



# NEWSLETTER

**University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka**

**Volume 18, Issue 01 January-March 2024 e-ISSN 2630-7693**

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## ULA EVENTS

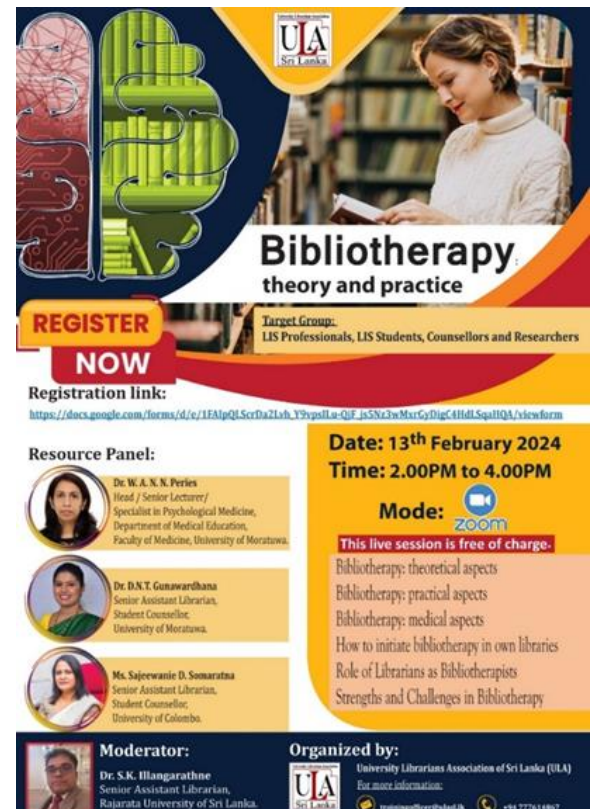
### ULA Training programme

#### Bibliotherapy: Theory and Practice

ULA EXCO 2023/2024 successfully conducted the first webinar on “Bibliotherapy: theory and practice” on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 2:00 p.m. The webinar aimed to raise awareness on bibliotherapy, from its theoretical underpinnings to practical applications, and empower participants with the knowledge to utilize reading as a therapeutic tool effectively.

The Resource Panel members were Dr. W. A. N. N. Peries, Medical and Educational Psychologist and Head of the Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Moratuwa, Ms. Sajeewanie D. Somaratna, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Colombo, and Dr. D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian, University of Moratuwa. Dr. S.K. Illangarathne, Senior Assistant Librarian Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, moderated the programme.

More than eighty LIS professionals, students, counsellors, and researchers participated in the event. Theoretical, practical, and medical aspects of bibliotherapy were thoroughly explored. The session was not just a webinar but a dynamic exchange of ideas. After the session, there was an interactive discussion among participants, allowing them to share insights, experiences, and questions related to bibliotherapy theory and practice.



**Bibliotherapy**  
theory and practice

**REGISTER NOW**

Target Group:  
LIS Professionals, LIS Students, Counsellors and Researchers

Registration link:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQL5crDa2Lsh\\_Y9vpslLw-QjF\\_j55Nz3wMxGyDtgC4HdLSpqHQA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQL5crDa2Lsh_Y9vpslLw-QjF_j55Nz3wMxGyDtgC4HdLSpqHQA/viewform)

**Resource Panel:**

- Dr. W. A. N. N. Peries  
Head / Senior Lecturer /  
Specialist in Psychological Medicine,  
Department of Medical Education,  
Faculty of Medicine, University of Moratuwa.
- Dr. D.N.T. Gunawardhana  
Senior Assistant Librarian,  
Student Counsellor,  
University of Moratuwa.
- Ms. Sajeewanie D. Somaratna  
Senior Assistant Librarian,  
Student Counsellor,  
University of Colombo.

**Moderator:**  
Dr. S.K. Illangarathne  
Senior Assistant Librarian,  
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

**Organized by:**  
University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ULA)  
For more information:  
[training@ula.lk](mailto:training@ula.lk) +94 7774 11807

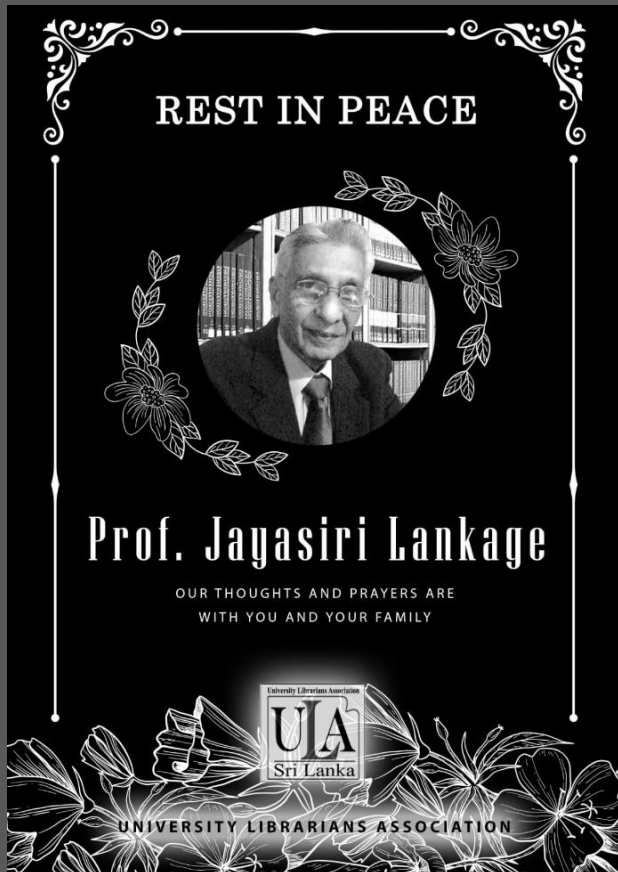
**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**Time: 2.00PM to 4.00PM**  
**Mode: zoom**

**This live session is free of charge.**

- Bibliotherapy: theoretical aspects
- Bibliotherapy: practical aspects
- Bibliotherapy: medical aspects
- How to initiate bibliotherapy in own libraries
- Role of Librarians as Bibliotherapists
- Strengths and Challenges in Bibliotherapy

## Final Tribute to Late Prof. Jayasiri Lankage and Mr. Harrison Perera

University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka (ULA) expressed its sympathy on the demise of two eminent retired Library Academics within a short span of time.



University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka highly saddened to hear that Prof. Jayasiri Lankage, former Librarian University of Kelaniya (1986-2002) and the pioneer Head of the Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kelaniya passed away on 11<sup>th</sup> of February, 2024, at his 86<sup>th</sup> year old. He was an outstanding pioneer of Library and Information Science education of Sri Lanka and introduces Library & Information Science as a major subject for undergraduate level. He also has the pride of initiating Postgraduate Diploma in LIS and a 3 tier Diploma in LIS. ULA saluted the remains with flower wreaths. ULA was so excited and conveys its deepest sympathy to his bellowed family, friends, colleagues and students.

It was indeed deepest sorrow that Mr. Harrison Perera, former Librarian of the University of Peradeniya (2003-2009) and the past president of ULA (2004-2006 and 2008-2009) passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at his 81 year old. His contributions to uplift ULA is immense. As a beacon, he enlightened the lives of many ULA members. He was a person enriched our professions in Sri Lanka with his intellectual guidance and several initiatives. His funeral was held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at Borella, cemetery. ULA members united together and saluted the remains with flower wreaths. On behalf of University Librarians Association Dr. W.J.Jeyaraj delivered the elody. We gave a great farewell to Mr. Harrison Perera with heavy hearts and grievances. We, the University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka express our deepest condolences to his beloved wife, daughters family members, students, and colleagues.





Dear Sirs! Even though you have left the world, the memories, guidance, advices and the qualities you sowed and the professionalism you manifest in us, may remain forever.

**May your souls rest in peace!**

M. M. Mashroofa  
President, ULA

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Enhancing the Dental Science Library, University of Peradeniya



Mr. B.N.G.S. Premaratne, Senior Assistant Librarian/ Acquisitions at the Main Library, University of Peradeniya was felicitated by the Dean and staff of the Faculty of Dental Sciences for their tremendous contributions to improving the library facilities at the Dental Sciences Library.





## Opening ceremony of the renovated library building of University of Ruhuna

The University of Ruhuna proudly marked a significant milestone on February 22nd, 2024, as it ceremoniously reopened its doors to university community at the renovated University Library. The event, filled with jubilant spirits and anticipation, symbolized a return to academic normalcy after a period of partial closure due to necessary renovations.





## French Language Day celebration



French Language Day celebration was organised by the Library, University of Kelaniya, on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the library premises with the participation of Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, as chief guest of the event.

A distinguished group including Madam Aurelie Vollerin, Education et Cooperation Attachee, Cultural and Cooperation Service Colombo, Madam Cecile Hooreibeke, Director of Alliance France, Ms. Olivia BELLEMERE, Cultural and Cooperation Counselor, French Embassy in Sri Lanka & Maldives, and Mrs. Yeshmin Rajapaksa, who has a natural knowledge of the French language, participated in this French Language Day celebration as special guests.



Professor Sarath Amunugama, a former Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya delivered a speech and donated books at the event. On this day, a mini-exhibition and students' performance related to the French language were presented. Dr. C. C. Jayasundara, the Librarian and Library Staff, Academic and Non-Academic Staff, Undergraduates, School Students, and many others interested in the French language participated in the event.





**Human Library Organized by University of Sri Jayewardenepura**

'Human Library' organized by the Library of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in collaboration with the Engineering Education Research Center (EERC), University of Sri Jayewardenepura, is for undergraduates of the Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering. The event was successfully held on 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 from 04.30. p.m. to 06.00 p.m. at the library premises. The 'Human Books' invited Eng. Shiromal Fernando to share his experience on Colombo Lotus Tower, Grand Hyatt, Cinnamon Life Project, Pearl Grand Tower, and the future of civil engineering in Sri Lanka. Dr. G.N. Samarasekara, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, academic staff of the department, Dr. (Mrs.) N.D. Wijayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and library staff were among the participants of the event.





## Inauguration of BA LIS Level 3 at OUSL and Felicitating Dr Wathmanel Seneviratne

The Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL) marked a significant milestone with the inauguration of its first batch of Level 3 students in the Bachelor of Arts in Library and Information Science (BA LIS) program. The event, held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Audio-Visual Resource Center of the Main Library, was graced by Prof. Anton Piyarathne, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, serving as the Chief Guest.

As Sri Lanka's sole open and distance Mode University, OUSL initially enrolled students for Level 5 of the BA LIS program in 2018, akin to the third year of a conventional university. With three batches having successfully graduated, the introduction of Level 3 provides a second entry point into the program. Prospective students with three passes in their Advanced Level examinations or equivalent qualifications may now enroll in Level 3. Additionally, those possessing a three-year diploma in LIS or similar qualifications can enter directly into Level 5.

In a heartfelt moment during the ceremony, alumni of the BA LIS program paid tribute to Dr. (Mrs.) Wathmanel Seneviratne, the visionary behind the program, for her invaluable contributions to the university and the LIS field. The alumni presented Dr. Seneviratne with a felicitation volume titled "Honouring Madam Manel" as a token of appreciation.



Prof Piyarathne, Dean, Faculty of HSS, OUSL addressing the gathering



Dr Rathnayake and Dr Wijesundara introduced "English for Fun" project

The BA LIS program at OUSL is conducted in English, aiming to equip students with the skills needed to excel on the international stage. Emphasizing the importance of English proficiency, the "English for Fun" initiative was launched during the ceremony. Spearheaded by Dr. Madubahshini Ratnayake, Senior Lecturer at the Department of English Language Teaching, Sri Jayawardenapura University, and Dr. Nayana Wijayasundara, Librarian of the same university, the online "English for Fun" project aims to make learning English an enjoyable experience for BA LIS students.



Presenting the felicitation volume to Dr. Wathmanel



## Opening Ceremony of Photocopy and Printing Center at Health-Care Sciences Library, Eastern University of Sri Lanka

Photocopy and Printing Center at the Health-Care Sciences Library was officially opened by Professor.V. Kanagasingam, the Vice-Chancellor, EUSL and Professor T.Sathaananthan, Dean, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Mr.S. Santharooran, Deputy Librarian of the Health- Care Sciences Library initiated this service. Dr. W. J. Jeyaraj, Librarian of Eastern University, Sri Lanka also graced the occasion. Further, the Heads of the department of FHCS, academic staff, administrative and non-academic staff took part in this event.



## Plazz Café Project of SUSL library

Plazz café is a new project introduced by the library/SUSL in collaboration with the Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages/SUSL to make an open discussion among SUSL community. The 3<sup>rd</sup> event of Plazz Café Project : Hithak langa nathara wena pothak organized by the library in collaboration with the Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka on 22nd March 2024, at 4.00 pm, at the Prof. Dayananda Somasundara auditorium, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. The impressive thoughts by Mr. Mohan Raj Madawala gave an insight to the scholarly discussion on the book review of his own Sinhala novel "Loveena".





## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

## Workshop on skills development of Library Staff, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

A two-day residential workshop on skills development was held on the 03<sup>rd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> February 2024 of the library staff, the University of Sri Jayewardenepura at Jetwing Lagoon, Negombo. The workshop was organized by the Staff Development Centre, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in the presence of the members of the library staff, including the librarian, Dr. (Mrs.) N.D. Wijayasundara. The library staff participated in the skills development lectures, activities and engaged in some entertaining activities during the workshop as well. The library staff develops their attitude, communication skills, and leadership skills, enhances their critical thinking abilities, and engages in entertaining activities through the workshop. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, and Director, Staff Development Centre, participated as guests.





## In-house Training programme on “Searching Strategies” at Rajarata University

An in-house training session on “Searching Strategies” for the Non-academic staff of the Rajarata University Library system was carried out on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Mrs. Thushara Wanasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University has participated as the resource person for this training session.



## FEATURE ARTICLE

### The New Age of Library Services: Librarians as Bibliotherapists

**D.N.T.Gunawardhana**

Senior Assistant Librarian, Student Counsellor

University of Moratuwa



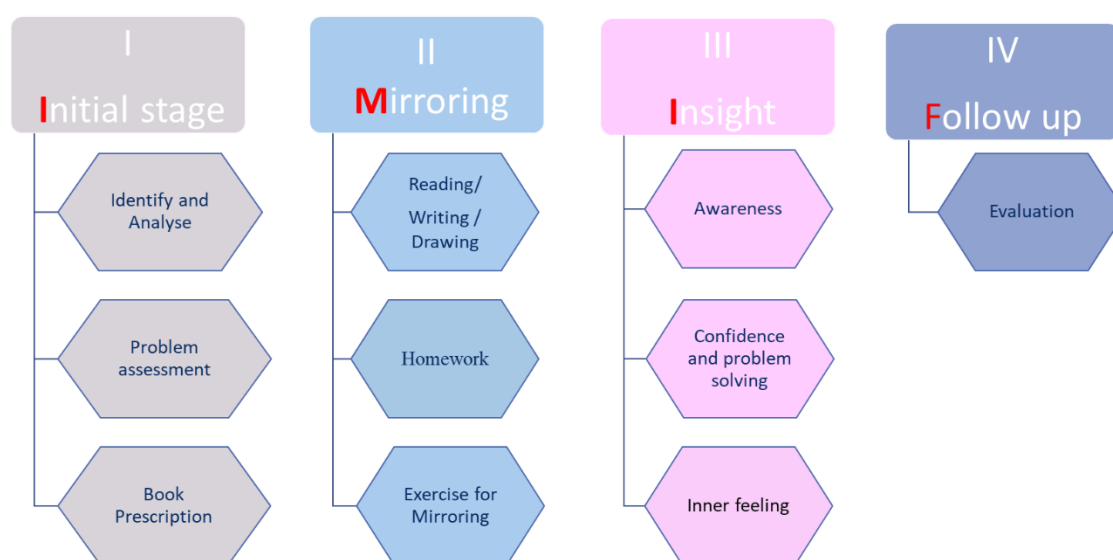
#### Introduction

Bibliotherapy is a therapeutic tool that uses books to help people overcome mental, physical and emotional issues. It assists in healing persons by using various forms of literature. Bibliotherapy can be categorized and named differently based on the nature of the resources used: book therapy, poetry therapy, web therapy, digital therapy, multimedia therapy, etc. Bibliotherapy is a unique and transformative practice that connects a long history. “The use of books for treatment purposes received special and widespread attention following World Wars I and II. With many soldiers returning from battle with posttraumatic disorders or symptoms, Bibliotherapy was considered a cost-effective treatment” (Bankar & Patil, 2021). Today, bibliotherapy has evolved into a widely accepted and appreciated form of therapy, increasing its importance and popularity worldwide. The library has become an essential resource center in this movement with its extensive and diverse collection. Libraries are not just bookstores; they have converted into dynamic living centers that adapt to the changing needs with librarians' capacity. The evolving role of librarians as bibliotherapists reflects a significant shift in the library profession and they are adapting to their users' changing needs and demands. This transition highlights the librarian's expanding responsibilities and skills, transcending traditional boundaries and embracing new dimensions of new services.

## Development of IMIF Model

Researcher's experiences from Bibliotherapy presented the IMIF model and it based on her own experience. 'Books on Prescription Model' and 'Cognitive-behavioural therapy' (CBT)-approach were highly considered to develop the model. This model provides a structured framework for promoting the effective use of bibliotherapy in different environments. This model has four stages: Initial, Mirroring, Insight, and Follow-up and has been validated through a medical professional and a senior counsellor using a student group.

## IMIF Model



IMIF model created by D.N.T. Gunawardhana, 2022

Firstly, the bibliotherapist identifies the client's needs and then carefully selects appropriate materials. Then, tasks are created to start the mirroring process. Once the motivation tasks are formed, the bibliotherapy session begins, usually beginning with a preliminary discussion focusing on the analysis of issues. After assessing the problem, the client receives a book prescription that includes various resources such as printed materials or online, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, translations, audio books and audio-visual books. If the client has multiple urgent needs, priority is given to them. However, bibliotherapy is not recommended for people at high risk and is instead quickly referred to psychiatrists or doctors. It is best suited for individuals with moderate or low risks. When the situation is assessed, a mirroring process begins, and clients engage in reading, writing, drawing, role-play, and developing various skills. At this stage, bibliotherapists use creative bibliotherapy to create opportunities to increase consciousness, build confidence, develop problem-solving skills and promote self-expression. The third stage includes follow-up and evaluation, where clients can revisit the mirroring or insight phases. Sometimes, this process can be cyclical.



## Understanding the bibliotherapist's approach

Bibliotherapy is a therapeutic approach to dealing with various mental health problems “Bibliotherapy is a multifaceted concept that is of great importance for the essence of the library profession in the twenty-first century” (Eftimova et al., 2021). Although it is a well-established and popular therapeutic tool in many countries, its application in Sri Lanka is relatively rare. Despite librarians' interest in incorporating Bibliotherapy into library services, lack of appropriate guidelines has been a major obstacle to its implementation. IMIF model can be considered for practising Bibliotherapy in libraries.

Bankar and Patil (2021) have created a prototype model for Academic Libraries, and they pointed out the responsibilities of a Librarian as a Bibliotherapist. These are as follows.

- “1. The librarian will make himself familiar with new literature available, and prepare the recommended list of books to purchase.
2. The Librarian must have personal interest and information about books which he plans to suggest to the client/ patron.
3. He must interview each client to find the impression and satisfaction resulting from each assigned or chosen reading. He is responsible for making a written report of the individual clients/patrons' comments and reactions to their reading for further understanding” (Bankar & Patil, 2021).

In order to implement bibliotherapy, librarians need to be familiar with the literature available on various matters. They should possess strong knowledge to analyze and identify the problem. They should have a good understanding of the books that can be used to address different emotional and behavioural issues. The personal interest of librarians is a significant factor in conducting bibliotherapy in libraries.

Bibliotherapy helps improve the mental health of library staff and their users, increasing insight and cognitive flexibility. Bibliotherapy increases job satisfaction by reducing stress and anxiety. Meanwhile, it promotes coping skills during challenging times. Consequently, this scenario presents a mutually beneficial outcome for both library patrons and staff.

## References

- Bankar, Ravindra and Patil, Sachinkumar B., "Bibliotherapy: A prototype model for Academic Libraries." (2021). Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal). 5484. <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5484>
- Eftimova, S. . Todorova, T.. Parijkova, L., Mukanova, P. Mincheva, K. (2021) Bibliotherapy – Academic Education – Librarians, *INTED2021 Proceedings*, pp. 6758-6762. doi: [10.21125/inted.2021.1345](https://doi.org/10.21125/inted.2021.1345)

## Role of Blockchain technology in Academic libraries:

**Mr.P.Poologanathan**

Assistant Librarian

poologan@univ.jfn.ac.lk

University of Jaffna



### Introduction:

Academic libraries play a crucial role in supporting teaching, learning, and research activities of educational institutions. With the advent of technologies and the development of open access to scholarly information, academic libraries face evolving challenges in managing information resources, ensuring data integrity, and adapting to changing user needs. To promote the user needs and library facilities, academic libraries introduce new technologies.

In that respect, Blockchain technology is an advanced database mechanism that allows transparent information sharing within a network. A blockchain database stores data in blocks that are linked together in a chain. The data is chronologically consistent because we cannot delete or modify the chain without consensus from the network. As a result, we can use blockchain technology to create an unalterable or immutable ledger for tracking orders, payments, accounts, and other transactions. The system has built-in mechanisms that prevent unauthorized transaction entries and create consistency in the shared view of these transactions.

### The main features of Blockchain technology:

**Decentralization:** Decentralization is a fundamental feature of blockchain technology, distinguishing it from traditional centralized systems. In a decentralized network, there is no central authority or single point of control. Instead, control and decision-making are distributed among all participants in the network.

**Immutability:** Immutability means something cannot be changed or altered. The immutability feature of blockchain technology refers to the inability to alter or delete data once it has been recorded on the blockchain.

**Consensus:** The consensus mechanism is a crucial feature of blockchain technology that enables multiple parties, often referred to as nodes or validators, to agree on the state of the blockchain and validate transactions without the need for a central authority. Consensus ensures that all participants in the network reach an agreement on the validity and order of transactions.

**Cryptographic Hash Functions:** Cryptographic hash functions play a fundamental role in blockchain technology, providing the basis for securing data and ensuring the integrity of transactions within a blockchain network. These functions take an input (or message) and produce a fixed-size string of characters, called a hash value or digest.



## Blockchain technologies in Academic Libraries:

In the digital age, academic libraries are facing unprecedented challenges in managing vast collections of digital assets, ensuring data security, and facilitating scholarly communication. Amidst these challenges, blockchain technology has emerged as a transformative force, offering innovative solutions to longstanding problems in academic library operations. Today, librarians are suffering from the navigation of misinformation, rumor, and so on. As a result, blockChain Technology represents a new way of thinking, analyzing, and problems solving.

### 1. Decentralization of Blockchain technology:

**a. Digital Asset Management:** Academic libraries are entrusted with the stewardship of vast collections of digital assets, including scholarly articles, research datasets, and digitized books. However, managing these digital assets in a secure, efficient, and transparent manner poses significant challenges. Blockchain technology offers a decentralized and tamper-proof solution for digital asset management. By leveraging blockchain technology, academic libraries can ensure the integrity and authenticity of their digital collections while enhancing access and discoverability for users.

**b. Data Security and Privacy:** In the modern day, increasing cyber threats and data breaches, ensuring the security and privacy of sensitive information is paramount for academic libraries. Traditional centralized data storage systems are susceptible to hacking and manipulation, posing significant risks to the confidentiality and integrity of library collections. Blockchain technology mitigates these risks by decentralizing data storage.

**c. Distributed Cataloguing:** In a decentralized blockchain-based library system, cataloguing information is distributed across multiple nodes in the network. Each and every node maintains its copy of the catalogue. This reduces the reliance on a central cataloguing system making the catalogue more robust and less vulnerable to failures or attacks.

**d. Transparency:** Blockchain's decentralized ensures that transactions, such as book loans, returns, and acquisitions, are transparent and trustworthy. Every transaction is recorded on the blockchain and, with permission, available to all members of the network. Because consumers can independently confirm the correctness and authenticity of transactions, this transparency fosters user trust.

**e. Collaborative Resource Sharing:** Interlibrary loan and resource sharing are essential components of academic library services, but current practices are hindered by bureaucratic hurdles and inefficient workflows. Blockchain technology provides a decentralized and transparent platform for collaborative resource sharing, streamlining interlibrary loan processes, automating rights management, and facilitating seamless access to shared resources.

## 2. Cryptographic Hash Functions of Blockchain technology:

- a. Tamper Detection:** Cryptographic hash functions enable academic libraries to detect unauthorized modifications or alterations to digital assets. By periodically recalculating and verifying the hash values of stored files, libraries can identify discrepancies that may indicate tampering or data corruption. This helps mitigate the risk of data manipulation, forgery, or unauthorized access to scholarly materials.
- b. Data Duplication:** The libraries often have large databases with duplicated or similar records. Cryptographic hash functions can be used to create unique identifiers (hash values) for each record. This enables the identification and elimination of duplicate entries, optimizing data storage and retrieval processes.

## 3. Consensus Mechanism of Blockchain technology:

- a. Decision Making:** Libraries often operate in a distributed environment with multiple nodes or participants. The requirement for a central authority to approve transactions is removed by consensus processes. Instead, all nodes in the library network participate in the decision-making process.
- b. Enhancing Security in Inter-library Loans:** Inter-library loans involve the exchange of resources between different library networks. Consensus mechanisms secure these transactions by ensuring that all participating libraries agree on the legitimacy of resource requests and approvals. This connects an extra layer of security to inter-library collaborations.

## 4. Immutability of Blockchain technology:

- a. Preservation of Scholarly Records:** Academic libraries often house valuable scholarly records, including publications, research data, and institutional repositories. By leveraging blockchain's immutability, libraries can ensure the long-term preservation and integrity of these records. Once data is recorded on the blockchain, it becomes tamper-proof and resistant to unauthorized modifications or deletions.
- b. Preservation of Cataloguing Data:** Today, libraries are facing the challenge of maintaining accurate and unaltered cataloguing data. By recording cataloguing information on a blockchain, libraries can achieve immutability. This ensures that details such as book titles, authors, publication dates, and other metadata remain unchanged, providing a reliable historical record of the library's collections.
- c. Securing Transaction Histories:** The libraries engage in various transactions, including book loans, returns, and interlibrary loans, and maintaining an accurate and unalterable transaction history is crucial. Blockchain immutability ensures that transaction histories are securely recorded. This transparency benefits both the library and its patrons, as anyone can verify the lending and return history of a particular book.



## Challenges of Application of Blockchain Technology in Libraries:

**a. Technical Complexity:** Blockchain technology is complex and requires specialized technical expertise for development, deployment, and maintenance. Academic libraries may lack the necessary in-house expertise or resources to implement blockchain solutions effectively.

**b. Costs and Resource Constraints:** Implementing blockchain technology can be costly, requiring investments in infrastructure, software development, and staff training. Academic libraries may face budget constraints or resource limitations that hinder their ability to allocate funds and resources to blockchain initiatives.

**c. User Adoption and Education:** Blockchain technology is still relatively new and unfamiliar to many library users. Academic libraries may face challenges in educating users about the benefits, functionalities, and implications of blockchain-based systems, as well as overcoming resistance or skepticism from users.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, the role of blockchain technology in academic libraries has immense potential for revolutionizing resource management, data integrity, and scholarly communication. By leveraging blockchain, academic libraries can establish immutable records of scholarly materials, ensure transparent and secure systems for cataloging and metadata management, and facilitate decentralized access to resources.

## References:

- Gorman, M.S., & Linnhoff, C. (2019). *Blockchain for Academic Libraries: Advantages and Challenges*. *Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship*, 31(1), 1-12.
- Krowne, A. (2018). *Blockchain Technology for Libraries: Challenges and Opportunities*. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 37(2), 39-51.
- Sanjay and Hasan, Nabi. (2020), "Blockchain Technology and its Application in Libraries", *Library Herald*, Vol. 58 No. 4, pp. 118-125.
- Sutton, S.A., & Arnold, D.N. (2019). *Blockchain technology in academic libraries: An introduction and preliminary considerations*. *College & Research Libraries News*, 80(4), 190-198.

## APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTION

### Resumption of duties at NILIS

Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Senior Lecturer at the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences, University of Colombo, has returned to his role as of January 1, 2024, following a sabbatical. While on leave, he served in a similar position on a contractual basis at the Maldives National University (MNU), focusing on teaching second and third-year students in the Faculty of Arts' undergraduate program for three semesters. In addition, he did research on the Contribution of Sri Lanka for the Enhancement of the Library and Information Profession in the Maldives. Dr. Gamage, along with Dr. Aminath Riyaz of MNU, published several research on this topic.



Dr. Chamani Gunasekera, Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I), was promoted to the post of Deputy Librarian in the Main Library, University of Peradeniya, effective from September 2, 2022, and the letter confirming the promotion was issued on January 30, 2024.



Mr.S.Santharooban, Senior Assistant Librarian (Gr I) of Health- Care Sciences Library of Eastern University, Sri Lanka has been promoted to the post of Deputy Librarian, effective from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February, 2023.



### New appointment at Rajarata University

Mr. U. Ahamed (MPhil in Computer Sciences; B.Sc. in Applied Sciences) was appointed as an Assistant Librarian to the Main Library of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.





## ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS



Dr. (Ms.) M. P. L. R. Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I), was awarded the Senate Honours for conducting high-quality research and publishing in the year 2023 in Scopus Q1 ranked and SSCI indexed journal. The award was presented by Prof. Nilanthi de Silva, Vice Chancellor, University of Kelaniya at the Senate Awards Ceremony which was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 at the Senate Room of the University.



Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian at SUSL, achieved her Master of Science (MSc) and Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in Information Management from the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) and graduated at the convocation on March 22, 2024, at SLIIT, Malabe.

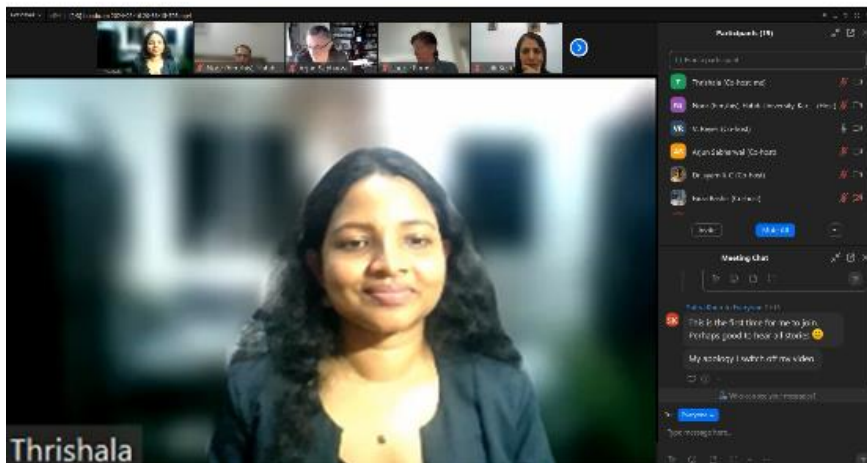


Mrs. T.C. Ranawella, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Mrs. M.P. Rajapaksha, Senior Assistant Librarian, were honored for more than 20 and 12 years of service respectively during the KDU Women's Day ceremony on March 7, 2024, at the FGS auditorium.

## SHINES BEYOND THE HORIZON

**A human book from library, SUSL at ASIS&T's 'Humans of the Library' Event**

Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian at SUSL, participated as a human book in the "Humans of the Library" event organized by the ASIS&T SIG-III on February 16, 2024. Her story was "Silence speaks louder". She was selected for this role through a pre-interview process conducted by an awardee of the ASIS&T Infoshare SIG III. The event, orchestrated by ASIS&T, aimed to share stories globally, fostering deeper connections, understanding diversity, and facilitating learning through online interactions between storytellers and listeners. Librarians shared narratives encompassing their struggles, successes, leadership experiences, contributions to patron success, innovative initiatives, and invaluable wisdom gained from their professional journeys.





## ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

### Training Session on Uploading Documents to IR (Institutional Repository)

The Library, University of Colombo organized training sessions on uploading documents to the Institutional Repository (IR). The primary objective of these sessions is to familiarize academic staff members with the IR uploading process and ultimately enable them to handle the self-uploading process independently. Additionally, non-academic staff members were also trained in this process. Mrs. Shabnam Johoran, Senior Assistant Librarian at the University of Colombo, served as the resource person for the session.



**Training on Uploading Documents to Institutional Repository (IR)**

Target Group : Anyone who uploads documents to the IR

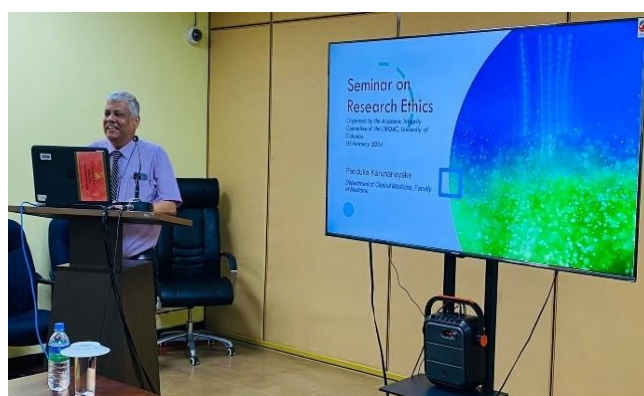
Date and Time : 19.02.2024 (from 10.00 am - 11.30 am)

Resource Person : Mrs. S. Shabnam Johoran  
(Senior Assistant Librarian / University of Colombo)

Mode : Online (Zoom)

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO  
RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS  
Institutional Repository

### Seminar on Research Ethics



The Academic Integrity Committee of the Library Quality Assurance Cell at the University of Colombo has decided to organize seminars to enhance the research culture in a scientific manner within the Library. In March 2024, the first seminar, "Research Ethics," was held in the Boardroom of the Library, University of Colombo. Prof. Panduka Karunanayaka from the Department of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, who has served on several ethics committees at the university, was the resource person for this seminar.

### Guest Lecture for Final Year Education Students

Dr. Chamani Gunasekera, Deputy Librarian of the Main Library, University of Peradeniya conducted a guest lecture on "Effective Use of Library Facilities for Research and Literature Reviewing Purposes" on January 24, 2024, for the final year students of the Department of Education, Faculty of Arts. The faculty and students who participated in the program appreciated and commended the guidance and immense support rendered for the students of the Bachelor of Education (Hons.) degree program, as it is an essential requirement for their research activities related to literature survey and dissertation writing.

Dr. Chamani Gunasekera, Deputy Librarian of the Main Library, conducted an awareness session on library services for postgraduate students of the Faculty of Management, University of Peradeniya, on March 31, 2024, at the Auditorium of the Faculty of Management. More than 75 students participated in the session, and both the participants and the faculty appreciated her support in enhancing the knowledge of postgraduate students of the faculty.

### Sessions for Bachelor of Architecture (Level III) Students

Dr (Mrs.) D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa, delivered a lecture on “Information Searching” for Bachelor of Architecture (Level III) students on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024. Mr. Nishan Punchihewa, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa conducted two lectures “Introduction to Plagiarism” and “Referencing with APA” for the same group on 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 respectively.

### Information literacy module newly introduced for the Faculty of Science University of Ruhuna

Library has introduced an information literacy module for the undergraduate students of Faculty of Science. The new Information literacy module will be implemented from the 2022/2023 batch of the undergraduate students. The lectures will be conducted by the library academic staff members. The information literacy module is compulsory and it offers one credit. Senior Assistant Librarian, Dr. Theja Kuruppu Arachchi coordinated with the Faculty of Science, University of Ruhuna and prepared the Information literacy module considering the faculty requirements.

### Training Session On ‘Utilizing Digital Library Services of Rajarata University Library System’

The Faculty of Agriculture Library conducted a training session titled ‘Utilizing Digital Library Services of Rajarata University Library System.’ This session was specifically designed for academic staff members of the Faculty of Agriculture. The session was held on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the faculty’s Boardroom. Mrs. WPT. Dilrukshi, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Mr. U. Ahamed, Assistant Librarian conducted the session.



### Workshop on “How to Use Databases for Research” at Rajarata University

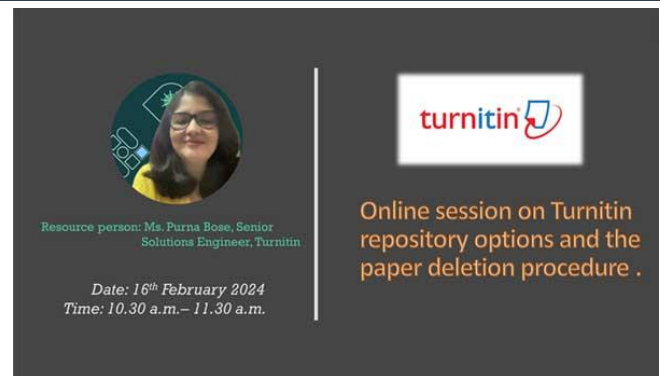


A workshop aimed at enhancing research skills using databases was conducted for third-year undergraduates in the Department of Accountancy & Finance, Faculty of Management Studies. The workshop, titled “How to Use Databases for Research,” took place on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at the Computer Centre of the University. The session was conducted by Mr. Uthumansa Ahamed, Assistant Librarian, at Main Library, who provided practical engagement opportunities for attendees. The workshop aimed to equip students with the necessary skills to effectively utilize databases for their research work.



### Training session on "Overview of the Turnitin Repository Options" at KDU

On February 16, 2024, the KDU Library, in partnership with Turnitin, hosted an online session titled "Overview of Turnitin Repository Options." Ms. Purna Bose, a Senior Solutions Engineer at Turnitin, led the session as the resource person. The primary audience comprised academic staff who had registered with KDU's Turnitin account. The session effectively addressed concerns regarding Turnitin's repository options and paper deletion process, providing valuable insights.



### National Workshop on 'Library Collection Development Policy'

A poster for a national workshop on library collection development policy. It features the title in Sinhala and English, the date and time "2024 February 20th @ 01.30 PM to 03.30 PM", and a QR code labeled "SCAN ME". It also lists the speaker, Dr. M.M. Mashroofa, and the moderator, Mrs. Jereena Jeyamohan, along with their titles. The meeting link is provided as "https://shorturl.at/AHMP8" with meeting ID 844 9523 5333 and passcode 281643. The event is organized by the Information &amp; Public Relation Committee, Sri Lanka Library Association.

Dr. M.M. Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian served as the resource person for a National Workshop on 'Library Collection Development Policy' organized by the IPRO of Sri Lanka Library Association. This programme was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. Around 89 library professionals across the country from university, school, public, special and government library sectors took part and benefitted. This webinar was moderated by Mrs. Jereena Jeyamohan from, National Library and Documentation Board.

## NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Training on Current Trends of Libraries: An Outreach Programme



The Library of the University of Colombo was invited to train librarians in the banking sector to enhance their services with new technologies. The Library's Training Management Team developed a customized training module covering theoretical concepts and practical demonstrations for this special requirement. The training session was conducted in March 2024 at the Main Library, with demonstrations held at the Science Library of the University of Colombo. The training focused on how libraries can adopt new technologies, manage library spaces to align with current user learning styles and support library users in becoming lifelong learners. The Senior Assistant Librarians, Ms. H.M.D.S.D. Somaratna, Ms. P.K.S. Manatunga, Ms. M.A.L. Silva, and Dr. C.J. Wijesundara served as resource persons.

## Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Project organized by the Library, University of Kelaniya



The Library, University of Kelaniya, organised a CSR project on the 31st of January, 2024 at the "Peter Weerasekera Children's Home", Gampaha. The library staff enthusiastically spent the day with the kids in the children's home, organising arms-giving. The event was successfully ended.



## Programmes on "Reading Skills Development" Organized by University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Mr. H.U.C.S. Kumara, Senior Assistant Librarian attached to the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, conducted two reading skills development programmes for school children. The first programme was held on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 at the Central Library of Ruwanwella. On the invitation of the Central Library of Ruwanwella, about 50 students of Grades 6, 7, and 8 students from Sri Wickrama School, Ruwanwella participated in this programme. Under the purview of Kegalle Pradeshiya Sabha, the second programme was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at the Bandarnayaka National School, Kegalle. About 150 Grade 9 students attended this programme. The Assistant Local Government Commissioner of Kegalle, the secretary of Ruwanwella Padeshiya Sabha, the secretary of Kegalle Padeshiya Sabha, teachers-in-charge and officials of the libraries took keen interest to attend two programmes as guests.







The two programs successfully outlined the fundamental principles of reading skills and also illustrated various reading methods and strategies and assessed diverse tasks and activities aimed at enhancing reading proficiency.



### Workshop on "How to write a research paper for research conferences"

**ஆய்வு மாநாட்டிற்கு ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரை தயாரித்தல்**  
 பொது நூலகங்களுக்கும் பாடசாலை நூலகங்களுக்கும்மான ஒரு நிகழ்வினை கருத்தரங்கு  
 கருத்தரங்குகள் வாயுர் தமிழ்நிலையில் இடம்பெறும்  
 காலம்: 25-02-2024, நேரம்: 9.30 AM - 12.00 PM  
 2000M வாயுர் நடைபெறும்

**வளவாளர்கள்**

திரு. செ. சாந்தகுமார்  
 சிறீரவீந்திரன் உதவி நூலகர்  
 கிழக்குப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

கலாநிதி முனைவர் மணி மஸ்ரூபா  
 சிறீரவீந்திரன் உதவி நூலகர்  
 இலங்கை தென் கிழக்குப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

திருமதி ல. ஜெகதீசுமார்  
 சிறீரவீந்திரன் உதவி நூலகர்  
 கிழக்குப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்

மதிப்பீட்டாளர்  
 மு. இ. பாரதிமொ பரியா  
 நூலக உதவியாளர்  
 மத்திய கரூரூரில் ஆதிகாரசபை

SCAN ME

Via  
 Meeting Link: <https://shorturl.at/mAEIN>  
 Meeting ID: 880 2357 7900  
 Passcode: 068890

இந்த நிகழ்வு இலங்கை நூலக வளவர்களின் பாதுகாப்புக்குரிய  
 NACLS குழுவினரால் IPRO குழுவினரால்  
 இணைத்து நடாத்தப்படுகிறது

Mr. S. Santharoban, Deputy Librarian and Mrs. Lavanya Jegatheesparan, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka served as resources persons along with Dr.M.M.Mashroofa, Senior Assistant Librarian of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka for the workshop on "How to write a research paper for research conferences" organized by NACLS - 2024 committee and IPRO of Sri Lanka Library Association for the public and school librarians, held on February 25th, 2024, via Zoom Online mode.

### Motivation program for School student

Main Library of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL) conducted a motivation programme for school children during their educational visit to SEUSL Library. Advanced Level students of Addalaichenai Central College from Arts, Commerce, Science & Maths stream took part the event. This programme was conducted to inspire them to pursue university education in various fields. The resource person for this programme was Mr. AM. Nahfees, Senior Assistant Librarian/ Access Services, SEUSL.



## RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION

## Seminar on Searching Techniques &amp; Online Tools



In March 2024, a specialized workshop titled "Information Searching and Online Tools for Dissertation Writing" was conducted for the administrative and financial officers of the University of Colombo. The primary objective of this workshop was to enhance the research skills of the participants. Dr. N. M. Karannagoda, a Senior Assistant Librarian at the university, served as the resource person, providing expert guidance and instruction throughout the event.

## The workshop on "Mastering the Art of Journal Editing for Editorial Excellence"

The workshop on "Mastering the Art of Journal Editing for Editorial Excellence", organized by the Library, in collaboration with the Staff Development Centre (SDC), University of Kelaniya was held at the SDC Auditorium on 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2024. The target group of the workshop was chief editors and editorial board members of journals published by the university.

This workshop was an initiative to improve the quality of the journals published by the university to international standards, as advised by Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya. Nearly 35 editorial board members representing 20 academic journals that are published by the university participated in the workshop. In addition, all the subject liaison librarians and the deputy registrar of the research and publications division of the university participated in it.

Dr. B.J.C. Perera, a medical journal editor with over 25 years of experience and current Joint Editor of Scopus indexed 'Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health' served as the resource person of this workshop. The workshop consisted of two interactive sessions: 'Enhancing the Quality of Journals' and 'Best Editorial Practices'. Each session was followed by a Q&A session, and a Certificate of Participation was awarded to the participants.





Senior Professor Nilanthi De Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, Dr. C.C. Jayasundara, Librarian, and Professor Ravi Dissanayake, Director of SDC graced the occasion. Dr. Tharanga Ranasinghe (Senior Assistant Librarian) coordinated the workshop.



## Webinar Series



The Subject Liaison Librarians' Service and Interactive Media Unit organised the "Research 4 Life" webinar by Mrs. C. M. Abegunsekera, Senior Assistant Librarian, at the University of Kelaniya on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

## Workshop on "Writing a Research Proposal for Dissertation"

The workshop on "Writing a Research Proposal for Dissertation" was held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Level III students at the Department of Integrated Design, University of Moratuwa. Dr (Mrs.) D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa, contributed as the resource person by sharing her knowledge and experiences to enhance their research proposal writing skills.

## Research Lounge

The 19<sup>th</sup> Research Lounge was held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 2.30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The theme of the 19<sup>th</sup> Research Lounge was "Grit and Growth: The Journey to be a Competent Multidisciplinary Researcher". **Prof. Nadeesh M. Adassooriya**, Professor, Department of Chemical & Process Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya and **Ms. Kasun Amali Gunasekara**, Research Scholar, Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa contributed as members of the resource panel. Dr (Mrs.) D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa moderated the event. This talk delved into the essential role of 'Grit' in the development of a researcher. Drawing from personal experiences, **Prof. Nadeesh M. Adassooriya** shared the challenges faced on this journey and discussed the strategies employed to overcome obstacles to inspire fellow researchers to navigate challenges, foster grit, and embrace a multidisciplinary perspective for a fulfilling and impactful research journey.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Research Lounge was held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Faculty of Graduate Studies under the theme "The Road to Sustainable Development: How Multidisciplinary Research Can Help". The University of



Moratuwa has hosted many research efforts focusing on sustainable development, spread over multiple departments and faculties. Collaborative research projects and multidisciplinary centres help to create synergies that better serve this goal. By sharing the research stories and discussing the potential for future multidisciplinary endeavours in this area, resource persons aimed to inspire established and emerging researchers to engage in multidisciplinary collaborations and research to support the global drive towards sustainability.



Resource Panel consists of Dr. Hirushie Karunathilake, Assistant Professor of Engineering, University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Duleeka Sandamali Gunarathne, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Dr. Sumanthri Samarawickrama, Senior Lecturer, Department of Integrated Design, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa. Dr (Mrs.) D.N.T. Gunawardhana, Senior Assistant Librarian of the University of Moratuwa, moderated the event.

### Workshops for postgraduate research students at the Faculty of Health Sciences OUSL

Dr. A. U. Weerakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian at the Kandy Regional Center of The Open University, was invited to conduct research support sessions for Msc. In Nursing students as part of their research methodology course. The workshop titled "Information Searching Techniques and Tools for Nursing Research" was held on 07<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The second workshop titled "Reference Management with Zotero" was held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### ORCID Workshop for SUSL academic staff

**ORCID WORKSHOP FOR RESEARCHERS**

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024  
11.00 am - 12.00 noon  
Lecture Hall LT102, Faculty of Applied Sciences,  
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

**RESOURCE PERSON**  
Prof. Lasith Gunawardena  
Researcher Advisory Council Member  
ORCID

The SUSL library organized an awareness workshop on "ORCID" at the Faculty of Applied Sciences, SUSL, on March 22, 2024, with Prof. Lasith Gunawardena, a member of the Researcher Advisory Council, serving as the resource person to enlighten researchers about ORCID.




## Attending the event of the annual research journal launching by the Institute of the National Security Studies

"The Defense Review 2023", The Annual Research Journal published by the Institute of National Security Studies (INSS) was launched on 19th January 2024 at the conference hall of the institute. Senior Assistant Librarian Mrs. U.D. Hiruni Kanchana attended the event by representing the librarian on behalf of the Kotelawala Defence University.



## Enhancing research capacity at UVPA



**SESSION 01**  
The Library Lecture series on  
information Literacy  
**2024**

**DIGITAL TOOLS FOR REFERENCE MANAGEMENT**

How to easily cite references and build a list of references in your academic writings

**Organized by the Library of UVPA**

**To Whome**  
Academic and administrative staff members of UVPA

**DATE:** 04/03/2024  
**TIME:** 9.30 AM

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://learn.zoom.us/j/950828434237?pwd=UjQ4QTZvaFRabXRVRTVqRkxzZEU0dz09>

**Resource Person**  
Muditha Ankumbura  
Senior Assistant Librarian  
Reader Services

With the purpose of enhancing the research capacity of university staff the UVPA library conducted the workshop on the topic of "Digital tools for reference management" for the academic and administrative staff of the university on 04/03/2024. This was the session 01/2024 of information literacy lecture series organized by the UVPA library. Mrs. Muditha Ankumbura, Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I) was the resources person of this workshop. Mrs. Muditha Ankumbura, Senior Assistant Librarian (Grade I).

## Paper Presentations/ Publication

### Paper Presentations by Library Academics of University of Peradeniya at the INTSYM 2024

Six academic staff members in the library system of University of Peradeniya presented papers at **12<sup>th</sup> International Symposium of South Eastern University -2024 (INTSYM-2024)** held at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka on **29<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**. The names, designations together topic of the paper presented are given below:

1. Mr.R. Maheshwaran, Librarian of University of Peradeniya presented paper on 'Global Perspectives on Subject Gateways in Engineering and Technology Exploration'
2. Dr.(Ms.) C.N.K. Alahakoon, Deputy Librarian of University of Peradeniya presented paper on 'Journal of Sri Lanka Library Review: a Bibliometric Analysis'

3. Dr.(Ms.) C. Gunasekare , Deputy Librarian of University of Peradeniya presented paper on 'Exploring Disparities in School Library Development and Administrative Support received from Authorities'
4. Mr.B.N.G.S. Premaratne, Senior Assistant Librarian of University of Peradeniya Presented paper on 'Information retrieval practices in dissertation writing: a Study among the Post Graduate Diploma Students in the Department of Education, University of Peradeniya'
5. Mr.A.Dharmarathne , Senior Assistant Librarian of University of Peradeniya Presented paper on 'Using Social Media for Learning Purposes during the COVID-19 Pandemic: a gender based analysis of among Dental Science Undergraduates at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka'
6. Mr.B.E.S. Bandara, Assistant Librarian of University of Peradeniya and Dr. (Ms.) B.M.M.C.B. Hindagolla, Librarian, Art, Design & Architecture, Arts, Education of Monash University of Australia presented paper on 'User Perspectives on Digital Reference Services (DRS): a Study of State University Libraries in Sri Lanka'. Annex 005,006,007



### Paper presentations at 1st International Conference on Psychology and Mental Health (ICPMH)

Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian & Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, SUSL presented a research paper on "Use of social media for collaborative learning: a systematic literature review" at the 1st International Conference on Psychology and Mental Health organized by Nagananda International Institute of Buddhist Studies, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, SUSL, Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian, SUSL, and Mr. Kasun Munasinghe, Assistant Librarian, UOK presented a research paper on "The Impact of Interactive Bibliotherapy on Selected Undergraduates at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka: A Case Study" at the 1st International Conference on Psychology and Mental Health organized by Nagananda International Institute of Buddhist Studies, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.



## Paper presentation at 2nd International Research Symposium on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IRSMAIK)

Ms. Thrishala Warnasooriya, Assistant Librarian, SUSL, Mr. Kusala Fernando, Senior Assistant Librarian, SUSL, and Mr. Kasun Munasinghe, Assistant Librarian, UOK presented a research paper on “Technology Adaptation in Facilitating the Digital Evolution of University Libraries in Sri Lanka: Librarians’ Perspectives” at the 2nd International Research Symposium on Multidisciplinary Approaches in Indigenous Knowledge Systems organized by Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, Yakkala, Sri Lanka on 01<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### Industry Readiness Program for the 22 Intake of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa

The Career Guidance Unit of the University of Moratuwa, in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering, organized the Industry Readiness Program from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 targeting interested undergraduates from the 2022 common Engineering Intake to support the development of essential skills of



undergraduates of the Faculty of Engineering. Mrs. Thushari Seneviratne, Senior Assistant Librarian was invited to deliver a lecture on “Industry Readiness: Navigating Information Landscape” on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Resource personnel representing various departments of the Faculty of Engineering and professionals from industry inspired the undergraduate cohort representing different specializations to craft their future towards success.

### Initiating new service at KDU main library: Information Desk Service



KDU main library has been introduced Information Desk Services as a new service on January 8, 2024. In parallel, the training session on “how to be a good information officer” was conducted by the librarian, Dr. Wathmanel Senevirathne for the library staff.



**ANY OTHER NEWS**

The library won the Best Website award of the University, and Mr Kasun Munasinghe, Assistant Librarian and Web Master of the Library, received the award. The award was presented by the Ceremony of Long Service Awards and Vice-Chancellor's Awards of the University of Kelaniya, which was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024 at the Dharmaloka Hall of the University.

**Library visit of officers of Sri Lanka's National Defense College (NDC) to KDU**

A group of officers from Sri Lanka's National Defense College (NDC) who were attending the National Security and Strategic Studies (NS&SS) course- 03/2024 visited the Main Library of KDU on 26th January 2024. During their visit, Mrs. UDH Kanchana, Senior Assistant Librarian delivered a lecture on "How to find literature in electronic environment" in addition to the orientation program.





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South Eastern University of Sri Lanka  
Email: nahfees@seu.ac.lk

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FSLA  
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Science Library  
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka  
email: mashroof@seu.ac.lk

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Senior Assistant Librarian  
University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
email: thusharims@uom.lk

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Senior Assistant Librarian  
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Rajarata University of Sri Lanka  
email: skillangarathne@gmail.com

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Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine  
email: rdatissa@gmail.com

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ASLLA  
Senior Assistant Librarian  
Faculty of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo  
email: gamage@iim.cmb.ac.lk

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Deputy Librarian  
University of Jaffna  
email: vskethees@univ.jfn.ac.lk

#### **Prof. Kunwar Singh**

PhD in LIS  
Faculty of Library Information Science, School of Social Sciences, Indira Gandhi National Open University Maidan Garhi, New Delhi  
kunwarsingh@ignou.ac.in

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Editorial Board Member, Libri, Chair, ASIST (SA Chapter)  
Syeda.shahid@ubc.ca, hina.im@pu.edu.pk

### Layout Design

#### **Mr. J. A. Ajith**

BA (Hons) (SJP); MA (SJP); MIT (Colombo); MSSc (Kelaniya)  
Senior Assistant Librarian  
University of Ruhuna  
email: ajith@lib.ruh.ac.lk