



5
minute
INTERVIEW

By Kshanika Argent

What's the worst and nicest thing a listener has ever said to you?

I'd like to say no one ever says bad things about me, but I got a little rankled the other day when some chap suggested that I have an accent, (my whole purpose on radio is to sound as Sri Lankan as I humanly can!) The nicest was when someone said I sound like a real life warning label for caffeine addicts.

What's your favorite song of all time?

Jeff Buckley's version of *Hallelujah*, though I have to say Peter Gabriel's *In Your Eyes* comes a very close second

Your house catches fire, what three things

This week's pick for the five minute interview is none other than the suave charmer Jay Camer, host of Lite 89.2FM's morning show, *The Lite Café*.

do you rescue as you run out?

Nothing really, almost everything I have is replaceable.

What's your favorite place and why?

CD stores...the allure of shiny pieces of recorded entertainment gets the better of me.

What do you love most about Colombo?

The people...and their uncanny ability to withstand most of the things thrown at them

Pillawoo's or Hijra?

I'm tempted to say there's no big difference, but I'll respect pillawians' sensitivities and say pillaw makes marginally better CK's.

When was the last time you laughed real hard? And who was it at?!

That would be yesterday at Night Shyamalan. Right after I fast forwarded through his monstrosity of a movie *Lady in the Water*.

Workshop held by the Council for Business for Business with Britain, HSBC, British Council and University of Colombo and the Institute for Enterprise, Leeds Metropolitan University



Head table

One of the biggest issues university graduates and corporate companies face today, is the lack of communication skills according to corporate giant HSBC.

Speaking to *The Sunday Leader* David Griffiths CEO of HSBC Sri Lanka made this observation at a full day workshop hosted by the Council for Business for Business with Britain, sponsored by HSBC, supported by the British Council and led by key project partners, University of Colombo and the Institute for Enterprise, Leeds Metropolitan University.

It was the first time that a university and businesses came together to discuss graduate excellence in Colombo. Over 50 delegates worked side by side to explore the needs of the Sri Lankan economy and the development needs of their students. This unique event formed part of a research program designed to share UK best practice with Sri Lankan universities and support the development of collaboration between industry and academia.

But with only 4% of Sri Lanka 'A' level students able to attain university places, and subsequently finding that they are not then able to find employment, issues of transferable skill development; seeking innovation through the development of enterprising students are relevant global issues according to Alison Price, CETL Director Institute for Enterprise.

The Institute for Enterprise, Leeds Metropolitan University will be in Sri Lanka shortly and using its UK experiences has set out to work in partnership with the local academia and the business community, firstly on a fact finding mission between the two groups and secondly to facilitate the requirements of both groups.

The overall objective is to ensure that graduates from local universities are better



Alison Price



A mix of top executives and University officials

positioned to meet the demands of the business community and to open up discussions and collaborations between these two groups.

Speaking to *The Sunday Leader* at the workshop, Price stated that one of the objectives of the workshop was to make Sri Lankan graduates more employable, both at home and abroad.

Price added that the workshop brought together delegates from the Universities and corporate sector in order to learn what kind of skills are required of graduates.

The outcome of the workshop according to Price will be many workshops on skills development for students held at Universities by the Institute for Enterprise, Leeds Metropolitan University.

Price said, "We're here to come up with a Sri Lankan solution to a Sri Lankan problem and work with the universities to overcome the many issues that they face."