## Content

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**FEATURE ARTICLE - 01**

## Fostering BYOD in Academic Libraries: an Innovative Solution to Overcome the Economic Crisis

BYOD, or 'Bring Your Own Device', is a policy that allows employees or students to use their personal devices for work or educational purposes instead of using company or college-provided devices. These devices include laptops, tabs, smartphones, etc. The term was first introduced by 'Intel' in 2009 and has since gained popularity in many workplaces and educational institutions including universities. BYOD policies have become increasingly popular in university libraries in recent years, as more students and faculty are using personal devices for learning and research. These policies offer several benefits to academic libraries, including increased access to resources, flexibility, and convenience for users. Many studies have found that BYOD policies tend to increase user satisfaction and engagement, as users are able to use their own familiar devices to access library resources. Additionally, BYOD policies can reduce the burden on library IT staff, as users are responsible for maintaining their own devices and resolving any issues.
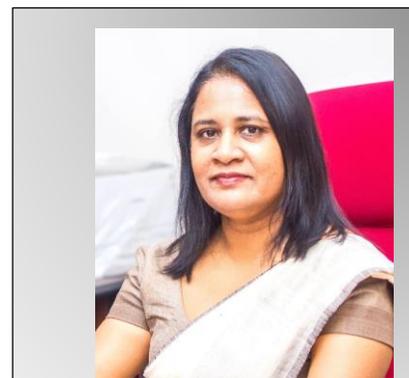
Sajeewanie D. Somaratna
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### Requirements for BYOD practices

Academic libraries must set clear guidelines and processes for users, including acceptable user regulations and instructions for safeguarding personal devices, in order to properly implement a BYOD policy. Creating BYOD policies and guidelines is crucial to ensuring that all academics and students understand the regulations and obligations that are involved with utilizing personal devices for research or education. Furthermore, libraries should invest in strong security measures such as firewalls and antivirus software, as well as provide

users with training and advice on how to secure their devices. With the BYOD concept, device compatibility is critical, and library patrons should be able to utilize their own devices within the existing infrastructure and software.

When considering security aspects, the BYOD program should also have robust security measures in place to secure sensitive data and information. Strong authentication and encryption mechanisms, remote wipe functionality, and the ability to monitor and manage devices should all be included. Staff should also be able to monitor personal devices to verify compliance with security standards, software updates, and other needs. BYOD programs in academic libraries should be tailored to protect the privacy and confidentiality of its customers. The policies should explicitly define the existing privacy safeguards and the implications of any inadequacies.

Implementing a BYOD strategy may incur additional costs, such as the requirement for additional security measures and support services. Therefore, to ensure the sustainability of the program, the organization or institution should carefully analyze the expenditures involved and prepare a budget. Providing Wi-Fi and charging facilities, and designing learning spaces that suit the BYOD concept should be a priority when fostering BYOD through academic libraries. Additionally, the BYOD policy should include user support for researchers or students, such as training on security best practices troubleshooting assistance, and tools for addressing technological concerns.

## Practicing BYOD policies at academic libraries in Sri Lanka

Most university libraries in Sri Lanka are currently implementing BYOD policies to varied degrees, and this is a timely endeavour to solve the current financial constraints encountered by university libraries. Librarians are actively involved in remodeling the learning spaces in the current library set up to adopt the BYOD regulations, but they do not want to bear the cost of providing and maintaining computers and other devices for their users. The 'Information & Learning Centre' (Science Library) of the Faculty of Science at the University of Colombo is one of the success stories for implementing BYOD policies in the Sri Lankan context. The majority of the students of the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo bring their own devices (laptops/tabs, etc.) for study purposes and the learning spaces of the library are specifically designed to encourage BYOD policies and practices.

*Practicing BYOD policies at the Information & Learning Centre, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo*

## Challenges when practicing BYOD policies

Despite the benefits, BYOD policies can also impose several challenges for academic libraries. One of the main challenges is security, as personal devices may not have the same level of security as library-owned devices, and users may not be aware of best practices for securing their devices. Hence, libraries must implement robust security measures to ensure that sensitive data is protected, including strong authentication and encryption protocols. Another challenge of BYOD policies is compatibility, as different devices may have different operating systems and software, making it difficult for libraries to manage it ensuring an uninterrupted user experience. Therefore, it recommends that libraries offer a variety of options for accessing resources, including web-based interfaces and mobile apps, to accommodate a range of devices.

In conclusion, libraries must be prepared to adapt to changing technology and user needs. Further, implementing a successful BYOD program requires clear policies, device compatibility, robust security measures, device management, user support, privacy and confidentiality protections, and cost considerations. Careful planning and implementation can ensure the success and security of the program while providing library users with the flexibility and convenience of using their own devices. Finally, this novel notion may shed light on the long-term sustainability of academic libraries during the current economic crisis.

**References:**

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## Obedient Research Assistant with [Unintentional] Academic Dishonesty? My Experience with ChatGPT-4

Dr. Ruwan Gamage,
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Sri Lanka.

### Introduction

It is indeed correct to say that only by working together for some time can one truly identify the character of another. Collaborating and interacting over an extended period allows both parties to gain insights into each other's strengths, weaknesses, and working styles. This deeper understanding not only fosters stronger working relationships but also enhances the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the collaboration. It is true in any close relationship, and I also realized that it is correct regarding work assistants. Investing time in working together is essential for uncovering the nuances of an assistant's character, leading to a more productive and harmonious partnership. This is the story of my journey through identifying the character of ChatGPT; a natural language processing tool driven by AI technology that allows you to have human-like conversations and much more with the chatbot (Ortiz, 2023). OpenAI developed ChatGPT based on the GPT architecture (*ChatGPT*, n.d.). Chat GPT-3.5 was released in November 2022. It is accessible as a free preview via https://chat.openai.com. A more recent version, GPT-4, is accessible upon subscription.

### Areas in which ChatGPT Excelled

I started my relationship with ChatGPT in February 2023. Since then, I have used the tool daily while conducting various experiments relevant to my career as a researcher, teacher, and librarian. It's a wonderful

tool! I could write, summarize, and write code for fulfilling daily errands. It categorized word lists, wrote formal letters, and created tables from unorganized data like a pro. I could even use it for various tasks in teaching – creating lesson plans, preparing bulleted lists for presentations, and even building test questions. This included work in narrowly specialized subject domains such as the subjects I taught for the semester; Records Management, Principles of Archives, and Digital Libraries. I was happy to have my 'learned' assistant beside me.

**Areas Exhibiting Weak Performance**

The performance of ChatGPT in responding to my prompts (the commands or instructions given to the chatbot for generating output) was not always excellent. I asked it to provide authors of three famous works as a test. It gave two names correct. The third book was a Sri Lankan novel, *Beddegama* (translated as Village in the Jungle). It stated that the author of the novel is Martin Wickramasinghe. Wickramasinghe is a renowned author who has written his autobiography titled *Ape Gama* (literally translated to English as 'my village'). But *Beddegama* was written by Leonard Woolf. It is unsure how it confused *Ape Gama* to *Beddegama*.

In another instance, while doubting its capability, I asked ChatGPT to assign a DDC class number to a romantic novel translated from Russian to Sinhala. It assigned a class number with clear instructions and an explanation of how the DDC should be used in this instance. However, an expert on classification later evaluated the skills as 'novice.' When the same prompt was given to ChatGPT 4, it generated a much more advanced explanation but still lacked complete expertise in this area. However, the skill of this assistant in completing that specific complex task is encouraging. On a humorous note, let me mention that Librarians need not be alarmed by the news! Let all technical stuff be assigned to robots! Librarians have more important work to do. Of course, they can oversee the work of robots!!

In addition, I used ChatGPT to write a poem on a topic in a specialized academic domain. It sure did! Not one, it wrote a series of poems with the same rigor of a poet. But when I asked it to translate the poems into Sinhala, it showed poor skills. It is understandable since the tool has been trained mainly in English and only a few other languages. To be a Sinhala translator, it needs further training.

**A Serious Mistake!**

Now I have come to the most interesting observation in this journey. I am a regular researcher. So how did my assistant support that? Of course, as a writing pro, it helps me in various ways – especially as a proofreader. But once I tried to generate a literature review. That is where it failed to the maximum extent!. I asked Chat GPT to create an article with some conditions to limit its scope. The actual prompt is given below.

> *"Write an article on the use of ChatGPT by academic librarians. Focus on its uses for the developing world. Maintain academic integrity. Limit to 800 words. Provide references with in-text citations."*

It cheerfully generated a text with in-text citations and a reference list as an obedient servant in seconds. It didn't complain at all! It was nice looking, and I thought I had minimal work left. I even added an acknowledgement stating that the article was almost completely written by ChatGPT, including citations. But alas! The references were all false! Because of my experience of getting inaccurate responses generated by ChatGPT, I CHECKED THEM!

Searching for article titles on Google Scholar generated zero results, suggesting that these articles never existed. Was it a clever formation of ChatGPT, the same way it writes creative articles and poetry? To make sure, I reached all journal home pages of the articles cited and visited the stated volumes and issues. Confirming my suspicion, they didn't carry the articles by the stated authors or titles. To further ensure this phenomenon, I asked ChatGPT to generate a text on a specific subject with citations. It did that, too, with much enthusiasm. Again, all the references were false! It even generated Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) that looked real. These also were imaginative. One DOI worked, but that directed to a completely different article.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, ChatGPT demonstrates remarkable capabilities in various areas, such as engaging in casual conversations, providing general information, and offering creative suggestions. Its versatility and adaptability make it an invaluable tool for various applications. However, when it comes to scientific writing, ChatGPT executes with some limitations. It may not always provide the most accurate or up-to-date information, and its responses may lack the precision and clarity that is expected in scientific discourse. My recommendation is to warn the users that the citations could be false.

Despite these shortcomings, ChatGPT remains an impressive language model with immense potential. As the field of artificial intelligence continues to advance, it is anticipated that future iterations of ChatGPT will address these limitations (Bloomberg, 2023) and further expand its capabilities, making it an even more robust and reliable tool for users across diverse domains.

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*Achievements*



Mr. Nimal Hettiarachchi has been appointed as the new Librarian of the University of Ruhuna, effective from 26th January 2023.

Dr. (Mrs.) T. Sritharan, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Main Library, University of Colombo successfully completed her Doctor of Philosophy in Library and information Science at Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo. She was awaeded the degree on 2nd of March 2023.



Mrs. Sakeena Alikhan and Mrs. Shabnam Johoran, Assistant Librarians of the Main Library, University of Colombo successfully completed their MLIS Degree at the National Institute of Library and Information Science (NILIS), University of Colombo and promoted to the Senior Assistant Librarian, Grade II. The degree was awarded them at the convocation held on 1st March 2023.



Mr. Chinthaka Senanayake, Assistant Librarian, Main Library, University of Colombo successfully completed his Masters in Information Systems Management (MISM) with a merit pass at the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo. He was awarded the degree at the convocation held on 1st March 2023.

## Promotions



Dr. Neluka Karanangoda, of the Main Library University of Colombo has been promoted as Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. 11.



Mrs. M. P. L. R. Marasinghe, SAL (Grade II), University of Kelaniya, was promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I).



Mrs. A. P. U. De Silva, SAL (Grade II), University of Kelaniya, was promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I).

## ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION



Dr Nayani Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa served as the Session Co-Chair for the technical session on "Information Technology" of the 5th Annual International Research Symposium of the International College of Business and Technology - Colombo 'AIRS'22' which was held on 16th February 2023.

*__Book donation, counselling session conducted by SUSL for Kularathna Ophanage at Godakawela__*

Mrs. Neighsoorei Jayah, the librarian organized a counselling session at the Kularathna Ophanage at Godakawela on 12th March, with the support of the medical officers of Balangoda base hospital. Further, the librarian donated a set of valuable books for the children to enhance their reading habits.

## Seminars/workshops/ lectures conducted

### *Workshop for Library Information Assistants on Advanced MS-Word*

Library, University of Colombo conducted a workshop on" Application of Advanced MS Word" for Library Information Assistants on 18th and 25th January 2023 at the Smart Classroom of the Library, University of Colombo. Dr. Neluka Karannagoda, Senior Assistant Librarian, Main Library served as the resource person of the session. 37 participants of the University of Colombo Library attended the event.



### *Training on Basic IT skills for Library attendants and Work Aids*

The Library, University of Colombo conducted a training session on "Basic IT Skills for Library Attendants and Work Aides" on 17th and 20th March 2023. The objective of this training was to train the library staff to handle the routine IT issues at the Library. Ms. Gayani Perera, Senior Assistant Librarian, Dr. Neluka Karannagoda, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Mr. Gayan Ariyawansha, Technical Officer contributed as resource persons in this session.

## *Research Lounge -University of Moratuwa*

- The 08th, 09th, and 10th Research Lounges organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Moratuwa   in collaboration with the Library of the university, were held on the 17th January, 28th February, and 2nd March 2023 at the Board room of the Faculty of Graduate Studies in hybrid mode. Dean/FGS Prof. Ajith De Alwis headed and guided the Research Lounge Team. Dr. Nayani Gunawardhana, Library, University of Moratuwa, was the moderator of the Research Lounges.

- The 08th Research Lounge was conducted by Prof. Jagath Munasinghe and Dr. Chethika Abenayake of the Department of Town & Country Planning, University of Moratuwa under the **theme 'Making our Research More Interesting, Innovative and Impactful'.**

- The 09th Research Lounge was conducted by Prof. Mahesh Jayaweera, Research Publication Mentor in Residence, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Moratuwa and Ms. Gayathri De Silva, Research Engineer, Food Technically Section, Industrial Technology Institute under the **theme 'Use of ChatGPT for journal paper preparation: hope or hype'.**



### Why ChatGPT is good at journal paper writing

- ChatGPT is not specifically trained for *journal paper writing*, but it can still generate text that is relevant to a given prompt based on its training data.
- Its ability to understand and generate text, combined with its vast knowledge of various topics and its ability to use that knowledge to generate coherent responses, makes it capable of *assisting with various writing tasks*, including journal paper writing, to some extent.
- However, the quality of its output will depend on the specific prompt and the training data it was exposed to, and the final output still requires editing and revision by a human expert in the field.

- The 10th Research Lounge was conducted by Prof Stefan Seuring, Ms.Jayani Sudusinghe, Mr.Biman Hettiarachchi of the University of Kassel, Germany under the **theme 'Performing impactful research: A comprehensive guide to conducting** Systematic Literature Review.
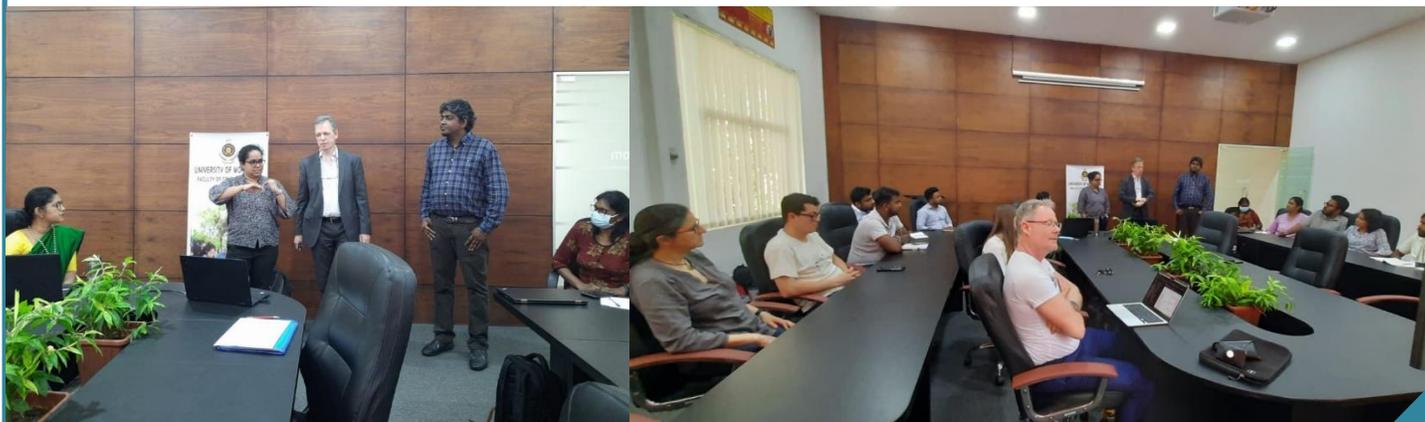
- The undergraduate students of level 3, Landscape Architecture attached to the Department of Architecture, University of Moratuwa attended three online sessions conducted by the library on 27th & 28th February 2023. The lecture on "Information search for research" was conducted by Senior Assistant Librarian, Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku and "Introduction to Plagiarism" and "Referencing with APA Style" was conducted by Senior Assistant Librarian, Mr. Nishan Punchihewa.

- The final year students of Bachelor of Information Technology(BIT) attended three online lectures from 21st to 23rd March 2023 conducted by Senior Assistant Librarians at the University of Moratuwa. The lecture on "Finding information for the research project" was conducted by Mrs. Upeksha Kodithuwakku and Mr. Nishan Punchihewa delivered the lectures on" Plagiarism and Referencing".

- Dr Nayani Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian conducted a lecture on "Information sources for research" for the undergraduate students (Level 3) of the Department of Architecture , University of Moratuwa on 22nd March 2023.

- A lecture on "Useful information resources for research" was conducted by Upeksha Kodithuwakku, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa on 25th March 2023 for the MSc students in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering within CS5901 research seminar module. Through the online session, the students were able to identify relevant resources available for them through the library.

## *Information Literacy Programmes*

- Scholars from the KDU library deliver lectures on some of the subjects covered in the research methodology modules of the faculties. These topics include introductions to information sources, conducting an efficient literature search, understanding references, referring and referencing tools, and avoiding plagiarism. Mrs. TC Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Main Library, delivered these lectures to the Civil, Mechanical, and Mechanical Engineering students of the Faculty of Engineering, on January 2nd and 5th, 2023. At the same time, on March 20th and 31st, she covered these topics for the police science students of the faculty of criminal justice as well. Furthermore, these lectures were covered by Senior Assistant Librarian Mrs M. P. Rajapaksa on February 7th and 14th, 2023, for the students of Social Sciences and Management of the Faculty of Management, Sociology, and Humanities.

## *Awareness Seminar for the Library Officers of the KDU Affiliated Colleges*

The Library of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) conducted an awareness seminar for the KDU-affiliated colleges on "Utilization of Information Resources and Services of the KDU Library" on 10th February 2023. Library officers from all affiliated institutions attended this full-day seminar. Prof. KAS Dhammika, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), attended the inaugural session, Dr Wathmanel

Senevirathna, the librarian, Mrs TC Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian (Main Library), Mrs MP Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine, and Mrs UDH Kanchana, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, were the resource persons.



# QUALITY ASSURANCE STEPS CARRIED OUT AT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

## *Quality Assurance Cells at the Library, University of Colombo*

The Library Quality Assurance Cell (LibQAC) at the University of Colombo was restructured by introducing five domains to improve the quality aspects of the Library. These domains are: Academic Integrity, User Services and Feedback, Training & Skill Development, Non-Academic Staff Development, and QA Activities. Each domain is coordinated by one of the senior assistant librarians of the library. The Acting Librarian, Mrs. Sajeewanie Somaratna, chairs the LibQAC.

## STUDENTS SUPPORT SERVICES

### *Research Support Service for Undergraduates*

A new user service "Research Support for Undergraduates" was commenced on 27th February 2023.



## ANY OTHER NEWS

### *Opening of the Library Studio at the Science Library, University of Colombo*

The Library Studio at the Science Library of the University of Colombo was newly opened in January 2023 for the benefit of Science Faculty community.. This facility is equipped with a hi-tech video conferencing system. The venue is frequently used for viva voce exams of undergraduates and postgraduates of the faculty and other related activities, especially when working with resource persons from foreign countries. This facility was developed using the AHEAD grant received by the Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.



Library Studio, Science Library, University of Colombo

## One Book to the Library

The library of the Faculty of Technology, University of Colombo was started with a couple of hundred books when the faculty was initiated in 2017. The faculty did not have a permanent building until 2020 and the faculty library was struggling to build its collection amidts the country's economic crisis. In this context, Mr. T. Ramanan, the faculty librarian took an initiative to collect books from faculty members from January 2023. Under the initiative **'One Book to the Library'** the faculty library managed to build a collection of considerable number of valuable titles of textbooks and periodicals . The collection consists of an ample number of leisure reading materials for students' use, including novels and language-improving stuff. The faculty library will continue with this project to further develop the collection.
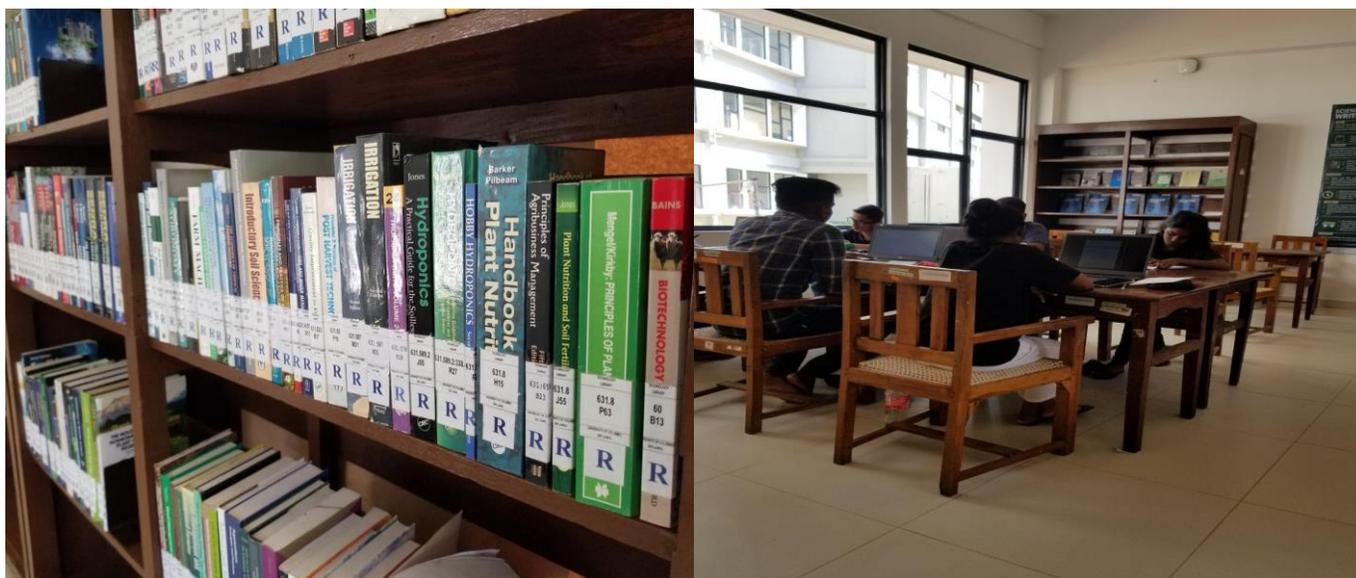


## A new branch library for University of Colombo: Library of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine

The Institute of Indigenous Medicine became the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine (FIM), University of Colombo, effective from March 1st, 2023, as per the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2319/22 dated February 13th, 2023. The Faculty of Indigenous Medicine is the premier higher educational institute in Sri Lanka that provides instructions in Ayurveda, Unani, and Indigenous systems of medicine at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. With the establishment of the library of this faculty the number of branch libraries of the University of Colombo has increased to six. Dr. Kumari Gamage and Mrs. P. M. Ayomi serve as Senior Assistant Librarians in the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine.

## *Braille day Celebration at the University of Kelaniya*



The University of Kelaniya library celebrated World Braille Day on the 11th of January 2023, by organizing exhibition The exhibition was open to the university community and showcased the history and importance of Braille and its latest advances in assistive technology for visually impaired personnel.

The exhibits included interactive displays, Braille books, other materials, and demonstrations on assistive technologies such as Braille printers, embossers, and systems introduced by the library. Visually-impaired students of the university also made a hands-on session on using Braille. The interactive media librarian demonstrated the Braille collection system, audiobook project, and other facilities available in the library for visually impaired students. The exhibition was organized to raise awareness about the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals and promote the inclusion of Braille in all forms of communication.

Senior Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, graced the occasion as the chief guest, Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Mr. K. K. K. Dharmathilaka, Registrar, Mr. Ashoka Weerawardhane, Chairman of the DAISY Lanka Foundation, Ms. Manique Gunaratne, Manager of the Specialized training and disability resource center, Dr. Shyamani Hettiarachchi, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Disability Studies, Ms. Vasantha Padmini, Writer and members of the academic and non-academic staff members and undergraduates participated in this event.

## An Information Lounge newly opened for Emeritus Professors at the University of Kelaniya

The Library, University of Kelaniya proudly inaugurated the "Information Lounge for Emeritus Professors" on the 11th of January 2023.

The lounge, is a dedicated space for the esteemed Emeritus Professors of the university to access the latest research and information resources. This new facility will provide Emeritus Professors with a comfortable and well-equipped space to continue their research, teaching, and learning and connect with the university community. This unique initiative will enable the utilization of the vital role of our emeritus professors in shaping the teaching and learning function at the University of Kelaniya more effectively.

## *Opening of the Library Bookshop*

The Main Library of the University of Kelaniya recently established a bookshop within the library premises that displays and sells books and other publications written by the academic staff members (including the retired academics) of the University.

The Bookshop was ceremonially opened by Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, Vice-Chancellor of the University on the 11th of January 2023.

This bookshop is a unique feature as this is the very first bookshop to be established in a university library in Sri Lanka. It will serve as a showcase of the research and publication output of the university. The profit generated by selling publications will be utilized to further enhance library services.

Communication and Media Unit, University of Kelaniya.
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***The opening ceremony of the Library Museum , Poetry Library , Vice Chancellors' Collection and the Art Gallery of the University of Kelaniya***

The opening ceremony of the Library Museum, Poetry Library, Vice Chancellors' Collection and the Art Gallery of the University of Kelaniya in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the university was held on the 30th of March 2023 at the Main Library premises of the university.

A classical book entitled "kælaṇi sarasavi punarāvalōkanaya: History of the University of Kelaniya" compiled by a group of academic staff members of the Library was also launched on the same day. Furthermore, The Poetry Library and Vice Chancellors' Collection were established coinciding with its 60th anniversary of the university.

The Library Museum is considered the first museum to reflect the history of a higher education institution in Sri Lanka. Considering all the remarkable contributions of the Vidyalanka Movement to the development of the current University of Kelaniya, the museum has been named "Most Venerable reverend Natthandiye Pragnakara Nahimi Memorial Museum".



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The ceremony took place under the patronage of Most Venerable Anamaduwe Dhammadassi Thero, Anunayake of Shyamopali Wanshika Maha Nikaya of the Asgiri Chapter, Venerable Senior Professor Neluwe Sumanawansa Nayaka Thero – the Vice-Chancellor of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, Venerable Welamitiyawe Gnarathana Thero – the Incumbent of Vidyalankara Pirivena, Venerable Professor Pathekada Gnanissara Thero of the Bhikku University, Anuradhapura and Senior Professor Nilanthi de Silva – the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya. The keynote speech of the event was delivered by Professor J. B. Dissanayake of the Department of Sinhala, University of Colombo.



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COLLECTION

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## _Renovation of the Library – University of Ruhuna_

The University of Ruhuna has begun the much-awaited renovation of the Main Library at Wellamadama Premises on 13th January 2023. The project, valued at 147.6 million, is aimed at modernizing and enhancing the library's facilities to meet the university community's growing academic and research needs. The renovation will include upgrading the library's technology infrastructure, improving the lighting and ventilation systems, refurbishing the furniture, roof and floors of the main library. The library's interior design will also be upgraded to create a more welcoming and modern space. The renovation of the Library is expected to take several months (Approximately 12 months), during which time the library is partially closed. However, the library administration provides students with alternative access to required materials.

### Human Library Project (SUSL) – Event 05

The 5th "Human Library Event" organized by the library, SUSL was successfully held on 24th January 2023 at 10. 00 am at the auditorium, Faculty of Geomatics, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Belihuloya. The 5th human book was award-winning writer Mr. Mahinda Prasad Masimbula. The event was graced by the Vice-Chancellor, the deans of faculties, academic staff, administrative officers, non-academic staff and students of the university. Distant readers could read his biography via the official Facebook page of the library, SUSL. This event included a puzzle filling game and the winner, Mr. Pramod Bandara was gifted with the novel "Appoiyawa" wittern by Mr. Mahinda Prasad Masimbula. This project was aimed at creating a learning platform; promoting active, open, and live discussions; enhancing knowledge sharing and research culture among the university community.

### Opening the New library building

The Main library of the University of the visual and performing arts was shifted to a new library building at the faculty of visual arts in Horton place Colombo 07 on 27th February , 2023. The vice chancellor of the university, Senior professor Rohana P. Mahaliyanarachchi was the chief guest of the library opening ceremony.

At the same time the two branch libraries located at kohuwala premises and faculty of dance and drama were merged and relocated to the new library building of the faculty of Music at the Albert Crescent, Colombo 07 from 31st March 2023.

This was the results of a long-term effort made to increase the spaces and facilities of the library system.

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