



Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons

The ninth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons (SLCVS) took place on June 29, 2024, at the Auditorium of the Administrative Building, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya. This significant event marked another year of accomplishments and progress for the College. It was conducted as a hybrid meeting, enabling participation from both physical attendees and online Fellows and Members, thereby ensuring broader engagement.

The AGM commenced with the welcome address by Prof. Mangala Gunatilake, fifth President of the College, highlighting the year's achievements and outlining the vision and strategic goals for the future. This was followed by congratulatory notes, acknowledging the exceptional accomplishments of Members and Fellows of the College.

The minutes from the eighth AGM were presented and confirmed, ensuring continuity and transparency in the College's operations. Attendees engaged in productive discussions on various matters related to the College's activities, initiatives, and future plans.

Reports from the Treasurer and the General Secretary were presented, providing a comprehensive overview of the financial status and administrative functions of the College. These reports included detailed accounts of expenditures, revenues, and strategic initiatives undertaken during the year. One of the key highlights of the meeting was the approval of a resolution to amend the membership and fellowship criteria of the College. This amendment aimed to enhance the inclusivity and growth of the College without diminishing the membership and fellowship evaluation standards.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Namalika Karunaratne, General Secretary, expressing gratitude to all participants for their contributions and support. The AGM attracted around 25 participants, comprising both Members and Fellows of the College, who actively contributed to the discussions and decisions, ensuring the continued success and growth of the College. After the formal proceedings, attendees had the opportunity to network and socialize over lunch. The Sri Lanka Veterinary Association (SLVA) and SLCVS extended their best wishes to Prof. Dilan Satharasinghe (a Member of the College) for his plans to pursue career enhancement in the USA during his sabbatical leave.

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Head table at the AGM



The President addressing the audience



Financial Report by the Treasurer



General Secretary's Report



Participants of the AGM



Physical attendees of the AGM



Registration desk

Welcome Address delivered by the President at the 9th AGM of the College on 29th June 2024

Good morning distinguished Teachers, Members of the Executive Council, Fellows, and Members!

I warmly welcome all of you gathered here today, both in person and online, to the 9th Annual General Meeting of our College.

It is with great pleasure that I reflect on the past year as the 5th President, a year marked by significant achievements and progress towards our College's objectives.

Firstly, our commitment to advancing the veterinary profession has been evident through the successful organization of several important workshops in collaboration with esteemed partners such as the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, and the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya. These workshops not only facilitated valuable knowledge exchange with local and international experts but also highlighted our dedication to enhancing professional competence.

Additionally, our collaborations with the Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SLALAS), Medical Research Institute, and the Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing in Sri Lanka (SAAT-SL) have resulted in the implementation of two effective continuing professional development (CPD) courses. These initiatives are crucial in ensuring that our members remain at the forefront of veterinary

sciences, embracing lifelong learning as a cornerstone of professional growth.

Furthermore, the launch of our Newsletter and the ongoing efforts of our Publication Committee have enhanced transparency and engagement within our community. Looking ahead, initiatives led by our Academic Affairs and Veterinary Specialty Committee aim to elevate standards and recognize excellence within our profession. The Membership Committee is diligently enhancing our base to foster a qualified younger generation ready to lead the College in the future.

As we move forward into the next phase of my tenure, we are committed to delivering further CPD activities in collaboration with esteemed partners at the national and international levels. Initiatives such as the ongoing Certificate Course in Laboratory Animal Science and upcoming workshops focused on Equine and Elephant care, as well as the workshop on Rodent Anaesthesia and Analgesia, reflect our commitment to diverse and impactful professional development opportunities for our members.

All these efforts are aligned with our broader goals of promoting research, fostering innovation, and upholding ethical standards across veterinary and allied sciences. By disseminating knowledge and encouraging scholarly pursuits, we aim to advance

veterinary science for the benefit of our entire community.

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to everyone who have contributed as administrators, organizers, and resource persons in various activities for their dedication and commitment. Your efforts have been instrumental in propelling our College forward. I also wish to express my gratitude, especially to the General Secretary, Treasurer, Chairs of Academic Affairs and

Specialty Committee, the Publication Committee, Membership Committee, Newsletter Editor, and the rest of the Executive Council, as well as Prof Ayona Silva Fletcher, for their unwavering dedication and continuous support.

I invite all of you to continue collaborating and supporting us as we embark on new initiatives to enhance the lives of our fellow veterinarians. Thank you.

Prof Mangala Gunatilake

CPD ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2024

Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery Workshop Hosted by the University of Peradeniya in Collaboration with the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons Dr. Kalaichelvan Nizanantha

Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya

The Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, University of Peradeniya, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons, organized a highly successful Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery Workshop from January 29th to February 3rd, 2024. This event, aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of equine practitioners, included a blend of online lectures and hands-on sessions, attracting 20 enthusiastic participants, including two international attendees from Japan and India. The workshop commenced with a series of online lectures, setting a solid foundation for the practical sessions. The esteemed teaching panel comprised Dr. Felipe Correa, an equine surgeon and Head of the Equine Hospital at the Estonian University of Life Sciences; Dr. Janne Oopik, an equine anesthetist from the same university; Dr. Neil Horadagoda from the University of Sydney; and Dr. Harsha Ariyaratne from the University of Peradeniya. Their contribution in conducting several insightful online sessions as well as hands-on practical sessions was highly commendable. The event officially commenced on January 29th, 2024, with an inaugural

ceremony graced by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. It was a momentous event that highlighted the significance of advancing equine veterinary practices in Sri Lanka. The detailed activities of the workshop are as follows: The first day's focus was on surgical preparation, anesthetic preparation, sedation, and gaseous anesthesia. Participants learned the critical steps involved in preparing for various surgical procedures and ensuring the safety and comfort of equine patients. The second day was dedicated to understanding the principles of lameness assessment, including diagnostic imaging and nerve blocks. These sessions equipped participants with the skills to accurately diagnose and manage lameness in horses. On the third day, participants visited stables in Nuwara Eliya, applying their knowledge of lameness assessment in a real-world setting. This hands-on experience was invaluable in reinforcing their diagnostic capabilities. The third day focus was on demonstrating and providing hands-on experience in techniques related to surgeries under sedation. Attendees practiced techniques essential for conducting surgical procedures safely and effectively without the

need for general anesthesia. The workshop featured enucleation under gaseous anesthesia and introduced the basics of laparoscopic surgery, which is vital for expanding the surgical techniques available to veterinary practitioners in Sri Lanka on the fourth day of the workshop. The final day concluded with an exploratory laparotomy under gaseous anesthesia, summarizing the skills and knowledge gained throughout the workshop.

The workshop officially concluded with the certificate awarding ceremony at the Peradeniya Guest House. The blend of theoretical and practical sessions ensured that participants left with a well-rounded

understanding of equine sports medicine and surgery. The workshop not only advanced their technical skills but also fostered a collaborative spirit among the participants and instructors, creating a growth mindset for lifelong learning. The Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery Workshop 2024 at the University of Peradeniya was a resounding success. The organizers extend their gratitude to the esteemed faculty, resource personnel, and participants who made this event possible. This workshop marks a significant step forward in the field of equine medicine and surgery, promising improved care and performance for equine athletes.





Equine Oral Care and Sinus Surgery Workshop

Vidura Gajanayake and Kalaichelvan Nizanantha

*Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science,
University of Peradeniya*

The "Equine Oral Care and Sinus Surgery" workshop, held from August 5th to 8th, 2024, at the Farm Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital, was a comprehensive educational event tailored for veterinary professionals. This workshop was organized by the Department of Farm Animal Production and Health in collaboration with the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons, with esteemed equine dentist Samantha Baker from the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom leading the sessions.

The workshop commenced with an inaugural session on August 5th, which was honoured by the presence of the Chief Guest, Prof. W.M.T. Madhujith, Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. The day's agenda included detailed lectures on the basic anatomy of the equine oral cavity, essential for understanding dental

health in horses. Participants were introduced to various dental tools and equipment used in equine dental care, and there was a live demonstration of dental floating, a critical procedure for maintaining oral health in horses.

On August 6th, the focus shifted to practical applications as participants conducted dental check-ups on 24 horses from the Sri Lanka Police Mounted Division. This hands-on session involved procedures such as tooth rasping to smoothen rough edges and tooth extraction when necessary, providing valuable real-world experience in managing equine dental issues.

The third day, August 7th, was dedicated to advanced topics in sinus surgery. Participants attended lectures on the complexities of sinus conditions in horses and learned about various

surgical techniques. Demonstrations included nerve blocks essential for dental and sinus procedures, as well as the surgical techniques involved in sinus surgery.


The final day, August 8th, featured a visit to the Nuwara Eliya Royal Turf Club, where they performed oral examinations on 16 horses, further enhancing practical skills. The workshop concluded with a closing ceremony where

participants were awarded certificates recognizing their successful completion of the workshop.

The event, attended by 11 participants, was a significant professional development opportunity, combining theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience to advance skills in equine oral care and sinus surgery.



CPD Seminar on Avian Influenza H5N1 Spillover: Impact on the Cattle Industry



**Avian Influenza
H5N1 Spillover:
Impact on the
Cattle Industry**

Date:
30th May 2024
@ 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Venue:
Auditorium, Administrative
Building
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
and Animal Science

Prof. Udeni Balasooriya
Associate Dean for Diagnostic Operations
Director, Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory,
Professor
Department of Pathobiological Sciences

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS) at the University of Peradeniya, in partnership with the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons, hosted a seminar titled "Avian Influenza H5N1 Spillover: Impact on the Cattle Industry." The seminar was presented by Prof. Udeni Balasooriya, Associate Dean for Diagnostic Operations and Director of the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. He is also a faculty member in the Department of Pathobiological Sciences at Louisiana State University. The event was held in the Auditorium of the Administrative Building, FVMAS, on 30th May 2024, from 2 to 4 pm.

Certificate Course in Laboratory Animal Science – 2024

Dr Sachini Amarasinghe and Ms Piumika Yapa

Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science

The Certificate Course in Laboratory Animal Science, organized by the Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SLALAS) in collaboration with the Medical Research Institute (MRI), Colombo and the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons (SLCVS) was held from 4th May to 27th July 2024. A total of 24 participants enrolled in the course, including

five veterinarians, participated in the course this year. The Certificate Course was conducted in two distinct phases. Over a period of five weeks, participants engaged in comprehensive online lectures delivered via Zoom, facilitated by a distinguished panel of experts in laboratory animal science. Following this, an onsite practical session was held at MRI, Colombo,

providing hands-on experience and practical insights essential for the participants' understanding and application of the course content. After the completion of the course, a written assessment and a student presentation were held to evaluate the participants' grasp of the subject matter. Successful completion of these evaluations, along with participation in



Certificate course participants with resource persons following practical sessions at MRI

the practical session, qualified participants for certification. A certificate was awarded to all participants who successfully completed the written exam, student presentation, and practical session. All Veterinarians received two Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, which are crucial for their professional advancement.



Participants receiving training at MRI

CPD Activity on Histopathology and Immunohistochemistry



Prof. Udeni B. R. Balasuriya BVSc, MS, PhD, FSLCVS
Associate Dean for Diagnostic Operations
Director, Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL)
Director, LSU Biosafety Level 3 Core Facility
Professor of Virology, Department of Pathobiological Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University

Dr. Eranda Rajapaksha
ROVER Veterinary Hospital



Mariano Carossino, DVM, PhD, DACVP, DACVM
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Pathology
Department of Pathobiological Sciences
LSU School of Veterinary Medicine
Louisiana State University

This CPD activity was held on 19th of September 2024, at NCLT, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo. This program focusing on Pathology was jointly organized by Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons and Sri Lanka Veterinary Association.

One lecture discussion titled Histopathology and immunohistochemistry for tumor diagnosis and prognosis was done in the first session of the program and four clinical case presentations were done at the later part of the program. The event was attended by 25 veterinarians. Facilities for the event were provided by Prof. Nalin De silva Head of the Department Chemistry University of Colombo and the event was sponsored by Rover Veterinary Hospital Pvt Limited. The resource persons were Dr Udeni B.R Balasuriya and Dr Mariano Carossino

CPD Seminar on Small Animal Oncology

Dr Dayani Siriwardane

PetVet Animal Hospital, Havelock Road, Colombo-5

The seminar on “Introduction to small animal Oncology” was organized by the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons and held on 18th October 2024 at the hotel Janaki in Colombo. The theme covered diagnostics, sampling, treatment and surgery in companion animals; primarily dogs and cats. The program was led by the speaker Dr Senura De Silva who is the director and senior veterinarian at Mcivor road, Veterinary Centre and Central Victorian Veterinary Emergency. He is a member of Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Surgeons.

This CPD seminar was coordinated by leading veterinary academics Prof. Mangala Gunatilake, Dr. Sampath Lokugalappaththi, Dr Sahan Ratnaweera and Dr Dayani Siriwardane. The involvement of Dymec added more value to the event, sponsoring 50 veterinarians across Sri Lanka.



Dr Senura De Silva,
BVSc (Hons), MANZCVS



Section of the gathering with Dr Senura De Silva

Assessment of Poultry Vaccination Practices: Insights and Opportunities for Improvement

N.D. Karunaratne¹ and W.M.P. Nishanka²

¹Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya; ²Department of Animal Production and Health, North Western Province.

Poultry farming is a cornerstone of Sri Lanka's agriculture, especially in commercial layer operations. Maintaining the health and productivity of poultry flocks is essential not only for farm profitability but also for protecting public health. Vaccination serves as a crucial measure in preventing the spread of infectious diseases among poultry. However, the success of vaccination programs depends significantly on the farmers' knowledge and practices.

A recent survey conducted across selected commercial layer farms in the Serukele veterinary range of North Western Province of Sri Lanka offers valuable insights into the current poultry vaccination practices, highlighting both positive aspects and areas in need of improvement. The survey underscores the vital role of proper vaccination in maintaining poultry health and productivity, particularly in commercial settings where disease outbreaks can have significant economic repercussions. While there is a commendable level of awareness among farmers regarding the importance of vaccinating against critical diseases such as Marek's Disease, Newcastle Disease, and Infectious Bursal Disease, the findings reveal some shortcomings in the implementation of vaccination protocols. For instance, only 30% of the farms adhered to the recommended water quantities for vaccine administration, and none used commercial vaccine stabilizers, instead opting for skimmed milk powder, often without adequate knowledge of its proper use.

The study also indicates that all surveyed farms utilized open-sided housing systems with deep litter floors, a common practice adapted to the local climate and available resources. A considerable number of farms depended on self-mixed feed and well water, reflecting a reliance on locally sourced inputs, which may impact the consistency and quality of feed and water. Although biosecurity measures like restricting visitor access were implemented in 80% of the farms, the limited use of foot baths and protective coveralls suggests potential vulnerabilities that could increase the risk of disease transmission. Additionally, the survey identifies several challenges that farmers face in implementing effective vaccination programs, with affordability cited as a significant issue by nearly 87% of respondents. The accessibility of vaccines also posed challenges, particularly in acquiring small quantities, pointing to the need for improved supply chain logistics and potential policy measures to subsidize vaccine costs.

The survey also uncovered significant associations between certain farm management practices and vaccination compliance. More experienced farmers were more likely to maintain proper vaccine storage temperatures, and farms that used specific bird procurement methods were more likely to adhere to better vaccine storage practices and the use of non-chlorinated water for vaccinations. Despite these positive correlations, a critical gap was identified in the lack of formal training on vaccination practices,

as none of the surveyed farms had received such training. This finding highlights the urgent need for targeted educational programs to enhance farmers' knowledge and skills in vaccine administration, which could significantly reduce the risk of vaccination failures and improve overall disease control.

The study suggests that future research should focus on monitoring the long-term impact of improved vaccination practices and evaluating the economic benefits of reducing vaccine-related failures. It also emphasizes the importance of community-based training programs, supported by veterinary authorities and agricultural extension services, to bridge

the knowledge gap and promote best practices across the region. Overall, while the survey indicates a high level of compliance with essential vaccination protocols, addressing gaps in proper practices and overcoming implementation challenges are crucial steps toward enhancing the effectiveness of vaccination programs, reducing disease outbreaks, and improving the productivity and profitability of commercial layer farms in Sri Lanka. By fostering better management practices and ensuring strict adherence to vaccination guidelines, the poultry industry in this region can achieve greater sustainability and resilience against infectious diseases.

Navigating Challenges: Sustaining Academic and Research Programs at the Veterinary Faculty during the Trade Union Action by Non-Academic Staff

H.E.L. De Seram

Department of Farm Animal Production and Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (FVMAS) faced a challenging period during the nearly 80-day non-academic staff trade union action, which began in early May 2024. Despite the significant disruptions, the faculty's academic and research programmes continued, thanks to the dedicated efforts of the academic staff and the leadership of the Dean.

Ensuring Continuous Learning

Maintaining the undergraduate programme without the support of non-academic staff was no easy feat. The academic staff, under the Dean's valuable guidance, worked tirelessly to ensure that the teaching programme at FVMAS continued smoothly. Unlike many other faculties in the university system, FVMAS was one of the few that managed to continue on-site lectures throughout the strike. The primary focus was on helping students complete their studies without unnecessary delays.

Pre-clinical practicals, which rely heavily on non-academic staff support, had to be postponed. To adapt, the faculty revised lecture and practical schedules, ensuring the smooth

delivery of the curriculum. Many students requested that the theory components be covered during the strike, allowing for more time to be allocated to practical sessions once the trade union action ended. Additionally, the Dean took proactive steps to secure special permissions from higher authorities to conduct essential exams during this period, ensuring that students could stay on track with their academic progress.

One fortunate aspect was that the final-year BVSc students had completed their exams just before the strike began, so their practical training, particularly with the ambulatory mobile visits to farms, was not affected. However, the mobile veterinary service itself

was interrupted, causing some delays in outreach activities.

Adapting Research Activities

The research programs at FVMAS were significantly impacted by the strike, particularly those that were lab-based. The absence of staff responsible for financial matters meant that procuring laboratory consumables was impossible, and the lack of university-arranged transportation made field sampling difficult. Internet connectivity issues further complicated communication and data collection efforts.

Despite these obstacles, animal experiments that required minimal laboratory support continued at the veterinary research farm. The Dean's leadership and the academic staff's commitment ensured that essential research activities could proceed, even under challenging conditions. To accommodate the

disruptions, final-year BVSc undergraduate researchers were granted an extension to complete and submit their final-year research reports.

Challenges and Resilience

The FVMAS's experience during the nearly 80-day trade union action highlights the faculty's resilience and adaptability. Internet supply interruptions, the halt in the mobile veterinary service, and the difficulties in laboratory and field research were significant challenges. Yet, the faculty's focus remained on maintaining the quality of education and research. The academic staff's dedication, coupled with the Dean's effective leadership, ensured that students could continue their academic journey without being dragged behind.

Resolution to amend the Articles of Association to expand the Membership and Fellowship of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons (SLCVS) without compromising the evaluation standards.

Approved, SLCVS Executive Council

June 02, 2024

WHEREAS, the SLCVS aims to advance the veterinary profession by enhancing practitioners' competence, providing continuing professional development, setting certification standards, fostering research and innovation, promoting ethics, and collaborating with international veterinary and allied organizations.

WHEREAS, the Articles of Association regarding the Membership/Fellowship are currently not favorable for the enrolment of general veterinary practitioners as Members/Fellows in the SLCVS.

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Articles of Association regarding Membership/Fellowship without diminishing the evaluation standards would expand the Membership/Fellowship of the SLCVS, including general veterinary practitioners

WHEREAS, this goal can be achieved by revising the current Articles of Association regarding the Membership/Fellowship evaluation criteria of the College

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that references to the Membership/Fellowship evaluation criteria in the Articles of Association of the SLCVS be amended as noted in red below:

14. A Veterinarian to become a **Member of the College**, he/she shall fulfill the following eligibility criteria;

- a) Be licensed to practice in Sri Lanka by the Veterinary Council of Sri Lanka,
and
- b) Have a satisfactory moral and ethical standing;
and
- c) Have any of the following credentials;
 - i. Have Minimum of 5 years of service after graduation from a veterinary school, and have successfully obtained a post-graduate qualification in veterinary and allied discipline at Masters/ Doctoral degree or Equivalent from a recognized university;
or
 - ii. Have a minimum of 10 years of veterinary practice experience after graduating from a recognized veterinary school and have passed the Qualifying Examination of the College **or provide evidence of engagement in professional training and development activities, having held key positions (President, Secretary or Treasurer) in registered professional bodies in a relevant field, etc., leading to continuing professional advancement in accordance with minimum standards stipulated by the College.**
or
 - iii. Have Minimum of 20 years of experience in managing a Veterinary Practice, registered under the Companies Act No.7 of 2007 or any Business Names Statutes of the relevant Provinces, with evidence of engagement in professional training activities leading to continuing professional advancement.
and

d) Be accepted for Membership in the College by a majority of the Executive Council and ratified by the General Body.

15. A Veterinarian to become a **Fellow of the College**, he/she shall fulfill the following eligibility criteria;

- a) Be licensed to practice in Sri Lanka by the Veterinary Council of Sri Lanka,
and
- b) Have a satisfactory moral and ethical standing;
and
- c) Have 10 years of minimum experience in veterinary profession with not less than 75% of effort in each of the 10 years being devoted to professional practice, teaching or research, and have demonstrated competence in and contributed significantly to the development of veterinary profession in Sri Lanka;
and
- d) Have evidence of engagement in continuing professional advancement;
and
- e) Have any of the following credentials:
 - i. Hold a Professorship /Senior Lecturer Grade I in a given specialty of veterinary science;
or
 - ii. Holding a Class I (Scheduled) position in Animal Production and Health Service or equivalent position in a State or Private Sector Organization/Service;
or
 - iii. Successfully completed the 2-year residency training leading to certification for veterinary specialty as specified by the relevant Chapter of the College;
or
 - iv. Engagement in research and scholarship and dissemination of knowledge as evidenced through peer reviewed publications, publications in books, and publication of monographs, booklets, books, **abstracts, newsletter articles** etc. and satisfying minimum standards stipulated by the College;
or
 - v. **Engagement in professional training and national/international development activities, having held key positions (President, Secretary or Treasurer) in registered professional bodies in a relevant field, etc., leading to continuing professional advancement in accordance with minimum standards stipulated by the College;**
or
 - vi. Hold a Fellowship or equivalent certification from an internationally recognized professional institution/ association;
and
- f) Be accepted for Fellowship in the College by a majority of the Executive Council and ratified by the General Body.

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Dr. Namalika Karunaratne
General Secretary/SLCVS

New Member of the SLCVS

Dr. H. E. L. De Seram



Dr. H. E. L. De Seram is a Senior Lecturer (Grade II) in the Department of Farm Animal Production and Health at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya. He earned his Master's degree in Dairy Nutrition from the University of Saskatchewan, Canada in 2016. In 2021, he completed his PhD at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada focusing on beef cattle parasitology and epidemiology. Dr. De Seram currently teaches courses in Ruminant Production, Veterinary Epidemiology, and Farm Animal Medicine to veterinary undergraduates. His research interests include ruminant nutrition and production.

New Fellow of the SLCVS

Dr. M. A. R. Priyantha



Dr. M. A. R. Priyantha works as a Principal Scientist, in the Bacteriology Division of the Veterinary Research Institute, Sri Lanka. He earned his PhD in Veterinary Microbiology from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, where he investigated antimicrobial resistance in *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*. He also holds a Master's degree in Dairy and Meat Product Technology from the University of Peradeniya and a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Epidemiology. As a Principal Scientist, Dr. Priyantha manages research on veterinary bacteriology, pathology, and antimicrobial resistance. He is also an Adjunct Professor in Veterinary Microbiology at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. His dedication extends to his active participation in national committees focused on antimicrobial resistance, biosafety, biosecurity, and dangerous pathogen inventory, contributing significantly to public and animal health initiatives in Sri Lanka.

Achievements of the Fellows and Members of the SLCVS (from January 2024 to present)

1. Prof. Mangala Gunatilake, the current President of the SLCVS was appointed as the Co-Chair of the Education Mission of the Federation of the Asian Oceanian Physiological Societies (FAOPS) in March 2024 for a 4-year period. Further, she was awarded the Fellowship of the International Union of the Physiological Societies (FIUPS) in June 2024. These recognitions were bestowed upon a Sri Lankan Physiologist for the first time.
2. Dr. Dynatra Subasinghe, a Founder Member of the SLCVS was appointed as the Associate Dean Education, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Surrey, United Kingdom.
3. Dr. Erandi Pathirana, a Fellow of the SLCVS received the 'Eminent Veterinarian Award 2024 for Sri Lanka' under the category Aquaculture, from the SAARC Regional Veterinary Association on the 28th of April 2024.
4. Prof. Kavindra Wijesundara, a Fellow of the SLCVS was appointed as a Professor in Veterinary Pathology, at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya.
5. Prof. Dilan Satharasinghe, a Member of the SLCVS was appointed as a Professor in Molecular Biochemistry, at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya.
6. The following fellows and members received Eminent Veterinarian Award 2024 from the SAARC Regional Veterinary Association:
Prof. R. S. Kalupahana, Prof. K. A. N. Wijayawardhane, Dr. A. W. Kalupahana, Dr. L. G. S. Lokugalappatti, Dr. B. E. Pathirana, Dr. S. S. S. De S. Jagoda and Dr. K. De S. A. Gunasekara

The Planned Activities for the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons (SLCVS) in 2025

❖ **Workshop on Rodent Anesthesia and Analgesia – January 2025**

Organized by the Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science in collaboration with the SLCVS and the Medical Research Institute of Sri Lanka.

❖ **International Training Course on Asian Elephant Health, Reproduction and Breeding Management – June 2025**

Organized by the SLCVS in partnership with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya, and Royal Veterinary College, United Kingdom.

❖ **Series of Workshops on Bovine and Equine Health – January/February 2025**

Three workshops focusing on bovine and equine topics, jointly organized by the SLCVS and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya.

Members of the Publication Subcommittee of SLCVS

Prof. Deshapriya Rathnayaka- Chair

Dr. Oswin Perera - Editor

Dr. Samanthika Jagoda- Secretary

Prof. M. Pagthinadan -Member

Dr. R.M.S.B.K. Ranasinghe- Member

Dr. Mayuri Thammitiyagoda-Member

Dr. Susantha Mallawaarachchi-Member

NOTICE

The time has come to renew your SLCVS Membership or Fellowship If you are below 60 years of age!

It is a requirement for members and fellows to renew their membership or fellowship every 3 years as per the By-Laws of the SLCVS until they reach 60 years of age. It was decided to implement this clause of the By-Laws commencing from 2023.

Please visit the SLCVS website for the application and details.

Hurry Up! Don't delay your renewal.

Information for new applicants and the Application Form can be downloaded from the College website: www.slvvetcollege.org

