



UNIVERSITY OF
SEYCHELLES
Knowledge hub of the Indian Ocean

COMMUNIQUE

International Affairs Section

16th September 2021

Dear Students/Staff



Courtesy visit by Ambassador Lafortune

Following her recent accreditation as Ambassador of Seychelles to the People's Republic of China, Ambassador Lafortune met with the Vice Chancellor; Ms Joelle Perreau on Tuesday 24th August 2021. They discussed about relationships with the University and China and also ways to better assist UniSey's relation with China, Confucius Institute and other international partners, showing the valuable relationship with China.

UniSey represented at Local Youth Conference

Dr Daniel Etongo and Mr Stuart Laing were invited to deliver a presentation "Climate-Conscious Society" at the Local Conference of Youth: Driving Youth Climate Ambition (LCOY).

The presentation was done by Mr Laing, focusing on climate change impacts in Seychelles whilst providing examples of current and future solutions. The information provided was based on Dr Etongo's strong background in Climate Change Adaption and both of their contributions to Seychelles, reflected in the Nationally Determined Contribution document. This document is a national statement that countries make to the international community



outlining how they will limit (mitigate) their greenhouse gas emissions and what they will do to adapt to climate change impacts from social, economic and environmental perspectives.

This event organized by Mr Jeremy Raguain (SIF project manager) and Ms Victoria Alis (member of The Ocean Project Seychelles) supported by the Department of Climate Change and Energy, Ministry of Education and the British High Commission.



International Day of Peace Committee meets the President

The International Day of Peace Committee was invited at the State House on Tuesday 7th September 2021 to meet with the President of the Republic of Seychelles. Ms Diana Benoit, Director of the Peace and Diplomacy Research Institute, represented UniSey as the Chairperson of the Committee. Discussions revolved around the Committee's objectives and future plans which include transforming the Committee into a national platform to promote peace through education, awareness and research programmes. The President is willing to provide his full support and they were encouraged to forward their proposal to his office.



The members were privileged to visit the grave of the late Sir James Mancham; the founding President of the Republic, an advocate of peace and national unity after whom the Institute was named.



International Literacy Day



Since 1967, International Literacy Day (ILD) celebrations have taken place annually around the world. It is to remind the public of the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity, human rights and to advance the literacy agenda towards a more literate and sustainable society.

This year, UniSey celebrated this event on Wednesday 8th September 2021 at the UniSey library. The topic for discussion was “How Covid-19 has affected the teaching and learning of literacy”. Presentations were made by the Dean for Faculty of Arts and Social Development; Mr Justin Zelime, Senior Librarian; Mrs Marie-France Loze and SIDOL Coordinator for literacy; Ms Mercianne Renaud.



Presentations revolved around literacy in Seychelles, impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on literacy, and UniSey’s roles in promoting literacy during the pandemic. Participants included members of staff of UniSey.



Confucius Institute donates to UniSey



During the UniSey staff meeting on Friday 10th September 2021, Director of Confucius Institute; Mrs Wang Dongxia presented the Vice Chancellor; Ms Joelle Perreau with a donation of face masks.

The Vice Chancellor expressed her sincere thanks to Mrs Dongxia on behalf of all UniSey staff for the Institutes continuous support to the university.

UniSeY students' complete internship on Curieuse Island

Emlyn Quatre and Alisha Belle, Year 2 BSc Environment Science students, recently completed their internship in the Curieuse marine national park.

Their internship started since 19th July 2021, following programmes designed by the island's manager Anto Suzette. The students spent about a week on the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) coral restoration project, one week with Global Vision International (GVI) and another week with the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA), learning ranger work.



The programme provided the students with knowledge and new experiences, where they discovered and learned about the fauna and flora of the marine park. Additionally, they identified the various corals and fish seen on the reefs. They helped work on artificial reef structures being built for an ongoing project. This would aid in the restoration of an area around the marine park severely damaged by coral bleaching.

The students grasp the importance of maintaining, monitoring and restoring coral reefs. They described the internship as a strong learning experience with a lot of hard work. It provided them with a good understanding of the importance of environmental sustainability for current and future generations.