

## Message from the President



2009 has been another year of many successful events for the Computer Society of Sri Lanka. The executive council with a clear vision of the CSSL's future was committed to carry out its duties and responsibilities to both its members and the ICT community in Sri Lanka. As the president of the CSSL, I am proud to present the annual report for 2009. As you browse through this report, I am sure that you will agree that the year gone by was a very productive year for CSSL.

As a professional body for ICT, the CSSL gained a wider recognition at National level during this year.

2009 being the year of ICT and English, CSSL paid special attention on how to bring ICT to more communities in our country. Projects such as ICT for Rural Areas, the National Schools Software Competition (NSSC) being conducted at regional level and Schools ICT Network were some of the initiatives made by the CSSL in this regard.

As our contribution to the improvement of the ICT literacy rate of this country we conducted two workshops in Buttala and Medawachchiya successfully. These events, conducted under the project '*ICT for Rural Areas*', were well accepted by the rural communities, and the efforts of the CSSL received commendation from the underprivileged communities involved.

The National Schools Software Competition 2009 was conducted on-line at 17 centres in 8 provinces in three age categories, providing opportunities for more students to participate. I believe that this type of competition will help to promote ICT among a larger group including the rural communities. Further this will encourage building harmony and good relationship among various groups of students in our country.

In 2009 CSSL started the Schools Network project to popularize ICT activities among school children. This will encourage students to involve themselves in IT-related activities which will benefit them in the future.

The 27<sup>th</sup> National IT Conference (NITC 2009) was a tremendous success. We received a record number of 55 papers in response to the "Call for Papers" for NITC 2009, and for the first time, a Poster Display of 25 papers was on show along with the conference sessions.

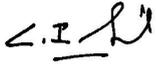
We continued with the Special Interest Groups (SIG) that were formed in 2008. Formation of SIGs gave members and non-members alike the opportunity to exchange ideas and new concepts among ICT professionals with kindred specialties in the member community. The 4<sup>th</sup> Special Interest Group on Software Quality Assurance was formed in 2009.

Promoting professionalism among those engaged in the field of ICT is another important area that CSSL is focussed on. We have successfully conducted a few workshops facilitating peer-to-peer coaching and sharing of best practices among our CSSL members.

I hope as you read the annual report, you will be able to share in the excitement and the expectation of significant progress of the CSSL in the future. The success we achieved during 2009 would not have been possible if not for the efforts of the dynamic members of Executive Council and other members

who served in various committees. I take this opportunity to thank them for their support and cooperation.

I look forward to your overall support for the future success of the Computer Society of Sri Lanka. I am confident that the future is bright and CSSL will achieve greater heights in the year to come.



Chrisantha Silva  
President CSSL

11<sup>th</sup> December 2009

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**(INCORPORATED)****BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY**

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka was formally inaugurated in 1976 by a small group of dedicated professionals with the support and the encouragement of well wishers including the then leading computer firms. It has been playing a major role in promoting Information Technology and professionalism among those engaged in the field of IT in the country for the past 33 years. The rapid growth of CSSL in the recent years indicates a greater interest among the IT professionals in the affairs of the society.

**OUR VISION**

To be the most esteemed Professional body in Sri Lanka.

**OUR MISSION**

To maintain the highest professional standards among the Information Systems (IS) fraternity

To get actively involved in the formulation of National IS strategies

To promote the advancement of Knowledge

To facilitate career development

To contribute to the development of the IS industry whilst safeguarding the interest of society.

- (a) to maintain the highest professional standards among the Information System (IS) fraternity;
- b) to contribute to the development of the IS industry whilst safeguarding the interests of the members of the Society;
- (c) to get actively involved in the formulation of National Strategies relating to IS; and
- (d) to promote the advancement of knowledge in those engaged in the field of IT

**OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY**

The primary objectives of the society are:

1. To promote and develop the science of Information Technology and foster and maintain investigations and research into the best means and methods of developing and applying such science and to encourage, increase, disseminate and promote knowledge, education and training and the exchange of information and ideas in respect of all questions relating thereto or connected therewith:
2. To provide an Organization for professionals in Information Technology and by means of examinations and other methods of assessment to test the skills and knowledge of persons desiring to enter the profession

**THE COMPUTER SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA COUNCIL  
2008/2009**

**COMPUTER SOCIETY COUNCIL 2009**



Seated in front from L to R  
Dr N P Somaratne (Asst. Secretary), Mr Vimal Indrasoma (Vice President) , Mr. J.M.C.I.Silva (President), Mr Mahesh Perera (Secretary), Mr. Dissanayake Bandara (Treasurer)  
Standing from L to R  
Mr Sujeewa Hemal Pathirathna(Council Member), Dr. G.D.S.P.Wimalaratna (Publication Secretary), Mr K A S A Perera (Council Member),  
Dr Dayan Rajapakse (Student Counsellor), Mr D Thushara F Suraweera(Council Member), Dr. D P S Lokuge (Council Member) ,Dr. K. L. Jayaratne (Asst. Treasurer)

***Seated left to right:***

**Dr Nayana Somaratne Asst Secretary, Mr Vimal Indrasoma Vice President, Mr J M Chrisantha I Silva President, Mr Mahesh Perera Secretary, Mr D L M Dissanayake Bandara Treasurer**

***Standing from left to Right***

**Mr Sujeewa Hemal Pathirathna Council Member, Dr G D S P Wimalaratne Publication Secretary, Mr Saman Perera Council Member, Dr Dayan Rajapakse Student Counsellor, Mr Thushara Suraweera Council Member, Dr Prasanna Lokuge Council Member, Dr K L Jayaratne Asst Treasurer**

## ANNUAL REPORT 2009

On behalf of the Council of the Computer Society of Sri Lanka (Incorporated), I am pleased to present this Annual Report, which covers the activities of the society for year 2009

### COUNCIL OF THE COMPUTER SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

The council for 2009, elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

<b>President</b>	Mr. J M Chrisantha I Silva
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr. Vimal Indrasoma
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. Mahesh Perera
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Dr N P Somaratne
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr D L M Dissanayake Bandara
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Dr K L Jayaratne
<b>Student Counsellor</b>	Dr Dayan Rajapakse
<b>Publication Secretary</b>	Dr. G. D. S. P. Wimalaratna
<b>Council Members</b>	Dr. D P S Lokuge
	Mr. K A S A Perera
	Mr. D Thushara F Suraweera
	Mr. Sujeewa Hemal Pathirathna

The Council met almost every fortnight and had 25 meetings during the year. In addition strategic planning sessions were also conducted during the year 2009 both outside and within CSSL.

### CSSL WORKSHOP – 2009

CSSL annual workshop was held at Sigiriya Village on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2009 with a view to scheduling the activities for 2009. Prior to the workshop, project managers were appointed to spearhead a number of activities to make the year 2009 a success. The project managers presented their cases in detail with tentative time schedules

All the CSSL executive council members participated in the workshop, except Mr Prasanna Lokuge who was unable to join due to unavoidable circumstances. Workshop was very informative and fruitful.

#### The following main projects were earmarked for 2009:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>
Schools Net	Dr Dayan Rajapakse
National Schools' Software Competition	Dr Nayana Somaratne Dr Dayan Rajapakse
ICT for Rural areas	Mr. Thushara Suraweera Mr. Hemal Pathirathna
Professional Development R&D	Dr Lakshman Jayaratne
Job Bank & Consultancy/Advisory services	Mr Saman Perera /

Membership & Member Benefits	Dr Prasanna Lokuge
National IT Conference	Mr Saman Perera
Special Interest Groups	Mr Mahesh Perera
WEB development	Mr Vimal Indrasoma
Publications & CSSL Library	Mr Dissanayake Bandara / Dr. Nayana Somaratne
CSSL Incorporation	Dr. Prasad Wimalaratne
	Mr Vimal Indrasoma
	Mr. Mahesh Perera

## **MEMBERSHIP**

In the year 2009, the new membership stands at 42 bringing the total member to 427. Associate members increased by 4 bringing the Associate membership to 313 the student membership increased by 31 bringing the total student membership to 15,216.

Honorary Fellow	5
Members	427
Associate Members	313
Student Members	15,216
Affiliate Members	46

The membership committee was assisted by Mr Niranjan De Silva and Mr Chandana Weerasinghe.

### **Annual Subscription Payments Electronically**

Your membership fee could also be paid electronically through the website [www.cssl.lk](http://www.cssl.lk) using Sampath Bank's Secure Internet Payment Gateway. We encourage you to use this facility for prompt settlement of your membership dues.

In addition to the cash payment, Account Payee cheques drawn in favour of the "Computer Society of Sri Lanka" could also be used as a method of payment and could be posted or handed over to the Computer Society of Sri Lanka. Please indicate your name and membership number on the reverse of the cheque.

## **MEMBER BENEFITS**

### **Offer from IDM**

IDM Computer Studies has agreed to offer a 10% discount on course fees to all CSSL Members (Associate & Full). This discount will be applicable for all the programmes conducted at their centres and will be subjected to a maximum limit of Rs. 20,000 for the full programme that one selects.

### **Discount on Books Purchased from CG Associates**

CG Associates will offer a 10% discount on all the books purchased at their ICT Bookshop at ICT Building, University of Colombo for all the CSSL members.

### **Offer from Metropolitan**

All the CSSL members will be entitled to a 10% discount from Metropolitan Computers (Pvt) Ltd, on Canon Printers, Scanners and Wipro Printers purchased from their head office at 85, Braybrooke, Place, Colombo 2

### **Discount on Pocket PCs**

AIMS Computers (Pvt) Ltd will offer a 10% discount on 02 xda pocket PCs purchased from their head office at 155, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 7 to all CSSL members.

### **Discount on MSS Programme – AIMS College**

AIMS College of Business & IT will offer a Rs. 100,000/= discount on their Masters Degree Programme in Security Science in Information Technology (MSS) from EC-Council University USA. Please contact their office No. 29 A, Alfred Place Colombo 3.

(More information from our website [www.cssl.lk](http://www.cssl.lk))

## **INCORPORATION UNDER ACT OF PARLIAMENT**

The first reading of the CSSL Parliamentary Act was approved and gazetted by the Parliament and the draft bill was published. The draft bill was reviewed by the council and it was found that several corrections are required in the draft. The Council took a decision to appoint a committee to review and make relevant corrections before proceeding further.

## **WEBSITE**

The CSSL Web site is a key part of our communication. With this in mind a special effort was made to keep the context current all the time. The Council discussed various new features that are required by the CSSL Web site. The Assistant Manager at CSSL Secretariat was appointed as the single point of contact with the with the service provider. The CSSL web site is serviced and hosted by Speitra (Pvt) Ltd.

## **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

The CSSL's Special Interest Groups provide a forum for professionals to improve and share knowledge on a specific subject area by organizing workshops, educational programs, publications and newsletters and other activities to boost the knowledge of the CSSL members. At present CSSL has four special interest groups namely "e-Learning and Training" headed by Prof. Gihan Dias, "Computer Security and Forensic", headed by Dr. Kasun De Zoysa, "ICT Management" headed by Mr. Chandana Weerasinghe and "Software Quality Assurance" headed by Mr. Chintaka Indikadahena.

## **CSSL Public Lecture on "MALICIOUS Cryptography and Crypto Viruses" By Dr. Kasun De Zoysa**

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka's Special Interest Group (SIG) on Computer Security and Forensics conducted a public lecture on "MALICIOUS Cryptography and Crypto Viruses" at the OPA Building, Stanley Wijesundera Mawatha, Colombo 7, on Wednesday the 25th of February. The lecture was

delivered by Dr Kasun De Zoysa, Senior Lecturer, University of Colombo School of Computing, to a packed audience. Cryptography is dedicated to the design of algorithms ensuring confidentiality, authentication and integrity. It is usually based on some kind of secret, often referred to as a key and /or specific mathematical function.

Cryptography is also used by antivirus vendors to ensure the confidentiality of the signature database, or for automatic updates to their software. Unfortunately cryptography is now used by the virus writer, for instance, to ensure the confidentiality of the virus' payload or to avoid the detection and analysis of the malicious code. This public lecture focused on the bad side of cryptographic (malicious cryptography) and its future consequences.

### **Formation of SIG on “Software Quality Assurance”**

The kick-off meeting of the SIG on “Software Quality Assurance” was held on 27th November 2009 at the OPA. Mr. Chintaka Indikadahena who is the head of this SIG conducted the meeting. He made a presentation on the importance of Software QA. The members of the group came up with various suggestions to improve and share the knowledge and experiences. It was agreed to conduct monthly meetings of this group and to prepare a plan of actions for 2010.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

With the vision of promoting IT and professionalism among those engaged in the field of IT, CSSL has introduced Professional Development Program for the benefit of the professionals to develop their skills that are much needed in the industry and to get technical knowledge in their profession. One of the major activities under this program is conducting of workshops.

### **Workshop on “Software QA & Testing”**

CSSL conducted a one day workshop under Professional Development Program on “Software Quality Assurance and Testing’ on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at Galadari Hotel. The specific aim of the workshop was to strengthen the awareness on quality assurance and testing in the software development process. The workshop was facilitated by Virtusa Corporation and the resource persons were Mr. Chandana Ranasinghe, Associate Director, Virtusa Corporation, and Mr. Chintaka Indikadahena, Senior Manager, Quality Assurance, Virtusa Corporation.

Among the topics discussed were, Concepts & Fundamentals of QA/Testing, Setting up a Test strategy and Plan, User Acceptance Testing and QA Outsourcing. These were supported by a Case Study that included sample business case, delivering testing services, walking through a sample test strategy, test plan, test cases and related testing artefacts.

These included Quality Control & Quality Assurance, Validation testing Vs Verification testing (Requirement reviews), V model and VV model for quality control, Common Testing Types practiced in the industry, QA Process Maturity – ISO & CMMI, Vendor’s experience in the field, Details of proposed approach, Deliverables, Time Constraints, Resource Skill Levels and Testing COTS Vs Customize software. Special attention was given for User Acceptance Testing, which is another critical area in Quality assurance. Some of the topics discussed under this were, Acceptance Testing Concepts, Roles and Responsibilities of Vendors & Client, Acceptance Test Planning & Execution, and Industry Best Practices & Trends

The workshop also discussed QA Outsourcing which is not very common in Sri Lanka software industry. The presenter highlights the Outsourcing industry in general, its benefits and drawbacks and Testing service trends. The workshop was well attended.

**Workshop on “Securing Web Applications”**

A workshop on “Securing Web Applications” was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Galadari Hotel. The specific aims of the workshop were; strengthen the awareness of fundamentals of network security and enhance the knowledge and skills of the usage of cutting edge security technologies to secure their web applications.

Web application security is not a part of many computer science curricula today and most organizations have not focused on instituting a culture that includes application security as a core part of their ICT security efforts. Most ICT Developers, Professionals and Auditors learn what they know about web security on the job usually by making mistakes.

The workshop focused on the most common web application security problems, including the Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) Top Ten. The presenter introduced and demonstrated hacking techniques, illustrating how web application vulnerabilities can be exploited so participants really understand how to avoid introducing such vulnerabilities into their Web application. He also discussed various open source ethical hacking tools with demonstrations. The workshop provided an opportunity for the participants collectively discuss web application security related challenges.

The resource person was Dr. Kasun De Zoysa, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Communication and Media Technologies attached to the University of Colombo School Computing. Dr. Kasun’s research interest includes secure multi-party electronic transactions and document protection, public key cryptography and certification infrastructures, hardware security tokens and devices, web security and privacy, security in wireless sensor networks, and digital forensic. He has published over 30 research papers in international conferences in the area of information system security. He was assisted by a group of experts. This workshop too was well attended.



**SCHOOLS NETWORK PROJECT**

In view of promoting ICT activities among school students CSSL started the Schools Network Project in 2009. Under this project CSSL conducted two workshops in Kurunegala and Kandy and the following key points were discussed at these workshops.

- The importance of establishing a School Network
- The facilities that will be available to members of the Network.
- The benefits that can be reaped by the Schools by making use of the Network

### **Workshop in Kurunegala**

The first workshop of the National Schools' Network project of the CSSL was held in Kurunegala at the Main Auditorium of Maliyadeva Boys College on the 16th of March 2009.

The seminar was attended by members of the School ICT Societies of the District. The Speakers at the seminar included the following personalities

1. **Mr. Thushera Kaudawattha - Virtusa Corporation, Associate Director of Technology**, delivered an interesting presentation on the topic of "How to become a world class IT Engineer"
2. **Dr. Dayan Rajapakse - Student Counsellor - CSSL**, highlighted the importance of the National Schools' Network and the plans ahead
3. **Mr. Chethiya Abeysinghe - Past IOI Bronze Medallist**, talked about the NSSC and the other software competitions held in the country, which gives opportunities to students to gain international exposure.

### **Workshop in Kandy**

The second workshop of the National Schools' Network project of the CSSL was held in Kandy at the Main Auditorium of Mahamaya Girls School on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

This was organized in collaboration with the members of the ICT committee of the school with the participation of 18+ schools in Kandy district with over 600 participants that included students, staff of schools and members of Foundation of Open Source Software (FOSS). The main objective of this event was to give awareness of ICT and its career direction among schools as a part of National School Network Project. Dr. Dayan Rajapakse, Student Counselor, delivered his lecture on ICT career guidance and the latest enhancement of ICT coupled with ECommerce. In addition another lecture was conducted by Mr. Suchetha Wijenayake, a Professional Geek, about the Open Source Software and its future use. Another interesting activity was the IT quiz competition among the participated schools organized by the ESOFTE Computer Studies (Pvt) Ltd Kandy branch.

The schools participated were, Dharmaraja College, Kandy Girls High School, Kingswood College, Trinity College, Swarnamalee College, Viharamahadevi Girls College, Seethadevi Girls College, St.Sylvesters College, Vidyarthi College, Sri Sumangala College, Rahula College, St.Anthonys Boys College, St. Anthonys Girls College, Mahanama College, Pushpadana Girls College, Hillwood Girls College, Hemamali Girls College, D.S.Senanayake College Kandy, and Bad-ud-din Mahmood College

### **CSSL LIBRARY**

The CSSL Library which was in operation since May 2008 now has a collection over 350 ICT related books. A survey on the preferences on subject areas by the membership was carried out in 2009 and the collection has been expanded according to membership preferences. The books and Journals includes several latest titles on Management Information Systems, IT Project Management, Information Security, Software Quality Assurance, Software Engineering, Web Development, Computer Networking, Programming Languages, Artificial Intelligence, Database Management Systems, Systems Analysis and Design etc. CSSL is planning to include more books, journals and videos and provide access to more Digital Libraries.

The CSSL Library is another benefit provided to its members and the Council invites the membership to make use of this facility

## **CONSULTANCY SERVICES & JOB BANK**

The CSSL continued to maintain the Job & Consultancy portals that were implemented in 2008. The overall objective of the project is to facilitate members of CSSL with better employment opportunities and to serve as IT Consultants to various projects within Sri Lanka and overseas.

**The job portal** helps those who are actively looking for ICT job opportunities and the organizations that are seeking competent ICT professionals. The purpose of this project, therefore, is two fold: member benefit and as a source of income for CSSL.

**The consultancy portal** was embarked on with the view to filling the vacuum that prevails in the professional consultancy services.

Due to changes in requirements and for few technical problems the project was delayed. The project is in the final stages of developing and testing stages. CSSL is planning to implement the fully operational Consultancy Service and job Bank in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010.

The Job portal could be accessed at [www.cssl.lk/jobs](http://www.cssl.lk/jobs) while the Consultancy portal is accessible at [www.cssl.lk/consultancy](http://www.cssl.lk/consultancy)

## **ICT FOR RURAL AREAS**

### **Introduction & purpose**

Recent surveys conducted on ICT literacy rate in Sri Lanka shows a significant 'divide' between the urban and rural areas of Sri Lanka. The Government has launched various programs to increase the ICT literacy rate of the citizens of Sri Lanka and aims to reach 50% by end of 2010. As a professional organization in ICT the CSSL has a responsibility to contribute to these initiatives. Therefore, CSSL wanted to conduct workshops targeting the rural areas of Sri Lanka with the view to creating awareness on Information and Communication Technology. Through these workshops, CSSL intended to supplement various efforts that are being taken at a national level at present to increase the ICT literacy rate in the country.

### **Workshops areas**

Awareness workshops were focused on the following areas:

- Information and Communication Technology Trends (National and International)
- Career Path options available for IT literate individuals

- Awareness on Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry and skill requirements

The targeted audience was school leavers, those who have completed Ordinary Level and Advanced Level exams, those who have competence in ICT but are not employed so far, parents, teachers, public officials etc.

### **Workshop in Buttala**

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka successfully conducted a one day workshop at the Yudaganawa Vidyalaya, Buttala on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009. This was the first workshop conducted by the CSSL as part of its project to create awareness in “ICT for Rural Areas” for 2009. Yudaganawa is a remote village in the Monaragala District with very less facilities in access to ICT. The workshop was conducted for the students and teachers of year 9-11. The students of Yudaganawa Vidyalaya, together with students of Unaavatuna Vidyalaya which is a close by school participated in this workshop. The workshop, attended by more than 175 students, was well received by both the teachers and the students.



### **Workshop in Medawachchiya**

The second workshop under the “ICT for Rural areas” was conducted in Medawachchiya at the Sri Sumanasara Pirivena, Rambakulama. on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009. The workshop that was conducted for the students of year 10 and 11 was attended by nearly 200 students from 3 schools in the area namely, Yakawewa Vidyalaya Yakawewa, Palugollewa Vidyalaya Palugollewa, Gamini Wewa Vidyalaya Periyakulama. At the end the participants were trained on how to use the facilities at ‘Nanasala’ Centres. The office of the Divisional Secretariat Medawachchiya assisted the CSSL in arranging facilities for this workshop.

These workshops consisted a series of Presentations followed by hands on sessions.

The topics discussed:

- Fundamentals of Information & Communications Technology
- eSri Lanka Initiative and its benefits to rural masses
- Benefits of Internet and current trends in ICT

CSSL would like to thank Mr. Mr A. Wickramanayaka, Chairman, Pelwatte Sugar Industries Limited, Principal Udaganawa Maha Vidyalaya, Mr. P. Madanayake, Divisional Secretary Medawachchiya, Mr.

Vikum Silva of Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the assistance given to conduct these workshops successfully.



## 20<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL SCHOOLS' SOFTWARE COMPETITION (NSSC) 2009

CSSL conducted the National Schools' Software Competition (NSSC) 2009 on 25<sup>th</sup> September for the 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. This annual competition aims to bring out problem solving and programming talents in school students, with speed, accuracy and team co-ordination, in the competitive environment, at national and international levels.

The applications for the competition were called earlier in the year through media advertisements, posters and CSSL's website.

This year's event was special with the declaration of '2009 as the year of ICT and English' by the Government of the Sri Lanka. This year with the help of the Ministry of Education, the Competition was conducted at regional level covering schools in all nine provinces in three age categories under 15, under 17, and under 19 providing opportunities for more students to participate.

For the first time the NSSC was conducted on line at 17 test centres in 8 provinces. The test centres were, Western province 1 centre, North Western province 2 centres, Sabaragamuwa province 4 centres, Central province 2 centres, Uva province 2 centres, Eastern province 2 centres, North province 1 centre and North Central province 3 centres. We are happy to announce that there were 150 students from 30 schools taking part in this year's competition. This is the highest number of students participated so far in the history of National Schools Software Competition.

The winners of the NSSC 2009 were as follows.

Under 15 category: (1) Thilini Pathmila Samarakoon, K/Girls High School, Kandy (2) N.I.U. De Silva, Royal College Colombo (3) Kanishka Oshadha Seneviratne, Royal College Colombo

Under 17 category: (1) Chamod Weerasinghe, Royal College Colombo. (2) Randima Gonawala, K/Girls High School, Kandy (3) Chiara fernando, K/Girls High School, Kandy

Under 19 category: (1) Yasith Vidanaarachchi, Ananda College Colombo (2) Rajith Yashodha Vidanaarachchi, Ananda College Colombo (3) Kasun Keshava Ranathunga, D.S.Senanyake College, Colombo.

The competition is of two hours duration, consisting of 4 problems to be solved using either, Pascal, C, C++ or Java languages. Both the teams and individual winners are selected on the basis of correct outputs and speed of submission of solution to problems. This year, 34 students who performed well in the competition were selected and provided training during October 2009 at the University of Colombo School of Computing. The volunteer trainers from International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) served as resource persons in training the students. Two teams of three students each for the SEARCC International Schools' Software Competition were selected from the pool of students who successfully underwent the training course. The selection of the teams was based on a selection test similar to SEARCC. We wish to thank Dr. Gihan Wickramanayake Deputy Director of University of Colombo School of Computing for making arrangements for the lab facilities.

This year's NSSC award ceremony was held with the collaboration of Ministry of Education under it's National ICT Champion. Awards at Navarangahala on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009. The Chief Guest for the event was Hon. Minister of Education Susil Premajayantha. Valuable gifts and certificates were awarded to the winners of the all three categories of NSSC. The teams selected for the International Schools Software Competition were also recognized at this ceremony. The awards ceremony was sponsored by Microsoft Sri Lanka, ESoft Computer Studies Pvt Ltd. and Virtusa Corporation. By partnering with the Ministry of Education CSSL gained a wider recognition for conducting a national competition.

The organising committee for this year's competition consisted of Dr Prasad Wimalaratne, Mr Vimal Indrasoma, Dr Dayan Rajapakse, Dr Lakshman Jayaratne, Dr Nayana Somaratne and Mr Chrisantha Silva.



## **SEARCC 2009 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS' SOFTWARE COMPETITION**

The International Schools' Software Competition (ISSC) 2009 organized by the Computer Society of Sri Lanka on behalf of South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) was held at University of Colombo School of Computing from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Two teams from India and two teams from Sri Lanka participated at this event. The competition was won by India Team A consisted of Arjun Arul, Eashwar Chandrasekharan and Madhavkrishnan Lakshminarayanan. The India Team B consisted of Anish Shankar, Narasimhan Govindarajan, Narayanan Srinivasan became the Runner up of the competition.

The two Sri Lankan teams were represented by Wickramaranga Abeygunawardhane of Royal College Colombo, N.I.U De Silva of Royal College Colombo, Sivakumaran Goathamane of Vavuniya Tamil M.M.V, Vavuniya, Isuru Sampath Jayarathna of Pinnawala Central College Pinnawala, Vidura Sumanasena of Ananda College Colombo, and Chamod Weerasinghe of Royal College Colombo and T. Beniel of Sri Koneswara Hindu College Trincomalee as reserve. These students were selected from the pool of students who performed well at the National Schools Software Competition held in September 2009, conducted by the Computer Society of Sri Lanka.

This competition gave an opportunity for competent under 17 students from the Asia Pacific Region to meet and receive valuable exposure and also helped them understand their roll in IT.

CSSL is pleased to conduct this international competition in Sri Lanka in 2009 which is the year of ICT and English.

## **27<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL IT CONFERENCE**

CSSL conducted the 27<sup>th</sup> National Information Technology Conference under the theme "Three 'I's for an e-enabled Sri Lanka: Integration, Innovation and Impact" on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2009 at the Hotel Galadari. This annual event is an Industry focused ICT Conference which provides a forum to learn from industry visionaries and to network with peers.

### **Organizing Committees**

Conference Chairman- Chrisantha Silva

Conference Manager – Mahesh Perera

#### **Marketing Committee**

Mr. Chrisantha Silva (Chairman)  
Mr. Dissanayake Bandara  
Mr Mahesh Perera  
Mr Saman Perera  
Dr Prasad Wimalaratne  
Dr Dayan Rajapakse  
Mr Thushara Suraweera

#### **Proceedings Committee**

Dr. Prasad Wimalaratne(Chairman)  
Mr. L M Chandana Weerasinghe  
Dr. Prasanna Lokuge  
Dr. Lakshman Jayaratne  
Mr. Chrisantha Silva  
Mr Mahesh Perera

Presentation Committee	Dr. Lakshman Jayaratne (Chairman) Mr. Mahesh Perera Mr. Saman Perera Dr. N P Somaratne
Facilities Committee	Mr. Vimal Indrasoma (Chairman) Dr. Dayan Rajapakse Mr. Saman Perera Mr. Asitha Peiris
Registration Committee	Mr. Dissanayake Bandara (Chairman) Dr. Prasad Wimalaratne Dr. Dayan Rajapakse Mr. Hemal Pathirathna
Inauguration Committee	Mr Thushara Suraweera (Chairman) Mr. Vimal Indrasoma Mr Hemal Pathirathna
Finance Committee	Mr Chrisantha Silva (Chairman) Mr. Mahesh Perera Mr. Dissanayake Bandara Mr. Thushara Suraweera



Our appreciation is due to all the members who worked in these committees. We must also thank the CSSL Secretariat, all the other volunteers and specially the team which provided the follow up for the registrations.

The Platinum Sponsor for the 27th National IT conference was Sri Lanka Telecom and Mobitel, Gold Sponsor was SAP India Pvt. Ltd., Silver Sponsor was ESoft Computer Studies Pvt Ltd, while the ICT Agency of Sri Lanka came as the Strategic Partner. The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd provided print media supplement sponsorship and the Official Magazine was INTER@CTIVE. The CSSL wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all these organizations and their management for their sponsorship which contributed towards the success of this event.

The Ceremonial Inauguration was held on 8<sup>th</sup> evening with Professor Tissa Vitarana Minister of Science and Technology as the Chief Guest and Mr. Lalith Weeratunga, Secretary to His Excellency the President as the Guest of Honour with a gathering of distinguished invitees.

This year we received more than 50 papers for evaluation which shows the recognition of NITC among the ICT community. The conference was very well attended on both days and a total of 26 papers were presented by local and foreign speakers during the two-day conference addressing the issues most relevant to “Three ‘I’s for an e-enabled Sri Lanka: Integration, Innovation and Impact”. A distinguished panel of keynote speakers and other speakers gave a diverse set of insights into the advancements on different ICT frontiers around the world.

**The following key note presentations were made.**

Suren J Amarasekera, Chief Executive Officer, Mobitel Sri Lanka on “i-Sri Lanka powered by Infocom”

Prof. K. K. Aggarwal, Vice Chancellor Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi, India, President SEARCC on “ICT: A Powerful Tool for Integration”

Mr Deb Deep Sengupta, Managing Director, SAP Indian Subcontinent on “Business Best-Practices to Manage through Turbulence”

Sanjaya Karunasena, Chief Software Architect, ICT Agency of Sri Lanka on “Innovative Approach to an Electronically Integrated Government with High Impact to Citizens”

Prof. Sead Muftic, Professor, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden & Research Professor, George Washington University USA on “Concepts and Trends in Development and Deployment of Security Infrastructures for Large-Scale Mobile Transactions”

Chris Levanes, Platform Strategy Lead, Microsoft Asia-Pacific Region on “Interoperability and Open Engagement”

Among the other invited speakers were, Madu Ratnayake General Manager Virtusa Corporation, Dr. Kasun De Zoysa University of Colombo School of Computing, Prof. Gihan Dias University of Moratuwa, Dr. Chaminda Ranasinghe Chief Operating Officer, Interblocks Ltd., Dwarakanath P Rao Sr Partner Consultant, VMware, Inc., India, Jatinder Pal Singh Technical Consultant – Juniper Networks, India, Janaka Abeysinghe General Manager Corporate Sales Sri Lanka Telecom, and Prof. Asoka Karunananda University of Moratuwa.

Another significant feature of this year’s conference is the Poster Display of papers along with the conference sessions. With the large number of papers received we arranged a Poster Display of 25 papers. This is the first time that NITC has a Poster session. The best three Posters were selected from the participants’ votes and certificates were awarded. With the Poster display the participants had the opportunity to listen and view more than 50 high quality papers.

We were able to get an 8 page news paper supplement in the Ceylon Daily News on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009. This was possible due to the numerous articles and advertisements we received from various ICT organizations. This shows the recognition of NITC 09 by various organizations.

Another attraction was the distribution of giveaways to the participants during the conference sessions. Keels Business Systems Limited offered Gift Vouchers, a NetBook from ESoft Computer Studies Pvt Ltd., two mobile phones from CSSL, Gift packs from Seal Infotech Pvt Ltd (SAP Partner) while AIMS made a generous donation.

Significant commendations received from the participants and the appreciations given in the feed back forms distinctly points out to NITC's big success this year.

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka is proud that the commitment of its Executive Council, Staff members and supporters assisted in numerous ways to make NITC '09 a magnanimous success and gave an exemplary indication of how well the Conference is organized and conducted by the Computer Society of Sri Lanka.

## **UNVEILING OF PORTRAITS OF DISTINGUISHED PAST PRESIDENTS**

This year we had the opportunity to recognize and honour three distinguished Past Presidents, who contributed significantly towards the growth of CSSL, by unveiling their portraits at the secretariat by Prof. P. W. Epasinghe, Chairman ICT Agency of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Lionel Perera was the President for two years, 2003/2004 and 2004/2005. In 2004 under Mr. Lionel's leadership the CSSL became a member of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) gaining wider recognition internationally for CSSL. The Computer journal Interactive was started during his period. The international affiliations during his period made it possible for CSSL to invite world-renowned experts in specialized fields to deliver keynote speeches at National conferences and to conduct workshops. CSSL organized the eCarnival, an IT exhibition with a difference during his period. Mr Lionel was also the Vice President of the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) in 2005.

Mr. Dinesh Sattrukalsinghe was the President for two years, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007. In 2006 CSSL successfully partnered together with other industry ICT associations to support the National ICT week that was held from 9th to 15th October. This was a great recognition for the Computer Society of Sri Lanka. The SEARCC International ICT Conference and SEARCC International Schools Software Competition was held in Colombo during 2006 under his leadership. Another milestone during his period was taking the initiatives for incorporation of CSSL under the act parliament in support of gaining national recognition. Mr Dinesh was also the President of the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) in 2006/2007.

Dr. Prasanna Lokuge was the President in 2007/2008. During 2008, under Dr. Prasanna's guidance many new projects were initiated. The opening of CSSL Library was a major achievement in 2008. The launch of the consultancy and Job bank, Formation of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were other landmark events during his period. In 2008 the CSSL collaborated with Cognitive and Connectionist Lab, Monash University for conducting industry based research programs and publications. He strongly believed that CSSL should play a vital role to minimize the digital divide in this country. CSSL designed and conducted a number of programs in rural areas for improving the ICT literacy rate in Sri Lanka in 2008.

## **ICDL INTRODUCTION**

The European Computer Driving Licence Foundation Limited (ECDL Foundation), based in Dublin, Ireland, is the worldwide governing body and licensing authority for the ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) and the ICDL (International Computer Driving Licence), the global standard in end-user computer skills certification.

The ICDL Asia Pacific Limited (ICDLAP), based in Singapore, is a fully owned subsidiary of the ECDL Foundation, and is the regional governing body and licensing authority for the ICDL (International Computer Driving Licence).

### **ICDL Progress during the year**

Last year we signed a new contract with the testIT (Pvt) limited to function as the 'ICDL Accreditation Agent' in Sri Lanka and Maldives. Under the new agreement the CSSL has been given more authority to control ICDL test centres than in the previous agreement. A new fee structure was introduced for the accreditation and re-accreditation with the intention of streamlining the revenue from ICDL operations to the CSSL. Special discounting scheme was allowed for the accreditation and re-accreditation of 'Nenasala' Centres to encourage more and more rural sector participation in ICT and to improve the ICT savvy of rural population.

The new fee structure introduced and the additional powers vested with the CSSL with the new contract helped us increasing our profits in the ICDL operations. The profit from the ICDL operations for the period under review was Rs 1,641,872.00. This shows an increase of 78.72% compared to the last year's profit of Rs 918,642.00.

During the period under review, 24 new centres were accredited as Accredited Test Centres (ATCs) and 76 existing Accredited Test Centres (ATCs) were re-accredited.

## **AUSTRALIAN COMPUTER SOCIETY EXAMINATIONS**

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka collaborates with the ACS to conduct these examinations in Sri Lanka. The ACS examination has over the years gained wide acceptance in Sri Lanka as a basic and affordable all round qualification in IT which is not affiliated to a particular training institute. In year 2009 CSSL has conducted three examinations. The first being in February 2009 where 29 students sat for 56 papers, in June, 27 students with 51 papers while in October 2009 we achieved 25 students who sat for 53 papers

## **CSSL REPRESENTATION AT OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

The Council appointed the following representatives

### **Organization of Professional Associations (OPA)**

The CSSL has been a committed member of the OPA. During 2009 the following representations were made by CSSL at OPA committees.

OPA Exco – Mr. Chrisantha Silva

OPA Forum – Mr. Chrisantha Silva  
Mr. Vimal Indrasoma  
Mr. Dissanayake Bandara

Skills & Career Development Committee – Mr. Vimal Indrasoma

### **ICT Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA)**

e-SDI Grants Board – Mr. Chrisantha Silva

### **SOUTH EAST ASIA REGIONAL COMPUTER CONFEDERATION (SEARCC)**

The CSSL is a member of the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) since 1986. SEARCC which is a non political and non-profit making body comprising National IT Professional Societies from Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand..

The Executive Council meeting of the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) was held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in Malaysia. The representatives from 5 member countries Australia, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Taiwan participated at this meeting. The CSSL was represented by Chrisantha Silva the President.

SEARCC has launched the following activities.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Focus Area</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
1	Sharing Best Practices e-Governance Setting up e-Government Standards	ACS & CSI
2	Skill Development, Job Placement & Consulting – Finalise & Implement	ACS & MNCC
3	CPE & CPD Programmes Finalise & Implement	ACS
4	Country Reports Update Website	All Members

SEARCC'2010 will be hosted by the Australian Computer Society and will be held in September 2010 in Brisbane, Queensland Australia. This will be held in conjunction with the World Computer Congress in 2010 combined with a number of other conferences.

### **CONCLUSION**

The year 2009 was an eventful year for CSSL. My team adhered to the program of work, defined at the beginning of the year and contributed maximum to the progress of the society. I am proud of our accomplishments in the past year but recognise that there is still room for improvement. In conclusion I thank all members of the Society and the members of the Council who extended their cooperation and support during the period under review.