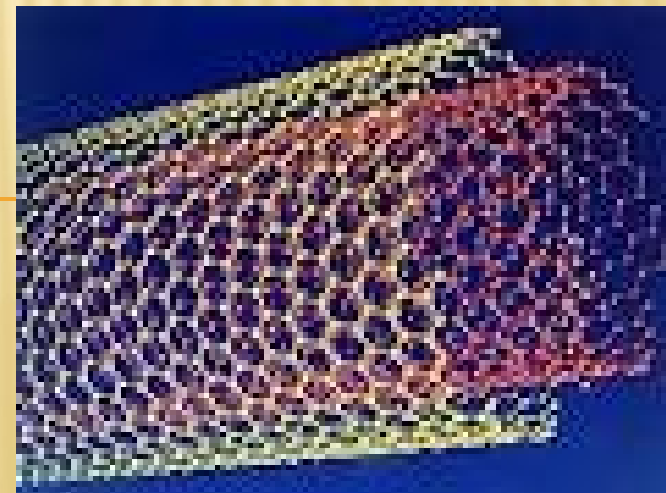
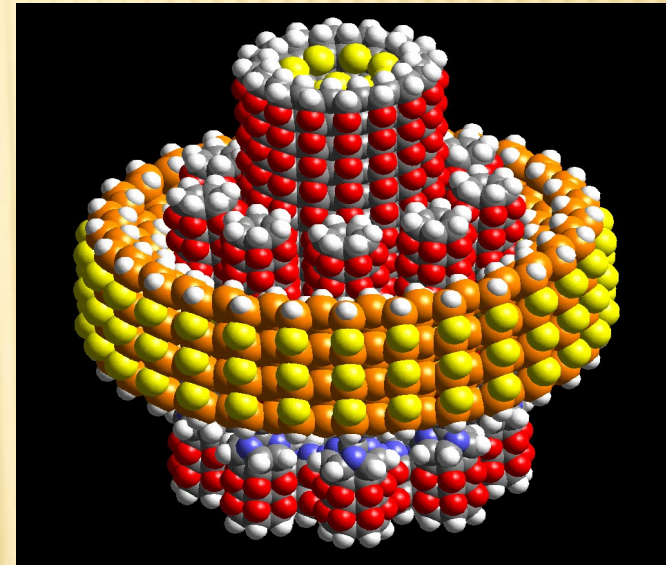


NANOTECHNOLOGY AWARENESS AMONG UNDERGRADUATES IN SRI LANKA

K. A. D. D. Kuruppu
Faculty of Science and
Technology,
Uva Wellassa University,
Badulla.



INTRODUCTION

Nanotechnology is a relatively new field of science, and thus it is not yet widely understood by the public.



INTRODUCTION

In order to popularise this new technology, it is a pre-requisite to investigate the present level of awareness and interest about nanotechnology among the local

la



OBJECTIVES

The aim of this study was to assess the level of awareness and their motivation to learn nanotechnology among undergraduates in Sri Lanka.



MATERIALS AND METHOD

Study Setting

Uva Wellassa University – Faculty of Science & Technology

University of Peradeniya – Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

Study Instrument

self administered structured questionnaire which consists 10 questions

Study Period

April, 2012



MATERIALS AND METHOD

**Data were entered in a
Microsoft Excel 2007
worksheet and analysed.**

RESULTS

Sample size

Uva Wellassa University	= 144
University of Peradeniya	= 73
Total	= 217

Sex Distribution

Male	= 39.6%
Female	= 60.4%

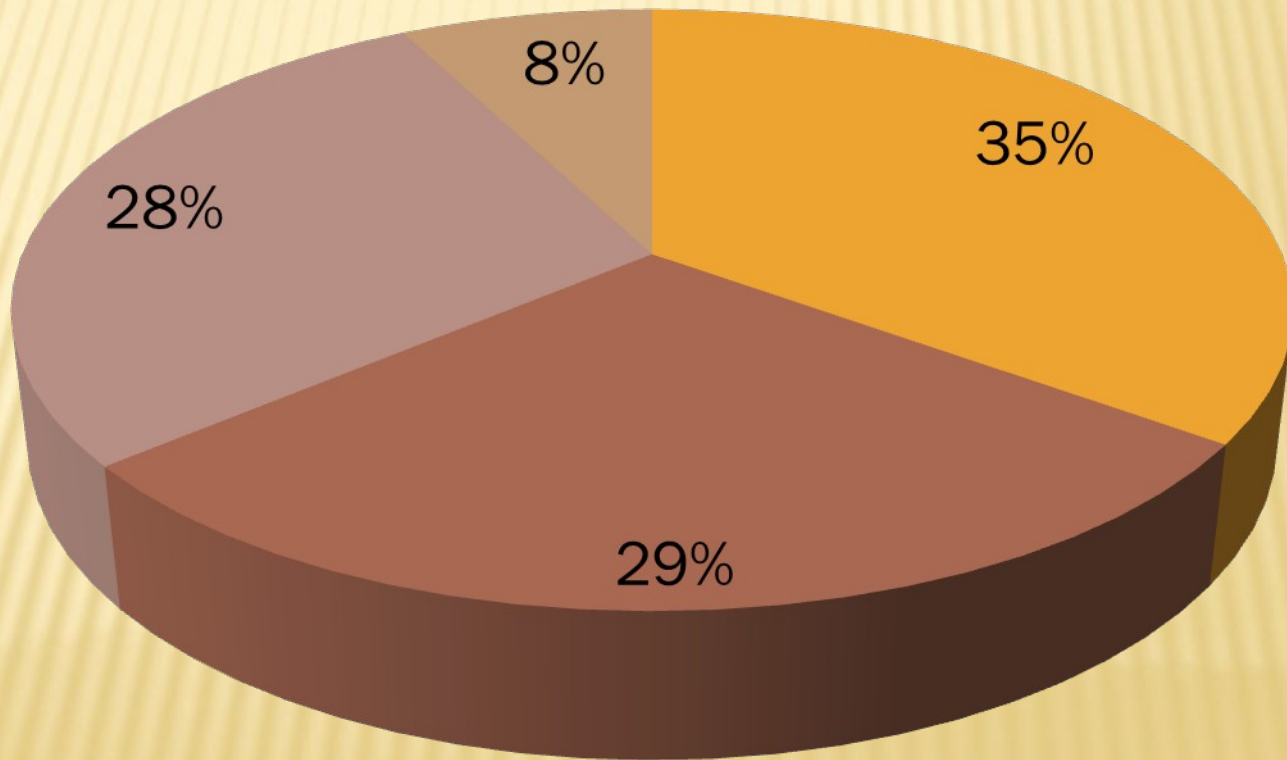
RESULTS

	Yes	No	Total
Heard about Nano Technology	213 (98%)	04 (02%)	217
Knew about Nano Technology	136 (64%)	77 (36%)	213

RESULTS

Sources which they gathered information about Nano Technology

■ Internet ■ Course Work ■ Printed Media ■ Peers



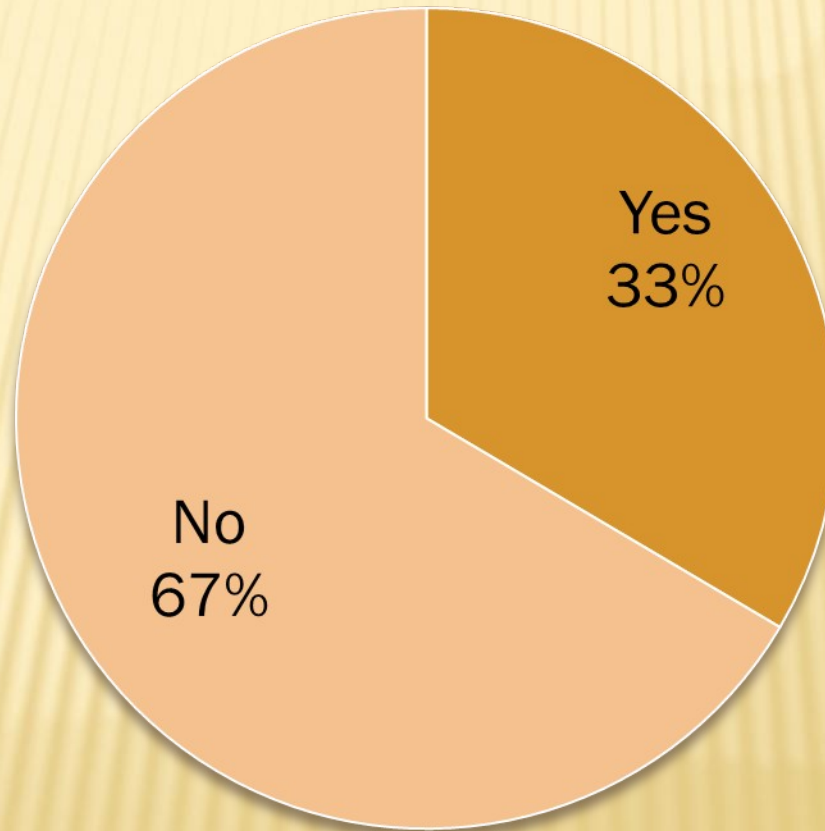
RESULTS

Willingness to learn about Nano Technology



RESULTS

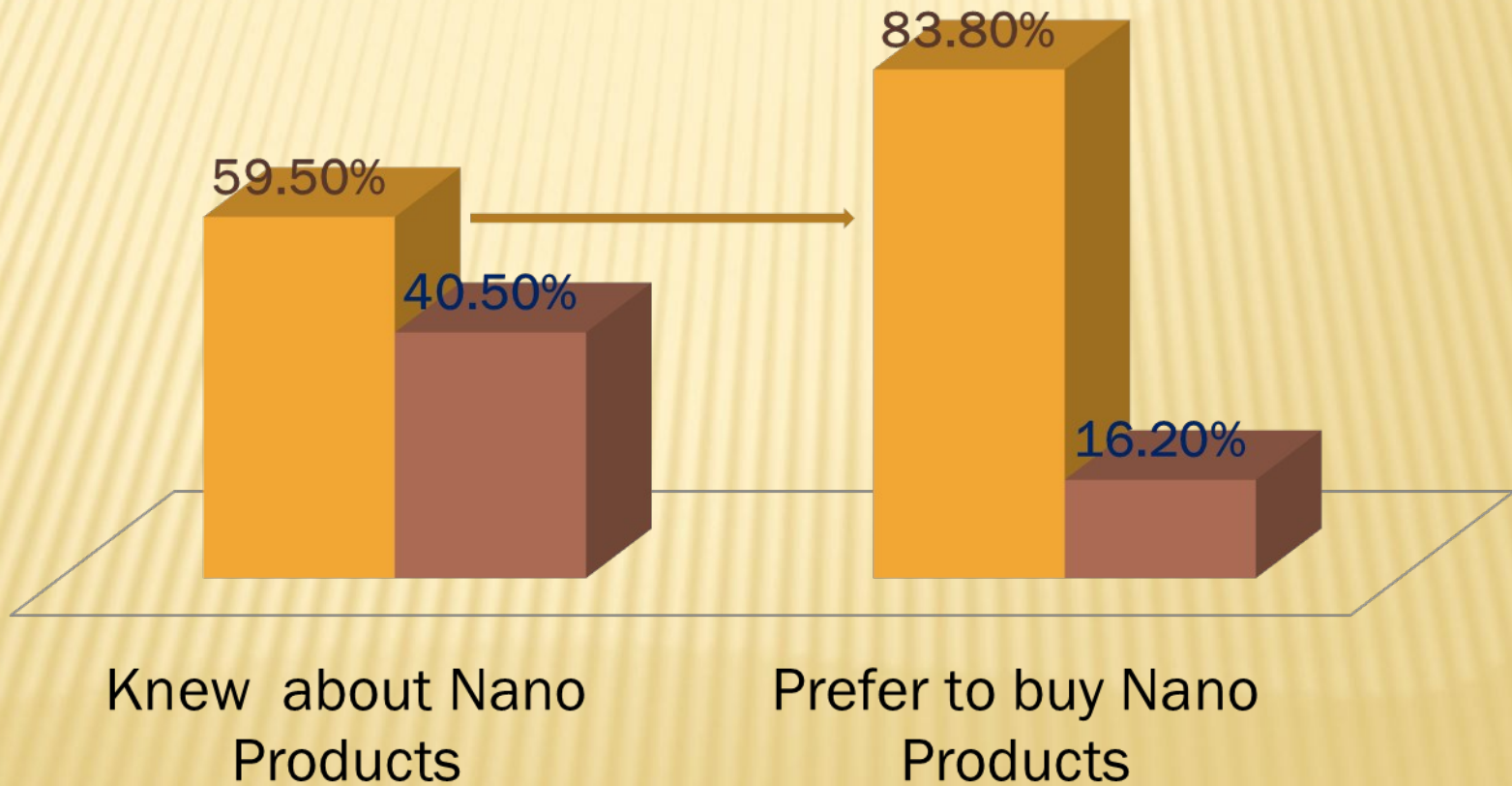
Knowing about the Sri Lanka Institute of Nano Technology



RESULTS

Preference and knowledge about Nano Products

■ Yes ■ No



DISCUSSION

This study indicated that the majority of the study population have heard about nanotechnology but among them comparatively low percentage know what nanotechnology is. Internet and printed media seems to play a major role in disseminating information about nanotechnology among undergraduates in Sri Lanka.

DISCUSSION

The study also revealed that a majority of the undergraduates wish to learn nanotechnology as a subject in their undergraduate degree programme.

However many of them were not aware about SLINTEC.

DISCUSSION

This study indicates that comparatively low percentage of respondents knew about the products which are manufactured using nanotechnology. Of them, comparatively large percentage stated that they prefer to purchase products which are manufactured using nanotechnology.

CONCLUSIONS

We should improve the nanotechnology awareness among undergraduates in order to make them more knowledgeable about this new technology.

They are interested to learn about this new technology.

CONCLUSIONS

Therefore, as academia we should provide more opportunities for them to learn about nanotechnology, as this is an area of strategic importance for future



REFERENCES

[1] Dyehouse, M.A. & Dux, H.A. (2008) 'Development of an Instrument to Measure Undergraduates' Nanotechnology Awareness, Exposure, Motivation, and Knowledge', *Springer [Electronic]*, vol. 17, no. 5, pp. 500-510.

[2] Sheetz, T. & Vidal, J. and Pearson, T.D. (2005) 'Nanotechnology: Awareness and societal concerns', *Technology in Society Journal*, vol. 27, no. 3, August, pp. 329-345.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TO THE RESPONDENTS OF THIS STUDY



THANK YOU