#### Achievements by BitSoc Members.....Congratulations!

#### Dr. Dharmawansa Senadheera Gold Medal Ms. AHTYM Ariyasinghe



Ms. AHTYM Ariyasinghe received the Dharmawansa Senadheera Gold Medal for her best performance in Biotechnology in 2010/2011 batch at the General Convocation 2016.

#### Best presenter AGRES 2016 Ms. SMTT Siriwardhana



Ms. SMTT Siriwardhana received the best presenter award of the Biotechnology department for the research titled "Molecular characterization of a Traditional Rice variety "Kaluheenati" (*Oryza sativa*) using simple sequence repeats markers" at the Agricultural Research symposium held on 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### Research Presentation - Institute of Biology Forum MPDL Luphzhy

Ms. MPDL Luphzhy, made an oral presentation on "Screening of Methicilin Resistant gene for Identification of Potential Methicilin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* from Clinical Wastes", at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of Institute of Biology which was held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in Colombo.

# Portrait Art Exhibition Mr. RAGN Ranatunga



A Portrait Art Exhibition was held on 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at the Faculty of Agriculture & Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka by BitSoC member, Mr. RAGN Ranatunga. The exhibition was well attended by the University community and there were more than 50 pencil portraits of famous actors, rebels, politicians, sportsmen and university personnel.

#### Completion of PhD - Mrs. DR Gimhani



Mrs. DR Gimhani received the Doctor of Philosophy degree at the 12<sup>th</sup> General convocation of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016. She has conducted PhD studies on "Identification of salinity tolerant QTLs in elite rice background" under the Global Rice Science Scholarship (2011), collaboratively at the International Rice Research Institute, Philippines and Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.

#### M.Sc Scholarship-Mr. RAR Mahendra

Mr. RAR Mahendra was awarded a Graduate Research Assistantship by the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA for Master of Science in Forestry. His research focuses on plant genetics, functional genomics, and phenology studies of Poplar.

### Research Assistant Fellowship Ms. WH De Silva

Ms. WH De Silva was awarded a Research Assistantship by the Graduate school of Texas Tech University, USA. She is currently engaged in the field of plant molecular genetics at the Department of Biology, at the Texas Tech University. Recently her assistantship was upgraded to the research assistant fellowship based on her academic profile.

## Completion of MSc. Mrs Baviththira Suganthan

Mrs Baviththira Suganthan, received MSc. in Applied Microbiology at University of Kelaniya. As a partial fulfillment of the degree, she carried out one-year research project titled "Morphological and Molecular Identification of Cyanobacteria Isolated from Paddy Fields" at the Department of Biotechnology, WUSL.

#### **Upcoming Event: BitSoc Seminar**

A seminar on "How to convert applicable research into innovative product with marketability?" will be conducted by Mr. Manju Gunawardana, Senior research scientist at Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC) on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 3.00 pm at FAPM.

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