ICLIS-2023
Sri Lanka Library Association

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

"Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World"

International Conference on Library & Information Science ICLIS 2023

27th June, 2023

Virtual Conference

Organized by:
Sri Lanka Library Association

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Resilient Nations for a Better World"

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Library & Information Science
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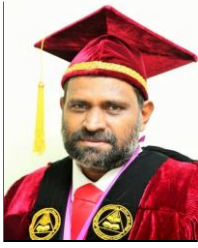Web Editor: Mr. C.N.D. Punchihewa

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Message from the President of the SLLA

Dr. R. D. Ananda Tissa
President, Sri Lanka Library Association 2022/2023

Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) has organized International Conference on Library & Information Science ICLIS 2023, held virtually, on 27th June 2023. I am so delighted to meet virtually our Keynote Speaker Ms. Vicki McDonald, President-Elect of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, the Chief Guest Ms. Himali Jinadasa, Coordinator, Sri Lanka UNESCO, New Delhi Cluster Office for Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka, the Guest of Honour Mrs. Ruwani Senevirathne, Senior Manager, Quality Assurance & Compliance, Chartered Institute of Personnel Management Sri Lanka, today.

Library Association of a country is the key organization that advocates equitable access to information needs of the community and helps to improve services to library users, and supports development of the profession of librarianship. Sri Lanka Library Association was established with the objective to promote the establishment and development of library services in the country. The Annual Session was organized as two separate events. First, the International Symposium been organized to provide a forum to the young researchers and professionals to submit their research findings and to learn from the experiences of others. Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been planned as the second event.

In this regard we conducts the International Conference on Library & Information Science, today. The theme of the conference is "Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World". The objective of the conference is to provide a platform for the intellectuals in the field of Library & Information Sciences (LIS) to debate, discuss, and share knowledge on current trends, issues and solutions related to the transformation of society, nations and the globe.

Success of this international conference depends on the dedications of the Conference Chair Dr. M.M. Mashroofa, Senior Assistant librarian of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka and Convener of LIS Research Group of the SLLA, Mrs. Thivya Janen, Conference Secretary, members of the Advisory Committee, Council and the Executive Committee of the SLLA and the members of the sub committees. Altogether thirty international and local researchers in the field of LIS present their research papers, via online today. Abstracts of all papers are published in the e-proceedings. There is no doubt that, this international conference would pave a path to boost the research productivity and research impacts of the scholarly publications of LIS sector and empower the societies with good practices.

As the president of SLLA, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the keynote speaker, guests, invited speakers, chairpersons, special invitees, paper presenters and all the participants.

Message from the Conference Chair

Dr. Mohamed Majeed Mashroofa
Convener-Research Committee, Sri Lanka Library Association 2022/2023

It is with great pleasure I write this message to the International Conference on Library & Information Science ICLIS 2023, under the theme "Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World", organized by Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) on 27 June 2023. It is a real honor and privilege to serve as the Chair of this international conference.

Library and Information Services play a pivotal role in the quality enhancement of life of people of different walks. Nations need innovative and high-tech library services to find solutions for existing and emerging challenges related to the prosperity of societies. Integrated Library and Information Sciences and smart technologies such as digitalization, library automation, big data, and application of artificial intelligence, robotics appliances, and the Internet of Things (IoT) play a pivotal role in sustainable library services in the twenty-first century. We expect information-literate, health-literate, and functional literate individuals, an inclusive society apart from gender parities, informed citizens, individuals with entrepreneurial skills, and a world free of hunger and poverty. Multidimensional aspects of library services stimulate the transformation of existing society into a sustainable society, by providing equitable access to information, quality education, high-tech applications, and innovative services to develop nations towards sustainability and prosperity, thus leading to a better world. I believe this is an appropriate and timely theme for this year that provides an opportunity to showcase research findings. ICLIS 2023 take place virtually due to the situation associated with the pandemic, economic and financial crisis exist in Sri Lanka.

In this context, Sri Lanka Library Association has organized its annual conference this year with the aim of disseminating research findings conducted by the LIS researchers, and library professionals from public, school, special, and university sectors across the globe by collaborating with IFLA Asia-Oceania Regional Division, Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) – South Asian Chapter, Maldive Library Association, Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS), National Institute for Library & Information Science (NILIS), University of Colombo, and National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB), Sri Lanka. I sincerely believe that the outcomes of the ICLIS 2023 will contribute to the activities of transforming nations through effective, efficient, smart library and information services.

It is an honour that Ms.Vicky McDonald, President-Elect of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has accepted our invitation to deliver the keynote address, and I take this opportunity to thank Ms. Vicky McDonald on behalf of the Sri Lanka Library Association. Moreover, I wish to thank the Chief guest Ms. Himali Jinadasa, the Guest of Honour Ms. Ruwani Senewirathne, Chair of the Plenary session Dr. Pradeepa Wijetunge and Plenary speakers Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Dr. Syeda Hina Batool, Mr. W. Sunil and the council members for accepting our inviting and supporting us for the great success of this event today. My special thanks go to Dr. RD. Ananda Tissa, President SLLA, Ms. Varuni Gangabadarchi, General Secretary, Ms. Thivya Janen, the Conference Secretary, and the Designer Ms. TMC.

Hansamali who are instrumental behind the scene. I also extend my gratitude to other conference committee members, editorial board members, reviewers and evaluators who have contributed to making this event a success.

We have received 51 papers from national and international researchers that underwent double-blind peer review and 30 papers have been accepted for presentation in six technical sessions. Finally, I am privileged to extend my warm wishes to the keynote speaker, guests, plenary speakers, session chairs, special invitees, paper presenters, and all the participants. I wish you all a fruitful and successful conference!

Message from the Keynote Speaker

Ms. Vicki McDonald
IFLA President-Elect 2022/2023

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at the International Conference on Library and Information Science ICLIS 2023. I would like to thank Sri Lanka Library Association, particularly the Conference Chair Dr. Mashroofa Majeed for the invitation.

As the incoming IFLA President I am very keen to have an open dialogue with colleagues from across the globe. I value the opportunity to speak with colleagues from Sri Lanka through ICLIS 2023.

IFLA's vision is a strong and united global library field powering literate, informed and participatory societies. Your conference theme of Libraries as catalysts for transformation: resilient nations for a better world aligns to the goals and work of IFLA. Your conference theme also reflects the ambitions and work of libraries across the globe as they strive to work with their local communities and nations to deliver services that will have a positive impact on their community.

I hope that I may have the opportunity to meet with you personally at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2023 in Rotterdam, 21-25 August. If you unable to travel to Rotterdam, I encourage you to consider participating as a virtual delegate.

I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you on 27 June at ICLIS 2023 about the role that libraries can play as catalysts for transformation.

I wish ICLIS 2023 a great success!

Message from the General Secretary

Ms. Varuni Gangabadaarachchi
General Secretary, Sri Lanka Library Association 2022/2023

I am honored to extend my warm greetings to invited guests and all participants of the research conference on International Conference on Library and Information Sciences 2023. The conference theme "Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World" itself denotes the important of libraries in transforming lives. It is a pleasure to witness the convergence of brilliant minds in this esteemed field, as we collectively navigate the ever-evolving landscape of knowledge management and information dissemination.

Our world is undergoing a remarkable transformation, propelled by the exponential growth of information and technological advancements. In this dynamic environment, the role of library and information sciences has ever been more vital. As guardians of knowledge, we have the responsibility to ensure that information is accessible, relevant, and reliable to all who seek it.

This conference proceedings serves as a platform to exchange groundbreaking research, innovative ideas, and practical experiences that shape the future of our profession. Together, we can explore emerging trends, examine the impact of evolving technologies, and identify strategies to bridge the information divide across diverse communities.

As we navigate the complexities of the digital age, we must remain committed to the core principles that define our profession: intellectual freedom, privacy, equity, and inclusivity. Our libraries and information centers serve as sanctuaries of knowledge, fostering intellectual growth and empowering individuals and communities. Let us continually strive to create inclusive spaces, embrace diverse perspectives, and advocate for open access to information for all.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the organizing committee for their relentless efforts in bringing this conference proceedings to fruition. Your dedication and meticulous planning have ensured that this event is a resounding success. I also extend my appreciation to the esteemed panel of reviewers and the authors whose groundbreaking research has enriched this collection of proceedings.

I encourage all participants to engage in vibrant discussions, explore new collaborations, and forge lasting connections. Let this conference proceedings be a catalyst for transformative ideas, inspiring future research, and innovative solutions that will shape the future of library and information sciences.

Together, we have the power to unlock the doors of knowledge, empower individuals, and build a brighter future. I wish you all a fruitful and memorable conference proceedings.

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Address of the Chief Guest

Ms. Himali Jinadasa
Coordinator, Sri Lanka UNESCO and New Delhi Cluster Office for Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka

It is an honour and privilege to participate at today's conference: "Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World "as the Chief Guest.

Since its creation in 1945, UNESCO introduced to the international arena what we now might call a world book policy. This unprecedented initiative had a "Clear positive impact on book development, on literacy and on education throughout the world".

The conservation and protection of the world's inheritance of books, as well as the call for international cooperation to promote access to publications throughout the world are enshrined in UNESCO's Constitution, this allowed the Organization to launch since its birth what we may call a "World book policy".

The book as an instrument of freedom - What is sure is that the book, at UNESCO, was almost never questioned. For René Maheu, Director-General from 1960 to 1974, the book was the individual machine tool par excellence, the informant constantly available everywhere, the faithful companion of personal quest through the collective treasure of knowledge and wisdom passed on by past generations. The Chinese philosopher Lin Yutang, who was the first chief of the UNESCO Division of Arts and Letters - in his 1937 work The Art of Living compared the act of reading to a journey in time and space, an excursion into a different world, a way of discussing with great people. Emile Delaveney, the head of the Organization's Division of Publications, explained that *"books can liberate what is truly human in man and set off the spark connecting his here and now both with all time past and with any other point in the inhabited universe".*

The depository of books - the library, have been symbolic of beacons of enlightenment and intellectual advancement, providing as the theme of this conference reiterates, catalysts for transformation, ensuring resilient nations for a better world.

The urgency to safeguard these depositories of wisdom, cannot be emphasised enough, to support the progress of future generations.

Often the destruction of libraries has been a recurring tragedy throughout history, and more recently one of the first areas for funding cuts.

The burning of the Great Library of Alexandria in the 3rd Century BC, the Library of Baghdad in the 13th century, and the destruction of the National Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the Bosnian War in the 20th century, and here in Sri Lanka, the Jaffna library which resulted in 97,000 books and ola leaf manuscripts destroyed, denotes the symbolic nature of these beacons of learning.

With regard to the Jaffna library, UNESCO incidentally in collaboration with the Ford Foundation, tried to restore the peninsula's intellectual hub with a program to restore facilities, including an auditorium with an audio visual section, a mobile library so that the collection could be accessible to rural schools, further documenting the priceless books that had been lost.

The UN 2030 Agenda seeks to create "A world with universal literacy". Promoting this vision is at the very heart of our libraries mandate; the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning on the libraries' role in supporting national literacy efforts recommend that:

By involving libraries in the policy dialogue surrounding literacy, and ensure that libraries are an integral part of local and national literacy strategies and efforts.

Enabling libraries to contribute to a literate environment that encourages everyone to develop, enhance and sustain literacy skills within a lifelong learning perspective. Governments must therefore ensure that libraries are able to provide free access to reading materials, literacy activities and information (both in print and online) in a safe and friendly environment where families and individuals can read and learn together

Ensuring that libraries are inclusive and have the knowledge and resources to provide relevant literacy materials in a welcoming space for marginalized, vulnerable and minority language groups. Libraries should serve as a convenient hub where diverse groups can find relevant literacy materials and support. This includes materials, services and activities for people with different literacy levels and abilities. Where the availability of materials in minority languages is limited, libraries should support the creation of local content relevant to the community.

Institutionalize professionalization and invest in ongoing training for all library staff. Training should be provided to help library staff develop a service- and needs-based approach to modern libraries; this should include an understanding of literacy challenges and strategies, the process of learning to read and write, and the impact local and national policies have on literacy. Training should also involve using ICT to develop and sustain literacy and digital skills.

Use data provided by libraries for better-informed policymaking and coordination of the various literacy efforts of different stakeholders. Libraries should measure and evaluate their literacy activities and services and share their findings with governments and the general public. Libraries need to understand and be able to communicate the impact of their literacy efforts, particularly with regard to how they are contributing to local and national literacy goals.

UNESCO has also developed guidelines to strengthen libraries to support family literacy, and learning using Libraries to serve as partners in raising awareness of the important role played by families in developing the literacy skills of children and adults. To contribute to an intergenerational culture of reading and lifelong learning.

Out of a number of initiatives to refer to, this year we honour world book and copyright day, in order to promote the pleasure of books and reading, UNESCO is organizing a collection of books for the benefit of Libraries Without Borders (LWB), an NGO which promotes access for vulnerable populations to education, culture and information.

Another is to establish a World Book Capital Network Charter, which affirms and sets the guidelines for publishing and allowing for freedom of expression of creativity through books, the book capital for the year, has been set up to be Accra in Ghana. As promising as all of these initiatives sounds, they have a common assumption which is with engaging with the traditional notion of a library or a book. However, the notion of libraries and books are ever changing. In particular with the digital age only further broadening the literacy divide with those with internet access to eBooks, having access to unlimited knowledge, whilst those who only fall further through the cracks due to limited personal resources.

However, I am pleased to inform you that UNESCO is not oblivious to the digital changes of mediums, and have been working extensively to adopt to the forthcoming digital age.

For example, UNESCO and our partners launched the Translate a Story initiative to facilitate home-based early age reading. Launched as part of efforts to support learning continuity during

the COVID-19 pandemic as millions of children could not go to school, the initiative has contributed to producing over 9000 resources, books and math games, across 103 languages, housed on the Global Digital Library. This web platform was developed through a partnership between UNESCO and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), and provides high-quality early grade reading books, that can be accessed for reading on digital devices or for printing.

Many of the languages on the Global Digital Library are in Indigenous languages, which is the theme of this year's World Book and Copyright Day, as part of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-32), led by UNESCO. A large percentage of the 6,700 spoken languages mapped by UNESCO are Indigenous. Every language on UNESCO's World Atlas of Languages reflects a worldview and knowledge system, and each one relies on education and intergenerational transmission to avoid extinction, reducing cultural diversity.

Digital technologies can also engage learners in different ways, during the pandemic, UNESCO and the Global Digital Library mobilized over 100 young school students and their teachers in Bangladesh in the framework of the Translate a Story campaign. They embarked on the translation of 500 books from English into Bangla, and five ethnic minority languages, enabling learners in remote areas of Bangladesh, including visually impaired children, to access reading material in their mother tongues.

In the age of Tik Tok and Social Media, the means of receiving and storytelling are everchanging. However, the value of a book and a library, whether digital or physical will be consistently immeasurable in the eyes of UNESCO, and we commit ourselves to ensuring that its value is preserved in forms that balance the past with the present and future, adding to the new innovations and knowledge creation that is added as literature into this field today.

Libraries are perhaps one of the most powerful tools towards progress and power in a country, this is why libraries are attacked, to destroy a societies knowledge systems and culture.

On a personal note, my commitment to supporting libraries in Sri Lanka, includes an initiative I implemented while Director, Secretariat for Co-ordinating the Peace Process (SCOPP), Presidential Secretariat - in collaboration with the Asia Foundation, with the support of the navy, to deliver a substantial number of books for school libraries in the Northern and Eastern Provinces during the war.

The books of the Asia Foundation have filled many school libraries throughout the country, I also grew up with these well illustrated and interesting books, which drew me to the library at my school, to escape to another more colourful world.

I should mention, on a sadder note, that this year the Asia Foundation Books for Asia program ends after 60 years, it is fitting to mention that the last tranche including 6,300 books, will be delivered to more than 100 rural schools, through the UNESCO Associated Schools Network.

This program was supported through the enduring commitment of Mr. Anton Nallathamby, Director of the Asia Foundation, Books for Asia program in Sri Lanka. I am happy to note that Kanniya Pieries, Program Manager for Let's Read, who also works on this program, is scheduled to speak later today.

I am confident that all members of the Sri Lanka Library Association, as gatekeepers to knowledge and progress, guard well the depositories of knowledge that are catalysts, for resilient transformational change for nations, as this years theme for the International Conference in Library & Information Science denotes. Thank you so much for your kind attention, I wish the organizers of this significant national conference, the very best with today's proceeding.

Address by the Guest of Honour

Ms. Ruwani Senevirathne
Senior Manager Quality Assurance & Compliance,
Chartered Institute of Personnel Management, Sri Lanka

It is indeed a great honor for me to speak with you today on this very momentous occasion. The Sri Lanka Library Association is hosting the International Conference on Library & Information Science ICLIS 2023 with the theme "Libraries as a Catalyst for Transformation: Resilient Nation for a Better World".

I am delighted to have the opportunity to address such a talented gathering of dedicated library staff members and other invited guests on "Importance of quality assurance in library services in the context of libraries as a catalyst for transformation: resilient nation for a better world".

Libraries can act as a catalyst for transformation because we are in the process of rebuilding the economy, and as a result, we need to mobilize all the skills, talents, and ideas from the citizenry across the nation in order to harness everyone's ingenuity in order to find solutions that will not only help us transform but also put us on a sustainable path in order to achieve resilient nations for a better future.

Libraries are the heart of communities, whether the community is a university, professional institution, college, small, rural, or urban Centre, Works with libraries to equip them with the knowledge skills, and support to meet the never evolving needs of their communities.

I firmly believe that Quality assurance plays a vital role in ensuring effective and efficient library services in many ways. Quality Assurance (QA) refers to the systematic process of monitoring and evaluating services to ensure they meet predetermined standards.

In the library sector, QA focuses on maintaining and improving the quality of services offered to patrons and helps libraries identify areas for improvement and implement necessary changes to enhance user satisfaction.

Enhancing User Experience is one of key aspect of QA activities in libraries. Library users expect high-quality services that cater to their needs. Through QA, libraries can continuously evaluate and improve their services to provide a better user experience. Furthermore, Quality Assurance helps identify gaps, reduce errors, and optimize service delivery, leading to increased user satisfaction and loyalty.

Effective Resource Management is another important aspect of Library QA. Libraries can operate in an environment of limited resources, including budgets, staff, and materials. Also, QA helps libraries optimize resource allocation by identifying inefficiencies and areas for improvement. Furthermore, Through QA, libraries can streamline workflows, eliminate redundancies, and maximize the impact of available resources.

Ensuring Accuracy and Reliability is another key factor. In the service sector, accuracy and reliability are crucial. QA ensures that library services, such as cataloging, indexing, and information retrieval, are accurate and reliable. This helps users find the information they need quickly and with confidence, building trust in the library's offerings.

Maintaining Compliance and Standards is a very important factor. Libraries often operate within a regulatory framework and adhere to industry standards.QA enables libraries to assess

their compliance with regulations and standards. By conducting regular audits and assessments, libraries can ensure they meet legal requirements and uphold professional norms.

ISO standards for the library: ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards provide guidelines for ensuring quality in various industries. This topic delves into ISO standards specific to libraries, such as ISO 11620 for library performance indicators or ISO 9001 for quality management systems.

These standards play a crucial role in ensuring quality, efficiency, and interoperability within library services and operations.

ISO 11799 is another significant standard for libraries, focusing on the preservation of library materials. This standard offers guidance on the storage, handling, and care of library collections, including books, manuscripts, audiovisual materials, and digital resources. By adhering to ISO 11799, libraries can ensure the longevity and accessibility of their valuable holdings, safeguarding them for future generations.

Interlibrary loan services, a vital aspect of library cooperation, benefit from ISO 18626. This standard outlines protocols and data formats for the exchange of requests and transactions between libraries. It promotes efficient and standardized interlibrary loan processes, enhancing access to resources beyond individual library collections and expanding the services available to library patrons.

Moreover, ISO standards also address digital aspects of library operations. ISO 10160 and ISO 10161 focus on the interlibrary loan of digital items, specifying protocols and messages for electronic document exchange. These standards facilitate the seamless sharing of digital materials between libraries, regardless of their respective systems of platforms.

ISO 20775 is a noteworthy standard that deals with digital object identifiers (DOIs) for libraries. DOIs are unique identifiers assigned to digital resources, enabling persistent and reliable linking to online content. By adopting ISO 20775, libraries can ensure the effective management and long-term accessibility of digital resources, improving discoverability and citation accuracy.

ISO standards bring numerous benefits to the library sector, promoting efficiency, quality, and cooperation. They assist libraries in standardizing their processes, preserving their collections, enhancing resource sharing, and managing digital materials effectively. By adhering to these standards, libraries can provide better services to their users and contribute to the broader goals of information access and knowledge dissemination.

Continuous Improvement QA fosters a culture of continuous improvement within library services. Through periodic evaluations, feedback collection, and analysis, libraries can identify areas for growth and innovation.QA promotes a proactive approach to addressing challenges and embracing emerging trends in the library sector.

Building Trust and Reputation is another important factor Quality assurance is a crucial factor in building trust and maintaining a positive reputation. Libraries known for providing high-quality services attract more users and receive positive feedback.By prioritizing QA, libraries demonstrate their commitment to excellence, which enhances their standing in the community.

Quality assurance is vital for the success of library services in the service sector. It enhances user experience, optimizes resource management, ensures accuracy, maintains compliance, and enables continuous improvement. By embracing QA, libraries can build trust, strengthen their reputation, and better serve their patrons.

To obtain ISO certification for a library, there are several criteria that should be focused on. Here's a list of key areas to consider:

1. **Quality Management System:** Implement a robust quality management system that outlines procedures, policies, and responsibilities to ensure consistent quality in library services.

2. **Customer Focus:** Prioritize customer satisfaction by understanding their needs, providing effective services, and continuously improving customer experiences.

3. **Information Security:** Implement measures to protect sensitive information and data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of library resources.

4. **Collection Development:** Establish a systematic approach to selecting, acquiring, and managing library materials that meet the needs of users and support the library's mission.

5. **Service Accessibility:** Ensure the library is accessible to all individuals, including those with disabilities, by providing suitable facilities, assistive technologies, and accommodating diverse needs.

6. **Continuous Improvement:** Foster a culture of continuous improvement by setting objectives, conducting regular assessments, and taking actions to enhance library services and processes.

7. **Staff Competence:** Invest in staff training and development to enhance their skills, knowledge, and competencies, enabling them to provide high-quality services and support to library users.

8. **Preservation and Conservation:** Implement measures to safeguard library materials, including proper handling, storage, and conservation techniques, to ensure their long-term availability and usability.

9. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage with stakeholders, such as library users, staff, and community members, to gather feedback, understand their expectations, and involve them in decision-making processes.

10. **Environmental Responsibility:** Promote sustainability practices within the library, such as energy efficiency, waste reduction, and responsible resource consumption, to minimize the library's environmental impact.

It's important to note that ISO certification requirements may vary depending on the specific ISO standard chosen (e.g., ISO 9001 for quality management or ISO 27001 for information security). Therefore, it's advisable to consult the specific ISO standard and engage with certification bodies for detailed guidance and compliance.

Libraries play an essential role in the lives of communities and academic institutions, and in human development. Libraries are not just cultural institutions; they contribute to the economic well-being of society. Accordingly, the library community must continue to advocate on behalf of its users for openness and less restrictive policies and legislation regarding the access and use of content.

In conclusion, while the nature and shape of libraries continue to evolve and respond to users' changing needs, what must endure are the underlying values that libraries bring to our societies: equitable access to information, networking, and the sharing of expertise and resources, and being a trusted brand with Quality Assurance activities in Libraries. This will act as a catalyst for the transformation: resilient nations for a better world. I would Thank you for your attention to this presentation on the importance of quality assurance in library services.

Plenary Speech-01

Dr. Syeda Hina Batool
Chair, ASIS & T (South Asia Chapter)
Visiting Professor, UBC, Vancouver, Canada
Asst. Professor, Ins. of Information Management, University of the Punjab

Libraries as Catalyst for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World

A Global Scenario

First of all I would like to present my gratitude to ICLIS 2023 organizers for inviting me and provided the opportunity to highlight the important aspect of our community of practice i.e. 'libraries as catalyst for transformation'. I would like to set the pitch of my talk around 'resilience theory' which argues to bounce back against uncertainties, complex systems, adverse situations and even positive progress. In an article Munro (2011) draws on that we should appreciate the digital revolutions, major library budget cuts, changing user demographics and growing social media industries. These revolutions somehow made information professionals accept the 'new world' and pushed them to think about new ways of adaptability.

Global pandemic is one of the good examples to mention here with the lens of 'resilience theory'. Including libraries, the information providing services have been transformed very shortly and show resilience over the time. Unwilling professionals, scholars and students forced to leave their comfort zone to become digital visitors (Connaway, 2020). Literature also informed us that the resilient organizations performed well to cope with the pandemic challenges and fought at the front end to serve their users (Swanson, 2021). Resilient information professionals practice two way decision making and accept challenges even in rough times (Munro, 2011).

According to Munro (2022) the characteristics of a resilient library include diversity, variability and modularity. To address diversity, we need to think out of the box and adopt user centered approaches in building collections and services. Variability is accepting change (negative or positive) with adequate planning and viewing the complex situations as opportunities. In libraries, modularity can be practiced by wearing multiple hats (interconnected units) in a close connection with a central hub. A stronger connection between library units through effective communication networks would result in increased resilience. The key takeaway from the talk is the idea that the future is highly unpredictable, however, we should acknowledge environmental innovations and digital challenges and respond by building resilience.

References

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Plenary Speech- 02

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Librarianship in the Era of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI)

Libraries, often perceived as catalysts for transformation, stand at the tip of a new era defined by Artificial intelligence (AI) in general and Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in specific. GAI offers a new paradigm for information retrieval and knowledge creation, promising to revolutionize libraries by enhancing their services and operations. Integrating Large Language Models (LLMs) with search engines is fundamental to this paradigm shift. This amalgamation can significantly improve information retrieval and question-answering tasks, paving the way for practical library chatbots.

Further potential lies in the incorporation of AI technologies into current information systems. This could involve the development of librarian robots for tasks such as book detection and shelf organization. However, libraries must be included in the development process to address potential accuracy issues and ensure relevance.

In this new framework, libraries can play vital roles in AI-related tasks, promoting the notion of 'intelligent libraries'. Libraries can support researchers in generating innovative ideas, proposing research questions, and offering fresh perspectives using AI tools. Nevertheless, they must also ensure transparency, ethical usage, and critical evaluation of these tools.

Information literacy skills in AI are critical in helping students acquire and process knowledge for their future. Libraries, therefore, have an indispensable role in promoting algorithmic literacy and digital skills. They need to revise current literacy regimes to ensure the responsible use of AI. This involves encouraging a critical understanding of AI, emphasizing the need for algorithmic literacy, proposing pedagogical strategies, and outlining libraries' contributions.

Despite the potential benefits of AI in enhancing productivity across various sectors, it raises concerns about biases, privacy, security, and misinformation. As such, there is a need for further research in areas like knowledge acquisition, transparency, ethics, digital transformation, and teaching. Libraries can lead in promoting ethical scientific writing and evaluating AI tools' validity and reliability.

In conclusion, generative AI brings about a transformative shift in librarianship. It calls for proactive measures in policymaking, ethical considerations, promoting algorithmic literacy, and adapting library services to protect against misuse and abuse of AI technologies. Through this, libraries can remain vital catalysts for transformation, fostering resilient nations in a world increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence.

Plenary Speech -03

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Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World

I am honoured and privileged to address to the International Conference on Library & Information Science (ICLIS) – 2023 on 'Libraries as Catalysts for Transformation: Resilient Nations for a Better World' organized by the Sri Lanka Library Association. ICLIS is one of the main annual events of research dissemination among the Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals in the country. I believe that the International Conference on Library & Information Science will provide an international level opportunity to disseminate modern-day knowledge among academics, researchers, and professionals and graduate and postgraduate students to share their research experience and help to collaborate and strengthen partnerships among professionals.

As the world and nations encounter new development challenges associated with increasing globalization, climate change, and other natural and man-made hazards, research and innovation become crucial in finding innovative solutions. Therefore, libraries play a critical role in providing the required knowledge, and infrastructure to direct research toward solution-oriented outcomes to build resilient nations for a better world. Libraries are catalysts for change and essential for development. Together, the librarians of the world contribute to rebuilding a just and equitable society.

As the apex body of the Library & Information Science field in Sri Lanka, the National Library & Documentation Services Board, we place significant emphasis on education, research, and capacity building for the LIS sector, and a major component of our functions is focused on strengthening the capacities of all stakeholders, both state and non-state sectors, in performing their role in Sri Lanka's progress towards the library and information science field. As such, the objectives of this Conference align well with our core functions and the research outcomes would immensely benefit our future work.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize transforming the nations in 2030. As our motherland is also one of the participative country in this venture, we conducts many advocacy programmes to educate our librarians towards SDGs. National Library and Documentation Services Board of Sri Lanka contributes a lot in empowering the libraries and educating the librarians towards sustainability.

Last but not least, I warmly congratulate the Sri Lanka Library Association on this timely topic and look forward to the outcomes of the discussion. I am confident that this forum will be an enriching and rewarding experience for all paper presenters and participants.

Technical Session – One

Transformation in Library Services

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පුරාතන ලෝක පුස්තකාල නාමාවලියට ශ්‍රී ලංකාවෙන් ලැබුණු අනගිතම දායාදය වන්නේ පොත්ගුල් විහාර සම්ප්‍රදායයි. ක්‍රි. පු. 3 වන සියවසේ මහින්දාගමනයත් සමගග ඇරඹුණු මෙම සම්ප්‍රදාය රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමය තුළ රැගෙන ගියේ මහාවිහාර, අභයගිරිය, ජේතවනාරාම බෞද්ධ විශ්වවිද්‍යාල සහ මහනෙත්පාමුල අෂ්ට මූලායතන වැනි බෞද්ධ අධ්‍යාපන ආයතනවලිනි. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ ගැටලුව වන්නේ රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ මෙරට පොත්ගුල් සම්ප්‍රදාය බිඳ වැටුනේ කෙසේද යන්න විමර්ශනය කිරීමය. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ වන්නේ රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ මෙරට පොත්ගුල් සම්ප්‍රදාය බිඳ වැටීමට බලපෑ සාධක පරීක්ෂා කිරීමටය. එයට භෞතික ක්‍රියාකාරකම්වලට වඩා මානව ක්‍රියාකාරකම් බලපෑවේ කෙසේද යන්න සොයාබැලීම මෙහි ද්විතියික අරමුණකි. පර්‍යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය වශයෙන් පුස්තකාල ගවේෂණ ක්‍රමය භාවිතා කල අතර ඒ අතුරින් පේ‍රාදේණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය මෙම පර්‍යේෂණ සඳහා මහත් සේ ප්‍රයෝජනවත් වීය. ඒ අනුව දීපවංසය, මහාවංසය, පූජාවලිය ප්‍රස්තුතයට අදාළ ප්‍රාථමික මූලාශ්‍ර සහ ලැඟුම්දෙනියේ පියරතන හිමි, ටී. ජී. පියදාස, මර්වින් රණසිංහ වැනි නූතන විද්වතුන්ගේ ද්විතියික මූලාශ්‍ර ඇසුර කර ගනිමින් මානව විශ්ලේෂණය කොට නිගමනයකට එළැබිණි. රාජ්‍යවංශ අතර බලය උදෙසා ගැටුම් ඇතිවීම, රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ පොත්ගුල් සම්ප්‍රදාය බිඳවැටීමට බලපා තිබේ. අනුරාධපුර යුගයේ මෞර්‍ය ලම්භකර්ණ රාජ්‍යවංශ අතර බලය උදෙසා පැවති තරගයද පොත්ගුල් සම්ප්‍රදායේ පරිහාණියට පත්වීම කෙරෙහි බලපෑ බව පෙනේ. රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ මෙරට පොත්ගුල් විහාර සම්ප්‍රදාය පරිහානියට පත්වීම කෙරෙහි බලපෑ ප්‍රබලතම සාධකයක් වන්නේ විදේශ ආක්‍රමණයි. විශේෂයෙන්ම පාණ්ඩ්‍ය, චෝල, කාලිංග මාස ආක්‍රමණ නිසා මෙරට පිරිවෙන් හා සම්බන්ධ පොත්ගුල් කොල්ලකා විනාශ කොට තිබේ. නිකායාන්තර සමයාන්තර අර්බුදවලට රාජ්‍ය අනිසි ලෙස මැදිහත් වීම රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ බෞද්ධ පොතගුල් විනාශයට බලපා තිබෙන තවත් සාධකයකි. මේ සඳහා ප්‍රබල නිදසුනකි -ක්‍රි. ව. 3 සියවසේ සංසමිත්‍ර නම් මහායාන හික්ෂුවකගේ උපදෙස් අනුව මහා විහාර සංකීර්ණය එහි පොත්ගුල් ද සමග විනාශ කිරීමට මහසෙන් රජතුමා පෙළඹවීම-. ඇතැම් පැරණි සාම්ප්‍රදායික චින්තනයන් බැහැර කරළිමද රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාරයේ පොත්ගුල් සම්ප්‍රදායේ බිඳවැටීමට හේතුවන්නට ඇත. බෞද්ධ පොත්ගුල් විනාශ වීමට බලපෑ තවත් ප්‍රබල සාධකයක් වන්නේ වසංගත රෝග, පස නිසරු වීම, දේශගුණික විපර්‍යාස හේතුවෙන් රජරට ජනතාව නිරිත දිගට සංක්‍රමණය වීම පෙන්වාදිය හැක. රජරට ශිෂ්ටාචාර සමයේ මෙරට බෞද්ධ පොත්ගුල් විහාර සම්ප්‍රදාය පරිහානියට පත්ව බිඳවැටීම කෙරෙහි රාජ්‍යවංශ අතර බල අරගල, සමායාන්තර ආගමික අර්බුදවලට රාජ්‍ය අනිසි ලෙස මැදිහත්වීම ඇතුළ සාම්ප්‍රදායික චින්තනයන් බැහැර කරළීම, විදේශාක්‍රමණ සහ උපද්‍රව නිසා ජනතාව රජරට අතහැර නිරිත දිගට සංක්‍රමණය වැනි ඓතිහාසික කරුණු හේතු වූ බව මෙයින් නිගමනය කළ හැකිය.

ප්‍රමුඛ පද: පොත්ගුල, මහින්දාගමනය, කුලී හමුදාව, විදේශාක්‍රමණ, සංක්‍රමණය

Factors that Contributed to the Decline and Collapse of the Buddhist Book (Pothgul) Tradition in Sri Lanka during the Rajarata Civilization Period: Based on Historical Information Sources

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Abstract

The most valuable gift from Sri Lanka to the catalog of ancient world libraries is the Pothgul Vihara tradition. This tradition, started after the Mahindagamana in the 3 B.C. and carried out during the Rajarata civilization period in Buddhist educational institutions such as Mahavihara, Abhayagiriya, Jethavanarama Buddhist University and Mahanetpamula Ashta Mulayatana. The research problem is to investigate how the tradition of books in Sri Lanka was broken during the Rajara civilization. The main objective of this study is to examine the factors that influenced the collapse of the book tradition in this country during the Rajarata civilization. A secondary objective here is to find out how human activities have affected it rather than physical activities. A survey was conducted based on the information available at the University of Peradeniya library. Accordingly, the primary sources related to the Deepavansaya, Mahavansaya, Pujavaliya, and secondary sources authored by Lagumdeniye Piyarathana Thero, T. G. Piyadasa, Marvin Ranasinghe and other modern scholars were carefully analyzed and a conclusion was reached. Clashes for power between dynasties have led to the collapse of the book tradition during the Rajara civilization. The competition for power between the Maurya Lambhakarna dynasties during the Anuradhapura period also seems to have influenced the decline of the Pothgul tradition. Foreign invasions are one of the strongest factors that influenced the decline of the Pothgul temple tradition in this country during the Rajarata civilization. Especially due to Pandyan, Chola and Kalingha Magha invasions, books related to Piriven in this country were looted and destroyed. Improper intervention of the government in inter-sectarian crises is another factor that has affected the destruction of Buddhist books during the Rajara civilization. Persuading King Mahasen to destroy the great temple complex along with its books on the advice of a Mahayana monk named Sanghamitra in the 3 A.D. is a strong example for this. Discarding some old traditional thoughts may have also led to the collapse of the book tradition of Rajarata civilization. Another strong factor affecting the destruction of Buddhist books is the migration of the people of Rajarata to the southwest due to epidemics, soil infertility, and climate change. From this, it can be concluded that historical factors such as power struggles between dynasties, improper intervention of the government in contemporary religious crises, exclusion of traditional thoughts, and people leaving Rajarata and migrating to the southwest due to foreign invasions and dangers caused the decline and collapse of the Buddhist book temple tradition in Sri Lanka during the Rajarata civilization period.

Keywords: Pothgul tradition, Mahindagamanaya, Mercenary army, Emigration, Immigration

Time-Driven Activity-Based Costing (TDABC) for the Acquisition Process of Academic Libraries: a Case Study of the Library at the University of Performing Arts, Sri Lanka

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Abstract

This study mainly focused on exploring aims: to investigate the practical application of TDABC in the acquisition process of academic libraries; to identify the usefulness of the retrieved information from TDABC in terms of managing decision-making. To gather data, a purposive sample was selected, consisting of the main library at the University of the Performing Arts, SL. Primary data was collected through interviews and observations. After identifying relevant activities, two separate TDABC models were developed to analyze the acquisition process for printed books and journals, respectively. Each model comprises seven stages (Ex: Notifying, Processing the request, Calling for quotations etc.), each of which consists of both standard and optional activities, defined according to the nature of the activity. Next, the study utilized time equations to calculate the cost of acquiring the library items. Accordingly, to determine the cost per time unit (minute) spent on each activity, all cost rates were measured by using the acquisition division's practical capacity (80%) and the fully loaded staff labor cost per minute. Based on the findings, TDABC data showed that acquiring printed books are more expensive to acquire than periodicals, due to the many standard and optional activities involved in the acquisition process. The models calculated the minimum and maximum costs of acquiring the two items, based on optional actions. When considering standard activities, both models reveal that the maximum costs were incurred for both items at 3rd stage, which involves calling for quotations and comparing them (for books 198.99 (RS)/s and for journals 127.10 (Rs)/s). This study suggests that TDABC is an effective method for the library to better comprehend the cost behavior of its acquisition process and improve its cost management strategies. Initially, identifying and recording the organization's activity flow is time-consuming, but once the workflow is identified, the model implemented can be easily changed or updated according to any process changes. Based on the conclusion obtained from the study, it is recommended that further research be conducted to examine the effectiveness of TDABC in different types of libraries and for different library processes such as cataloging, interlibrary loan services, etc.

Keywords: Cost Management, TDABC, Time Driven Activity Based Costing, Academic Libraries, Acquisition Process

Disaster Management at University Libraries: a Case Study at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura Library

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Abstract

Libraries are suffering significantly as a result of disasters, whether they are natural, man-made, or a combination of the two. The university library, which serves the university's teaching, learning, and research activities is no exception in facing disasters. The University of Sri Jayewardenepura is one of Sri Lanka's largest state universities, with eleven faculties. The University of Sri Jayewardenepura library is considered the knowledge centre of the university that provides information to all students and academic staff to fulfilling their information needs. The objectives of the study were to identify the past disasters experienced by the library, identify possible disasters in the library and explore the strategies used for disaster management. The descriptive survey research method was applied in the study. The population consisted of the entire library staff at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the sample size was 62. Sixty-two copies of the questionnaire were distributed and 56 (90.32%) were received after filling. All of the 56 responses were used for the analysis of the study. The purposive sampling technique was used for semi-structured interviews. The telephone interview technique was used in the study. According to the purposive sampling method, only 6 participants out of the responded 56 were selected to be interviewed. The study concludes that incidents related to natural and man-made disasters happened in the library. Insect/rodent attacks and network breakdown disasters had the highest value of 54, representing 96.43% of respondents. About 53 (94.64%) identified electrical faults as a disaster at the USJ library. 53 (94.64%) respondents identified fire and water-related disasters other than floods in the library. According to the interview results, the main types of disasters that library staff expect are fire and water-related disasters. The library employs strategies for disaster prevention, such as performing routine building maintenance (including plumbing and electrical) 30 (53.57%) and employing an effective communication system 25 (44.64%).

Keywords: Academic libraries, Library disasters, Disaster Management, Natural disasters, Man-made disasters.

විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍රයන්හි පාඨක දැනුවත්භාවය පිළිබඳ විමර්ශනයක්: කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාලය ඇසුරින් සිද්ධි අධ්‍යයනයකි

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අවශ්‍ය පාඨකයාට අවශ්‍ය තොරතුර අවශ්‍ය වේලාවේ දී අවශ්‍ය ආකාරයෙන් ලබාදීම පුස්තකාලයක මුඛ්‍ය කාර්යය භාරය වේ. එම අවශ්‍යතා සැපිරීම සඳහා පුස්තකාලයාධිපති ඇතුළු කාර්යය මණ්ඩලය භාවිතා කරන ප්‍රධානම මූලාශ්‍ර වර්ගයක් ලෙස විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර දැක්විය හැකි ය. සුවිශේෂිත තොරතුරක් ලබා ගැනීමට පමණක් කියවිය යුතු එහෙත්, එක දිගටම නොකියවිය යුතු මූලාශ්‍ර විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර ලෙස හැඳින්වේ. මෙම විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර බොහොමයක් පුස්තකාලවල තැන්පත් කර තිබේ. නමුත් විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ අධ්‍යයන, පර්යේෂණ අවශ්‍යතාවයන් සපුරා ගැනීම සඳහා විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතය හා එහි ප්‍රයෝජන පිළිබඳව නිසි අවබෝධයක් පවතී ද යන්න ගැටලුවකි. මෙම පර්යේෂණයෙහි ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ වන්නේ විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර පිළිබඳව පාඨක දැනුවත්භාවය කෙසේද යන්න හඳුනා ගැනීමයි. පුස්තකාලය මගින් විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිත කරන ආකාරය හා එහි ප්‍රයෝජන පිළිබඳව දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන් සිදු කරන්නේදැයි හඳුනාගැනීම, පාඨක අවශ්‍යතාවයන්ට සරිලන ප්‍රමාණවත් විමර්ශන එකතුවක් පුස්තකාලය සතු වන්නේදැයි හඳුනා ගැනීම මෙහි සෙසු අරමුණු වේ. සිද්ධි අධ්‍යයනයක් ලෙස කරන ලද මෙම අධ්‍යයනය ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණයකි. සංගහනය වශයෙන් අධ්‍යයන පහසුව තකා 2022 වර්ෂයේ කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ සංඛ්‍යා දත්ත අනුව බහුලම විද්‍යාර්ථීන් පිරිසකගෙන් සමන්විත සමාජීය විද්‍යා පීඨයේ විද්‍යාර්ථීන් තෝරා ගත් අතර ඒ යටතේ ඇති අධ්‍යයන අංශ අතරින් බහුලවම විශේෂවේදී උපාධි හදාරනු ලබන සමාජ විද්‍යා අධ්‍යයන අංශයේ සහ අවම විද්‍යාර්ථීන් පිරිසක් උපාධි හදාරනු ලබන ක්‍රීඩා හා විඥානීය කළමනාකරණ අධ්‍යයන අංශ දෙකෙහි අවසාන වසර සියලු විද්‍යාර්ථීන් සංඛ්‍යාව වූ සියයක ප්‍රමාණය නියැදිය වශයෙන් භාවිත කරන ලදි. මෙහිදී ප්‍රාථමික දත්ත එක්රැස් කිරීම සඳහා සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා සහ නිරීක්ෂණ යොදා ගන්නා ලදි. මෙම දත්ත එක්රැස් කිරීම සඳහා 2022 වර්ෂයේ සැප්තැම්බර්-දෙසැම්බර් කාල සීමාව යොදා ගෙන ඇත. පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රතිඵල වශයෙන් පුස්තකාලය සතුව විමර්ශන අංශයක් හා විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර එකතුවක් පවතින බව අනාවරණය විය. නමුත් මෙම මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතය හා එහි ප්‍රයෝජන පිළිබඳ විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ අවබෝධය අවම මට්ටමක පවතින බවත් පුස්තකාල ක්ෂේත්‍රය වෙත අන්තර්ජාලයේ සම්ප්‍රාප්තියත් සමග බහුල පාඨක පිරිසක් පුස්තකාලය සතු විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතයෙන් දුරස්ව ඇති බවත් හඳුනා ගත හැකි විය. පුස්තකාලය හරහා පාඨක අනුස්ථාපන වැඩසටහන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කළ ද විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර නිසි අයුරින් භාවිත කරන ආකාරය හා එමගින් සපුරා ගත හැකි තොරතුරු අවශ්‍යතා පිළිබඳව පාඨකයින් දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන් පුස්තකාලය තුළ ක්‍රියාත්මක නොවන බව හඳුනා ගැනීමට හැකි විය. මේ සඳහා විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර පිළිබඳ න්‍යායාත්මක හා ප්‍රායෝගික දැනුමින් යුත් නිලධාරීන් යොදවා විමර්ශන සේවාව තවදුරටත් සාර්ථකව ක්‍රියාත්මක කළ හැකි ය. තව ද කේවල හෝ කුඩා කණ්ඩායම් ලෙස පාඨක අනුස්ථාපන වැඩසටහන් හරහා ප්‍රායෝගික දැනුම ලබාදීම, විදේශීය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලවල සාර්ථකව සිදු කරන වැඩසටහන්වලට සාපේක්ෂව ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාල පද්ධතිය තුළ ද විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර පිළිබඳ දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩමුළු, වැඩසටහන්, දේශන දියත් කිරීම වැනි යෝජනා ඉදිරිපත් කළ හැකි ය.

මූලික පද: පුස්තකාල, තොරතුරු, තොරතුරු සේවා, විමර්ශන මූලාශ්‍ර, විමර්ශන සේවා

Case Study on the Readers' Awareness of the Reference Sources with Reference to the University of Kelaniya

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Abstract

The main purpose of a library is to provide information for its readers when it is necessary. On many occasions, librarians use reference sources to provide services for readers. Reference materials are stored in libraries, but many university students are not aware of them and do not use them for their studies. The main objective of this study was to determine the readers' awareness of reference sources. The specific objectives were to find out whether libraries conduct awareness sessions on reference sources under their custody for readers. Undergradute students of Faculty of Social Sciences of University of Kelaniya were the population of this study. As a sample, readers of the university library attached to the department of sports and recreation management of Kelaniya were selected using the random sampling method. Interview and observation methods were used for data collection. The university library in Kelaniya has an established reference section. A comprehensive collection of reference materials was stored there. But awareness of this collection and its use in the studies was very poor. Even though libraries conduct library orientation programmes, priority has not been given to reference sources. As a recommendation, reference source services can be provided by knowledgeable staff and organised workshops and webinars to make the library community aware of the reference sources via networks on different media.

Keywords: Library, Information, Information service, Reference sources, Reference services

மாணவர்களின் சுயகற்றல் மேம்பாட்டில் பாடசாலை நூலகக் கற்றல் வள நிலையங்களின் பங்கு : இடைநிலைப் பாடசாலைகளை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்ட ஆய்வு

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ஆய்வுச்சுருக்கம்

தகவல் தொழிற்துறையில் தொழில் நுட்பத்தின் பயன்பாடு தகவல் புரட்சியை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளது. இதனால் தகவல்கள் கட்டுக்கடங்காமல் வியாபகம் அடைந்துள்ளன. இச்சூழல் மனித சமூகம் தனது தேவைகளை நிறைவு செய்ய பொருத்தமான தகவல்களில் தங்கியிருக்க வேண்டிய சூழலை தோற்றுவித்துள்ளது. இதனால் பொருத்தமான தகவல்களை கண்டறிய அன்றாடம் தகவல்களை இற்றைப்படுத்த வேண்டிய தேவை தவிர்க்கமுடியாத காரணியாகியுள்ளது. இத்தகைய சூழலில் பாடசாலைகளில் மாணவர்கள் தம்மை இற்றைப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளவும் கற்றல் பெறுபேறுகளில் மேம்பாடு அடையவும் சுயகற்றல் அவசியமானதாக காணப்படுகின்றது. மாணவர்களின் அறிவு, திறன், மனப்பாங்கில் மாற்றங்களை கொண்டுவருவதே கல்வியின் பிரதான நோக்கமாக காணப்படுகின்றது. இந் நோக்கத்தை அடைவதற்கு மாணவர்களின் சுயகற்றல் ஈடுபாடு அதிகரிக்க வேண்டும். சுயகற்றலை மேம்படுத்துவதற்கு மாணவர்களிற்கு பொருத்தமான வளங்களை ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுக்க வேண்டிய பொறுப்பு கல்விச்சமூகத்திடம் காணப்படுகின்றது. அவ்வகையில் மாணவர்களின் சுயகற்றலை மேம்படுத்துவதில் பாடசாலை நூலகம் மற்றும் தகவல் வள நிலையங்களின் பயன்பாட்டினை கண்டறியும் நோக்கில் இவ்வாய்வு மேற்கொள்ளப்படுகின்றது.

அவ்வகையில் யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்வி வலயத்தின் கோப்பாய்க் கல்வி கோட்ட இடைநிலைப் பாடசாலைகளில் (1AB, 1C) தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்ட மாணவர்களையும், அப் பாடசாலைகளின் அதிபர்கள், நூலகப் பொறுப்பாசிரியர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள் போன்றவர்களையும் உள்ளடக்கி ஆய்வு மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டது. தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்ட பாடசாலைகளில் தரம் 11 இல் கல்வி கற்கின்ற (கிரெஜ்சி மோர்கன் அட்டவணைப்படி) 234 மாணவர்களும், 8 நூலகப் பொறுப்பாசிரியர்களும், 8 ஆசிரியர்களும், 8 அதிபர்களும் ஆய்வுக்கு உட்படுத்தப்பட்டனர். இவ் அளவைநிலை ஆய்வானது எழுமாற்று மாதிரி எடுப்பு மூலம் தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்ட மாணவர்கள், நூலகப் பொறுப்பாசிரியர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள் மற்றும் அதிபர்களையும் மையமாகக் கொண்டு வினாக்கொத்து, உற்றுநோக்கல் மற்றும் நேர்காணல் மூலம் தரவுகள் சேகரிக்கப்பட்டு ஒழுங்கமைக்கப்பட்டு SPSS புள்ளிவிபரவியல் மென்பொருள் ஊடாக தரவுகள் பகுப்பாய்வு செய்யப்பட்டு முடிவுகள் விபரண முறையில் விபரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. ஆய்வுப் பெறுபேறுகளின் அடிப்படையில் பாடசாலை நூலகக் கற்றல்வள நிலையங்களில் விழிப்புணர்வுச் செயற்பாடுகள் போதியளவு காணப்படவில்லை என 62.5 சதவீதமான மாணவர்களும், கற்றலுக்குப் போதியளவு நூல்கள் காணப்படவில்லை என 75 சதவீதமான நூலகப் பொறுப்பாசிரியர்களும் குறிப்பிட்டனர். மேலும் பாடசாலை நூலகக் கற்றல்வள நிலையத்தில் கற்றலுக்கு ஆசிரிய நூலகரின் வழிகாட்டல் போதியளவு காணப்படவில்லை என 76.1 சதவீதமான மாணவர்களும், பாடம் சார்ந்த மேலதிக விடயங்களுடன் தொடர்புபடுத்தி ஆசிரியர்கள் கற்பித்தலை

மேற்கொள்வதில்லை என 67.1 சதவீதமான மாணவர்களும் குறிப்பிட்டனர். இதன் அடிப்படையில் மாணவர்களின் சுயகற்றலை மேம்படுத்துவதில் பாடசாலை நூலகக் கற்றல்வள நிலையங்களின் செயற்பாடுகளில் போதாமை காணப்படுகின்றமை கண்டறியப்பட்டன. இவ் ஆய்வின் அடிப்படையில் ஆய்வாளரால் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட விதப்புரைகளில் விழிப்புணர்வை ஏற்படுத்தலும், அவற்றை நடைமுறைப்படுத்துவதன் ஊடாகவும் மாணவர்களின் சுய கற்றலை மேம்படுத்த முடியும் என்பது ஆய்வாளரது நம்பிக்கையாகும்.

திறவுச்சொற்கள்: கற்றல், சுயகற்றல், பாடசாலை நூலகக் கற்றல்வள நிலையங்கள்

The Role of School Library Learning Resource Centers in Students' Self-Learning Development: a Study based on Secondary Schools.

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Abstract

The use of technology in the information industry has led to an information revolution. As a result, information has spread uncontrollably. This situation has created an environment where human society has to depend on appropriate information to fulfill its needs. Thus, the need to search for relevant information on a daily basis has become an inevitable factor. In such an environment, self-learning is seen as necessary for students to improve themselves and achieve improvement in learning outcomes in schools. The main purpose of education is to bring about changes in the knowledge, skills and attitude of the students. Students' self-learning involvement should increase to achieve this objective. The educational community has a responsibility to provide appropriate resources to students to promote self-learning. In this way, this study was conducted to find out the usefulness of the school library and information resource centers in improving the self-learning of the students.

This study was carried out by including the students and the principals, librarians and teachers selected in secondary schools (1AB, 1C) in Kopay Divisional Education Office of the Jaffna Zonal Education Office. 234 students studying in grade 11 (according to Krejcie Morgan Schedule), 8 librarians, 8 teachers and 8 principals were surveyed in the selected schools. This quantitative study focused on students, librarians, teachers and principals selected through stratified sampling and data was collected and organized through questionnaire, observation and interview. The collected data were analyzed using SPSS statistical software and results were presented descriptively. Based on the results of the study, 62.5 percent of the students said that the awareness activities in the school library learning resource centers were not enough and 75 percent of the librarians said that there were not sufficient books for learning. Also, 76.1 percent of the students said that the teacher librarian's guidance for learning in the school library learning resource center is not satisfactory, and 67.1 percent of the students said that the teachers do not carry out teaching in relation to the additional subjects related to the subject. Based on this, it was found that the activities of the school library learning resource centers in improving the self-learning of the students are found to be insufficient. Based on this study, the implication of this research is, self-learning of the students can be improved by creating awareness in the methods presented by the researcher and by implementing them.

Keywords: Learning, Self-learning, School library learning resource centers

A Study of Public Library Service in Sri Lanka under IFLA/UNESCO Performance Factors: Special Reference to Polonnaruwa District

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Abstract

Nowadays, compared to every field, public libraries have to adapt to modern technology and modern social system. Thus, public library services should be operated in a manner suitable for modern times, as shown by the 1994 IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Work Performance Facts. Are the public libraries of Sri Lanka operating under the performance criteria? Librarians of 7 public libraries in Polonnaruwa district were selected as a sample for the study. The main objective of this study is to study the functioning of the public library service in Sri Lanka under the IFLA/UNESCO public library performance criteria. As the research methodology, quantitative research methodology and qualitative research methodology were used as mixed methodology. The survey method was used as the research methodology. The public librarians are minimal at the IFLA / UNESCO Public Library Performance of Library Services. Library services operate according to the Public Library performance of the Public Library System in Sri Lanka due to many. IFLA/UNESCO public library performance issues are at a minimum level of knowledge of public librarians, and according to the performance issues, staff training and knowledge, physical problems, financial problems, reader and staff attitude problems including barriers and Due to the existence of many challenges, the library services in the public library system of Sri Lanka are operating very minimally according to the performance facts of the public library. To avoid these situations and follow international guidelines and standards to implement successful public library services, the government and responsible institutions should introduce methods and policies. The National Library, which is the pilot of public libraries in this country, should take the initiative and provide the necessary knowledge and training for the public librarians and the task force. Funding from the parent institution for public libraries should grow. In order to make the reader's attitude towards public libraries positive, a timely public library service should be implemented according to the reader's needs.

Keywords: IFLA, UNESCO, Public library performance facts, Public libraries, Library services

Technical Session – TWO

Information Literacy for Human Resource Development

A Study on Work-Life Balance, Technostress Creators and Psychological Well-Being of Librarian

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Abstract

This study aimed to determine the effect of work-life balance and technostress creators on the psychological well-being of librarians in the Province of South Cotabato. This study used a non-experimental quantitative research design using descriptive correlational analysis. The questionnaires utilized in the research were adjusted to the goals of the investigation which is an adapted research instrument. The researcher polled a total of 83 librarians who were chosen through stratified sampling technique. The statistical techniques used to analyze and interpret the data are mean and Pearson's r. The researcher used google forms, an online survey tool, to gather the relevant data. The findings revealed that work-life balance, technostress creators, and psychological well-being were all moderately high among librarians. Findings revealed no significant relationship between technostress creators and psychological well-being and work-life balance and psychological well-being.

Keywords: Library and information science, Work-life balance, Technostress creators, Psychological well-being, Philippines

පුස්තකාල විසින් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබන මාර්ගගත පුස්තකාල දිශානති වැඩසටහන් වල බලපෑම පිළිබඳ කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන් ඇසුරින් අධ්‍යයනයකි

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පුස්තකාලය යනු පාඨකයාගේ තොරතුරු අවශ්‍යතා සපුරාලීම උදෙසා බිහි වූ ආයතනයකි. විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාලය, විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයක මූලික කාර්යයන් වන අධ්‍යාපනය, පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රකාශනය සහ දැනුම සංරක්ෂණය උදෙසා පුස්තකාලයෙන් විශාල දායකත්වයක් ලැබේ. පුස්තකාලයේ එක් සුවිශේෂී කාර්යයක් ලෙස නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ට පුස්තකාල සම්පත් භාවිතය පිළිබඳ දැනුවත් කිරීමට දිශානති වැඩසටහන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබයි. දිශානති වැඩසටහන් පැවැත්වීමේ මූලික ඉලක්කය වනුයේ, පුස්තකාල සේවා හා සම්පත් භාවිතය පිළිබඳ පාඨකයාට මග පෙන්වීමක් ලබාදීමය. කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාලය ද සෑම අධ්‍යයන වාරයක් ආරම්භයේම නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන් සඳහා මෙම වැඩසටහන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබයි. වර්තමානයේ දී කොරෝනා වසංගතය හා රටෙහි පවත්නා අස්ථාවරත්වය හේතුවෙන් මෙම වැඩසටහන් මාර්ගගතව ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබයි. ග්‍රාමීය, නාගරික සියලු ප්‍රදේශවලින් විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයට ඇතුළත්වන නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ට මෙම වැඩසටහන් හරහා පුස්තකාල භාවිතය පිළිබඳ අවශ්‍ය මග පෙන්වීම ලබා දුන්නද එය ප්‍රායෝගික නොවී ඇත. පුස්තකාල මාර්ගගතව භාවිත කිරීමට නිසි අවබෝධයක් නොමැති වීම හරහා අධ්‍යාපනික කටයුතු සඳහා පුස්තකාල භාවිතය අඩු වී ඇත. මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ අරමුණු වනුයේ පුස්තකාලය විසින් පවත්වන මෙම වැඩසටහන් නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ට බලපෑම් කරන ආකාරය හඳුනා ගැනීම, දිශානති වැඩසටහන් පිළිබඳ නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ අවබෝධය හඳුනා ගැනීම හා මෙම වැඩසටහන් පැවැත්වීම මගින් විද්‍යාර්ථීන් මුහුණ දෙන ගැටලු හඳුනා ගැනීමයි. සංගහණය ලෙස කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ සමාජවිද්‍යා පීඨයේ අධ්‍යනාංශයන්හි නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන් තෝරා ගත් අතර අහඹු නියැදිය යටතේ විද්‍යාර්ථීන් 100 ක් නියැදිය ලෙස තෝරා ගන්නා ලදි. දත්ත රැස් කිරීමේ ක්‍රමවේදය ලෙස ප්‍රශ්නාවලි, සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා සහ වෙබ් අඩවිය නිරීක්ෂණය හරහා දත්ත රැස් කරන ලද අතර දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණය කිරීම සඳහා Excel දත්ත පදනම භාවිත කරන ලදී. අධ්‍යයනයේ සොයා ගැනීම් අනුව පුස්තකාල දිශානතිය මගින් නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන් තුළ පුස්තකාල සම්පත් හා සේවා පිළිබඳ ප්‍රමාණවත් දැනුවත් කිරීමක් ලැබෙන බව 68% ප්‍රතිශතයකින් අනාවරණය විය. නමුත් නවක විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ට එම සේවා පිළිබඳ සංකීර්ණ ස්වාභාවයක් ඇති බව 69% ප්‍රතිශතයකින් හා මාර්ගගතව පුස්තකාල සම්පත් භාවිත කිරීමට ඇති අවබෝධය අඩු බවද 76% ප්‍රතිශතයකින් ද මෙම වැඩසටහන අවසන් වූ පසුව පුස්තකාල වෙබ් අඩවි ගවේෂණයේදී සහ විද්‍යුත් මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතයට ඇති අවබෝධය අඩු බව ද 54% අනාවරණය විය. මේ සඳහා යෝජිත විසඳුම් ලෙස පුස්තකාලය විසින් මාර්ගගතව පමණක් වැඩසටහන සිදු නොකර භෞතික වශයෙන් පැවැත්වීම, විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ අධ්‍යාපනික කටයුතුවලට බලපෑම් කිරීම සඳහා නව දිශානති වැඩසටහන් ප්‍රතිනිර්මාණය කිරීම, පාඨක ආකර්ෂණීය වැඩසටහන් නිර්මාණය කිරීම හා සංකීර්ණතාවයෙන් තොරව ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම ආදිය විසඳුම් ලෙස දැක්විය හැකිය.

මූඛ්‍ය පද: පුස්තකාලය, විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාලය, අධ්‍යාපනය, මාර්ගගත දිශානති වැඩසටහන්

A Study on the Impact of Online Library Orientation Programs Implemented by Libraries: Based on New Students at the University of Kelaniya

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Abstract

The library is an institution created to meet the information needs of the readers. University library makes a great contribution to the basic functions of a university, which are education, research publication, and knowledge preservation. One of the unique functions of the library is orientation programs which are implemented to inform new students about the use of library resources. The primary goal of orientation programs is to provide an overview of library services and resources to guide readers in their use. Library of University of Kelaniya also implements these programs for new students at the beginning of each semester. Currently, due to the Corona epidemic and the current instability in the country, these programs are implemented online. Although the new students who enter the university from all rural and urban areas are given the necessary guidance on the use of the library through these programs, it has not been practical. Due to the lack of proper understanding in using libraries online, the use of libraries for educational purposes has decreased. The objectives of this research are to identify how these programs conducted by the library have an impact on new students, to identify new students' understanding of orientation programs, and to identify the problems faced by the library in conducting these programs. As the population, freshmen in the departments of the Faculty of Social Science of the University of Kelaniya were selected and 100 students were selected as the sample under random sampling. As the method of data collection, data was collected through questionnaires, interviews, and site observation. According to the findings of the study, it was revealed that 88% of the new students are adequately informed about library resources and services through library orientation. But 66% of new students have a complex nature of those services and 76% of them have little understanding of how to use library resources online. Suggested solutions for this are to conduct programs physically instead of online-only by the library, to recreate new orientation programs to influence the educational activities of the students, to create attractive programs for readers, and to present them without complexity.

Keyword: Libraries, University library, Education, Online orientation program

Bibliometric Analysis and Comparison of Global Research Literatures Published on Information Seeking Behaviour retrieved from Scopus and Web of Science databases

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Abstract

The objective of this article is to conduct a bibliometric analysis of the global research literatures published on 'Information Seeking Behaviour' retrieved from Scopus and Web of Science databases and to compare both the data files along with the merge file to measure the growth of annual literature in the research area. The analysis and results compares the similarity and differences between Scopus and WoS, and further each one of them with the merged file. A total of 435 and 585 documents were extracted through the Scopus database and Web of Science core collection respectively. It includes Articles, Conference Paper, Book Chapter, Book Review and Notes. The required research data were extracted by applying the following search queries in the main searching box of the Scopus and Web of Science databases. Scopus database: TITLE-ABS-KEY ({Information Seeking Behaviour}) OR ({Information Seeking Behavior}) Web of Science database: TS=({Information Seeking Behaviour}) OR ({Information Seeking Behavior}). During the analysis of retrieved data, 220 doruments were found duplicate in titles and DOIs. Therefore it is discarded keeping one title from each set of duplicate. Finally, total 800 documents were come out as a merge document file and considered for the analysis. To perform qualtitative analysis of retrieved document Biblioshiny application of Bibliometrix, R package has been used and to create network visualization map of keyword clustering, VOSviewer software has been used. The study reveals that, in the year 2000 only 7 documents were published in Scopus, after that in all succeeding years an upward and downward slopping has seen. 2021 is the most productive year in both the databases. The author named Nicholas D. is on 1st rank with higher publication and citations in both the databases. The source "Library Philosophy and Practice" is on first rank in Scopus with 76 publications, while "Health Information and Libraries Journal" is on first rank in WoS and Merged Document with 64 and 76 respectively. University College of London has published 34 documents, followed by University of Malaya with 29 documents in Scopus. While in WoS 29 documents were published in affiliation with University of Queensland, followed by University of Sheffield with 28 documents. Moreover, UK is most productive country in Scopus and WoS with 194 and 390 documents respectively. These comparative studies of Scopus and WoS conclude that these two databases are permanently improving, but comparisons of these two databases have not exposed a clear winner.

Keywords: Bibliometric analysis, Information seeking behaviour, Scopus, Web of Science, Comparative analysis

Information Literacy Skills of National School Students in Northern Province, Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Education policy of Sri Lanka is changing towards student centered learning. The students are, therefore, supposed to make effective use of the library for the assignments given to them by their teachers. It is now clear that the time when students relied entirely on the teachers' notes, without supplementing them with other sources, has come to an end seeking information for self learning of students. This study reports the results of an exploratory investigation into information literacy skills among national school students in six schools located in the Northern Province, Sri Lanka. The main objectives of the study were to determine the information literacy level among national school students, and to gain a broader understanding of information literacy skills practices in National schools. Convenience sampling was used to select the teachers, while purposive sampling was used to select all the other participants in the study.16 teachers, teacher librarian and 104 students were selected as target population for research. Data were gathered via self-administered questionnaires and additional qualitative data were obtained from structured interviews with teacher-librarians. Results indicate three main issues: first, poor information skills among the students 17% never visit to library; second, heavy reliance on the use of prescribed textbooks 52% students depends on text book; and finally, the lack of evaluation as a barrier towards the effective integration of information literacy skills into the educational system.

Keywords*: Information literacy skills, Education, National schools, School students

Job Satisfaction of Teacher Librarians: Kuliyapitiya Education Zone

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Abstract

Job satisfaction is a very important element that is regularly measured by organizations. The most common method of measurement is the use of rating scales where school librarians report their reactions to their job satisfaction. Questions related to the rate of pay, work responsibilities, variety of duties, promotional opportunities the work itself, and co-workers. A school library gives access to students, staff, and parents to a variety of library resources. The objectives of the study were, to identify the level of job satisfaction of teacher librarians, to identify the job satisfaction is responsible for a desirable lifestyle, to identify the relationship between working conditions and job satisfaction, and to identify the challenges in job satisfaction of school librarians. To collect data used survey method. A structured questionnaire has been designed to collect data from teacher librarians. Using the Krejcie and Morgan sampling table, 82 questionnaires were distributed. Findings revealed that 72% of the teacher librarians were satisfied with their jobs. 88% mentioned that job satisfaction is responsible for a desirable lifestyle,92% mentioned that clearly working condition is affected by job satisfaction and lack of professional development activities, lack of support from the school management, salary, and respect are the major barriers to job satisfaction. The study revealed that school management and zonal education office should be made mechanisms to uplift their professional qualification, continuously conduct proper workshops and seminars to solve their professional issues and school management should be given a helping hand to school librarians to succeed in their path. The finding of the study would be helpful for government authorities, library professionals, and other respective organizations to develop mechanisms and introduce a new framework to enhance their performance.

Keywords: Job satisfaction, School librarians, Library professionals, Kuliyapitiya, Sri Lanka

Technical Session – Three

Smart Library Services

A Study on the Digitization of University Library Resources in Sri Lanka: a Case Study of Kelaniya, Colombo, Sri Jayewardenapura and Peradeniya Universities

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Abstract

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has revolutionized the world today. Information and communication technology has also revolutionized the field of libraries. Thus with the advent of ICT, the traditional libraries shifted to the concept of virtual libraries. As a result, digital libraries emerged. For digital libraries to emerge, their resources must be digitized. Accordingly, digitization is the conversion of traditional materials such as book maps and other paper items into electronic copies. The main objective of this study was to study the digitization of library resources in the universities of Sri Lanka, to identify problems that may arise during digitization and to make suggestions for minimizing the identified problems. For this study, data on digitization of university library resources in Sri Lanka was collected under the following sections: the reasons for the digitization of libraries; the purpose of digitization; the digitization tools; the scanning equipment; and the digitization staff. For this purpose, four university libraries were selected as samples. They are libraries of University of Kelaniya, University of Colombo, University of Sri Jayewardenapura and University of Peradeniya. The case study methodology was used as the research collection methodology for the study. Accordingly, an online questionnaire was presented to the librarians of the libraries selected for the sample and data was collected by sending reminders and telephone calls to the libraries which did not respond. Regarding the digitization of library resources in the universities of Sri Lanka, the study finds a large number of library resources are being digitized in the libraries of University of Kelaniya and University of Peradeniya, while a limited amount of resources are being digitized in other libraries. At the same time, digitization efforts in libraries are weakening due to declining funds, declining digitization equipment and the high cost of such equipment. However, the use of digitization equipment in the University of Peradeniya Library is significant. Lack of experienced and skilled staff, high cost of equipment, and limited funding from the parent company are some of the problems identified in the digitization of university library resources. Accordingly, solutions to those problems have also been proposed.

Keywords: Digitization, Information and communication technology, Digital libraries, University libraries

நூலக செயற்பாடுகளிலும், சேவைகளிலும் முகில் கணினி தொழில்நுட்பத்தை பயன்படுத்தல்: ஒரு கண்ணோட்டம்.

எம். டி. தஸ்னீம் முஹம்மத்

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ஆய்வுச்சுருக்கம்

நவீன யுகத்தில் கணினியும் இணையமும் மிக முக்கிய கதாப்பாத்திரத்தினை வகிக்கின்றன. இணையத்தின் வளர்ச்சியானது முகில் கணினி (Cloud Computing) தொழிநுட்பத்தின் வளர்ச்சிக்கும் விருத்திக்கும் அச்சாணியாக இருக்கின்றது. இத்தொழிநுட்பம் அனைத்து வகையான நிறுவனங்களிலும் பயன்படுத்தப்படும் தொழிநுட்பமாக வளர்ந்துள்ளது. இத்தொடரில் முகில் கணினியை பயன்படுத்தி செய்யமுடியுமான நூலக முகாமை செயற்பாடுகள், நூலக சேவைகள் பற்றி இவ்வாய்வு ஆராய்கின்றது. இவ்வாய்வானது பண்புசார் முறைமையை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டு இரண்டாம் நிலைத் தரவுகளான ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகள், இணையவழிக் கட்டுரைகள், துறைசார் நூல்கள், காணொளிகள் என்பவற்றைப் பயன்படுத்தி மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டுள்ளது. நூலக முகாமை செயற்பாடுகளையும் சேவைகளையும் முகில் கணினியைப் பயன்படுத்தி வினைத்திறனாக மேற்கொள்ள முடியும் என்ற எடுகோளை அடியாகக்கொண்டுள்ளது இவ்வாய்வு. இவ்வாய்வின் பிரதான நோக்கமாக முகில் கணினி மூலம் நூலக முகாமை நடவடிக்கைகளை செய்யவும் நூலக பயனர்களுக்கான சேவைகளை வழங்கவும் முடியும் என்பதை கண்டறிவதும் துணை நோக்கங்களாக முகில் கணினி தொடர்பாகவும் அதனது பிரிவுகள், பண்புகள் தொடர்பாக அறிவதும் நூலகத்தின் பிரதான சேவைகள் மற்றும் முகாமை செயற்பாடுகள் தொடர்பாக அறிதுமாகும். முகில் கணினி என்பது கணினி செயற்பாட்டிற்கான வளங்களை சேவை முறையில் இணையத்தினூடாகப் பெற்றுக்கொள்வதாகும். இது சேவை அடிப்படையில் மென்பொருள் சேவை (Software as a service), மேடைச் சேவை (Platform as a service), உட்கட்டமைப்புச் சேவை (Infrastructure as a service) என்றும்; கட்டமைப்பின் அடிப்படையில் பொது (Public), தனி(Private), ஹைபிரிட் (Hybrid), சமூக (Community) முகில் மாதிரிகள் என்றும் பிரிக்கப்படுகின்றன. முகில் கணினியின் பண்புகளான குறைந்த செலவு, தொலை அணுகள், துரிதம், மீளப் பெறுதல் (Retrieval), தேவையான அளவுக்கு சேவைபெறல், கூட்டான அணுகள் போன்றன பல நலவுகளுக்கும் காரணமாக அமைகின்றன. முகில் கணினியின சேவை மற்றும் கட்டமைப்பு மாதிரிகளுக்கேற்ப நூலகத்தில் ஒருங்கிணைந்த நூலக முறைமை (ILS), டிஜிடல் ஆவண முகாமை, மிண்ணனு நூல் முகாமை, அங்கத்தவர் முகாமை, பகுப்பாய்வு, வள முகாமை போன்ற முகாமை நடவடிக்கைகளில் ஈடுபடமுடியும். இன்னும் நூல்பரிமாற்றம், உசாத்துணை சேவை, வாசகர் கல்வி, பட்டியல் அணுகல், தரவுத்தள அணுகல் போன்று இன்னும் பல சேவைகள் வழங்க முடியும். இன்றய தகவல் யுகத்தில் Digital Library, E-Library, Library Automation என பல ஆய்வுகள் நடாத்தப்பட்டு வரும் நிலையில் முகில் கணினி தொழிநுட்பத்தினூடாக செய்யமுடியுமான நூலக முகாமை செயற்பாடுகளையும், சேவைகளையும் இவ்வாய்வு அடையாளப்படுத்திக் காட்டுகிறது. முகில் கணினியின் பண்புகள் நூலக செயற்பாட்டை சிறப்பாகவும் வினைத்தினாகவும் செய்வதற்கு காத்திரமான பங்களிப்பினை வழங்குகின்றன.

திறவுச் சொற்கள்: முகில் கணினி, நூலக சேவைகள், நூலக முகாமைத்துவம், நூலகமும் முகிலும், முகில் மாதிரிகள்

Cloud Computing Used in Library Management Activities and Services: an Overview

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Abstract

Internet and Computers are playing a vital role in the modern era. Developments in internet become important for the technological improvement and development for the cloud computing. Nowadays most of the institution starts to using cloud computing for their routine activities. This study aims to explore the services & management activities in libraries using cloud computing. It's a qualitative study and used secondary resources such as research articles, internet articles, books, videos related to cloud computing. Hypothesis: Cloud computing can be used for library services and management. Major objective of this study is to find out how libraries can perform management activities and services using cloud computing. Also, specific objectives are, to find about cloud computing, categories of cloud computing, characterizes of cloud computing and the major library services and management activities. Cloud computing is the delivery of computing services over the internet. It categorized based on the services provided as software as a service, platform as a service and infrastructure as a service. Also, it can be categorized based on the infrastructure as public, private, hybrid, community. It complains the characteristic as low cost, mobility, speed, security, retrieval and flexibility. Libraries can perform integrated library services, digital document management, electronic book management patron management analysis and resource management using cloud computing. Also, can provide services such as book circulation, reference services, user education, cataloguing search and database search. Finally, this study identifies that, Libraries can provide services and management activities using cloud computing. Also, the characteristics and categories of cloud computing can be used for these library activities too.

Keywords: Cloud computing, Library services, Library management, Libraries and clouds.

Use of OPACs in Public Libraries in Sri Lanka with Special Reference to Kurunagala District

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Abstract

OPAC is an online bibliographic information of library collection that is available to the public. An information retrieval tool can provide multiple access to libraries even without physical access. The related literature confirmed, OPAC has been describe as a one of most important and useful information retrieval tool in any library. OPAC is used effectively in national library, university libraries and special libraries of the library system in Sri Lanka. But public library OPAC remain in the primary stage in public libraries. This research paper based on the usage of public library OPACs with special reference to Kurunagala district. The objectives of this study were to1.) Identify the current status of the OPACs in Kurunagala district 2). Identify the trends in the use of OPACs 3).Identify the problems related to OPACs.4.) Propose suggestion to improve the OPAC in public libraries in Kurunagala district. The non-probability purposive sampling method was used to select public libraries from the Kurunagala district. Primary data was collected using questionnaires and personal interviews from users, librarians and other library staff. The collected data revealed that inadequate computer literacy and unfamiliar with OPAC among the staff in the Library system of Kurunagala district. The study also showed that fund allocation was not satisfactory to complete and the maintenance task of library automation process. In addition it was very difficult to identify expert personalities in the library automation area. Finally, this study recommends, users should be provided with computer technology knowledge and continued user education. Also, the staff should be given adequate knowledge and training in the use and handling of library management software.

Keywords: Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), Public library, Information retrieval, Kurunagala district

Transforming Libraries into Smart Learning Commons: a Case Study of SLIIT Library

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Abstract

In the digital era of the millennium, the evolution of technology and the utilization of big data have led to the expansion of Google and Artificial Intelligence. To keep pace with this progress, libraries must embark on a modernization journey, leveraging technology to create a smarter environment that facilitates easy access and comfortable experiences for readers. This abstract explores the concept of smart libraries, emphasizing the development of new e-tools and services that cater to user requirements with greater efficiency. The modernization of libraries encompasses aspects such as environmental upgrades, automation, and digitization. Smart technology, services, readers, spaces, and governance play integral roles in this transformation. Academic libraries, including SLIIT, a prominent private university, support teaching, learning, and research initiatives through their library resources. The changing nature of smart libraries significantly impacts user education, library services, the information profession, and the development of lifelong learning skills. This study focuses on SLIIT Library's adoption of the smart library concept, which has led to a more modernized approach, redefining the traditional library as a Learning Commons Centre. The poster presented here provides insights into the background, elements, functions, and dimensions of a smart library, showcasing how SLIIT library has become one of the country's smartest libraries through the implementation of various services. These services encompass library marketing, wireless access, Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, image recognitions, RFID, CCTV, sensors, and other related concepts. The integration of digital services such as e-SDI, bulletin boards, discussion forums, virtual sessions and online resources has further enhanced the library's offerings. The results of this study highlight the fulfillments of user requirements in the current era and emphasize the importance of libraries leveraging new technologies to meet the evolving demands of readers.

Keywords: Smart libraries, Modernization, Digital libray services

பாடசாலை நூலகங்களில் நூலகத் தன்னியக்கவாக்கம் இன்மையினால் பாடசாலை நூலகர்கள் எதிர்நோக்கும் சவால்கள்

முகமட் உசனார் நவ்பர்காந்

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ஆய்வுச்சுருக்கம்

இன்றைய அறிவியல் வளர்ச்சியில் மனிதனின் வாழ்வோடு ஒன்றிவிட்டதாக "கல்வி" உயர்ந்து காணப்படுகின்றது. மாறிவரும் உலகமயமாதல் செயற்பாடு காரணமாக நூலகங்களும் புதிய கோணத்தில் செயற்பட வேண்டியதும் காலத்தின் தேவையாகும். நூல்கள் மாணவர்களின் தரங்களுக்கேற்பவும், பாடங்களுக்கேற்பவும் பொருட்சுட்டி மற்றும் பட்டியலாக்க அடிப்படையிலும் சரியான முறையில் ஒழுங்குபடுத்தப்படாமையினால் மாணவர்கள் அதிகளவான நேரத்தினை நூல்களினை தேடுவதில் செலவிடுகின்ற ஒரு நிலை காணப்படுகிறது. பாடசாலை நூலகங்கள் தன்னியக்கவாக்கம் செய்யப்படாமையினால் அதிகளவான நூல்கள் காணாமலாக்கப்படுகின்றன. இதனால் பாடசாலை நூலகங்களில் நூல்களைப் பாதுகாப்பதிலும் பராமரிப்பதிலும் ஒரு சிக்கல் நிலையை அவதானிக்க கூடியதாகவுள்ளது. இதன்படி இவ்வாய்வினை மேற்கொள்வதற்காக மட்டக்களப்பு மத்தி வலயத்தின் ஏறாவூர் கல்விக் கோட்டத்தில் உள்ள 10 பாடசாலைகளும் அதனை நிர்வகிக்கும் 20 நூலகப் பொறுப்பாளர்களும் நோக்க மாதிரியின் அடிப்படையில் தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளனர். ஆய்விற்கான தரவு சேகரித்தல் கருவிகளாக வினாக்கொத்து, நேர்காணல், அவதானம், ஆவணச்சான்றுகள் போன்றன பயன்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளன. இவற்றின் மூலம் பெறப்பட்ட அளவுசார் மற்றும் பண்புசார் தரவுகள் பொருத்தமான மென்பொருள் முறைகளின் ஊடாக பகுப்பாய்வு, வியாக்கியானம், கலந்துரையாடல் போன்ற செயற்பாடுகளுக்குள் உள்வாங்கப்படுவதுடன் பகுப்பாய்வின் மூலம் பல்வேறு முடிவுகளும் கண்டறியப்பட்டுள்ளன. ஆய்வுக்குட்படுத்திய பாடசாலைகளில் 80 சதவீதமான முடிவுகளில் பாடசாலை நூலகங்களில் தன்னியாக்கல் செய்வதற்கான வசதிகள் காணப்படவில்லை என அறிய முடிந்தது. பாடசாலை நூலகங்களில் ஆசிரியர்களே நூலகர்களாகவும் செயற்படுகின்றனர். நவீன தொழினுட்பத்தினை பயன்படுத்துவதற்கான பொருத்தமான முறையில் நூலகர்கள் பயிற்றுவிக்கப்படாமையும் கண்டறியப்பட்டது. அத்துடன் அசாதரண நிலைமைகளில் மாணவர்கள் நூலகங்களினைப் பயன்படுத்தவில்லை எனவும் கண்டறியப்பட்டதுடன் பாடசாலை நூலகங்கள் இன்றும் நவீனமயப்படுத்தப்படவில்லை போன்ற முடிவுகளும் பெறப்பட்டன. பாடசாலை நூலகங்களும் தொழிநுட்ப வசதி கொண்ட வகையில் மாற்றிமைக்கத் தேவையான வசதி வாய்ப்புக்களை முன்னெடுப்பதற்குத் தேவையான நடவடிக்கைகளை மேற்கொள்ளல் வேண்டும். நூலகத் துறைசார்ந்தவர்களை இப்பணிக்கு உள்ளீர்ப்பு செய்தல் வேண்டும். பாடசாலை நூலகங்களினை மாணவர்கள் விரும்பும் வகையில் நூல்களை இலகுவான முறையில் தெரிவு செய்வதற்கு நூல்களின் தன்மைக்கேற்ப வகைப்படுத்தல் வேண்டும் போன்ற விதப்புரைகள் முன்வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

திறவுச் சொற்கள்: பாடசாலை நூலகங்கள், தன்னியக்கவாக்கம், பாடசாலை நூலகர்கள், சவால்கள்

Challenges Faced by School Librarians due to Lack of Library Automation

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Abstract

In today's scientific development, "Education" is perceived as expanding with human life. Due to the changing process of globalization, it is the need for libraries to act in a new direction. There is a situation in school libraries, where students spend a lot of time searching for books because the books are not properly organized and those were not catalogued and indexed correctly. Many books lost every year. This study identified that, those problems can be rectified by automating the school libraries. At present there is a problematic situation observed in school library maintenance. The data was collected among the 10 schools in Eravur Education Zone in Batticaloa District. The questionnaire was circulated among the 20 teacher librarians in the selected 10 schools in addition this study used direct interviews, observations and documentary evidences to collect data. Quantitative and qualitative data obtain were analyzed, interpreted, and discussed to find the suitable automation software for school libraries. Among the 10 schools included in this survey, 80% of the respondents were said, there is no facilities in school libraries to automate its functions. At school libraries teachers act as the librarians. Librarians were not trained to apply new technologies properly. Further more this study found that students did not use libraries during the pandemic and other crises. The school libraries were not modernized. This study recommend that school libraries should be transformed with application of smart technologies, recruit professionally qualified librarians, and library collections should be properly organized.

Keywords: School Libraries, Automation, School Librarians, Challenges

Technical Session – Four

Libraries and COVID-19 Pandemic

SWOT Analysis of New Library Innovations in the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Abstract

Applications of SWOT analysis will give a deep understandings in the COVID-19 Pandemic which pave a pathway to new library innovations. The goal of the current study was to determine how the COVID-19 will affect new, creative library services. To that end, a SWOT analysis was used to represent Strengths (S), Weaknesses (W), Opportunities (O), and Threats (T) at the library. Taking into consideration that measuring library activity is one of the most crucial library indicators. Additionally, the current study measures the numerous library services offered to patrons. In the COVID-19 pandemic era, libraries had a revolutionary idea that was examined in this analysis of SWOT. It highlights several ways that the pandemic is compelling libraries to employ cutting-edge technology. Findings of this studyt provides libraries faced with a cutting-edge environment in which to operate. It also discusses the SWOT analysis conducted during the COVID-19, indicated with an emphasis on the quick, intensive adoption and deployment of hitherto underutilised technology breakthroughs. Without a doubt, during the global shutdown, libraries and other organisations were at the forefront of inventive service delivery ideas.

Many services and their role are utilized for users. However, they are often neglected in the middle of a pandemic such as Coronavirus. There is an opportunity right now more than ever, in the management team for several directions, a method to concentrate their services and a bumper rail to save them going forward. As a result, it will give us a picture in providing innovative library services.

Keywords: COVID-19, Innovation, Libraries, SWOT Analysis

Bibliometric Analysis of Global Research Literature on COVID - 19 Related to Kidney Diseases from 2019 - 2022

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Abstract

Covid-19 pandemic has created many challenges in the world. SARS CoV infection in a kidney disease patient causes increase in mortality and complications in the treatment. The aim of the paper was to perform a bibliometric study on the global research literature on covid-19 and kidney diseases. The study examined the growth of literature, authorship pattern, productive author, language distribution, country-wise distribution, productive institutions, major information sources, keyword analysis and international collaboration during the period between the year 2019 and October 2022. Bibliographic data were retrieved from the PubMed database. The collected data were analysed using Microsoft Excel and the R package named Biblioshiny. A total of 5260 records were used in the analysis. The majority (97.5%) of the publications were published in English. Among the total number of 34,473 authors, Wang Y from China was the most contributing productive author. Multi-authored publications were in the prominent position in the literature, where as sole-authored publications were only 3%. The majority of the publications (88%) related to the study topic were freely accessible. USA was the most productive country having 741(14%) publications with the highest number of international collaborations (954) with 87 countries all over the world. Sri Lanka also had 18 international collaborations with 13 different countries including USA, and United Kingdom. Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China was the most productive institution publishing the highest number of literature (692) on covid- 19 and kidney diseases. The leading journals publishing articles on this topic were 'PLOS One', 'Kidney International' and 'American Journal of Transplantation'. The study highlighted the trending keywords on the topic of Covid-19 and kidney diseases. The study provides insights on the topic of Covid-19 infection and kidney diseases to plan future research activities.

Keywords: Bibliometric analysis, COVID -19, Kidney diseases, PubMed

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වර්තමාන තොරතුරුමය යුගයක තොරතුරු වෙත පහසුවෙන් ප්‍රවේශ වීමට පුස්තකාලවල ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා වැදගත් වේ. පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු මධ්‍යස්ථානවලින් ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා ඉටු වන්නේ ද යන පර්යේෂණ ගැටලුව මත පදනම්ව මෙම පර්යේෂණය සිදු කර ඇත. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ බවට පත්ව ඇත්තේ ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාලය හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලය සහ ජාතික විද්‍යා පදනම යන පර්යේෂණ පුස්තකාල විසින් ක්‍රියාත්මක ප්‍රලේඛන සේවාවල වර්තමාන තත්ත්වය හඳුනා ගැනීම, එකී ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා සම්පාදනයේ දී මුහුණපාන ගැටලු සහ එම ගැටලු විසඳා ගැනීමට ආයතනය මගින් ගෙන ඇති ක්‍රියාමාර්ග ආදිය පිළිබඳ මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ දී අධ්‍යයනය කර ඇත. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ දී මිශ්‍ර පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය භාවිත කරන ලදි. දත්ත එකතු කිරීමේ දී ප්‍රශ්නාවලි, සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා සහ ද්විතීක මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතා කරන ලදි. ප්‍රශ්නාවලි මගින් දත්ත එක් රැස් කිරීමේ දී ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාලය හා ජාතික විද්‍යා පදනම ආශ්‍රිත නිලධාරීන් දෙදෙනෙකුට කාර්යාලීය ප්‍රශ්නාවලි ලබාදීම මගින් සහ ඔවුන් සමග සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා පැවැත්වීමෙන් ද ද්විතීක මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිතයෙන් ක්ෂේත්‍ර පර්යේෂණ දත්ත රැස් කර ගන්නා ලදි. අධ්‍යයනයේ සංගහනය වන්නේ ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලය මගින් සම්පාදනය වන ප්‍රලේඛන සේවාවන්ය. සංගහනය අතරින් අභිමතාර්ථ නියැදි ක්‍රමය යටතේ යාවත්කාලීන වන ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා අතර ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික ග්‍රන්ථ නාමාවලියත්, ශ්‍රී ලංකා පශ්චාත් උපාධි නිබන්ධන අනුක්‍රමණිකාවත් සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකා උපැහැරණ අනුක්‍රමණිකාවත් යොදා ගන්නා ලදි. දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණයේ දී ප්‍රමාණාත්මක දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණය සඳහා Excel මෘදුකාංගය භාවිතා කරන ලදි. ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පුස්තකාලවල ක්‍රියාත්මක වන ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා අතරින් ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලයෙහි 77.7% ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා ප්‍රමාණයක් සහ ජාතික විද්‍යා පදනම 44.4% ප්‍රමාණයක් ක්‍රියාත්මක වන බව අනාවරණය විය. ඒ අතරින් ග්‍රන්ථ නාමාවලි හා අනුක්‍රමණිකා අතරින් අඛණ්ඩව සම්පාදනය නොවන ග්‍රන්ථ නාමාවලි හා අනුක්‍රමණිකා හඳුනා ගැනීමට හැකි විය. එහි සම්පාදනය ආශ්‍රිත ගැටලු පවතින බවත් අනාවරණය විය. එනම් ප්‍රකාශයට පත් වීම ප්‍රමාද වීම, පී.ඩී.එෆ්. ආකාරයෙන් මාර්ගගතව භාවිතය අපහසු වීම, මුද්‍රණ කටයුතු සඳහා විශාල මුදලක් වැය වීම සහ ප්‍රකාශන ආවරණයේ පටු බව, දත්ත පදනම් ආශ්‍රිත අනුක්‍රමණිකා සම්පාදනය සඳහා මෘදුකාංග ලබා ගැනීමට විශාල මුදලක් වැය වීම, පුහුණු කාර්යය මණ්ඩලයක් නොවීම යනාදි වශයෙනි. මෙහි දී පුස්තකාල හා ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා සම්පාදනයේ දී කාර්යය මණ්ඩල පුහුණුවක් ලබා දීම, ග්‍රන්ථ නාමාවලි හා අනුක්‍රමණිකා මාර්ගගත නිර්මාණයට අවශ්‍ය මෘදුකාංග පිළිබඳ දැනුවත් කිරීමේ කටයුතු සිදු කිරීම යෝජනා ලෙස ඉදිරිපත් කරන ලදි.

ප්‍රමුඛ පද: තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ ක්‍රම, පුස්තකාල සේවා, ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා, ග්‍රන්ථ නාමාවලි සේවා, අනුක්‍රමණිකා

A Study of Documentation Services in Libraries in Sri Lanka: with Special Reference to the National Library and Documentation Services Board and the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Documentation services in libraries are important for easy access to information in today's information age. This research has been conducted based on the research problem that, whether the library and information centers are performing documentation services. The main objective of this study is to identify the current status of the documentation services operated by the National Library and Documentation Services Board of Sri Lanka and the National Science Foundation, the problems faced in the provision of documentation services and the measures taken by the institution to solve those problems. Mixed research methodology was used in this study. Questionnaires, interviews and secondary sources were used in data collection. Data was collected by distributing questionnaires to two officials associated with the National Library of Sri Lanka and the National Science Foundation and conducting interviews with them and field research data was collected using secondary sources. The study focuses on the documentation services provided by the National Library and Documentation Services Board of Sri Lanka. The National Bibliography of Sri Lanka, the Sri Lanka Postgraduate Dissertation Index and the Sri Lanka Upharana Index were used based on the purposive sampling method. Microsoft Excel was used was used for quantitative data analysis. Results revealed that National Library and Documentation Services Board of Sri Lanka performs 77.7% of the documentation services and the National Science Foundation operates 44.4% documentation services. Results also revealed bibliographies and indexers are not compiled continuously due to several compilation issues. Some of them are delay in publication, difficulty in online use of PDF format, high cost of printing and scarcity of publication coverage, high cost of software for database-related sequencing, lack of trained staff, etc. It was proposed to provide staff training in the provision of library and documentation services, to carry out awareness activities about the software required for creating bibliographies and catalogue online.

Keywords: Information seeking, Library services, Documentation services, Bibliographic sevices, Indexes

කොවිඩ් 19 වසංගත තත්ත්වය මධ්‍යයේ පුස්තකාල භාවිතය සහ සමාජ ප්‍රාග්ධනය පිළිබඳ නැවත සිතා බැලීමක්: බස්නාහිර පළාතේ පුස්තකාල ආශ්‍රයෙනි

ජී. බී. එන්. සාරංගි

පුස්තකාල හා විඥාපන විද්‍යා අධ්‍යයන අංශය
කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව
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ලෝක සමාජ රක්ෂණ රාමු සියල්ලම කොවිඩ් 19 වසංගත තත්වයෙන් කම්පාවට පත් ව ඇති අතර පුස්තකාල ක්ෂේත්‍රය ද මෙම තත්ත්වය සමග අතිරේකව පීඩාවට පත් වී ඇති තවත් එක් අංශයක් ලෙස සඳහන් කල හැකි ය. පුස්තකාලය යනු දැනුම් දොරටුවක් වන අතර සෑම අංශයකින් ම ධනාත්මක අවබෝධයක් ලබා ගැනීම සඳහා ඉවහල් වනු ඇත. ගෝලීය වශයෙන් මෙම කොවිඩ් වසංගතය ව්‍යාප්ත වීම තුළ සියලු ම පුස්තකාල හා පාඨකයන් සඳහා අභියෝගයක් පැවති යුගයක පාඨකයන්ගේ පුස්තකාල භාවිතය මෙන් ම එතුළින් සමාජ ප්‍රාග්ධනය ඇති කරලීම මෙම පර්යේෂණයහි මුඛ්‍ය අරමුණ වශයෙන් සඳහන් කල හැකි ය. ඒ අනුව මූලික වශයෙන් කොවිඩ් 19 වසංගතයට ප්‍රතිචාර වශයෙන් ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ බස්නාහිර පළාතට අයත් අධ්‍යයන පුස්තකාල හයක් තුළ එහි තත්ත්වය පිළිබඳ ව සමාලෝචනය කිරීමට පර්යේෂණ විධික්‍රම අනුගමනය කරනු ලැබූ අතර පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රශ්න සඳහා පිළිතුරු සැපයීමට ද්විතීයික මූලාශ්‍ර භාවිත කරනු ලැබූ අතර ම පාඨක අත්දැකීම් ද විශ්ලේෂණය සඳහා භාවිත කරනු ලැබිණ. ඒ අනුව මෙහි දී විශ්ලේෂණය මගින් සනාථව ඇත්තේ පාඨකයන් සඳහා පහසුවෙන් ප්‍රවේශය ලැබිය හැකි ආකාරයට ඩිජිටල් පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය වර්ධනය වී ඇති ආකාරයයි. ඒ අනුව විද්‍යුත් පොත් පත් සගරා ඇතුළු ව සියලු ම ඩිජිටල් මාධ්‍යයේ අන්තර්ගතයන් උසස් අධ්‍යාපන සඳහා අත්‍යවශ්‍ය වන මන්තිරු මෙහි අන්තර්ගතව පවතී. ඩිජිටල් පුස්තකාල සේවා, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ අධ්‍යයන පුස්තකාල සඳහා සබැඳි සේවා සැපයීමට ද සුවිශේෂී වේ. සමස්ත අධ්‍යයනය තුළින් විද්‍යාමාන වනුයේ කොවිඩ් 19 වසංගත තත්ත්වය තුළ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ අධ්‍යයනය පුස්තකාල වල ප්‍රාග්ධනය සඳහා යොදා ගැනීමේ දී පුස්තකාල ඩිජිටල්කරණය සුවිශේෂි වන බවයි. එමෙන් ම පුස්තකාල ඩිජිටල්කරණය වීමත් සමග සමස්ත පුස්තකාල පද්ධතිය සක්‍රිය ව පවත්වා ගැනීමට හැකිවන බව පැහැදිලි වේ.

ප්‍රමුඛ පද: කොවිඩ් වසංගතය, අධ්‍යයන පුස්තකාල, ඩිජිටල් පුස්තකාල

Library Usage and Social Capital during the COVID-19 Pandemic, with Special Reference to the Academic Libraries in the Western Province

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic affected all sectors of society, including the library sector. A library can be considered a door to knowledge. During the COVID-19 pandemic, opening a library was a challenge. The objective of this study was to study the development of social capital by opening libraries during the COVID-19 pandemic. The six academic libraries were selected from the western province for the study. As a methodology, reader experiences were gathered. The secondary sources were referred to. The study concluded that the concept of a digital library developed during the period, including eBooks and e-resources that were readily available to the public during the period. The study revealed that digital libraries during COVID-19 enhanced the capital in society.

Key words: COVID-19, Academic libraries, Digital libraries

Technical Session – Five

Libraries for Sustainable Societies

Impact of Religious Information on Political Beliefs and Personal Morality among Bangladeshi People

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Abstract

Religion has been an integral part of this world since ancient times. Bangladesh is a South Asian country with a population of over 170 million people. Like most of the South Asian countries, religion plays a very crucial role in the society and politics of Bangladesh. The use of religion in politics is not so uncommon in Bangladesh. Religion has been an important debate issue in many political and social trends. Many religious groups in Bangladesh have drawn the attraction of a wide section of the country's population in recent years. The policymakers are also influenced by the impact of religious factors while making policies. Religion still shapes the moral beliefs of the people in the country. It is also evident from social and political tensions. The main objective of this study is to explore the impact of religious information on Bangladeshi citizens' personal morality and political beliefs. An online survey was conducted to collect the viewpoints of Bangladeshi citizens regarding the impact of religious information on their personal morality and political beliefs. A total of 210 respondents participated in the survey selected through convenience sampling. In addition to demographic and general information, a five-point Likert scale was used to measure the impact of religious information on morality and political beliefs. Additionally, nonparametric Mann–Whitney U and Kruskal–Wallis tests were conducted to know the significance of differences in respondents' assessment of personal morality and political beliefs in terms of their demographic characteristics. The current study reveals that religious information has an impact on the citizens of Bangladesh. The respondents have differences in their opinions by different demographic groups. Respondents' educational level, current residency, and information literacy have significant differences in their opinions. This paper will help us to get a brief scenario of the impact of religious information on morality and political beliefs. Although the result of this study cannot be generalized, this study will help future studies on this issue.

Keywords: Religious information, Political beliefs, Personal morality, Bangladesh

මහජන පුස්තකාල පාඨක ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධන වැඩසටහනක් ලෙස ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන්හි උපයෝගීතාවය: කොළඹ මහජන පුස්තකාලය ඇසුරිණි

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සමාජය තුළ සංකීර්ණ භූමිකාවක් ඉටු කරමින් පාඨකයාට අවශ්‍ය සියලුම ආකාරයේ පාඨක සේවාවන් ලබාදෙමින් කටයුතු කරන ආයතනයක් ලෙස හඳුනාගත හැකි පුස්තකාලය තව දුරටත් සමාජගත කිරීමේ උත්සාහයක් ලෙස පුස්තකාල ව්‍යාප්ත සේවා හඳුනාගත හැකිය. පුස්තකාලය භාවිත කරන පාඨකයාගෙන් ඔබ්බට ගොස් කියවන්නන් නොවන්නන් පාඨකයන් බවට පරිවර්තනය කරමින් මහජන සම්බන්ධතා ප්‍රවර්ධනය කරමින් පාඨක ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධනය සිදු කිරීම මෙහිලා අපේක්ෂා කෙරේ. මෙම පර්යේෂණ ලිපියෙහි ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ වනුයේ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ මහජන පුස්තකාල අතුරින් විශාලතම මෙන්ම ප්‍රධාන ගණයේ පුස්තකාලයක්ව සැලකෙන කොළඹ මහජන පුස්තකාලය මගින් පාඨක ප්‍රජාව සඳහා ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබන ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන්හි උපයයෝගීතාව පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීමයි. මෙම සන්දර්භය තුළ කොළඹ මහජන පුස්තකාලය විසින් 2022 වර්ෂය තුළ ක්‍රියාත්මක කරන ලද ව්‍යාප්ත සේවා හඳුනා ගැනීම, ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන්හි ක්‍රියාකාරීත්වය සහ ගුණාත්මකභාවය හඳුනා ගැනීම, මානව සම්පත් දායකත්වය සහ පාඨක දැනුවත්භාවය පරීක්ෂා කිරීම, ව්‍යාප්ත සේවා ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධනය සඳහා කෙරෙන්නා වූ දායකත්වය මැන බැලීම ආදිය අරමුණු කොටගෙන මෙම අධ්‍යයනය සිදුකර ඇත. මෙහි පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමය ලෙස සමීක්ෂණ ක්‍රමය යොදා ගන්නා ලද අතර ප්‍රශ්නාවලීන් සහ සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා මගින් අවශ්‍ය තොරතුරු රැස් කරගන්නා ලදී. ඒ අනුව පුස්තකාලය භාවිත කරන වැඩිහිටි සහ ළමා පාඨකයන් අතුරින් අහඹු ලෙස තෝරාගත් පාඨකයන් 120 දෙනෙකු අතර ප්‍රශ්නාවලීන් ලබා දෙමින් තොරතුරු රැස් කිරීම සිදුකළ අතර ඉන් පාඨකයන් 102 දෙනෙකු පමණක් ප්‍රශ්නාවලීන් සඳහා ප්‍රතිචාර දක්වනු ලැබිය. එලෙස ලබාගත් ප්‍රතිඵල ඇසුරින් පාඨක ප්‍රතිචාර සහ පාඨක සහභාගීත්වය ගණනය කිරීමෙන් ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන්හි උපයයෝගීතාවය මැන බැලීමට හැකියාව ලැබුණි. ඒ අනුව පුස්තකාලය මගින් ක්‍රියාත්මක ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන් අතුරින් (44.75%) ප්‍රතිශතයක් ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන් පිළිබඳ ඉතා හොඳ ප්‍රතිචාරයක් දක්වා ඇති අතර (23.56%) වැනි පිරිසක් සතුටුදායක තත්ත්වයක්ද (11.91%) පිරිසක් ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන් පිළිබඳ දුර්වල ප්‍රතිචාරයක් ලැබිණි. එයට අමතරව පුස්තකාලය මගින් ක්‍රියාත්මක වැඩසටහන් අතුරින් අත්කම් සහ නවෝත්පාදන වැඩසටහන්, ස්වයං රැකියා වෙළඳපොළ, කතන්දර පැය, ජංගම පුස්තකාල සේවය, පොත් එළි දැකීම සහ පොත් ප්‍රදර්ශන, සංගීතමය වැඩසටහන් සහ චිත්‍රපට ප්‍රදර්ශනය සහ සංස්කෘතික උත්සව සැමරීම වැනි වැඩසටහන් (70%)කට වඩා ඉහළ පාඨක ප්‍රතිචාරයක් හිමිකර ගෙන තිබූ අතර වැඩමුළු සහ රැස්වීම්, පාඨක අනුස්ථාපන වැඩසටහන් සහ කියවීම් කව වැනි වැඩසටහන් (50%) කට වඩා අඩු පාඨක ප්‍රතිචාරයක් ලබාගෙන තිබුණි. පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රතිඵල සාරාංශය අනුව නවෝත්පාදන වැඩසටහන් (86%), කතන්දර පැය (82%), ස්වයං රැකියා වෙළඳපොළ (79%), අධ්‍යාපනික මාර්ගෝපදේශන වැඩසටහන් සහ තරඟ (75%), ජංගම පුස්තකාල සේවා (72%) වැනි වැඩසටහන් ඉහළ උපයයෝගීතාවයක් පෙන්නුම් කරන ව්‍යාප්ත සේවාවන් වශයෙන් හඳුනාගත හැකි අතර කොළඹ මහජන පුස්තකාලය මගින් ක්‍රියාත්මක වැඩසටහන් බොහොමයක් පාඨක ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධනයට උපයයෝගීතාවයක් දක්වන බවත් පැහැදිලි වෙයි.

මූලික පද: පුස්තකාල ව්‍යාප්ත සේවා, කොළඹ මහජන පුස්තකාලය, උපයයෝගීතාවය, ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධනය

The Importance of Extension Services for the Development of Society, with Special Reference to the Public Library in Colombo

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Abstract

The library provides information for readers and contributes to social development. The main objective of this study was to evaluate the extension services provided by the public library of Colombo. Specific objectives were to identify the extension services done by the public library of Colombo during 2022, study the quality of the extension services done by the public library of Colombo, and evaluate how they affect the development of the social community. The data were collected from questionnaires and interviews. Among the respondents, 44.75% positively commented on the extension services carried out during 2022. Further, 23.56% highly appreciated the extension services done during 2022, while 11.91% criticised the service badly. Out of all the extension services, innovative programmes, the self-employment fair, story-telling hour, mobile library service, book launches, musical programmes, film screenings, and cultural festive events got 70% positive feedback from the community. Workshops and reading camps got less than 50% positive feedback. According to the results, innovation programmes (86%), story hour (82%), self-employment fair (79%), educational guidance programmes and completions (75%), and library mobile service (72%), showed high impact on society. This study concludes that the extension services conducted by the public library of Colombo contributed to the development of society.

Keywords: Library extension services, Public library of Colombo, Community development

මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය හා බුදු දහම පිළිබඳ විමර්ශනාත්මක අධ්‍යයනයක්.

ඒ. කේ. සී. අයේෂානි අබේසිංහ
නාගානන්ද ජාත්‍යන්තර බෞද්ධ අධ්‍යයන ආයතනය, කැලණිය.
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'මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය' වර්තමානයේදී ක්‍රමිකව වර්ධනය වෙමින් පවතින සංකල්පයකි. පුස්තකාල නව ප්‍රවණතාවයක් වන මෙය භාෂාව හා පුස්තකාල යාන්ත්‍රණය භාවිතා කරමින් පුද්ගල චර්යාව, ආකල්ප, සිතිවිලි ධනාත්මකව වෙනස්කරවීම අරමුණු කරගත්තකි. මානව පුස්තකාල ක්‍රමවේදය තුළ දී සිදුවන්නේ පොත්පත් කියවීම වෙනුවට යම් පුද්ගලයෙකු හා සංවාදයක් නිර්මාණය කර ගැනීමේ ප්‍රායෝගික ක්‍රියාවලියකි. මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය බුදුදහම තුළ පැවති සංකල්පයක්ද යන වගත් ඒ තුළින් යහපත් ලෝකයක් නිර්මාණයට මාර්ගෝපදේශය සැපයුවාද යන වගත් මූලාශ්‍ර අධ්‍යයනයෙන් විමර්ශනය කිරීම මෙහිදී වැදගත් වේ. 2000 වර්ෂයේ දී ඩෙන්මාර්කයේ සිව් මිතුරු සමාගමක් හරහා ආරම්භ වුවායැයි සැලකෙන මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය වසර කිපයක් තුළ ලොව පුරා පැතිර යන ලදී. බ්‍රාහ්මණයන්ගේ වේද මන්ත්‍ර ආදිය, කටපාඩමෙන් රැගෙන ආ සම්ප්‍රදායක් පැවතිණි. ඉන්පසු ක්‍රි. පූ. 6 වන සියවසේ දී පහළවූ බුදු දහම තුළ මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය ක්‍රමානුකූලව ගොඩනැගිණි. මෙම සංකල්පය ධර්ම භාණ්ඩාගාරික වූ ආනන්ද හිමියන් තුළ ද පැවැති බවට පෙළ දහම සාක්ෂි දරයි. එමෙන්ම පළමු ධර්ම සංගායනාවෙන් ඇරඹි භානක පරම්පරාව, මෙම මානව පුස්තකාලයන්හි සාක්ෂිකරුවන් වේ. ධර්මය කටපාඩමින් පරම්පරානුගතව රැගෙන එමින් ජනයාගේ හිතසුව පිණිස ධර්මය දේශනා කරමින් සමාජයට යහපත සලසාලීම මෙහිදී සිදුවිණි. ඒ පිළිබඳ පෙළ දහම, අට්ඨකථා සාහිත්‍යය මෙන්ම සෙල්ලිපි ද සාක්ෂි සපයයි. ශ්‍රුති ගෝචර ශෛලියෙන් ජාතක කතා පොත, පූජාවලිය රචනා වූ අතර මහාවංශය ආරම්භයේදීම එය අසා සිටීම උදෙසා ලියුවක් බව සඳහන්ය. වෙස්සන්තර ජාතක කාව්‍යය අතීතයේ දී කටපාඩමින් අවමංගල්‍ය අවස්ථාවලදී ගැයූ බවත් ඒවා අසා සිටි පිරිස් බොහෝ වූ බවත් දැනගැනීමට ලැබේ. ඒ අනුව එම සාර සංකල්ප ජන ගී තුළින් සමාජගත වෙමින් පුද්ගල චින්තන ධාරාව සුමඟට යොමු කරලීමට මෙන්ම පුද්ගල චර්යාව තුළ ධාර්මිකත්වය වගා කිරීමට සමත් විය. ජනයා මානව පුස්තකාල වශයෙන් දැනුමෙන්, සාක්ෂරතාවයෙන්, අත්දැකීමෙන් සුපෝෂිත මානව පෝර්ෂයන් වටා එක්වෙමින් කටයුතු කළ අතර එමගින් යහපත් ගුණ ධර්මයන්, ශිල්ප ශාස්ත්‍රයන්, ජීවනෝපායන් ගොඩනගා ගත්හ. ඒ අනුව මානවයාගේ දැනුම, ආකල්ප හා කුසලතා පරිවර්තනය තුළින් වඩාත් යහපත් ලෝකයක් ඇති කරලීමට, පුස්තකාල නව ප්‍රවණතා යටතේ මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය ඉස්මතු වූ බවත්, එය බුදුදහම තුළ පැවති සංකල්පයක් බවත් නිගමනය කළ හැකිය.

ප්‍රමුඛ පද: මානව පුස්තකාල සංකල්පය, නව ප්‍රවණතා, යහපත් ලෝකය, පරිවර්තනය, බුදු දහම

A Study on Human Library Concepts and Buddhism

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Abstract

The human library concept has been gradually developed. From this concept, human behaviour, attitudes, and positive thinking are developed. Through human library concept, humans provide information through conversation instead of reading a book. The human library concept originated in Buddhism, and the way to create a better world can be determined from information resources. The human library concept was introduced by a Company in Denmark in 2000 and has been spreading throughout the world within a few years. Barahman and Veda are transmitted through oral tradition. The human library was a concept developed in the 6th Century B.C. with Buddhism. According to Buddhist literature, the reverent Ananda Thero had this concept within himself. Barnakers were the evidence of the human library concept after the 1st Dhamma council. Barnekers transmitted the Dhamma from generation to generation through oral tradition. Jathaka stories, Pujawaliya, Mahawamsa, and Vessanthara Jathakaya are exciting examples. This concept was able to create in humans a good personality with good attitudes and skills. It is the best way to develop a better society. Even though the human library concept emerged as a new trend in library science, it was a concept in Buddhism.

Role of Libraries to Develop Sustainable Societies in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Libraries have always played a vital role in society and they have a significant impact on the development of sustainable societies. By making information and understanding of sustainable development accessible, libraries in Sri Lanka have been playing a crucial role in promoting sustainability. The objective of this research is to investigate the role of libraries in the development of sustainable societies in Sri Lanka. A qualitative research method was used to collect data. Six libraries in the Colombo district were selected using a purposive sampling method. And also sample population consists of 30 people including librarians and library users and data was collected from librarians and library users through semi-structured interviews. The interview questions focused on the role of libraries in promoting sustainability. The study found that libraries in Sri Lanka actively support sustainable development through a range of initiatives and offerings. By making information on eco-friendly practices, renewable energy, and waste management available, libraries are putting an emphasis on environmental sustainability. By making information about human rights, gender equality, and cultural diversity accessible, they are also encouraging social sustainability. Findings revealed that libraries played a crucial role in promoting education (83.3%), community engagement (66.7%), cultural preservation (50%), and environmental awareness (33.3%). However, further research is needed to explore the impact of libraries on sustainable development in a larger context. Furthermore, by hosting events and programs that promote awareness and action on sustainable development issues, libraries can serve as community centers for sustainable development. However, the study also showed that there are a number of difficulties that Sri Lankan libraries must overcome in order to promote sustainable development. These difficulties include a lack of funding, scarce resources, and a lack of knowledge about the contribution that libraries can make to sustainable development. In conclusion, libraries play a vital role in developing sustainable societies in Sri Lanka. By providing access to information and education on sustainability, libraries can contribute to raising public awareness, promoting sustainable lifestyles, and fostering a sustainable future for Sri Lanka. However, libraries face several challenges in promoting sustainability, and more efforts are needed to improve their role in developing sustainable societies.

Keywords: Libraries, Sustainable development, Sri Lanka, Societies

Technical Session – Six

Equitable Access to Information

උසස් අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ කුසලතාවන් වර්ධනය කිරීමෙහි ලා විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාල තුළින් දක්වන දායකත්වය: ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජරට විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය ඇසුරින් සිදුකළ අධ්‍යයනයකි

බී. එම්. සී. මධුසංඛ බණ්ඩාර

මානව ශාස්ත්‍ර අධ්‍යයනාංශය, සමාජීයවිද්‍යා හා මානවශාස්ත්‍ර පීඨය, ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජරට විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය
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විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයක මූලික කාර්යයන් වන අධ්‍යාපනය, පර්යේෂණය, ප්‍රකාශනය සහ දැනුම සංරක්ෂණය උදෙසා විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාලයෙන් විශාල දායකත්වයක් ලබා දෙන අතර විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ කුසලතා වර්ධනය කිරීමේදී ශාස්ත්‍රීය පුස්තකාලයක් ශිෂ්‍යයාට අතිශය වැදගත් වේ. ඒ අනුව විශ්වවිද්‍යාල විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ කුසලතා වර්ධනය කිරීමෙහි ලා පුස්තකාල තුළින් ලබාදෙන දායකත්වය කෙබඳු ද? යන්න පිළිබඳ අධ්‍යයනය කිරීම මෙහි පර්යේෂණ ගැටලුව වූ අතර ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජරට විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ විද්‍යාර්ථීන් තුළ තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ කුසලතා වර්ධනය කිරීමෙහි ලා පුස්තකාලය විසින් සංවිධානය කරනු ලබන වැඩසටහන් සහ ක්‍රියාත්මක කරනු ලබන ක්‍රමවේද මොනවා ද යන්න හඳුනාගැනීමත්, ඒවායේ පවතින ගැටලු සහ අඩුපාඩු මොනවා ද යන්න හඳුනාගැනීමත්, විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ වර්තමාන තොරතුරු සෙවීමේ කුසලතා හඳුනා ගැනීම ආදිය මෙම පර්යේෂණයේ මූලික අරමුණු විය. පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය වශයෙන් ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක්‍රමවේදය යටතේ ප්‍රශ්නාවලි සහ සම්මුඛ සාකච්ඡා ක්‍රමය යොදා ගත් අතර අහඹු නියැදිය යටතේ කාර්ය මණ්ඩල සේවකයින් 50 ක් සහ ශිෂ්‍ය විද්‍යාර්ථීන් 350 දෙනෙකු මගින් දත්ත රැස් කරන ලදී. පර්යේෂණ ප්‍රතිඵල අනුව උසස් අධ්‍යාපනය තුළ නිරතවන විද්‍යාර්ථීන් සඳහා විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාල කාර්යමණ්ඩලය විසින් තොරතුරු ගවේෂණය කිරීම සඳහා විවිධ ක්‍රියාකාරකම්, වැඩසටහන් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරන අතර විද්‍යාර්ථීන් අනුගත කිරීමේ නවක නමිනීකරණ වැඩසටහන, පුස්තකාල දේශන, තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ ක්‍රම පිළිබඳ දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන්, පුස්තකාල චාරිකා, පුස්තකාල අත්පොත් ආදිය මගින් සහ මාර්ගගත ආකාරයෙන් ද දායකත්වය සපයන බව අනාවරණය විය. නමුත් එම වැඩසටහන් සහ මග පෙන්වීම් පාඨකයා පොළඹවා ගැනීමට සහ පාඨකයා ආකර්ෂණය කර ගැනීමට සමත් නොවීම, සංකීර්ණ ගවේෂණ ක්‍රම ක්‍රියාත්මක වීම, පාඨකයාට මාර්ගගත සුවිය පිළිබඳ දැනුවත්භාවයක් නොමැතිවීම ආදිය මෙහි දැකගත හැකි අඩුපාඩු විය. පුස්තකාල දිශානති වැඩසටහන් මගින් විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ට අවශ්‍ය මග පෙන්වීම් පුස්තකාල කාර්යමණ්ඩලය වෙත ලබා දී තිබෙන නමුත් විද්‍යාර්ථීන්ගේ කාර්යබහුල කාලසටහන් සමග ඒවාට සහභාගි වීමට නොහැකි බව ද අනාවරණය විය. මෙම පර්යේෂණය තුළ දත්ත විශ්ලේෂණයේදී ප්‍රස්තුත වූයේ තොරතුරු තාක්ෂණය සහ තොරතුරු බහුලතාවය හේතුවෙන් ඉතා පහසුවෙන් සහ ඉක්මනින් තොරතුරු වෙත ප්‍රවේශ වීමට පුස්තකාල කාර්ය මණ්ඩලය ප්‍රමාණවත් තරම් දායකත්වයක් දක්වන බවත්, විද්‍යාර්ථීන් තුළ තොරතුරු ගවේෂණ ක්‍රම පිළිබඳ පුළුල් දැනුම් මට්ටමක් නොමැති බව සහ ඔවුන් පුස්තකාල භාවිතයට දක්වන ප්‍රමුඛතාවය අඩු බවත් වත්මන් අධ්‍යාපන ක්‍රියාවලිය තුළ විශ්වවිද්‍යාල විද්‍යාර්ථීන් පවා අන්තර්ජාලය තොරතුරු ගවේෂණය කිරීමේ ප්‍රධාන මාධ්‍යයක් බවට පත් කොටගෙන තිබෙන බව ය.

ප්‍රමුඛ පද: විද්‍යාර්ථීන්, තොරතුරු ගවේෂණය, විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පුස්තකාල, පුස්තකාල කාර්යමණ්ඩලය, තොරතුරු බහුලතාවය

The Role of Academic Libraries in Enhancing Information Search Skills of Undergraguates: A Study in Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

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Abstract

The advent of rapid social progress can be attributed to the ability to systematically record and preserve knowledge and information generated by human intellectual activity. As a central institution for acquiring, processing, storing, organizing, and disseminating recorded information, the library plays a crucial role in expanding the knowledge of individuals. Within the academic environment, the library serves as a key resource for meeting the information needs of academics, undergraduates and researchers, thereby contributing significantly to the fundamental functions of universities in education, research, publication, and knowledge preservation. To enhance the quality of library services, it is imperative to pay special attention to the incorporation of new technologies and the development of library services and departments in accordance with national and international standards. In this context, it becomes essential to explore the contribution of university libraries in developing the information search skills of UGs. This research aimed to investigate and identify the programs and methods implemented by Academic Libraries to foster information exploration skills among undergraduates of Rajarata University in Sri Lanka. By utilizing a qualitative research methodology, this study employed questionnaires and interviews to collect data from a sample of 50 staff members and 350 undergraduates through random sampling. The research findings revealed that the university library staff has implemented various activities and programs to facilitate information exploration for undergraduates. These initiatives include library orientations, awareness programs on information search methods, library tours, and online platforms. However, it was observed that some shortcomings exist, such as programs and guides lacking adequate motivation and appeal, the implementation of complex search methods, insufficient awareness of online databases, and undergraduates' inability to attend library orientation programs due to busy schedules. The analysis of data suggested that, while information technology has made accessing information easier and faster, undergraduates' still lack comprehensive knowledge of information search methods and tend to prioritize internet-based resources over libraries. This research highlights the need for ongoing efforts to bridge this gap by ensuring that library staff plays an integral role in assisting undergraduates in easily and efficiently accessing information. By addressing these challenges, universities can better equip undergraduates with the necessary information search skills and encourage them to prioritize the use of libraries alongside online resources within the current education system.

Keywords: Acedemic Libraries, Information search skills, Undergraduates, Library services, Qualitative research methodology

A Walking and Talking Library: a Study on the Impact of the Strategy "Read – aloud" on Older Adults with Vision Impairments

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Abstract

The study aims to investigate the effectiveness of read aloud strategy on old lives with vision impairments for reducing loneliness and social isolation. Read aloud is an activity that incorporates variations in pitch, tone, pace, volume, pauses, eye contact, questions, and comments and provides cognitive stimulation to older adults. For older adults who loved to read all their lives, listening to someone read to them can bring profound comfort and joy. However, unlike in Western countries reading aloud is not a popular concept in Asia. 8 respondents (between 62 – 77 years) were selected considering family support, easy access, willingness to try out the concept of reading aloud, and level of vision impairment for the research. The majority (5) were female adults. An open-ended questionnaire was utilized to collect data after exposing them to 8 sessions (3- 4 hours) during 4 months. Various reading materials are used according to the preference of adults. Most loved materials by males were comic stories while females loved to listen to short stories mainly. Reading novels was not productive as most of them could not remember the previous session. The interest of older adults in read-aloud activities improved considerably after each session. Willingness to adopt the concept to eradicate loneliness and social isolation showcased their willingness to social engagement. It was evident that those who had the habit of reading could easily concentrate on the activities and sometimes they could predict the next part of the story. Studies proved that social isolation and loneliness caused by vision impairment can be reduced by reading aloud with the assistance of family or caregivers. This research concludes the need for large print reading materials for visually impaired adults, a special library corner for the elderly, and the introduction of read-aloud activities for the elderly especially institutionalized.

Keywords: Reading- aloud, Older adults, Vision impairment, Social isolation, Loneliness

පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සිසුන්ගේ අධ්‍යයන කටයුතු සාධනයෙහිලා විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර භාවිතය පිළිබඳ කැලණිය විශ්ව විද්‍යාලය ඇසුරින් අධ්‍යයනයක්

පී. කේ. ඩී. ඒ. මධුෂාණි
පුස්තකාල හා විඥාපන විද්‍යා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව
කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව
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සාරාංශය

පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යාව උසස් අධ්‍යාපනයේ වේගයෙන් වෙනස් වන ක්ෂේත‍්‍රවලින් එකකි. වෙනස් වන ලෝකයේ සාර්ථක වීමට පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා සිසුන් හොඳින් අධ්‍යාපනය ලැබිය යුතු සේම, විවිධ කුසලතා සහ නිපුණතා සංවර්ධනය කරගත යුතුය. විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර මේ සඳහා පිටුවහලක් වන අතර විශ්වීය තොරතුරු වෙත පහසුවෙන් සහ ඉක්මනින් ප‍්‍රවේශ වීමට පහසුකම් සැලසීම, යාවත්කාලීන තොරතුරු අන්තර්ගත වීම, තොරතුරු පහසුවෙන් හුවමාරු කළ හැකි වීම, අඛණ්ඩව වැඩි දියුණු කළ සම්පත් වලින් යුක්ත වීම, ඉගෙනුම සඳහා මනා ප‍්‍රවේශයක් සහිත වීම ආදිය නිසාවෙන් අධ්‍යයන අවශ්‍යතා සඳහා විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර ඉතාමත් ප‍්‍රයෝජන වේ. පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සිසුන්ගේ අධ්‍යාපන කටයුතු සාධනයෙහිලා විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර වල ප‍්‍රයෝජනවත් බව හඳුනා ගැනීම, සිසුන්ගේ විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර පිළිබඳ දැනුවත්භාවය කෙබඳුදැයි හඳුනා ගැනීම, විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර භාවිතයෙහි ගැටලු සහ අභියෝග හඳුනා ගැනීම සහ සිසුන් විසින් භාවිත කරනු ලබන විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර හඳුනා ගැනීම මෙම අධ්‍යයනයෙහි අරමුණු විය. පර්යේෂණ ක‍්‍රමවේදය ලෙස ප‍්‍රමාණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ ක‍්‍රමවේදය යටතේ සමීක්ෂණ විධික‍්‍රමය භාවිත කරන ලදී. මෙම අධ්‍යයනයේ සමස්ත සංගහනය වන්නේ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සමස්ත විශ්වවිද්‍යාල පද්ධතිය තුළ පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සියලු ම සිසුන් වන අතර, නියැදිය ලෙස කැලණිය විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යාව හදාරන විශේෂවේදී ප‍්‍රථම, දෙවන සහ තෙවන වසර සිසුන් යොදගන්නා ලදී. ඒ අනුව පර්යේෂණයට අදාල සමස්ත නියැදිය 69 කි. නියැදිය තෝරාගැනීම සඳහා සරල සසම්භාවී නියැදුම් ක‍්‍රමය භාවිත කරන ලදී. ප‍්‍රාථමික දත්ත රැස් කිරීම සඳහා ප‍්‍රශ්නාවලි ක‍්‍රමය භාවිත කර ඇත. මෙම අධ්‍යයනය මගින් පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සිසුන්ගේ අධ්‍යයන කටයුතු සාධනයෙහිලා විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර ඉතාමත් ප‍්‍රයෝජනවත් බව හඳුනාගත හැකි වූ අතර සිසුන්ට බහුලවම විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර ප‍්‍රයෝජනවත් වන්නේ පර්යේෂණ කටයුතු (99.17%), ඇගයීම් කටයුතු (98.7%), ව්‍යාපෘති (98.7%), නව කුසලතා වර්ධනය (97.5%), ගවේෂණ කුසලතා වර්ධනය (97.5%), සඳහා සහ විභාග සඳහා සූදානම් වීමේදී (97.1%) වේ. විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර භාවිතයෙහි ගැටලු ලෙස, නිසි මග පෙන්වීමක් සහ පුහුණුවක් නොමැති වීම (66.5%), භාෂා බාධක පැවතීම (29.8%), සහ විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර වල ප‍්‍රයෝජනවත්කම පිළිබඳව නොදැනුවත්කම (26.4%) ප‍්‍රධාන වේ. සෑම පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සිසුවකුටම විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර පිළිබඳව නිසි මග පෙන්වීමක් හා පුහුණුවක් ලබා දීම, විශ්ව විද්‍යාල ඇතුලු සියලුම උසස් අධ්‍යාපන ආයතන විසින් විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර භාවිතය සඳහා සිසුන් යොමු කිරීම, විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර විවිධ භාෂාවලින් සංවර්ධනය හා විශ්වවිද්‍යාලවල විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර පිළිබඳව නිසි ප‍්‍රතිපත්තියක් සහ යටිතල පහසුකම් සංවර්ධනය මගින් විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර භාවිතයෙහි ගැටලු අවම කොට පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය හදාරන සිසුන්ගේ අධ්‍යයන කටයුතු සාධනයෙහිලා කටයුතු කළ හැකි අතර එමගින් නිපුණතා පූර්ණ පුස්තකාල වෘත්තිකයන් බිහි කිරීමට හැකි වනු ඇත.

පුමුඛ පද: උසස් අධ්‍යාපනය, පුස්තකාල හා තොරතුරු විද්‍යා අධ්‍යාපනය, විවෘත අධ්‍යාපනික මූලාශ‍්‍ර, විශ්වවිද්‍යාල

Investigating the Impact of Open Educational Resources on Academic Performance among Students Pursuing Library and Information Science Education: a Study at University of Kelaniya

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Abstract

The field of higher education is undergoing rapid change, and it is essential for library and information sciences to keep pace with these advancements. Open educational resources have emerged as valuable tools in facilitating easy and convenient access to educational content, serving as a beneficial resource for students' study needs. This study aims to identify the challenges and benefits associated with the use of open educational sources among students pursuing library and information science education. A quantitative research methodology was employed, with a focus on students enrolled in library and information science programs across the university system in Sri Lanka. Specifically, the study targeted first, second, and third-year students at University of Kelaniya, resulting in a sample size of 69 participants selected through simple random sampling. Primary data was gathered using a questionnaire. The findings highlight the significant benefits of open educational resources for students in the library and information science field. The results indicate that such resources positively contribute to the development of new skills (97.5%), exploration skills (97.5%), and exam readiness (97.5%). However, challenges related to the lack of guidance and training in utilizing open educational resources (66.5%) and language barriers (26.8%) were identified. The study suggests the importance of providing proper guidance, adequate training programs, and directoral sources to enhance the effective use of open educational resources. Furthermore, universities and academic institutions should focus on promoting the use of open educational resources within library and information science education, addressing the identified challenges and maximizing the benefits they offer. This research contributes to the understanding of the role and impact of open educational resources in facilitating effective learning experiences in the library and information science field.

Keywords: Open educational resources, Academic performance, Library and information science education, Higher education, Student challenges.

Open Educational Resources in Sri Lankan Education: a Review

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Abstract

The emergence of Open Educational Resources (OER) is a remarkable educational innovation in recent developments of open education which are used for quality teaching and learning. The general objective of the review is to examine the research landscape of open educational resources by conducting a systematic search on the SCOPUS database. The specific objectives are to identify the subject area and keywords used by researchers, to analyze the different research methods and analytical tools adopted, and to extract the key findings. The search term "Open Educational Resources" was searched in title, abstract, and keywords. The search was refined by country, i.e. Sri Lanka, and time limitation, i.e. 2018-2022. There were seven articles retrieved for review. The majority of the article belongs to the subject area of Social Science followed by Computer Science. The researchers utilized qualitative and quantitative methods. The review revealed that a few staff is using OER during blended learning. The main reasons for accessing OER were the availability of information at any time (36.1%) and ease of information access (31.5%). Undergraduates faced challenges finding relevant free and open materials and wiki sites (84.4%) were the highest accessed OER. Despite this, an OER-integrated online course has been developed by addressing the desired instructional design (ID) aspects. It was concluded that incorporating the identified ID features in an OER-integrated online course will make the learning environment more flexible, attractive, and collaborative. Further, a collaborative, participatory, and reflective process has also led to transformational change in Open Educational Practices and distance learning. The researchers developed OER policies to significantly contribute to the general education system within Commonwealth countries. It was suggested that the designers of OER-based blended courses should create social interactions through innovative interactions. In addition, Information Literacy skills need to be improved among students to identify credible and authentic open educational resources. The findings of this review will motivate researchers to focus more on the OER-related topic as there was limited literature in Sri Lankan context.

Keywords: Open educational resources, Sri Lanka, Blended learning, Students, Higher education

The Use of Google Scholar to Assist in Research by Postgraduate Library and Information Science Students at the University of Kelaniya

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Abstract

Academic search engines are online tools that allow users to search for scholarly articles, books, conference papers, and other academic resources. Most graduate and postgraduate students use academic search engines for their dissertations. Today, we can identify various types of academic search engines. Among these search engines, Google Scholar has become the most utilized search engine. Google Scholar is a valuable tool for postgraduate students to conduct research and find academic sources for their work. Most postgraduate students use Google Scholar for their research works. The main objective of this study was to identify the usage of Google Scholar for dissertations by postgraduate students of library and information science. Awareness of Google Scholar and awareness of advanced search methods were studied as specific objectives. The population of this study was the University of Kelaniya library and information science postgraduate students of the 2019/2020 (MA/MSSc) batch. We have selected the entire population as a sample. The questionnaire and interview were used as the instruments in this study to collect data. According to this, we have found that a 48% of postgraduate students properly use Google Scholar for their research work, and they even have a Google Scholar account. Among the respondents, 33% students use google scholar but they have no idea to acquire the most relevant scholarly articles relevant to their research needs. And 19% of students do not use google scholar and they do not have any idea about it and they use other search engines for their research works. This study recommends that postgraduate students should be made aware of academic search engines. Also, training should be done on the use of these search engines. As Google Scholar has more advanced search options, one should try to give them a proper understanding of these advanced search options.

Keywords: Search engine, Academic search engine, Google scholar, Postgraduate students, Library and information

Users' Awareness of Research Support Services in Academic Libraries: a Case Study at the Main Library of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.

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Abstract

Academic libraries are the key hub for knowledge dissemination. Academic libraries have an advanced service called "Research support service" to support the university community. As research support services main library offered a Document Delivery Service (DDS), Ask a Librarian service, Referral Service, Wayamba University Institutional Repository (WUiR), Workshops (Use of reference management tools), Literacy Review and Webinars (Effective use of–Resources) for the undergraduate students. This study investigated the users' awareness of research support services at the main library of Wayamba University. The main library gives its services to three faculties. Namely, the Faculty of Business Studies and Finance, the Faculty of Applied Science, and the Faculty of Technology. The objectives of the study are to identify the awareness of research support services in Wayamba University's main library, the purposes for using these services and to identify the difficulties associated with using these services. Using the Krejcie and Morgan sampling table, 340 questionnaires were distributed via Google Forms using Web 2.0 technologies (email, WhatsApp, and Facebook). Results show that 72% of students were aware of research support services provided by the main library of Wayamba University. There is a high level of awareness of the availability of the "Ask a Librarian" service. Students mentioned that they use research support services to find research articles, fulfill research projects and enhance their academic work. Major barriers reported by the students to the awareness of the research support services are lack of proper marketing, lack of free time, and lack of computer lab and internet facilities. Improved research support services may motivate students to fulfill their research work and academic career development.

Keywords: Research, Research support services, WUiR, Wayamba University, Sri Lanka

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