

Fathers Day 2013

A newsletter produced for the

Scholarship Sub-committee of the Peradeniya University Alumn Association,

Victoria Branch, Australia

Going from Strength to Strength

Peradeniya Alumni Scholarship Scheme launched on Fathers Day 2012

The University of Peradeniya has derived great pride from the fact that undergraduates are always selected on the basis of merit and merit only. and merit only. Over the years, this has enabled Sri Lankan students to obtain a sound University education irrespective of their socio-economic background. Currently, a large proportion of the students come from low to middle income families. Peradeniya University is a residential campus and when it first became operational in the early 1950's the students were comfortably accommodated in residential halls and provided with all the meals. However, the situation is very different now. No meals are provided anymore and often 3-4 students occupy a room meant for no more than two. Although accommodation is still provided for a nominal fee, most students struggle to find the money required for meals and other day to day expenses. Many students receive Mahapola Scholarships from the government but this is barely enough to meet their expenses. The strain of such financial burdens can weigh heavily on students, impacting on their academic performance. They are unable to find part-time employment or obtain extra money from parents, some students often find themselves abandoned and in extreme cases unable to complete their academic courses much to the dismay of their families.

Our alumni (PUAAVic) have been providing scholarships to needy Peradeniya students on an ad hoc manner. The program launched on Fathers Day 2012 sought to set this program on a more concrete and sustainable footing. The primary aim of this initiative is to build a capital fund so that the interest derived from its investment would fund a series of scholarships well into the future.

Many of you will recall the launch of the Peradeniya Alumni Scholarship Scheme (PASS) on Father's Day 2012 at the Tirhatuan Park. An outdoor event is always a risky affair in Melbourne with its famously fickle weather. A cold miserable end to winter was being experienced in Melbourne during the days leading to the event. The prospect of a fine day did not look too promising. Suddenly on the Sunday, we woke up to a glorious morning. It seemed as though the weather Gods had decided to bless the gathering at the Tirhatuan Park.

Inside this issue:

Going from strength to strength: Father's day 2012 1

Donor list for scholarships 3

2013 scholarship recipients 3

Feedback of appreciation from scholarship recipients 4

This is a publication of the Peradeniya University Alumni Association of Victoria

(PUAAVic)

The launch on Fathers day was a suggestion by some children of the alumni in Melbourne. They had wanted to donate money towards the fund instead of giving the traditional fathers day gifts to their dads. They knew that it would be a gift their fathers would appreciate. They realised that they were themselves indirect beneficiaries of the wonderful education their parents have had at the Peradeniya University. They were also aware that they were so much better off than their struggling counterparts back in Sri Lanka and they gave generously. This outpouring of generosity was evidence that there was a latent need in the Peradeniya community to reciprocate in appreciation of the education they and their families had benefited from. The scholarship scheme provided a means of satisfying this need.



Using part of the money raised on the Fathers Day together with additional donations that followed, PUAAViC has been able to offer a total of 55 scholarships worth Rs. 780,000 to deserving Peradeniya students in 2013. This comprised 45 “Scholarships for Equity & Excellence” (studentships based on financial need) and 10 “Scholarships for Excellence” (rewarding academic excellence) according to the wishes of the donors. PUAAViC liaised with its parent organization, the Alumni Association of Peradeniya University (AAUP) to implement this scheme. The AAUP advertised, conducted interviews and selected students for these awards using a set of selection criteria considering their financial situation as well as preferences expressed by the donors. These awards were presented to the students at a ceremony held on the 30th July 2013 at the Peradeniya campus. While most of these awards were funded through direct sponsorships from donors, some were funded with the interest earned from the scholarship capital fund, which has now grown past \$14,000 thanks to donor contributions as well as appropriations from PUAAViC from events such as Hantane Nite. Donors who requested direct awards in 2013 have been informed of the names and contact details of the students benefitting from their generosity. We appeal to the donors to get in touch with the recipients directly to get to know them better. We expect that this will provide further encouragement to the students, and at the same time hopefully convince the donors the value of continued support to the same or similar needy students. 2014 is the 10th anniversary of PUAAViC, and we are working towards raising sufficient funds to provide 100 scholarships in 2014 to mark this occasion. We warmly welcome your continued cooperation.

Please write to scholarships@peradeniya.com.au for more information, to volunteer services or to make a donation.

Chakra Wijesundera

DONOR LIST FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

No	CAPITAL FUND	DIRECT SPONSORSHIP
1	Achala & Erandi Hewarathna	Ajith De Silva
2	Anusha Jayasinghe	Amara Herath
3	Asoka Wettasinghe	Asoka Sunil Wickemesinghe
4	Chathura & Randi Wickramaratna	Bimsara Gunasekara
5	Badra Munasiri	Buddhika Abeyrama
6	Dulip & Nilangi Jayakody	Daminda Wijesundera
7	Edwin Ranasinghe	Chandima Gamachi
8	Gunapala Matarachchi	Daya Dayawansa
9	Indra Rajapakse	Dhana Alahapperuma
10	Kusum Gunatillake	Gamini De Alwis
11	Nadisha Gunatillake	Gap Dewalagama
12	Nimal Nilaweera	Harsha Wickramasinghe
13	Padma & Sunil Kumarasinghe	Hirisha/Asela De Costa
14	Pathmasiri & Ramya Hewaratna	Izzy Silva
15	Prem Kanahara	Kamala De Silva
16	Rashmi Soysa	Kanishka Dayawansa
17	Sujatha & Kule Ratnayake	Maheshie Dayawansa
18	Thilak & Chandra Gunatillake	Nalin Dayawansa
19	Tikiri Jayasundara	Nimal Nilaweera
20	Vidura Wickramaratna	Pathmini Rajadevan
21	Vinali Dias	Prasantha Hapuarachchi
22	Wansaja Wettasinghe	Ruchithra Perera
23		Rukman Wimalasuriya
24		S. Kodikara Wagner
25		S. Piyanandana
26		Sulochi Walisinghe
27		T. Chaminda Jayasena
28		Thamaramala & Sepala Gamage
29		Upali Ileperuma
30		Upekha De Alwis

Faculty of Agriculture (05)

Ms. P. Sanmugam
Ms. YAC. Pushpananda
Ms. DN. Jayawardhana
Mr. TMDS. Tennakoon
Ms. JACM. Jayakody

Faculty of Allied Health Sciences (01)

Mr. WMHVB. Wanasinghe

Faculty of Vet. Medicine (03)

Ms. N. Uthayakumar
T. Jeevitha
M. Sarooskhan

Faculty of Medicine (10)

Ms. J.H.S. Jayamaha
Ms. H.H.T. Minoli De Silva
Mr. K S Witharana
Ms. S.T.L. Senarathne
Ms. Samadhi Gurusinghe
Mr. Nipuna Fernando
AMF Ruzka
MSF Sahnas
R Gangatharan
TI Ariyawansha

Faculty of Dental Sciences (02)

Ms. KP. Kalubovila
Mr. AGS. Rukshan

Faculty of Arts (06)

Ms. KGTP. Kularathne
Ms. AMR. Abysingha
Ms. VGIM Sadamali
Ms. JMRC Jayasinghe
Ms. AGU. Gunawardana
Ms. KAA. Subhashini

Faculty of Engineering (06)

Mr. DP. Sandaruwan
Mr. RMPI. Rathnayake
Ms. ATM. Hewawasam
Mr. UI. Waranakulasooriya
Mr. RJDS. Chinthaka
Mr. WTM Wickramasinghe

Faculty of Science (10)

R. Jarshana
M.V.R. Medagedara
Ms. FFF Farook
Ms. M.H.F. Fasmiya
Ms. EAAM Ekanayake
Mr. MGV Sandaruwan
Ms. C.N. Chandrapala
Ms. MFF Reesha
Ms. SW Meepagamage
Ms. HRJGSL Jinadasa

2013 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - Scholarships for excellence

Engineering /Electrical & Electronic Engineering (01)

Mr Chamika Niranjana

Science / Statistics &

Computer Science (03)

HMTR Herath

MGGCR Salgadu

Arts / Political Science (02)

S.H.H. Ruwani

A.L. Yasmin

Science /Mathematics (03)

To be named

Scholarships for Equity & Excellence - 45

Special Needs Centre (02)

Ms GAGR D Premalatha

Ms. KAA Subhashini

Feedback of appreciation from scholarship recipients

- I received the studentship award of Rs.6000 today. I hereby send you my heartfelt gratitude for supporting me financially. Thank you very much for your kind consideration.
- I would like to thank you very much for donating a scholarship for me through Alumni Association University of Peradeniya. This scholarship will help me a lot for my studies Thank you very much.
- Dear sir, I would like to thank you regarding the studentship that you [donated. it](#) would be a great support for my accademic carrier. Thank you very much sir.
- I am Dilhani Nisansala Jayawardhana, 3rd year student of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. I got the AAUPiC Studentship 2013- 2014 on 30th August, 2013. I was informed that you are the donor of my studentship. I really thank you and appreciate about the studentship, because, it will helpful to my studies. I promise to study well and become a graduate with a class. I hope to contribute to the studentship in future.
- It gives me immense pleasure to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your scholarship. I humbly accept your scholarship. This scholarship is like a boon for a person like me, hailing from a less privileged background. I promise that I will use this scholarship only for the betterment of my education and career.I once again humbly thank you for the scholarship.
- I would like to thank you very much for donating a scholarship for me through Alumni Association University of Peradeniya.This scholarship will help me a lot for my studies. Thank you very much.
- I was selected for scholarship from alumina association, it's pleasure to me and it is a very helpful for me to my future education I would like to Thank for everyone who involved for that scholarship. And I wish for alumina association. Thank you sir.
- I'm fazla farook. A student of 1st year science faculty. As I have received your scholarship for the year 2013/2014. It is a big help for me to fulfill my academic needs. I would like to make this moment to thank you my heartfelt thanks, thank you very much.
- I'm the recipient of your scholarship which was given through the AAUP. I'm very sorry sir, I could not send a mail within last 3days, because I'm very busy with my final surgery appointment. I'm a final year medical student and my final exam will be on next November. My father passed away 2years back and I totally depend on scholarships. My mother is also not employed. So the money you send is very important to my education. Thank you very much for your kind help. And I like to know something about you. Thank you.
- I am a 3rd year student of faculty of Agriculture. I am following Agricultural Technology and Management course.My father was passed away. Mother is suffering from fit. She can not do a job. My brother is studing advanced level. We are doing our studies with difficuties due to financial problem. Your financial contribution is a great oppportunity for me to continue my studies well. Thank you very much for your support for me. I wish you to sucess your everythings and have strength to increse the contribution for such things.

Editoria sub-committee:

Matara Gunapala, Prem Kanahara, Pathimini Arumugarajah, Prasanna Kulasinghe, Sam Salem

Scholarship sub-committee:

Chakra Wijesundera, Thilak Gunatillake, Gamini de Alwis, Prasanna Kulasinghe, Ramya Hewaratne