OUSL Library Newsletter

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Open University of Sri Lanka

Public Librarians marching towards "digital future"

The inauguration ceremony of "Fourteen Library Automation Project" was held at the OUSL main library in September to hand over the equipment required to automate their libraries to the librarians of selected fourteen public libraries.

Assistant Director (Planning) of the Ministry of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Sports and In-charge of the project Mr. Sunil Ananda, Prof. S. A. Ariadurai, Vice Chancellor (OUSL), Librarian, Dr. (Mrs.) Wathmanel Seneviratne, Senior Assistant Librarian Mr. Harsha Balasooriya, librarians from the selected public libraries and many others participated in this occasion.

Through this project automated library systems will be introduced to the selected public libraries. The automated, electronic library system will relieve the librarians from a heavy work load and will encourage the formation of real time National Catalogue which we do not have exist in Sri Lanka yet.
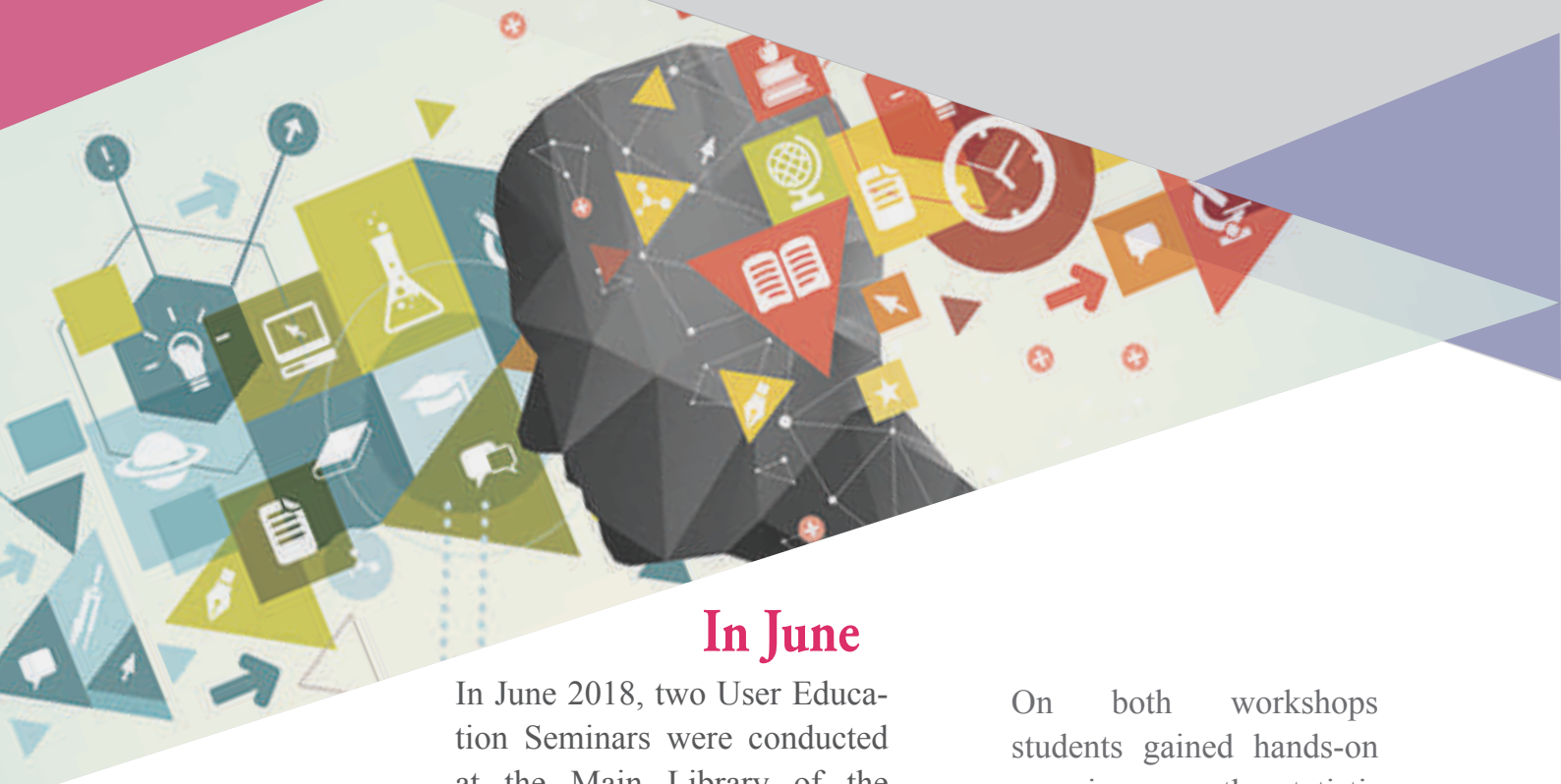
Fourteen Library Automation project has been implemented by the Ministry of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Sports with the Open University of Sri Lanka as the partner in e-solution development.

At this event the vice chancellor (OUSL) expressed his ideas about combining the public libraries with OUSL in future. Dr. (Mrs.) Seneviratne specially spoke about the national contribution of this project during her speech. Mr. Harsha Balasooriya who is the chief consultant of Library Automation Project explained how to use these new devices within the public libraries and about the Library system.

User Education Workshops at the Main Library

In June

In June 2018, two User Education Seminars were conducted at the Main Library of the OUSL for students. On 13th June 2018 Mrs. **Irosha Marasinghe**, Assistant Librarian conducted a seminar on "SPSS for data analysis" while Senior Assistant Librarian **Mrs. Thushara Abeysekera** conducted the workshop "Mind mapping for effective learning" on 19th June 2018.

On both workshops students gained hands-on experience on the statistical package and mind maps. Participants evaluated both workshops as useful and need more exposure in the future.

In September

On 27th September 2018 Librarian of the OUSL **Dr (Mrs.) Wathmanel Seneviratne** conducted a workshop on "Writing a literature review and avoiding plagiarism". More than fifty students who were about to start their undergraduate or post graduate research projects were participated in the workshop. Most of the students discussed on how to extract the key concepts in the selected study and use them as a guide to search literature. Dr Seneviratne also explained what plagiarism is and how to avoid unintentional plagiarism. Further she explained the students the seriousness of plagiarizing and the software that would be available soon at the OUSL to detect plagiarism.

User Education Workshops in Regional Centers

Mrs. P.K.M. Kaushamalika, Senior Assistant Librarian Mathara Regional Centre (MRC), OUSL Participated as resource person in the user education programmes "Effective use of OUSL library web-page" on 18th of August and 15th 0f September 2018. In August and September 2018 library orientation programme for newly registered students of BMS and BA were carried out under the topic "Empowering for Independent Learning (EFIL)".

Congratulation

Ms. Avanthi Darmasena, Information Assistant attached to the Main Library of the OUSL has completed the Diploma in Library & information Science, University of Kelaniya.

We wish her all the best!