Newsletter

University Librarians Association

ULA
Sri Lanka

Content

ULA Sri Lanka
2022 iCULA
International Conference of University Librarians Association

Connecting People through Transformative Libraries

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual General Meeting 2022 of ULA

The 40th Annual General Meeting of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka was held on Friday, the 28th of October, 2022 at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, the Vice Chancellor, University of Kelaniya and Dr. Sudath Senarath, the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya graced the Inaugural Ceremony of AGM as the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour respectively.

The Guests and the special invitees were greeted by the ULA Key Officials with the Kandyan Dancing Troop of the University of Kelaniya. The Welcome address was given by Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, the Librarian of the hosting institution, the University of Kelaniya followed by the welcome dance performed by the Undergraduates of the Swamy Vipulanandha Institute of Aesthetics Studies, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, the President (2021/22) of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka delivered the presidential address. The Chief Guest, Senior Prof. Nilanthi De Silva and the Guest of Honour Dr. Sudath Senarath delivered their speeches afterwards.

The Chief Guest, Senior Prof. Nilanthi De Silva, presented the Senior Research Award and the Junior Research Award to Dr. Manjula Wijewickrema, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Sabaragamuwa, and Mrs. Thivya Janen, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Jaffna respectively.

Mr. Ananda, the Retired Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, the retired Senior Assistant Librarians of the University of Peradeniya, Mrs. Sriyani Perera and Mr. K. G. Wijeweera were honoured with a Trophy in recognition of their dedicated and meritorious services in the university system and as members of ULA.

The engraved Trophies were given to the honored retired librarians by the Chief Guest, Senior Prof. Nilanthi De Silva, the Guest of Honor, Dr. Sudath Senarath, and the President of ULA, Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj.

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The ULA publications 'JULA' the bi-annual scholarly journal and 'ULA Newsletter' were handed over officially to the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour by the Editor Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundara.

Subsequently, the vote of thanks was delivered by the General Secretary of ULA (2021/22), Dr. Kalpana Chandrasekar.

After a little break for relaxation with refreshments, the technical proceedings of AGM were commenced.
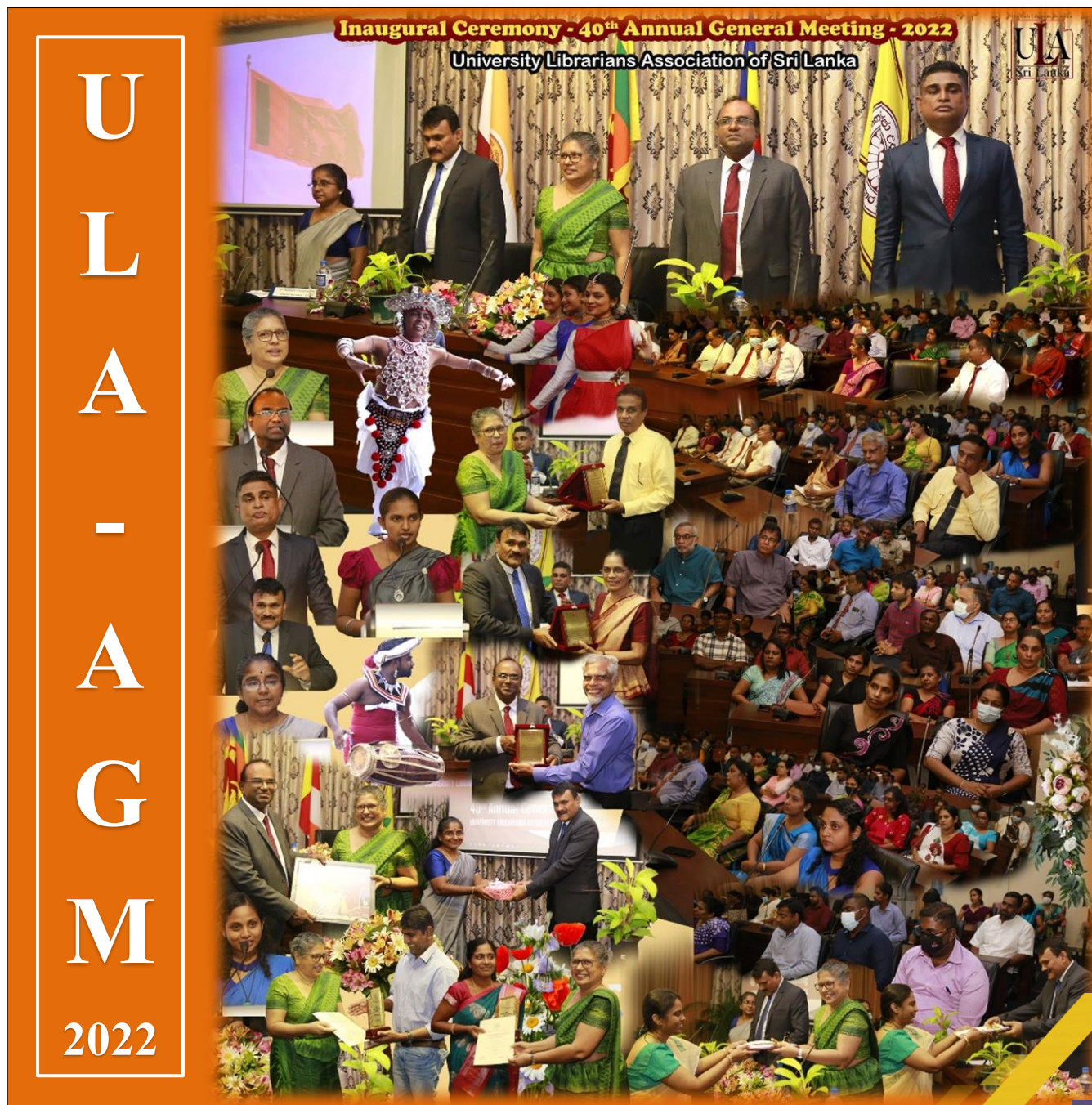
SPECIAL EVENTS

ICULA 2022 International Research Conference

The 12th International Research Conference (ICULA 2022) on **"Connecting People through Transformative Libraries"** organized by the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ULA) in collaboration with the Standing Committee on Libraries and Information Sciences (SCOLIS) of the University Grants Commission (UGC), was held at the Planetarium Ball Room, Mirage Hotel, Colombo on Thursday, the 27th of October, 2022. As the conference commenced, the Chief Guest, Senior Professor Premakumara De Silva, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Libraries and Information Sciences of the University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka, and the Guest of Honour, Professor V. Kanagasingam, the Vice Chancellor, Eastern University, Sri Lanka were greeted and accompanied by Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, the President (2021/22) of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka & the Conference Co-Chair and Dr. C. C. Jayasundara, the Conference Co-Chair along with the Kandyan Dance Troop.

A total of 120 local and International participants attended the conference. The opening event was a traditional fusion dance performed by the undergraduates of the Swami Vipulanandha Institute of Aesthetics Studies (SVIAS) of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka and then followed by a video documentary that elucidated the history, achievements, and milestones of ULA over the years.

Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, the President of ULA, delivered the President's Address stating that tibrarianship has been evolving to keep up with the rate of change in information and communication technologies (ICTs). However, use of these technologies was radically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Now that the pandemic is over, technological devices and the way we access data using them are now a lot more powerful. The Co-Chair Dr. C. C. Jayasundara delivered the introductory speech of the Conference, stressing the purpose and timely nature of the Conference theme, "Connecting People through Transformative Libraries".

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In his address, Prof. V. Kanagasingam spelled out that the growth of Librarianship as a profession has been increasingly recognized and respected in the present information arena and reminded of the multi-dimensional functionalities added to the responsibilities shared by librarians. In recognition of Prof. V. Kanagasingam's presence and valuable address, he was presented with a Trophy of appreciation by Dr. C. C. Jayasundara, the Conference Co-Chair.

Next, the Conference Proceedings, the Official Journal of ULA 'JULA' and the Newsletters were ceremoniously handed over to the delegates of the head table by the Publication Secretaries of ICULA 2022, Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundera and Dr. K. D. N. Harshani.

Gracing the lectern next, was the Chief Guest Senior Prof. Premakumara De Silva. In addressing the audience, he specified the concepts related to the urgency of transforming libraries. He also stressed "how readership can be aligned with modern user expectations by properly harnessing technology". Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, the President of ULA presented Senior Prof. Premakumara De Silva with a Trophy of appreciation.

Dr. Manoja Samaradiwakara, Co-Secretary ICULA 2022 conveyed a note of appreciation through a formal vote of thanks ending the inaugural session of the research conference that was compered and anchored by Dasuni Athauda, Television News Presenter.

The core of the conference began with three technical sessions that discussed vital research papers on 'Information Needs, Seeking, and Applications', 'Performance Indicators and Evaluation', and 'Physical and Human Resource Challenges in Libraries' chaired by the University Library Professionals Dr. Wathmanel Seneviretne, Dr. Namali Suraweera, and Dr. D. Chandrani Kuruppu respectively.

A stimulating discussion panel invited all participants to a brainstorming session on "Challenges and Opportunities in Transforming Libraries in the New-normal situation. This session was moderated by the Vice President of ULA, Mrs. Ruvini Kodikara. The panelists of this session were Dr. C. C. Jayasundara, and Dr. Namali Suraweera.

Rewarding the presence and participation of the attendees, the valedictory session featured the summarization of the conference content and concluded with the awarding of certificates for the Best Paper and Best Presenter. Dr. Udaya Cabral and Mrs. M. P. Rajapakshe received the Best Paper and Best Presentation awards, respectively.

The conference was wrapped up luxuriously as every individual delegate who attended this event reaped the optimal research outcomes discussed and dispersed through research paper presentations.

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Newspaper Highlights

FEATURE ARTICLE

Faculty-Library Collaborations: Making Academic Library Services pertinent to Learning Management Systems (LMS)

Online Delivery of Education and its Challenges

Needless to mention that Sri Lanka is already in the process of online education using open and distance learning modes. It has happened to be a hybrid, combining traditional classroom teaching-learning system and the digital technology. Despite the popularity of Learning Management Systems, Khashunika et al., (2021) record that Sri Lankan learners found it difficult in embracing the online learning options and that research students mostly disliked the digital environment that hindered them from meeting with their supervisors. These gaps could be bridged and challenges could be addressed, with the help of academic librarians, them being the liaison makers between learners and resources.

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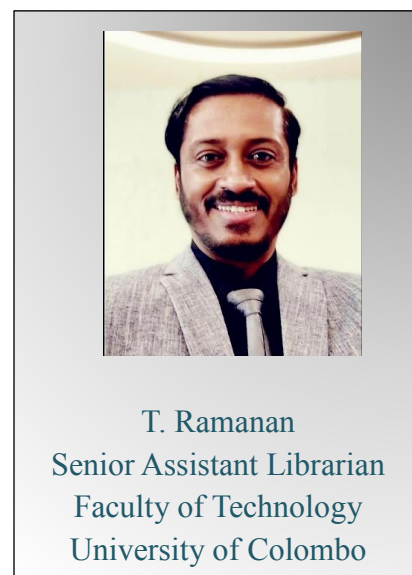
Most of the instances, these challenges are interwoven with transitioning of the stakeholders due to the digital transformation in higher education. Generally, students of Sri Lankan universities complete their school education in a conventional setup and many of them do not have the privilege of enjoying much of ICT facilities and devices before stepping into tertiary education. Global Internet usage statistics reveal that the major use of the Internet and social media constituted searching for information, for news items, social networking, entertainment, marketing, digital business, online shopping and education (Angelov, 2020), which shows that education was not the primary purpose of using the Internet. Regarding our teachers and students it is no exception; hence struggles were myriad in number during the COVID-19 when engaging in online education.

Digital Revolution and Libraries

Libraries in Sri Lanka have seamlessly been engaged in permanent or makeshift transformations in the past; nevertheless, we need to question whether they are sufficiently capacitated to face off abrupt changes like terror attacks in 2019, COVID-19 pandemic, and recent economic instability that arrested the entire nation. Being an essential service, perhaps little underrated for its vitality in development, educational sector could not be compromised for any of those unexpected blows. Therefore, educational entities employed various approaches including virtual meeting platforms such as Zoom, MS Team, Google Meet, and social networking sites such as WhatsApp, YouTube and Facebook to deliver the teaching material. Use of LMS has been increasing as it is needed for these teaching-learning activities to be completely online. In support of this Sri Lankan libraries, especially the university ones, have established their digital collections on local publications, past examination papers, and AV material. These libraries host their own LMS, too.

Libraries' Role in Strengthening Online Teaching and Learning

Having considered the above facts, libraries, regardless of their type and scope, have tremendous potentiality in supporting the online education, or simply, teaching and learning activities. Based on the findings of Sriyalatha & Kumarasinghe (2021), the impact of the Internet access when it comes to learning online cannot be omitted. Study further found that many students were affected by the lack of ICT infrastructure facilities, which can be compensated by library's learning commons and computer units.

Inadequate e-learning facilities have been identified in a survey (Khashunika et al., 2021), which again prompts the need of the library's intervention. In this juncture, the libraries play crucial role by providing relevant resources through digital collection, facilitating the students in locating the information, and by giving necessary trainings to orient the learners in LMS and other digital learning environments. Similarly, many university libraries work with their faculties in gathering the past examination papers and have created course modules on LMS to display the question papers of preceding years.

What needs to be done?

Faculty-Library collaboration as a symbiotic relationship is the primary need of the time since online delivery of courses requires additional attention to resource management on LMSs. Unfortunately, much of faculty-library collaboration is not even initiated in some state universities. If they had established liaisons with the faculty, every faculty member might have considered the library as a vital organ equipped with

experienced Librarians. Existing literature too failed to address the importance of libraries in online teaching-learning activities. Therefore, every new enrolment must be attached to the library at least for the first few months to acclimatize them with the tertiary academic environment applying student-centred learning (SCL).

Study by Sriyalatha & Kumarasinghe (2021) proposes conducting both traditional and online courses. Universities gradually switching to online mode may attract more students to engage in digital environment. This has been an opportunity for both institutes and students as they can save money and time. As Morris et al., (2020) suggest the state universities in Sri Lanka may start to deliver non-credit modules and certificate-level courses to tame the students. This would increase the income generated by those institutions, which will be a boon in times of financial crisis, for both parties. However, libraries' role and its importance need special and serious emphasis on it as the libraries possess necessary information resources and enthusiasm to serve. Library resources on LMS are added and developed with the help of faculties and in return the libraries serve the students not only with resources but also with assistance in gaining the knowledge of using digital

information for their learning and research activities. Most importantly, the practice of blended-learning requires the faculty libraries to associate with teaching-learning activities of the faculty that is mostly performed on the LMS. Therefore, faculties need to devolve research support tasks to libraries and libraries on the other hand, need to infiltrate the faculty activities by strengthening the academic responsibilities. This mutual symbiosis will benefit the stakeholders as a whole nationwide.

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Breadth and Depth of Library Automation in Sri Lanka and its Future

Information is used more heavily and frequently by people nowadays than the past decade, thanks to the Internet for quick expansion, the advent of electronic documents, and the advancement of information communication technologies. As a result, human existence is changing, embraced with a necessity for sophisticated instruments to complete their daily tasks quickly and effectively. In line with this shifting global trend, libraries are compelled to offer library services and information to the users promptly and effectively. It follows that it is not unusual that businesses dealing with information-intensive activities, like libraries, have pushed to automate their systems.

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Even though automation of libraries began in the 1960s across the globe, it wasn't in Sri Lanka until the 1980s. The library automation process was commenced in Sri Lanka with the installation of computers in libraries. In 1967 the first computer was installed in the country. In 1981 there were 65 computers installed in different institutions across the country and 17 of them were included libraries. However, historical data indicates that until the end of 1982, no library in Sri Lanka used computers (Yapa, 1998). Through overcoming several obstacles, National Science Foundation (NSF) was able to obtain a computer in 1983 to run the operations of the Sri Lanka

Scientific and Technical Information Centre (SLSTIC), which set the stage for the implementation of library automation in Sri Lankan libraries. At the same time UNESCO introduced the library automation software called CDS/ISIS in 1982 which contributed to the advancement of the computerization activities in Sri Lankan libraries by 1987 (Yapa, 1995). University libraries were the entities where automation operations were highly experimented in the county. Initiation of library automation in university libraries began in 1986 following a meeting of chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), vice chancellors, and librarians of the universities (Inter University Committee on Librarians, 1987). Subsequently, each of the eight university libraries Peradeniya, Colombo, Moratuwa, Sri Jayawardenapura, Kelaniya, Jaffna, Ruhuna, and Open University was able to receive a computer from UGC in 1991. At that time, different proprietary software, namely Alice for Windows, LibSys, and LibSuite, were chosen by these university libraries for their automation process. In parallel, the University of Ruhuna developed their library system using an

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open-source software known as Koha (Wijayaratne, 2005). Subsequently, other university libraries commenced automation using LibSys, software that was made available to university libraries by the UGC. Over the time, university libraries began substituting proprietary software with open-source software due to their inability to continue with the annual maintenance costs on proprietary software as well as various limitations imposed by the software owners. Now almost all the university libraries are automated with Koha-based Integrated Library Management System (ILMS).

Even though the automation process has been underway for more than 20 years, to what extent are university libraries in Sri Lanka automated? Do they have a fully automated system? Can they provide their customers with fully automated services? The most of university libraries across the country provide automated circulation services and OPAC facilities to the patrons. However, not all libraries are using every module that the ILMS offers. For instance, the serial management module and the acquisition module. Several libraries continue to operate using traditional practices for tasks like weeding, annual stock taking, and inventory management. Moreover, the automated process should not be restricted to the installation and development of an integrated library management system. It goes beyond that, to ensuring the safety of the library items, coding and labeling materials for easy identification, and much more. Most university libraries in Sri Lanka

today have barcoded their books and tagged them with tattle tape, an electromagnetic strip. However, there have been several new technologies emerged, including RFID technologies that allows simultaneous issuance of multiple books, self-checkout stations, book drop facilities, automated sorting stations, inventory control, user-centered services, and many more.

It is great news that the Science Library of the University of Colombo has very recently adopted RFID technology to provide advanced automation services to users. When compared to the beginning of library automation, the time taken for this development and adoption was excessively long. What therefore is the cause for the delay in the progress towards library automation in the country? Due to lack of experts devoted to the automation chores in libraries, library professionals involved in the automation activities had to overwork. Their efforts were not recognized and they were unable to advance their academic credentials since the automation process had taken up so much of their professional time. Severe budget cuts of libraries on investments in automation are another undisputed fact. Whatever the case may be, it is time to be proactive and adopt new technologies such as Virtual and Augmented Reality to offer effective library services, incorporating Artificial Intelligence to provide ready-made user-centered services, integrating face recognition

technologies to identify the patrons and, delivering user-specific services and information to satisfy the fourth generation of users. Therefore, Sri Lanka has a great potentiality to travel further with library automation amidst its economic and other social challenges.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

Achievements

Dr. W.M. Tharanga Dilruk Ranasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya received a "Letter of Appreciation" from H.E. Santhush Woonjin JEONG, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Sri Lanka for his service rendered to promote 'Study in Korea in Sri Lanka' as the President of Global Korea Scholarship (GKS) Alumni Association's Sri Lanka Chapter during 2020-2022. The letter of appreciation was presented at the Annual General Meeting of the GKS Alumni Association's Sri Lanka Chapter held on 23rd of November 2022 at Jetwing Colombo Seven Hotel.

Acting Librarian

University of Colombo

Mrs. Sajeewani Somaratne, Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. 1 assumed duties as an Acting Librarian at University of Colombo since 1st of December 2022.

Meritorious Service Award to Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj

Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, the Librarian of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka was honoured and awarded with a Certificate, Gold Medal, Engraved Trophy and Cash Award in recognition of his dedicated and meritorious service in the University System over a period of 25 years, on Monday, the 03rd of October, 2022.

Dr (Mrs) K. Chandrasekar, attached to the Library, University of Jaffna has been promoted to Deputy Librarian (with effect from 13.03.2017) in October 2022.

Mr S.Ketheeswaran, attached to the Library, University of Jaffna has been promoted to Deputy Librarian (with effect from 16.10.2017) in October 2022.

Mrs. Lavanya Jegatheesparan, Assistant Librarian of Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka was promoted as Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr. II) with effect from 1st of December 2021.

Mr. Kusala Fernando, has been appointed as the Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Medicine, SUSL with effect from January, 2023.

Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian was appointed as a faculty board member of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages representing the library, SUSL.

Senate Awards -2021

Dr.(Mrs).D.C.Kuruppu, Deputy Librarian, University of Colombo and Mrs. Sajeewani Somaratne Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo received Senate award under open category for their research excellence during the year 2021. Mrs.S.Johoran Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo received Senate award under early carrier category for her research excellence during the year 2021. These were awarded at the at the Annual Research Symposium of University of Colombo 2022 held on 16th November 2022.

Best Presenter Award

Mrs. M P Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, Kotelawala Defence University, won the 'Best Presenter Award" at the for the paper she presented on a bibliometric study on "Research Visualization on COVID-19 Publications: Special Reference to the Pub-Med Database."

DMT Madushanka, Assistant Librarian at Main Library University of Ruhuna won the Best Paper Award in the track of Higher Education at the 11th International Conference on Management and Economics (ICME) which was organized by the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Ruhuna on 04th August 2022. The title of the paper was "Factors affecting the use of Learning Management Systems during the Covid 19 period in Tertiary Educational Centers, Sri Lanka".

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SHINES BEYOND THE HORIZON

SLLA Fellowship

Dr. M.M.Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian has been awarded *Fellowship* by the Sri Lanka Library Association at its 62nd Annual General meeting, held on 23rd September, 2022.

Dr. W.M. Tharanga Dilruk Ranasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya participated in the "Global Korea Scholarship Alumni Invitation Program 2022", organized by the Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea that was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea during 27 November – 4 December, 2022.

Dr. W.M. Tharanga Dilruk Ranasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya attended the Joint LIS Conference, on invitation, organized by the Korean Library and Information Science Society (K-LISS) held on 02nd December 2022 at the National Library of Korea in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

ULA partnership with Special Libraries Association-Asia Chapter

University Librarians' Association of Sri Lanka (ULA) became an associated partner of 8th International Conference on Asian Special Libraries (ICoASL) 2023 organized by the Special Libraries Association-Asia Chapter. The ICoASL 2023 will be held in Cebu City, Philippines on 21-23 February, 2023 under the theme of "Advancing Asian Special Libraries towards the Fifth Industrial Revolution".

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ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

Short course for the Postgraduate students of the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo

The Library, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo introduced a short course to the academic curriculum of the postgraduate students of the Faculty of Science in October 2022. This course covers basic literacy skills that are needed to continue their academic and research activities. The course was approved by the Higher Degrees Committee of the Faculty of Science and the course duration was 10 hours. Mrs Sajeewanie D. Somaratna, Senior Assistant Librarian, of the Faculty of Science, served as the resource person for the course. Initially, 162 postgraduate students from five departments (Chemistry, plant Sciences, Nuclear Science, Statistics and Zoology & Environmental Sciences) completed the course successfully.

Dr. W.M. Tharanga Dilruk Ranasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya was appointed as a Visiting Lecturer in Postgraduate Diploma in Library & Information Science (PGLIS) program of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS), University of Colombo for the academic year 2022/2023.

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NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Children's Day programme

To commemorate the Children's' Day and National reading month 2022, in October, the Outreach Services division of the Library, University of Moratuwa conducted several programmes. The outreach services divisional head, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku organized a programme and senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. Anura Kiriella and library staff members assisted the event where a group of 100 students with their principal and teachers of WP/PI/Rawatawatte Roman Catholic College of Moratuwa were able to visit the Arthur C Clarke Institution for Modern Technologies on 5th of October 2022. The students were able to gain knowledge about sky, telescopes and to look at the evening sky through a telescope.

Exploring Innovators: Awareness Programme for School Students

Library in Collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa held a Programme for school students interested in innovations and inventions on 14th October, 2022 in the Library Auditorium. Ninety-two students representing eight Type 1 schools in Moratuwa Education Division participated in the programme.

"The nation that does not create new things will not rise" famous saying by Cumaratunga Munidasa (1887-1944) was the theme for the keynote speech by Professor Ajith de Alwis, Senior Professor, Department of Chemical Process Engineering, Dean Faculty of Graduate Studies. Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Transport and Logistics elaborated on "Mind Setting for Innovations." Dr. Chulantha Jayawardena, Senior Lecturer, Department of Earth Resources Engineering spoke about "Creativity for Innovative Thinking." The last speech "Developing Visual Abilities to Explore Inspiration Sources" was delivered by Prof. (Mrs.) Virajini Karunaratne, Department of Textile and Apparel Engineering.

Library took a special interest in arranging visits to 11 laboratories covering 7 academic departments of Faculty of Engineering. Thus, students got the opportunity to observe the latest equipment, and experiments taking place in universities. Academic staff members, instructors, laboratory staff, research students and undergraduates attached to Department of Chemical and Process Engineering; Department of Civil Engineering; Department of Computer Science and Engineering; Department of Electrical Engineering; Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering; Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Textile and Apparel Engineering contributed immensely in facilitating laboratory visits a success.

Assisting G.C.E. (O/L) students in Science practical workshop

Upon a request received from the principal of WP/PI/Rawatawatte Roman Catholic College of Moratuwa, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku provided the service of university students to assist G.C.E. (O/L) students. Three students from Faculty of Engineering and a student from Faculty of Architecture visited the school premises on 21st of October 2022 as resource persons for the event.

The students were able to gain a thorough knowledge about the equipment and the chemicals that is used in the science practical examination.

Science Day programme

To commemorate the Science week, the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies organized a programme on 11th November 2022. Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku of University of Moratuwa invited the Science teachers and upper grade students of zonal education of Piliyandala to participate in the programme. Professor Chandana Jayarathne, Chairman of the Institute delivered an interesting speech about "space weather and its impact on earth". The event was a huge success as teachers and students from other education zones also participated. At the end of the programme, the participants were able to witness the night sky.

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Opening ceremony and publicization of KOHA library system, Opanayaka Public Library

Mrs. Neighsoorei Jayah, the librarian, Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, contributed as consultants in setting up the KOHA library system, the floor plan and the library operations of Opanayaka Public Library, Weligepola Pradeshiya Sabha. The opening ceremony of the new building and the publicization of KOHA library system was graced by the participation of Mr. Tikiri Kobbekaduwa, the governor of Ratnapura District, Mr. Kelum Jayasinghe, the chairman, of Weligepola Pradeshiya Sabha, Mrs. Neighsoorei Jayah, the librarian, SUSL, Prof. Nanda Dharmarathna, Chairman, Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, Ms. Senani Bandara, Director of Library Promotion, Standardization & Publications of National Library of Sri Lanka. The ceremony was followed by a valuable speech by award-winning writer Mr. Mahinda Prasad Masimbula.

Workshop for school librarians

Mrs. T. N. Neighsoorei Jayah, the librarian, conducted a workshop on "Library Transformation and the Role of the Teacher Librarian" for the school librarians of the Balangoda educational zone on 26th November to develop their capacity in the dynamic working environment.

Workshop on School Library development and role of teachers in promoting reading habits of students

Mr.S.Santharooban, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr.I) of Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka served as the resource person for the workshop on "School Library development and role of teachers in promoting reading habits of students". The workshop was organized by the Government teachers' college, Batticaloa.

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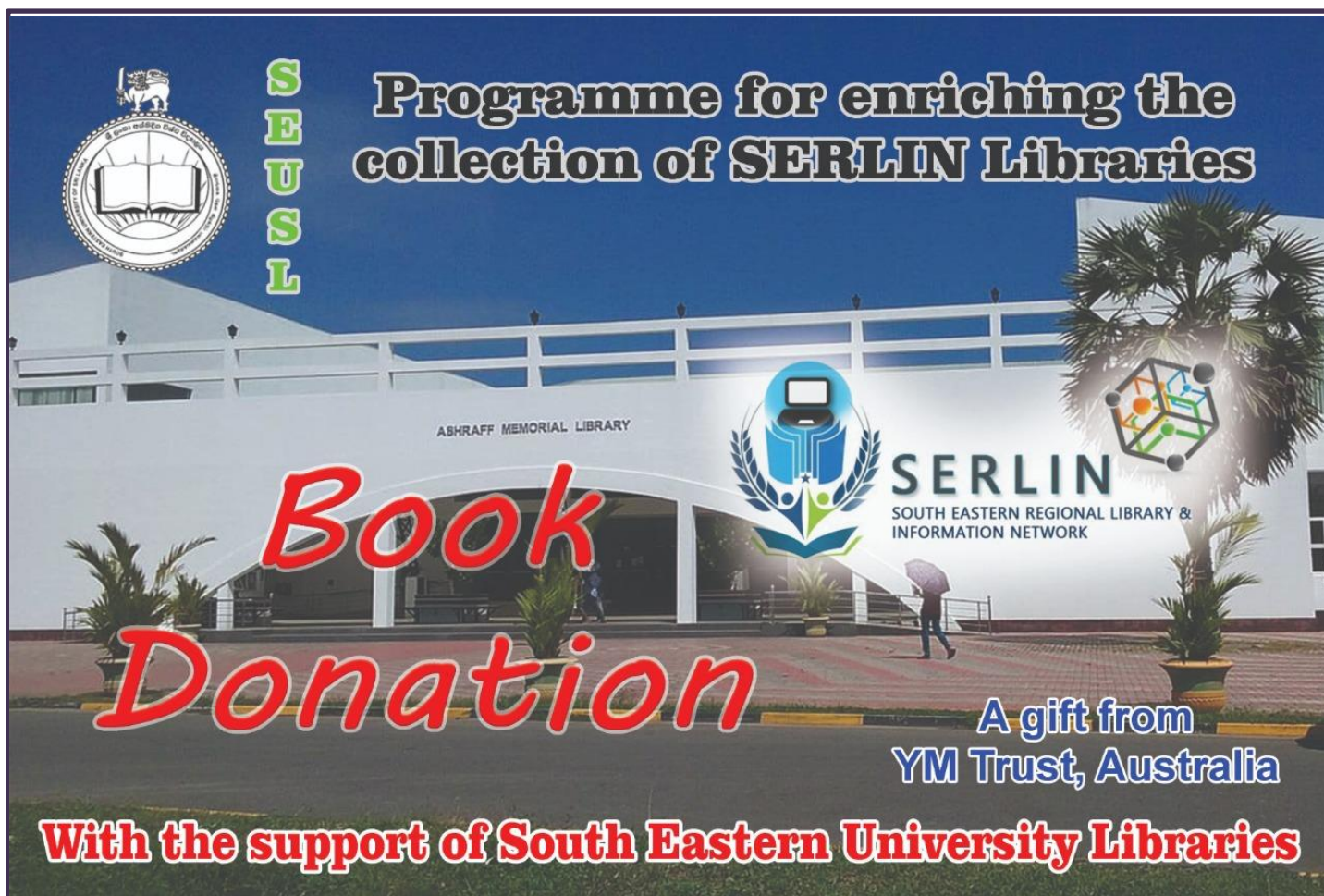
South Eastern Regional Library & Information Network (SERLIN), Sri Lanka

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) libraries have extended their community outreach services to the libraries across the Ampara district by establishing a Library & Information Network under the umbrella of SEUSL libraries. SEUSL libraries function as the focal point and college, school and public libraries are the members of the network. The vision of this network is to bring all libraries that exist in the Ampara district to a common platform, and the mission is empowering the libraries, enhancing library systems, and services, and promoting reading among the students and general public.

This library and information network has been named "*South Eastern Regional Library & Information Network (SERLIN), Sri Lanka*". SEUSL Library academics; Mr. M.M.Rifaudeen, Librarian of SEUSL will function as the Chairman of this Network, Senior Assistant Librarians Dr. M.M.Mashroofa, Mr. M.C.M.Azwer, Mr. A.M.Nahfees, and Mr.S.L.M.Sajeer function as the Coordinator, Treasurer and Secretary, Assistant Secretary, respectively. SEUSL Libraries organized a brainstorming session by incorporating all stakeholders on 17th October 2022 at the Seminar Room of the Main Library of SEUSL.

SERLIN has been officially launched by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Rameez Aboobucker with the presence of member institutions of SERLIN on the occasion of celebration of 26th Anniversary of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka and Founder's day. As an initiative, a book donation was received from the support of YM.Trust Australia. Altogether 2399 books were donated, and 24 school libraries under Akkaraipattu, Kalmunai, Thirukkovil, and Sammanthurai Zonal Education Offices, 15 public libraries, and 03 college libraries benefitted from this book donation.

Zonal Education Kalmunai

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RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION

Annual Research Symposium, Library, University of Colombo, 2022

The annual Library Research Symposium (LRS) of the Library of the University of Colombo was held online on 29th of November 2022 at 2.00 p.m. under the theme of *"Digital Revolution and Innovation in Libraries: Expecting the Unexpected"* as a part of the Annual Research Symposium (ARS) of University of Colombo 2022. The Vice Chancellor of the University, Senior Professor (Chair) H. D. Karunaratne graced this event as the Chief Guest.

The Keynote speaker for this symposium was Dr. Lynn Kleinvelt, Lecturer from the Department of Business and Information Administration, Faculty of Business and Management Sciences, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa. LRS 2022 was chaired by Mrs. T. Sritharan, Senior Assistant Librarian and the symposium was convened by Mrs. H.I.S.M. Adhikari, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Colombo. Ten (10) research papers were presented in two technical sessions with over 65 participants. Technical sessions were chaired by Dr. (Mrs.) Pradeepa Wijetunge Director - NILIS,University of Colombo, Dr. Chaminda C. Jaysundara, Librarian - University of Kelaniya and Dr. Namali Suraweera, Senior Lecturer - Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya. LRS 2022 was successfully concluded with productive discussions on the presentation and appreciations to the contributors.

Paper Presentations

- Mrs. T. C. Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian of Kotelawala Defence University presented her study on 'Factors Influencing for Utilization of the Databases at Kotelawala Defence University" at the Virtual International Conference on Library & Information Sciences (VICLIS 2022) on 25th October 2022

- Mrs. U.D. Hiruni Kanchana, Senior Assistant Librarian, Allied Health Sciences Library, Kotelawala Defence University as a co-author presented a paper "Citation Analysis of Postgraduate Theses in Aesthetic Studies: Maintain the Balanced Collection to Address Research Information Needs" at the Virtual International Conference on Library & Information Sciences (VICLIS 2022) on 25th October 2022

- Mrs. Pearl K. Wijesekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Southern Campus Library, Kotelawala Defence University as an author presented a paper titled "From desktop to mobile view: Challenges of the web information via mobile devices" at the 12th International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2022) on 27th October 2022.

- Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian presented a research paper on "Feedback analysis of the human library project at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka" at the 2nd Virtual International Conference on Library and Information Science organized by SLTC Research University. It was a co-authored paper by Ms. Thrishala and Dr. (Mrs.) Namali Suraweera, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya.

- Mrs. Lavanya Jegatheesparan, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr. II) of Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka presented a research paper titled "Educational qualifications, training needs and challenges faced in HRM by the public library employees in Ampara district, Sri Lanka at the 12th International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2022) on 27th October 2022.

- Ms. M. P. L. R. Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya presented her study on 'Copyright Literacy of Library & Information Science Professionals in Sri Lankan Universities" at the Virtual International Conference on Library & Information Sciences (VICLIS 2022) on 25th October 2022.

- Ms. M. P. L. R. Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya presented her study on 'Occupational stress among library employees of the University of Kelaniya" at the 12th International Conference of University Librarians' Associations of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2022) on 27th October 2022.

- Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian and Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian presented a research paper on "Defining quality assurance in academic library perspective: a systematic review" at International Postgraduate Research Conference organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya on 28th December 2022.

Seminars/workshops/ lectures conducted

- Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian at University of Moratuwa conducted a session on 'finding literature for research' for the research methodology module of MEng in Highway & Traffic Engineering & MSc in Transportation. The participants of the online session on 10th December 2022 were attached to the department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering. The online sessions on plagiarism and referencing were conducted by Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. Nishan Punchihewa.

- The postgraduate students of MSc/PG Diploma in Environmental Engineering and Management and Environmental Management participated in an online session on 'literature searching for research' on 17th December 2022. The session was conducted by Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian at University of Moratuwa and the plagiarism and referencing sessions were conducted by Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. Nishan Punchihewa.

- Mr. D.M.T. Madushanka, Assistant Librarian at Main Library University of Ruhuna, Conducted a Workshop for the Academic Staff of the Department of Pali and Buddisht, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna on 22nd November 2022 regarding Organizing Publication in University IR in Physical mode.

- Mr. D.M.T. Madushanka, Assistant Librarian at Main Library University of Ruhuna, conducted a Workshop for the Undergraduates in the Department of Management Studies, Faculty of Management, University of Peradeniya on 21st December 2022 on the topic of E Business Management and use of digital platforms at the Department Laboratory.

- Mrs. H.E.P. Mayuri, Assistant Librarian at the Library, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna, conducted a Workshop on How to Create and Update Academic Accounts for Research Visibility for the Academic Staff of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna on 3rd October 2022 via zoom.

- Mrs. H.E.P. Mayuri, Assistant Librarian at the Library, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna, conducted a Workshop on Information Searching for Academic Writing for the Undergraduates of the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna on 19th October 2022 via zoom.

- The Library of University of Ruhuna conducted a series of workshops for all the information assistants in the Ruhuna University Library system on six different topics as follows:

Session Title	Date	Time
Managing Employee's Mindsets	2022 October 05	
Office Management	2022 October 12	
Professional Ethics Management	2022 October 19	
Cataloguing theory & practice	2022 October 26	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Basic Computer Literacy for Library works	2022 November 02	
Database Management	2022 November 09	

Workshop on Reference Management

The Main Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) conducted a workshop on Reference Management using Zotero for the research students of the Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Health Sciences. The workshop was held on 30th December 2022 and the resource person was Mrs. Irosha Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian of the OUSL at the Virtual Resource Centre of the Library. The session covered features and functions of Zotero, searching for research articles from the web, storing and organizing them in Zotero, inserting in-text citations and developing a reference list using Zotero.

Workshop on How to conduct a Literature Review

The workshop on "How to conduct a Literature Review" for the Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences (Level 05) students of Kurunegala Regional Centre was held on 03rd November 2022 (Group 01) and 09th November 2022 (Group 02) via the ZOOM platform. The resource person for the workshop was Mrs. Piumali Karunarathna Abeysinghe; Senior Assistant Librarian, Kurunegala Regional Centre, The Open University of Sri Lanka.

Workshop on An Introduction to basics of Information literacy skills for undergraduate students

The Kurunegala Regional Centre library organized the workshop on "**'An Introduction to basics of Information literacy skills for undergraduate students'** 'for the Bachelor of Management Studies program Level 03 students and the workshop was conducted physically on 12th November 2022 at Kurunegala Regional Centre library. The resource person for the workshop was Mrs. Piumali Karunarathna Abeysinghe; Senior Assistant Librarian, Kurunegala Regional Centre, The Open University of Sri Lanka.

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<u>**Workshop on Conducting Reference Interviews**</u>

Nikaweratiya Public Library organized a workshop on ''Conducting Reference Interviews'' for the library staff of Nikaweratiya Pradesheeya Sabha library and for the staff of other public libraries attached to the Nikaweratiya Pradesheeya Sabha on 25th of November 2022 at Nikaweratiya Public Library. Mrs. Piumali Karunarathna Abeysinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian of Kurunegala Regional Centre, Open University of Sri Lanka served as the resource person for this workshop.

<u>**Workshop on "NVivo for data analysis and literature review**</u>

Mr.S.Santharooban, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr.I) of Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka served as the resource person for the workshop on NVivo for data analysis and literature review, organized by Faculty Research Committee of Faculty of Health-Care Sciences of Eastern University. The target audience for the workshop was all academic staff of Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

<u>**Initiation of New Service "Individual Research Consultation"**</u>

The Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka aunched the 'Research Support Service" in 2014 and continuously provided the service successfully at Health-Care Sciences Library. As an extension of the Research Support Service, the Health-Care Sciences Library started a new service called 'Individual Research Consultation.' The service was officially announced at the Faculty Board of Faculty of Health-Care Sciences of Eastern University, Sri Lanka. This service mainly targets the undergraduate researchers of the faculty. During their research project, the undergraduates could meet the library professionals as individuals or groups to get research-related advice. Since the faculty has group research projects, students prefer to meet the library professionals as a research group.

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Students get advice and assistance from librarians, especially for literature searching, literature reviewing, using reference/troubleshooting reference managers, questionnaire designing and data analysis. The students' feedback after every consultation is monitored in a separate record. The faculty undergraduates highly appreciated this service, according to the feedback. This service was initiated by Mr. S. Santharooban, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

Research Cube

The research cube was newly established at the main library, SUSL, to enhance the research culture and to promote lifelong and self-learning opportunities among the university community. A PC has been allocated with uninterrupted internet connection that can be used for research related activities. The cupboard in the cube is to store the documents of researchers until the research / project is completed. The library academic staff support the users in literature searching, introducing searching techniques, conducting literature survey, citation and referencing, Turnitin similarity checking and plagiarism prevention, preventing predatory publication, layout designing of dissertation/ thesis, developing, and maintaining the research profile and career profile and CV writing.

- Mrs T C Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian of Kotelawala Defence University, delivered two virtual guest lectures on 5th & 9th December 2022 on "Effective Utilization of Information for Research Purpose" and "A Guide for Effective Literature Search" for the members of the Engineering Faculty Research Cell.

- Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine conducted an online awareness session on "Scientific literature review and how to maintain a bibliography of a list of cited or referred journals by using Reference Management Software (Mendeley)" on 8th November 2022, for the final year students of the Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University.

- Mrs U D H Kanchana, Senior Assistant Librarian, Allied Health Sciences Library, Kotelawala Defence University conducted a Workshop on KOHA LMS Acquisition module for the Library staff on 17th November 2022

- Mr. K. G. I. Jayawardana/ Senior Assistant Librarian, Main Library, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, successfully conducted a one-day workshop for Library Information Assistants and Library Attendants of the Wayamba University Library Network to enhance their capacities to fulfill library requirements. The workshop was held on 05th October 2022 at the Main Library under the title of "Processing on Library Materials".

- The Wayamba University Library Network conducted webinar sessions for undergraduates, postgraduates, and academic staff at Wayamba University to upgrade their knowledge and help achieve their academic goals. The 4th webinar session was held on 6th October 2022 under the title of "Book Publishing Process" and Dr. C. C. Jayasundara, the Librarian of the University of Kelaniya shared his knowledge as the Resource Person.

- The Wayamba University Library Network organized a workshop for Teacher Librarians in the Zonal Education office, Kuliyapitiya under the theme "how to adapt library services to the 21st century". The Workshop was held on 14th October 2022 at the Zonal Education Office, Kuliyapitiya. Under the title "Changing Role of Librarians in an e–Learning Environment in the 21st Century", The Resource Persons covered the areas of Objectives of the school libraries and Role of the school librarians, Organization and collection development of school libraries and Changing role of school librarians in an e-learning

  environment in the 21st century. Mrs. W. M. Thusithakumari/ Acting Librarian, Mr. K. G. I. Jayawardana/ Senior Assistant Librarian and Mr. A. P. M. M. D. B. Dayananda/ Assistant Librarian, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka shared their knowledge as resource persons.

- The 6th Webinar session in this webinar series, on "scientific literature review and how to maintain a bibliography of a list of cited or referred journals by a bibliography software (Mendeley)" was conducted on 8th November 2022 for the final year students of the Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, WUSL. Mrs. Manjula Rajapaksha/ Senior Assistant Librarian, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. Conducted the session successfully.

- The Wayamba University Library Network conducted a one-day workshop for Library Staff. The Workshop was held on 28th December 2022 at the faculty library, Makandura. On "Performance Development of the Library Staff through Service Quality". Mrs. W. M. Thusithakumari/ Acting Librarian, Mrs. G. D. A. S Malkanthi/ Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. K. G. I. Jayawardana/ Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. A. P. M. M. D. B. Dayananda/ Assistant Librarian and E.M.C.L Ekanayake/ System Analyst Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and shared their knowledge with the library staff.

Research Lounge

The fifth, sixth and seventh Research Lounges were held on 18 October 2022, 22 November 2022, and 06 December 2022 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, the University of Moratuwa, in hybrid mode by the Faculty of Graduate Studies in collaboration with the University Library. Dean/FGS Prof. Ajith De Alwis headed and guided the Research Lounge Team. Dr. Nayani Gunawardhana, Library, University of Moratuwa, was the moderator of the Research Lounges.

The theme of the fifth Research Lounge was 'Reproducible Research with R Markdown". Reproducible report writing, thesis writing, manuscript writing, and online publishing with R Markdown were discussed. Dr. Priyanga Talagala, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computational Mathematics, University of Moratuwa, and Dr. Thiyanga Talagala, Senior Lecturer, Department of Statistics, University of Sri Jayewardenepura contributed as experts in the field.
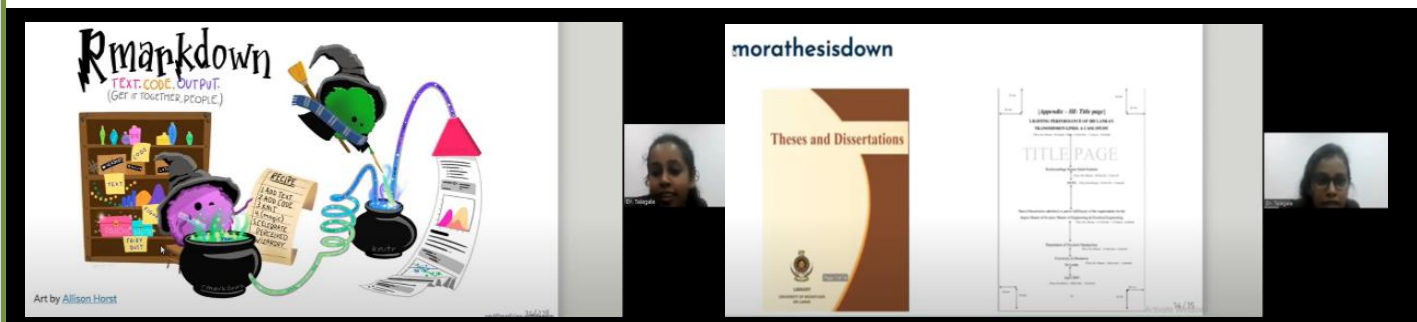
Dr. Nisansa de Silva, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, University of Moratuwa, and Mr. Akira Peiris, Machine Learning Engineering Lead, CML insight provided an excellent contribution to the success of the sixth research lounge under the theme of 'Introduction to LaTex'. What is LaTeX?, LaTeX vs. Word Processor software, What is Overleaf?, and How to create a simple LaTeX document were discussed.

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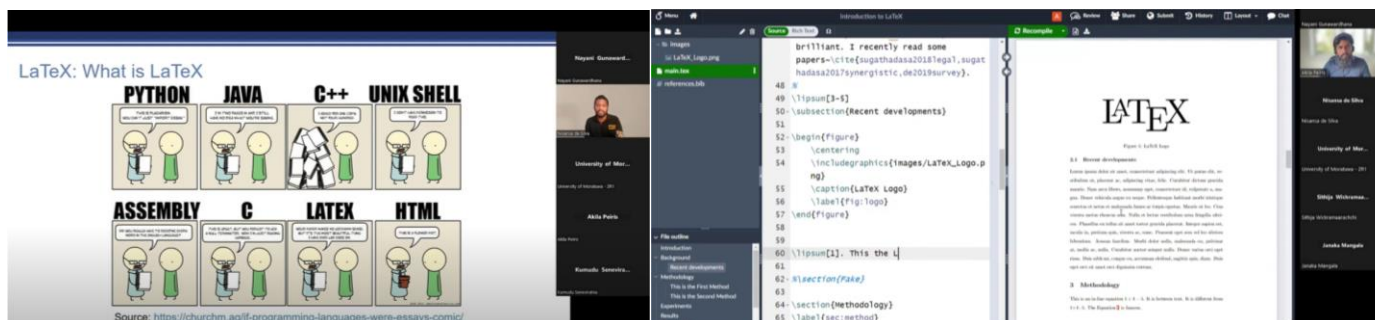
The seventh Research Lounge was held during the 'UOM Research Week 2022'. Prof. Meththika Vithanage, Director, Ecosphere Resilience Research Centre, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Dr. Anushka Upamali Rajapaksha, Senior Lecturer, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and Dr. Hasintha Wijesekara, Senior

Lecturer, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, enriched the research week sharing their research knowledge under the theme 'Research publication journey: Autoethnographic experience'.

Prof. Meththika Vithanage

Ecosphere Resilience Research Center
University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

Adjunct Professor:
University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India
University of Western Australia, Australia
National Institute of Fundamental Studies, Sri Lanka

Staff Development Programme on Research Support Activities

In order to strengthen the research support services of Library, University of Moratuwa two guest lectures were conducted on 25th and 29th November, 2022 in the Library Auditorium.

Dr. (Mrs.) Thanuja Sandanayake Director - Postgraduate Studies and Head, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Information Technology conducted a session on "Enhancing Stakeholders Connectivity of the Library."

Dr. Prathapasinghe Dharmawansa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering and Associate Editor for the IEEE Wireless Communications Letters journal shared his views on "Facilitating Next-Generation Research in an Economic Crisis Era" in the staff development programme.

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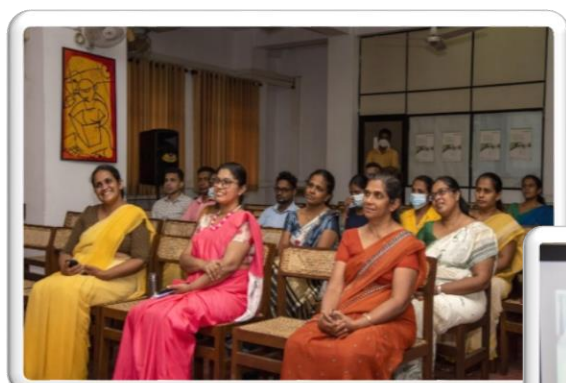
Research Performance Display

"The University of Moratuwa organised the Research Week 2022 for the second consecutive year from 1st-9th December, with the theme *'Connecting Academics, Practitioners and Society: Towards Crisis Resilient Research Frontiers.'* In collaboration of the Office of Research, Library arranged a poster display to highlight the research performance of University of Moratuwa in the

Library premises. On 6th and 8th December, the poster display was presented with the showcase of the research work of the staff and undergraduates. Academics, researchers, and industry as well as school children visited the research showcase in the Department of Town and Country Planning.

Added a new service @ UOM Library: academic writing support facility for research students using Grammarly and Writefull Tools.

As a result of the fourth Research Lounge, Grammarly and Writefull software are now available at the FGS office and the Library, for students, as well as the staff. They can reserve their time using the online reservation system. Researchers are immensely benefitted by it.

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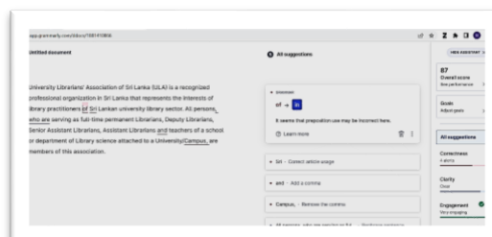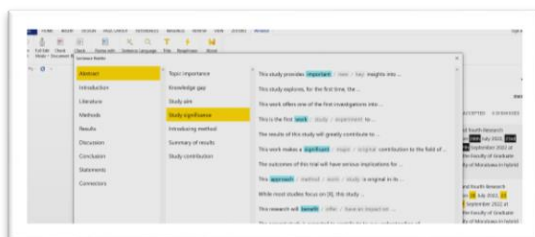
QUALITY ASSURANCE STEPS CARRIED OUT AT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Awareness workshop by the chairman of Policy on policies, QAC, SUSL

Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian was appointed as the chairman of the subcommittee on formulating a policy on policies by the Senate Standing Committee for Quality Assurance, SUSL. He conducted an awareness workshop for all QAC coordinators of all faculties, SUSL.

STUDENTS SUPPORT SERVICES

Eastern University, Sri Lanka enters into an advanced version of DSpace
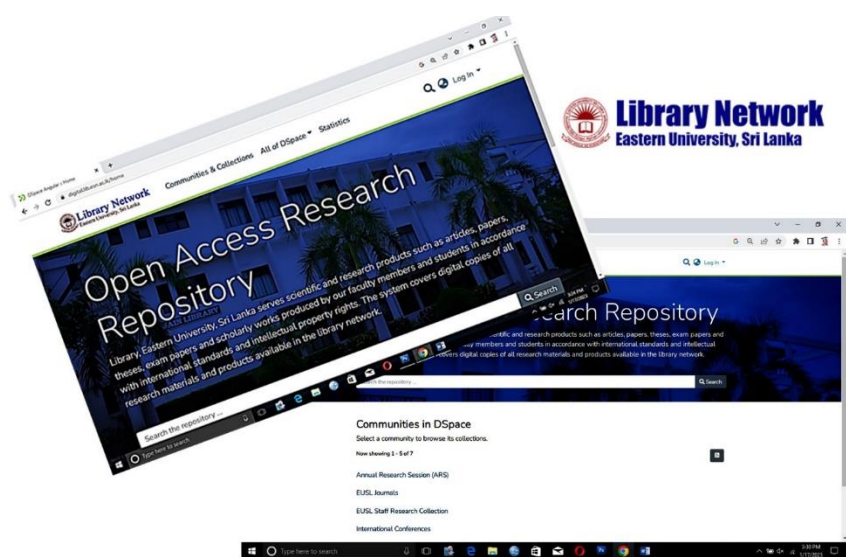
For the first time in the history of libraries in Sri Lanka, the Library Network of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka launched a new version of DSpace (7.3) **'Open Access Research Repository'** which is configured and customized by Mr. M. Jeyakananthan, Research Data Librarian of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Colombo recently.

Since all previous versions of DSpace (e.g. versions 4,5 and 6) cannot be updated from the year 2023, the Eastern University, Sri Lanka stepped into this new arena to empower its Digital Library Services.

E-Book donation to the Science Library, University of Colombo
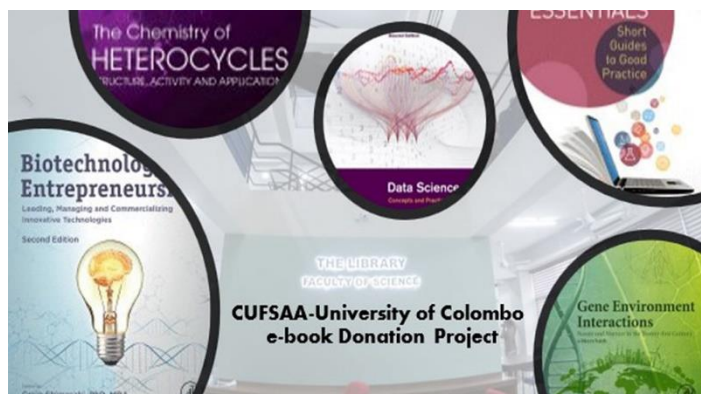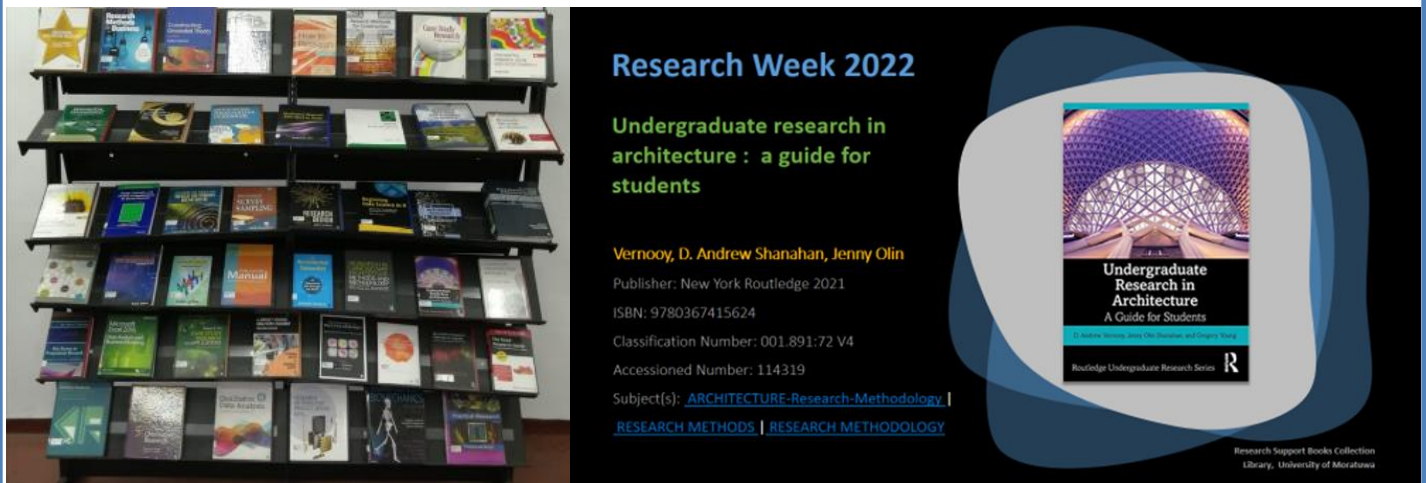
The Colombo University Faculty of Science Alumni Association of North America (CUFSAA-NA) supported, by facilitating subscription services for a set of e-books critically needed in the Science Library, University of Colombo. The CUFSAA donation included subscriptions worth 4376 USD. This donation was officially acclaimed in a virtual ceremony held on the 25th of October 2022 from 8.00 to 9.00 AM Sri Lanka time, via the zoom platform.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Colombo, Senior Professor (Chair) H.D. Karunaratne graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Members of CUFSAA-NA in the USA, Dean Faculty of Science, Senior Professor Upul Sonnadara, academic staff of the Faculty of Science, including the Heads of Departments and the Library Committee members, administrative staff members and student representatives of the Faculty joined the event.

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'Research Support Books Collection', UOM Library

The books related to research themes added to the library collection were displayed in the university library as the 'Research Support Books Collection' during Research Week which was held from 1st of December to 9th December, 2022. All these books are shelved according to their subject disciplines and some other requirements. Cover pages, title pages, and content pages of research books prepared as dummies were later displayed at the Department of Town & Country planning premises during 'Research Week 2022'. The subject matter and content of these items drew the attention of all participants.

ANY OTHER NEWS

German Day celebrations at the Library, University of Kelaniya

German day was celebrated at the University of Kelaniya on the 11th of November 2022 at the Main library premises of the University. An exhibition was organized by the Main Library of the University, parallel to the celebrations at the German Section of the Department of Modern Languages, Faculty of Humanities. This exhibition was organized with the objective of increasing the knowledge and understanding of the German language, culture, and literature and disseminating of information on higher education opportunities in Germany. Moreover, library resources related to the German language and literature were also exhibited at the occasion while the exhibition was open to the entire university community.

Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, the Vice-Chancellor of the University graced the occasion as the chief guest, while Dr. Sudath Senarath, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof. Dilrukshi Rathnayake, Head of the Department of Modern Languages, other members of the academic staff and students of the German Section participated in this event.

Health-Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka has moved into a new location

Health-Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka has been shifted to a new premises, which is situated at Pillayaradi, Batticaloa. The Library is a two-story building with fully air-conditioned reading spaces on both floors. Further, there are Group Learning Rooms, E-Resource unit, Research Cubicle, Leisure reading area and Learning Commons. The Group Learning Rooms are heavily utilized by medical and nursing students for group discussion and collaborative working. The Library has achieved its long- term goal and eventually ended up with a pleasant environment with more facilities. The Health-Care Sciences Library is managed by Mr. S. Santharooban, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr.I) and Mrs. J.Lavanya, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr.II).

Saraswathi Pooja at Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka

The Health-Care Sciences Library celebrated a special Saraswathi pooja at new Library premises. Dr.T.Sathaananthan, Dean, Faculty of Health-Care Science was the chief guest of the event. A special talk on "You are Divine" was delivered by Dr.K.T.Sundaresan, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

Human Library Project-SUSL: Event 04

The 4th Human Library Event organized by the main library, SUSL was successfully held on 13th October 2022 at 11. 00 am at the Faculty of Geomatics, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Belihuloya with the the opening speech by award-winning writer Mr. Nishshanka Wijemanna. His grand-daughter, the librarian of his home-library expressed her ideas on maintaining a home library and its benefits. The concept, planning and development of the project was by Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, under supervision and consultation by Mrs. Neighsoorei Jayah, librarian, and Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian.

SUSL annual staff trip for work -life balance

A one-day trip was arranged for the library staff, SUSL on 07.12.2022 to Down-South, Sri Lanka. The intention of this trip was to enhance mental well-being by maintaining work-life balance and entertainment.

Counselling Session and Motivational Program

Dr. Nayani Gunawardhana, University of Moratuwa Library, conducted a counseling session and a motivational program for the students (level 2) of the Department of Management of Technology, Faculty of Business at the University of Moratuwa on 31st of October 2022. The theme of the program was 'Rewrite your life.'

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Workshops on ZOOM, Google Meet and QuillBot Applications for Library Staff

In light of the recent advancements in technology, it has become clear how important it is to have a solid understanding of well-known software applications like ZOOM, Google Meet, and QuillBot. These applications are highly beneficial in many of our day-to-day activities, and they will also boost the chances of helping library patrons.

Therefore, workshops on ZOOM, Google Meet and QuillBot were conducted for the library staff of the University of Moratuwa from 28th November to 1st December 2022 at the Library Computer Lab. The resource person of the workshops was Mr. Nishan Punchihewa who serves as Senior Assistant Librarian at the University of Moratuwa.
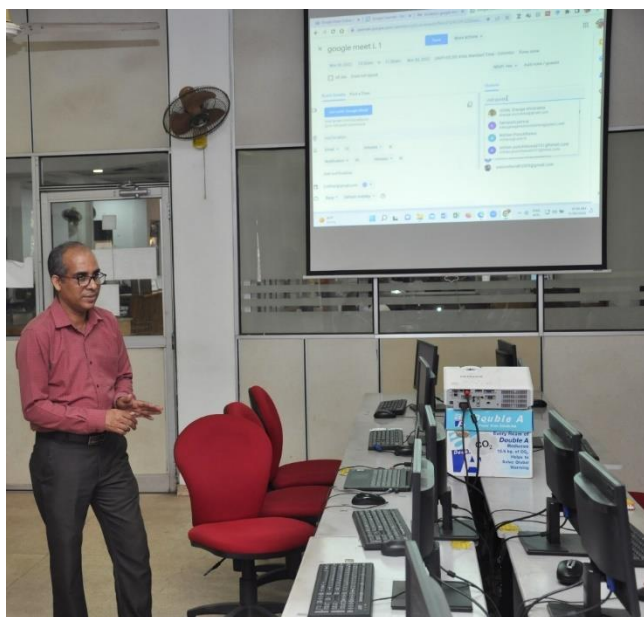
Because of these workshops, the library staff had the opportunity to become more familiar with the applications and also to locate the solutions to the challenges they encountered when working with the applications.

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Mrs. K. H. Thushara Abeysekera

BSc (Hons) (Kelaniya); MPhil (Kelaniya);

MLS (Colombo)

Senior Assistant Librarian

Main Library

The Open University of Sri Lanka
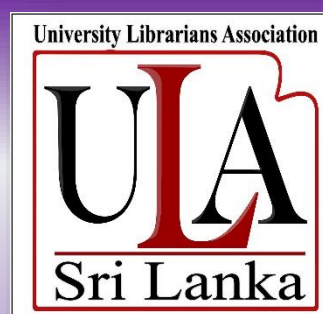
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