

### **Two Decades of Excellence**

IEEE Sri Lanka Section 20th Anniversary

### **The Inspiring Stories**

R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award Winner

### **Recent Achievements**

IEEE Sri Lanka Section

### **IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit**

IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee

### **Upskill Sri Lanka 2023**

IEEE Lets Talk | IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka

### **Ignition 2023**

IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka  
IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka

### **IEEE Summer School**

IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter  
University of Jaffna

### **Technical Co Sponsorships**

IEEE Sri Lanka Section

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



Two Decades of Excellence 01  
IEEE Sri Lanka Section 20th Anniversary

IEEE Sri Lanka Section Awards 2023 02

R10 Educational Activities  
Outstanding Group Award 04

Supporting Friend of IEEE MGA AWARD 04

The Inspiring Stories 05  
R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award Winner

IEEE Section Global Congress 2023 07

IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit 09  
IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee

Electronic Design Competition 2023 12  
IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee

Nurturing Innovation and Connectivity 14  
The IEEE Techverse Sri Lanka

UpSkill Sri Lanka 2023 16  
LETs Talk

17 IGNITION  
The IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka

19 Inspiring Minds and Charting a Path to Excellence  
The IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka

21 Shining Stars  
IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter Student Activity Committee 2023/24

23 2023 IEEE Summer School on Computational Intelligence  
IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter, University of Jaffna

25 "Pink Chit" Awareness Session - 2023  
IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

27 CodeCon 3.0: Inter University Hackathon  
IEEE Computer Society of Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT)

29 IntelliHack 3.0  
University of Colombo School of Computing IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter

31 Annual General Meeting  
General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

33 CodeRally 4.0  
IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter of Institute of Informatics Technology

35 Technical Co Sponsorships by IEEE Sri Lanka Section





# Two Decades of Excellence IEEE Sri Lanka Section 20th Anniversary 2003-2023

In the realm of technological advancements and innovation, milestones are not just markers of time but symbols of progress and dedication. The IEEE Sri Lanka Section recently reached a significant milestone, celebrating its 20th anniversary. Two decades of unwavering commitment to advancing technology, fostering collaboration, and nurturing future leaders in the field have marked the journey of IEEE Sri Lanka Section, making it a pivotal force in the technological landscape of the region.

The IEEE Sri Lanka Section was established on the 14th of November 2003 with the purpose of enabling foster technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity and for the advancement of technical professionalism. Over the past two decades, the IEEE Sri Lanka Section has achieved several milestones that have left an indelible mark on the Region 10 as well as across the world. The early years were marked by the dedication and vision of pioneering individuals who played crucial roles in the section's formation.

These visionaries recognized the potential impact that a dedicated IEEE section could have on the development of technology and engineering in Sri Lanka.

As the IEEE Sri Lanka Section celebrates its 20th anniversary, it stands as a testament to two decades of dedication, innovation, and collaboration. The IEEE Sri Lanka Section continues to evolve, embracing new challenges and opportunities. With a commitment to excellence and a focus on fostering a culture of innovation, the IEEE Sri Lanka Section looks toward the future with optimism, aiming to play an even more significant role in advancing technology in Sri Lanka and contributing to the global IEEE community.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude for all the individuals for their unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions to the IEEE Sri Lanka Section. Your dedication and hard work have played a pivotal role in uplifting the IEEE Sri Lanka Section to its current stature.





# IEEE Sri Lanka Section Awards 2023

The IEEE Sri Lanka Section holds its annual awards ceremony to acknowledge the initiatives being undertaken by the Section and to highlight those that best serve its community.

The awards will honor the dedication and hard work of all enthusiastic IEEE volunteers in the best way possible, with the presence of prominent IEEE leaders, from students and academia to the industry. This was held on the 4th of November 2023 at the Carolina Beach Hotel in Negombo.

## Special Activities Awards

### **Best Affinity Group Project Award (Section AG Category)**

*Power Hour: Saga to Inspire and Connect*  
IEEE Women in Engineering Sri Lanka

### **Best Affinity Group Project Award (Student AG Category)**

*Cypher - CTF & Hackathon Competition*  
IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

### **Best Industry Collaborative Project Award (SB OU Category)**

*Rise Up Mora 2023*  
IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa

### **Best Sectional Project Award**

IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka 2023

### **Best Student Branch Project Award**

*MoraForesight 1.0*

IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa

### **Best Technical Chapter Project Award (Student Chapter)**

*Brainstorm 2023*

IEEE EMBS of University of Moratuwa

### **Special Recognition for the Best Humanitarian Project**

*Walking Together*

IEEE Computer Society of University of Kelaniya

## Organizational Units Awards

### **Emerging Affinity Group (SB Category)**

IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

### **Emerging Chapter Award (SB Category)**

IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter of University of Jaffna

### **Outstanding Affinity Group (SB Category)**

IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of University of Peradeniya





**Outstanding Affinity Group (Sectional Category)**

IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of Sri Lanka

**Outstanding Chapter Award (SB Category)**

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society of University of Moratuwa

**Outstanding Chapter Award (Sectional Category)**

IEEE Power and Energy Society Sri Lanka Chapter

**Outstanding Student Branch Award**

IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa

**Special Recognition for Membership Recruitment & Retention**

IEEE Student Branch of Informatics Institute of Technology

**Individual Volunteer Awards**

**Outstanding Branch Counselor or Advisor Award**

Dr. M. Thanihaichelvan - IEEE Electron Devices Society, and Nanotechnology Council Student Branch Chapter of the University of Jaffna(IEEE-EDS/NTC-SBC-UoJ)

**Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Member Category)**

Ms. Umayya Bhashini Balagalla

**Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Student Category)**

Ms. Michel Perera

**Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Academician)**

Dr. Akila Wijethunga

**Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Industry Practitioner)**

Mr. Mahsoom Raseen

**Section Outstanding Volunteer (Student Category)**

Mr. Heshan Mallawaarachchi  
IEEE Student Branch of University of Jaffna

**External Recognitions**

**Outstanding Industry Partner Award:**

- Creative Software
- Zone 24x7

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding individuals and organizational units who have been recognized and celebrated as award winners by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section.

These achievements are testament to your unwavering dedication, innovative spirit, and exceptional contributions to the IEEE Sri Lanka Section. Your hard work and commitment to excellence have not only set you apart but have also significantly enriched our community.

## R10 Educational Activities Outstanding Group Award



Sri Lanka Section Educational Activities Group, who hosted the Education Week 2023 won the R10 Educational Activities Outstanding Group Award.

Aligning with the IEEE Education Week Global Initiative, *IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka 2023* was organized as a two-day celebration, highlighting the educational opportunities, programs and resources provided by IEEE. IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka 2023 was developed in collaboration with IEEE SLInspire, IEEE Techverse Sri Lanka, IEEE Sri Lanka Section Students Activities Committee, IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka, IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section, IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT Group and IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter. This was conducted on the 3rd and 4th of April 2023 at TRACE Expert City, Sri Lanka.

Warmest congratulations on your remarkable accomplishment, and we extend our best wishes for your future endeavours.

## Supporting Friend of IEEE Member Geographic Activities Award



We are excited to announce that London Stock Exchange Group in Sri Lanka has been honoured with the esteemed "Supporting Friend of IEEE Member Geographic Activities Award" by the prestigious IEEE for "supporting IEEE Sri Lanka Section's STEM, entrepreneurship, technological, and humanitarian efforts."

This recognition highlights their exceptional partnership over five years, contributing to impactful projects, collaborations, and knowledge exchange within our local engineering community, and inspires us onwards, paving the way for future successes.

Congratulations to London Stock Exchange Group in Sri Lanka for this well deserved recognition.



# *The Inspiring Stories*

## R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award Winner - a Beacon of Dedication and Leadership

We take immense pleasure in recognizing the winner of the IEEE Region 10 SAC Outstanding Volunteer Award by Chamika Sudusinghe, Secretary of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section.

Chamika Sudusinghe, a graduate of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Moratuwa, has not only excelled academically but has also made a significant contribution to IEEE. His remarkable journey is a testament to his dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to both his academic and extracurricular pursuits.

Chamika's journey into IEEE volunteering began in 2018, during his freshman year at the university. Over the course of six years, he has exhibited unparalleled dedication to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) through his involvement with the IEEE University of Moratuwa Student Branch, IEEE Sri Lanka Section, IEEE Region 10 and Global (MGA) Committees.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Chamika was awarded the prestigious IEEE R10 SAC Outstanding Volunteer Award for 2023 by the IEEE Region 10 (Asia-Pacific Region) Student Activities Committee. This distinction is particularly noteworthy as it marks the first time a Sri Lankan has received this esteemed award.

Chamika Sudusinghe's journey has been marked by numerous accolades and achievements. He has not only excelled in academia but has also demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation in extracurricular activities. During his undergraduate days, Chamika became the only student in the world to win all three major global student awards from the IEEE Computer Society. These include the Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society Award (2021), the Lance Stafford Larson Student Writing Award (2021), and the Richard E. Merwin Scholarship Award (2020). Further, in recognition of his exceptional contributions, Chamika received the Outstanding Student Volunteer Award from the IEEE Sri Lanka Section in 2021.



Chamika's prowess extends beyond his academic achievements. He achieved the 2nd Runner-Up position in the ACM SIGBED Student Research Competition at ES Week in 2022, a remarkable feat for a Sri Lankan student. He was also a finalist in the ACM SIGMICRO Student Research Competition at MICRO in 2021. Chamika's entrepreneurial spirit is evident through his participation in various startup competitions.

Chamika has made significant contributions to academia with two journal articles, two conference papers, and one book chapter in the fields of computer architecture and machine learning. His research work has been recognized in reputable publications, including IEEE Design & Test and Design Automation and Test in Europe (DATE). Chamika Sudusinghe's journey is a source of inspiration for the vast network of IEEE volunteers in IEEE Sri Lanka, and beyond.

His dedication, academic excellence, and commitment to innovation have not only brought prestigious international IEEE awards to Sri Lanka but also highlighted the potential of young engineers to make a profound impact on the world.



As he continues to strive for excellence in his career, Chamika's journey reminds us that with passion, determination, and a commitment to learning and giving back to the community, anything is possible. His remarkable achievements stand as a testament to the potential that lies within each individual to make a lasting and meaningful impact on their chosen field. Chamika Sudusinghe is indeed a shining example of the heights that can be reached when one combines academic prowess with a passion for service and innovation. Thank you for your exceptional service, and may your inspiring efforts continue to shine as a beacon for us all.





# SC2023 EnablingLeaders TO BUILD A SustainableFuture



## IEEE Section Global Congress 2023 Ottawa, Canada

The IEEE Section Congress is a globally renowned event that unites IEEE members from around the world, providing a platform for networking, knowledge exchange, and collaboration. This prestigious event took place in Ottawa, Canada, from 11th of August to 13th of August, leaving an indelible mark on the technological landscape.

The IEEE Section Congress in Ottawa brought together professionals, researchers, and students, fostering an environment for innovation and growth within the field of electrical and electronic engineering.

Volunteer leaders from around the world was meet in the Shaw Centre, Ottawa, to exchange ideas and learn about the products and programs IEEE offers to members in their local areas.

Among the attendees, delegates from Sri Lanka made a significant impact, showcasing their nation's technological prowess on a global stage. In this article, we'll explore the highlights and significance of this remarkable event. The IEEE Section Congress offered a comprehensive range of technical sessions, workshops, and panel discussions covering a broad spectrum of topics.





One of the most memorable aspects of the IEEE Section Congress was the lineup of distinguished keynote speakers. Industry leaders, visionary researchers, and tech innovators shared their insights and experiences. Their presence not only inspired attendees but also provided valuable guidance on the future direction of technology.

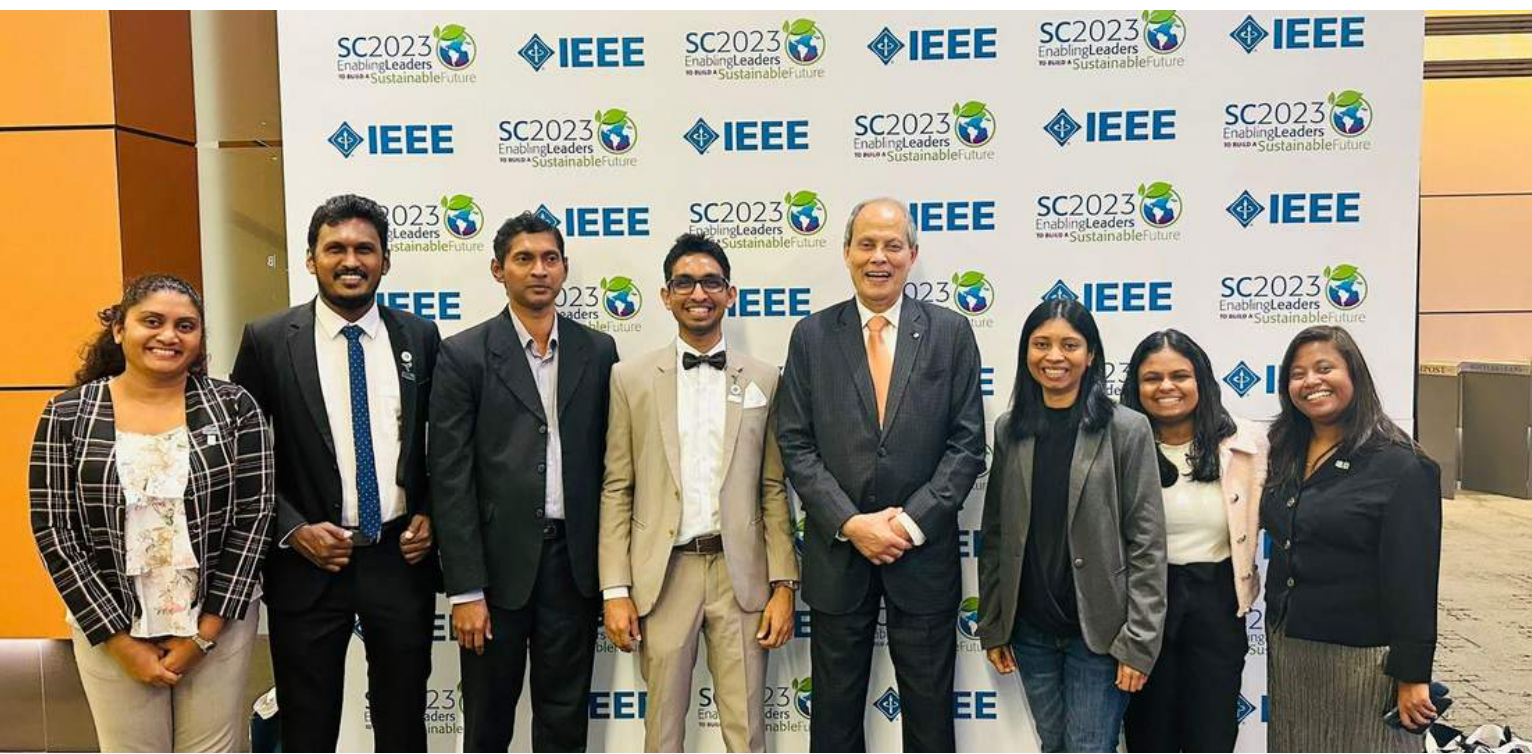
The IEEE Section Congress is renowned for its unparalleled networking opportunities. Attendees had the chance to connect with professionals from diverse backgrounds, share ideas, and foster collaborations. These interactions are vital for the growth and development of the IEEE community and the technological field as a whole.

The 2023 IEEE Section Congress in Ottawa, Canada, was a resounding success, bringing together the brightest minds in IEEE from all over the world. The event provided a platform for discussing the latest advancements, exchanging ideas, and fostering collaborations that are crucial to the ongoing progress of technology.



The IEEE Sri Lanka Section has garnered well-deserved recognition for outstanding efforts in fostering and promoting Ethics Awareness within IEEE Region 10 during 2023. This was issued at the 2023 IEEE Section Congress in Ottawa, Canada.

With its diverse themes, renowned speakers, and collaborative atmosphere, the IEEE Section Congress in Ottawa demonstrated that innovation and progress in technology are at the heart of our global community.





# IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit

## Celebrating Innovation and Excellence

### IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee

By **Vismini Amarasinha**

The IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee, in collaboration with the IEEE Student Branches of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University and Sri Lanka Technological Campus, held the "IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit."

The summit was divided into two phases; the first phase that took place on the 16th of September 2023 acted as a plenary session to provide our participants a platform to get to know IEEE better and interact with Student Branches across the island.

Over 110 participants attended the event, mostly from the two student branches that hosted the event and other student branches in the section, and took part in the interactive sessions and fun games that were organized.

The main event of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit was the second phase that took place on the 24th of September. It was an enriching and informative event with some of the most influential voices in the IEEE Sri Lanka Section.

The opening of the event was gracefully led by Ms. Warunika Hippola, Regional Student Representative of IEEE Region 10 Student Activities Committee, who set the tone for the occasion with their engaging and captivating presence.

In Session 01, we had the privilege of welcoming Ms. Lihini Rajapaksha, Secretary of IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section, as she unveiled the abundant rewards of IEEE volunteering. Attendees had the opportunity to discover how IEEE volunteering can lead to personal and professional growth, networking opportunities, and the chance to make a meaningful impact on the community.

Session 02 featured Ms. Sewwandie Nanayakkara, Assistant Secretary of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section, who shared valuable insights on "Pathways to Success." She discussed the benefits of setting clear goals, honing skills, and seeking opportunities within IEEE for career advancement. Most importantly on how IEEE can act as a tool to navigate their career paths successfully. The highlight of event was the panel discussion, "IEEE, A Compass of Success," where industry leaders shared their experiences and wisdom.



Mr. Dhammika Marasinghe, Vice-Chair of IEEE Sri Lanka Section, Mr. Peshan Sampath, Treasurer of IEEE Sri Lanka Section, and Mr. Lakshan Madushanka, Chair, Student Activities of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section, discussed the benefits of volunteering, such as gaining guidance, expanding knowledge, and fostering professional relationships. The discussion imparted attendees with knowledge and a better understanding of how IEEE can be a valuable compass to navigate their journey to success and knowledge on the concrete steps they can take to successfully execute projects and initiatives within student branches, sections and in their career as well as the many benefits to students that IEEE offers such as technical resources.

In Session 03, Mr. Vidura Bandara, Chair, Student Activities, IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter, decoded the secrets of leadership diaries. Participants learned about the benefits of effective leadership, including improved teamwork, communication skills, and the ability to inspire and guide others towards shared goals.

It was an exceptional gathering of minds in the world of IEEE, and attendees were able to gain profound insights into IEEE volunteering, career success, mentorship, and leadership.

In addition to the seminars, the participants were given an opportunity to connect with one another and were urged to seek collaborations between IEEE Student Branches due to the representation of numerous IEEE Student Branches of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section. To improve the attendees' abilities, a networking and leadership skills development session was organised. The activity was fun for the participants, and by igniting excitement and a sense of competition, it helped to keep the energy up throughout the day.

The event was marked by several significant accomplishments. Firstly, it successfully increased awareness about IEEE, highlighting the advantages of IEEE membership and the associated benefits.



ORGANIZED BY



SUPPORTED BY



**IEEE SRI LANKA SECTION  
STUDENT SUMMIT 2023**

ON 24TH OF SEPTEMBER 2023 AT HOMETREE COWORKING



Attendees gained insights into the numerous membership benefits, including networking opportunities, career development, and access to technical resources, encouraging students to join IEEE and become part of a global community. Another notable achievement was encouraging leadership skills development within IEEE. The event featured some of the most distinguished volunteers within the IEEE Sri Lanka Section enabling them to learn from a variety of viewpoints because each session was delivered by a Guest Speaker who represented a different organizational unit.

The event also fostered increased networking among student volunteers from the country, providing a platform for sharing experiences and building connections. It significantly contributed to professional development, offering informative sessions by industry professionals and senior IEEE members, particularly beneficial for student members looking to enhance their team management, event management, and soft skills. Moreover, the event effectively highlighted the various volunteering opportunities available within the IEEE Sri Lanka Section and beyond, thanks to guest speakers from multiple organisational units. The Section-Student Forum provided students with a direct channel to voice their concerns, gain insights, and receive advice from IEEE Sri Lanka Section Officers. Finally, the event acted as a catalyst for encouraging collaboration among various Student Branches, creating a unified platform for OUs to work together synergistically.



ORGANIZED BY IEEE SLSAC Sri Lanka Member | SUPPORTED BY IEEE Region10 Student Activities Committee | IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit 2023 ON 24TH OF SEPTEMBER 2023 AT SRI LANKA CONVENTION

The IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Summit was a resounding success, achieving numerous milestones and leaving an indelible mark on all participants. It played a pivotal role in increasing IEEE awareness, underlining the benefits of membership, and inspiring students to embrace this global community.

The event's focus on leadership development, networking, professional growth, and volunteer opportunities has empowered our student members with the tools and knowledge to excel in their academic and professional journeys. The direct engagement with IEEE Sri Lanka Section and the spirit of collaboration fostered among Student Branches have set the stage for continued growth and excellence. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the speakers, volunteers, and participants who made this event a triumph, and we look forward to continuing this journey of learning, networking, and innovation within IEEE.



# Electronic Design Competition 2023

## Celebrating Innovation and Excellence

### IEEE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee

By Anudi Sugathadasa, Collaborative Activities Sub-committee

We are delighted to bring you the highlights of IEEE EDC 2023, an extraordinary Electronic Design Competition organized by IEEE Sri Lanka Section, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Students Activities Committee (SLSAC), and generously supported by IEEE Region 10 Educational Activities.

We are proud to acknowledge SLT Mobitel as the Bronze Partner of this prestigious event.

This electrifying competition unfolded in two stages - the Selection Rounds and the Final Rounds. Participants showcased their skills and ingenuity, aiming to secure a place in the highly-anticipated Final Rounds.

The Selection Rounds took place on the 2nd of September 2023 and were hosted at four distinguished centers: the University of Peradeniya, the University of Moratuwa, the University of Ruhuna, and the University of Jaffna. The eagerly awaited Final Rounds occurred on the 16th of September 2023 at the University of Moratuwa, where the cream of the crop of electronic design talents came together. The competition was nothing short of a technological spectacle, showcasing brilliant innovation and exceptional problem-solving skills.

At the climactic Award Ceremony, we had the privilege of hosting Mr. Asela Eranda, Deputy General Manager of the Digital Lab at SLTMOBITEL, The Embryo Innovation Center, as our Guest of Honour.





Furthermore, Mr. Pramitha Muthukudaarachchi, an Engineer specializing in Embedded Systems at SLTMOBITEL, lent his expertise as a member of the Judging Panel.

The winners of the Selection Rounds were rightfully honored with certificates, acknowledging their outstanding performance and dedication. We also want to extend our gratitude to the volunteers from the University of Moratuwa, who offered their unwavering support throughout the event. They were also recognized with certificates for their invaluable contributions.

The moment we had all been waiting for arrived, as the top three teams claimed their well-deserved positions.

Team Instech secured the prestigious first place, while the remarkable Team Circuit Craftsmen claimed the second place. Finally, Team Tipitip's dedication and innovative prowess earned them the third place in this hotly contested competition.

In Conclusion, IEEE EDC 2023 was not just a competition; it was a celebration of innovation, talent, and relentless dedication. We extend our sincere congratulations to all the participants, winners, and volunteers who made this event a resounding success. We look forward to more exciting and innovative competitions in the future. Thank you to all who contributed to making IEEE EDC 2023 a memorable and intellectually stimulating event.

# Nurturing Innovation and Connectivity

## The IEEE Techverse Sri Lanka

**Akeela Ameer, Secretary - IEEE Techverse Sri Lanka**

In the heart of Sri Lanka's vibrant academic landscape, the IEEE Techverse initiative, orchestrated by the Student Activities Committee of IEEE Sri Lanka Section (SLSAC), stands tall as a beacon for technological enthusiasts. Formerly known as IEEE Techno Meetup Sri Lanka (TMSL), this initiative has evolved into its seventh year as IEEE Techverse, with a renewed focus on diverse technology-related topics.

IEEE Techverse covers a wide range of tech-related themes, providing valuable insights and discussions that benefit tech enthusiasts with diverse interests and curiosity. This Project consists of four distinctive sub-brands: Tech Innovator Podcast, Techsphere, Tech Narrator, and Techscribe.

In a world where technology is evolving at an unprecedented pace, the need for a platform that nurtures innovation, connects minds, and explores the frontiers of technology is more crucial than ever. Enter IEEE Techverse, an initiative that has firmly established itself as a driving force in reshaping the technological landscape of Sri Lankan Tech Community.

Now, let's embark on a journey through the captivating events hosted by IEEE Techverse. These events bring together tech enthusiasts, industry experts, and visionaries to delve into the latest trends and technologies shaping the future.



Each event offers a unique perspective on the tech universe, fostering knowledge-sharing, networking, and a deeper understanding of the possibilities technology holds.

At the heart of Techverse lies its flagship event, "Trace Connect." This event embodies the initiative's unwavering commitment to bringing tech enthusiasts together. It's more than just a gathering; it's an immersive experience where attendees delve into the world of technology. Here, you not only gain valuable insights from industry experts but also have the chance to network, share ideas, and build lasting professional relationships. The event's central location adds to the excitement, making it a prime opportunity for passionate individuals to explore the ever-evolving landscape of technology.

In June, Techverse took us on a journey beyond our planet with the "Space ICT Webinar."



This event was a captivating exploration of the intersection between space technology and information and communication technology (ICT). With esteemed authority Prof. Rohan Munasinghe leading the way, attendees had the privilege of delving into the world of satellite systems, remote sensing technologies, and the transformative impact of artificial intelligence and big data in space missions.

"PlayTech" was a webinar that ventured into the intricate landscapes of esports and traditional sports. It wasn't just about competition; it was a deep dive into the evolving landscape where these two seemingly disparate worlds converge. The event highlighted the significance, disparities, and commonalities between these domains, sparking dynamic discussions among students, industry professionals, and enthusiasts.

In August, "Finnovate" shed light on the dynamic fintech landscape. The sessions covered a spectrum of topics, from inspiring fintech success stories to navigating the complex world of regulations and compliance. Entrepreneurs in the fintech industry shared their personal experiences, and the event promoted fintech awareness and education, providing a glimpse into the future of finance.

Under the TechSphere sub-brand, the "5G Nexus" session in September featured Mr. Anuradha Udunuwara, Senior Engineer at Sri Lanka Telecom PLC, as the guest speaker. The session was an enlightening journey into the realm of 5G technology, unraveling its potential and its transformative impact on the future of connectivity.



These events collectively showcase Techverse's dedication to fostering innovation, connecting like-minded individuals, and exploring the limitless possibilities of technology.

One participant, deeply impressed by the experience at "Trace Connect," shared a remarkable insight: "I was amazed by the depth of knowledge shared at Trace Connect. It's not just an event; it's an experience that connects you with the tech universe." This feedback beautifully captures the essence of IEEE Techverse events. It goes beyond being a mere gathering or conference; it's an immersive journey into the world of technology.

As IEEE Techverse moves into 2023/2024, it continues to be a driving force in reshaping the technological landscape and nurturing a community enthused about the endless potential of innovation. For more information and to stay updated on upcoming events, visit the IEEE Techverse website <https://techverse.ieee.lk/>. For inquiries and participation, please contact us through [techverse-sl@ieee.org](mailto:techverse-sl@ieee.org).

# UpSkill Sri Lanka 2023

*Every skill you acquire doubles your odds of success.*  
– Scott Adams –

**By Pavani Rathnayaka**

“UpSkill 2023” is one of the signature events in the LETs talk calendar, this fascinating project is organised to improve several qualities and knowledge of all the young professionals out in the industry and still endeavouring in their university lives.

“UpSkill 2023” is a three-day workshop series that was organized and successfully concluded by the LETs Talk - IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka. The ultimate goal was to improve and share some knowledge in several fields for all the young professionals out there. It provided a platform for individuals, to comprehend and shine their skill set, abilities, and mindset, in various fields.

The inaugural session of UpSkill 2023 took place on August 1st at 5 p.m. over Zoom. The event encompassed a pair of informative discussions: “Navigating the Real World” led by Mr. Thilina Bandara, and “Leading with Empathy” presented by Mr. Mohammed Rushdi Hadhi. These speakers employed captivating approaches throughout their talks, ensuring an engaging and captivating experience for the attendees. On the initial day of UpSkill 2023, there was active participation with over 75 individuals. The event ended as the clock neared 8:30 p.m and marked completion.

The second day on UpSkill focused on the financial and entrepreneurial side of individual well being.

here there were 3 speakers in all, Mr Dulith Herath, Dr Nirosha Wedasingha, Mr Bhagya Boteque and Mr.Rahul Nimesh. Here Mr Rahul majored on the entrepreneurial mindset topic and elaborated on the ongoing and trending techniques and methods of income, while the rest of the speakers focused on “unleashing entrepreneurial success’ in the panel discussion.

The finale episode of the UpSkill 2023, the most awaited physical event of the calendar was held on the 5th of August from 9:00 AM onwards at AIA Tower, Colombo 07, which was led by two amazing guest speakers, Mr. Kapila Karunarathne and Mr. Shenal Colonne.

This highly anticipated event was graced by the expertise of two exceptional guest speakers, Mr. Kapila Karunarathne and Mr. Shenal Colonne. Mr. Kapila Karunarathne conducted an engaging networking session, fostering connections among participants through interactive games that encouraged collaboration and exchange of ideas.

This 3 day event of 3 talk sessions, panel discussion, network session and the workshop in all was successfully completed with over 200 registrations. In combination of both physical and virtual events. Considering all the feedback and comments got from the participants each day has shown that organizers have done something valuable for society.



# IGNITION: Igniting Minds and Fueling Innovation

## The IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka

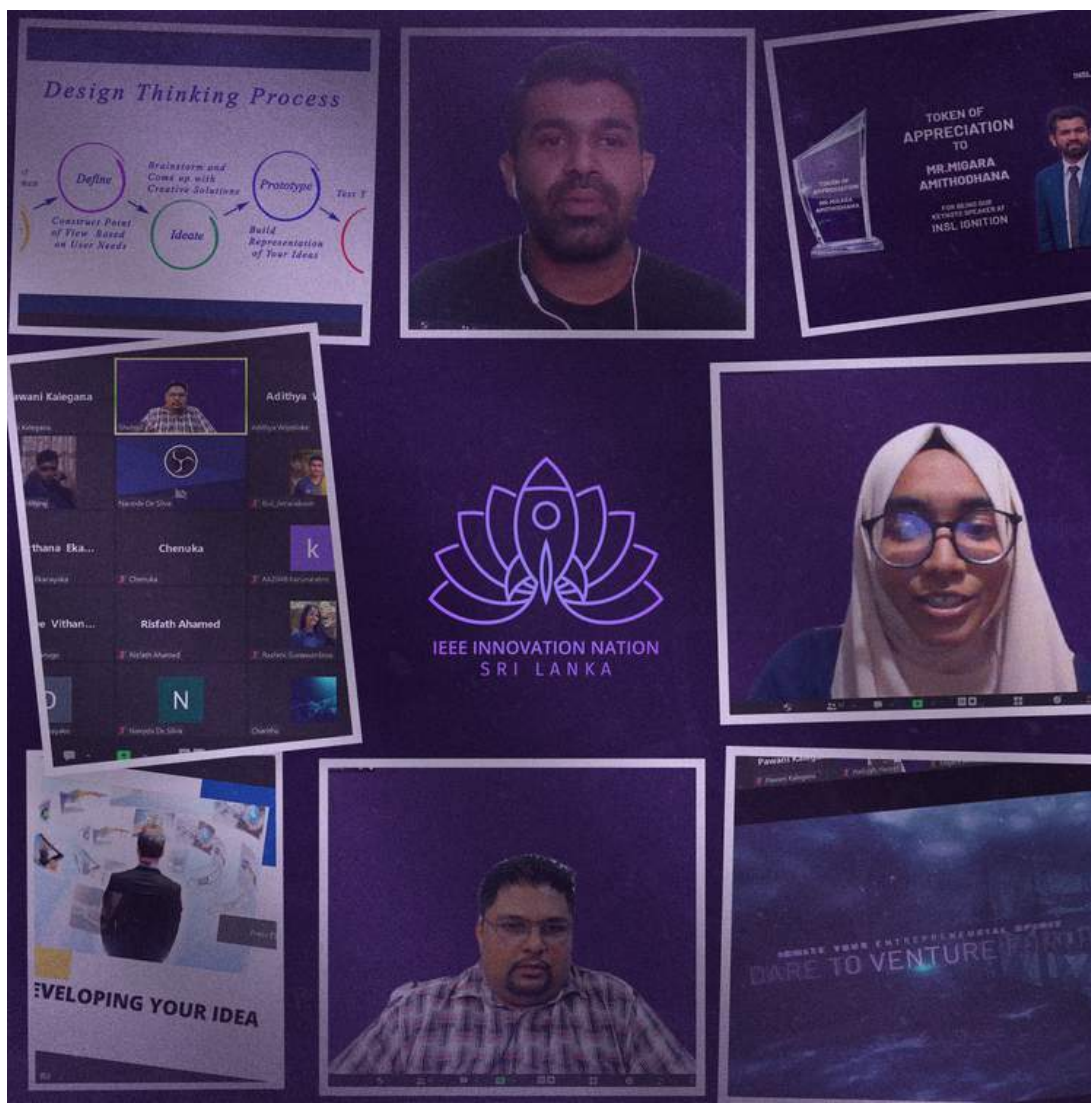
By Thiloka Senavirathne

In a world driven by innovation and an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, events that bring together thought leaders and changemakers hold immense significance. The “IGNITION” program by INSL is precisely one such event that was capable of illuminating the minds of attendees, leaving them inspired and ready to take on new challenges.

With a diverse lineup of speakers spanning three impactful days, IGNITION served as a beacon of enlightenment for both aspiring entrepreneurs and seasoned professionals.

The theme of inspiration resonated deeply with participants, promising insights that could truly transform lives. The program kicked off with Mr. Manodya Nabadawewa.

As an accomplished hub innovator, executive at Trace Sri Lanka, and vice chairperson at IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka, Mr. Manodya embodies the essence of innovation in every sense. His invigorating talk on entrepreneurial journeys set the stage for a transformative event, leaving attendees eager for more.



The fire continued to burn brightly as Mr. Amithe Gamage took the spotlight on August 12th, 2023, with the commencement of INSL IGNITION Day 2. As the co-founder of Quantum Leap, Mr. Amithe's thought-provoking insights into coaching and transformation reminded attendees that innovation knows no boundaries and can be nurtured in every facet of life.

The event's crescendo was reached as the day went off with the appearance of Mr. Abith Latiff. As the Manager of ICTA's Startup Ecosystem Development Team and the Director of Phoenix Gaming, Mr. Abith's impact on the tech industry is palpable.

On September 2nd, IGNITION entered its Day 3, welcoming two more exceptional speakers to the stage, Mr. Shohan Kulasuriya and Mr. Migara Amithodhana. Mr. Shohan Kulasuriya, the founder and CEO of Deegenics Pvt. Ltd., is a former banker turned software entrepreneur who is renowned for his ground-breaking "ManKiwwa" program and for encouraging Sri Lanka's startups. He provided guidance on transforming ideas into market-ready products.

He stressed the importance of brainstorming to generate innovative concepts, conducting thorough market research to understand trends and competition, and creating prototypes for user feedback. Kulasuriya highlighted the significance of learning from failures and emphasized the need for uniqueness in a competitive market. Engineer Migara Amithodhana, co-founder of Magicbit, is not only a fan of public speaking and lecturing but also a fervent supporter of innovation and creativity.

He introduced the audience to the concept of design thinking as a user-centered approach to problem-solving. He emphasized the value of understanding users' needs and preferences and highlighted the "Define" phase, which involves clearly defining problems before seeking solutions. Amithodhana also discussed the "Empathize" phase, which focuses on people-centered design and the importance of empathy in understanding users' perspectives.

These insights from Shohan Kulasuriya and Migara Amithodhana provided attendees with practical advice for idea development and problem-solving. Their presentations on Day 3 of IGNITION left the audience inspired and equipped with valuable tools to navigate the challenges of innovation and entrepreneurship. The IGNITION event continues to be a source of knowledge and inspiration for individuals seeking to make a positive impact in their respective fields.

In a world where innovation propels progress, events like IGNITION serve as beacons that illuminate the path toward a brighter future. They remind us that every individual has the power to innovate, to create, and to inspire. Innovation has proven to be a catalyst for change, bringing together thought leaders and changemakers to drive innovation and shape a better tomorrow. The September spark of innovation will undoubtedly continue to inspire and ignite innovation for months to come. So, let's look forward with anticipation to Day 4, as it promises to be another day filled with inspiration and groundbreaking ideas.



# Inspiring Minds and Charting a Path to Excellence

## IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka | Ignition Day 4

By **Dhanuka Jayawardhana & Udini Niwanthika Samaradeera**

In a world marked by an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and a relentless drive for innovation, IEEE INSL Ignition Day 4 assumed a pivotal role. This remarkable event took place physically at the esteemed IIT University premises on the 10th of October 2023, starting at 10.00 AM.

Ignition Day 4 was a significant departure from its predecessors, transitioning from a virtual format to a physical event. This shift reflected a desire for in-person interaction and emphasized the importance of adaptability and resilience within the innovation community. It seamlessly brought together thought leaders, industry visionaries, and change-makers to illuminate the minds of attendees, leaving them inspired and equipped to confront novel challenges. Featuring an impressive lineup of speakers and an array of diverse topics, Ignition Day 4 stood as a beacon of enlightenment, attracting both aspiring entrepreneurs and seasoned professionals.

The day commenced with a heartwarming welcome speech by Mr. Aamir Wasis, the chairperson of the organizing committee. His opening address not only set the tone for the day but also underscored the significance of the event in the context of fostering innovation.



Mr. Dulith Herath, the Founder and Chairperson of Kapruka Holdings plc, took the stage as the first speaker. His presentation delved into the topic of “Creating Your Business Roadmap”. Mr. Herath's extensive experience and wisdom illuminated the path to success in the entrepreneurial world.

Attendees left with a deeper understanding of how to chart a course toward achieving their business goals, armed with strategies to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of commerce.

Ms. Bernadine Jayasinghe, Managing Director of the Institute of Essential Studies (IES) and a President's award-winning TV personality, followed as the second speaker.



Her captivating talk on "Crafting Your Personal Brand" resonated profoundly with the audience, empowering them to construct strong and authentic personal brands. Attendees left with newfound confidence in their ability to shape their public image and enhance their career prospects.

Mr. Peter D' Almeida, the renowned founder and former CEO of N-able Pvt. Ltd., was the third speaker. He unveiled the qualities that define a truly great CEO. His thought-provoking insights into leadership and the attributes that set exceptional CEOs apart from the rest captivated the audience. Attendees departed with a profound appreciation of the skills and mindset required to excel in leadership roles, be it in startups or established corporations.

Mr. Mafaz Ifharm, the co-founder and chief storyteller at Show & Tell, followed as the fourth speaker. Renowned for his expertise in crafting the perfect pitch and storytelling, Mr. Ifharm delivered an enlightening talk that left the audience spellbound.

His insights into the art of effective pitching provided attendees with the essential tools to communicate their ideas with impact, emphasizing the transformative power of compelling narratives.

Prof. Rangika Halwathura, a distinguished professor at the University of Moratuwa's Department of Civil Engineering, took center stage as the fifth speaker to shed light on 'Invention, Innovation, and Intellectual Property.' His presentation emphasized the paramount importance of safeguarding intellectual property in an era characterized by rapid technological advancement. Attendees gained a deeper understanding of the mechanisms in place to protect and encourage innovation, inspiring them to explore uncharted territories.

As the day unfolded, the distribution of tokens added an interactive dimension to the event, facilitating engagement and networking. The event concluded with a gracious vote of thanks by Mr. Himasha Randil, expressing appreciation to all participants for their active involvement.

In a world where innovation drives progress, events like IEEE INSL Ignition Day 4 serve as guiding lights, illuminating the path to a brighter future. They serve as a reminder that each individual possesses the potential to innovate, create, and inspire, thereby contributing to a more dynamic and prosperous world. The knowledge and inspiration acquired during this day will undoubtedly continue to foster innovation, ultimately shaping a better tomorrow. Enthusiastically, we await future events that promise even greater inspiration and more groundbreaking ideas to come.



# Shining Stars : Meet the Newly Appointed Members IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter Student Activity Committee 2023/24

By **Indudini Thennakoon**

The IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter is thrilled to announce its new Student Activity Committee (SAC) members for the 2023/24 term. These dedicated individuals are set to steer the organization towards even greater heights, and their remarkable backgrounds and experiences make them a formidable team to watch out for.



## Chairperson – Mr. Vidura Bandara

*Leadership in Volunteering Excellence*

Mr. Vidura Bandara assumes the role of Chairperson for the IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter SAC. His extensive volunteering experience spans over half a decade and includes various notable roles such as Section Student Representative of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section in 2022, co-chair of LETS Talk 2021, Chair of the Membership Development Sub-committee of SAC in 2020, and Chairman of IEEE INSL 2020.

His remarkable dedication and leadership in the world of volunteering make him an ideal candidate to lead the committee.

## Vice Chairperson of Membership Development & Program Team - Mr. Geenoth Viksura

Strengthening the IEEE Community

Assuming the role of Vice Chairperson of Membership Development & Program Team is Mr. Geenoth Viksura, a Software Engineering Undergraduate from Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (SUSL).

Beyond his academic pursuits, Mr. Viksura is a member of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section's editorial committee and holds the position of Vice Secretary at the IEEE Student Branch of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. His diverse contributions reflect a commitment to fostering membership development and elevating program quality.

### **Vice Chairperson of Public Visibility - Mr. Saketha Pulasthi**

*Shining a Spotlight on IEEE's Initiatives*

With a keen eye on public visibility, Mr. Saketha Pulasthi steps into the role of Vice Chairperson of Public Visibility. He stands out with a background in cybersecurity at SLTC Research University. Currently a Trainee Security Operation Center Analyst at N-able Private Limited, he was a founder member of the IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter of SLTC Research University.

His leadership extends to being the Immediate Past Chairman, and his accolades include an international award for the project HackTeon v1.0, the first-ever game development boot camp and hackathon in Sri Lanka, and CodeMania v2.0.

### **Vice Chairperson of Awards and Recognition -**

#### **Mr. Sahan Dankelewaththa**

*Celebrating Excellence in Technology*

Mr. Sahan Dankelewaththa, our Vice Chairperson of Awards and Recognition, hails from the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU).

As an ambassador of IEEEExtreme 17.0 at KDU, Mr. Dankelewaththa embodies a commitment to promoting Awards and recognizing outstanding achievements within our IEEE community.

### **Vice Chairperson of Editorial - Miss. Indudini Thennakoon**

*Crafting and Writing IEEE's Story*

In the realm of editorial endeavors, we are delighted to have Miss. Indudini Thennakoon as our Vice Chairperson of Editorial. An Information Technology undergraduate at SLIIT, Miss. Thennakoon currently serves as the Vice Chair of the IEEE Computer Society at SLIIT, bringing a meticulous eye for detail and a passion for effective communication.

With her focus on editorial duties, she will play a key role in writing the chapter's stories and accomplishments. Her passion for technology and communication will undoubtedly help keep the chapter's members informed and engaged.

### **Vice Chairperson of Industry Engagement - Miss. Anudi Perera**

*Connecting Technology with Real-world Applications*

Miss. Anudi Perera, our Vice Chairperson of Industry Engagement, adds a dynamic touch to our team. Currently interning at the prestigious London Stock Exchange Group, she infuses real-world industry insights into our committee. With over two years of IEEE volunteering experience, Miss. Perera also serves as the Program & Logistics Vice Chair of the IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter at IIT, showcasing her multifaceted involvement in our community.



# 2023 IEEE Summer School on Computational Intelligence: Theory and Applications

Department of Computer Science, University of Jaffna

By Prof. Amirthalingam Ramanan,

Advisor - IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter, University of Jaffna

The IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter of the University of Jaffna (IEEE-CIS-SBC-UoJ) successfully hosted the 2023 IEEE Summer School on Computational Intelligence: Theory and Applications. This significant event took place from 12-14 July 2023 at the Department of Computer Science, University of Jaffna. Notably, the University of Jaffna's IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter is the only chapter of its kind in Sri Lanka. To the best of our knowledge, this marks the inaugural summer school organized by the University of Jaffna and is also the first summer school on computational intelligence conducted by any higher education institution in Sri Lanka.

The IEEE-CIS-SBC-UoJ received a competitive grant worth USD 3,900 (~ LKR 1.2 million) from IEEE to conduct the summer school. Remarkably, only nine proposals worldwide were selected to host IEEE CIS Summer Schools. Prof. A. Ramanan played a crucial role as the Advisor of the IEEE-CIS-SBC-UoJ. He was instrumental in preparing and submitting the grant proposal to IEEE and additionally served as the General Chair for the 2023 IEEE Summer School on Computational Intelligence.

The summer school featured a well-thought-out programme dedicated to a specific theme each day.



Day 1 focused on Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning, providing participants with a strong foundational understanding of these cutting-edge technologies. Day 2 delved into the intricacies of Natural Language Processing, highlighting the significance of language in intelligent systems. Finally, Day 3 explored the domains of IoT and Robotics, showcasing how intelligent systems interact with the physical world. This carefully curated programme promised to offer both theoretical foundations and real-world applications, complemented by hands-on training for an enriched learning experience.

The occasion gathered an outstanding assembly of speakers hailing from esteemed institutions across the globe, such as the University of Melbourne, Australia; Imperial College London, UK; and the University of Southampton, UK. Moreover, three distinguished speakers from other state universities in Sri Lanka, such as the University of Moratuwa and the University of Peradeniya, participated in the programme.

In addition to the external experts, the faculty from the University of Jaffna, consisting of six esteemed speakers, shared their invaluable insights and experiences. Furthermore, six speakers from leading software industries, including 99x, H2O.ai, and SenzAgro Solutions, conducted hands-on training sessions on computational intelligence in the Department of Computer Science's laboratory.

The summer school saw enthusiastic participation from 81 students representing a diverse range of institutions, including SLIIT, the University of Peradeniya, the Eastern University Sri Lanka, the University of Ruhuna, the University of Vavuniya, the University College of Jaffna, and the University of Jaffna itself. Faculty members from the Department of Computer Science and the Faculty of Engineering at this university actively participated in the teaching-learning process of the summer school. Overall, the summer school witnessed a total of 104 participants.



The opening ceremony of this milestone event was graced by the presence of the respected Vice Chancellor, Prof. S. Srisatkunarajah, and the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Senior Prof. P. Ravirajan, whose support and approval were instrumental in making the summer school possible.



In addition to the talks and hands-on training sessions, nearly 100 participants relished the enjoyable social gatherings arranged by the students of the University of Jaffna. The banquet dinner, held on the second day of summer school at Valampuri Hotel, provided a delightful experience for all attendees.

The organizing committee and volunteers were deeply praised for their unwavering dedication and unwavering commitment, which were instrumental in the successful execution of this exceptional summer school. Their tireless endeavors ensured the event's resounding success.

Furthermore, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our long-standing supporter, WSO2 Inc., and our newly partnered sponsor, Treats: Bakery & Café, whose generous sponsorship greatly contributed to the event's triumph. Moreover, we are immensely grateful to the Department of Computer Science for providing the essential space, necessary equipment, and manpower to successfully organise this summer school. Their support has been invaluable.





# “Pink Chit” Awareness Session - 2023 Empowering Women In Engineering

IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of  
General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

By Dinithi Amarasinghe

On the 08th of August, 2023 marked a significant event on the calendar of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) – the "Pink Chit-Awareness Session 2023", organised by the IEEE Women In Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group.

The event aimed to illuminate the path for aspiring women engineers and promote gender diversity in the fields of Engineering and Computing. The event unfolded through an engaging agenda, captivating presentations, and the spirit of camaraderie, leaving attendees inspired and motivated.

The IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group at KDU has been unwavering in its dedication to cultivating an environment where women engineers can thrive.

With the aim of encouraging participation, awareness, and collaboration among young females in technical disciplines, the group has emerged as a driving force in the promotion of gender equality in STEM fields.

Comprising a team of passionate members, the group has grown to include 60-70 individuals who are committed to furthering the cause of women's empowerment. Through a range of initiatives, events, and activities, the group seeks to not only inspire but also provide a platform for personal and professional growth for women in the technical industry.

Under the banner of the IEEE WIE Affinity Group, the "Pink Chit Awareness Session 2023" took center stage.

This year, the event reached new horizons by hosting two simultaneous physical sessions at both Ratmalana and the Southern Campus. The Executive Committee members, who are newly appointed, were eager to extend a warm welcome to all attendees and provide insights into the essence of IEEE WIE KDU.

The event aimed to introduce the first and second-year undergraduates from the Faculty of Computing, Faculty of Engineering, and Faculty of Technology to the IEEE WIE Affinity Group at KDU. This introduction served as a stepping stone to the empowering community that awaited them.



**Showcasing Benefits and Opportunities:** Through engaging presentations and interactions, the session highlighted the myriad benefits and opportunities that come with being a part of the IEEE WIE community. From skill development to networking, the advantages were presented vividly.

The event strived to motivate attendees to actively engage and collaborate in impactful projects alongside the dedicated WIE teams. By showcasing ongoing projects and their outcomes, the event painted a picture of the meaningful contributions that can be made.

"Pink Chit" was designed to be an interactive and engaging platform. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with enthusiastic volunteers and explore the potential to join WIE teams, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose.

the event commenced with a palpable air of anticipation, setting the stage for an enlightening journey that lay ahead. As attendees settled into their seats, a collective sense of curiosity and enthusiasm permeated the atmosphere, hinting at the promising proceedings to come. In the spirit of appreciation, the event saw the distribution of gifts to the winners of the giveaways. This added a layer of excitement and fun to the proceedings, making the event not only informative but also enjoyable.

The "Pink Chit Awareness Session 2023" was a resounding success, embodying the values of empowerment, collaboration, and inclusivity. By providing a platform for young women to connect, learn, and contribute, the event underlined the commitment of the IEEE WIE Affinity Group at KDU to fostering gender diversity in technical fields. The event served as a beacon of inspiration, igniting the path for future women engineers to realize their potential and make their mark in the world of Engineering and Computing. As the sun set on the event, it marked not an end, but a new beginning – one where the seeds of empowerment and change had been sown. In a world where diversity and innovation go hand in hand, the "Pink Chit Awareness Session 2023" was a testament to the fact that progress knows no bounds when empowered women come together to shape the future.



# CodeCon 3.0: Inter University Hackathon

IEEE Computer Society of Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT)

*Knowledge is power."*

**By Mithila Samarawickrama**

CodeCon 3.0, organized by the IEEE Computer Society of Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), was an embodiment of this profound statement. Hackathons have become a breeding ground for innovation and a hub for naturally gifted students to showcase their talents and Codecon 3.0 was no different. This third iteration of CodeCon proved to be a fun and challenging experience for participants, offering them a golden opportunity to acquire valuable skills and insights that will serve them well in both their academic and professional careers.

CodeCon 3.0 emerged from a rich history of tech events at SLIIT, with each iteration surpassing its predecessor in terms of scale and impact. This was the first time this event was open to all undergraduates in Sri Lanka as the previous events had only been exclusive for SLIIT students.

The organizing committee, comprised of dedicated students led by Adithya Liyanaarachchi, who worked tirelessly to create a platform where coding enthusiasts could come together to learn, collaborate, and innovate.

CodeCon 3.0 adopted a dynamic format, featuring a hackathon, workshops, and tech talks while breaking down the entire event into three major segments. During the first stage, thirty-four teams representing universities from all around the nation were asked to submit their proposals and videos pitching their innovative ideas. Out of which, ten teams were selected for the hackathon by our Chapter Advisor Ms. Shashika Lokuliyana, who is a lecturer at the Faculty of Computing, and Mr. Kavinga Abeywardena, who is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Computing.



On the 13th of March 2023, a comprehensive workshop on DevOps was conducted online on Microsoft Teams by guest speaker Mr. Chandur Dissanayake, a software engineer at Surge Global. This workshop offered the participants a means of going from “zero to hero with site reliability engineering.”

The heart of CodeCon 3.0 was undoubtedly its hackathon, which took place on the 15th of March at SLIIT main auditorium. Teams, comprising students from different institutions and backgrounds, battled it out with their presentations illustrating innovative solutions to real-world problems, which were judged by a panel comprising of the following individuals:

- Ms. Narmada Gamage, Lecture (Faculty of Computing, Computer Systems Engineering)
- Ms. Pipuni Wijesiri, Assistant Lecturer (Faculty of Computing, Computer Systems Engineering)
- Mr. Sarath Kadigamugedara, QA Manager (Exactpro Systems)
- Ms. Aneeta Weerasekara, Senior HR Consultant (Exactpro Systems)

The standout idea was of course none other the healthcare sharing app developed by team S2Nx, representing the University of Moratuwa, whose idea surpassed those of others coming in at first place while Regex Native from University of Sabaragamuwa and Runtime Terror from University of Sri Jayawardhanapura came in second and third, respectively. These teams were rewarded with certificates and cash prizes for their efforts. In addition, the pitching video with the most number of likes was awarded the most popular pitch award, which was won by Team 4 Bit Fortune from the University of Uva Wellassa.

CodeCon 3.0 also featured an inspiring tech talk from one of the most prominent figures in the field, Chanaka Sudesh Rathnayaka, known more popularly as Chanux Bro. His presence on the event day significantly impacted both volunteers and participants. His speech on the latest trends in technology was insightful and engaging, and in addition to enriching participants' knowledge but also motivated them to explore new horizons within the tech world. His willingness to share his knowledge and engage with the audience undoubtedly helped make CodeCon 3.0 a truly memorable event.

One of the most valuable aspects of CodeCon 3.0 was the opportunity for participants as well as volunteers to network with like-minded individuals and industry professionals. Many teams found themselves collaborating with mentors and peers they met during the event, setting the stage for potential future projects and partnerships.

All in all, CodeCon 3.0, organized by the IEEE Computer Society of SLIIT, was a resounding success that nourished the statement, "Knowledge is power." Beyond the thrill of competition, it provided a platform for learning, networking, and innovation. The event empowered young tech enthusiasts with valuable skills and insights, ensuring that they are well-equipped to tackle the challenges of both their academic and professional journeys. As the world of technology continues to evolve, events like CodeCon 3.0 play a pivotal role in nurturing the next generation of innovators and problem solvers.

# IntelliHack 3.0

## University of Colombo School of Computing IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter

By Nirmal Savinda

IntelliHack 3.0 was not just an event; it was an eagerly awaited Machine Learning Hackathon that had captured the imagination of the entire Sri Lankan tech community. As the organizers, we were filled with excitement and anticipation as we prepared to bring this event to life. This marked our third consecutive endeavor, building on the triumph of Intellihack 2019, and our enthusiasm knew no bounds.

The primary objective was to open the doors of opportunity for young, aspiring students, immersing them in the dynamic world of machine learning.

IntelliHack 3.0 was more than a mere event; it was a platform for learning, innovation, and growth. It symbolized our commitment to fostering curiosity, nurturing talent, and pushing the boundaries of what's possible in the realm of technology. It was an event we were proud to be a part of, and it left an indelible mark on the journey of countless young minds in Sri Lanka.

The excitement kicked off with two pre-hackathon workshops. The first, held virtually on February 12, 2023, via Zoom, saw over 200 participants from diverse universities and higher education institutions. Mr. Suresh Peiris, the director at Inforwaves and GDG Sri Lanka organizer, led an interactive session focusing on deploying machine learning models using cloud applications, providing invaluable insights.

The second workshop, also conducted virtually, occurred on February 26, 2023. This time, Mr. Sahan Dissanayaka, the Gold Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador, took the stage to share insights on deploying and orchestrating machine learning pipelines with Azure. Over 60 undergraduates joined in to expand their knowledge.

The main event, IntelliHack 3.0, unfolded on May 6th and 7th, 2023, at the UCSC premises. It showcased their dedication to advancing the field of machine learning. The selection process was rigorous, with a distinguished panel of industry experts reviewing and assessing proposals to choose the top ten teams.

Each team consisted of up to four talented undergraduate students. Their mission was a formidable one: to bring their proposed Machine Learning solutions to life and tackle real-world challenges, all within 24-hour timeframe. This intense journey led them to spend the night at UCSC, creating an unforgettable and enriching experience. It was a test of not only their technical skills but also their resilience and teamwork. The dedication displayed during this overnight endeavor made it a memorable and cherished part of their hackathon journey.

Mr. Sahan Dissanayake and Mr. Chathura Rathnayake, played a crucial and irreplaceable role in ensuring the success of the hackathon.



Their exceptional guidance, expertise, and hands-on assistance created a supportive and enriching learning environment.

A distinguished panel of industry professionals, including Mr. Oshan Ivantha, Mr. Keshan Sodimana, Mr. Sumedha Dissanayake from GDG Sri Lanka, Mr. Kalindu Dantanarayane from IFS R&D International (Pvt) Ltd., and Mr. Dinuka Samarakoon from Dialog Axiata PLC, undertook the challenging task of evaluating the top ten teams, adding a crucial layer of credibility to the competition.



It was a distinguished affair attended by industry leaders such as Mr. Prabath Kudagama, Vice President of Software Operations at IFS R&D International (Pvt) Ltd., Mr. Prabath Jayawardena, Manager Head of Technical Support at Nippon Paint Lanka, Mr. Harith from Dialog Axiata PLC, and Mr. Suresh Peiris, director at Inforwaves and GDG Sri Lanka organizer. Ms. Surani Sooriyaarachchi, the event secretary on behalf of the IEEE CS Student Branch Chapter of UCSC, delivered the vote of thanks. Cash prizes were distributed to the outstanding achievers of the event, including the champions who secured the top position, the 1st runner-up, and the 2nd runner-up and the most popular throughout the entire contest. These prizes served as a tangible reward for their exceptional efforts and achievements during the hackathon.



IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter of University of Colombo School of Computing would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to their sponsors, including Google Developer Group Sri Lanka (GDG Sri Lanka), London Stock Exchange Group Sri Lanka, Dialog Axiata PLC, IFS R&D International (Pvt) Ltd., Nippon Paint Lanka, and Tradekem Pvt. Ltd. Their support was instrumental in bringing this hackathon to life. We also appreciate Pahasara UCSC Media, our media partner, for their invaluable contributions in promoting and covering the event. The awards ceremony followed the contestants' impressive demonstrations and the panel's final judgment.

IntelliHack 3.0 was more than just a hackathon; it was a catalyst for growth, a nexus of innovation, and a testament to the potential of young minds in the field of machine learning and artificial intelligence. Its success not only benefited the immediate participants but also contributed to the broader landscape of technological advancement in Sri Lanka.

# Annual General Meeting of IEEE Student Branch, IEEE WIE Affinity Group & IEEE Computer Society Inauguration Ceremony General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

By Dinithi Amarasinghe

On 18th July 2023, The IEEE Student Branch, IEEE Computer Society, and IEEE WIE Affinity Group of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University came together to host a memorable Annual General Meeting.

Starting at noon, the event brought together students, faculty, and industry professionals marking a significant milestone for the university as it witnessed the official inauguration of the IEEE Computer Society while also recognizing the dedication and hard work of the outgoing executive members and welcoming the newly appointed ones.

The event commenced with the arrival of esteemed guests, setting the stage for an afternoon filled with inspiration and leadership.

As the clock struck noon, the university campus resonated with the melodious notes of the KDU Anthem, accompanied by the opening remarks that set the tone for the event. In a poignant moment of reverence, attendees observed a solemn moment of silence to honour the fallen war heroes, a gesture that underscored the university's deep respect for those who sacrificed their lives for the nation.

One of the highlights of the event was the lighting of the traditional oil lamp, a symbol of enlightenment and wisdom. The warm glow of the lamp symbolized the enlightenment that the world of technology brings to our lives. Mr. Supun Hansika, the Student Branch Chairman, welcomed the gathering with a heartfelt speech, introducing the Computer Society Chapter to the audience.





This was followed by Dr Pradeep Kalansooriya, the Advisor of the Computer Society, who announced the nominations, setting the stage for the upcoming elections.

The event continued to gain momentum with a guest speech by Dr. Lochanadaka, the IEEE CS Sri Lanka Section Chair, who shared valuable insights and perspectives on the field of computing. Mr. Mihin Kariyawasam, the newly elected CS Chapter Chairman, took the stage to deliver a speech, outlining his vision and goals for the future of the chapter.

The Annual Activity Report by Ms. Tharushi Dharmasiri, the SB Secretary, and the Budget Report by Mr. Sasanka Weerakoon, the Treasurer, provided an overview of the chapter's accomplishments and financial status. Dr. Asela Gunasekara, the Student Branch Counsellor, addressed the gathering, and the election of office-bearers added an element of anticipation and excitement to the proceedings. Amidst the speeches and announcements, an entertaining item captivated the audience, providing a refreshing break from the formal proceedings.

The event continued with a guest speech by Prof. Buddhika, the IEEE Sri Lanka Chairperson, who shared valuable insights into the role of IEEE in shaping the future of technology. Ms. Vismini Amarasinha, the newly elected IEEE SB Chairperson, addressed the audience, sharing her vision and aspirations for the IEEE Student Branch. The IEEE WIE Chairperson, Ms. Dewni Daraniyagala, took the stage to present the Annual Activity Report and Budget Report.



Dr. Abarnah Kirupananda, the IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Chairwoman, delivered an insightful guest speech. Dr. Asela Gunasekara returned to announce the nominations and oversee the election of office bearers for the Student Branch. Ms. Gayashani Divyanjalee, the newly appointed IEEE WIE Chairperson, delivered a heartfelt speech, expressing her dedication to the advancement of women in engineering.

The event concluded with the distribution of tokens to the outgoing executive committees, a gesture of appreciation for their hard work and dedication. In a final act of gratitude, the appointed IEEE SB Secretary extended a heartfelt vote of thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the event.

The Annual Meeting 2023 was not just a gathering; it was a manifestation of the IEEE Student Branch's dedication to fostering knowledge, innovation, and collaboration. With the Inauguration of the IEEE Computer Society and the new leadership appointments, the event marked a step forward in shaping the future of technology at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University





# Innovate & Collaborate: CodeRally 4.0

## IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter of Institute of Informatics Technology

By **Geenodh Gamage**

CodeRally 4.0, the global inter-university Generative AI hackathon presented by IEEE Computer Society Student Branch Chapter of IIT, exclusively designed for undergraduate students worldwide.

A Global Confluence of Talent CodeRally 4.0 transcended borders, attracting undergraduate students from diverse universities worldwide.

Unveiling the Phases of Excellence The event unfolded through three dynamic phases, each playing a crucial role in nurturing innovation and collaboration

### **Online Awareness Session:**

Our journey began with an enlightening online session, providing participants with a comprehensive overview of CodeRally 4.0. Following this session, participants had the privilege of attending a Generative AI workshop led by the esteemed Mr. Keshan Sanjaya Sodimana.

### **Idea Generation and Submission:**

Phase two was all about sparking creativity. Participants enthusiastically submitted their innovative ideas during this open submission period. This phase served as the initial round of the competition, where creative and promising concepts were carefully evaluated for advancement.



### Intense Buildathon and Idea Pitching:

The third phase comprised two pivotal stages. First, an intense 24-hour online buildathon challenged selected participants to bring their ideas to life, emphasizing collaboration and rapid development.

Subsequently, the competition transitioned to its physical stage, where participants engaged in idea pitching, showcasing the results of their hard work and innovation. In this phase, the top 15 teams that demonstrated exceptional performance advanced to the third and final stage.

Celebrating Excellence CodeRally 4.0 culminated in the recognition of exceptional talent, innovation, and problem-solving skills. The top 3 teams were celebrated and rewarded with a total prize pool of \$800 USD, a testament to their dedication and ingenuity throughout the competition.

Gratitude to industry partners whose unwavering support made CodeRally 4.0 a resounding success. Title partner, Zincat Technologies, played a pivotal role in making this event possible. Additionally, our silver partners, DXDY and CodeGen, provided essential support, enhancing the overall quality and impact of the event.

Mentoring partners, GDG (Google Developer Groups) and Virtusa, guided and mentored participants, enriching their experience. A Celebration of Innovation and Collaboration CodeRally 4.0 was not just a competition; it was a celebration of innovation, collaboration, and the spirit of Generative AI. It united talented individuals, supportive partners, and generous sponsors to create an unforgettable experience for all involved.

A Celebration of Innovation and Collaboration CodeRally 4.0 was not just a competition; it was a celebration of innovation, collaboration, and the spirit of Generative AI.

It united talented individuals, supportive partners, and generous sponsors to create an unforgettable experience for all involved. Stay tuned for more updates and future events. With innovation and inspiration,





# Technical Co Sponsorships by IEEE Sri Lanka Section

The Technical Co-Sponsorships offered by IEEE Sri Lanka Section for conferences are an essential component of fostering innovation and knowledge sharing within the country. By supporting these events, IEEE Sri Lanka Section actively contributes to the growth of the academic and industrial landscape, empowering local researchers and professionals to make a meaningful impact on the world stage. The IEEE Sri Lanka Section, a significant part of this global network, actively promotes technological excellence and encourages local researchers and scholars to contribute to the advancement of science and engineering.

In order to apply for Technical Co Sponsorship from IEEE Sri Lanka Section, the conference should meet all the quality requirements set by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section Technical Co Sponsorship Committee, and a detailed application need to submit 6 months prior to the opening of the research paper submission.

In order to be eligible for the Technical Co Sponsorship from the IEEE Sri Lanka Section, the conference must accept only full papers in the IEEE conference template format and must maintain the required quality to be published at IEEEExplore. Approval for conference technical co sponsorships should be obtained before the opening of the research paper submission.

The IEEE Sri Lanka Section Technical Co-Sponsorship committee has technically approved the conferences mentioned below.

- 8th International Conference on Information Technology Research (ICITR 2023) - University of Moratuwa
- 9th International Moratuwa Engineering Research Conference (MERCon 2023) - University of Moratuwa
- 7th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (SLAAI - 2023) - Sri Lanka Association of Artificial Intelligence
- 4th International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing (ICARC 2023) - Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka
- 16th International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS 2023) - Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya
- 6th International Conference on Smart Computing and Systems Engineering (SCSE 2023) - University of Kelaniya
- 5th International Conference on Advancements in Computing (ICAC 2023) - Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology

# EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

## IEEE SRI LANKA SECTION

### Editor

**Chamodhi Rangika**

Quality Assurance Analyst  
London Stock Exchange Group

### Newsletter Coordinator

**Mr. Achintha Iroshan**

Lecturer, Department of Electrical  
and Information Engineering,  
University of Ruhuna

### Managing Editors

Tharushi Dharmasiri

Ravikumar Joshiga

Jayana Nirmani Gunaweera

Thussitha Jegatheesan

Udini Niwanthika Samaradeera

### Web and Design Leads

Abdulla Jasmin

Akila Maithripala

Dinuka Ekanyake

Geenoth Vikusara



**CALL FOR ARTICLES**  
IEEE SRI LANKA SECTION

**2023**

**THIRD EDITION**

DEADLINE :20TH JANUARY2024

[http://bit.ly/IEEEESLsection\\_Newsletter\\_Articles](http://bit.ly/IEEEESLsection_Newsletter_Articles)