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EVENTS IN FOCUS

International Conference of University Librarians Association –ICULA- 2018

The 9th International Conference of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka was held on 20th of September 2018 at the Golden Rose Hotel, Boralesgamuwa. The theme of the conference was "Academic Libraries as Research Saturation Centers: Reshaping the Libraries for Tomorrow". It was an excellent opportunity to present research outcomes and discuss the latest developments in the field of Library & Information Sciences. Foreign and local scholars in the field participated in the conference. Dr. (Mrs). Nayana Wijayasundara the Conference Chair, Dr. Champa Nilmini Kumari Alahakoon, the Convener and the committee members worked hard for the success of the ICULA 2018.

The Inaugural session was graced by the presence of Dr. Harsha De Silva, Honorable State Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs and Honorable Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the Chief Guest and Prof. Hemanthi Ranasinghe, the Dean Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, as the Guest of Honor. Dr Kiran Kaur, Associate Professor of the Department of Library and Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science Information Technology, University of Malaya, Malaysia, delivered a very informative keynote address on "Supporting Research Activities: The continuing challenges faced by Academic Librarians". Altogether more than hundred participated in the conference which included invitees, ULA members, sponsors and LIS professionals.

Three Technical Sessions were held under different themes. Technical Session one on "Quality Assurance & Enhancement in Libraries" was chaired by Dr. Ruwan Gamage. Technical Session two on "Understanding User needs and Information Seeking Behaviour" was chaired by Mr. W. J. Jeyaraj and the technical session three on "Promoting Libraries in the Age of Digital Media" was chaired by Dr. (Mrs.) Kalpana Chandrasekar. Best paper award and the best presenter award were also awarded.

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the University Librarians Association (ULA)

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ULA) was held on 21st September, 2018 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Kelaniya. Professor Patrick Rathnayake, Dean/ Faculty of Humanities, and Dr. Gamini Wijayarathna, Dean/Faculty of Computing and Technology of University of Kelaniya graced the event. Mrs. Chitra Abeygunawardena Acting Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura welcomed the guests and ULA members to the inaugural session of the Annual General Meeting. Dr (Mrs.) Nayana Wjayasundara, President of ULA addressed the gathering reflecting the year filled with challenges. Dr. Gamini Wijayarathna delivered a speech as the Chief Guest of this occasion. Issues pertaining to the Journal published in 2018 of the University Librarians Association were presented to the chief guest by Mrs. Thushari Seneviratne, the Editor of JULA. Mrs. T. Arulanandhy, Former Librarian of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka who recently retired from the university service was felicitated for her contribution to the Sri Lankan library profession. Felicitation remarks were highlighted by Mr. W.J. Jeyaraj, Acting Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Mrs. T. Arulnandhy was presented a Felicitation Trophy by the Chief Guest Dr. Gamini Wijayarathna Vote of thanks at the inaugural session was delivered by the ULA General Secretary Dr. (Mrs.) G D M N Samaradiwakara.

Annual Research Sessions of University of Colombo

The Library Network of UoC conducted its Annual Research Sessions on November 27th, 2018 on the theme "Paradigm Shift of University Libraries in the Digital World". The Sessions contained 12 research presentations on the sub-themes; Information dissemination in the digital environment, Managing E-Resources in the Digital Era and Library innovations for digital natives.

Senior Professor Nayani Melegoda, the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Colombo was the Chief Guest and Professor Inder Vir Malhan from the Central University of Himachal Pradesh was the keynote speaker. Dr. M. Ruvaiz Haniffa, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of Libraries and Information Sciences (SCOLIS) of the University Grants Commission was the Guest of Honour of this event. A large number of academics were present at the inaugural and the Technical sessions.

Intsym 2018 of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

08th International Symposium of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka was held on 17th & 18th December 2018. Library and Information Science is also one of the tracks. Mr. MCM Azwer, Senior Assistant Librarian served as the track Coordinator. Five research papers were presented under this track. Session was chaired by Mrs. M.M.Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.

SPECIAL EVENTS

New Official Website of the Library, University of Kelaniya

A new official website of the Library of the University of Kelaniya was launched on the 08th of January 2019 at the Senate Room of the University. The new website was launched with the objective of introducing new facilities to the library users. The event was held under the patronage of the Vice- Chancellor, Prof. D.M. Semasinghe. All Deans of Faculties, Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian and the members of the Library Committee, University of Kelaniya were present at the occasion.

Launching of Arabic Tamil institutional Repository at
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL)

Library of SEUSL has 70 rare books in Arabic Tamil literature which have been digitalized 28 them have been archived in SEUSL repository. This collection was launched as an Arabic Tamil Repository on 12th December 2018 at the Auditorium of Faculty of Arts and Culture by the Vice Chancellor Prof. M.M.Najim. This reposity accessible at http://ar.lib.seu.ac.lk/handle/123456789/55.

Arabic - Tamil Literature is rarely available in Sri Lanka and the university library has initiated collecting such materials all over the country.

Launching of Arabic Tamil institutional Repository at
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL)

UVPA Digital Repository

The Library, University of the Visual and Performing Arts (UVPA) has successfully installed and launched the UVPA Institutional Digital Repository using DSpace Open source Software on September 2018. The Digital Repository can be accessible at http://repository.lib.vpa.ac.lk/. The project was initiated by Mr. Saman Girakaduwa under the guidance of Librarian Mr. G.R. Padmasiri. System has been installed and customized by Mr. Saman Girakaduwa, Assistant Librarian, UVPA.

Panel member of Annual Research Sessions organized by Library Network, University of Colombo

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara was invited as the panel member of Annual Research Sessions organized by the Library Network, University of Colombo on 27th November, 2018 held at the Main Library, University of Colombo. The Sessions contained 12 research presentations on the sub-themes; Information dissemination in the digital environment, Managing E-Resources in the Digital Era, Library innovations for digital natives. A large number of academics were present at the inauguration and the sessions.

Preservation of Library Materials of SEUSL Libraries

Personal collections of rare books which were infected by book worms, silver fish etc. were received by the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) need to be fumigated and preserved. Those rare materials are very old and some of them were published in the 18th century which is worthy to preserve as they are nationally important literature. The SEUSL Library has requested the consultancy of NLDSB to preserve such books and museum artifacts. Mr. Udaya Cabral, Assistant Director (Conservation), NLDSB has visited SEUSL Libraries on 16th and 17th November 2018 to provide the technical assistance for preserving the collections of SEUSL Library Materials and Cultural Museum. Cultural Museum of the University Library also has artifact are in need of preservation.

National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB)

ACHIVEMENTS 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, Ms. J.G. Chandani, Mrs. U.P.N.N. Pathirana and Mr. A.J.P. Samarawickrama (Assistant Librarians) of University of Sri Jayewardenepura received the research awards at the Annual Research Award Ceremony 2018 held on 03rd October, 2018. Mrs. C.S. Ranasinghe, Mrs. K.W.A.M. Konpola, Mr. A.M.S. Angammana and Mrs. U.P.N.N. Pathirana were absent at the ceremony.

Awards at ICULA 2018

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian, University of Kelaniya and Mrs. Komathi, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Jaffna received Best Research Paper Award and Best Presenter Award respectively at the International Conference of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2018) held on the 20th of September, 2018.

Emerald Award

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura was recently awarded for consistently being Top User of Emerald content from the year 2015 to 2017 in South Asian region. The University of Kelaniya and the University of Colombo were placed 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

The Emerald plaque was presented to Dr (Mrs.) Nayana Wjayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayawardabapura and Ms. A. P. U. De Silva, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya at the International Conference of University Library Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2018) held at Boralesgamuwa on 20th September 2018.

Academic Excellence Award

M. I. G. Suranga Sampath, Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya was honoured with the HUST Academic Excellence Award - 2017/2018 for the academic year 2017/2018 by the Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), Wuhan, China. He received this award for publishing two research papers in SCI indexed journals.

Best Paper Award

Dr Chammika Mallawaarachchi, Senior Asst. Librarian, Visual & Performance Arts University has won the best paper award with a medal for the research paper on "Digital Storytelling as a tool to Promote Tourism Development in the Digital Information Economy: a concept paper based on Social Media" at the 15th International Conference on Business, Education, Social Science, and Management (BESM-15) in Singapore on 28th December 2018.

Dr.T.Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellasa Univertsity along with Mr.M.Jeyakananthan, System Analyst, Eastern University of Sri Lanka was received the conference best paper Award at the International conference on Emerging Trends in Librarianship held at Indian Institute of Management (IIM), India during December 10-12, 2018.

Awarded Certificate of Excellence

Dr. D.C.Kuruppu, Acting Librarian of the University of Colombo was awarded a Certificate of Excellence for the innovative project titled "An assessment of informational needs of breast cancer among patients and adults in general public and the effectiveness of a tailor –made information package for patients in Sri Lanka, at the National Symposium on Best Practices for innovations on cancer prevention, control & palliative care 2018, organized by the National Cancer Control Programme, Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine, held on 14th December 2018.

NATIONAL READING MONTH CELEBRATIONS

Celebration of National Reading Month at University of Morotuwa

Along with the commemoration of "National Reading Month", The library organized two programs to enhance reading skills among the students in suburban schools on 8th and 9th of October, 2018. Grade 10 students of Rawathawatte Methodist School and A/L students of Methodist High School, Puwakaramba participated in these programs.

While welcoming the participants, Mrs. Ruvini Kodikara, Librarian, University of Moratuwa highlighted the community services conducted by the Outreach Services Division since 2013. Professional and Para-Professional Staff of the Library conducted the lectures, presentations and demonstrations to motivate students in reading.

Not only importance of reading, but also ways and methods of effective reading, different types of reading materials, careful handling of reading materials and effective use of Internet were some of the interesting topics on discussion.

It was a great honour to have Prof. Jagath Premachandra, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering and Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa, Senior Lecturer, Department of Transport and Logistics Management as resource persons for these programs. Prof. Jagath Premahandra described the future opportunities of being a UoM undergraduate and Dr. Ranil Sugathadasa conducted a fruitful session on "Motivation, Exam Tips and Dreaming Big"

Guest Lecture

Mr. Sunil Premarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Dental Sciences library participated and delivered the guest lecture to the reading month programme organized by the Central College, Peradeniya on 02nd October 2018.

Human Library at University of Colombo

The Main Library organized a Human Library programme, parallel to the National Reading Month, where the readers were able to meet Subjects Experts, on 10th October 2018 at 10 am. to 12.00 noon at the Main Library premises.

The Vice Chancellor Senior Professor Lakshman Dissanayake, Professor Samantha Herath, Coordinator of the journalism Unit, Professor Sandagomi Coperahewa, Department of Sinhala, Dr. Nirmal Ranjith Dewasiri, Department of History, Dr. Lalithasiri Gunaruwan, Department of Economics and Dr. D.C. Kuruppu, Acting Librarian of the Main Library participated on this occasion. This was open for all the Students and the Staff members of the University.

Awareness Programme at Fatima College, Kalmunai

Mr.W.J.Jeyaraj, Acting Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka was invited as the resource Person to conduct the workshop on "Methodological avenues in enhancing reading attitudes among school children" on the 30th of October, 2018 at the Fatima College, Kalmunai and most of the students spelt out their mixed feelings with high satisfaction of the programme.

NEW INITIATIVES

Collaboration of Academic staff with Pre-Academic Term Programme

As a newly initiated effort, Library University of Moratuwa collaborated with academic staff members for conducting the Library Pre-Academic Term Programmes. Three videos were produced for the Faculty of Engineering including valuable thoughts of Professor S.R. Munasinghe, Professor R.U. Halwathura and Dr. Y.M.M.S. Bandara on "Importance of Reading".

Dr. Udayangani Kulathunga from Faculty of Architecture, Dr. Thesara Jayawardana from Faculty of Business and Dr. Thanuja Sandanayke from Faculty of Information Technology delivered a speech emphasizing the value of reading and how reading will be benefited for their academic career. Under the patronage of the Librarian and with the help of other Senior Assistant Librarians, Mrs. A.K.U.N. Kodithuwakku Senior Assistant Librarian coordinated the programme.

Hunting Library to discover wealth

To explore the University of Moratuwa Library, the typical 'Library Tour' programme for new undergraduate students was deviated by including new different activities. Students were provided puzzles for hunting the library collections at the Reference Section and question papers were distributed at the Lending section, focusing the other collections of the Library. The newcomers enthusiastically participated in activities with the help of the Library staff.

SHINES BEYOND THE HORIZON

Elsevier Research Connect Forum Co-host with University of Kelaniya

The research connect forum on "Building world leading research Universities" was conducted by Elsevier and University of Kelaniya on 17th December 2018 at 9.30 am to 5.00 pm at the Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo.

The aim of the forum was to bring together professionals from the research community and education system to foster dialogue on the evolving research landscape, including addressing common challenges and opportunities, identifying areas of collaboration and cooperation to bring research excellence in the Higher Education System. Prominent speakers from reputed institutes (UGC, NRC, NSF, COSTI, University of Kelaniya, and University of Peradeniya) as well as from Elsevier addressed the delegates at the forum.

ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

INVOLVEMENT IN TRAINING MATTERS

Workshop on E-Resources and Reference Manager

A workshop on " e-resources and reference manager " jointly organized by Library University of Jaffna and Jaffna Science Association section B, with the objectives of creating awareness among final year research students on different e-resources, subscribed databases and searching techniques. Also it covered how to use reference manager Mendeley, and facilitate them for their theses writing. Mrs. L.Umashankar (Senior Assistant Librarian) and Mrs.T.Janen (Assistant Librarian) acted as resource persons. Nearly 80 students participated in this workshop.

Two Workshops for Business Economics the Final Year Undergraduates

The Department of Business Economics of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayewardenepura in collaboration with the Library of the University organized two workshops for the final year students of the department, under the Research Methodology course unit. These workshops were conducted on "How to conduct an Effective Literature Search" and "Reference Management using Zotero". Mrs. Shirani Ranasinghe, Deputy Librarian and Mr. A.J.P. Samarawickrama, Assistant Librarian of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura served as the resource persons. Workshops were held on 4th and 11th of December 2018, at the Information Technology Resource Centre of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce.

Workshop on Electronic Information Resources (EIR) for Academic Purposes

The Kurunegala Regional Centre Library (KURC) of the OUSL conducted a workshop on Electronic Information Resources (EIR) for Academic Purposes, for BA in Social Sciences, level 5 students on 18th of December 2018. Objectives of this workshop were to introduce the range of EIR, way of selecting EIR for academic purposes, consider the role of OUSL library services in supporting access to EIR and provide hands on experience on using and accessing EIR s. The resource person was Mrs. Piumali Karunarathna Abeysignhe, SAL, KURC, OUSL.

Workshop on Online Resources for Agriculture Students, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

The Library Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized a workshop on Online Resources for the Agriculture students on 19th of December, 2018 at the Agriculture Faculty. The aim of the workshop was to introduce online databases and useful web links which they can use for their academic activities.

Series of Training at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

- Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, KDU delivered a lecture on "Medical resources online & how to access effectively" for the Intake 33 MBBS students on 11th October 2018.

- Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, KDU delivered a lecture on "Effective Literature Searching" for Officers of Batalanda Staff College on 18th October 2018.

- Mr. V Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian, KDU delivered a lecture on "Harvard Referencing style" for Officers of Batalanda Staff College on 18th October 2018

- Mrs. TC Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian, KDU delivered a lecture on "Plagiarism detection and practicalities using Turnitin software" for the Academic staff members on 19th October 2018 at the Faculty of Built Environment & Spatial Sciences.

- Mrs. UD Hiruni Kanchana, Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, KDU delivered a lecture on "Referencing methods using Mendeley software" for the Academic staff members on 19th October 2018 at the Faculty of Built Environment & Spatial Sciences.

- Dr. CC Jayasundara, Librarian. KDU delivered a lecture on "How to do an effective Literature Review" for the Intake 33 MBBS students on 11th October 2018.

User Education Programmes

The Kandy and Matara Regional Center libraries of the Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) Contributed to the user education programme "Empowering for Independent Learning (EFIL)" organized for Nursing undergraduates of the OUSL. Mrs. PKM Kaushmalika SAL of Matara RC conducted a session on "Effective use of OUSL library web-page".

Dr. A. U Weerakoon, SAL of Kandy RC conducted two sessions on " Effective reading and note making skills" and "Mind mapping and concept mapping for academic purposes". The programme was held on 10th of October 2018 at both regional centers of the OUSL.

Session Writers

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Ms. D. S. Priyangika and Mr. Dhammika Rathnayaka were appointed as session writers in Bachelor of Library and Information Sciences (BLIS) at Open University of Sri Lanka in 2018. Dr. C.C. Jayasundara and Mr. Dhammika Rathnayaka are working as visiting lecturers in BLIS at Open University of Sri Lanka

CREATING A VIBRANT RESEARCH CULTURE

Enhancing Research Skills of University of Moratuwa students

Library, University of Moratuwa collectively conduct different programmes with the Faculties for improving the research culture of the University. Under this collaboration, Department of Architecture invited the library resource persons to conduct a session to enhance the research skills of 3rd year Landscape students of Department of Architecture on 4th December 2018. "Literature Searching for Research" session was conducted by Mrs. A.K.U.N. Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian and "Plagiarism and Referencing" session was conducted by Mr. C.N.D. Punchihewa, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University.

Also, Department of Civil Engineering organized another session on "Literature Search, Avoiding Plagiarism and Referencing" for their final year students on 13th and 20th December 2018. Mrs. Thushari Senevirathne, Senior Assistant Librarian delivered a lecture on Literature Search and Mr. C.N.D. Punchihewa, Senior Assistant Librarian delivered a lecture on Plagiarism and Referencing.

These interactive sessions were helpful for the students to gather unknown literature of the discipline and to manage information for their final year research through an effective reference management system.

Scholarly Publication Process and Research Integrity

The Library, Southern Campus of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University organized a Workshop on "Scholarly Publication Process and Research Integrity" for Academic Staff on 19th October 2018 from 8.30am to 4.00pm at the Computer Lab, Faculty of Built Environment & Spatial Sciences. The intention of the workshop was to train the early career researchers at KDU Southern Campus in terms of scholarly publication process and academic integrity.

The Chief resource person of the workshop was Dr. CC Jayasundara, the Librarian of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University. He discussed about scholarly publication process and the impact of publishing in higher ranking journals to academia and the university. He was supported by Dr. FMMT Marikar, Director – SDC and he talked about research and publication ethics and IMRAD format of publications. Mrs. TC Ranawella/Senior Assistant Librarian explained the importance of plagiarism detection and practicalities using the Turnitin software. Mrs. Hiruni Kanchana/Assistant Librarian discussed about Referencing methods using Mendeley software. Brigadier AS Ariyasinghe – Rector (Southern Campus) was the chief guest on this occasion and Dr. AR Rupasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Built Environment & Spatial Sciences and a number of academic staff and military officers attended the workshop.

Workshop on Urkund Plagiarism Detection Software

Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka, successfully conducted a workshop on "Urkund" plagiarism detection software on 02nd October 2018 at the Staff Development Centre of the Open University. This was conducted mainly for the officers of the university, deans of the faculties and the directors of the divisions to demonstrate how to use the software to check plagiarism. Mr. Malin Pathirana from the MANK Service International served as the resource person of the workshop.

Training session on Antiplagiarism software URKUND was held on 18.09.2018 at Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the Academic staff of the University. Mr.Malith Pathirana,Application Engineer, MANK service International participated as the resource person

A workshop on URKUND Anti Plagiarism Software was held on 19th September 2018 at the Seminar Room, Main Library, University of Kelaniya. Academic staff members, administrative staff members and library staff members participated in this event.

A workshop on plagiarism detection online tool was organized by the Library with the purpose of introducing fully automated system for handling the problem with plagiarism using URKUND online tool as one of the initiatives of the UGC – CONSAL. The workshop was coordinated by the Librarian. Mr.HMKM.Herath/Mank Service Int. and Dr.T.Pratheepan/UWU served as resource persons. More than 75 Academics and administrative staff members participated in the workshop.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Training Programme for Library Staff Members

Two days training programme for the Library staff members was carried out on 06th and 07th December 2018 at the Main Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka. The main objectives of the workshop were to create positive working environment and to train OUSL Library staff members on public relations and office etiquette. Dr. B.M.P. Mendis, Senior lecturer, Dept. of Social Studies, OUSL, Mr. Manivannan, Senior Assistant Registrar, Gen. Administration, OUSL, Dr. H. Jayawardana, Acting Director, Regional educational services, OUSL, Mr. Harrison Perera, Former Librarian, British Council & University of Peradeniya, Mr. Toni Fernandez, Social etiquette trainer and senior library staff members were the resource persons. All participants appreciated the programme and stressed the importance of organizing regular training programmes to develop their skills.

Staff Training Programmes

SEUSL Library Academic staff has taken a decision to enhance the knowledge related to library information services of SEUSL library staff and already two workshops were organized. Mr. MMM Rifaudeen, Librarian of SEUSL has conducted a workshop on Cataloguing on 28th November 2018. Mr. BES Bandara has conducted a programme regarding the Library Books Searching tool to the SEUSL Staff on 4th December 2018. All these efforts will be benefitted to provide efficient and effective services for the patrons.

OTHER EVENTS

Completion of Stock Verification

South Eastern University of Sri Lanka has completed stock verification and submitted the Report of Stock Verification of SEUSL Libraries on 30th October 2018 at 49th Library Committee Meeting. Chairman of the team worked for Science Library handed over the report to the Vice Chancellor, Chair of the Library Committee.

Workshop / Participated

Mrs. TC Ranawella, Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarians and Mrs. UDH Kanchana, Assistant Librarian participated in the Library Research Symposium titled " Paradigm Shift of University Libraries in the Digital World" which was organized by the University of Colombo Library on 27th November 2018.

President of the Senior Common Room Society (SCRS) of EUSL

Mr.W.J.Jeyaraj, Acting Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka has been elected as the President of the Senior Common Room Society (SCRS) of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka for the years of 2018 and 2019.

Shramadhana Programme on 20th November 2018

Grand Cleaning work was organized and carried out successfully by SEUSL Library staff with the support of other section staffs on 20th October 2018. All the staff actively participated for the programme and cleaned all the library premises to provide cleaner environment for the patrons.

TOWARDS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Chammika Mallawaarachchi has been selected as the Resource Person, Project Proposal Evaluation for the World Bank project on Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) in May 2018.

Dr. Chammika Mallawaarachchi has been appointed by the University Grants Commission as the Standing Committee Member for the New UGC Standing Committee on Gender Equity/Equality for a period of three years with effect from 1st November 2018.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Participative Activities on National Literature Month

Nochiciyagama Pradeshiya Saba was invited to the library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka to exhibit the Kotte Litereture Period for their exhibition held on 2018.10.04 and 2018.10.05 at the Nochichiyagama Pradeshiya Saba to celebrate National Literature Month in 2018. Then, Library exhibited the such literature period very attractively by using sculpture and posters for their exhibition.

Reading Camp in Alayadivembu Divisional Secretariat

Reading Camp programme to mark the Reading month was organized by Alayadivembu Pradeshiya Saba on 30th October 2018 at the library auditorium Alaiyadivembu. Asst. Librarian Mr. SLM Sajeer participated as the resource person.

Educating Public Librarians

- A workshop on "library classifications" aiming the public librarians was held on 4/12/2018 at Kumarathunga Munidasa Public Library Auditorium, Matara. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna, attended this workshop as the resource person of the event.

- Mr. Saman Girakaduwa, Assistant Librarians of University of the Visual and Performing Arts conducted a one day workshop on "Library automation with Koha LMS for public librarians" on 18th of December, 2018 at the Kurunegala Maha Nagara Sabha Auditorium. This workshop was organized by the Department of Local Government, North Western Province. Nearly, 40 public librarians of North West Province participated in this workshop enthusiastically.

FOREIGN VISITS

CONTRIBUTION FOR THE CONFERENCE/SYMPOSIA

Mr.V Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian, Main Library & Mrs. Pearl Wijesekara, Assistant Librarian, Southern Campus served as a rapporteurs at the International Conference at IIM, Tiruchirapalli, India, 10-12 December 2018

Mr. V Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian, presented a research paper on "Problem of Introducing Embedded Librarianship in Academic Libraries- A Study on Sri Lanka University Libraries" in the International Conference at IIM, Tiruchirapalli, India, 10-12 December 2018

Dr. Nayana Wijayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura presented a research paper titled "Space Planning in Libraries: Framework at University of Sri Jayewardenepura" at the 9th Shanghai International Library Forum 2018 held during 17th - 19th October 2018 at Shanghai, China.

Mr. R. Maheswaran, Acting Librarian, University of Peradeniya chaired a session at the "International Conference on "Emerging Trends in Librarianship: Role of Libraries in Learning Environment".

Mr. R. Maheswaran, the acting Librarian, recently participated as the Chief Guest and resource person in an International Workshop on "Impact Factor Publications, Citation Analysis, Plagiarism, Getting patent and copyright" organized by the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Thirunelvely, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr.T.Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian participated as a resource person and guest speaker in international seminars and workshops organized by three Indian universities (Manonmanium Sundaranar University, Central University of Tamilnadu and Periyar University during December 7-14, 2018. It was consisted with lectures and sessions comprised of topics in Research Indicators, Research Management, Online scholarly publication, Reference Management software, Effective library services for Higher Educational Institutions and Marketing of library.

PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Mr. R. Maheswaran, Acting Librarian, University of Peradeniya presented at the "International Conference on "Emerging Trends in Librarianship: Role of Libraries in Learning Environment", held on December 08-12 at Indian Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli, India. Title of the paper is " Application of Active Directory and Group Policy Management Tools in Library and Information Centers". The paper was co-authored with Arumugam, J., Manikandan, M. and Maheswaran, R.

Dr. Champa N. K. Alahakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya, presented at the "International Conference on "Emerging Trends in Librarianship: Role of Libraries in Learning Environment", held on December 08-12 at Indian Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli, India. Title of the paper is "ICT and EIR usage in University Libraries: the Training requirements of Humanities and Social Sciences undergraduates".

Dr. Champa N. K. Alahakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya and as Somaratne, Senior Lecturer. Open University of Sri Lanka presented a paper at the International Conference on the Humanities and the Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Title of the paper is "ICT Self – Efficacy and the use of electronic information resources : based on four sources of self-efficacy theory"

Mrs. Chamani Gunasekera presented a research paper at the "International Conference on "Emerging Trends in Librarianship: Role of Libraries in Learning Environment", held on December 08-12 at Indian Institute of Management, Tiruchirappalli, India. Title of the paper is   "Use of ICT by School Teachers in Information Provision: An Analysis of Sri Lankan Perspective" which is co-authored by Dr. R. Balasubramani, and   Dr. N.Murugesan.

Mr. Saman Girakaduwa, Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Visual and Performing Arts presented a research paper titled on "Problems faced in the installation of KOHA Open Source Software for Library Automation" at the National Library Research Symposium (NATLIB SYMPO 2018), held on 23rd of October 2018 at National Library and Documentation Services Board, Colombo.

The fourth International Conference on Dry Zone Agriculture (ICDA 2018) was organized by Faculty of Agriculture , University of Jaffna on 1st & 2nd November 2018. Senior Assistant Librarian Mrs. Latha Umachankar presented a paper titled "To Influence of Media Exposure in relation to capital access among peninsula female headed households pursuing Agriculture" and Assistant Librarian Mrs.Thivya Janen presented on "Mapping of Research Publications on Food Security: A Scientometric

Dr. Kalpana Chandrasekar presented a paper titled on "Revitalizing National Library services in Tamil speaking areas through Regional National Libraries (RNLs) – Sri Lankan perspective, at National Library Research Symposium 2018 on 23rd October 2018, Organized by National library and documentation service board.

Mrs. H.D. Menaka Nishanthi, Assistant Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura made a presentation titled "Identifying Deterioration Factors of Historically Valuable Library Resources and Treatment of Preservation: With reference to University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the Library of the Department of National Museum" at the 6th International Research Conference in Humanities and Social Sciences organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka on 29th and 30th November 2018 at the University.

Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine presented a research paper on "A bibliometric analysis of scholarly publications on Dengue in PubMed database" at the 9th International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ICULA 2018), 20-21 September 2018.

Mrs. Pearl K. Wijesekara, Assistant Librarian, Sourthen Campus, KDU and Mr.V Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian, Main Library presented two research papers on the International Conference at IIM, Tiruchirapalli, India, held on 10-12 December 2018.

"Use Global Positioning System (GPS) for information that impact on the Economic Efficiency in Offshore Fishery in Sri Lanka "and "Role of Academic Libraries in Integrating National Development- A Qualitative Study on Sri Lankan Context".

QUALITY ASSURANCE

External Subject Review Teams evaluate the Eastern University Library

Two separate External Subject Review Teams for the Disciplines of Management and the Business Administration of the Faculty of Commerce & Management, Eastern University, Sri Lanka visited the Main Library and evaluated the available information resources related to the above subject disciplines and the services rendered by the library to the university community mid of October, 2018.

The teams had meetings with the Acting Librarian, Mr.W.J.Jeyaraj and the Staff members and appreciated the efforts taken by the library and discussed on the challenges in providing information services and the strategies to be imposed to overcome the obstacles in the future.

NEW LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUTURE

Refurbishment of the Outside Reading Room

The Outside Reading Room of the Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka was opened for students on 15th December 2018 after refurbishment. The project was an initiative of the newly recruited Library Information Assistants of the Main Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka and the refurbishment has been fully financed through the Library generated funds through island wide Library Automation Consultancies conducted by the OUSL Library under the patronage of the Vice Chancellor of OUSL.

ULA MEMBERSHIP/NEW APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS

New Librarian of University of Kelaniya

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara was appointed as the new Librarian of University of Kelaniya. He obtained his MSc in Information Management from the University of Sheffield, UK in 2002 and Doctor of Literature and Philosophy in Information Science from the University of South Africa in 2010. He is the immediate past Librarian of the Sir General John Kotelawala Defence University.

New Assistant Librarians of University of Kelaniya

Ven. Deiyandara Pannananda assumed duty as an Assistant Librarian of the University of Kelaniya with effect from 03rd September, 2018. He obtained Bachelor of Arts Degree in Library and Information Science (Second Class Upper) from University of Kelaniya in 2015 and completed his PGD in 2018 of Sri Lankan Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT). Currently, he is reading for his M.Sc. Degree in Information Systems at the Sri Lankan Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT). Before joining the Library Network, he worked as a Temporary Demonstrator (2015-2017) and Assistant Web Manager (2017-2018) in the Information and Communication Technology Center of University of Kelaniya.

Mr. Dhammika Rathnayaka assumed duty as an Assistant Librarian of the University of Kelaniya with effect from 01st of October, 2018. He obtained Bachelor of Arts Degree in Library and Information Science (Second Class Upper) from University of Kelaniya in 2013 and completed his MSSc. in 2018 of University of Kelaniya. Before joining the Library Network, he worked as an Assistant librarian in the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL) (2007-2018), as a visiting lecturer in Gampaha Wickramarachchi Ayurveda Institute of University of Kelaniya in 2016. He was a resource person in North Central Provincial Library Service Board in 2016. He also worked as an Assistant librarian in Kotelawala Defense University in 2015 and as a Temporary Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Library and Information Science of University of Kelaniya (2013-2015). He was also a Trainee Librarian in Auston Institute in 2013. He is a lecturer and non-corporate member in the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) in 2018.

Mrs. B. G. Suleka Pathmini Wimalasiri assumed duty as an Assistant Librarian of the University of Kelaniya with effect from 01st of October, 2018. She obtained Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) Degree in Library and Information Science (Second Class Upper) from University of Kelaniya in 2013. She completed MSSc. Degree in Library & Information Science in 2017 from university of Kelaniya. Before joining the library, she worked as a Library & Documentation Officer in the National Library and Documentation Services Board (2014-2018), as well as a Demonstrator of SIDA/SARREC Research Library in University of Kelaniya (2013-2014). Further, she is a member of Sri Lanka Library Association and special committee member of Prison Library Services / SLLA.

Promotions to Senior Assistant Librarian

Mrs. A.K.U.N. Kodithuwakku of University of Moratuwa has been promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from 23rd May 2018. Currently she is the head of the Reader Services Division and In-charge of Outreach Services Division.

Mrs. D.N.T. Gunawardana of University of Moratuwa has been promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade II) with effect from 23rd May 2018. Currently she is the head of the Cataloguing and Classification Division

Academic Progress

Ms. D. P. C. Vithana, Assistant Librarian of Uva Wellassa University successfully completed her MLIS degree at the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS), University of Colombo. At present, she serves in the Reader Service Division of Uva Wellassa University.

Resignation from Service

Mr. P.C.B. Alahakoon, who was attached to the University of Sri Jayewardenepura resigned from the post of Assistant Librarian to assume duties as a Lecturer (Probationary) in the Dept. of Agricultural Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya with effect from the 31st of October, 2018. He was one of the remarkable staff members of USJP library staff and was working in the Main Library from 1st of November, 2017.

NEW ULA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FROM KDU

- Following academic staff members of the library of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University have been appointed as officials of the University Librarians Association for the year 2018-2019 at the Annual General Meeting of the University Librarians Association which was held on 21st September 2018.

  o   Dr. CC Jayasindara – President, ULA
  o   Mrs. MP Rajapaksha – Vice president, ULA
  o   Mrs. UD Hiruni Kanchana – General Secretary
  o   Mrs. TC Ranawella – Treasurer

PUBLICATIONS

M. P. L. R. Marasinghe and A. Wijayaratne (2018) The Impact of Gender Differences on Job Satisfaction of University Library Professionals. Journal of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka. 21 (2): 1-20p.

M. I. G. Suranga Sampath and Jicheng Liu, Impact of customers' impatience on an M/M/1 queueing system subject to differentiated vacations with a waiting server, Quality Technology & Quantitative Management, December 2018, DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/16843703.2018.1555877

Dhammika Rathnayaka, Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya, presented a paper on "Use of Machine Readable Cataloging Standard in University Libraries of Sri Lanka" in 19th International Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Kelaniya held on 5th December 2018

Dhammika Rathnayaka, Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya, presented a paper on "iudc udOH cd," bf.kqï udOHhla jYfhka úYajúoHd, isiqkag jeo.;ajk wdldrh ms<sno wOHhkhla" in 19th International Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Kelaniya held on 5th December 2018

B. G. S. P. Wimalasiri, Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya, presented a paper on "ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ප්‍රකාශයට පත් වූ සිංහල නවකතා පිළිබඳ ග්‍රන්ථමිතික අධ්‍යයනයක් (2012-2013)" in 19th International Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Kelaniya held on 5th December 2018

The publication ceremony of the book titled "Pothgule Wagathuga" written by Sakunthala Seneviratne, a Senior Assistant Librarian of University of Ruhuna was held at the university Auditorium recently. Professor M. K. Weerasinghe and Professor W.A. Weerasooriya of the Department of Library Science, University of Kelaniya were present at the event as the Special Guest Lecturers, while Dr. Upali Pannila, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna, in the chair. This book can be introduced as a collection of topics which encourages the library users to study the Library than merely engaging in learning theoretical matters related to Library Science.

"වෙසතුරුදා සන්තය පිළිබඳ විමර්ශනයක්" book written by Mrs. H.I.S.M. Adhikari, Senior Assistant Librarian of UoC, was launched on 08th of October 2018 at the M.B. Ariyapala Auditorium, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo.

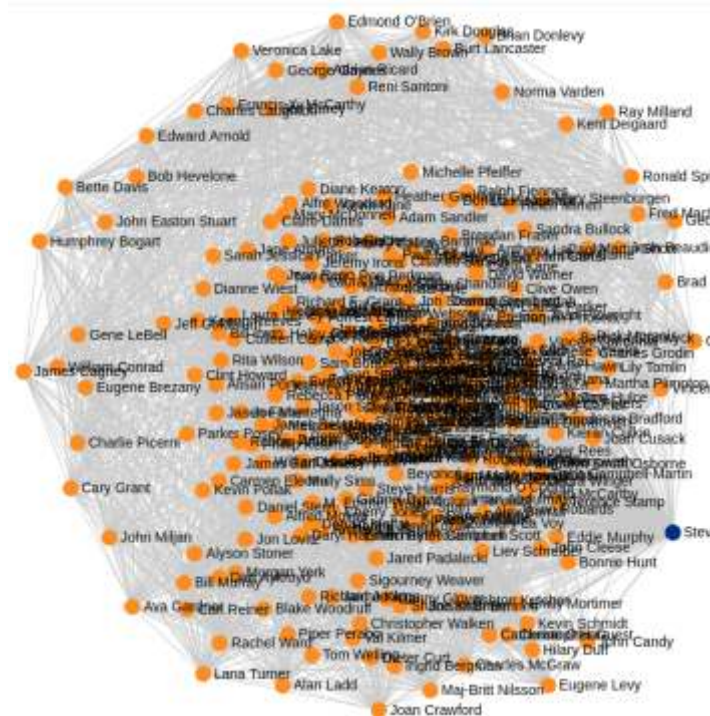# GENERALIZING LIBRARY OPERATION AND SERVICE FRAMEWORKS TO CREATE LINKED LIBRARIES

Feature Article by:

W.J.Jeyaraj
Acting Librarian
Eastern University,
Sri Lanka

The evolving technological advancements experienced through the past decades have shaped the present. The major trend that we observed was solely linked to the way in which technology contributed towards connecting different entities from all around the world. Currently, through the existence of social media platforms, we exist as nodes in a mass single network. The data we store on our social media platforms are normalized to identify the missing connections that are not explicitly observed. This is a sample visualization of how our social media data is reasoned and analyzed to infer the relationships or friendship between different users. This enlightens us as to how similar or dependent our personal data and activities are to that of someone else'.

Battling vs Preserving Traditionalism

There is one sole purpose defined for libraries and that is the preservation of knowledge and content. The traditional libraries have managed to carry out their purpose successfully to a certain extent without resolving to digital storage. But with the increase in the amount of content being generated on digital platforms, digital storage modes have become inevitable. With most of the modern libraries adapting to digitization and automation, some libraries still linger with conventional paper based maintenance.

The major statute in conventional libraries is the preservation of traditionalism as opposed to digital libraries that battle traditionalism. There is a common misconception that digitized libraries reciprocate in the abandonment of traditionalism: the touch and feel of ink on paper. However, the trick is in finding the pivotal balance between the amount of digitization that needs to be done in order to preserve the materials available as traditional hard copies.

Automation vs Digitization

Though the terms, 'Automation' and 'Digitization' may seem similar, they differ in the perspective of library environments. Digitization is mainly concerned with providing the paper based books and resources in the form of digital sources such as e-books, journals, researches, and so on. Digitization also paves way for the accommodation of information in the form of various senses. With paper based materials, sight acts as the principle sense that contributes towards the comprehension of the content. Considering digital information, there are ways in which the auditory sense can come into play as well. Sound can trigger an enhanced comprehension of content on top of mere sight based reading. In addition, such alternative forms of resources can be of aid to the differently abled and the vision impaired library users.

Moving on to Automation, it leans more towards digitizing the way in which the library services are provisioned or implemented. In order to serve a number of users efficiently, the manual workforce needs to be supplemented with digital workloads. Hence, the processes of acquisition, circulation and cataloguing will be automated to manage and maintain the meta information about the resources in the library, the library users, their operations and generate high level analysis reports.

Hence, striking the balance between [Automation + Digitization] and conventional resource maintenance will indicate the success of transitioning libraries. Even if most of the libraries have seemed to have achieved the optimum point , the issue that we are now facing is the singularity, or better worded, the isolation of libraries.

Isolation vs Individuality

Being individualistic is way different from being isolated. Isolation constricts the evolution where no input can flow in or vice versa. But being individualistic implies the existence of unique characteristics. This does not imply the singularity of a being but rather a distinctive adaptation. Hence, being an individual is better than being isolated. But why do we need to talk about isolation vs individuality with regard to libraries?

As it is mentioned previously, though modern day libraries have attained the prime structure of having a well balanced [Digitization + Automation] and traditionalism, their structures are isolated. There is no connectivity between different library frameworks. Now we may find this hard to believe on the basis of mentioning the availability of external journals and databases. True. However these external journals and databases are not within the internal library framework that this article is trying to capture. They can be considered as more of an external service extended by the preference of the libraries.

We have already skimmed through how our digital data can connect all of us into a single network. All the data in such social networks are not always useful to every single person. Instead, we directly access only the exact information that we need, and do not care about the rest of the data. Similarly, what we require is bringing the individuality of different libraries into a single network such that they are all connected but still preserve their own identities within the network.

When the information from different libraries are connected by a network, it will be easier to identify the availability of resources in other universities, developing a vast collection of information. The digitized resources of the libraries need not necessarily be included in the network as some libraries may have purchased private collections. However, even if they are included, their contents do not have to be made public over the network.

Each library can selectively opt for the details that they would like to make public and leave the rest of the details private. Such selective networking will give an opportunity to build the largest knowledge graph of information resources used for academic undertakings.

The mass accumulation of bringing libraries together can be a mere concept at a high level. But the cooperative accumulation of information will prove to be useful in discovering information that was not available previously. Link prediction, Missing link discovery, Collective reasoning and inferring new information will be only a few useful actions that can impact the value and quality of information stored by libraries.

ICULA 2019
University Librarians Association Sri Lanka

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"Reinvigorating Libraries : Smart Responsiveness for Sustainability"

Date 09 August 2019 **Venue** Mount Lavinia Hotel Colombo

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- Communication Strategies
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- RFID
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- Digital Preservation
- Intangible Cultural Heritage & its documentation
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- Methods and techniques
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- University policy and institutional rankings
- Journals, databases and electronic publications
- Data Accuracy and disambiguation
- Scientific fraud and dishonesty

MARKETING LIBRARIES

- Marketing Libraries in Web 2.0 World
- Revitalizing Manpower
- Service Marketing Mix which is in practice
- Marketing and Promotion Strategies

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES IN LIBRARY SECTOR

- Designing Barrier Free Services in the Academic Libraries
- Usage Studies
- Library Management Practices

Extended Abstract Submission Opens : 16 January 2019

Deadline for Submission of Extended Abstracts: 15 April 2019

Author Notification of Acceptance : 10 May 2019

Deadline for Full Paper Submission : 10 June 2019

Deadline for submitting Camera Ready Version: 01 July 2019

Registration Starts : 10 June 2019

Deadline for the Registration of Presenting Author: 01 July 2019

End of the Early Bird Registration : 15 July 2019

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