



Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

E- Circulated Newsletter

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BitSoc Newsletter

Biotechnology Society of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

Department of Biotechnology
Faculty of Agriculture & Plantation Management

CONGRATULATIONS! WAY TO GO...

Features..

- ✓ Congratulations !
Way to go...
- ✓ Fund Raising Project
- ✓ Opportunity to be an Environmental Biotechnologist
- ✓ New arrivals...
- ✓ Inside stories
 - ◆ Beginning of a Food revolution!!!
 - ◆ Protein found to extend youth
- ✓ Past Event
 - ◆ Contribution to "Malidew Abises"
- ✓ Success stories
- ✓ Forthcoming Events
 - ◆ BitSoc Outreach Programme
 - ◆ Photo Contest Ends Soon !
 - ◆ Paduru party 2014

Ms. WH De Silva, a final year student of the Department of Biotechnology received the "Best presenter award" for her presentation under the topic "Biosynthesis of Silver Nanoparticles using Neem Leaf Extract" at the Annual Agricultural Research Symposium (AGRES) 2013 of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka. Her research was conducted at the Department of Biotechnology in 2013 under the supervision of Dr. K. Vivehananthan.



Ms. WH De Silva receiving the award from Dr. K Vivehananthan, Head/BT

Ms. De Silva also presented and published her research findings of this project at the annual session of Sri Lankan Association for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (SLAFAR) which was held on 16th May 2013.

FUND RAISING PROJECT

BitSoc has started an Orchid tissue culture plant production project in July 2013 with the aim of collecting money for future activities of BitSoc. This fund raising project is now ongoing and carried out in the Biotechnology Laboratory, WUSL. "Samanala" Commercial Orchid Nursery and "Saliya" Orchid Seed Culture Labs contributed us to initiate the project by providing pods. BitSoc hopes to reap the benefits of this project by next year.



protocorm like bodies from in-vitro sown orchid seeds

OPPORTUNITY TO BE AN ENVIRONMENTAL BIOTECHNOLOGIST !!!

Enroll soon... for the **Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Biotechnology**. This is the first ever Postgraduate Diploma programme of Environmental Biotechnology in Sri Lanka.

To whom this programme for?

The programme targets graduates and diploma holders who have five years experience in the fields of Biology/ Agriculture/Biomedical Science/Life Sciences/Biochemistry/Biotechnology/Chemical Engineering/Chemistry.

For further details: Please contact Dr. K Vivehananthan, Head, Department of Biotechnology, Faculty of Agriculture & Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.
Tel. No: 0773988612

NEW ARRIVALS...



We're happy to announce that our Biotechnology Laboratory was recently equipped with more equipment such as Incubator, pH meter, Centrifuge, Water distillation unit, Deionizer etc. We believe that the new equipment will fulfil the needs of students and staff members in the future.





BEGINNING OF A FOOD REVOLUTION !!!

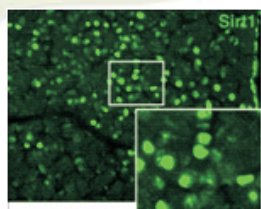
Scientists unveiled the world's first lab-grown beef burger, serving it upto volunteers in London. It has been made using strands of meat grown from muscle cells taken from a living cow. Researchers claim it will taste similar to a normal burger. This will be a revolution of food industry and help to save animals in the world.

Mr. WADLR Warnakula, 3rd Year

BIOTECH STUDENTS AT "MALIDEV ABISES"



The Department of Biotechnology, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka contributed to the "Malidev Abises" Educational exhibition organized by Maliyadewa College, Kurunegala, which was held on 28th to 31st of May 2013. The third year students participated as resources persons.



PROTEIN FOUND TO EXTEND YOUTH

If we are given a choice, most of us would prefer to keep our youth and live forever. Scientists at Washington University found a protein called "Sirt 1" which plays a major role in delaying the aging of animals, thereby extending youth and adding those spritely years onto one's life span. They have tested the protein on mice and observed significant results. They hope to develop it for humans.

Mr. WADLR Warnakula, 3rd Year

SUCCESS STORIES OF NIMHANI, NILUSHA & AKILA...



Mrs. Nimhani Perera

was awarded a studentship to pursue her PhD on "Biofuel production through genetic engineering of Clostridium" at The University of Waterloo, Canada.



Ms. Nilusha Perera

was awarded a PhD fellowship in a research project of Coconut Genetic Resources Network (COGENT). This PhD project involves extensive characterization of conserved coconut germplasm in Sri Lanka. This project is coordinated by CRI, Lunuwila.



Mr. Akila

Wijeyaratna,

past BitSoc member was awarded a Graduate Research Scholar programme on Crop Molecular Breeding and Genetics at National Key Facility for Crop Gene Resources & Genetic Improvement, Beijing, China.

RELAXING EVENING AT "PEDURU PARTY - 2014"

The much awaited fun event of the BitSoc, "Annual Paduru Party" will be tentatively held on 27th March 2014. This will be graced by all the academic, non- academic staff of the Department of Biotechnology and past and present members of the BitSoc. This is the best opportunity for all of us to meet our old friends, share the glories. Inform all our friends who are in contact with you to participate. See you there with much excitement and entertainment.

BITSOC OUTREACH PROGRAMME

An upcoming BitSoc outreach programme is targeted for A/L science students of the neighboring schools. Academic staff and the students of the Department of Biotechnology will be conducting guest lectures, practical demonstrations and poster presentations on the related subjects. BitSoc aims to improve the science knowledge of the school children and offer them a high practical exposure by this series of outreach programme.

"If you find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead anywhere."

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