



October-December 2018



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The Open University of Sri Lanka

# Library Newsletter

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Make your own space  
and learn at your own pace



Training Programme



Use Education  
Programmes



New Service

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# Staff Training Programme

Two-day training programme for the Library staff members was carried out on 06th and 07th December 2018 at the Main Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka. The main objective of this session was to develop the soft skills of the library staff members who always must work with the students, staff and the other stake holders of the university in providing the library services.



Dr. B.M.P. Mendis, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social Studies, Mr. S. Manivannan, Senior Assistant Registrar, General Administration, Dr. H. Jayawardana, Acting Director, Regional Educational Services, Dr. (Mrs.) W. Seneviratne, Librarian of OUSL, Mr. Harrison Perera, Former Librarian, British Council & University of Peradeniya, Mr. Toni Fernandez, Social etiquette trainer and other senior library staff members were the resource persons of the event. All participants appreciated the programme and stressed the importance of organizing regular training programmes to develop their skills.



## Refurbishment of the Outside Reading Room

The Outside Reading Room of the Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka was opened for students on 15th December 2018 after refurbishment. The project was an initiative of the newly recruited Library Information Assistants of the Main Library of the Open University of Sri Lanka and the refurbishment has been fully financed through the Library generated funds through island wide Library Automation Consultancies conducted by the OUSL Library under the patronage of the Vice Chancellor of OUSL.

## Library Infrastructure Developments

# User Education Programmes

## Kurunegala Regional Centre



Kurunegala Regional Centre Library (KURC) of the OUSL conducted a workshop on Electronic Information Resources (EIR) for Academic Purposes, for the level 5 undergraduates of the BA in Social Sciences on 18th of December 2018. Objectives of this workshop were to introduce the range of EIR useful to the students in their academic endeavor, way of selecting EIR for academic purposes, explaining the role of OUSL library website in providing access to EIR and provide hands on experience on using and accessing EIRs. Mrs. Piumali Karunarathna Abeysignhe, Senior Assistant Librarian at KURC was the resource person in the session.

## Kandy Regional Centre



Kandy and Matara Regional Center libraries of the Open University of Sri Lanka contributed to the user education programme “Empowering for Independent Learning (EFIL)” organized for nursing undergraduates of the OUSL. Mrs. P. K. M. Kaushmalika, Senior Assistant Librarian of Matara Regional Centre conducted a session on “Effective use of OUSL library web-page”.

Dr. A. U Weerakoon, Senior Assistant Librarian of Kandy Regional Centre conducted two sessions on “Effective reading and note making skills” and “Mind mapping and concept mapping for academic purposes”. The programme was held on 10th of October 2018 at both the regional centers of the OUSL.

# Fourteen Library Automation Project

Automation of Fourteen Public Libraries selected from the various localities in the country is now in progress. Fourteen Library Automation project has been implemented by the Ministry of Internal and Home Affairs and Provincial Councils and Local Government with the Open University of Sri Lanka as the partner in e-solution development.

In this project Other than automating the library catalogue, the librarians are trained on data entering and other facilities in the library system to ensure the maximum usage of the library system to provide and efficient library service. Further to improve the soft skills of the librarians the workshops are also conducted.

Virtual Resources Centre of the OUSL Library conducted more than 10 workshops during October to December 2018 for the librarians involved in the Fourteen Library Project. The scopes of these workshops spanned from the technical areas such as cataloguing and web content management to the soft skill development like communication skills and positive attitude building. The workshops were conducted by the experts in the relevant areas.

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## New Services

### Launching and Demonstration on Urkund Plagiarism Software

Plagiarism detection on theses and other publications has now become a vital process at all the academic institutions in Sri Lanka. Various software is used around the world in this process. Urkund is the software given to the universities in Sri Lanka by the University Grants Commission. This plagiarism software was demonstrated and launched at the Open University of Sri Lanka on 2nd October 2018. Main Library is the nodal point of the University in the administration of the software.

Demonstration of the plagiarism software was carried out by Mr. Malin Pathirana, an agent of Urkund at the Staff Development Centre of the OUSL. Vice Chancellor of the OUSL, Senior Prof. S. A. Ariadurai, Deans of the Faculties and directors of divisions participated in the programme.

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