



## University of Vocational Technology (UoVT)

### OUR REACTION TO COVID 19

Pandemic That Made Us Dynamic

Carnivorous Coronavirus Changed Us Vigorous

The trauma caused by COVID 19 to the entirety of human activity has been unprecedented and the whole world has been a standstill resulting in no access to any services and the institutes in the field of education are no exception.

We, the UoVT, too were compelled to shut down. Nevertheless, we wasted virtually no time to go **VIRTUAL** and took the challenge in good spirits. The challenge was literally the biggest thus far in our decade long history as all our courses have been delivered face to face despite blended learning mode featured occasionally.

Mustering all resources during this difficult hour of the country for this purpose- to go virtual- was a near impossibility, but we were inspired by the maxim; nothing is impossible to willing mind. Further, the new leadership set the positive tone, confirming again that “leader matters and it matters the most. We, the first state **Technological University** in Sri Lanka, would not allow any force, regardless of its magnitude, to hinder our functions.

We resorted to the repeatedly proven four stage approach of **PDCA: PLAN DO CHECK ACT**





We first said ‘yes’ to the imperative: The closure of the institute. Measures were taken to see that the premises would be clinically ready to welcome the students at the earliest possible moment.



Pool your heads in a crisis for solution. They say. The experts were summoned. Their ideas were pooled. A committee was established. Ideas travelled to and fro virtually. Curfew was not a hindrance to the virtual pathways. Deans and the Heads bombarded mails to all and sundry. Others responded. All have been apart physically, but played a vital part virtually.



With able guidance from the experts, all module coordinators were guided to organize their lessons to be delivered through the UNI-Moodle facilitated LMS environment. They are performing overtime to meet the challenge gracefully. They now know before complaining one should comply.

#### THEY PERFORMED:

- The LMS Administrators designed the “pages” for all modules.
- The Module Coordinators/ Lecturers developed and organized the contents, activities, and assessments to be delivered through Uni-LMS.
- The ICT Division ensured uninterrupted access and user-friendly interfaces of the UNI – Website for students and lecturers
- The Heads of Departments with the support of LMS administrators ensured that all students received their user names and passwords for the LMS.
- The Heads of Departments sent Comprehensive set of guidelines on the new mode of delivery and the revised time table that will ensure the functions of the UoVT on par with others. Special attention is paid for educating them about online submission of assessments and related rules.
- The Experts of Computer Assisted Learning and the Deans are having constant dialogue with the lecturers on how resources such as simulations be developed for practical components, and using modern interactive tools for contacting the students for enhanced collaborative learning , to compensate the unavailability of face to face sessions.
- Admin Divisions too are being restructured and reengineered to complement the new digitally connected working environment.

Simply put, we, the UoVT, are now guided by “CONNECTIVISM” and monitored by PDCA approach. We will NOT look back.

