

National Conference of the University Librarians Association NACULA-2017

National Conference of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka was held on 1st June 2017, at the Library Auditorium, University of Colombo. The theme of the NACULA was Information for Sustainable Development. Prof. Lakshman Dissanayake Vice-Chancellor, University of Colombo graced occasion as chief guest. Mrs. M.A.L. Silva, President of ULA and Conference chair delivered the welcome address. Mrs. Geethanjali Ranawaka, Director General, National Intellectual Property Office.



For the first time during the history of ULA, the Conference was held with the collaboration of university Librarians and academics of other disciplines to strengthen the bondage of faculty- library collaboration. Papers were presented under subthemes of Right to information & ICT for sustainable development; Libraries role for sustainable development and sustainability through economic & social development covering wide-range of subjects as Library and Information Sciences, Social Sciences, Management, Economics and Law.



ULA Executive Committee for the year 2016/17



1st Row (L to R): Dr. B.M.M.C.B. Hindagolla (Editor), Ms. A.S. Rubasinghe (*Treasurer*), Ms. S. Arulanantham (*Immediate Past President*), Ms. M.A.L. Silva (President), Ms. P.K.S. Manatunga (*General Secretary*), Dr. C.N.K. Alahakoon (*Vice-President*), Ms. Thushara Wanasinghe (*Assistant Secretary*)

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3rd Row (L to R): Ms. H.D.M.Nishanthi (Rep.Sri Jay.pura), Ms. U.G.M.C.M.Samarakoon (Rep.Buddhist & Pali), Ms. A.P.U. De Silva (Rep.Kelaniya), Ms. A.K.U.N.Kodithuwakku (Rep.Moratuwa), Ms.DGAS.Malkanthi (Rep.Wayamba), Mrs.Damayanthi Gunasekara (Rep.Open University)

Absentees: Ms. K.R.N. Harshani (Rep. Rajarata), Dr. I. M. Nawarathne (Rep. Sabaragamuwa)

Workshops & Seminars

Workshop on CONSAL Databases

The workshop on E-resources through Consortium of Sri Lankan Academic Libraries (CONSAL) was held on 04th May 2017 at the Staff Development Center, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. The target audience was academic staff members of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. Dr. Pradeepa Wijethunga, Librarian, University of Colombo and coordinator of CONSAL served as resource person for this session.



A Library User Awareness Programme, Faculty of Agriculture

Mrs. Asoka Siriwardana, Librarian, University of Rajarata and Mrs. Thanuja Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian of same university have conducted a library user awareness programme to first year students of Faculty of Agriculture, University of Rajarata to make aware of E-Resources, useful web links for academic needs and improve their usage. The workshop was held on 31st May 2017.

Training sessions on Effective information searching

A series of training sessions on 'Effective information searching' for final year Management students was organized by the Library of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. These sessions were held during January-February 2017 at the Information Technology Resource Centre of the Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce and at the Interactive study area of the Library. Acting Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarians Mrs. Shirani Ranasinghe, Dr. Manoja Samaradiwakara and Mr. S. Angamma served as the resources persons for the sessions.



Author Workshop by Taylor & Francis

Main Library of University of Colombo organized an Author Workshop by Taylor & Francis on 28th June from 9.30-11.30 at the Main Library Auditorium.

New Initiatives

Awards for Students with Highest Number of Books Borrow from the Library

An awarding ceremony organized by main library of the University of Kelaniya for the avid readers who borrowed the highest number of books from the main library of the University of Kelaniya in 2016 was held on the 2nd August at the Library Auditorium under the patronage of the Vice-chancellor. Accordingly, P.N.T. Kamalaweera, W.G.S. Lakmali of the Department of Sinhala of the Faculty of Humanities and U.N.N.C. Navarathna of the Department of History of the Faculty of Social Sciences received awards.

Prof. D.M. Semasinghe, the Vice-Chancellor while appreciating the book readers at the event, stated that the good students like these do a valuable contribution to the society with their knowledge and experience. Moreover, he stated that these three undergraduates would be given free lifetime library membership.

Prof. D.M. Semasinghe, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Lakshman Senevirathne, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Patrick Ratnayake, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities Prof. Ariyaratne Jayamaha, Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Prof. P. N. D. Fernando, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, Prof. P.M.C. Thilakarathne the Director of the Centre for Distance & Continuing Education, Cadre Chair Senior Prof. N.P. Sunil Chandra, Chairman of the Research Council, Mr. W.M. Karunaratne, the Registrar, Ven. Malwane Chandraratana Thero, Head of the Department of Sinhala, Prof. Uda Hettige, Head of the Department of Archeology, Prof. Ranjani of the Department of Finance, Mr. L.A. Jayatissa, the Librarian, Ms. H.K.D.W.M.S.K. Hapuhinna, Deputy Registrar, Mr. K.D. Jayanayake, Assistant Registrar (Library Services) and staff members of the library attended the event.



Digitization of Theses and Dissertations at Library of PGIM

The PGIM Library started to digitize and upload Theses and Dissertations to the Institutional Digital Repository. This project was organized by National Foundation of Sri Lanka, under the National Digitization Project. The project is being carried out under the supervision of Mrs M.P.P. Dilhani, Senior Assistant Librarian, PGIM, as per the instruction given by Prof. Janaka De Silva, Director, PGIM and Prof. Senaka Rajapaksha, Deputy Director PGIM. Under this project, by Mrs. L.K Weragala did data entering to the WINSIS software, data clearing, data filling with the support of Mrs. Hirodya, Mrs Neelawathura and Ms. Udeni.

Awards

Diane K. Foster Award for the best achievements of Library and Information field

Ms. J.M.S Dilinika, Assistant Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka won the Diane K. Foster Award for the best achievements of library and information field by Special Library Association, Arizona, United States of America. Ms. Dilinika, participated SLA 2017 Annual conference – Phoenix, Arizona, United States on 16th – 21st June 2017.



Outreach Services

Training Program at for School Library Staff

Two training Programmes for Library staff in School Libraries were held on 18th May, 2017 at Kebithigollewa Educational Zone and 6th June, 2017 at Polonnaruwa Educational Zone. This programmes were organized by National Library and Documentation Services Board, Ministry of Education. Mrs. A.S Siriwardana, Librarian of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Mrs. K.R.N Harshani, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Mrs. Thushara Wanasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Rajarata University of Sri Lanka served as Resource Persons.



The Open University Library dedicated for Public Library Development in Sri Lanka

The Library Automation project of the Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils was officially inaugurated in January 2017. The project was able to achieve its initial targets successfully by the 31st of July, and individual libraries are now in the process of offering an automated service to its readers gradually. The Project is expected to complete by the end of the year 2017. So far the following five public libraries ceremonially inaugurated and are offering their services to the public through the automated service: Kotahena, Mawathagama, Beliaththa, Nawalapitiya, Hettipola and Galle Public Library, with the participation of the Commissioners of Provincial Councils and Pradeshiya Sabhas and relevant Secretaries and a large participation from the community. The project is being coordinated by the Library, OUSL under the system leadership of Mr. Harsha Balasooriya. Nearly 30 OUSL library staff members have contributed to the success of the project. At the 2nd phase, it is expected to develop a separate VPN for public libraries, for the purpose of sharing e-resources without violating the copyright laws.



Foreign Programmes

Invited Speech Ms. J.M.S Dilinika at International Library and Information Professionals Summit

Ms. J.M.S Dilinika, Assistant Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka participated as invited speaker in the 6th International Library and Information Professionals Summit - IISER, Mohali, India on 5th – 10th of April 2017. Ms. Dilinika has delivered a speech on ‘Effectiveness of Information Portals in Handling Information Explosion.’



International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) in USA

Mohamed Majeed Mashroofa, Acting Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka has participated International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) on “American Libraries- a multi-regional project”, in USA from 17th July to 28th July, 2017. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State sponsored her visit. The aim of this program is to examine the wide role and function of libraries and information specialists in US Society; explore the importance of community based partnerships strategies for promoting sustainability and community service in American Libraries; demonstrate the diversity of library services in the digital age and explore the impact of new advancements in digital age and online technologies on various types of libraries; and examine the role of libraries in eliminating the digital divide.



Program was administered by ‘World Learning’. They have arranged this 12 days programme in four states of America. The first three days at Washington, D.C, district of Columbia between States of Mary Land and Virginia, the second three days at New Orleans, Louisiana, third three days at Phoenix, Arizona and the last three days at Chicago, Illinois. She visited many university libraries, public libraries and museums. She also visited the Library of Congress, the world’s largest library. She says American Libraries are world’s top class libraries and they deliver excellent services, conduct various outreach activities and events, Program was administered by ‘World Learning’ trainings and so on. It is highly appreciated that all those libraries’ usage statistics are growing day by day. That means librarians and staffs attract the users and they motivate them to read. Indeed American Libraries are not only repositories of books and databases; they serve as community centers for diverse populations, information hubs for local entrepreneurs and immigrants, catalysts for civic education and engagement and as champions for youth and free speech.



Foreign Programmes

Sri Lankan Library Professionals participated in OSSLM 2017 at India

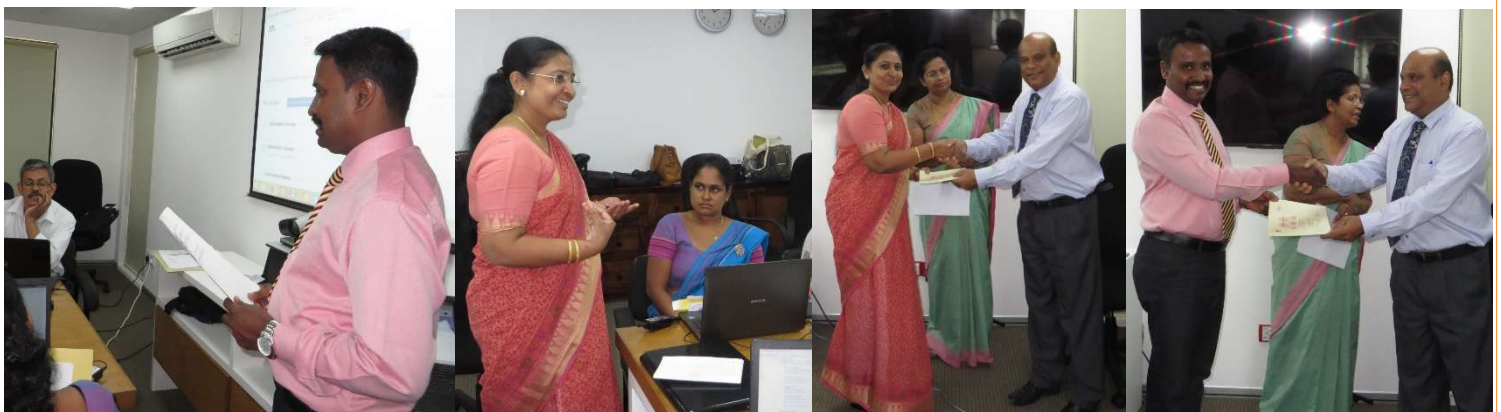
One week International Workshop on Open Source Software for Library Management (OSSLM)-2017 was jointly organized by Central Library & National Digital Library, Kharagpur, India at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India from 12th to 17th June 2017. There were 120 participants participated in this workshop from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Mr.G.R. Padmasiri (Librarian, University of Visual & Performing Arts), Mr.Harsha Balasooriya (Senior Asst. Librarian, Open University), Mr.M.N.Ravikumar (Senior Asst. Librarian, Eastern University), Ms.N.S.P.Kumburage (Asst. Librarian, Rajarata University) and Ms.M.N.F. Sakeena (Asst. Librarian, University of Colombo) have participated from Sri Lanka.



The aim of the workshop is to provide theoretical foundation as well as hands-on training to the library and information professionals working in India and abroad on Open Source Software such as Koha, Dspace, VuFind and Digital Document Delivery that could be used to perform the library operations effectively.

Members served as Resource Persons & Convener

Mr. S.Santharoban, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka and Mrs. T.Sritharan Senior Assistant Librarian Post Graduate Institute of Medicine served as resource persons for Training for Trainer Programme on "Software Applications: MENDELEY for reference management & TURNITIN for plagiarism detection" on 25th August, 2017 at the auditorium of WHO Country Office, Sri Lanka. The above programme was organized by HeLLIS Sri Lanka. Mr. S.Santharoban conducted the training session on Mendeley Reference Management System and Mrs. T.Sritharan conducted the training session on Turnitin Plagiarism detection system. The target audience was Health Librarians of Sri Lanka and officials from Ministry of Health.



Mr. T. Ramanan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka in his capacity as the Conference Chair, convened a National Conference on Library & Information Science (NACLIS 2017) of Sri Lanka Library Association at Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo on 29th June 2017. The keynote speaker was Prof. Eduardo Alentejo da Silva from Brazil and the Chief Guest was Prof. S.A. Ariyadurai, the Vice Chancellor of the Open University of Sri Lanka. Twelve papers from different library sectors were presented.



Appointments and Promotion

Mr. U.A. Lal Pannila was appointed as Librarian at University of Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka on 27th April 2017 on contact basis. Mr. U.A. Lal Pannila is a Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I) at University of Ruhunu.



Mrs Manori Samarakoon has been promoted as a Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from 2016-01-03 at Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka.

Appointment of Member of International Cooperation Committee of International Engineering and Technology Institute (IETI)

Dr. SK Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has appointed as the member of International Cooperation Committee of International Engineering and Technology Institute (IETI), Hong Kong (<http://www.ieti.net/ICC.html>, <http://www.ieti.net/ICCillangarathne.html>). International Engineering and Technology Institute (IETI), Hong Kong (founded in 2015), is the organization that promotes the innovations of engineering and technology across the world.



In addition to traditional engineering and technology disciplines, Engineering includes Financial Engineering, Financial Econometrics, and Financial Statistics; and Technology includes Mathematics, Statistics, and Quantitative Social Sciences, Library and Information Management and Business. The institute has appointed him as the member of International Cooperation Committee by considering the excellent associate ship and ICT skills at the Wuhan University of Thecnology, PR. China.

Academic Progress



- Dr. Mrs. Wathsala Athukorala, Ssenior Assistant Librarian, Sri Palee Campus, University of Colombo have obtained Ph.D in School Of Information Management, Wuhan University, China. Her Ph.D research was the adaptation of social media for marketing university libraries in Sri Lanka
- Mrs.M.P.P. Dilhani, Senior Assistant Librarian, PGIM, University of Colombo had registered for PhD programme at FGS, University of Colombo.

Academic Progress

- Dr. SK Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka received Ph.D. in Management Sciences and Engineering in the field of Information Management and Information System from School of Management, Wuhan University of Technology, P.R.China on 28th June, 2017. His Ph.D. Research topic was “Research on Multi-Criteria Evaluation System for University Library’s Performance in Sri Lanka”. He is the first PhD holder in the history of Rajarata University Library. He reassumed duties at Rajarata University Library on July, 2017.



Research & Publication

Senior Assistant Librarians Dr. Champa N. K. Alahakoon, Mrs. Chamani Gunasekera and Dr. Menaka Hindagolla presented research papers at International Conference of Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), held on 18-19th July, 2017 at Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. Champa N. K. Alahakoon presented research paper on “an application of Information Seeking Anxiety Scale to a University library: A case study at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka”, Mrs. Chamani Gunasekera presented on “Social Science Scholars’ Perception towards Open Access Publishing and Institutional Repositories: Experience at Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka” and Dr. Menaka Hindagolla presented on the “use of Digital Library by Arts Undergraduates in Sri Lanka: A case study at University of Peradeniya.”



1. **Rajapaksha, MP, Alagaratnam, V.** (2017), Awareness of Information Retrieval in Online Environment: A Study on Newcomers to the Faculty of Engineering of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, proceedings of National Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (NACULA), 1st June 2017, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, pp 56-69
2. **Ranawella, TC,** (2017), Mobile Application for Library Management System, proceedings of National Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (NACULA), 1st June 2017, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, pp 16-18
3. **Ramanan, T. & Kleinveldt, Lynn.** (2017) Academic Libraries’ position in developing Mixed Societies: the case of South Africa and Sri Lanka, IFLA WLIC 2017 – Wrocław, Poland – Libraries. Solidarity. Society, p. 143. Available from http://library.ifla.org/1874/1/p-143-thankavadi-vel-en_poster.jpg