

OUSL Library Newsletter

January – March 2017

The Open University of Sri Lanka, Library

<http://lib.ou.ac.lk>

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION OF OUSL LIBRARY

OUSL Library is becoming a national service provide for Public Library Automation

The project was inaugurated on 17th January 2017 at the Colombo Public library auditorium and the Honorable Minister, Mr. Faizer Mustapha, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government had the graced occasion as the guest of honor. Professor S.A. Ariadurai, the Vice-Chancellor of the OUSL and Mr. Kamal Padmasiri, Secretary of Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils and Mr. Dharshana Bandara Samarakoon, Director Planning and Project Coordinator (NELSIP) were the invited guests at the event.



Dr. W. Seneviratne Librarian of the OUSL/Project Coordinator and Mrs Ramani Amarasekara, Mr. Harsha Balasooriya as the project team leader/Project Designer had also participated and had delivered presentations. Since the project is an island wide programme, sub consultancies for technical support had to obtain from other universities and other experts as well.

The project was regionally supported and coordinated mainly by Mr. M.N. Ravikumar from Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Mr. S. Ketheesvaran from University of Jaffna and Ms. Chamila K Senerath Yapa Librarian, Kandy Senanayake Public Library.

There are more than 25 project staff members including Mr. R.M. Gunasekera, Mrs.H.P.S.D. Gunasekera, Mr. Gunarathna Banda, Ms. M.M.I.K. Marasinghe, Ms. R.A.V.I. Ranavaka, Mr. N.H.C.P. Gunasena, Mrs. H.K.I.P. Abeysinghe, Mr. D.R.P.B. Wijesundara, Mrs. P.G.N.A. Dharmasena, Ms. H.G.P.S.C. Dilhani, Mrs. H.W. Kusala Sajeewani Pushpakanthi, Ms. A.M.C.K. Athapaththu, Ms. A.U. Alagiyawanna, Ms. Vinodani Jaywardana, and Mrs. V.S.C. Mahantearachchi were engaged in the project. Delegation of authority and Collaborative implementation and unity are the key ingredients in the project success.



OUSL is playing an exceptional role in National development and development of the Librarianship in Sri Lanka. The Ministry has been supported for second phase of the project of development of Public Library E-centre which would expect to open for public in end of the year.

USER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

Anuradhapura Regional Centre (ARC) Library

A User education Programme for B.Sc. Students was conducted by Anuradhapura Regional Centre (ARC) Library under the “*Empowering for Independent Learning (EFIL)*” programme of Faculty of Natural Science. The library promotion session was mainly focused on providing the awareness to the new intake of students to the Faculty of Natural Sciences about the importance of academic library, available resources and library services provided by the ARC library.



The ARC programme was conducted by Mr.B.R. Jayathilaka (AL, on contract) on 27th January & 20th February 2017 at ARC auditorium and the ARC library.

Batticaloa Regional Centre Library (BRC)

Batticaloa Regional Centre (BRC) Library conducted user education programmes for B.Sc students under the “*Empowering for Independent Learning (EFIL)*” programme on 29th of January 2017 and for the Bachelor of Technology and Bachelor of Industrial Studies students. Library promotion session was conducted by Ms. Dharshani, (AL, on contract) on 25th March 2017 at BRC auditorium.



Open Minds....

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Workshops Conducted

Workshop on “*Mind Mapping Techniques for Effective Learning*” was organized by the Skills Development Unit of the Library and it was held at the Virtual Resource Centre (VRC) main library on 27th of January 2017 from 9.30 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. Seventeen participants were attended from different institutions for the workshop. Resource person of the workshop was the Librarian, OUSL.

Ms.Irosha Marasinghe AL /Reader Services, Main Library, OUSL conducted a workshop on “*Google Apps*” for the library staff on 26th of January 2017 at the Main Library.

Four workshops were conducted by Dr. (Mrs). W. Seneviratne and Mr. Harsha Balasooriya on “*Attitude building among public librarians and planning for a technological change*” and “*Getting prepared for Library Automation*” conducted in Kandy and Vavuniya, Pradesheeya Sabhas on 8th & 15th February, and in Colombo on 03rd March 2017. The Vavuniya workshop was facilitated in Tamil by Mr. S. Ketheeswaran (SAL, UoJ) and Mr. M.N. Ravikumar (SAL, EUSL).

Workshops Attended

Dr.Anoma Weerakoon, SAL/ Kandy Regional Centre, Ms. Kaushamalika, AL/Matara Regional Centre and Ms. Irosha Marasinghe AL/ Reader Services, Main Library participated the workshop on “*Stock Verification in university Libraries*” on 27th of January 2017 at the Seminar Room of the Univ. of Colombo Library.

Papers Presented at Conferences

Dr. (Mrs.) W. Seneviratne, Librarian, served as a Plenary Speaker for “*Planning for Knowledge Deliberation in an academic library setup*” in. International Conference on “*Knowledge resources and Library Technology*”.ICKRLT 2017. Barathidhasan University, Tamil Nadu. 24-25th February 2017.

Research Publications

Mrs.DamayanthiGunasekara, SAL /Periodicals, main Library published a research article on “*Learner satisfaction in blended learning: a case study at the Open University of Sri Lanka*”, INTED conference, Valencia, Spain. (indexed article) March 6th -8th 2017.

Retired Staff Members-OUSL Library



Mr. M. N.S.Chandrasiri joined the Open University Library as a Laborer on 2nd of March 1981 and he retired as an Office Assistant on 14th of February 2017. And his valuable commitment to the library was 36 years.

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Appreciation - Dr. Anusha Wijyaratne

Dr. Anusha Wijyaratne, Senior Assistant Librarian, colleague, researcher, mentor and friend passed away on 12-03-2017.

She joined the library of the Open University as an Assistant Librarian in the year 2000. Dr. Anusha was a past Visakhian and graduated from the Open University in 1998 with a BSc. Second Upper in Bio Sciences and obtained a Diploma in LIS from SLLA in the same year. She completed her Masters Degree in Library & Information Sciences from the University of Colombo, Faculty of Graduate Studies in 2004. She then proceeded to Malaysia to read for her PhD. in 2006 and completed in 2009.

She had authored many publications in refereed and peer reviewed journals and also attended many local and foreign conferences during the past 17 years. Dr. Anusha won several reputed awards such as the Blok Memorial scholarship for the best performance in the first and intermediate examinations at the SLLA and the SLLA Gold Medal for the most outstanding student of the year, in 1998.

She also rendered her services as a visiting lecturer at NILIS for the Masters students of Library & Information Sciences. She held the post of Associate member of the SLLA since 2003 and was appointed to serve in several committees.

A courageous and dedicated academic, Dr. Anusha never gave up and despite the illness she suffered managed to achieve many goals in life. Although she is no longer with us she has left a great legacy which shows us the way to persevere no matter the circumstances.

May she attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana !!

