kelaniya
2016	Ms. M. N. Dissanayake		1	1		<b>✓</b>	Senior Consultant, IFS R&D International
2015/2016	Ms. T. D. Thilakarathne				~		Business Analyst, Finance – MAS Holdings
	Ms. G. D. C.R. Thilakarathne				~		Tax Advisor Liberty Tax -Canada
2016/2017	Ms. S. T. M. S. Tennekoon					~	Executive-Strategic Planning Brandix Apparel Solutions Limited
20	Mr. H. Miriyagalla		1	1			Investment Banking Associate Asia Securities
	Ms. M. Kumarasoorie r		1	1			Credit Analyst Acuity Knowledge Partners
2017/2018	Ms. D.M.U.H. Dissanayake				4		Lecturer (Prob) Department of Finance University of Kelaniya
Z	Ms. U.D.W. Ranasinghe					✓	Accounts Assistant Winsetha Hospitals (Pvt) Itd
2018/2019	Ms. S.L Sudasinghe			1	<b>√</b>		Lecturer (Prob) Department of Finance University of Kelaniya
2018	Mr. R.M.T.M. Rathnayake		1				Assistant Business Analyst Toyota Lanka Pvt Ltd

## HIGH-FLYERS

66

After the Advanced level examination, starting off my journey at Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya was a turning point in my life. The well-structured and excellent nature of the degree program added a value to perform my job role at its high level all the time. Furthermore, all the extracurricular activities I have engaged during my University life helped me to grow up my soft skills and become the all-round professional I am now.

"

Mr. Thushan is currently working as the Management Accountant at Brandix Apparel Solutions (Pvt) Limited - Lingerie and works in Finance, Accounting and Management Accounting domains. He posses with high skills of communication and presentation skills with working experience in the field of Finance and Management Accounting in Manufacturing/Apparel sector companies with the knowledge in Microsoft Office Package and SAP (Enterprise Resource Planning Software) software.

Prior to be a Management Accountant at Brandix, he has worked at the same company as a Finance Executive and in Siam City Cement (Lanka) Limited as a Finance trainee. Mr. Thushan graduated with a Second Class Upper division in Finance and he is also a Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, UK. Currently he is reading for his Masters of Business Administration in Cardiff University, Wales.



Thushan Madhusanka Management Accountant -Brandix Apparel Solutions (Pvt) Limited B.B.Mgt (Finance) - University of Kelaniya Reading for MBA in Cardiff University, Wales

66

Being graduated from Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya laid the foundation for creating a professional where I am in today. I would say, other than the subject knowledge gain from the curriculum, the soft skills I gained from the degree created a good manager in me and I am wisely using the knowledge of Finance to bring a high value to the organization, especially in evaluating the credit portfolios and investment portfolios made by our clients and developing risk assessment models.

"

Mr. Uvindu Gallage is currently a Relationship Manager at National Development Bank PLC. At National Development Bank, he is responsible for the entire credit process of allocated branches, Deeping relationship with Business Banking and analyzing and processing annual credit reviews and new credit requests from customers. Prior to joining National Development Bank PLC, he has worked at hSenid Mobile Solutions (Pvt) Ltd, IWS Aviation (Pvt) Ltd and Hayleys Advantis Limited. Furthermore, he has graduated with a First Class Honors in Finance and currently reading for his MSc in Financial Mathematics (Special) in Financial Analysis at University of Colombo.

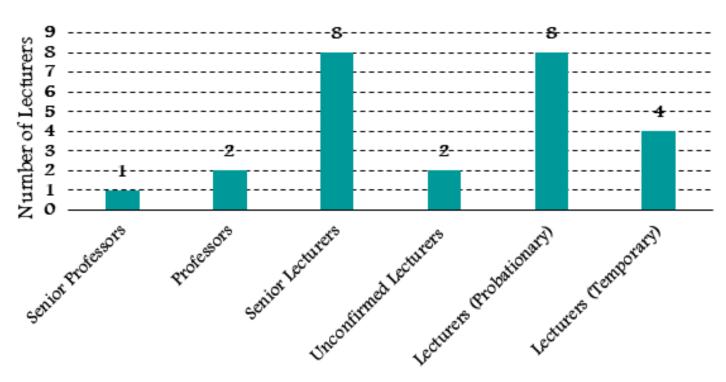
Uvindu Gallage Relationship Manager - National Development Bank PLC B.B.Mgt (Finance) - University of Kelaniya Reading for MSc in Financial Mathematics (Special) in Financial Analysis -University of Colombo



## **ANALYSIS: DFIN FACTS AND FIGURES**

## STRENGTH OF ACADEMIC STAFF

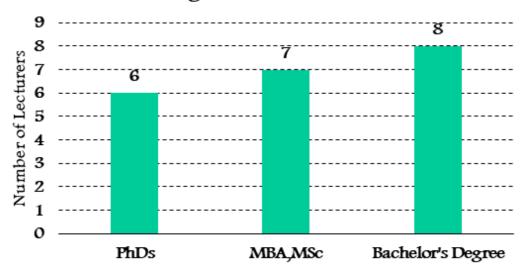
## Academic Staff



The Academic Staff of Dfin comprises a Senior Professor, two Professors, eight Senior lecturers, two unconfirmed lecturers and eight Probationary Lecturers totalling to twenty one lecturers. Within the academic year 2019/2020 Dr. R. Abeysekera promoted to a Professor.

Currently, there are six PhD holders in the Department and five Senior Lecturers who are reading for PhD, will join the department after completion of their PhDs abroad. Apart from that, Dfin is strengthened with seven Master Degree holders and eight Bachelor's Degree holders.

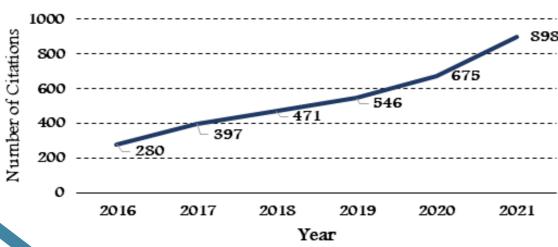
## Strength of Academic Staff



## **ANALYSIS: DFIN FACTS AND FIGURES**

## **RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**

## Number of citations in Google Schoalr as at 31st Dec 2021

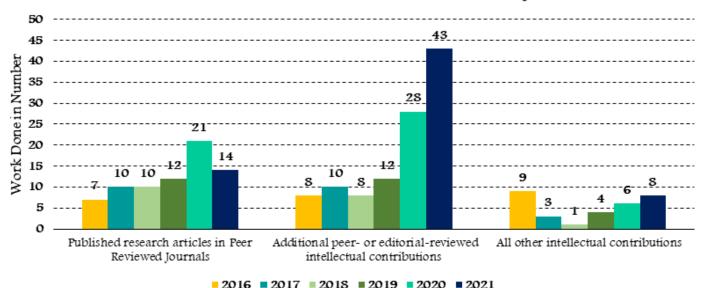




The department of Finance has exerted considerable effort over the years to explicitly develop and support a healthy research culture inside the department. Our academic staff remain engaged in research activities to enhance their profession and to contribute towards creation of knowledge. They continuously keep on attempts to add into the existing body of knowledge. For this purposes, the department conducts 'Department Seminar' on monthly basis where each academic member should present their research outputs and conducts wide range of regular



## Past Six Years Ressearch Work in Summary



Journal Name:	International Review of Economics &	& Finance		
Authors	J. M. R. Fernando	Leon Li	Greg Hou	1
Title	Heterogeneity in capital structure adjustme firms and short versus long time horizon	ent revisited: Defaul	t versus non	-default
Journal Name:	Journal of Real Estate Finance and Ed	conomics		
Authors	P. S. Morawakage G. Earl E. Roca	I	3. Liu	A. Omura
Title	Housing Risk and Returns in Submarkets w Heterogeneity	rith Spatial Depende	nce and	
Journal Name:	Sri Lanka Journal of Management Stu	dies ~ OUSI	4	
Authors	Lahiru Koggalahewa		R. Abeyse	kera
Title	Understanding the Project Management Implementation Process in Sri Lankan Softv	Methodology Selectivare Industry	ction and	
Journal Name:	Kelaniya Journal of Management			
Authors	J. Perera	I	R. Abeysekera	ı
Title	Exploring the Barriers in Developing Social Innovation and Sustainopreneurship i Sri Lanka			reneurship in
Journal Name:	Wayamba Journal of Management			
Authors	Y. L. Pathiranage	L. V. K. Jayatilake	R. Abeys	ekera
Title Exploring Strategies to Establish an Effective Organizational Culture to Enhance Corporate Performance: A Concept Paper				
Journal Name:	International Journal of Social Entrep	reneurship and I	nnovation	
Authors	J. Perera	I	R. Abeysekera	
Title	Exploring the role of social innovation in developing sustainopreneurship: a new approach to managing the triple bottom line in Sri Lanka.			

Journal Name: Kelaniya Journal of Management					
Authors	C. Wijayanama	anama R. P. C. Ranjani		D.U. Mohan	
Title	Can Service Learning enhance Graduate Capital? Evidence from Sri Lankan State Universities				
Journal Name:	International Journal of Higher Educa	ation Manag	gement		
Authors	J. Sumedha Jayaweera	K. Karunathilake		S. S. Weligamage	
Title	Significance of Professional Development o Literature Review	f Education Le	eaders: E	vidence from	
Journal Name:	Journal of Business and Technology				
Authors	W. N. S. Fernando	S. Fernando S. S. Weligamage			
Title	Impact of Board Structure Characteristics on Financial Performance: Evidence from Selected Listed Companies in Colombo Stock Exchange				
Journal Name:	American International Journal of	Business Ma	ınagem	ent	
Authors	J. S. Jayaweera	K. Karunathilake		S. S. Weligamage	
Title	The Needfulness of continuing Professional Administrators: A Systematic Literature Rev		for Edu	cation	
Journal Name:	International Journal of Innovative	Research an	d Knov	vledge	
Authors	J. S. Jayaweera	K. Karunathilake		S. S. Weligamage	
Title Significance of Professional Development of School Principals: Evidence from Literature Review					
Journal Name:	Sri Lanka Journal of Banking and F	inance			
Authors	P. S. Morawakage	1	P. N. D. 1	Fernando	
Title Dynamic relationship between macroeconomic variables and stock market sector indices: Evidence from Colombo Stock Exchange					

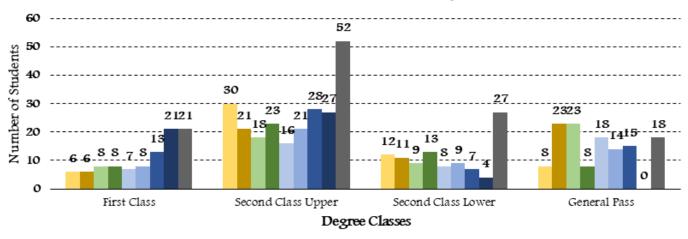
Journal Nam	e: Accounting and Finance				
Authors	Roshani Chamalka Gunathilak	Roshani Chamalka Gunathilaka			
Title	Do behavioral biases differ among	g institutional and individua	al investors?		
Journal Nam	e: Sri Lanka Journal of Banking an	d Finance			
Authors	D. M. I. U. Dasanayake		J. M. R. Fernando		
Title	Impact of Corporate Governance Colombo Stock Exchange	e on Capital Structure Dyn	namics: Evidence from		
Journal Nam	e: Wayamba Journal of Managem	ent			
Authors	A. M. S. K. Alahakoon	M.R.P. Wijesinghe	W. G. I. D. Premarathne		
Title Management Accounting Practices: A Case of Total Quality Management (TQM) Strategies and Performance					
Journal Nam	e: International Journal of Auditir	ng and Accounting Stud	ies		
Authors	D. Madhushani	M. R. P. Wijesinghe	S. Kehelwalatenna		
Title	Corporate Governance and Earnsurance Firms				
Journal Nam	e: Journal of Management Matter	S			
Authors	L. A. A. D. Liyanaarachchi,	L. A. A. D. Liyanaarachchi,			
Title The impact of firm and market performance on foreign portfolio investments in Sri Lanka					
Journal Nam	e: South Asian Journal of Business	Insights			
Authors	E. M. T. P. Ekanayaka	E. M. T. P. Ekanayaka			
Title	Farnings Management and Dividend Policy: Evidence from a Frontier Market				

Journal Name: Journal of Accountancy and Finance					
Authors	D. A. G. N. P. Bandara	M. R. P. Wijesinghe			
Title	Liquidity Management and Profitability: A Case of Manufactur Lanka	ring Company in Sri			
Journal Name:	International Journal of Accounting & Business Finan	ce			
Authors	M. R. P. Wijesinghe W. T. N. M. Perera	K. A. D. H. Yashodha			
Title	Detection of Earnings Manipulation: Evidence from Sri Lanka				
Journal Name:	International Journal of Accountancy				
Authors	W. A. Eranga	M. R. P. Wijesinghe			
Title	Sustainability Reporting and company financial performance: Emerging Market	Evidence from an			
Journal Name:	Journal of Business and Technology				
Authors	B. H. V. Mendis	M. R. P. Wijesinghe			
Title	Dividend Payout and Firm Performance: Evidence from a Fron	ntier Market			
Journal Name:	Kelaniya Journal of Management				
Authors	M. R. P. Wijesinghe	A. De Silva			
Title	Foreign Portfolio Investment and Earnings Quality: Evidend	Foreign Portfolio Investment and Earnings Quality: Evidence from Sri Lanka			
Journal Name: South Asian Journal of Finance					
Authors	S. T. M. S. Tennekoon M. L. D. C. J. Liya				
Title Impact of Financial Literacy Levels Among Sri Lankan Investors on Investment Choices					
Journal Name: Sri Lanka Journal of Banking and Finance					
Authors	A. P. P. V. Pathirana	H. J. R. Buddhika			
Title	Impact of Internal Factors Towards Financial Performance of Life Insurance Companies in Sri Lanka				

## **ANALYSIS: DFIN FACTS AND FIGURES**

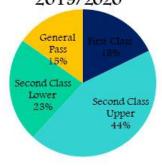
## **OUR GRADUATE OUTPUT**

### Past Nine Years in Summary



■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021

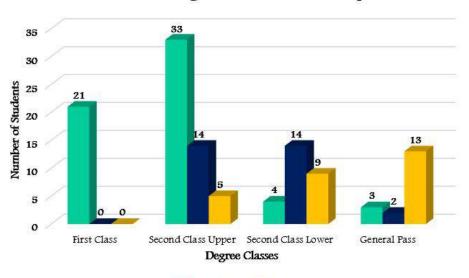
### Graduate output in Academic Year 2019/2020



### Percentage of First Classess



### 2019/2020 Degree-wise Graduate Output



BFIN BBAN BINS

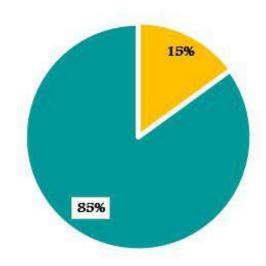
In academic year 2019/2020, out of total students of 118, 21 students have obtained first class degrees (18%), 52 students have obtained second class upper divisions (44%) and 27 students have obtained second class lower divisions (22%). Compared to the previous academic year, number of first classes remain at same level.

## **INVESTMENTS IN UNDERGRADUATE**

The recurrent expenditure incurred by the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies (Faculty) can be apportioned to the Department of Finance (Dfin) using cost drivers such as number of Academic Staff, number of Non-Academic Staff and number of Undergraduates The apportioned expenditure amounts to LKR. 55.73 million. As a percentage, this amounts to 15% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Faculty.

In this section, we wish to value the total investment made in a Finance Undergraduate by the University of Kelaniya during their time at the University. The expenses incurred to produce a Finance Graduate can be identified in two categories as Recurrent and Capital Expenditure (Capx). As Capex, we have identified only the expenditure incurred by Dfin. However, an allocation of Capex incurred by the Faculty such as constructions, will indeed inflate the investment per graduate by a large amount.

## Annual Recurrent Expenditure Consumption



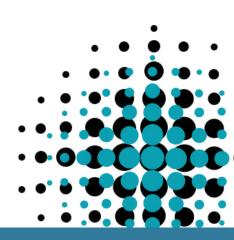
DFIN · Other 04 Departments of FCMS

475,825

### **CAPITAL AND RECURRENT EXPENDITURE**

Capital and Recurrent Expenditure ~ Dfin	LKR
Recurrent Expenditure	
Personal Emoluments - Academic	74,047,484
Personal Emoluments ~ Non Academic	4,452,600
Travelling Expenses	42,570
Supplies and Requisites	701,053
Maintenance Expenditure	82,605
Contractual services	
Electricity	276,967
Common Contractual Services	384,376
Other Contractual Expenses	51,654
Stationary	639,440
Student Welfare	~
Examination	1,909,648
Other Recurrent Expenses	1,867,463
Total Recurrent Expenditure	84,455,862
Capital Expenditure	359,895
Total Recurrent and Capital Expenditure Per Year	84,815,757
Number of Undergraduates in the Department of	
Finance	713

As per the above analysis, the Investment on an undergraduate who follows B.B.Mgt Honors Degree in Finance/ BB Mgt Honors Degree in Financial Engineering /BB Mgt Honors Degree in Banking/ B.B. Mgt. Honnors in Insurance in the Department of Finance approximates to LKR. 118,956 per year. Assuming that this figure will not change dramatically, we can approximate the total investment for 4 years' time duration (the standard duration of a special degree) in an undergraduate to be LKR. 475,825.



Investment on an Undergraduate per Year
Investment on an Undergraduate for 4 Years

# MOU SIGNED BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA AND COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

In MoU was signed between the Department of Finance of University of Kelaniya and Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) on the 2nd of December 2021 at the Senate room. The MoU was signed with the objective of offering the "Colombo Stock Exchange Gold Medal Award" to the graduate having the highest marks for the capital market-related subjects in the Finance degree programme. CSE will also make an annual cash award of Rupees Fifty Thousand (Rs. 50,000) as a scholarship to the aforesaid graduate. Further, CSE will contribute to financial sponsorship of Rupees Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000) for the annual event ("Investment Week") organized by the Finance Students Association of the Department of Finance of UOK as a focus of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

The UOK will invite the CSE to collaborate the capital market education to the students and academia on various occasions and through seminars, workshops, and guest lectures. The CSE and the Department of Finance of UOK will cooperate in selecting students for practical, educational and training internships with



the CSE. The parties will collaborate in capital market research to develop and promote capital market activities in Sri Lanka. It may include sharing expertise knowledge in capital markets and capital market data at the CSE.



This MoU would enhance the relationship between public sector educational institutions with industry. The initiation is a vital step of the Finance Degree program offered by the Department of Finance. Present at the occasion were Cadre Chair & Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Vice-

Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, Dr Narada Fernando, Dean- Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Mr K. K. Dharmathilaka, Registrar, Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera, Head-Department of Finance, Senior Prof. Chitra Ranjani and other academic staff members of the Department of Finance. Mr Rajeeva Bandaranaike, Chief Executive Officer~ CSE, Mr Nishantha Hewavithana, Head of Research and Strategy-CSE, graced the event representing the Colombo Stock Exchange event.

# MOU SIGNED BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA AND SOFTLOGIC LIFE INSURANCE PLC

An MoU was signed between the University of Kelaniya and Softlogic Life Insurance PLC on the 16th of March 2021 at the Vice-Chancellor's Office. The MoU was signed with the objective of offering a "gold medal" to the best-performed student in the Insurance degree program.

Further, this medal will be awarded as the "Softlogic Life Gold Medal Award" to the student who gets the highest Grade Point Average (GPA) for the B.B.Mgt.Honours in Insurance Degree Programme. An annual cash award of rupees one hundred thousand (Rs. 100,000) will be offered as a scholarship for postgraduate studies to the aforementioned graduate with first-class honours. Furthermore, he or she will be offered a job as a management trainee at an insurance company, subject to a probationary period and the terms and conditions of such a contract as a management trainee and the rules and policies of the company.



This would enhance the relationship between public-sector educational institutions and private-sector entities. The initiation is a significant step in the Insurance Degree program, which was launched in 2018. Present at the occasion were Cadre Chair & Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya; Dr. P.



N. D. Fernando, Dean-Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies; Prof. Ruwan Abeysekara, Head-Department of Finance; Senior Prof. Chitra Ranjani; Mr. Ruwan Buddhika, Coordinator-B.B.Mgt.Honours in Insurance Degree Programme; and other academic staff members of the Department of Finance. Mr. Nuwan

Pushpakumara, Chief Financial Officer of Softlogic Life Insurance PLC, Mr. Pranama Perera, Chief Technical Officer of Softlogic Life Insurance PLC, Mr. Indika Bamunusinghe, Head of HR at Softlogic Life Insurance PLC, and Mr. Piyumal Wickramasinghe, Chief Distribution Officer – Alternate Channel, Softlogic Life Insurance PLC graced the event on behalf of Softlogic Life Insurance PLC.

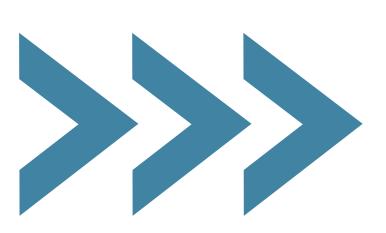


## MOU SIGNED BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA AND THE INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF SRI LANKA



An MoU was signed between the University of Kelaniya and the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka on the 16th of March 2021 at the Vice-Chancellor's Office. The MoU was signed with the objective of offering a "Gold Medal" to the best-performing student with the highest grade point average (GPA) in the Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Banking Degree programme.

This would enhance the relationship between public-sector educational institutions and private-sector entities. The initiation is a vital step in the Banking Degree program, introduced in 2018. The event was dignified with the presence of Cadre Chair & Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Vice-Chancellor-University of Kelaniya, Dr. P. N. D. Fernando, Dean-Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. Ruwan Abeysekera, Head-Department of Finance, Mrs. Dhanushka Piyananda, Coordinator-B.B.Mgt.Honours in Banking Degree Programme, other academic staff members of the Department of Finance, Mr. C. P. A. Karunatilake, Director General of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka, Mrs. Lakmini Siriwardena, Director Examinations of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka, and Mr. Manjula Wickramasinghe, Deputy Director-Administration & HR of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka.





## 10TH STUDENTS' RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2022



## FINANCE AWARDS CEREMONY

The "Finance Awards Ceremony" of the Department of Finance was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 at the University of Kelaniya.

The event mainly consisted of two sub-events which were named as "Finance Interns' Awards Ceremony" and "3MT Competition". As a part of this event, the "Finance Interns' Awards Ceremony" was conducted with the aim of appreciating and celebrating the interns who have successfully completed their internships in Finance, Insurance, and Banking. In the year 2021, Ms. Sandali Sudasinghe won the Best Intern Award (Most Outstanding Performance in Internship in Finance)

and the cash prize for obtaining the highest marks at the internship. For the second consecutive time, the Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya, held " 3MT Contest" initiated by Dr. Ruwani Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Finance. The "3MT Contest" gives the opportunity to present their dissertation in Finance of 10,000 words in 03 minutes time duration. At the final round, each of the 07 finalists made an impassioned speech on their research and the impact to the society.

The Panel of Judges consisted, Dr. Nisansala Wijekoon, Dr. Madhurika Nanayakkara, and Dr. Prabhashini Wijewantha. In the year 2021, Ms. Sandali Sudasinghe won the 3MT

competition and 3MT People's Choice Award. Moreover, at this

event, certificates were presented to 10 students who performed well in their

dissertation.

Senior Lecturer Dr. P. N. D. Fernando, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies was the Chief Guest of the event while Mr. Thushan

Amarasuriya, Chief Executive Officer- Singer Finance (Lanka) PLC participated as the Guest of Honour. Further, Prof. Ruwan Abeyesekera, Head, Department of Finance, other academic staff members, and the students of the Department of Finance graced this ceremony.



# FINANCE AWARDS CEREMONY





The Finance Students' Association Kelaniya is a formal student body attached to the Department of Finance. FinSK is a pioneering student movement in the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies that was established in 2012. The mission of FinSK is to strengthen the undergraduates of all four years of the department with required competencies in the corporate sector and to act as representatives for the entire student body of the Department of Finance. Most of the students' activities attached to the department are done by FinSK with continuous guidance by the academic staff. It enables students to uplift their leadership skills, communication skills, interpersonal skills, and ability to work under pressure.



#### From Left to Right

#### 1st Row (Seated)

Mr.Malin Vijayantha (Vice President), Mr.Sineth Neththashinghe (Junior Treasurer), Mr. Pamoda Jayasanka (President), Prof.Ruwan Abeysekara (Head, Department of Finance), Mrs.Nethmi Herath (Senior Treasurer), Ms.Imasha Alles (Secretary), Mr. Lahiru Pieris (Vice President)

#### 2nd Row

Ms. Dushara Yapa (Vice Secretary), Ms. Asha Yamasinghe (Fund Raiser), Mr. Hasanka Rathnasiri (Fund Raiser), Mr. Pathum Anuradha (Skill Development Coordinator), Mr.Ratnavel Akash (Committee Member), Mr.Tharindu Dilshan (Fund Raiser), Mr.Kasun Sajitha (Skill Development Coordinator), Mr.Manthila Wijeratne (Private Sector Coordinator), Mr.Rusiru Nimsara (Event Coordinator), Mr.Ranindu Pabasara (Private Sector Coordinator), Mr. Dulanjana Senavirathne (Fund Raiser), Mr. Priyankara Nimalarathna (Editor), Ms. Tharushi Edirisinghe (Event Coordinator), Ms. Senani Dharmakeerthi (Committee Member), Ms. Vivina Abayakoon (Vice President)

#### 3rd Row

Ms.Hiruni Sithumini (Committee Member), Ms.Sanali Desilva (Event Coordinator), Ms.Sahanya De Mel (Committee Member), Ms.Sahasri Lankage (Fund Raiser), Mr. Probodha Gunawardena (Fund Raiser), Mr. Kolitha Weeransighe (Event Coordinator), Mr. Kaveesha Thimira (Event Coordinator), Mr.Chathuka Desilva (Private Sectors Coordinator), Mr.Sadaruwan Pathirana (Editor), Ms.Bawadharini Siwanesan (Skill Development Coordinator), Ms.Sachini Rathnayaka (Committee Member), Ms.Dilmi Munasinghe (Committee Member), Ms.Shelomi Peiris (Skill Development Coordinator)

### **ABSENTEES**



Mr.Ayesh Thanushka (Vice President)



Mr.Harishanth Coordinator)



Mr.Sanjaya Sajith (Committee Member)



Samuel (Private Sector



Ms.Nadeera Hansani (Committee Member)



Mr.Dhanushka Salgado (Editor)

Investment Week has been the key event organized by the Finance Students' Association of the University of Kelaniya for the past eight years in collaboration with the corporate sector. This time it was held for the eighth consecutive year, from 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022, with several parallel events in a hybrid mode due to the COVID 19 health precautions. The

event has always served as a platform for students to be exposed to the industry, interact with industry experts, and gain hands-on experience with the technical knowledge they have gained at university. Moreover, it is an ideal opportunity for the undergraduates to strengthen their ties with their colleagues and to share their knowledge with others.



The Investment Week 2022 commenced with its opening ceremony, with the participation of the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dean of the Faculty, Heads of the Departments of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, and other distinguished guests.

The "Finance Outlook Magazine" was launched after guests and chief guests shared their insights on the Investment Week. The "Finance Outlook" is a business journal that provides readers with insights from industry experts and ideas from the undergraduates of the Department of Finance about the current economy and the finance industry.

With the objective of reviving Sri Lanka's economy amidst challenges, the "Building Back Better" economic discussion was conducted in the presence of Mr. Senaka Kekiriwaragodage, Chief Executive Officer of NDB Capital Holdings Limited. The session was moderated by Dr. Chathura Liyanage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Finance.



### DAY 02

### MORNING 12<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2022



n the second day of the Investment Week, a discussion forum was held on the topic of "Insurance Career Potential in the Next Normal" with Dr. Jagath Alwis, Director, Ceylinco Insurance PLC and Chairman, CEG Education Holdings, which was moderated by Mr. Daminda Weerasinghe, Lecturer, Department of

#### Finance.

Further, a discussion on "Envision Your Career in Digital Financial Services Marking" was held in the presence of Mr. Bimal Perera, DGM-Strategy & Digital Finance at LB Finance PLC, and Mrs. Jayani Chathurika, Lecturer, Department of Finance.

Moreover, the free online course on "Certificate in Financial Literacy" was launched in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya. The certificate course aims to improve financial education among Sri Lankans.





### DAY 03

# CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE INVESTMENT WEEK 13<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2022 - EVENING







# PINNACLE 2022

Innacle is an annual event organized by the Finance Students' Association of the Department of Finance at the University of Kelaniya with the objective of providing an opportunity for the undergraduates to strengthen their bonds, develop teamwork skills, gain experience in event organizing, and get a release from the monotonous lifestyle. This is a sports day activity that consists of new and exciting games. This event's main objective is to enhance the bond among the new entrants and to build up the relationship with senior batches.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the pinnacle was not held in the previous year. This year, with the ease of the pandemic, the Finance Students' Association was able to organize Pinnacle 20/21 on 18th March 2022 at the university premises with the participation of Dr. Narada Fernando, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. Ruwan Abesekara, Head of the Department of Finance, Heads of other departments, lecturers of the department, and undergraduates from all four years of the Department of Finance as the first post-pandemic physical event.



#### VAISHAKYA WARNNANA MAGAZINE LAUNCH

Vaishakya Warnnana is a Vesak e-magazine published on 26<sup>th</sup> Mays 2021 in parallel to the Vesak poya day. The magazine was the first-ever Vesak magazine launched by the Department of Finance in line with the Vesak festival.

The Finance Students' Association made a small effort by sharing what Lord Buddha has taught us, to be away from the stressful lifestyle and not to be abandoned in the rat race through the Vaishakya Warnnana Magazine.







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#### **DFIN BEATS**

The utmost motive of the Finance Students' Association is to build up a balanced undergraduate. To fulfill this motive, it is necessary to provide a stage for the undergraduates to explore, improve and showcase their talents. Nevertheless, the COVID 19 pandemic had obstructed all the ways to showcase the talents.

"Dfin Beats" was a virtual platform created by the department in the face of competition to showcase the aesthetic skills of undergraduates under five categories, namely DFin Melodies, DFin Step-up, DFin Theater, DFin Innovation, and DFin Talk. After the preliminary round, the grand finale was held on 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. The most popular and the most talented performances were awarded trophies.



### "SHILPA" ADVANCED LEVEL SEMINAR SERIES

### AND LAUNCHING OF THE "FINANCE REVIEW" MAGAZINE

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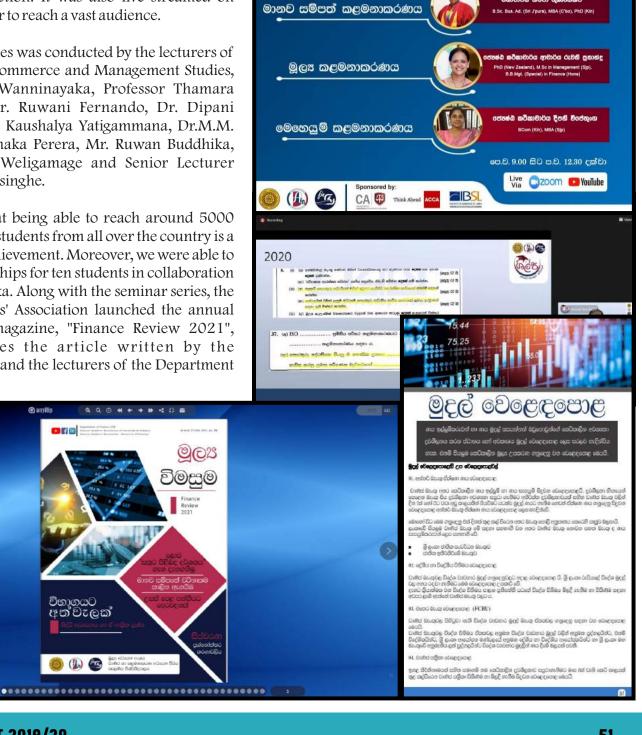
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nder the guidance of the esteemed lecturers of the Department of Finance, Finance Students' Association annually organizes an educational seminar for advanced level commerce stream students in grades 12 and 13.

In the academic year 2020/21, the department conducted a seminar series on Business Studies subject and a motivational session within three consecutive days, the 11th, 12th, and 13th of October 2021, on the online platform due to the public gathering restriction. It was also live-streamed on YouTube in order to reach a vast audience.

The seminar series was conducted by the lecturers of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. Bandara Wanninayaka, Professor Thamara Gunasekara, Dr. Ruwani Fernando, Dr. Dipani Wijethunga, Dr. Kaushalya Yatigammana, Dr.M.M. Shamil, Mr.Shanaka Perera, Mr. Ruwan Buddhika, Prof. Suseema Weligamage and Senior Lecturer Tharindu Weerasinghe.

We consider that being able to reach around 5000 Advanced Level students from all over the country is a considerable achievement. Moreover, we were able to provide scholarships for ten students in collaboration with CA Sri Lanka. Along with the seminar series, the Finance Students' Association launched the annual departmental magazine, "Finance Review 2021", which includes the article written by the undergraduates and the lecturers of the Department of Finance.



### **FROST OF LOVE**

Ever since the pandemic had quarantined the whole world for around two years, people were unable to celebrate any of the festivals, as well as our undergraduates. To provide a chance to enjoy Christmas within the DFin family, the Finance Students' Association came up with the idea of "Frost of Love", a virtual Christmas celebration held on 29th December 2021. The event comprised a carol service reflecting the true spirit of Christmas, entertaining games, and songs sung by our department undergraduates. This event was organized by the first-year undergraduates and presented by the Finance Students' Association, Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya.



### **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

#### **DFINITY**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on children's education. Similarly, economically disadvantaged children were less likely to have the education level and resources needed to bridge the learning gaps. DFinity came up as a solution to those difficulties and to enhance the importance of technology in the future and even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Finance Students' Association donated a fully facilitated IT unit to the Meegahagoda Kanishta Vidyalaya, Ahangama, with the sole contributions of the undergraduates of the Department of Finance. The opening ceremony of the IT unit was held on 10th April 2021 from 10.00 am onwards with the participation of Prof. Ruwan Abeysekara, Head, Department of Finance, and lecturers from the department. The event was also live-streamed on social media platforms.





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#### **PROJECT UNFENCED**

Project Unfenced operated with the motto of "The developing world beyond rural insight" with the intention of making the school children with the least facilities see the developing world beyond their insight, influence them to move forward, upgrade their mindsets, have a better education, have recognized employment, and most importantly, have a better life. Project Unfenced was conducted by the undergraduates of the 2018/19 batch of the Finance degree programme in the Department of Finance.

# COMMUNITY PROJECTS

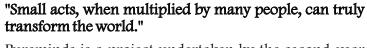
#### **ZEROHUNGER**



Zerohunger is a project that contributes to alleviating the hunger of our fellow citizens who are living in poverty and are unable to meet their basic food needs. People donated their dry foods to the dry food collection corner at Salinda Supermarket, Kadawatha. The collected donations were distributed among the needy people.



#### **PUREMINDS**



Pureminds is a project undertaken by the second-year Financial Engineering students of the University of Rathnapura.



# COMMUNITY PROJECTS

#### **SMILE HEARTS**

"Let us tell them they are differently talented rather than saying they are differently-abled."

The Banking undergraduates conducted the project "Smile Hearts" for differently-abled brothers and sisters in the "Camila Children's Home" in Maththegoda to witness their genuine happiness. This project was executed through a medical camp, a renovated walking path, and an entertainment program. It was completed successfully by





#### **HEAL THE COAST**

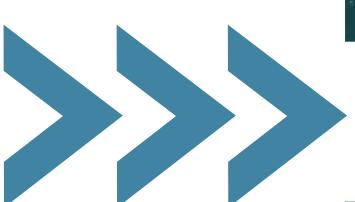
Second-year Insurance undergraduates from the Department of Finance, University of Kelaniya, launched a project named "Heal the Coast" with the purpose of enhancing the cleanliness of the beach by removing trash and marine debris from Panadura beach.

The undergraduates successfully completed the project under three categories: a beach cleaning project, an advocacy program on the topic, "need to protect beach lines", and providing facilities to discard solid waste Gamma.



#### **SURFING YOUR INVESTMENTS IN COVID WAVE**

A virtual awareness session was conducted on 30th June 2021, entitled "Surfing Your Investments on COVID Wave", which discussed the current trends in the CSE and its potential for future investments. It was conducted by Mr. Rajeeva Bandaranaike, the Chief Executive Officer of the Colombo Stock Exchange, to mark the 10th anniversary of the Department of Finance.

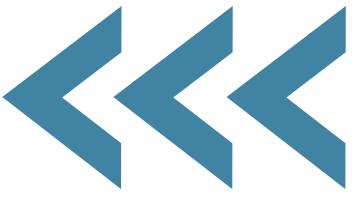




### Insights into IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts



Insights into IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts is a virtual awareness session carried out by the Department of Finance to give an insight into IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts. The session was conducted by Mr. Romal De Silva, Assistant Manager – Insurance, Ernst & Young Sri Lanka, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021, with the participation of the academic staff and students of the Department of Finance.































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