



# Newsletter

Newsletter of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

Volume 13, Issue 3, April – June 2019

e-ISSN 2630-7693

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## SPECIAL EVENTS IN FOCUS

### Special General Meeting of University Librarians Association Sri Lanka

Special General Meeting of University Librarians Association (ULA), Sri Lanka was held on 1st April 2019 at Seminar Room of the Library, University of Colombo. Objectives of the meeting were to draw immediate attention of the ULA members to the current and future challenges of the academic librarians and discuss strategies to respond to the challenges successfully. Dr. Chaminda Jayasundara, President of the ULA/Librarian, University of Kelaniya, Dr. Pradeepa Wijethunge, Librarian, University of Colombo, Mrs. Asoka Siriwardhana, Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mrs. T.N. Neighsoorei, Librarian, Sabaragamuwa University were lead the discussion and other ULA members were actively participated the event by including their views to overcome the challenges of the academic librarians. Five sub committees were appointed by the Special General Meeting to make suggestions on specific five areas. The committees will serve to revise certain sections relevant to the librarians/ libraries in the Universities Act, to develop a definition and identification of the role of university librarians, to update the circular No 921 of UGC, to be on par with the current circulars on recruitment and promotion of university teaching staff, to change the titles of library academic staff and to develop strategies on research and publications by the university librarians. Dr. R.D. Ananda Tissa, Dr. Chaminda Jayasundara, Mrs. Shriyani Perera, Mr. G.R. Padmasiri and Dr. Pradeepa Wijethunge were the conveners of the committees respectively.

# ACHIVEMENTS AND AWARDS

## Fellow membership award – SLLA

Sri Lanka Library Association at its 59th Annual General Meeting held on on 28th of June 2019 awarded Fellowship for the following three ULA members. The honor of fellow membership was in recognition of their excellence in research and innovation in Library and Information Science (LIS), contribution to human resource development in LIS, publications in Library and Information Science and service as a member of SLLA. This is the highest professional achievement that a member can achieve in the professional career.



Mrs. Komathy Murugathas, Senior Assistant Librarian, Medical Library, University of Jaffna was honoured by the “Fellow membership”.



Dr. (Ms.) Champa N. K. Alahakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Peradeniya was honoured by “Fellow membership”.



Mr. M. N. Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka was honoured by “Fellow membership”.

## Best Researcher award

Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian was awarded the best researcher award for his outstanding contribution and publications in the field of library and information science by the Indian Academic Researchers' Association. The awarding ceremony was held on April 21, 2019 at Jamal Mohamed College auditorium, India. He also delivered a special address on Research Ethics in library science.



## PhD in Probability and Mathematical Statistics

Dr. Suranga Sampath, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya completed his PhD in Probability and Mathematical Statistics at the School of Mathematics and Statistics, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China on the 22nd of April 2019.



## PhD in Computer Science and Technology

Kokila Ramanayaka, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Ruhuna has successfully completed the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science and Technology at the School of Computer Science and Engineering, Wuhan University of Technology, P.R. China. His research title was the "Research of Multilevel Comprehensive Fuzzy AHP Framework for Evaluating the Usability of Library Websites in Sri Lanka".



## The HUST Academic Excellence Award

Dr. M. I. G. Suranga Sampath, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya was awarded the HUST Academic Excellence Award in considering the research papers published in peer reviewed journals indexed in the Science Citation Index for the academic year 2017/2018. The awarding ceremony was held on the 21st of June, 2019 at Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), Wuhan, China.



## SLLA COUNCIL MEMBERS 2019/2020

The following ULA members have been selected as the SLLA council members for the year 2019/2020.

President	:	Dr. (Ms.) N.D. Wijayasundara
Immeediate Past President	:	Ms. S Arulanantham
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Professional Group Convener for Academic Libraries	:	Dr. Ananda Tissa
Nominated Council Member	:	Dr. (Ms) Pradeepa Wijethunga
Nominated Exco Members	:	Dr. (Mrs) Wathmannel Seneviratne Mr. G R Padmasiri.

## ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

Ms. Asoka Siriwardena, who served as the Consultant to the Library of Uva Wellassa University during her sabbatical period around 21 months, completed her services on 30.04.2019 and resumed duties as the Librarian of the University of Rajarata.



## Inauguration of the Diploma in Information Management and Technology

The inauguration ceremony of the Diploma in Information Management and Technology offered by the Department of Library and Information Science of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Kelaniya was held on the 27th of July 2019 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The event was presided over by Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian as the Chief Guest. Present at the occasion were Senior Lecturer Dr. Namali Suraweera, Head- Department of Library and Information Science, academic staff members of the department and newly enrolled students.



## 60th Anniversary event

The Library conducted a "Pahan Pooja" to commemorate the 60th Birthday of the University of Kelaniya. The programme titled "Vidulakara Punarawalokana" was held under the patronage of the Principal-Director of Vidyalankara Pirivena and UoK Chancellor Ven Dr. Welamitiyawe Dharmakirithi Sri Kusaladhamma Nayaka Thera.



## 09th Lecture of the Lecture Series on Heritage Studies

The 09th lecture of the lecture series on heritage studies organized by the Centre for Heritage Studies of the University of Kelaniya was held on the 13th of March 2019 at the Library Auditorium. The lecture was held with the objective of expanding research knowledge on heritages.

Dr. K. N. Dikshit conducted the lecture on the theme: "Recent Advances in Indian Archaeology" while Prof. Vasant S. Shinde conducted the lecture on the theme: "Excavations at Rakhigarhi Harappan Site"

Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian, of the University of Kelaniya presided the session. Present at the occasion were Senior Prof. Anura Manathunga, Director- Centre for Heritage Studies, Senior Lecturer Dr. T. R. Premathilake, Director- Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, academic staff members, researchers and undergraduates.



# USER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

## Provision on Clinical Key to the Library, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine

Library of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) organized a one day Workshop on “Clinical Key Training Programme for the Trainers of the PGIM” and it was held on 30th May 2019 at the Auditorium, 7th Floor, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine. Clinical Key is an on line database with e journals, e books, guidelines, patient education, drug monographs which provides single login with access to large resources and this database is widely used by the medical professionals in hospitals and universities all over the world.

The inaugural session was graced by the Director, PGIM, Professor Janaka De Silva who delivered the Key note speech and Mrs. M.P.P Dilhani, Senior Assistant Librarian, PGIM welcomed the Participants and Resource persons to the session. A large number of Medical professionals attended for the inaugural and the Technical sessions. This workshop provided hands on training on ClinicalKey and Mendeley Reference Manger. Dr. Ishima, Mr. Durga Ranganath, Ms. Sheena Warriar from Elsevier, India took part as Resource Persons.



## OTHER EVENTS

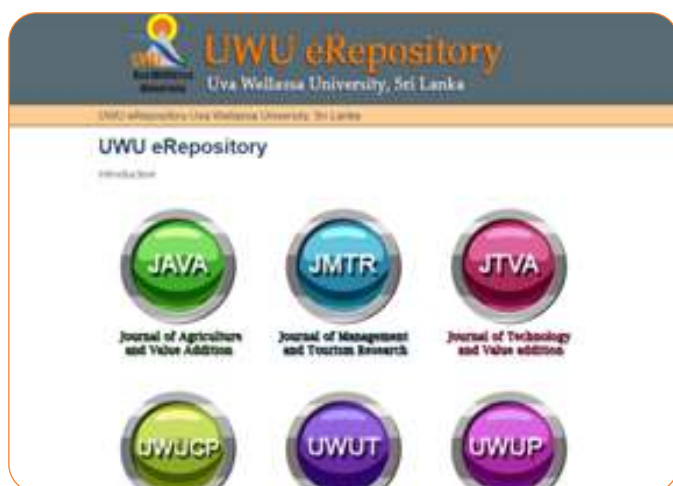
### Sri Palee Campus automated the library systems

The Campus library started the library automation system recently in Sri Palee Campus. The total library system is automated with using Alice for Widows Management software. The Senior Assistant Librarian of Sri Palee Campus, the Rector, Head of the Departments and Library staff took part and graced the occasion of the opening function held on 3rd March 2019.



### The Uva Wellassa University Library Launched Institutional Repository

The UWU Library launched Institutional Repository (IR) with the purpose of creating global visibility for UWU's scholarly work and this system is based on open – source software known as “DSpace”. The IR was launched by the Vice Chancellor with the participation of Deans, Registrar, Librarian, Bursar and Members of Library Committee on April 30, 2019 at the Senate Room. The Repository was developed by Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellassa University.



### Inauguration of the International Book Fair-RAJARATA POTH WASANTHAYA

Academic staff of the Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka were invited to the inauguration of the International Book Fair Rajarata Poth Wasanthaya organized by Library Board, North Central Province.



## DONATION OF PERSONAL LIBRARY OF MR. MARUTHUR A.MAJEED TO THE SEUSLLIBRARY

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka Library is fortunate to receive personal collection of books belongs to Mr. Maruthur A. Majeed who is a Poet, short story writer and researcher. Research articles published in international peer reviewed journals, including world encyclopedias. South- Eastern University Community gratefully appreciates this decision and is delighted to accommodate his personal library.

The ceremonial opening of "The Personal Library of Mr. Maruthur A.Majeed" was held on Thursday, 27th June 2019 at 2.00 pm. Prof. Dr. M.M.M. Najim, Vice-Chancellor graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Mr. Maruthur A. Majeed presented his personal collection to the South Eastern University Library at this ceremony. The Private Library consists of valuable and rare materials of 971 volumes. It includes books together with reports, conference proceedings, souvenirs, pamphlets and periodicals. This donation will be the asset to the undergraduates, academics, students, researchers for which we remain with gratitude & happiness.

This Private Library is an award of Mr. Maruthur A. Majeed, materialized at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka on the effort of Prof. M.M.M. Najim, Vice-Chancellor of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.His private collection was named as "Ex-Libris Mr. Maruthur A.Majeed".

SEUSL Library conducted an exhibition of books on writings and works of Mr. Maruthur A. Majeed to mark this occasion. Mr. M.M. Rifaudeen, the University Librarian request the students, academia and the public to make use of this opportunity to enjoy the valuable learning and research materials in the Personal Library of Mr. Maruthur A. Majeed located in the South Eastern University Library.





## Donation of books from Prof. Daya Edirisinghe to the Library, University of the Visual and Performing Arts.

Prof. Daya Edirisinghe has donated a collection of books to the Library, University of the Visual and Performing Arts on the 14th of May 2019 at the Board room of the Faculty of Visual Arts. The event was held under the patronage of Senior Prof. Sarath Chandrajeewa, Vice- Chancellor, Senior Lecture Jagath Ravindra, Dean - Faculty of Visual Arts and Mr. G.R. Padmasiri, Librarian.



## Donation of Prof. Wimal Dissanayaka's personal book collection to the Kelaniya University library

Prof. Wimal Dissanayake's personal book collection was donated to the library of the University of Kelaniya on the 25th of June 2019 at the Auditorium of the library. The event was held under the patronage of Prof. D.M. Semasinghe, Vice- Chancellor, Senior Prof. Lakshman Senevirathne, Deputy Vice- Chancellor and Vice Admiral Piyal De Silva, Commander of Sri Lankan Navy. Present at the occasion were Prof. Patrick Rathnayake, Dean- Faculty of Humanities, Senior Prof. Ariyaratna Athugala, Chairman- Arts Council, Prof. Rohana Lakshman Piyadasa, Senior Lecturer, Aruna Lokuliyana, Head- Department of Mass Communication, academic staff members of the Department of Mass Communication, Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian, Mr. W.M. Karunarathne, Registrar and undergraduates of University of Kelaniya.



## CREATING A VIBRANT RESEARCH CULTURE

### Enhancing Research Skills of Undergraduates of KDU

Library, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University jointly conducted different programmes with different faculties with the aim of improving research skills of the undergraduates. Under this collaboration, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities and Faculty of Computing have invited professional library staff to conduct a series of sessions on Information Literacy covering the topics of "Types of Information Sources, Effective Literature Searching, Avoiding Plagiarism and Managing References with Mendeley Reference Management Software" for 3rd year and 2nd year undergraduates of the above faculties during the month of May and June 2019. Mrs. MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, Mr. V. Alagarathnam, Assistant Librarian and Mrs. Pearl K. Wijesekara, Assistant Librarian, Southern Campus served as a resource person for these sessions.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### “Scholarship and Aftermath”: Library Outreach Activities

A special programme focusing on “Scholarship and aftermath” was held at Bodhiraja Vidyalaya Katubedda under the guidance of the librarian, Mrs. Ruvini Kodikara on 9th July, 2019 as an expanded activity of Outreach Division of Library University of Moratuwa. Three academic staff members of Faculty of Business facilitated the programme. Resource persons were Mr. Shenal Rajakarunanayake, Mrs. Nawodi Somasiri from department of Industrial Management and Mrs. Tolusha Yapa from department of Management of Technology.

A motivational discussion was conducted for both parents and students on the value of reading for education and achieving targets of life from childhood. The importance of passing scholarship examination for the students who are studying at a primary school was emphasized by the speakers. But they pointed out that the scholarship examination is not the sole achievement where failures are the pillars of success. The librarian, principal, resource persons, parents and students of grades 3-5, participated for the programme. Mrs Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian in charge of Outreach Services initiated the programme and technical assistance was given by the library staff of University of Moratuwa.



### Librarian Training Programme on “Good House Keeping in Library”

The Management Development and Training Unit (MDTU) in Central Provincial Council coordinated a two-day training programme for public librarians on “Good House Keeping in Library”. The training programme was held in the auditorium of the Provincial Resource Management Centre in Nawayalathenna on the 24th and 25th of June, 2019. Mr. Dhammika Rathnayake, Assistant Librarian, University of Kelaniya and Dr. Ananda Tissa, Senior Assistant Librarian, Gampaha Wickramarachchi Ayurveda Institute (GWAI), University of Kelaniya served as the resource persons of this training programme. The objectives of this training programme were to familiarize modern concepts and practices of library services, library profession and present society communication & platform skills, how to apply 3H skills for library professionals, team building.



## Workshop for Public Librarians

One day workshop organized by Management Development and Training Unit for Library Assistants in Public Libraries in Trincomalee on Customer care, Job satisfaction, Attitude change, Positive thinking and Library functions which was held on 20th June, 2019 at Trincomalee Mr.M.N.Ravikumar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Eastern University, Sri Lanka served as Resource Person for this workshop.



## FOREIGN VISITS

### Guest Speaker & Chairperson at the International Conference

Mr. R. Maheswaran, the acting Librarian of the University of Peradeniya was invited to deliver the valedictory speech in an International Conference themed "Enhancement of Technology and innovations in contemporary libraries" on 25th and 26th April 2019. The Conference was organized by the Department of Library and Information Science of the Alagappa University, Karaikkudy, Tamil Nadu India. Prof. W. A. Weerasooriya, the University of Kelaniya and Dr. T. Piratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Uva Wellassa University are also in the group photograph.



Mr. R. Maheswaran, the Acting Librarian of the University of Peradeniya was invited to deliver the keynote address in a one-day seminar on " Green Information Technology in Management of Libraries" organized by the Department of Library and Information Science School of Technology of the Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu India which took place on 23rd April 2019.



Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian, Uva Wellassa University was delivered a special speech on Enhancement of Technology in contemporary libraries as a guest speaker at the International Conference held during April 24-25, 2019 organized by the Alagappah University, India. He also acted as the chairperson for a parallel technical session on the 2nd day of the conference.



Dr. T. Pratheepan, Senior Assistant Librarian participated as a resource person in international seminar on Green Information Technology in Managing libraries organized by the Department of Library and Information Science, Madurai Kamaraj University, India, took place on April 23, 2019. It was consisted with lecture, discussions comprised of topics in Green technology for library services and adoption of technology for green library environment.



## PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

### National Conference on Library and Information Science (NACLIS-2019)

Sri Lanka Library Association organized a national conference on “Revaluing Libraries: National Conversation on Value of Libraries”, on 27th of June 2019 at Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo. It gave rise to a spirited discussion where participants contributed a variety of ideas and suggestions for the future direction of libraries. The SLLA President Ms. S. Arulanantham, Librarian University of Jaffna chaired the conference. The efforts of the SLLA convener Mr.S. Navaneethakrishnan, Senior Asst. Librarian, UoJ had brought together a wide variety of participants to get involved and present a broad spectrum of suggestions for re-valuing Libraries.

Several of our academic staff participated in the conference and presented papers, Dr.(Mrs).Kalpana Chandrasekar, Senior Assistant Librarian, Dr.(Mrs). Maithili Visakaruban, Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr.Rathnakumar Kupeshan, Assistant Librarian, and Mrs. Thivya Janen, Assistant Librarian presented their research finding at the NACLIS -2019.



## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

### Dr. Pradeepa Wijetunge

1. Information Seeking Behavior of the Humanities and Social Science Undergraduates: A Case of University of Colombo. Journal of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka, 22(1), 2019  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4038/jula.v22i1.7927>
2. Access to Scholarly Publications through Consortium in Sri Lanka: A Case Study DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology, 39(1), 2019:10-16.  
DOI: 10.14429/djlit.39.1.13718
3. Increasing employability of HSS graduates through intervention to improve their information skills. In Proceedings of 11th Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries. Ed. By Anthi Katsirikou. At: European University Institute, Florence, Italy pp.87-88.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS



Dr. K. M. R. K. Kulathunga, Senior Assistant Librarian, assumed duty as the Acting Librarian of Uva Wellassa University with the effect from 01.05.2019



Ms. D. P. C. Vithana, Assistant Librarian, of Uva Wellassa University, promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II, with the effect from 1st September 2018



Dr. S.K. Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Technology Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka has promoted to the Senior Assistant Librarian Grade 1 since April in 2019.





University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

# ICULA 2019

**Reinvigorating Libraries :  
Smart Responsiveness for Sustainability**

**18 September  
2019**

The 2019 International Conference will have networking opportunities, Virtual Sessions and Plenary Sessions that will keep upto date on all the latest research and trends in the Library & Information Science Industry



<http://slula.org/icula2019/>

**Early Bird Registration  
(till 16 August 2019)**

ULA Member - SLR 5000/-  
Non ULA Member - SLR 6000/-  
LIS Students - SLR 4000/-  
SAARC Countries - US\$ 75  
Non SAARC Countries - US\$ 100

**Late Registration  
(from 17 August 2019)**

ULA Member - SLR 5500/-  
Non ULA Member - SLR 6500/-  
LIS Students - SLR 4500/-  
SAARC Countries - US\$ 85  
Non SAARC Countries - US\$ 110

**Bring your Teams to the Conference - (Minimum 05 per Team) - 10% Off**

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Contact :  
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# 10th International Research Conference

**Registration is now open. Hurry Up...**

**Join us to hear  
from diverse researchers  
in the field of  
Library and Information Science**

**Chief Guest**



HER EXCELLENCY ROBINA P. MARKS  
South African High Commissioner,  
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