



PGIM NEWSLETTER

Special Anniversary Edition

"The editorial committee wishes its readers
a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year..."

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100, MORRIS CANAL ROAD, COLOMBO-07 TEL: +94 11 2697758 / 11 2696261
WEB SITE: www.cmb.ac.lk/pgim

DESIGNED BY: MEDICAL EDUCATION
RESOURCE CENTRE

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The Inauguration



Lighting of the traditional oil lamp: Dr J.B. Peiris is engaged in lighting the oil lamp

PGIM as its Director from 2002-2005.

Chief Guest Professor Tilak Hettiarachchy addressing the gathering on the eve of his retirement as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo expressed his dissatisfaction on the concept of making education free for all.

Deshamanya Dr. J.B Peiris a distinguished past Director of the PGIM in his speech unfolded the past of the PGIM bringing back fond memories and sense of nostalgia to all those who have



Introduction of the Guest of Honour: Dr. Shanthamali de Silva



Past is unfolded: Dr. J.B Peiris

The Inauguration of the 27th Anniversary PGIM Academic Sessions was held on the 18th October 2007 under the patronage of Professor Tilak Hettiarachchy, Vice Chancellor University of Colombo with Deshamanya Dr. J.B Peiris being the Guest of Honour.



A glimpse of Prof. L.N. Mendis: Professor Lalitha Mendis is being introduced by Professor Susirith Mendis



Free education should be made available to all....?: Professor Tilak Hettiarachchy

On arrival the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, the Orator Vidjayyothi Professor Eric Karunanayake and Vidjayyothi Professor Lalitha Mendis immediate past Director of the PGIM were accorded a rousing welcome by the Director PGIM Vidjayyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff and the PGIM staff. They were taken in procession to the main conference hall of the PGIM.

Director PGIM delivering the welcome address extended a very warm welcome to all those who attended. He further presented a special award to Professor Lalitha Mendis in recognition of the yeoman service rendered to the



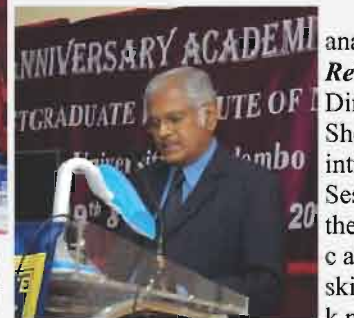
Welcome address: Director PGIM Vidjayyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff



In recognition of yeoman service: Professor Lalitha Mendis is being awarded the special service award



Inaugural PGIM Oration: Vidjayyothi Professor Eric Karunanayake



The Citation: the Orator being introduced by Dr. Sarath Gamini de Silva

Gnanathanan, Chairperson Academic Programme Committee in her vote of thanks paid tribute to all those helped in numerous ways especially the PGIM staff, the wind behind her wings in making the event a resounding success.



Delivering the vote of thanks: Dr. Ariarancee Gnanathanan

Fellowship Dinner

An evening of entertainment was the last but by no means the least activity of the 27th Anniversary PGIM Academic Sessions. It was a fine dining experience in the form of a traditional Sri Lankan dinner backed up by fabulous oriental



The Director PGIM gracefully welcoming all the invitees.



Guest of Honour Prof. Lalitha Mendis acknowledging the efforts of the organizing committee



PGIM Staff and their family members mesmerizing themselves.

music which kept the toes tapping till late in the evening on 20th October 2007.

The evening got underway with a welcome address delivered by the Director PGIM where he extended his heart felt gratitude to all those who contributed in a friendly man-



Professor of Paediatrics patronizing the Hopper station

ner to ensure smooth sailing of the entire sessions. Professor Lalitha Mendis the Guest of Honour and speaking on the occasion was praiseworthy of untiring efforts of the Director and the Organising committee and congratulated them on a job well done.

It was a splendid buffet with a plenty of pre cooked and live stations adding colour to the evening and as much as variety. The Pinnacle Dining area was taken by a storm as local delicacies



Buffet in full swing: invitees helping them selves at the Pinnacle



Invitees and the members of the organizing committee sharing the days experiences.

like Kottu and Hoppers were seen dishing out at a rampant.

The evening was more of a forum to all PG trainers, trainees and to their near and dear ones. The Director had also invited members of the PGIM staff as a gesture of solidarity.



Open forum: Dr. and Mrs. B.J.C Perera in conversation with Dr. Kolitha Sellahewa and his wife.

Press Conference

A press briefing was held in connection with the 27th Anniversary PGIM Academic Sessions on the 15th Oct. 2007 at the PGIM Auditorium.

Chairperson Organizing committee Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Chairperson Academic Programme committee Dr. Ariarane Gnanathan and the Chairperson of the Staff committee Mr. Saththar expressed their views regarding the forthcoming Academic Sessions.

A large number of media personnel representing print and electronic media were in attendance. To enhance public awareness on the proceedings a half page news paper supplement was published in the Daily News on the 18th Oct. with a special emphasis on programme highlights.



Dr. Ariarane Gnanathan elaborating the academic programme.



The Director is flanked by Dr. Gnanathan and Mr. Saththar

PGIMAA

The Inaugural meeting of the PGIM Alumni Association (PGIMAA) was held on the 19th Oct. 2007 under the patronage of Director PGIM Professor Rezvi Sheriff at the new wing of the PGIM. This is a brain child of Director PGIM and drafting of the constitution was done by Mr. N Selvakumaran, Dean Faculty of Law University of Colombo who conducted the inaugural meeting

Acceptance of the constitution, the flag, the logo, the official banker and the official auditors was given the top priority in the agenda of the inaugural meeting.

Dr. Sarath Gamini De Silva and Dr. Ariarane Gnanathan were nominated as the founder president and the secretary respectively.

MERC, the designer of the PGIMAA logo and the flag will also function as the secretariat.



The PGIMAA emblem

PGIM Debate

The cynosure of all eyes on the closing day of the PGIM Academic Sessions was the PGIM Debate on the *Selection of sub specialty should be done at entry to the training programme.*

As expected crowds gathered in numbers to witness enthralling retaliatory arguments of the opposing and proposing medical experts based on the above noted issue.



Prosecuting the proposition in grand style: Dr. B.J.C Perera



Best speaker in full cry: Dr. Ranjan Dias

The proposing party led by Dr. Anula Wijesundera (Consultant Physician Sri Jayawardenapura G.H) had the services of Dr. Harsha L De Silva (Consultant Dental Surgeon G.H Nagoda) and Dr. Anurudda Padeniya (Secretary GMOA). Igniting the Debate they collectively brought up various concepts and ratifications to highlight the fact that selection of sub spe-



Searching the web: Dr. Athula Kaluarachchi quoting from the web.



A specialist generalist igniting the debate for early sub specialty training: Dr. Anula Wijesundera

cialty should be brought to the point of entry to the training.

Dr. B.J.C Perera (Rtd. Consultant Paediatrician L.R.H) along with Drs. Ranjan Dias (Consultant Surgeon L.R.H) and Athula Kaluarachchi (Consultant Obstetrician and



Early sub specialty training is the need of the hour: Dr. Harsha De Silva

Gynaecologist D.M.H)

engaged in vintage debating right from the beginning to tarnish the rationale of early selection of sub specialty prior to MS/MD qualification.

The Debate took to the wire and even the vastly experienced medical tribunal formed by Dr. Shanthilal De Silva, Dr. Dennis Aloysius and Dr. Enoka Corea found it difficult to pronounce the winning team.



A secretary turned debator: Dr. Anurudda Padeniya.

Later the Opposing party claimed victory and Dr. Ranjan Dias was adjudged as the Best Speaker for his precise oratory skills.

The co-moderators were Professor Rezvi Sheriff and Dr. Sarath Gamini De Silva.



Youngest and the prettiest of the medical tribunal: Dr. Enoka Corea delivering the verdict.



The co-chairs: Dr. Sarath Gamini De Silva and Professor Rezvi Sheriff.

The Roof Top

18th Oct. 2007: The newly built roof top facility of the PGIM was declared open by Professor Tilak Hettiarachchy Vice Chancellor University of Colombo on the invitation of Director PGIM Professor Rezvi Sheriff as a highlight of the Inauguration of the PGIM Academic Sessions. It was built approximately at a cost of Rs. 15 million and took almost a year for completion of work. The WiFi enabled Roof Top extension also comprises of MCQ rooms, Dining area (*The Pinnacle*), Consultants' lounge, Postgraduates' lounge (*Araliya lounge*),



MERC offices (Medical Education Resource Centre), Tele Consultant's Chamber, Computer Laboratory, Distance Education room and a multi religious prayer room to enhance the ethnic harmony.

Prof. Tilak Hettiarachchy unveiling the plaque to declare open the new roof top facility.

Staff News.....

Golden memories and silver tears..... at the MERC on the 20th October 2007 as they saw the passing out of two of their versatile compatriots Dr. Nilupuli Mendis and Dr. Indika Liyanage to accept their internship appointments. The duo rendered a commendable service in all the tasks entrusted to them and in particular organizing the PGIM Academic Sessions.

The MERC recruited Dr. L.S Liyanage, Dr. K.B.R. Premathillake and Dr. N.B.N Padmakumara as Pre- Intern Demonstrators on the 10th December 2007. The new appointees will undertake the duties assigned to the MERC.



Interior Décor by Ms. Zainab Sheriff

Just out side the Board Room an intricate piece of Artwork was done by Ms Zainab Omar Sheriff a free lance interior designer at no cost . This has brightened up a gloomy corridor.

EDITOR IN CHIEF:
Professor Rezvi Sheriff

EDITORIAL STAFF:
Dr. Gayan Adikariwattage
Dr. Ruwan Kuruppu
Dr. Paboda Guruge
Ms. Upamali Wijeratne

Feedback.....

This is the sixth Newsletter released by MERC, PGIM. We would be grateful if you could let us know what you think about the articles you have read in this Newsletter, what other articles would you be interested in seeing covered in future Newsletters. Finally any other useful suggestions to improve our future issues are also welcome.

Please write to:

Coordinator-In charge
Medical Education and Resource Centre (MERC)
TP: 0602168545,
0112697758 Ext-43
E Mail:merc.pgim@yahoo.com

Cocktail The Director PGIM Professor Rezvi Sheriff and the organizing committee of the Academic Sessions hosted a Cocktail to all the invited glitterati at the



Eat at the ease of chat: Dr. Ajita Wijesundera with his colleagues.



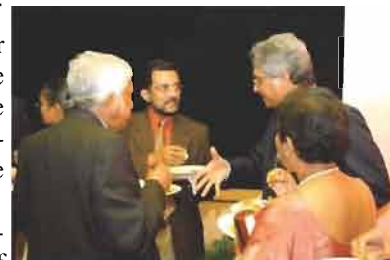
Crispy crunchy cocktails on offering



Invitees from the fairer sex: Dr. Ganga Sirimanne and Prof. Kamani Tennakoon in conversation with another celebrity.

newly extended roof top facility of the PGIM on the 18th October 2007. The event was an absolute showcase of the new wing of the PGIM and was equally well decorated much to the delight of the invitees.

Music for the evening was provided by the medical students of the Colombo medical faculty and



Prof. Susirith Mendis sharing a lighter moment with Prof. Sanath Lamabadusuriya and Dr. Ranjan Dias.

some crispy crunchy cocktails were on offering to eat at the ease of chat.

The evening was full of glamour and was attended by many dignitaries of the medical fraternity, members of the PGIM staff and the principle sponsors of the event.



Stalwarts: Prof. Rezvi Sheriff sharing a drink with Prof. Eric Karunanayake and Prof. Mandika Wijeratne.



Trailblazers of the PGIM: Dr. J.B. Peiris with Prof. A.H. Sheriffdeen

DFM by DE. A dream come true for PGIM

The launching of the Diploma in Family Medicine by Distance Education (DFM by DE) was held with Professor Nandani De Silva, Vice Chancellor Open University of Sri Lanka as the Chief Guest on the 28th of November 2007 at the PGIM Auditorium. It was a significant event and was also attended by Professor Leela Karunaratne Chairperson BOS in Family Medicine, Resource persons of the DFM programme, trainees and the members of the PGIM staff.



Speaking on the occasion the chief guest Professor Nandani brought to the notice of the audience the humble beginnings of the DE project and the hardships she had to undergo in developing the course structure. She did place on record all those who contributed and in particular the MERC, PGIM and the Director for the relentless efforts in bringing up this new version with its trainee friendly course design. Recently appointed Course coordinator for DFM by DE Dr. Joel Fernando was the

master of ceremonies as Professor Rezvi Sheriff was abroad during the launching. He played a key role in getting it off the ground. He even went to many Moodle workshops to give the leadership and obtain DEMP Funding for this phase of development.

Prof. Nandani, Dr. A.L.P, Dr Joel, Mr. Chandradasa and Prof. Leela are seen in lighting the oil lamp.

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Emerchemie NB (Ceylon) Limited

No : 60, Maligawatte Road, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.
Tel : 011-2694864-45, 2675005-6, 2689378, 2689390
Fax : 011-2671877 Email : nimjay@slt.net.lk