

# **Survey of First Year Students at University of Colombo School of Computing: 2011-2012**

*University Student Survey Committee,*

*August 11, 2013*

## *1. Summary*

A survey of the first year students of the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) was carried out to identify the problems they face. Students were surveyed on several matters. Majority expressed satisfaction with the university whereas a few areas of concern were identified.

## *2. Introduction*

The main purpose of this survey is to identify ways of improving effectiveness of education for the first years of UCSC.

This report was requested by the director of UCSC on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. A university student survey committee was formed, consisting of the Director, Deputy Director, Student Counselor and Registrar. The committee was asked to submit its findings by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

The committee constructed a questionnaire aiming at extracting information from the students who have been first year undergraduates within the period of 2011-2012. Copies of this questionnaire are available at the UCSC Library. A total of 112 students answered the questionnaire and out of this 100 were usable responses. 118 students were registered as first year undergraduates in 2011-2012. Hence these responses can be taken to reflect the views of a significant majority of this batch of students. The questionnaire included 20 variables categorized into 6 groups.



- Information received from UCSC before their arrival to the university
- The student's reception into the university
- The courses and lectures at UCSC
- Interaction with staff and senior students
- Learning resources
- Food and accommodation

### *3. Findings*

#### *3.1 Before arrival at UCSC*

Students were inquired whether they have received thorough, partial or no information about UCSC, their chosen program of study and campus culture. Results suggest that sufficient information was provided on the above mentioned aspects.

#### *3.2 After arrival at UCSC*

Using a scale of unsatisfied, satisfied or very satisfied, students were asked to rate five aspects of their arrival and stay at UCSC. A considerable number of responses suggested that hostel facilities and time allocated for English lessons need improvement.



#### *4. Conclusions*

This survey of the first year undergraduates of UCSC within the period of 2011-2012 shows why UCSC is a destination sought by many youngsters for their higher education. However, two main concerns have been highlighted.

4.1 The hostel facilities provided have been insufficient.

4.2 Not enough teaching time has been allocated for English lessons.

#### *5. Recommendations*

Based on the survey results, the committee makes the following recommendations.

5.1 The university should allocate a spacious building for hostel facilities.

5.2 The first year timetable should have more time allocated for English lessons

For further details:

<http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/studentservices/els/pdf/MODULE%20Academic%20Report.pdf>

