

Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 1, October – December 2017

Newsletter of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

35th Annual General Meeting

The 35th Annual General Meeting of the University Librarians Association (ULA) was held on the 29th of September, 2017 at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Prof. Sampath Amaratunge, Vice Chancellor of the university graced the event as the chief guest. Dr. (Mrs.) Nayana Wijayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura welcomed the chief guest and ULA members to the inaugural session of the Annual General Meeting. Mrs. M.A.L. Silva, President of ULA addressed the gathering reflecting the year filled with challenges. Prof Sampath Amaratunge delivered a speech as the Chief Guest of this occasion and emphasized on the role of the library in uplifting the status of a university. Issues pertaining to the Journal published in 2017 of the University Librarians Association were presented to the chief guest by Dr. (Mrs.) B.M.M.C.B. Hindagolla, the Editor. Mr. L.A. Jayathissa, Librarian University of Kelaniya and two Senior Assistant Librarians, Mr. G.M.P. Gallaba, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Mrs. Rita Liyanage, University of Peradeniya recently retired from service were felicitated for their outstanding contribution to the Sri Lankan library profession. Vote of thanks for the inaugural session was delivered by the ULA General Secretary Mrs. P.K.S. Manatunga.



2017/2018 Executive Committee Members

President Dr. (Mrs.) Nayana Wijayasundara

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New ULA President's Message

Dear Members of ULA,

Let me start by wishing you a Happy New Year 2018, marked by good health and humour, as well as by inspiring ideas. It was your decision which put me into ULA presidency, and I feel a deep gratitude for your trust.

I take this opportunity to express my utmost gratitude to all our Past Presidents and Executive Committees for their valuable commitment to uplift ULA.

Through your membership in ULA, I hope you will make new connections, get worthwhile, learn new concepts, processes and practices and increase your excitement about this incredible profession.

We, university librarians should engage in research. It is well known that a vibrant research culture delivers benefits to you as an individual, to the university and to the profession. This year's ULA conference will also focus on research culture in libraries-'Academic libraries as research saturation centres.'

Twenty four years ago, I became a member of ULA, and have become more deeply involved in it because of the people like you who are its members. I look forward to working together with the Executive Committee, but more importantly for and with you in 2018!

Best Wishes!

Nayana Wijayasundara, PhD

Achievements and Awards

Research Awards of University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Dr. (Mrs.) N.D. Wijayasundara (Librarian), Mrs C.S. Ranasinghe (Deputy Librarian), Mrs. K.W.A.M. Konpola, Dr. (Mrs.) G.D.M.N. Samaradiwakara, Mrs. P.G.R. Samaravickrama, Mr. A.M.S. Angammana (Senior Assistant Librarians), Mrs. H.D.M. Nishanthi, and Ms. J.G. Chandani (Assistant Librarians) of University of Sri Jayewardenepura received the research awards at the Annual Research Award Ceremony 2017 held on ^{29th} September, 2017. Mrs. C.S. Ranasinghe and Mrs. K.W.A.M. Konpola were absent at the ceremony.



Best Student Paper Award

Mrs. Chiranthi Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Cololmbo won the 'Best Student Paper Award at 19th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries (ICADL 2017) held at the Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok from 13th to 15th November, 2017.



Best Presenter Award

Mrs. P. G. R. Samaravickrama, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura won the 'Best Presenter' Award at the International Conference on Knowledge Organization in Academic Libraries (IKOAL-2017) in Goa, India which was held from 14th to 15th December, 2017 at the Goa University, India.



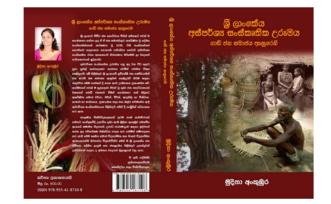
Literary Award

The Acting Librarian of the University of Peradeniya, Mr. R. Maheswaran was presented with a literary award for his work titled "Nadi Kadantha Kalam (Forum beyond seas)" at the Central Province Tamil Literary Award Ceremony held at Cine Cita Indoor Stadium, Nuwara Eliya, on 8th of October 2017. His book was chosen as the best work under research work category for the years of 2015 and 2016. Mr. R. Maheswaran had been felicitated on two previous occasions at the Central Province Tamil Literary festivals for his services to the community through the fields of sports and media.



Certificate of Merit

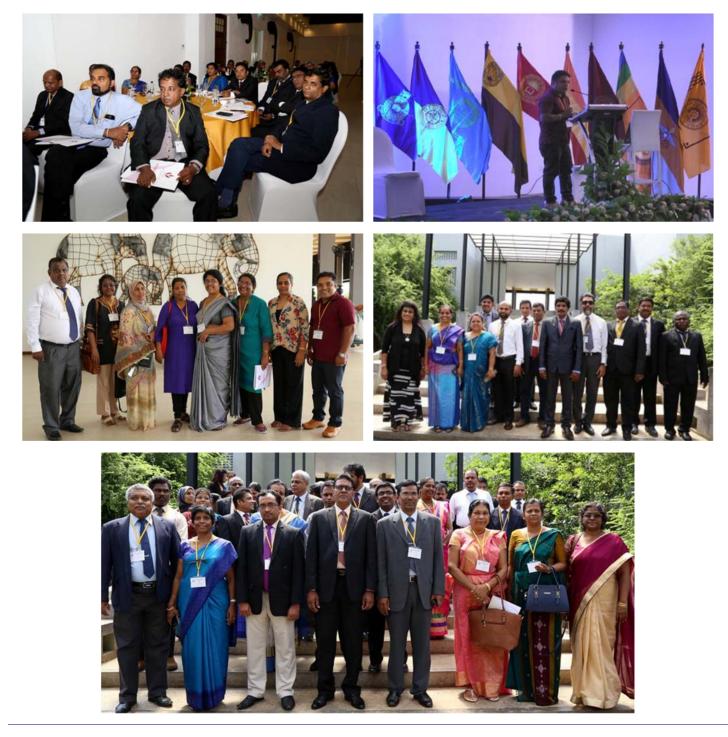
The book titled "Sri Lankeya Asparshya Sanskruthika Urumaya" written by Ms. Muditha Ankumbura, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Visual and Performing Arts was awarded a certificate of merit from the Department of Cultural Affairs under the Publication Encouragement Project.



Events in Focus

CVCD Conference 2017

Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Directors (CVCD) Conference 2017 on 'Changing Higher Education Landscape in Sri Lanka was held from the 26th to the 28th of October, at Alia Hotel & Spa, Sigiriya with the participation of Vice-Chancellors, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Deans of the Faculties, Registrars, Librarians and Bursars.



Workshop on 'Abstract and Article Reviewing'

A one day workshop on 'Abstract and Article Reviewing was held on 30th November, 2017, at the OPA Centre, Colombo 07. Emeritus Prof. Jayadewa Uyangoda, University of Colombo and Dr. (Mrs.) P. Wijetunge, Librarian, University of Colombo shared their knowledge and expertise as resource persons with 25 university librarians representing 12 universities. Dr. (Ms.) Champa Alahakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya successfully organized this workshop as the Convener, Academic Libraries Group (2017/2018) of the Sri Lanka Library Association.



7th International Symposium

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka conducted its 7th International Symposium on 7th and 8th of December, 2017. Library and Information Science is also one of the tracks among the six. Mrs. M.M. Mashroofa is the track co-ordinator. Research papers from university librarians, public librarians and some lecturers were presented at this session. It was very informative and useful and a good opportunity to meet the interested parties on the subject on a common platform.



National Reading Month Celebrations

Book Exhibition

Library, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka organized an exhibition of books to remark the 22nd founder's day and the National Reading Month on the 23rd of October, 2017. Exhibition of books on Technology was declared opened by Prof. M.M.M. Najim, Vice-Chancellor of SEUSL. In order to honour the great leader and the founder of the university Marhoom Dr. M.H.M. Ashraf, his artifacts and collection of Ex_Libits are also exhibited. Vice-Chancellor also donated few Sinhala books to the library on this occasion. All Deans, Heads of Departments, Directors, Registrar, Academic, Administrative and Non Academic staff members attended the event and students of the Faculty of Technology enjoyed and were motivated to utilize the collection.



Seminar on Importance of Reading

Mrs. M.M. Mashroofa, Acting Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka conducted a seminar for the students of Bt/Shivanandha Vidyalaya, Batticaloa on 'The Importance of Reading' in order to motivate the reading habits of the students on 20th of October 2017.



Workshop for Teacher Librarians

To mark the National Reading Month a workshop was organized for teacher librarians by NLDSB in collaboration with Zonal Education Office, Kalmunai on 25th October, 2017 at Km/Mahmood Ladies College, Kalmunai. Mrs. M.M. Mashroofa, Acting Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka participated as a resource person and around 40 teacher librarians actively participated.

Special Speech for National Reading Month

In Batticaloa ...

Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellassa University delivered two special speeches at two leading National Schools in Batticaloa where he was invited as the Chief Guest for the National Reading Month - final event. He delivered a special speech titled 'School Library as a Foundational Step to Students' Effective Reading Habits' for students of Bt/Shivananda National School on the 31st of October, 2017 and he also delivered a speech titled 'Books make you great' for students of Bt/Vincent Girls' High School, a national school on the 1st of November, 2017.



In Matara ...

Mrs. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna was invited to deliver three guest speeches on 'How to Improve Reading Habits' for school children along with the National Reading Month 2017 celebrations. She delivered speeches on the 12th of October, at Ibbawala K.V, Weligama, Matara; the 27th of October at the President College, Fort, Matara and the 30th of October, at Sri Sumedha M.V., Malimbada, Matara.



Academic Contribution

Special Lecture at Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka

Mr. I.D.K.L. Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to University of Ruhuna delivered a special lecture titled 'Information Literacy and Library Research Skills' on the 4th of October, 2017 for undergraduates of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka.



Guest Lectures at South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

On invitation of the Career Guidance Unit of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Mrs. M.M. Mashroofa, the Acting Librarian conducted two guest lectures on 'Access to Information for Goal Directed Learning' for first year undergraduates of the Faculty of Management and Commerce who follow Business Administration and Commerce degree programmes on the 22nd and 23nd of November, 2017 respectively.

User Education Programmes at Matara Regional Centre, OUSL

Mrs. P.K.M. Kaushamalika, Assistant Librarian, Matara Regional Centre, Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) conducted two user education programmes on 'Effective use of the OUSL Library Webpage' on the 23rd of November and the 9th of December, 2017. Eight students from level 3 BA students and 35 students from level 3 BMS were present for this programme.



Training Sessions on Effective Literature Searching at KDU

Mrs. U.D.H. Kanchana, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Kotelawala Defence University of Sri Lanka conducted the lecture series on 'Effective Literature Searching and PubMed Searching' for second, third and final year students of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences during the month of October, 2017

Mrs. M.P. Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, Kotelawala Defence University of Sri Lanka conducted the library session for the research methodology module under the title on 'Electronic Information Searching Techniques: a Guide to Effective Literature Search' for the officers of Defense Services Command and Staff College on the 16th of October, 2017.

Workshop on Research Skills at the Library, Kandy Regional Centre, OUSL

A full day Workshop on Research Skills, 'Write it Right' was held at the Kandy Regional Centre (KRC) of the Open University of Sri Lanka on the 25th of October 2017. The workshop was organized by the KRC Library with the cooperation of the academic coordinator of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, KRC. The target audience were the final year and masters students of the KRC. The students were given both theoretical and practical knowledge on information searching, writing a literature review, formatting a report and publishing an article. Dr. A.U. Weerakoon had organized this well accepted workshop and served as one of the resource persons.





Workshop on Online Resources for Agriculture Students at the Library, Kandy Regional Centre, OUSL

The Kandy Regional Centre Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka organized a workshop for Agriculture students on the 19th of December, 2017. The aim of the workshop was to familiarize students on Open Educational Resources (OER), government and institutional repositories, different databases and online tools which they can use for their academic activities. The students were given hands on training on how to extract information from different sources and how to evaluate online resources.



Series of Workshops on Information and Learning to Learn Skills at the Library, OUSL

The Main Library, Open University of Sri Lanka conducted a series of workshops under different titles with the purpose of strengthening the capacity of students and the staff of the OUSL. Around 40 participants including both academic staff members and the students attended. Dr. (Mrs.) Wathmanel Seneviratne conducted a session on 'Mind Mapping for Research Purposes' on the 3rd of October, 2017 and on 'Writing a Literature Review' on the 20th of October, 2017; Mrs. Damayanthi Gunasekara and Mr. R.M. Gunasekara conducted a session on 'Reference Management using Mendeley'; Mr. Harsha Balasooriya conducted a session on 'Reference Management using Zotero'; Dr. Anoma Weerakoon conducted a session on 'Citation Styles' and three workshops by Mrs. Irosha Marasinghe were conducted on the topic of 'SPSS for Data Analysis' at these workshops.

Series of Workshops at Medical Library, University of Peradeniya

Library committee of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya organized three half-a-day workshops for the academic community of the Faculty of Medicine. Workshop on Mendeley (Reference Management System) was held on the 3rd of October, 2017. A 'Workshop on Web-based Literature Searching on Health/Medical Information' was held on the 9rd of November 2017 and a 'Workshop on Getting Systematic in Methodology of Systematic Reviews' was held on the 23rd of November 2017. Mrs. Sriyani Perera, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Medical Library, University of Peradeniya was the resource person for all three workshops. Workshops were well attended by the members of the academic staff and postgraduate students of the faculty.



Creating A Vibrant Research Culture

Workshop on Research Management Tools and Techniques at UWU

A one-day workshop on Research Management Tools and Techniques was organized by the Library, Uwa Wellassa University (UWU) in collaboration with the Staff Development Centre to enhance the research and publication capacity of the academicians of UWU. This one-day workshop conducted by Prof. R. Balasubramani, Department of Library and Information Science, Bharathidasan University, India and Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian of UWU took place on the 24th of October, 2017 in the Computer Laboratory.

The workshop provided a potent platform to the academics of UWU to cope with the modern challenges in their research and publication while opening new avenues on creating vibrant research culture in UWU.

Technical Session on 'Effective Usage of IEEE Xplore Digital Library' along with 'How to Author Quality Technical Articles' at UoM

Library, University of Moratuwa with the collaboration of IEEE Client Services, India organized a technical session on 'Effective Usage of IEEE Xplore Digital Library' and 'How to Author Quality Technical Articles'. Mr. Dhanu Pattanashetti, Customer Consultant of IEEE Client Services, India conducted this on the 31^s of October, 2017 in the Library Auditorium. This was organized for the academic staff and postgraduate students of the University of Moratuwa.

Workshop on e-Resources and Services through the UGC-CONSAL at UWU

A workshop on 'e-Resources and Services through the UGC-Consortium of Sri Lankan Academic Libraries' was organized by the Library, Uwa Wellassa University with the objective of increasing the access to scholarly journals and the productivity of the research conducted by the staff of UWU held on the 7th of December 2017. Dr. (Mrs.) Pradeepa Wijetunge, Librarian, University of Colombo served as the resource person.









Guest Lecture on 'Technology Enabled Library and Information Services for Higher Academics and Research Purposes' at the University of Peradeniya

Professor Srinivasa Raghavan attached to the Bharathidasan University, Tamil Nadu, India, who is a Professor and Head of the of the Department of Library and Information Science and the Librarian of the same University delivered an informative guest lecture on 'Technology Enabled Library and Information Services for Higher Academics and Research Purposes' for the academic staff and Library staff of the University of Peradeniya on the 8th of December, 2017 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. in the Audio Visual Room of the Faculty of Arts. Subsequent to the guest Lecture, Mr. R. Maheswaran the Acting Librarian presented a token of appreciation to the resource person.



Workshop on Bibliometrics, Scientometric and Webometric Analysis for Research Management at OUSL

The Library of OUSL and Staff Development Centre (SDC) of OUSL in collaboration, conducted a workshop on 'Bibliometrics, Scientometric and Webometric Analysis for Research Management' for academic staff and researchers on the 12th and 13th of December, 2017 from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm at the SDC computer laboratory, OUSL. This workshop aimed at the assessment of research performance and focused on the contribution of scholarly work and scientific publications using IT Tools and Techniques. The resource persons were Prof. Srinivasa Ragavan and Dr. R. Balasubramani, Assistant Professor of Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India.



Staff Development

Workshop on 'Revising Information Literacy Module' in Library, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

A workshop on 'Revising Information Literacy Module' for the senior academic staff of the Library, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was conducted on the 1st of November 2017 by Dr. Diljit Singh, Former Deputy Dean, Faculty of Information Technology and Information Science, University of Malaya, Malaysia at the Ceylon Room of the Library. Dr. Diljit Singh shared his views, opinions, and answered questions put forwarded on the topic through his years of experience in the field.



Continuing Professional Development Program in Library Network of University of Peradeniya

The Library Network of the University of Peradeniya initiated a continuing professional development program aiming to enhance the performance and service quality of its work force. Under this programme, the first two sessions were successfully completed on the 2nd and 10th of November 2017 at the Main Library premises. The target audience were the Library Assistants, Library Laborers and Library Attendants attached to Main Library and the faculty libraries. Mrs. H.K. Wijetunge, Mrs. C. Gamage, Mrs. C. Gunasekera, Mr. A. Dharmarathne and Dr. (Mrs.) M. Hindagolla, Senior Assistant Librarians of Library Network conducted interactive sessions participating as the resource persons of this program.



Workshop for Library Staff in Main Library, OUSL

The Library, Open University of Sri Lanka organized a three day workshop for Library Staff on 20th, 24th and 28th of November, 2017 in Main Library. Mr. Harrison Perera, Former Librarian, University of Peradeniya, Director Information British Council, conducted the sessions on 'Office Communication, Writing Letters, Front Office Communication, Interpersonal Communication and Ethical Behaviour within the Library'. Dr. (Mrs.) Wathmenel Seneviratne, Librarian, Mrs. R. Amarasekara, Deputy Librarian and Mr. K.A.D. Wickramaratne, Assistant Registrar, Library Services, OUSL conducted the session on 'Keeping Office Records and Maintaining the Spaces'. Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, Senior Assistant Librarian/Systems conducted a session on 'Keeping System Records, Log Books and System Checkups' and Mrs. Michelle Mortier conducted one session on 'Ethical Behaviour and Work Etiquette within the Library'.

All the participants actively participated throughout the workshop. These workshops have provided a good opportunity to improve the participants' skills and adjust the positive attitude towards correcting one's self to serve others.



Towards National Development

Residential Training for Public Librarians in Ampara District

Mrs. M.M. Mashroofa, Acting Librarian of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka served as a resource person for the three days residential training for public librarians of Ampara district held from the 14th to the 16th October, 2017. Management Development and Training Board of the Eastern Province under the Eastern Provincial Ministry organized this residential training for public librarians.

Training Programmes of Teacher Librarians in North Central Province

Mr. K.G.I. Jayawardana, Assistant Librarian, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka served as a resource person for two Training Programmes for Teacher Librarians, organized by the Library Services Board of North Central Province. Training programmes were held on the 23rd October, 2017 and the 11th of November 2017.



Workshop on Conservation and Binding for Public Library Staff of Koralaipattu Pradesha Sabha, Valaichenai, Batticaloa

The Conservation and Preservation Unit of the Library of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka organized a workshop on 'Conservation and Binding' for the staff of public libraries in the Koralaipattu Pradesha Sabha, Valaichenai, Batticaloa on the 24th of November, 2017 at the Library, Eastern University of Sri Lanka (EUSL). The resource person for this workshop was Mrs. Gayathiri Navirathan, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the Conservation and Preservation Unit, Main Library, EUSL. The workshop covered conservation and preservation of library documents along with a demonstration on how to bind a book. The assistance for the hands on practices of binding was done by the binder of the EUSL Library. The feedbacks from the participants were highly positive and this is one of the Community Outreach Services provided by the Main Library, EUSL.



Awareness Workshop for School Community

Mr.W.J. Jeyaraj, Acting Librarian of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka conducted a workshop on 'Strategically fulfilling the Information Thirst' for the Secondary School Students & Teachers in the Vavunathivu Division on the 25th of October, 2017 organized by the Manmunai West Pradeshiya Sabha, Batticaloa. The participants revealed their gaps in accessing information and expressed their satisfaction for the programme.

Special Lecture for Departmental Librarians

Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Ruhuna delivered a special lecture on 'Significance of Using Information and Communication Technology in Departmental Libraries'. This special lecture for Departmental Librarians took place at the National Library of Sri Lanka on the 28th of November, 2017.

Workshop on Library Management and Cataloguing For Teacher Librarians

Mr. U.A. Lal Pannila, Acting Librarian of Pali and Buddhist University and Mrs. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to University of Ruhuna conducted a 'Workshop on Library Management and Cataloguing For Teacher Librarians of Akuressa Educational Zone on the 16th of October, 2017.

Role of Sri Lanka Library Association in Promoting Reading : Discussion in Sanhinda Television Programme on Rupavahini

Mrs. S. Arulanantham, Librarian, University of Jaffna and Dr. (Mrs.) Nayana Wijayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura participated for a discussion in the Sanhinda television programme on Rupavahini on the 28th of November, 2017 on the capacity of President and President-Elect of Sri Lanka Library Association.









Workshop on Library Automation and Cataloguing for Public Librarians

Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi and Mrs.Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarians of University of Ruhuna conducted a 'Workshop on Library Automation and Cataloguing for Public Librarians' on the 12th of December, 2017 at the Kumarathunga Munidasa Public Library, Matara. Public Librarians of Matara district participated enthusiastically.



Special Lecture for College Librarians

Special lecture on 'Significance of Using Information and Communication Technology in National College of Education and Teachers Training College Libraries' was also delivered by Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna for College Librarians at the National Library of Sri Lanka on the 20th of December, 2017.

Foreign Visits

2017 Overseas Korean Studies Librarian Workshop

Dr. I.M. Nawarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka participated in the '2017 Overseas Korean Studies Librarian Workshop' which was held in South Korea from the 14th to the 21th of October, 2017 organized by the National Library of South Korea. The workshop consisted of guided tours to the national library, university libraries, cultural visits and presentations. The librarians from 17 countries participated and delivered the speech regarding the current research program. Dr. IM. Nawarathne also delivered a speech on 'The service quality and user satisfaction of the academic library services in Sri Lanka.'



International Workshop cum Training Programme on Library Automation

Mrs. U.G.M.C.M. Samarakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka participated in the 'International Workshop cum Training Programme on Library Automation.' The event was held from the 13th to the 19th November, 2017. It was organized by Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, India. The workshop provided a forum to share and exchange knowledge in the field of library automation and digitalization.



International Conference on Knowledge Organization in Academic Libraries (IKOAL-2017)

Three Senior Assistant Librarians, Dr. (Mrs.) G.D.M.N. Samaradiwakara, Mrs. P. G.R. Samaravickrama and Mr. A.M.S. Angammana received the overseas travel grants from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura to attend the International Conference on Knowledge Organization in Academic Libraries (IKOAL-2017) in Goa, India which was held from the 14th to the 15th December, 2017 at the Goa University, India. Mrs P.G.R. Samaravickrama has received the best presenter's award at IKOAL-2017 and Mr A.M.S. Angammana has won the raffle draw for free registration for IKOAL-2018. They have further visited the Central Library of Goa which is one of the more technologically sound public libraries in Asia.









Book Donations

Donation of the Personal Collection of Books of Late Prof. (Mrs.) Ranitha Ratnayaka to Library, University of Kelaniya

The donation of the personal collection of books of late Prof. (Mrs.) Ranitha Rathnayake to the Library was held on the 3rd of October in the Library Auditorium of the University of Kelaniya under the patronage of Prof. D.M. Semasinghe, the Vice-Chancellor. Late Prof. (Mrs.) Ranitha Rathnayake was a prominent professor who worked in the Department of Geography, University of Kelaniya for several decades.

Prof. Lakshman Senevirathne, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Patrick Rathnayake, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Dr. Ajitha Tennakoon, member of the Council of the University of Kelaniya, Mr. Premadasa Rathnayake, beloved husband of late Prof. (Mrs.) Ranitha Rathnayake and the academic staff members of the Department of Economics graced the event. The event was organized by Mr. L.A. Jayatissa, the Librarian and the staff members of the library.





New Library Buildings

New Library at ITUM, Diyagama

The Library of Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa is located at the Diyagama in the new building complex for the benefit of staff and students following NDT Programme. It is intended to develop the library collection with the addition of resources basically in the subject fields of civil engineering technology, electrical, electronic and telecommunication engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology and maritime studies/nautical, polymer, textile and chemical engineering and interdisciplinary studies. All the arrangements have been made to link with national, regional and international institutes in order to get recent publications and other relevant materials. Current resources are available *via* http://www.opac.itum.mrt.ac.lk. Library is currently under the supervision of Mr. H. M. Guneratne Banda, Former Assistant Director General of the National Institute of Education, Maharagama.



New Building for Agriculture and Engineering Branch Libraries, UoJ

New building for the Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Engineering at Kilinochchi Campus of the University of Jaffna was dedicated by Honorable Minister of Higher Education and Highways, Lakshman Kiriella, High Commissioner of India H.E. Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Honorable Governor of Northern Province Reginald Cooray. Branch libraries of these faculties privileged with new locations.



Newly Constructed Library Building at Matara Regional Centre, OUSL

Matara Regional Centre (MRC) Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka has expanded their services and facilities with the new three storied library building equipped with modern infrastructure amenities. Provision of spacious reading rooms, video viewing facility and Virtual Resource Centre facility are among the new and improved services of MRC. The library has also taken the initial steps towards automating its functions with KOHA, open source integrated library management system. The Newly constructed library building at MRC had its ceremonial opening on the 10th of August, 2017. The Chancellor of the Open University, Deshamanya Vidya Jyothi Professor Colvin Gooneratna was the Guest of Honour. Vice Chancellor, Prof. S.A. Ariyadurai, Deputy Vice Chan-Prof. Kamal Bandara Gunaherath, Registrar, Mrs. Vindya cellor, Javasena, Librarian Dr. Wathmanel Seneviratne, and other senior officials of the OUSL graced the occasion.





Refurbished Batticaloa Regional Centre (BRC) Library, OUSL

The BRC Library of Open University of Sri Lanka has refurbished with air conditioned, carpeted floor. The library services also expanded with new arrangements such as, separate law collection, audio video viewing facility and increased seating capacity of the library area for the users. The facilitated environment led the users to increase their library usage than earlier.





New Initiatives

Information Studies Unit in OUSL Library

Mrs. Damayanthi Gunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian was appointed as the coordinator, of the Information Studies Unit (ISU) with effect from 01.10.2017. ISU was established with the objective of administering and managing the proposed B.A. Hons. (LIS) programme which will be launched in 2018.

Proposed LIS Curriculum for Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka

Mr. Lal Pannila, Acting Librarian of Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka recently proposed Library and Information Science as a subject for the B.A. Degree programme and related curriculum was submitted to the university authorities through the curriculum development committee. University decided to introduce Library and Information Science in 2019.

E-Repository of SUSL

The Library, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka is in progress to establish the E-Repository through the National Digitization Project, Phase III with the patronage of the National Science Foundation.

Launched 'EUFind' Virtual Union Catalogue at the Eastern University, Sri Lanka

A Virtual Union Catalogue which allows a federated search on knowledge resources of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka such as monographs, periodicals, thesis and rare collection with a one click option called 'EUFind' developed by Mr. M. Jeyakananthan, the Systems Analyst of the Library Network of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, was successfully launched at the University. Dr. K.E. Karunakaran, the Deputy Vice Chancellor graced the occasion as the chief guest and a number of acdemic, non-academic and the student community members attended this launch.



Community Outreach

Developing the Library of 661 Brigade, Sri Lanka Army, Poonerine by RUSL Library

On request of 661 Brigade of Sri Lanka Army, Poonarine, Library staff of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka launched a programme to collect library books to upgrade the 661 Brigade Library. Nearly 500 books were donated by the RUSL community. Library staff donated the books to the Officials of 661 Brigade in ceremony held on 5th October, 2017. Further Library staff re-organized the Brigade Library.



A Reading Promotion Programme by UVPA Library Staff

A reading promotion programme was conducted by the library staff of University of Visual and Performing Arts on 13th of November, 2017 for the students of G. B. Senanayake Maha Vidyalaya at Ekala. The programme consisted of a book donation, an interactive reading promotion session and an artistic skill development programme with the company of Dr. Manoranjana Herath, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Visual Arts a resource person.



School Library Development Programme by Library Network of KDU

The library network of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) initiated a renovation project of the library of the Bulathsinhala Primary School as its third annual outreach service in order to celebrate the reading month and to improve the reading habits of the students.

The library was refurbished with the support and aid of the staff members and the undergraduates of KDU and the external partakers.

The opening ceremony of the newly refurbished library was held at 08.30 am on Friday 8th, December, 2017 having Major General Idunil Ranasinghe, the Deputy Vice- Chancellor (Defence and Administration) of KDU, as the Chief Guest to glamour the ceremony.

The newly refurbished library with furnishing a better environment that would enhance the academic performance and the reading habits of the students.





ULA Membership

Retirement from Service

Mrs. Thayamanidevi Arulnandhy, the Librarian of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, retired on the 30th of September, 2017 after serving the University for 36 long years from the beginning as the Batticaloa University College since 1981. She is the first University Librarian in the Eastern Province and she was the President of the University Librarians' Association of Sri Lanka during the period of 2006/07. Further she was the Council member of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka as well as the member of several other statutory committees.

Appointments and Promotions Consultant to the Public Library Advisory Committee

Ms. T.N. Neighsoorrei, Librarian, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka has been appointed as a consultant to the Advisory Committee of the Public Library, Balangoda.

New Librarian to Uva Wellassa University

Mrs. A.S. Siriwardana, Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka assumed the duty as the Librarian of the UWU Library as a sabbatical placement. She has extensive experience in library management, services and more. She will be the moving forth to work with library staff to build on the solid foundation which has been laid and to realise UWU's potential for the future. Mrs. A.S. Siriwardana will take the library forward as heart of the university, while ensuring it remains true to its vibrant research, teaching and learning culture at the university.

Acting Librarian of Eastern University of Sri Lanka

Mr. W. J. Jeyaraj, Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. I is currently appointed as the Acting Librarian of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka.







Acting Librarian of Rajarata University

Dr. S.K. Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian of the

Faculty of Technology is covering up the duties of the

of Sri Lanka





Director of Centre for Gender Equity and Equality

Dr. Chammika Mallawaarachchi, Senior Assistant Librarian has been appointed as a full time Director for the Centre for Gender Equity and Equality- CGEE at University of Visual and Performing Arts.

Coordinator for Establishing Gender Corners in Libraries under the UNESCO Participation Programme

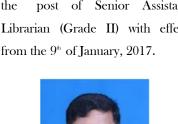
Mr. T. Ramanan, Senior Assistant Librarian in-charge of the Acquisitions and Technical Servies Section has been appointed as a coordinator for Establishing Gender Corners in Libraries under the UNESCO Participation Programme at the Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

Consultant for 'Digital Libraries' Project

Mr. M.N.Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka has been appointed as a full time Consultant for the 'Digital Libraries' project which is jointly implemented by National Library and Documentation Services Board and Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), functioning under the preview of the Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure (MTDI).

Promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian

Mrs. M.P. Rajapaksha, Assistant Librarian attached to Kotelawala Defence University of Sri Lanka has been promoted as a Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from the 3rd of October, 2016. Mrs K.K.N.L.Perera, Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Colombo has been promoted as a Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from the 4th October, 2016. Dr.T. Pratheepan, Assistant Librarian attached to Uva Wellassa University has been promoted to the post of Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from the 9th of January, 2017.





Newsletter of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

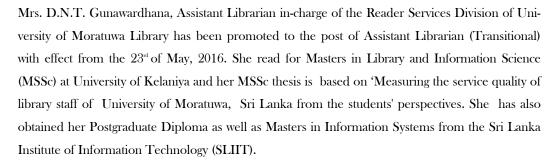






Promoted to Assistant Librarian (Transitional Position)

Mrs. A.K.U.N. Kodithuwakku, Assistant Librarian in-charge of the Technical Services Division of the University of Moratuwa Library has been promoted to the post of Assistant Librarian (Transitional) with effect from the 23rd of My, 2016. She earned her Masters in Library and Information Science (MSSc) from the University of Kelaniya. Her MSSc thesis is based on 'A Bibliometric study on the thesis available on Library and Information Science in the National Library.'



New Assistant Librarians

Mr. B.E.S. Bandara, has been appointed as the Assistant Librarian of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. He has graduated from the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka with a second class upper division in B.Sc. Agricultural Sciences and Management and also completed his B.Sc. (Special) Honours Degree in Information Technology from the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT). He has almost completed his M.Sc. in Geoinformatics at the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Sri Lanka and looking forward to mastering in Library Information Science.







Five Assistant Librarians were recruited to the Library of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura with effect from the 2nd of October, 2017.

Mr. Prasad Alahakoon: Assistant Librarian (Document Delivery Service) who has graduated from the University of Peradeniya with a Honors Degree in Agricultural Technology & Management He has obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology from the same university. He has received his M.Sc. in Psychology from the Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom.

Ms. Sakunthala Herath: Assistant Librarian (Periodicals Division) is a graduate in Library and Information Science (Hons) of the University of Kelaniya. At present, she is reading for her Master's Degree in the same field.

Mr. Sanjaya Kumara: Assistant Librarian (Acquisition Division) who has obtained his B.A. Degree (Hons) in Library and Information Science from the University of Kelaniya.

Mr. Jayanath Samarawickrama: Assistant Librarian (IT, Cataloging Division) has received his B.Sc. (Hons) Business Administration (Information Systems) from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He has also completed his M.Sc. in Computer Science at the same university.

Ms. Nishaya Pathirana: Assistant Librarian (Reader Services, Publications) has obtained her B.A. (Hons) English from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. She is currently reading for her M. A. in Linguistics at the University of Kelaniya.



From left to right Mr. Prasad Alahakoon, Ms. Sakunthala Herath, Mr. Sanjaya Kumara, Mr. Jayanath Samarawickrama and Ms. Nishaya Pathirana.

Resignation from Service

Miss. J.M.S. Dilinika attached to the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka resigned from the post of Assistant Librarian to assume duties as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Dept. of Library and Information Sciences, University of Kelaniya with effect from the 1^{*} of December, 2017. She was one of the remarkable staff members of RUSL library staff and has been working in the Main Library since 1^{*} of December, 2016.



Academic Progress

Dr. (Ms.) K.M.R.K. Kulathunge, Assistant Librarian, Uwa Wellassa University has successfully completed her PhD in Library and Information Science at the University of Delhi, India. Her Ph.D. thesis is on 'the Use of e-Resources by faculty members and students of selected university libraries in Sri Lanka.'

Mr. Rathnakumar Kupeshan, Assistant Librarian, University of Jaffna has successfully completed his M.Sc. in Library and Information Science at the Bharadhidasan University, Trichy, India.

Mrs. Sureni Weerasinghe, Asst. Librarian, University of Peradeniya) successfully completed the Degree of Masters in Library and Information Science (MLS) with a Distinction Pass at the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS), University of Colombo.

Mrs. M. P. L. R. Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya has registered for her PhD programme at the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Kelaniya in 2017.

Publications

Mrs M.P.P. Dilhani, Senior Assistant Librarian and Mrs L.K Weragala, Senior Staff Assistant of Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM), University of Colombo compiled an 'Annotated Bibliography of Dissertations and Theses Presented to PGIM by Postgraduate Trainees 2013-2015.' This compilation is an attempt to bring together bibliographic details of Dissertations and Theses presented to PGIM by Postgraduate Trainees during the period of 2013-2015. This bibliography while functioning as a bibliographic record of the areas of research engaged in by the PGIM Trainees will also serve as an indicator of the subject interests and priorities from the point of view of the profession. This bibliography comprises main index with abstract arranged by the subjects, author index, examination index, title index and keyword index



Presentations at National/International Conferences/Symposia

- Miss A.V.M.K. Ankumbura, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Visual and Performing Arts presented a paper titled 'Safeguarding of traditional performing arts as an ICH asset: with special reference to ICH safeguarding practices in South Korea' at the International Conference on Library and Information Science - ICLIM 2017 held from the 27th to the 28th of October at the University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya.
- Mrs. A.P.U. de Silva, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya presented a paper titled 'A content audit of transport related government websites in Sri Lanka' at the International Conference on Land Transportation, Locomotive Heritage and Road Culture held from the 14th to 15th December at the University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya.
- Mrs. H.N.K. Dissanayake, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya presented a poster titled 'Print and electronic resource usage by first year medical students at the Medical Library of University of Peradeniya at Peradeniya University International Research Sessions, held on the 24th of November, 2017 at the University of Peradeniya.
- Mrs. C. Gunasekera, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya presented a paper titled 'Self archiving practices of university academics: special emphasis on the social science and humanity scholars in the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya' at the 4th Annual Research Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities ARSSSH 2017 held on the 20th of December, 2017 at the Hilton Colombo Residencies, Colombo.
- Mrs. D. Gunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian, Open University of Sri Lanka presented a paper titled 'Learner identified critical success factors in blended learning: Sri Lankan perspectives' at the 96th ISERD International Conference held from the 5th to 6th December, 2017 at Bangkok.
- Mrs. D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa, Prof. W.A. Weerasooriya, Senior Lecturer, University of Kelaniya and Mrs. R.C. Kodikara, Librarian, University of Moratuwa presented a paper titled 'Enhancing the service level of library staff: A study of University of Moratuwa Library, Sri Lanka' at the 2nd International Conference on Library and Information Science ICLIM 2017 held from the 27th to the 28th of October, 2017 at the University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya
- Mrs. K.K.N.L Perera and Mrs. H.M.D.S.D. Somaratna, Senior Assistant Librarians of the University of Colombo presented a
 paper titled 'User perceptions of pleasure reading facilities provided by the Main Library of the University of Colombo' at thr
 Annual Research Symposium held on the 22nd November, 2017 at the University of Colombo, Colombo.

- Mr. B.N.G.S. Premarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya and Mr. B.E.S. Bandara, Assistant Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka presented a paper titled 'A study on current status and reading habits of children at the child protection centers in Central Province in Sri Lanka' at the 7th International Symposium of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Oluvil.
- Mrs. T.M. Seneviratne, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa presented a paper titled 'Impact of Internet on library and information services: experience of an academic library in a technical university' at the 2nd International Conference on Library and Information Science ICLIM 2017 held from the 27th to the 28th of October, 2017 at the University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya.
- Mrs. T. Sritharan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo presented a paper titled 'Evaluation of information seeking behavior of medical postgraduate trainees with the use of electronic health resources in Sri Lanka' at the 2^{md} International Conference of Asian Libraries (Jointly organized by IFLA and Asia and Oceanic Section held from the 26th to the 27th of November, 2017 at the Faculty of Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Mrs. W.M. Thusithakumari, Senior Assistant Librarian and K.G.I. Jayawardana, Assistant Librarian of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka presented a paper titled "WOW"!: planning orientation for marketing academic libraries' at the 2^{ml} International Conference on Library and Information Science - ICLIM 2017 held from the 27th to the 28th of October, 2017 at the University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya.
- Mrs. C. Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo presented a paper titled 'A metadata model to organize cultural heritage resources in heterogeneous information environments' at the 19th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries ICADL 2017 held from the 13th to the 15th of November, 2017 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.
- Mrs. C. Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo presented a paper titled 'Modeling digital archives of intangible cultural heritage based on one-to-one principle of Metadata' at the 8th Asia-Pacific Conference on Library and Information Education and Practice A-LIEP 2017 held from the 13th to the 15th of November, 2017 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.
- Mrs. C. Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo presented a paper titled 'Organizing digital cultural heritage resources on networked information environments at the 9th Asia Library and Information Research Group Workshop ALIRG 2107 held from the 16th to the 17th of November, 2017 at Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen.

Upcoming Events

<u>ETTLIS 2018</u> The 5th International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services will take place at Bennett University, Greater Noida, India from the 21st to the 23st February, 2018.

ICRLIB 2018 The International Conference on Rejuvenating Libraries for Information Access in the Digital Era will take place from the 9^{th} to the 10^{th} of March, 2018 at the Annamalai University, India.

ISMTE 2018 The Asian-Pacific Conference of the International Society of Managing and Technical Editors will takes place from the 27th to the 28th of March, 2018 in **Singapore**.

<u>CONSAL XVII</u> The Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians will take place from the 2^{m} to the 5^{m} of May, 2018 in Naypyitaw, Myanmar. Its theme is Next Generation Libraries: Collaborate and Connect.

<u>NCML 2018</u> The National Conference on Modern Librarianship: Opportunities and Challenges is jointly organised by Resource Centre, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Mumbai and Bombay Science Librarians' Association, India, will take place from the 9^{th} to the 9^{th} of June, 2018.

ICIKM 2018 7th International Conference on Innovation, Knowledge and Management happens in Bali, Indonesia, will take place from the 25th to the 27th of June, 2018.

NACLIS 2018 The National Conference on Library and Information Science 2018 will be held on the 28th of June, 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This conference is organized by the Sri Lanka Library Association with the theme 'Make it Happen: Transformation of Library Services for Next Generation.'

LibSym 2018 International Symposium on 'Emerging Trends in Education and Library and Information Science' which covers the themes of 'Re-Engineering Libraries to Align with Transitioning Educational & Technological Paradigms' organized by the Library Network of Eastern University of Sri Lanka will take place the 9th to 10th of August in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka.

LIS 2018@Bangkok The International Conference on Library and Information Science will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from the 8th to the 10th of August, 2018.

IFLA WLIC 2018 The World Library and Information Congress 2018 will be held in Kuala Lumpur, **Malaysia** from the 24th to the 30th August, 2018.

<u>Asian Festival of Children's Content</u> The Asian Festival of Children's Content with a focus on Singapore, will take place from the 5th to the 9th of September, 2018 in Singapore.

International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2018) 'Academic Libraries as Research Saturation Centers: Reshaping the Libraries for Tomorrow'

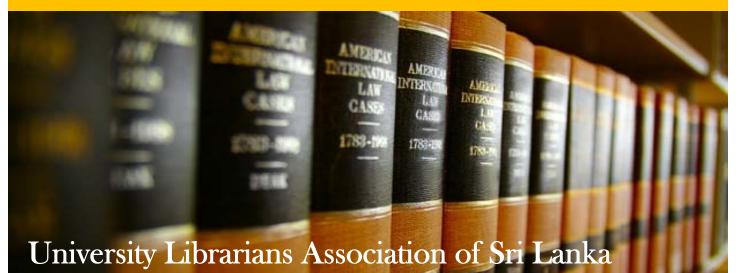
Call for Papers

ICULA 2018 will be held at Golden Rose Hotel, Boralesgamuwa, Sri Lanka on the 20th of September, 2018. This will be an excellent opportunity to present your research outcomes and discuss the latest developments in the field of library and Information Sciences. All categories of library scholars are invited to submit abstract/article on any aspect relating to Library and Information Science

Contacts

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University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka was initiated in 1980s by a few veteran University Librarians. Since then, the organization had a tremendous growth both in size and quality. Our objectives include...

- Protecting and maintaining the professional status, interests and welfare of University Librarianship of Sri Lanka,
- Safeguarding rights, privileges and collective interests of the members,
- Promoting the educational and professional advancement of the members, and furthering the development of University Librarianship of Sri Lanka.

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