



University of Mauritius

Commercialisation of University-based Research



Sanjai Parahoo - Director

Consultancy and Contract Research Centre



Presentation of the University

Student Population - 2005/2006

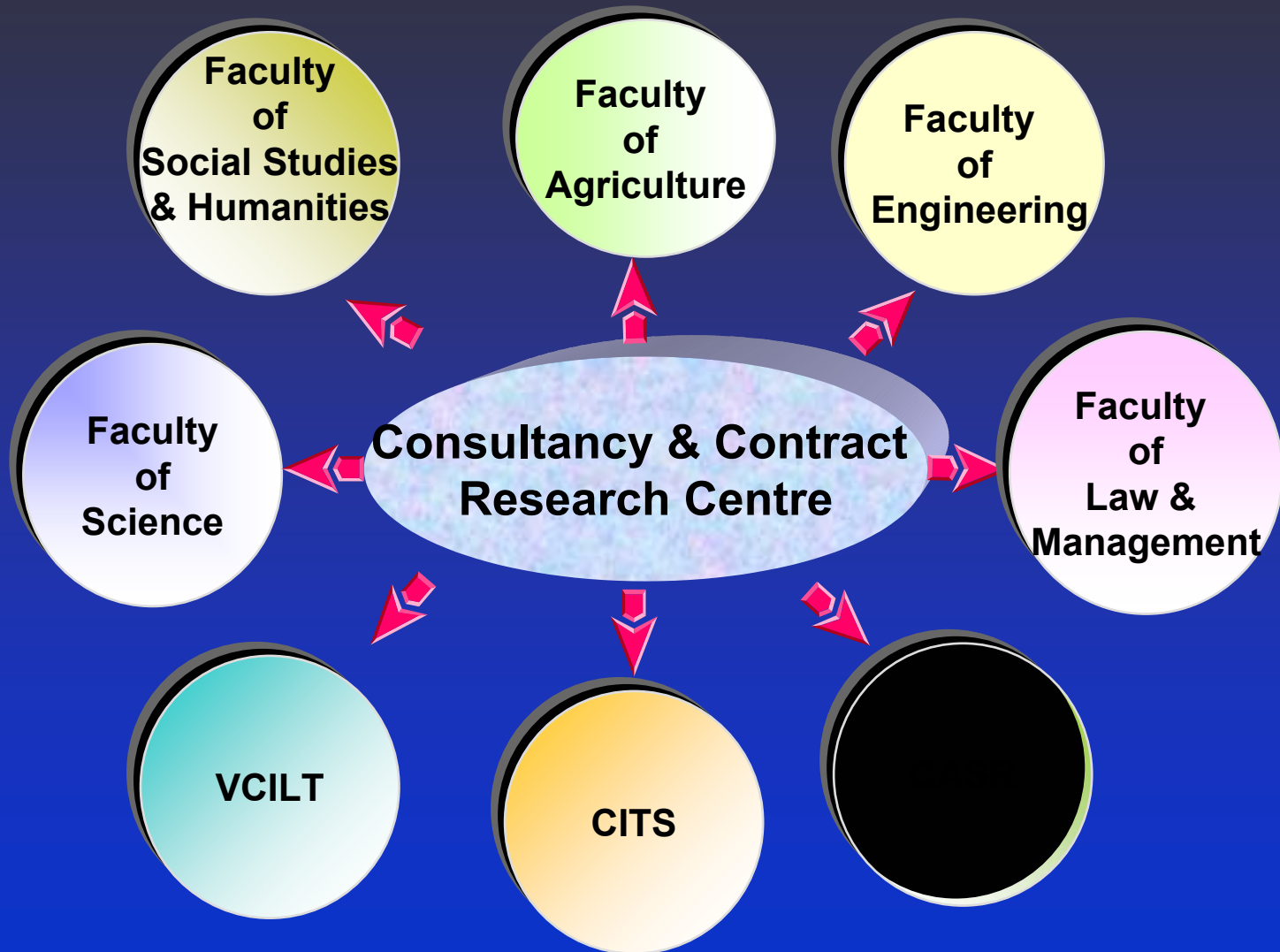
Male	Female	Total
3410	3680	7090

Academic Staff - 2005/2006

Male	Female	Total
137	86	223



Research Expertise





Consultancy & Contract Research Centre (*CCRC*)

☀ **Communication with Clients (Pre - and Post - Award)**

☀ **Project Management of Consultancy and Contract Research Projects**

☀ **Technology Transfer**

☀ **IPR Protection and Commercialization**

UoM – Consultancy & Contract Research Centre - December 2005



Summary of projects undertaken (1998-2005)

● Number of Staff Research Projects:

- ▶ UoM funded: 47
- ▶ Externally funded: 50

● Number of Consultancy Projects: 316

- ▶ Local: Government (107), Industry (171), NGOs (6)
- ▶ Regional: 14
- ▶ International: 26

● Number of student dissertations: > 6000



Examples of Commercialisation of University-based Research

1. Rotary Composter, Regional Compost Network and School Compost Project (Sept 2005)
2. Database And Validation of Medicinal Plants (Local and Regional)
3. Quiz Authoring Tool, SMARTER Exchange Platform, FAIRE and IT Proficiency CD ROM portal

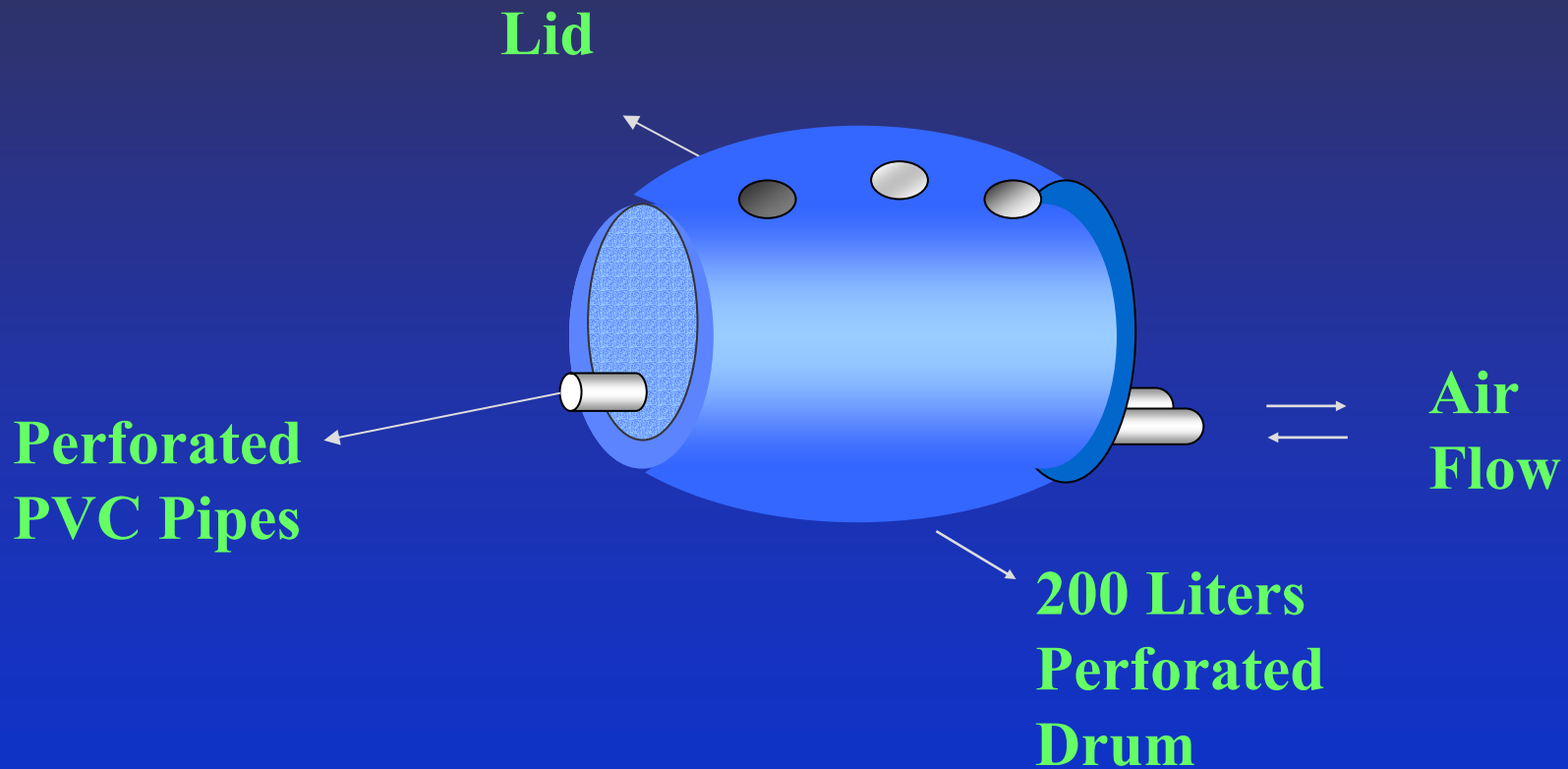


Rotary Composter - Patent Application

- ◆ Developed at the University of Mauritius
- ◆ Researcher - Dr Romeela Mohee
- ◆ Currently used by 85 planters in Rodrigues, and 70 in Mauritius
- ◆ Substrate
 - ▶ Yard Wastes, Chicken and Bagasse Wastes



Rotary Composter - Patent Application





Regional Compost Network

Funding Agency UNOPS (2002 – 2004)

Objectives:

- ➔ Increase Cooperation Among the Southern African Countries
- ➔ Share information and have access to results on experiments carried out



Website - <http://www.uom.ac.mu/compostnet/>



School Compost Project

- ✦ Launching of composting projects in schools in September 2005 by the Ministry of Environment & NDU in collaboration with the Ministry of Education & HR
- ✦ 200 rotary composters from UoM will be placed in colleges and schools as part of the “School Compost Project”
- ✦ 50 composters provided to the National Federation of Young Farmers’ Clubs and training provided by the UoM



Database On Medicinal Plants

- ◆ Regional Project on Medicinal Plants - Collaboration between University and MSIRI (Period: 1990-1997)
- ◆ Researchers
 - ▶ Prof Ameenah Gurib-Fakim (UoM)
 - ▶ Mr J Gueho (MSIRI)
- ◆ Output
 - ▶ 8 Volumes of a Book and 2 CD ROMs
 - ▶ 974 Plants in the Region (Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles, and Mauritius)
 - ▶ 634 Plants in Mauritius (15-20% Endemic)



Validation Of TK (Medicinal Plants)

- **Validation of the ethnobotanical information on locally used medicinal plants of Mauritius**
- **20 plants including herbal teas**
- **Researcher - Prof Ameenah Gurib-Fakim**
- **Period: 1998 - 2000**
- **Funding: MRC**



Projects – Innovative Learning

◆ QBuilder - Quiz Authoring Tool

- ▶ Enables tutor to create his own multiple choice, multiple answer and fill in the blanks questions, incorporate pictures and different styles

◆ SMARTER Exchange Platform

- ▶ Demonstrates the use of ICT for the promotion of Science & Technology in schools
- ▶ Provides links to various online educational resources containing notes, animations and tutorials relevant to O-level Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics syllabus



Projects – Innovative Learning

◆ Formation, Alternance Instrumentée et Recherche (FAIRE)

- ▶ Portal for professional development of social workers in partnership with Institut Regional de Travail Social (IRTS) from Reunion Island
- ▶ Developed as reflexive training tool with objective to contribute towards reinforcement and improvement of training of social workers at IRTS and eventually of other training institutes in the Indian Ocean Region

◆ IT Proficiency CD ROM

- ▶ General purpose e-learning IT course at “proficiency” level designed for people with no IT background to support the Government’s ICT initiatives
- ▶ 24 sessions of 2 hours



UoM Support to Young Graduates

- ◆ MCE - ICT Pre-Incubator Project
- ◆ MCE - Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- ◆ Patent Information Services
- ◆ Transferable Outreach Skills Programme (TOSP)



Multidisciplinary Centers of Excellence (MCE)

MCE consist of various multidisciplinary thematic research units namely:

- ▶ **International Relations and Diplomacy**
- ▶ **Public Policy**
- ▶ **Environment, Energy and Water**
- ▶ **Textile and Manufacturing**
- ▶ **Transport**
- ▶ **Innovation, Science & Technology**
- ▶ **Entrepreneurship and SMEs**
- ▶ **Exploitation and Conservation of Indigenous Resources**
- ▶ **Financial Services**



MCE – ICT Pre Incubator Project

- ◆ Sub theme: ICT Business Incubator
- ◆ Sub theme leader: Dr Roshan Ramessur
- ◆ Objective:
 - ➔ To provide start up initiatives for both students and academics from various disciplines to develop multidisciplinary ICT business related projects
- ◆ Modules/Workshops on ICT business concepts and entrepreneurship for students and academics to be offered



MCE – Entrepreneurship and SMEs

- ◆ Theme leader: Mr I Vencatachellum
- ◆ Current Project on “Vacuum-packaging Technology”
- ◆ Collaborative meetings with other MCEs (e.g. Agribusiness, Innovation, Science and Technology, etc.)
- ◆ Future suggestions and efforts noted:
 - ➔ Setting up of a UOM SME-start up incubator
 - ➔ Building business plan templates
 - ➔ Developing training programmes for future entrepreneurs

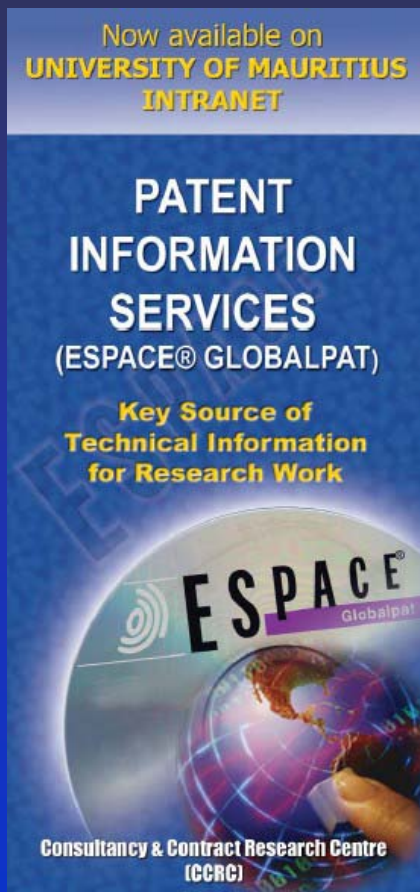


Transferable Outreach Skills Programme (TOSP)

- ❁ **Vector Graphics: Computer Skills**
- ❁ **An Appreciation of Agricultural Biotechnology**
- ❁ **Implementing Local Area Networks for Home and Business Environments**
- ❁ **Technology-enhanced and Online Teaching**
- ❁ **Linux and Windows: Know Both Worlds**



Patent Information Services (*CCRC*)



- ◆ Patent literature – key technical information resource by Universities and Research & Development institutions
- ◆ Database of patent documents, Espace® Globalpat CD Roms acquired by CCRC
- ◆ Launched in February 2005 and currently accessible through the UoM Intranet by researchers on campus at:

http://www.uom.ac.mu/Research&Consultancy/consultcentre/patent_info.htm



University of Mauritius

Thank you
For your attention

CCRC