

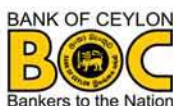
# International Conference on Library and Information Science

## Challenges for Information Professionals and LIS services in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

# ICLIS 2015

## Proceedings

Organized by  
**Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA)**



The Asia Foundation

# **International Conference on Library and Information Science (ICLIS) 2015**

**17th and 18th September, 2015  
Galadari Hotel, Colombo**

**“Challenges for Information Professionals and  
LIS services in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”**

## **Proceedings**

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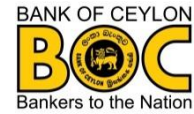
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## Message from The President, SLLA

The Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) will hold its International Conference in Library and Information Science (ICLIS), this year. The conference theme is **“Challenges for information professionals and LIS Services in the 21st Century”** which is an apt theme in the current information and communication landscape. The SLLA usually holds its annual conference as the National Conference in Library and Information Science (NACLIS), but it was elevated to ICLIS to mark the 55th Anniversary of the Association.



The objective of the conference is to create a forum to discuss the role of information, its integration and dissemination by way of a dialogue and research and technical paper presentations. The presentations of about 30 papers during the two days, and the Keynote Address by Dr. Jagdish Arora, an eminent LIS professional from India will cover a wide range of subjects within the information discipline and the challenges posed in an ICT environment. The deliberations will help us realize that there is a growing need to grapple with the vast information output rapidly and the evolving information technological applications in a fast changing world. It is the responsibility of the Librarian as an information professional to produce authenticated information for correct decision making.

Library and information profession has now changed from the traditional library mode to the information mode concentrating on its access and provision with value addition, the world over. So it is necessary to look into access, organization and dissemination of information related to ICT.

Organizing a conference of this nature is a quite a formidable task, and as such this event wouldn't have been a success, if not for the support of many others, especially the Conference Chair and the members of the ICLIS Organising Committee, the Paper review panel and those who provided publicity to this event. My unreserved thanks on behalf of the SLLA go to all of them. I also appreciate the assistance given by the SLLA staff, and the Public Relations Officer. I wish to thank the paper presenters for enriching our experiences by sharing their research outcomes.

I take this opportunity to appreciate the sponsorship provided by many national and international organizations especially the Bank of Ceylon, our Platinum Sponsor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shivanthi Weerasinghe'.

**Shivanthi Weerasinghe**

## Message from The ICLIS 2015 - Chair



The annual National Conference in Library and Information Science (NACLIS) is one of the most important events of the Sri Lankan library and information community in which they share their research findings. It commenced in 2004 and the success it enjoyed, has led it to becoming a national event since then. In 2015, NACLIS was elevated to ICLIS (International Conference on Library and Information Sciences), to commemorate the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sri Lanka Library Association.

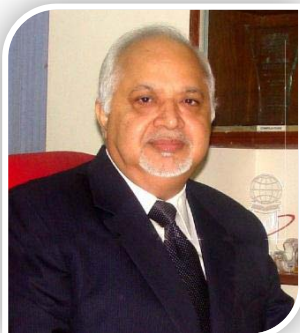
I consider it as an honour to serve as the Conference Chair, on behalf of the Sri Lanka Library Association. The theme of this year's conference "**Challenges for Information Professionals and LIS services in the 21st century**", was chosen to address many aspects of growing importance in the current library and information domain. ICLIS 2015 has a rich combination of a keynote address delivered by Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director of INFLIBNET, India, several technical sessions, and three product presentations blended with many opportunities for networking among the LIS practitioners, educators and service providers. Over thirty carefully selected papers will be and as the Chair, I am happy to present you the proceedings of ICLIS 2015. The papers presented in these proceedings are the product of the joint efforts of the authors, panel of reviewers, members of the ICLIS 2015 Organising Committee, Editors of the Conference Proceedings and the session chairs.

Planning an annual conference is a long process which starts immediately after completing the previous conference, and in which many different people are involved, including the SLLA Council, conference Organizing Committee, SLLA staff, authors, reviewers, sponsors and many others. On behalf the ICLIS organizing Committee, I would like to express my gratitude to all of them, and in particular to Dr. Jagdish Arora for graciously accepting our invitation to deliver the Keynote Address. Mrs. Shivanthi Weerasinghe, President-SLLA and Mrs. Sandya Gunawardena, General Secretary and Ms. Lilamani Amarasekara, Treasurer for being with me, lending me their guiding and helping hands throughout the entire process. Our sponsors, Bank of Ceylon, Emerald Group Publishing (India) Pvt. Ltd., Oxford University Press of South and East Asia, Balani Infotech Pvt. Ltd. India, APIIT, Expographic, Sarasavi Bookshop and many others. My heartfelt gratitude is also expressed to all the international presenters for their enthusiastic contribution to make the event a success. I wish ICLIS 2015 a grand success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pradeepa Wijetunge'.

**Dr. (Mrs.) Pradeepa Wijetunge**, Librarian, University of Colombo, Colombo 03

## Message from The Keynote Speaker



It is indeed a pleasure to note that Sri Lanka Library Association is organizing the International Conference on LIS (ICLIS – 2015) on the topic “**Challenges for Information Professionals and LIS Services in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**” on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2015 at Galadari Hotel, Colombo to mark its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The theme of the conference is most relevant to the rapidly changing information scenario all over the world with corresponding challenges to the role of libraries and library professionals.

The theme of the conference is most relevant to the rapidly changing information scenario all over the world with corresponding challenges to the role of libraries and library professionals. The growth of the Internet, its rapid spread and fast broadband connectivity, has transformed the landscape of information society. Convergence, instantaneity and interactivity have made the Internet most powerful medium of communication breaking the boundaries laid by space and time-bound libraries. Socially networked young learners have a different idea of time and space than learners of the pre-Internet era, which, in turn, has boosted their expectations from the libraries and transformed their views about sources of information for learning. The rise of tablets and smartphones are yet another indicator towards bigger shift in the world of information technology and its newer applications. The advent of these innovative and disruptive technologies have made an extra-ordinary impact on all aspects of education including teaching and learning, institutional management, administration, finance, library services, research and development, information dissemination, discovery and delivery.

The library and information science professionals have a major responsibility as well as a greater role to play in the process of knowledge creation, organization, storage, discovery, delivery and access. The Conference will bring several invited experts, participants from Sri Lanka as well as from abroad and partners from publishing trade to discuss and deliberate on this elaborate agenda.

My best wishes for grand success of the conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jagdish Arora'.

**Dr. Jagdish Arora**

Director, INFLIBNET Centre, Gujarat, India

## Message by the Chief Guest

I am pleased to send this message to the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA), on the occasion of its International Conference on Library and Information Science. I congratulate the SLLA for their long journey of 55 years, which is undoubtedly a great achievement. It becomes more significant especially due to the fact that SLLA is being managed by Library and Information Professionals on voluntary and honorary basis whilst performing their duties in their respective professions.



The strength of the association is its extensive membership belonging to diverse library sectors such as National, Public, Universities, Government, Schools, Special or Corporate, Non-Governmental, Police, armed forces and other sectors. The theme of this conference “**Challenges for information professionals and Library and Information Services in the 21st Century**” is important for everyone- locally as well as globally.

The world is poised towards sustainable development, through Economic as well as Social and Cultural development that will definitely be achieved through Education and Knowledge. Thus information and information technology plays a major role in advancing the aim of sustainable development. But this goal comes with several challenges for the information professionals and practitioners specifically in systematic information acquisition, its organization and dissemination from a user-centered perspective.

In this era of rapidly changing information environment due to the evolving information technology applications, it is necessary to focus on many issues faced by Library and Information professionals. The users of the information are diverse such as general public, decision making bodies, intelligence specialists, analysts, consumers, researchers, scientists and many others. Therefore the Library and Information professionals need to maintain the balance between disseminating the correct information needed for the users, and vast and rapid information output.

It is also necessary to share and exchange information and knowledge, locally and globally specifically in the Asian region where there is a common bond taking into consideration its culture and history. Facing challenges together will create an opportunity to strengthen the networking between these countries.

I would also like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere wishes and prayers to the esteemed Sri Lanka Library Association for their future endeavors.

**H.E. Maj. Gen.(Rtd.) Syed Shakeel Hussain**  
High Commissioner of Pakistan to Sri Lanka



## Progression of NACLIS to ICLIS

Internet, consumer online, interactive television services are posing challenges to librarians to adapt, change direction and diversify services to face the demands of the Information Society. The growing and ready availability of personal computers in working places, in homes, in schools and universities means that we all have a more convenient tool to gain instant access to a host of different kinds of information. Even conventional publishing is being endangered by instant electronic publishing. These factors naturally impinge on education and knowledge; now learning can be achieved through non – conventional sources. For libraries to stay in the “information” game, they will not only need to become learning centres but to make their collections and services available electronically as well as through more community based media. It means not only an enhancement and augmentation of services but bestowing added value upon them.

**Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA)** is the only professional body representing library professionals in Sri Lanka and it is a founding and executive member of the Organization of Professional Associations (**OPA**) of Sri Lanka. According to the American Library Association their mission is to “To provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship.....”. According to the mission statement of SLLA one of its responsibilities is to “act as the forum for the exchange of ideas among members of the association”.

In 2003 the then council of SLLA identifying the need for providing a forum for the members to exchange their ideas decided to incorporate a technical component to the Annual General Meeting to rejuvenate the earlier practice of having the Annual Sessions. The main objective of this technical session was to provide an ideal forum to the library professionals and information providers to come together and interact on subjects of mutual interest, leading to the professional development of the members of the Association. It was also envisaged to uplift the professional image of the Association through this kind of activities. The main theme of the session was “**Networking for Effective Library and Information Services (NETELIS) 2003**”. Members were therefore invited to contribute original papers in identified fields under the above theme for presentation at the Annual Sessions 2003. Papers based on research, practical experience and survey was given preference and all papers presented at the sessions were published electronically and distributed at the session.

In 2004 this annual session was continued as “**National Conference on Library and Information Studies (NACLIS)**”. For the first time SLLA introduced a Poster Session in parallel with the National Conference. It was believed that the Posters are an effective forum for the exchange of information and a means to communicate ideas, research, and programs. This tradition of having a technical session in conjunction with AGM continued for many years. At some sessions professionals from other countries also presented papers at these sessions widening our territories from national to international.

Organising the **International Conference on LIS (ICLIS) 2015** could be considered as a great achievement of SLLA. While Congratulating the organizing committee and the SLLA Council, my best wishes for success and excellence in all your endeavors!!!

**Deepali Thalagala**  
Former President / SLLA