

**ULA Workshop 2017**

The University Librarians Association (ULA) organized two days workshop for university library's support staff on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 at the main library auditorium of University of Ruhuna. The Chief Guest Senior Prof. Gamini Senanayake - Vice-Chancellor of University of Ruhuna, ceremonially inaugurated the workshop. Ms. M. A. L. Silva, President of ULA University of Colombo, Ms. P.K.S. Manathunga, General Secretary ULA University of Colombo and Mrs. S. Arulanantham, Librarian of University of Jaffna glorified the inauguration as guests of honour.



Mr. Manoj Jinadasa, Senior Lecturer, University of Kelaniya, Senior Assistant Librarians Dr. Menaka Hindagolla, University of Peradeniya, Dr. C.N.K. Alahakoon, University of Peradeniya, Mr. N. Hettiarachchi, Mr. U.A. Lal Pannila, Mr. J.J. Garusingarachchige from University of Ruhuna served as resource persons for the workshop. Mrs. D.G.A.S. Malkanthi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka served as Tamil translator for Tamil participants. The workshop covered different topics such as university library service, work ethics, library resource maintenance & conservation, personal relations, team work, communication skills, basic computer applications, library related software.



The training officer of ULA Mr. U.A. Lal Pannila was instrumental in organizing this event on behalf of ULA. Most of the participants admired that valuable knowledge gathered by different resource persons.

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*Edited by:*

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## Workshops & Seminars

A workshop was organized by the Library, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya with the support of the HeLLIS network on Accessing and Managing Electronic Information Resources related to Health at the faculty on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The target audience was the academic staff, PG trainees and research students of the Faculty of Medicine. This was the 6<sup>th</sup> user awareness workshop at this faculty since 2004.



The aim of the workshop was to educate users to locate and access available information resources effectively using the latest technologies. Mrs. Chndrani Kuruppu, Focal Point Librarian of the HeLLIS Network, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Prof A. Pathmeswaran., Professor, Department of Public Health, Mrs. C. M. Abeygunasekera, and Mrs. L Marasinghe, Senior Asst. Librarians of the Medical Faculty Library served as resource persons.

### “Library skills for research writing” for students

Library skills for research writing programme for the students of level 4, Department of Integrated Design was held during 14<sup>th</sup> March-22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 at the University of Moratuwa, library premises. Academic staff members of the University of Moratuwa library were the resource persons for the programme. Mr. Buddhin Kumara conducted a session on Google apps for learning, Mrs. Nayani Gunawardane served as resource person for Literature searching, Mr. Anura Kiriella conducted a session on Electronic databases and online searching, Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku conducted a session on Referencing and plagiarism and Mrs. Thushari Senevirathne on Patent searching.



### Orientation Programme at Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Library

The Library Network (Including faculty libraries) of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, conducted the Orientation Programme for Intake 34 students for all stream of study including Management and Social Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Allied Health Sciences and Build Environment and Special Sciences. At this programmes they were educated how to access to information sources via Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Effective Internet search strategies, Google Applications for learning and how to access e-resources in their field of studies.

Mrs. T.C. Ranawella, Acting Librarian, Mr. V. Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian, Main Library, Mrs.MP Rajapaksha, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, Mrs. U.D.H. Kanchana, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences and Mrs. P. Wijesekara, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Build Environment and Special Sciences served as resource persons in this programmes.

## Workshops & Seminars

### Workshop on Google Apps and Mind Mapping

Ms. Irosha Marasinghe Assistant Librarian, Reader Services, Main Library, OUSL conducted a workshop on "Google Apps" for the library staff on 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 at the Main Library. The Skills Development Unit of the Library of OUSL also conducted a workshop on "Mind Mapping Techniques for Effective Learning" and it was held at the Virtual Resource Centre (VRC) of the main library on 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 from 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Seventeen participants attended from different institutions for the workshop. Resource person of the workshop was Dr.Wathmanel Senevirathne, Librarian, OUSL.

### User Awareness program for the Research students

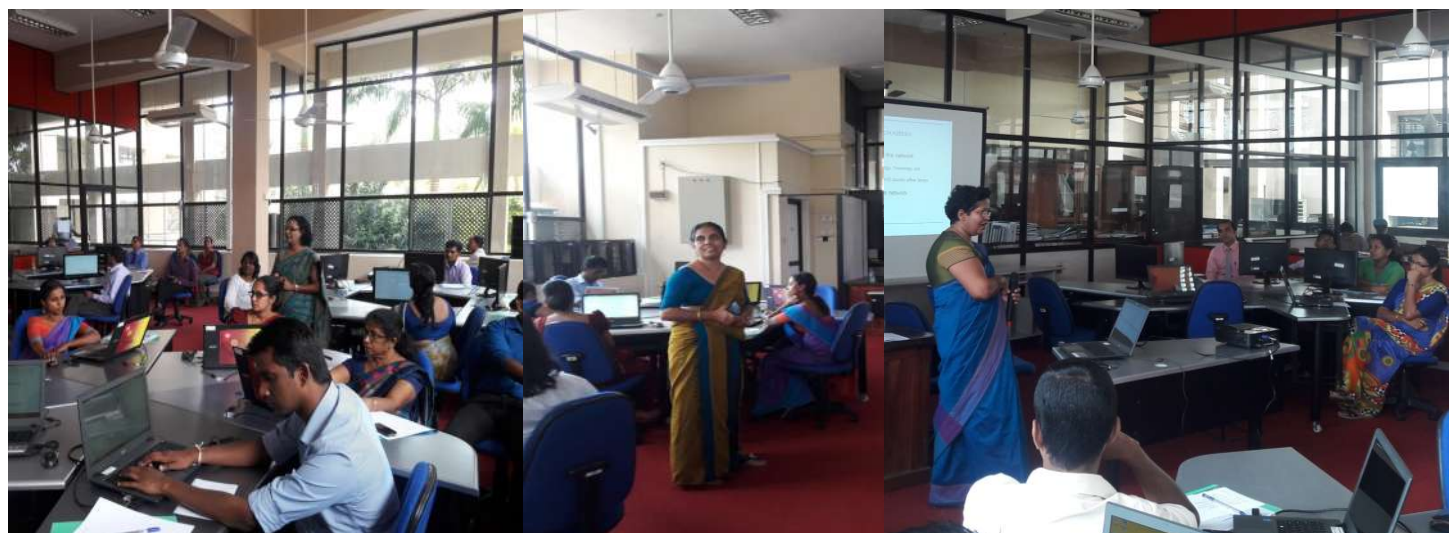
Mrs.A.S.Siriwardena, Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and W.M.P.G.K.T. Wanasinghe Senior Assistant Librarian, RUSL conducted user awareness programme for the Research students of the Faculty of Management and Faculty of Social Science at main computer center of RUSL on March 1st and 14th March, 2017.



### Workshop on Access to E – Resources and Efficient Retrieval Techniques

Library, Faculty of Medical Sciences of University of Sri Jayawardenapura organized a workshop Access to E – Resources and Efficient Retrieval Techniques on 23rd January 2017 at Interactive study area, Main Library. Academic staff of Faculty of Medical Sciences, Postgraduate students and library staff participated for the event. Mrs. C. Kuruppu/Focal Point Librarian, HELLIS Network and Deputy Librarian, University of Colombo discussed about HeLLIS Network (South East Asia) Resources and Services. Mrs. Shamalie Thebuwana/ Information Manager, WHO Sri Lanka explained about WHO publications, Databases and other E resources. Ms. Shirani Ranasinghe/ Deputy Librarian, USJP presented about Scholarly Information Resources (Open Source, UGC Consortium, fee based) and How to use Information retrieval tools efficiently and Dr. Manoja Samaradiwakara/Senior Assistant Librarian assisted in Hands on sessions.

It was highly successful and all the participants had expressed that it was extremely useful for their research and teaching activities and requested to conduct similar workshops continuously.



## Workshops & Seminars

### Library Orientation and Information Literacy Skill Development Programme (LO & ILSDP)

Wayamba University Library Network (WULN) is conducting a programme called "Library Orientation and Information Literacy Skill Development Programme" since 2015. There was five programmes from January to February, 2017 for different group of students. The programme was divided into two sessions and the first session was introductory lecture and the second session was practical. In the second session participants were encouraged to participate learn group through game based learning method. The content of this programme include Access to the OPAC and finding library books, finding information using printed Reference sources, finding information through UGC – CONSAL (Consortium of Sri Lankan Academic Libraries) and Open Access databases. Finally, participants were trained in summarizing a lesson by creating Mind Map through Brainstorming. The library provided all the workshop materials and finally gave gifts for the winners (for the group). Two groups were selected as winners; one for group activities and one for creating Mind Map. The resource persons for these sessions were Mr. W.G.P. Gamlath, Librarian/WUSL, Mrs. W.M. Thusithakumari, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. W.M. Thusithakumari, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. D.G.A.S. Malkanthi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. K.G.I. Jayawardena, Assistant Librarian, Mr. U.W.A.C.C. Ubesinghe, System Analyst.



### Library Orientation Programme at Sabragamuwa University Library

The Librarian, SUSL delivered a common lecture for new intake of students on Library Resources and Services available at the Sabragamuwa University Library. This was held as part of orientation programme held on 17.02.2017, in the auditorium of the Faculty of Social Sciences & Languages. There was series of Library orientation programme from 22nd February, 2017 to 30th March 2017 for different group of students. The Senior Assistant Librarians of SUSL library served as resource persons.



### Members served as Resource Persons

Mrs. C.M. Abeygunasekera, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya served as a resource person for the HeLLIS User awareness workshop held on 26th January 2017 at the Faculty of Medicine, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, on 27th January 2017 at the Nurses Training School, Kurunegala and on 15th February 2017 at the Nurses Training School, Colombo.



Ms. DGAS Malkanthi Senior Assistant Librarian, Wayampa University of Sri Lanka served as Tamil translator and resource person for students orientation programme of the new intake of 2017 at Faculty of livestock fisheries and Nutrition on 2nd January 2017 and served as resource person for an awareness programme on e-learning for final year research students, held of 9th February 2017.

WM Thusithakumari SAL, DGAS Malkanthi SAL/ KGI Jayawardana Assistant Librarian served as resources persons to a **Workshop on Searching Literature** organized by the Department of accountancy WUSL.

## Workshops & Seminars

### Research Support Service (RSS) workshop series

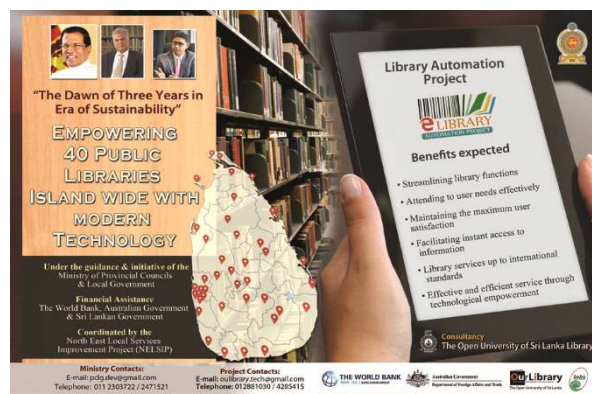
A series of workshop was organized by Health-Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka for 6<sup>th</sup> Batch B.Sc Nursing Students to prepare them in their final year research process. The workshop series was held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. The workshop with hands on session covered proposal design, questionnaire designing, access to health information, databases provided by UGC, online searching techniques, Medline search techniques, writing literature review, referencing styles, and reference management software. Senior Assistant Librarians Mr.T.Ramanan and Mr.S.Santharoban served as resource persons for this workshop series.



## New Initiatives

### Library Automation Project for 40 Public Libraries

Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) has been offered a consultancy to automate 40 public libraries representing all districts of the country by the Ministry of Provincial Councils & Local Government. The project is funded by the Sri Lankan Government, the Australian government and the World Bank through the North-East Local Services Improvement Project (NELSIP). The OUSL library is working closely with the Ministry to achieve the project goals to automate 40 libraries with KOHA Open Source Integrated Library Management System (ILMS).



The project was inaugurated on 17th January 2017 at the Colombo Public library auditorium and the Honourable Minister, Mr. Faizer Mustapha, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government graced occasion as the guest of honor. Professor S.A. Ariadurai, the Vice-Chancellor of the OUSL and Mr. Kamal Padmasiri, Secretary of Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils and Mr. Dharshana Bandara Samarakoon, Director Planning and Project Coordinator (NELSIP) were the invited guests at the event. Dr. W. Seneviratne Librarian of the OUSL/Project coordinator had introduced the project emphasizing its intended outcomes and Mr. Harsha

Balasoorya technical consultant/team Leader of the project had presented technological architecture of the project. The project was technically supported by other ILMS experts namely, Mr. S.Ketheesvaran from University of Jaffna and Mr. M.N. Ravikumar from Eastern University, Sri Lanka and two librarians from Kandy and Colombo public libraries to make this national project a success.

A set of 30 servers installed with KOHA system and with translated data sets were ceremonially distributed on 30th March, 2017 at the conference hall of the OUSL with the participation of Vice Chancellor, Deputy Vice Chancellor, ministerial officials and officers of NELSIP project.

**New Initiatives**

**Baby and Toddler Public Library Model - the first of its kind in Sri Lanka**

Giving the children an early exposure to information through books and related printed material is crucial for their brain development and to interact with the world successfully. As such a new initiative in Sri Lankan Public Library System was taken up by Ms.Palika Vithana, Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellassa University to establish of "Baby and Toddler Public Library" at Uva Provincial Library, Badulla. The aim of this model library is to provide early exposure to information sources such as books and other printed materials to children during the first years of life through an establishment of a Children's Library. This is the first initiative of this kind in Sri Lanka. This library was established based on the "Guidelines for Library Services to Babies and Toddlers," published in IFLA Professional Report 100. The Library was established with the generous donations of Uva Wellassa University Staff Members and Book Donations from Vijitha Yapa Book Shop.



**Awards**

Mrs. U.D.H.Kanchana, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences has Completed Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education (CTHE) program, conducted by the Staff Development Centre, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.



Mrs. Chiranthi Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo was awarded 'Meikeikai Award' by the University of Tsukuba, for her contribution to the University and academic achievements and international activities and collaborations during past few years. It is a lifetime experience for a graduate student at Tsukuba.



Ms. R. M Nadeeka Sanjeevani Rtahnabahu, Senior Assistant Librarian, Postgraduate Institute of University of Kelaniya received Vice Chancellor's Awards as 'Best Young Researcher' in the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology. She also received award for 'Best Institute Web Master.'

## Foreign Programme

### Visits to Japan for Teaching and Research

Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Senior Lecturer - NILIS was on a three-month visit from January to March, 2017 to the Tsukuba University (UT) of Japan, for conducting research on the Japanese LIS curriculum, and teaching for the master's program on Special Topics in Library Science, at the Graduate School of Library, Information and Media Studies (GSLIMS), UT. GSLIMS is the first and only institution in Japan that offers a full-time, two-year English Master's program and three-year English Doctoral degree program in LIS. Tsukuba University is one of the oldest Universities in Japan, and the second largest single campus in the country.



Dr. Gamage - a discussion with a group of students

### Study Visit Programme to Mahidol University Library, Thailand

Health Literature, Library & Information Service (HeLLIS) Network in Sri Lanka organized a study visit to Mahidol University Library, Thailand from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017. Selected HeLLIS member librarians Mrs.T.Sritharan (Senior Assistant Librarian, PGIM), Mrs.K.Murugathas (Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Jaffna), Mr.Sunil Premaratne (Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya), Mrs.Gamage (Senior Assistant Librarian, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo), and Mrs.Manjula Ranatunga, (Librarian, NIHS Kalutura) and Mrs.Thilaka Narangoda (Programme officer, ET&R Unit, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka) have participated in this study visit. The team visited the Mahidol University Libraries and participate the training workshop held at the Mahidol University Library. This is one of the activities in 2016- 2017 Work Plan under the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization (WHO).



### Training Programme in China

Ms. D.S. Priyangiya, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya attended a training programme in China for two weeks period from 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 to 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

## Outreach Services

### Library Books & School Materials Donation

The welfare society of the University of Kelaniya library donated a consignment of library books and school materials to the Eriyawa Primary Collage on 28.03.2017. The Former Librarian Mr. L.A. Jayatissa, Deputy Librarian Dr. (Mrs.) R.H.I.S. Ranasinghe (Retired), Assistant Registrar/Library Services Mr. K.D. Jayanayake and a few officers of the welfare society graced the occasion.



### Mathematics for Students

University of Moratuwa, Library launched a new outreach programme for Grade eight (08) students of WP/PILI/ Sri Rahula Maha Vidyalaya. The school which is situated in Thelawala, Ratmalana has about 300 students. Mrs. Thushari Seneviratne, Senior Assistant Librarian coordinated the programme with the help of a Senior Staff Assistant, Staff Assistant and a Library Information Assistant of the University of Moratuwa Library staff to conduct this programme every Wednesdays at the school to develop mathematical skills of the students. This is a new continuous outreach programme which will benefit the young learners to improve their mathematical skills to face future examinations.



### Motivation for School Students

Mrs. Nayani Gunawardana, Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa motivated the students of Bodhiraja Vidyalaya on methods of memorizing. The programme assisted students to keep facts on mind without a burden and to bring out information conveniently whenever necessary.





## Outreach Services

### Re-organizing a school library

Putting a new step forward, outreach services division of University of Moratuwa, the Library expanded its' services to re-organize libraries in a manner to bring it out user friendly. The initial programme took place at WP/PILI/ Sri Rahula Maha Vidyalaya with the guidance of Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Assistant Librarian and two Library Information Assistants volunteered to guide teacher librarian of Sri Rahula Maha Vidyalaya to re-organize the school library. The supervision will be given within a selected time period and the final objective is to create the library space an attracting place to read and to reach information sources available efficiently.



### Attitude building among public librarians and planning for a technological change

Three workshops were conducted by Dr.(Mrs). W. Seneviratne, Librarian, OUSL for public librarians. Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, Senior Assistant Librarian, Systems, OUSL served as a resource person for the workshop on "Getting prepared for Library Automation" in Kandy and the same workshop was conducted in Vavuniya, Pradesheeya Sabhas on 8th & 15th February, and in Colombo on 03rd March 2017. Mr. S. Ketheeswaran (Senior Assistant Librarians, University of Jaffna) and Mr. M.N. Ravikumar (Senior Assistant Librarians, Eastern University, Sri Lanka served as resource persons for the workshop conducted in Vavuniya.

## Retirement from the Service

Mr. L.A. Jayatissa, the librarian of University of Kelaniya retired on 19th February 2017 after serving the university for 30 years. He has joined the university as a Junior Assistant Librarian (Reader Service) in 1978. He came out of the University service and he worked as a Librarian, Arabian American Oil Company, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia period of 1982-1986. Again he has joined as a Senior Assistant Librarian in 1987 and subsequently he was promoted to the post of Librarian in year 2003. Until his retirement, he served his service as the Librarian of University of Kelaniya. In addition to that he experienced as the Acting Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya 1987-1989.



## Appointments & Promotions

Mrs. C.M. Abeygunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya has been appointed to the post of Acting Librarian of the University of Kelaniya with effect from 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.



Ms. Nerandi Subashini Pihilla Kumburage has been appointed as Assistant Librarian, Main Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Ms. Jayamanne Mohottige Shalani Dilinika has been appointed as Assistant Librarian, Main Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka



Dr. W.W.K. Lalith, Senior Assistant Librarian, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka has been promoted as Deputy Librarian at SUSL.



Ms. Lavanya Lavakumaran has been appointed as Assistant Librarian, at Health Care Sciences Library, Eastern University, Sri Lanka

## Academic Progress

- Mrs. W. H. D. K. Abeyrathne, Assistant Librarian attached to the Medical Library of University of Peradeniya recently completed her Master's Degree in Library and Information Sciences, offered by the National Institute of Library and Information Science, University of Colombo. Her research interest includes self-directed learning and e-learning and open educational resources.
- Mrs.T.Sritharan, Senior Assistant Librarian, PGIM, University of Colombo had registered for PhD programme FGS, University of Colombo.
- Mrs.C. Gunasekera Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya had registered for PhD at Department Library and Information Science, Barathidasan University, Trichy, India.
- Mrs. S. Weerasinghe Assistant Librarian attached to the Dental Library of University of Peradeniya is on study leave to follow MLS degree in NILIS, University of Colombo.

## Publications

1. Ranawella, TC, Alagaratnam,V. (2017), Research Ethics and anti-plagiarism software. A study on turnitin users of General Sri John Kotelawala Defense University, proceedings of International Conference on Knowledge Resources and Library Technologies, 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Department of Library and Information Science, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirappalli, Tamilnadu, India, pp 347-350
2. Alagaratnam,V. (2017), Using Tacit Knowledge as an Effective Tool for LIS Professionals A Conceptual Analysis, proceedings of International Conference on Knowledge Resources and Library Technologies, 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Department of Library and Information Science, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirappalli, Tamilnadu, India, pp 23-27.
3. Mrs. Damayanthi Gunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Library OUSL published a research article on "Learner satisfaction in blended learning: a case study at the Open University of Sri Lanka", INTED conference, Valencia, Spain. (indexed article) March 6th -8th 2017.
4. WM Thusithakumari Senior Assistant Librarian and DGAS Malkanthi Senior Assistant Librarian presented papers in international conference on Knowledge Resources and Library Technologies (ICKRELT 2017)