

AAUP NEWS

Vol. 2 No. 1, 1993

Alumni Association, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 4th AGM was held on 21.11.1992 in the B Room of the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya (UP). Prof. A P R Aluvihare, Chairman/UGC & Prof. J M Gunadasa Vice-Chancellor of UP & the Vice-Patron of the AAUP were present. Prof. V Basnayake, delivered the guest speech. Opening his speech, Prof. Basnayake said: " We meet today to re-affirm our connection with the University. It is one way in which we can give expression to our thankfulness and gratitude to the University for the education we had in it." Describing the word alumnus he said: " Alumnus is a Latin word that originally meant foster-son or pupil. A pupil was regarded as a foster-son. Alumni call their university alma mater, benign mother. " He further said: "We alumni are like the offspring who have left home to enter into our own ways of life. If we now call the university alma mater, benign mother, it is the result of emotional bonds including those of affection and gratitude."

The AGM was followed by an auction of a saree and a cake donated by Ms Chitra Karunaratne and Dr Sumana Wijekoon respectively. Mr D.P. Mendis was the auctioneer. Due to his good efforts and the generous contribution from the members, the fund-raising committee managed to collect Rs.4578/-.

The AGM lunch and the get-together was held at the Senior Common Room of the Faculty of Arts. The members had the opportunity to see the exhibition of Archaeological Drawings & Paintings by Puravidya Cakravarthi Mr S.M. Seneviratne at the Faculty of Arts Senior Common Room.

AAUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President: Prof. N.W. Gopnewardena Vice-Presidents: Dr. Gasini Gunasekara, Prof. A.D.F. Jayatilaka, Ms Chitra Karunaratne, Prof. M.I. Siriweera, Mr Tissa Mirasinghe Gen. Secretary: Ms. Sudharma Mandasena Treasurer: Mr. M.H. Sumanasiri Asst. Secretaries: Mr. Rajan Abeed Mr Daisy Seneviratne Asst. Treasurer: Ms. Kamala Sirisena Exc. Com. Members: Prof. E.L. Panditharatne (former President) Elected Members: Mr Sepala Doralesa, Ms. Vagdevi Fernando, Mr Godwin Perera, Mr A M P W Senanayake Major. N.R.N. Seneviratne Appointed Members: Prof. Kapila Dahanayaka, Ms Bridget Halpe, Mr Gasini Herath, Mr Roy Jayasundara, Ms Nita Piliptiya, Dr. A.J. Pitigala Arachchi Prof. M.P. Ranaweera, Mr Sarath Seneviratne, Dr. Jayaapathy Wickramaratne, Dr. Sumana Wijekoon. Colombo Chapter Reps: Msdr. Marsha Gunaratne (Chairman), Dr. Ranjith Weerasinghe (Secretary), Mr. Leonard Silva (Treasurer)

CALENDAR OF DATES FOR MEETINGS

Note: Exc. Committee meetings will be held on the 1st Saturday of each month except in January & December.

<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Date</u>
Exc. Comm.	09.12.1992
--do--	06.02.1993
--do--	07.03.1993
Exc & GM	03.04.1993
Exc. Comm.	01.05.1993
--do--	05.06.1993
--do--	03.07.1993
Exc. & GM	07.08.1993
--do--	04.09.1993
--do--	02.10.1993
Exc. Comm.	06.11.1993
AGM	28.11.1993

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The Exc. Committee has appointed the following Standing Committees:

University Development:

Ms Chitra Karunaratne (chairperson),
Prof M P Ranaweera, Mr A Senadeera,
Mr Wimal Dissanayake,
Dr H H J Keerthisena.

Student Welfare

Prof. W I Siriweera (chairperson),
Ms Kamala Sirisena, Dr A J Pitigala
Arachchie, Mr A I Bandara,
Fr A Egerton Perera.

Continuing Education

Mr Tissa Wirasinghe (chairperson),
Dr Sylvie Senadeera, Ms Pat Jayatilleke,
Ms Nita Pilapitiya,
Prof Kapila Dahanayake.

Public Relations

Ms Bridget Halpe (chairperson),
Ms Vagdevi Fernando, Mr Sepala
Boralessa, Mr Gamini Gunawardena,
Mr H M D R Herath.

Alumni Clubs & Reunions

Dr Gamini Gunasekera (chairperson),
Dr Ranjith Wirasinghe, Dr H W Cyril,
Mr Sarath Seneviratne,
Major. H R M Seneviratne.

Elections & Constitutional Matters
Prof. A D P Jayatileke (chairperson),
Dr Jayampathy Wickramaratne, Mr Gamini Herath,
Ms Sudharma Nandasena, Mr Wijaya Wickramaratne.

NOTE: The following ongoing and new projects were assigned to these committees:

University Development:

New Halls of Residence (ongoing)
Alumni Park (ongoing), Book Donation
Prog. (new), Alumni Shop (new)

Student Welfare:

Vision Camp (ongoing) Student
Counselling Centre (ongoing) Book
Shop for Students (ongoing) Needy
Students Fund (on going)

Public Relations

Lecture/Discussion Programme
(ongoing) Membership Drive (on
going) Alumni Service Desk:
(new), Health Camps (new)

Continuing Education

Training on Management Skills
(new) English Language Programme
(new) Graduate Training Programme (on
going)

Alumni Clubs & Reunions

Interaction between Faculty Alumni
Associations (ongoing) Organization of
Re-Unions & Get-togethers (ongoing)

Election & Constitutional Matters

Proposed Amendments to the
Constitution.

NOTE:

Those who wish to serve in these committees and/or to participate in the projects mentioned above are most welcome. Please write to the Secretary for more information.

Appointment of a Finance Committee:

The following were appointed:

Treasurer, Asst Treasurer, Mr M K S Kumarage (former Treasurer), Ms Vagdevi Fernando, Prof M P Ranaweera, Mr C Sankarakumaran, Mr Roy Jayasundara, Mr Godwin Perera, Mr Gamini Herath and Mr A M P W Senanayake.

ALUMNI SERVICE DESK

As a service function to its members the AAUP has established an Alumni Service Desk to assist its members to obtain information (except confidential matters) and services from the University. (e.g. Any member who wishes to use the University Library or to obtain information on a particular course of study or admission to a programme etc. could be helped through this project). A team consisting of representatives from various faculties, the library, departments and units act as liaison persons between the University and the AAUP and would help to obtain the required information and services. For details please contact:

Alumni Desk/AAUP, Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya, Senate Building, Peradeniya.

HEALTH CAMPS FOR AAUP MEMBERS

The AAUP is making arrangements to organize a few health camps in the campus for the benefit of the members and their families. The first camp is tentatively scheduled to be held on a Sunday in the latter part of April this year. Members are kindly requested to contact the General Secretary/AAUP indicating their medical/dental problem/s. Consultants who would like to volunteer their services are kindly invited to write to the Secretary/AAUP.

BOOK DONATION PROJECT

A book donation project has been launched to develop the University Library and also to assist needy students. The AAUP will collect valuable and rare books, journals etc. and also books & magazines useful for the student population from its members and well-wishers and arrange the donations. All books received through this project will be duly acknowledged. Under this scheme Prof. V Basnayake donated a valuable set of Bio-Essays to the University Library. Those who are interested in the project are kindly requested to contact:

Mr A Senadeera, Librarian & the Coordinator of the Book Donation Project/AAUP, Main Library, University of Peradeniya.

JUBILEE SOUVENIR

The Golden Jubilee Souvenir of the University of Ceylon/ Peradeniya is now available for sale. It contains a short history of the University; reminiscences of several persons who studied there or served it in various capacities written in Sinhala, Tamil and English; an extract from an as yet unpublished novel recounting University life at a particular period of time; a short story based on an incident that took place in the campus; and pictorial records of persons, places and events that you might recall. The Souvenir will be an excellent gift for friends and relations here and abroad. Proceeds of the sale will swell the Jubilee Fund for undergraduate scholarships. Price per copy: Rs.500/- with a 20% reduction for the members of the AAUP which will amount to Rs.400/- Postage. (local) Rs.12/- Cheques or Money Orders should be drawn in favour of the Bursar, University of Peradeniya. Orders can be sent through the Gen. Secretary/AAUP.

AAUP GREETING CARDS

The AAUP has printed greeting cards as part of its fund-raising programme for the Needy Student Fund. These cards are sold at Rs.15/- each. Please buy a few cards and help the Needy Students Fund. Cards are available at the AAUP office.

NEEDY STUDENTS FUND

The AAUP has established a Needy Students Fund to help university students. One of our members Ms. Lalitha Wirasinghe, Librarian, British Council, Kandy has donated Rs. 5000/- to this Fund to establish The Dr W.L.V.Vitharana Memorial Studentship for a needy student at the Faculty of Dental Sc., University of Peradeniya. Arrangements are being made to award this studentship with effect from this year.

ISSUE OF A NEW STAMP TO COMMEMORATE THE JUBILEE

The Philatelic Bureau of the Dept. of Posts issued a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs.1/- on 22.12.1992 to commemorate 50 years of University Education in Sri Lanka. An Alumnus, the Post Master General of Sri Lanka, Mr Austin Alwis who officiated at the ceremonial release of the stamp was overwhelmed with emotion on reminiscing the days of his University career. He said that he was able to recollect the first occasion when he climbed the flight of steps leading to the Senate Building and was deeply struck to find the inscription "More open than usual" which of course at the time did not mean much to him. He claimed that he felt a sense of pride and achievement as an Alumnus to participate in the ceremonial release of a stamp to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the University. This was the first occasion when a stamp was released in connection with Univer-

sity education in Sri Lanka. The Chief Guest at the function, Prof. Arjuna Aluvihare, Chairman/UGC, remarked that the Alumni are free to go any where and serve in any capacity but are expected to evince an interest in the affairs of the university and contribute to its progress.

AN AVURUDUPOLA

The AAUP has decided to organize an Avurudu Pola to raise funds. The date fixed for this Pola is 28.03.1993. The venue will be a hall on the main road between Peradeniya and Kandy. Members, their families and friends are kindly invited to participate in this fund-raising event. New or nearly new things i.e. clothes, books & food items plants etc. could be sold/donated. For further details please contact:

Ms Chitra Karunaratne, tel. office 01-694093 Res: 01-552381), Dr Ranjith Weerasinghe tel. office 01-713217, res 723741 Prof. Kapila Dahanayake, office 08-88301-802, res 08-25271 Ms Lalitha Gunawardena, res. 08-88185, Dr H.H.J. Keerthisena, res. 08-88322, Prof. M.P. Ranaweera, office 08-88029 res. 08-88082 Mr W.H. Sumanasiri, tel. 08-88082. Ms Neela Dissanayake 08-22407 Ms Kamala Sirisena, tel. office 08-88103 res. 08-25560, Ms Vagdevi Fernando, tel. 08-25732, Mr Tissa Wirasinghe res 08-23471 Sudhrama Nandasena Gen. Sec. AAUP, tel. 08-88301-305, 08-88167

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The current membership of our association is only 953. The AAUP earnestly requests its members to help the expansion of the association by enrolling more members. List of addresses can be sent to the Secretary.

VISION CAMP

The Vision Camp, a project sponsored by the Colombo Chapter/AAUP is being implementd. A preliminary camp will be held on 07.03.1993 at the Senate Room, University of Peradeniya at 10.00 a.m. and 51 students are expected to attend the camp. The AAUP wishes to record its appreciation to the Co-ordinator of the project Dr Ranjith Weerasinghe, Secretary Col. Chap/AAUP, Dr S P Amarasiri, CMO, UP., Dr Luxman Wijayaweera, Rep. University Jubilee Committee and Dr A.B. Abey-singhe, Eye Consultant, Kandy General Hospital for their generous support towards the implementation of the project successfully.

NEWS OF AAUP MEMBERS

Three members of the AAUP Prof. V Basnayake, Prof. K Bambaradeniya & Prof. L Tillakaratne were granted the status of Emeritus Professors of the UP. Prof U Samarajeewa Head. Dept. of Food Sc. & Technology, Faculty of Agric. won the General Research Committee Award 1992 of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science. Mr Wimal Dissanayake has been appointed as the Registrar of the University of Peradeniya & Mr Sudath Gunasekera has been appointed as the Secretary, Ministry of Health. Congratulations !

The AAUP regrets to record the death of one of its members, Mr J B Dissanayake, Senior Lecturer of the Faculty of Engineering, UP. on 18th January this year. Mr Dissanayake obtained his BSC Engin. Degree from the University of Ceylon in 1959 and a MSC from UP in 1972.

One of our founder members Vinitha Jayalath from Matale got married recently. Best wishes to Vinitha for a happy future !

NOTE

Members can send news to be included in the Newsletter to the:

NEWSLETTER/AAUP

c/o Gen. Secretary,
Alumni Association of the University
of Peradeniya,
Senate Building, Peradeniya.