



NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka

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EXCLUSIVE



The 2nd meeting of the **Executive Committee of ULA 2019/2020**, was held on 1st November, 2019 at the Board Room of the University of Visual & Performing Arts, Colombo 05. Dr. G.R. Padmasiri, the newly appointed President of the ULA chaired the meeting and assured to give the fullest support to ULA members to enhance their quality of services.

<http://www.slula.org> is the official website of ULA. The ULA members can obtain more information about ULA activities over the above website such as ICULA conference details, ULA house members' information, downloading ULA membership forms, Newsletters & JULA articles etc.



3rd International Conference on Library and Information Management (ICLIM 2019), organized by the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka was held on 26th & 27th at the University of Kelaniya Sri Lanka. Many of ULA members presented their scholarly works & some of ULA members contributed as session chairs & rapporteurs during the ICLIM 2019.

Article Index of University of Ruhuna

Research publications are playing a vital role in the academic field. Research publications are used to evaluate the researcher, publisher or institute during ranking, promotion and awarding grants. For that reason, just publishing a research is not enough for survival in this competitive environment. Hence, researchers, publishers and research institutes are using several platforms to enhance the visibility of research publications. Prior to the internet era, printed materials were the most popular mode used to share bibliographic information of scholarly publications. However, with the development of the Internet and Information and Communication Technology, individuals started using online platforms to search and research publications. Some of these platforms are as follows; Google Scholar, Research Gate, Academia.edu and LinkedIn.

As a result of the expansion of the services, the Library of University of Ruhuna started an online article index named “Article Index of University of Ruhuna (AIURu)” (URL- <http://aiuru.lib.ruh.ac.lk/>) to enhance the visibility of the research publications of staff members of the university. The Koha, free and open-source software was used to create this. The article index will collect, store, index and disseminate bibliographic information over the internet. Additionally, this indexing system synchronizes with the Google search.

The purpose of this Article Index is to provide easy access to the bibliographic information of abstracts and articles published by the university staff in scholarly journals and conference proceedings. This index also provides accurate access to all the information available in the journals and proceedings published by University of Ruhuna. By publishing, bibliographic information in this index authors will be able to expand the visibility of their scholarly publications.

Staff members of the University of Ruhuna can continuously provide bibliographic information of their research publications. Users can acquire the following information regarding entry in the article index; the title of the article, author/s, source name, material type and location where they have access to the publication. Furthermore, the article index facilitates to create search queries using article title, author, subject, source title and ISSN.

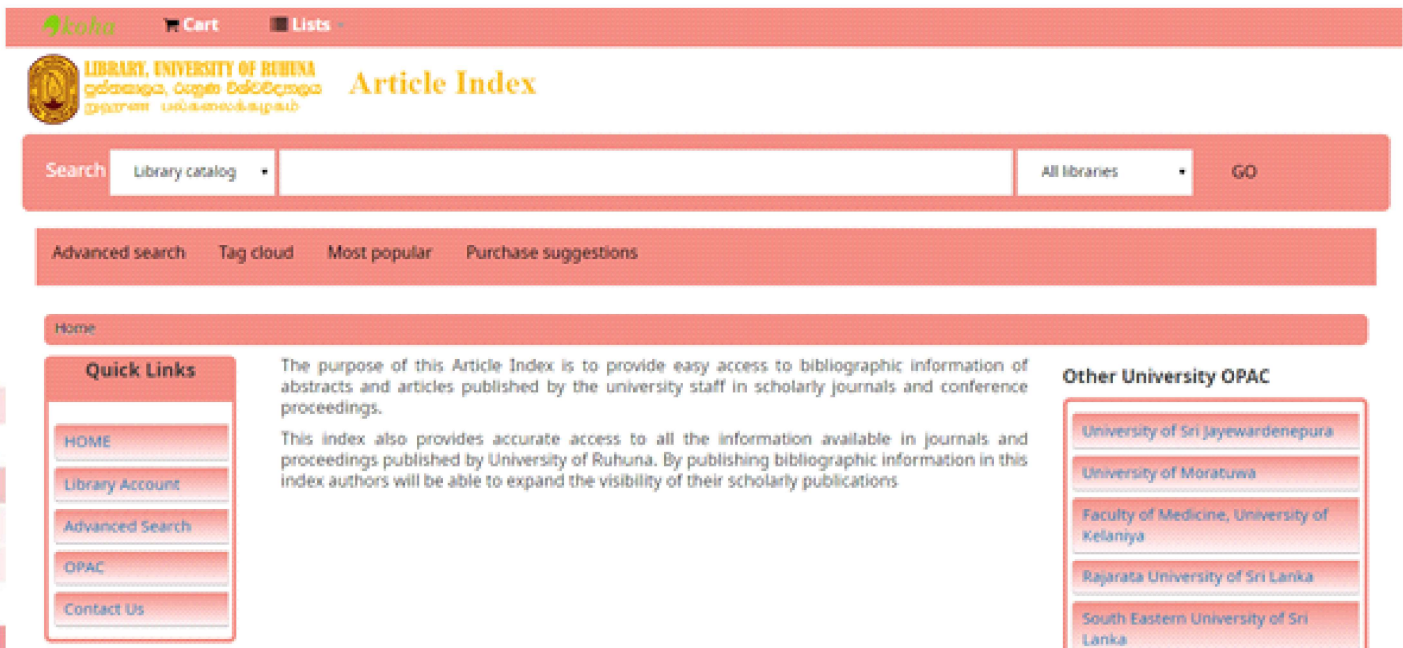
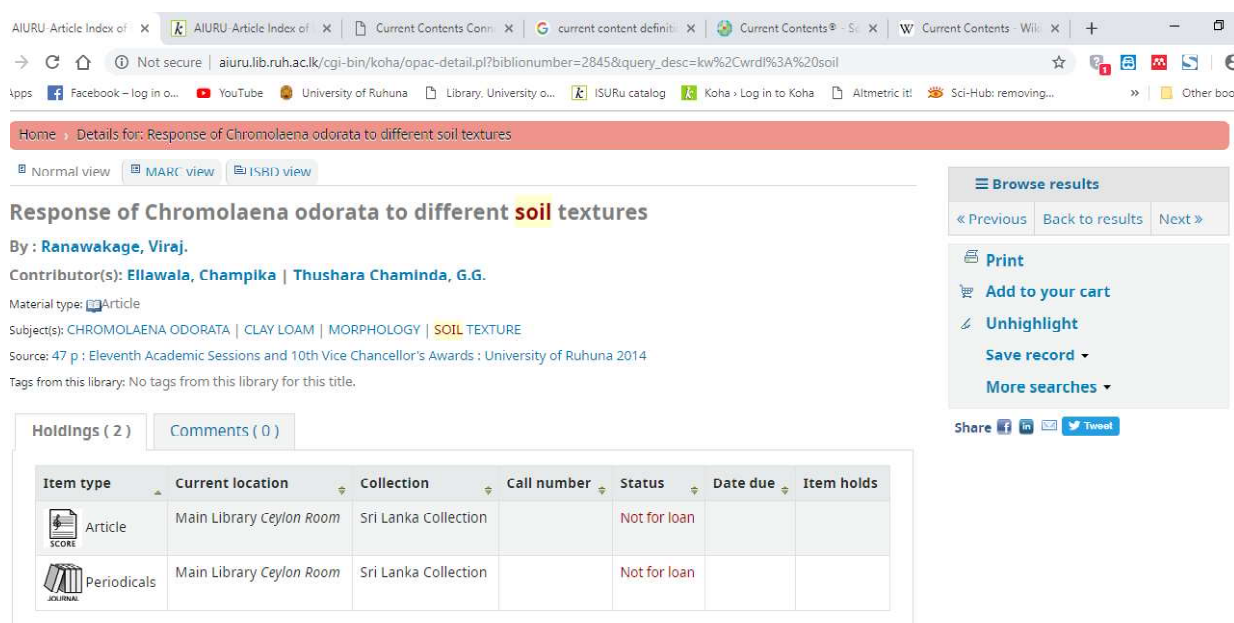


Figure 1: Interface of the Article Index of University of Ruhuna

Advantages of Online Article Index

1. To generate annual reports regarding scholarly publications of the staff of the university.
2. To evaluate the applicants for university research grants.
3. To track and generate their publication lists for promotion and application purposes.
4. Article index can automatically synchronize with the Google Scholar, which will impact on the scholar profiles to enhance the citation indexes of respective authors.
5. To link with the web-based profiles of researchers on personal and professional websites.
6. To provide individual access to the bibliographic information of articles in university publications & popular publications among library users (eg: Economic Review and Arthika Vimasuma magazines).
7. Users have access to the bibliographic information of scholarly publications published by university staff in external sources. Consequently, users can contact the authors and request the required articles.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the AIURU Article Index. The page title is "Response of Chromolaena odorata to different soil textures". The author is listed as "By : Ranawakage, Viraj." and the contributor(s) as "Eliawala, Champika | Thushara Chaminda, G.G.". The material type is "Article". The subject(s) are "CHROMOLAENA ODORATA | CLAY LOAM | MORPHOLOGY | SOIL TEXTURE". The source is "47 p : Eleventh Academic Sessions and 10th Vice Chancellor's Awards : University of Ruhuna 2014". There are two holdings listed in a table below:

Item type	Current location	Collection	Call number	Status	Date due	Item holds
Article	Main Library Ceylon Room	Sri Lanka Collection		Not for loan		
Periodicals	Main Library Ceylon Room	Sri Lanka Collection		Not for loan		

Figure 2: A sample entry in the article index

Future Improvements

1. Upon the request of the individual authors, library can also deposit abstracts or full papers of research publications in the Institutional Repository of the Library (URL - <http://ir.lib.ruh.ac.lk/>). This will enhance the accessibility of research publications.
2. In the future, the article index can develop to direct users to the profiles of individual authors. Accordingly, users can contact the researchers using information available in their profiles.

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SPECIAL EVENTS IN FOCUS

Workshops on “MENDELEY Reference Management System” & “Features of PUBMED”



The Library of the Faculty of Dental Sciences of University of Peradeniya in collaboration with the Faculty Research Committee organized a couple of Workshops on “Mendeley: Free Reference Management System” & “Features of PUBMED: effective use of it in searching for research article” for the academic staff members and postgraduate trainees of the Faculties of Dental Sciences and Medicine. The sessions were held on 03rd December, 2019 & 10th December, 2019 respectively and Mrs.Sriyani Perera, former Faculty Librarian of Medicine, University of Peradeniya served as the resource person in both sessions.



Workshops on “Develop the library usage and reading ability of school children”

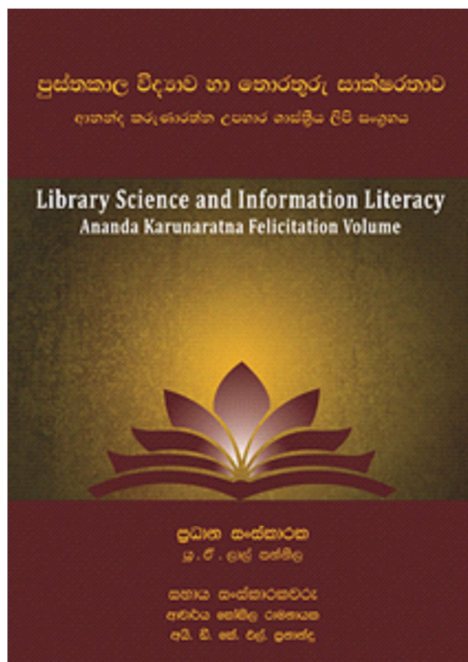
The Library, University of Ruhuna conducted a workshop at Sri Sumedha Maha Vidyalaya, Malimbada, Matara in October, 2019 on [develop the library usage and reading ability of school children](#)” under the “National Reading Month” programmes. Mr. U. A. Lal Pannila, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna served as the resource person.

User Awareness Programme for Schools in Matara District

The Library, University of Ruhuna, conducted several awareness programs on the “Importance of reading books” for the school children in Matara District. The programs were held in Deeyagaha primary school, Alhuda Muslim School and Dampella Maha Vidyalaya. Mrs. Sakunthala Senevirathna, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna served as the resource person.



Launched the Ananda Karunaratne Felicitation Volume



The Felicitation Volume of Ananda Karunaratne was launched at the Ruhuna University by the Senior Professor Sujeewa Amarasena, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ruhuna on 02nd October 2019. This volume was launched in appreciating the services rendered by Mr. Ananda Karunaratne, former Librarian of the University of Ruhuna.

Senior Professor W.K.M.M.K. Weerasinghe, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya and Senior Professor P. Hewage, Department of Geography, University of Ruhuna delivered the guest speeches.



User Awareness Programme for Schools in Matara District

The library of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka conducted an one-day workshop for the teacher librarians of Zonal Education, Kuliypitiya on 25th of October 2019 at the auditorium of zonal education office. Mr. K. G.I. Jayawardana, Senior Assistant Librarian & Mr A.P.M.M.D.B. Dayananda, Assistant Librarian served as the resource persons.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

PhD in Informatics

Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundara, Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo completed her PhD in Informatics at the Graduate School of Library, Information & Media Studies, University of Tsukuba, Japan. on the 25th September 2019. Her thesis topic was “A Study on Organizing Heterogeneous Cultural Heritage Information in Networked Information Environments.



NEW APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Acting Librarian of University of Ruhuna

Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna has been appointed as the Acting Librarian after the retirement of Mr. Ananda Karunaratne. He assumed duties in the post with effect from 22nd October 2019.



Promoted as Senior Assistant Librarian

Mrs. Sureni Weerasinghe, Assistant Librarian of Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of University of Peradeniya was promoted to the post of Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II with effect from 19th June 2019.

Consultant Committee appointments



Mr. U. A. Lal Pannila, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Ruhuna has appointed as a member of the Consultant Committee in Kumarathunga Munidasa Public Library of Matara Municipal Council for the year 2020.

Resignation from the library service - Dr. Kokila Harshana Ramanayaka

Dr. Kokila Harshana Ramanayaka, who was attached to the Library of University of Ruhuna resigned from the post of Senior Assistant Librarian. He assumed duties as a Senior Lecturer in the IT Unit, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna with effect from 01st November 2019. He was one of the remarkable staff members of Library staff and was working in the Main Library.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

Research Awards of University of Sri Jayewardenepura



Dr. (Mrs.) N.D. Wijayasundara (Librarian), Mrs C.S. Ranasinghe (Deputy Librarian), Dr. (Mrs.) G.D.M.N. Samaradiwakara, Mrs. P.G.R. Samaravickrama, Mr. A.M.S. Angamma (Senior Assistant Librarians), Mrs. H.D.M. Nishanthi, Ms. J.G. Chandani, Mr. H.U.C.S. Kumara, Mrs. U.P.N.N. Pathirana, Ms. D.M.S.K. Herath and Mr. A.J.P. Samarawickrama (Assistant Librarians) of University of Sri Jayewardenepura received the research awards at the Annual Research Award Ceremony held on 13th November, 2019.



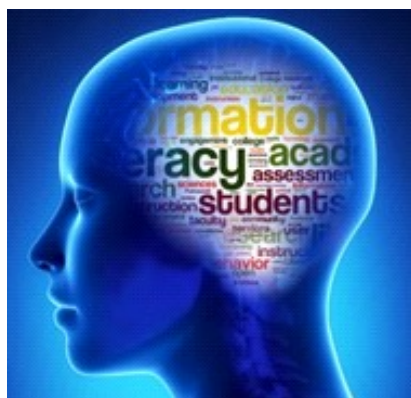
Awards Ceremony of University of Sri Jayewardenepura 2019

Annual Research Awards Ceremony of University of Sri Jayewardenepura 2019
www.sjp.ac.lk

Awards Ceremony of University of Sri Jayewardenepura 2018

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ACADEMIC COURSES

Information Literacy teaching



Senate of the University of Ruhuna has approved to conduct the “Information Literacy and Scientific Communication Skills” course module for undergraduate students of all faculties of the University of Ruhuna. This module aims to equip undergraduates with the fundamentals of information literacy and scientific communication.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS



The article on “Technology acceptance model and social network sites (SNS): a selected review of literature” by Mrs.Suren Weerasinghe and Dr.(Mrs).Menaka Hindagolla, published in the journals of ‘*Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication*’ was awarded the ‘Emerald Literati Awards’ as Highly Commended Paper in 2019. Mrs.Suren Weerasinghe is currently serving as the Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, while Dr. (Mrs). Menaka Hindagolla serves as the Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya.



- Call for Papers -

Journal of the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (JULA), Vol 23, Issue II

Article Submission Deadline : On or before 30th April 2020

For more details : <http://www.slula.org/>

RETIREMENTS

Retirement from the Librarian post: Mr. Ananda Karunaratne



Mr. Ananda Karunaratne, Librarian, University of Ruhuna retired from the post with effect from 30th September 2019. Mr. Karunaratne joined UOR on January 15th, 1990 as a Sub-Warden. He was appointed to the post of Assistant Librarian on June 15th, 1991, Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II on September 01st, 1996 and Senior Assistant Librarian Grade I on September 01st, 2002. He worked as the Acting Librarian for about seven years from 2002 and appointed to the post of Librarian on 2nd November 2009 and served as the Librarian, UOR until his

retirement on 30th September 2019.

During his career at the Library, he actively contributed to the establishment and initiation of several developments of the library such as the establishment of Museum, Multimedia Center, Auditorium, new reading rooms, Rohana Collection in the Ceylon Room and Legal Deposit Collection in the Library. He also contributed to the expansion of the Internet and E-mail service to all library staff and he initiated the launching of the Library website. He served as a member of various committees within the university and provided the good leadership to develop the main library and faculty libraries. He coordinated several publications such as The Journal of the University of Ruhuna (online), Rohana Research Journal and History of University of Ruhuna. He has given an immense service to lift the library to a higher level of recognition.

Retirement from the Senior Assistant Librarian post: Mrs. Sriyani Perera



Mrs. Sriyani Hemalatha Perera, Medical Librarian of University of Peradeniya, retired from University service from 1st October 2019 after successfully completing 33 years of long dedicated service. Mrs. Sriyani Perera joined the University of Peradeniya in June 1986, served first in the Science Library and then as the Senior Assistant Librarian in the Medical Library, since November 1993 until her retirement in October 2019.

She was Qualified with B.Sc. (Honours, 1978) and earned an MPhil. in Chemistry in 1983 from the University of Peradeniya. She obtained M.A. in Library and Information

Studies awarded by the University of London and a Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies awarded by the University College London, UK (1990/91). She had

her professional training at the Science Reference Information Centre of the British National Library, London and in the Library of Imperial College of Science, Engineering, Technology and Medicine, London in 1991. She received professional trainings on DSpace for Digital Library in Webinfo Networks and MICA, Ahmadabad, India (2010), on Systematic reviews at the Health Sciences Library System, University of Pittsburgh Medical School, Pittsburgh, USA (2015). She served as a WHO (World Health Organization) Fellow at Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand (1997) and at Developing Library Networks (DELNET), New Delhi, India (2003). During her sabbatical years, she served as a Visiting Librarian at School of Medicine, Health Sciences Library System, University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University, Library, USA in 2015 ; in the Carnegie Mellon University Library, USA in 2016, and at the Universiti Brunei Darussalam Library , Brunei Darussalam in 2016/17. She is an Associate of the Sri Lanka Library Association.

During her long tenure as a Medical Librarian, she has played different roles in the University Library; as a manager, an academic, a researcher and a professional, while holding responsibilities in various capacities. Worked as in-charge of libraries of all four faculties; Medical, Dental Sciences, Allied Health Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, including establishing the latter three. Being a gifted teacher, she was able to involve in teaching in the information literacy programs of undergraduates/postgraduate of these faculties. She initiated and conducted the Information Literacy Skills Course during the Communication, Learning and Research (CLR) Module of the MBBS program of the Faculty of Medicine which she does with great commitment and passion. She has conducted many Workshops on three different topics; “Conducting Systematic Reviews” and “Features and use of PUBMED”, for the Academic staff and postgraduates of all Health Related Faculties and on “Basics of Mendeley for the Academic Community of the University”. She has been serving as a resource person in many forums including, Health Information workshops in Teaching Hospital Peradeniya, General Hospital Kandy and Library Seminar Series in the Faculty of Arts of university of Peradeniya. As a researcher she has authored 23 articles published in peer reviewed journals. We, at the Library of University of Peradeniya, wish her a happy and healthy retired life.



Call for News - ULA Newsletter, Volume 14, Issue 02
(2020 Jan - Mar Issue)

Deadline of submission for news and Feature articles
31st of March, 2020.

Please submit your news items through ULA representative of
your university library or directly to slulaeditor@gmail.com

TRAINING PROGRAMS



A Clinical Key Training Programme for the Trainers and Trainees

Library of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) organized a one day Training Programme on “**Clinical Key database**” for the Trainers and Trainees of the PGIM on 5th December 2019 at the PGIM Auditorium of Academic Centre.

Mr. Durga Ranganath, Customer Engagement Manager from Elsevier, India and Mrs. M.P.P. Dilhani, Senior Assistant Librarian, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine served as resource persons.



Awareness & Training Programme for the Academic Staff



The Library, Faculty of Agriculture, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka organized a awareness session for the Academic staff of the Agriculture Faculty on 04.12.2019 at the Board room of the Agriculture Faculty. The aim of the session was update the knowledge on recent advances in the Library online system. The session was conducted by Mrs. W.P.T. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Agriculture Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

PRESENTATION AT NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Mr. A.J.P. Samarawickrama, Assistant Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura presented a research paper on “**Multi-Step-Ahead Prediction of Exchange Rates Using Artificial Neural Networks: A Study on Selected Sri Lankan Foreign Exchange Rates**” in the 2019 IEEE 14th Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS) at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya on 19th December 2019.





Mr. Saman Girakaduwa, Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Visual and Performing Arts presented a research paper titled **“Periodical Usage of the Library Users in University of the Visual and Performing Arts (UVPA)”** at the 3rd National Library Research Symposium on “Library, Information & Documentation in a Context of Transformation” organized by National Library and Documentation Services Board, held on 31st October 2019.



Dr. SK Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Technology Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka presented a research paper titled **“Current Status of the Security at the Public Libraries in North Central Province of Sri Lanka : A case study”** at the 3rd National Library Research Symposium on “Library, Information & Documentation in a Context of Transformation” organized by National Library and Documentation Services Board, held on 31st October 2019.

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