SRI LANKA LIBRARY REVIEW

Volume 30 (2016)



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Preface

The Library Review is one of the oldest local professional journals dedicated to Library and Information Science and published since 1962 by the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA). As in previous years, contributions in this issue include views/comments, research conducted and experiences of both senior and junior SLLA members.

The journal content in this issue is wide ranging from peer reviewed articles in Sinhala, Tamil and English with an appreciation of the late Prof. Russell Bawden, who contributed immensely to the library and information profession.

The Editorial Board this year introduced a new set of guidelines with the approval of the SLLA Council, mostly regards contributed articles and formats for submission with the intention of enhancing the quality of the journal to fit in as a professional and academic journal. The guidelines are printed at the end of the journal and also made available through the link http://www.slla.org. lk/index.php/slla-publications/sllr

Although technology is improved and there exist many advanced communication methods, the production of a professional/learned journal is not an easy task, by any means. It is a cooperative effort between authors and reviewers/editors. When it comes specially to a tri-language version there arise many conflicts with fonts, word processing, formatting, vetting and editing. However, after all the strenuous work and tireless effort, the present volume is published as a successful achievement. This gives much satisfaction, particularly to me, as Editor.

We hope the current issue will be of benefit not only to the professionals but also to the students of library and information science, particularly to the students of the LIS Diploma Course conducted by the SLLA. Many articles deal with pragmatic issues of currency and interest to all.

On behalf of the Publication Committee, it is my pleasure to thank all the authors and the reviewers/editors for their tremendous contribution. While expressing appreciation for the help given so willingly by the entire Publication Committee, my special thanks go to Mrs. Nanda Wanasundera and Mrs. Dilmani Warnasuriya, senior members of the Committee for their untiring support in language editing. Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to the President of the SLLA and the Council, and the SLLA office staff for all the support and encouragement given.

Sunethra Kariyawasam Editor / June 2016

SRI LANKA LIBRARY REVIEW

PUBLICATION

One volume is published annually in June by the Sri Lanka Library Association.

SCOPE OF THE REVIEW

Papers reporting results of original research, review articles, short communications, pertaining either directly or indirectly Library and Information Sciences, their utilization and management will be considered for publication in the review.

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Contents	Page
Influence of Socio-Economic, Educational Status of School Children on their Information Seeking Behaviour and School Library Usage (A Study among G.C.E Advanced level Students of the Jaffna Educational Zone) K. Gobalasuthanthiran, R. Sivarajasundaram, R. Surenthirakumaran &, K. Chandrasekar	01
බ්ලූටූත් බීකන් තාසෂණය පුස්තකාල සඳහා ඉයාදා ගැනීමේ වැදගත්කම ආර්. එම්. නදීකා රත්නබාහු	17
Google Applications in Improving Quality of Library Services: prospects with respect to public libraries in Sri Lanka <i>M.N. Ravikumar & T. Ramanan</i>	29
පුස්තකාල සේවා ගුණාත්මක බව ඇගයීම <i>පුියංවදා වනිගසූරිය සහ Si Li</i>	38
Russell Bowden – Librarian par excellence Nanda Pethiyagoda Wanasundera	47
Exploratory Review on Library Automation of Sri Lanka Wathmanel Seneviratne & Dilmani Warnasuriya	52
Use of Library Services and Information Seeking Methods of Postgraduate students in the University of Peradeniya: A case study <i>Chamani Gunasekera</i>	70
තිරසාර සංවර්ධන ඉලක්ක සපුරාගැනීමෙහිලා පුස්තකාලයන්හි කාර්යභාරය (සාහිතා ගවේෂණය) එස්.එම්.වී.එන්.කේ.එස්. විකුමසිංහ	85
டிஜிட்டல்நூலகங்களின் உருவாக்கமும்டிஜிட்டல் தகவல் சாதனங்களும் <i>எஸ்.எல். சியாத் அஹமட்</i>	96
Bibliometric analysis of Library and Information Science Theses submitted during 1986-2009, available at the National Library and Documentation Services Board, Sri Lanka	104
A.K.U.N. Kodithuwakku	

Influence of Socio-Economic, Educational Status of School Children on their Information Seeking Behaviour and School Library Usage (A Study among G.C.E Advanced Level Students of the Jaffna Educational Zone)

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Abstract

School libraries play a major role in seeking information for knowledge enhancement, by developing reading habits and information literacy skills among children, which are essential for life-long learning. This exploratory study intends to assess the influence of educational and socio-economic status of G.C.E (A/L) children on their information seeking behaviour, in addition to usage of school libraries. Randomly selected 442 students from G.C.E (A/L) classes of 20 schools in the Jaffna educational zone participated in the study. Multi-stage stratified random sampling method was adopted. Self-administered structured questionnaire was distributed to the sample population for data collection. In addition, data extraction form was used to evaluate the libraries in these selected schools. Collected data were analyzed using SPSS 17.0. Results revealed that school libraries are heavily used by the G.C.E (A/L) children for information seeking, irrespective of their educational and economic status of family. Descriptive analysis showed that reading textbooks is the prime purpose of visiting the school library, and majority visit the library 2-3 times in a week. Moreover, textbooks, newspapers and magazines were heavily used compared to other information resources available at school libraries. Evaluation of school libraries disclosed that most of the selected schools have adequate printed information resources and building facilities, whereas fund allocation, staff strength, electronic resource collection and infrastructure facilities are inadequate. Since this study revealed that school libraries are heavily used by the G.C.E (A/L) students, the respective authorities should take necessary action to enhance the library collection and accomplish the requirements mentioned above for the effective functioning of school libraries.

Keywords: Information seeking behaviour; School libraries; Library user studies Corresponding author – Email: kchandrasekar@univ.jfn.ac.lk

බ්ලූටූත් බීකන් තාඤණය පුස්තකාල සඳහා යොදා ගැනීමේ වැදගත්කම

(Importance of the Bluetooth Beacon Technology within the Libraries)

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පූරාවිදාහ පශ්චාත් උපාධි ආයතනය, කොළඹ 07. ශීූ ලංකාව.

Abstract

The Library and Information Science sector is empowered by the advance Information Communication Technology (ICT). These well-functioned technologies are welcome by the user clientele and librarians. The Bluetooth Beacon technology is one of the latest technology which is experiencing in libraries all around the world today. Therefore, the objective of this article was to investigate the applications of Bluetooth Beacon technology and to introduce them for Sri Lankan Libraries. Purpose of introducing this technology to the Sri Lankan library science sector is upgrade efficiency and effectiveness of the libraries. Especially, sending location-based event notices and shelving notices, promotion of new library services, user assistance and library tour are the several benefits that are providing through the Bluetooth Beacon technology. Therefore, this Bluetooth Beacon technology is very important to implement in Sri Lankan libraries in the near future.

Keywords: Bluetooth, Bluetooth Beacon, Bluetooth iBeacon, Bluetooth Low Energy – BLE, Libraries, Sri Lanka

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තොරතුරු සන්නිවේදන තාසාණය විසින් පුස්තකාල කෂ්තුය බලගන්වා ඇති බව වර්තමානයේ පැහැදිලි ව ම නිරීසෂණය කළ හැකි කරුණකි. පුස්තකාල තුළ ඉතා කුමවත් කියාකාරිත්වයක් පවත්වාගෙන යාම සහ පාඨකයන් වෙත කාර්යසුම සේවාවක් ලබාදීම අරමුණු කොටගෙන විවිධ තාසුණයන් පුස්තකාල විසින් අත්පත් කර ගැනීමට පෙළඹී සිටීමෙන් ඉහත කරුණ වඩාත් පැහැදිළි වන්නේ ය. බ්ලුටූත් බීකන් (Bluetooth Beacon) තාසුණය යනු එබඳු ඉතා මෑතකදී පුස්තකාල කෂ්තුයට හඳුන්වා දුන් නවා තාසුණයක් ලෙස සඳහන් කිරීමට පුළුවන. යුරෝජීය පුස්තකාල විසින් එහි පුයෝජන දැනටමත් අත්පත් කර ගනිමින් සිටින අතර, ඉදිරියේදී ආසියානු පුස්තකාල වෙත ද බ්ලුටූත් බීකන් තාසුණය පැමිනෙණු ඇත. ඒ අනුව මෙම ලිපියේ අරමුණවන්නේ බ්ලුටූත් බීකන් තාසුණය පුස්තකාල කටයුතු සඳහා යොදාගත හැකි ආකාරය පිළිබඳව ශී ලංකා පුස්තකාල කෙෂ්තුය වෙනුවෙන් හඳුන්වාදීම ය.

බීජපද : බ්ලුටූත්, බ්ලුටූත් බීකන්, බ්ලුටූත් අයිබීකන්, බ්ලුටූත් ලෝ එනර්ජි, පුස්තකාල, ශී් ලංකාව

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Google Applications in Improving Quality of Library Services: prospects with respect to public libraries in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Technological advancements are best resolutions to challenges posed by ever-increasing, complex user demands and scarcity of essential resources in libraries. Hence libraries of various types are evolving at different pace depending on their resource strength. Research and academic libraries and certain school libraries have the comparative advantage in serving their user communities, whereas libraries with marginalized resources are striving to cater to users. In Sri Lanka, there have been different types of libraries and information centres, among which public libraries have a long history. However, these public libraries, except a few, are not facilitated to deploy sophisticated library operations and information services. An assessment of websites of selected public libraries across the island reveals many libraries are still providing services in conventional environment. With emerging trends in advancement of information and communication technology the libraries could reap the benefits of employing basic ICT applications to enhance the service quality and user satisfaction. Since people from almost all parts of the island are enjoying a satisfactory level of Internet facilities, especially on hand-held devices, the libraries could extend their resources and services using Google Apps. These apps will not cost much and nor does it require additional human resource and prowess. The paper highlights as to how these Apps could assist libraries to cater to their users.

Keywords: Google Applications, Public Library Services, Sri Lanka Library Association, National Library, Sri Lanka

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පුස්තකාල සේවා ගුණාත්මක බව ඇගයීම (Evaluation of service quality in libraries)

පුියංවදා වනිගසූරිය 1 , ${f Si}\ {f Li}^2$,

Abstract

Evaluating service quality is a hot topic today in the service sector. This paper seeks service quality dimensions and available service quality evaluation models in the world. It describes the three core components of the service quality interaction i.e. library staff, resources and library as a place. And it critically discusses the service quality evaluation modules and criteria used in the service quality sector. This paper will be helpful to libraries planning to implement a quality management system to improve their quality service and increase customer satisfaction through continuous improvement.

Keywords: Service quality, Kano model, LibQUAL, SERVQUAL, library

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සේවා ගුණාත්මක බව ඇගයීම සේවා ක්ෂේතුයේ කාලීන මාතෘකාවකි. මෙම පතිුකාවෙන් සේවා ගුණාත්මකබව අගය කිරීමේ සංරචක හා මොඩියුල පිළිබද සොයා බැලේ. පුස්තකාල සේවකයන්, එකතුව සහ ස්ථානයක් ලෙස පුස්තකාලයේ අවශාතාව යන පුධාන මාතෘකා පිළිබඳ සලකා බැලේ. එසේම විවිධ මොඩියුල සහ ඒවායේ නිර්ණායක සාකච්ඡා කෙරේ. මෙම පතිුකාව පුස්තකාල සේවා ගුණාත්මක බව නැංවීමටත් ඒ පිළිබද නිරන්තර අවධානය යොමු කිරීමටත් උපකාර වේ.

බීජපද: සේවා ගුණත්වය, Kano model, LibQUAL, SERVQUAL, පුස්තකාල

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Russell Bowden – Librarian par excellence

What do I remember about Russell Bowden? He died on 27 January 2016 at his home in Kottawa after a short battle with cancer. I paid my last respects to him at A F Raymond's funeral parlour but ever since when I go to the SLLA office in the OPA building, I expect to see a tall,

straight figure with a very fair face rather reddened in the heat and somewhat lined with age, come striding with a smile lighting his face erasing the serious, purposeful look it usually had. This proves John Donne's contention in his sonnet:

"Death be not proud, though some have called thee Mighty and dreadful, thou art not so, For those whom thou think'st thou hast overthrown Die not, poore death ...

The mortal Russell is gone; the man of flesh and blood is no more; but his spirit will surely haunt LIS places in Colombo for which he did so much; specially the Sri Lanka Library Association. And we older librarians who were privileged to sit at meetings with him and work alongside him will miss him. Mr Prasanna Ranaweera, Director/NILIS promised that the auditorium of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences of the University of Colombo would be named 'Professor Russell Bowden Auditorium.' Thus his name will live on and the gratitude we library personnel feel for him.

To answer the question I posed to myself: I remember his dedication to the cause of library and information science (LIS); his unstinting service to several institutions and the advancement of LIS in Sri Lanka; his innovative ideas and his persistence in making changes and undimmed focus on the matter in hand. He is also remembered for having much to comment on at SLLA AGMs; constructive, with nary a trace of malice or superiority. He would constantly grin and make a humorous remark and walk away with that loping walk of his.

He was like tea planters of half a century ago who settled down in their adopted country - Ceylon, and more recently, Sir Arthur C Clarke, a Britisher who made his permanent home after retirement in this land of ours. Russell came to live here in 1996. He and the others mentioned could have gone back to Britain, their birthplace, or made a home in some exotic location like Greece or Bali, but no, they appreciated the deeper values Sri Lanka is rich in and settled down here to be distinguished residents. In Russell's case contributing so much to the field of LIS both in this country, in South Asia and globally too. As Russell told an interviewer ten years ago: "The wonderful thing about Sri Lanka is that this is a small country, and everybody knows everybody. If I am in doubt, I phone up or e-mail Professor Karunadasa in Hong Kong and say Karu, I have a problem, and he says, why don't you get in touch with so-and-so, his phone number is such and such. And you phone people up and they respond. They immediately help. If I have doubts, I climb into my car and drive to Polonnaruwa or Anuradhapura. I will sit around in the ruins of the Abhayagiri, or the Western Monasteries." We Sri Lankans take pride in the fact that a knowledgeable, wise and much travelled man like Russell chose this Island as his final home. Maybe being a bachelor helped him to make the choice as he had only himself to please."I came on holiday and found that all my friends, not my British Council friends but my Sri Lankan friends, were still here. It was just a matter of picking up the loose ends."

The Professional

Born in Manchester in the UK, Russell chose librarianship as his career and kept his interests going strong for more than the Biblical age of three score and ten. Becoming a Chartered Librarian of the Library Association (UK) which was the body that offered Associateship and Charters then, he continued his studies in the Loughborough University of Technology (1974-76). While in the university, he assisted in the development and early delivery of a programme for library educators in developing countries. Joining the British Council, he was sent as the Council's Librarian to supervise libraries in Iraq, India, Nigeria and Sri Lanka, serving in London too. Russell worked for the Library Association, UK (now CILIP) as the Deputy Chief Executive from 1974 to 1994.

His horizon widening, he served the International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA) as Executive Board Member (1989-1995) and was its first Vice President from 1991 to 1995. Coming east, his interests naturally shifted to certain sections of IFLA such as the Group - Asia and Oceania - in which he served the Regional Standing Committee as member and advisor. He initiated and was instrumental in the formation of the Regional Federation of South Asian Library Associations while participating in a LIS seminar in Nepal in 2006. Thus came into being REFSALA which holds conferences in South Asian nations; in Sri Lanka in 2010.

Russell was a Fellow of the Sri Lanka Library Association, an Honorary Fellow of CILIP, Honorary Fellow of IFLA and Honorary Librarian of the Royal Asiatic Society of Sri Lanka.

The Dynamic Personality in Local LIS

Russell gave of his time, expertise, experience and most significantly his enthusiasm and dynamism of getting things done to the Sri Lankan library and information science field. Maybe the start was the encouragement and assistance given our fledgling Ceylon Library Association started in 1960. He maintained his interest and contribution to the continuation of that early association which became the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA). As I

remember, he was a Council Member for many, many years and headed or served on various sub committees of the SLLA. His interest and assistance widened to other LIS institutions as they came into existence, being invited to serve on governing boards and committees including the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences of the University of Colombo, National Library and Documentation Services Board and the National Library of Sri Lanka.

The Scholar

After reaching the pinnacle of academic achievement in LIS, Russell turned to Buddhism which interested him and engaged his intellect. This is no surprise since Buddhism is essentially for the intelligent person and offers much scope for study. For ten years, he entered deep into Buddhist texts – in both a spiritual and intellectual quest from the oral to the written word, an apt pursuit for a professional librarian. Joining the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies of the Kelaniya University, he read for and obtained his higher degrees in Buddhism and his PhD in 2013 for his research thesis: 'The Dhamma's Transmission and the Pali Theravada Canon: An Examination of the Processes and Supporting Literature from the Third Buddhist Council to King Parakramabahu's Unification of the Sri Lankan Sangha' "The thing that fascinates me is that nowhere, in Anuradhapura or in Polonnaruwa, does anybody know where the library was. Libraries existed in Nalanda, in India, at least by the 5th century. Fa-Hsien in 400 BC wrote about a three-storied library in Nalanda. And Taxila had a library. Libraries existed, so why on earth did they never come to Sri Lanka?" questioned Russell. Ever the questing mind!

Goodbye Russell - we admire you as you admired our country and gave to it.

To end this concise appreciation of Russell Bowden, I decided the best would be to quote him. "I very much believe in the Buddha's idea that you give back what was given to you. When I came to Sri Lanka from India, I was a very raw British Council librarian. I was elected onto the Council of the Ceylon Library Association which was then only six years old, and I was on the Council for four years. In a small way I helped to form the current Sri Lanka Library Association. But my international career took off then. I ended up being elected as the first vice-president of the International Federation of Library Associations.

Nanda Pethiyagoda Wasundara.

That was a great honour. And I can trace it all the way back to Ceylon. When I came back here, apart from studying Buddhism, I wanted to give back to the library profession here. That is what has brought me back into librarianship in Sri Lanka."

When he said this, his interviewer **Stephen Prins** says in his article on the conversation he had with Russell (read on Internet) that there was a thud on the roof. "Monkeys,' Mr. Bowden chuckles. 'We live in the jungle.' You can tell he is profoundly happy to be where he is, in his chosen jungle."

A final quote from the librarian whose death we mourn:

"The thing I would like to stress is how a knowledge of Buddhism has given me a greater love and a greater understanding of Sri Lanka."

Nanda Pethiyagoda Wanasundera Fellow of the SLLA

Exploratory Review on Library Automation of Sri Lanka

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- 2. Fellow of the SLLA

Abstract

The paper attempts to trace the evolution of computerization and eventual adoption of library automation software by the libraries in Sri Lanka. It was evident that computerization of bibliographic data in libraries had started in the late 1980s with the provision of a free bibliographic package by UNESCO. This triggered the library scientists to experiment on using different computer programmes and packages to automate the technical functions and end-user services of the library. The article traces the chronological development and usage of both in house and commercial software in the different libraries in Sri Lanka. The varied and disorganized status in usage of software is amply demonstrated through this. The options available through open source software together with cloud technology is also discussed as being a viable alternative for the future. Throughout the discussion, the high level of enthusiasm shown by librarians towards automating their libraries is only too evident and this augurs well for the future development of libraries in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Library Automation; Evolution of library automation; Digital libraries; Library history; Sri Lanka

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Use of library services and information seeking methods of postgraduate students in the University of Peradeniya: A case study

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Abstract

The main objective of this study was to examine library use and to reveal information seeking activities of postgraduate students in the University of Peradeniya. The study adapted a survey method and a self administered questionnaire used as the main research instrument. All postgraduate students in the Department of Education, University of Peradeniya were selected as the study population and the questionnaires were distributed among whole population. Out of 345, 265 completed questionnaires were returned making 77.9% response rate. The results revealed that respondents used various sources of information for acquiring required information. The subject related books, theses and dissertations and reference sources were the most preferred sources that were used for their research work and to update their subject knowledge. Most of the respondents indicated that browsing through book shelves and mass media are the main information seeking methods used for acquiring current information in their subject discipline and most of the respondents preferred to use both print and electronic information formats for their postgraduate studies. With regard to IT based services, most of the respondents use internet and email facility more frequently than other IT based services. The results further revealed that 80% of the respondents visit the library daily, once a week or once or twice a week and results showed that the perception towards the library services and facilities were satisfactory. Based on the conclusion the study made recommendation to review both print and electronic information resources available in the library while at the same time conducting extensive user awareness and user education programmes specially designed for the postgraduate students.

Keywords: Library use, Information seeking, Postgraduates, Education

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තිරසාර සංවර්ධන ඉලක්ක සපුරාගැනීමෙහිලා පුස්තකාලයන්හි කාර්යභාරය (සාහිතා ගවේෂණය)

(Role of the libraries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (Literature Survey))

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Abstract

World Leaders have adopted the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 at the United Nations General Assembly. This should be implemented in daily life by all levels of the society as this is a development agenda of the people. The Sustainable Development Goals are defined and introduced here with stating some contributions of the libraries to the development through a literature survey.

Keywords: Library Services, United Nations, Libraries

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තිරසාර සංවර්ධන ඉලක්ක, 2015 දී ලෝක නායකයන් විසින් එක්සත් ජාතීන්ගේ මහා මණ්ඩළයේදී තීරණය කරගතු ලැබිණ. මෙය ලෝකවාසී ජනතාවගේ සංවර්ධනය පිළිබඳ තීරණයක් නිසා සමාජයේ සියළුම ස්ථර තිරසාර සංවර්ධන ඉලක්ක තම එදිනෙදා ජීවිතවලට සමීප කර ගැනීම අතාවශාය. තිරසාර සංවර්ධනය අර්ථ දක්වමින් ඉලක්ක හඳුන්වාදීමත්, ලොව පුරා පුස්තකාල සංවර්ධන කිුියාදාමයට සහභාගීවීමට ගෙන ඇති පියවර කිහිපයක් පිළිබඳව ද මෙම සාහිතා ගවේෂණය තුළින් සලකා බැලේ.

බීජපද- පුස්තකාල සේවා, එක්සත් ජාතීන්. පුස්තකාල

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டிஜிட்டல்நூலகங்களின் உருவாக்கமும்டிஜிட்டல் தகவல் சாதனங்களும் (Implementation of Digital Libraries and Digital Information resources)

எஸ்.எல். சியாத் அஹமட்

பாராளுமன்ற நூலகம்,, இலங்கைபாராளுமன்றம்

Abstract

Development of digital technologies has been very fast and most unpredictable in this era. This paper attempts to describe initiative of Digital Libraries and finds solutions for preservation. It also examins the ways that the digital material are accessible for a long time preservation, as digitization is the process of converting information into a digital format. Digitizing information makes it easier to preserve, access, and share. This article aims to find the obstacles in implementing the Digital Library and to proposes the solutions for digitization process.

Keywords: Digital Libraries, Digital Information, E-resources, Electronic Documents, Binary Code, Digitization, Digital Repositories.

சுருக்கம்

நவீனகால நூலகத்துறையில் டிஜிட்டல் நூலகத்தின் செல்வாக்குபற்றி ஆராயமுயலும் இக்கட்டுரை இலத்திரனியல் சாதனங்களின் பரிணாமம் பற்றி ஆராய்வதோடு அவற்றினைக் கையாளும்போது கடைப்பிடிக்கவேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைபற்றியும் கூற விளைகின்றது. டிஜிட்டல் நூலகத்தின் நன்மைகள் பற்றி கூறும் இக்கட்டுரை டிஜிட்டல் சாதனங்களின் மகத்துவம் பற்றியும் குறிப்பிடுகின்றது. மேலும் டிஜிட்டல் உருவாக்கத்தினால் ஏற்படக்கூடிய நூலக நன்மைதீமைகளையும் சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது.

கலைச்செற்கள்: டிஜிட்டல் நூலகங்கள், டிஜிட்டல் தகவல்கள், இலத்திரனியல் சாதனங்கள், எனலொக், பைனரிகோர்ட்மற்றும்டிஜிட்டல்களஞ்சியம். டிஜிட்டலாக்கம்,பட்டியலாக்கல்

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Bibliometric analysis of Library and Information Science Theses submitted during 1986-2009, available at The National Library and Documentation Services Board, Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Professional development of a disciplinecan be determined through literature produced in the particular subject area. This study reviews the reference sources used by the library and information science (LIS) postgraduate degree holders in their Library and Information Science researches. This study is conducted to analyze the citations of 44 LIS postgraduate theses and dissertations submitted to foreign and local universities during the period of 1986-2009 which are placed in the National Library, Sri Lanka. The authors have cited more journal articles and single authorship is visible. Majority of the citations are published between 1986-2006. Among the degree awarding institutions and degree programmes considered, many of the theses were submitted to the University of Colombo in order to obtain Master of Library and Information Science degree. Except five, all other theses and dissertations have been compiled in English Language and in year 2002 more theses have been submitted. The study can be considered as the sole bibliometric and citation analyses of theses and dissertations which are placed in the National Library. Recommendations will provide guidelines for promotion of research in library and information science and as the pioneer institution, National Library will look forward to acquire more postgraduate intellectual property and open its' doors for the researchers to conduct studies revolved around the institution.

Keywords: Bibliometric analysis, Library and Information Science Theses, National Library of Sri Lanka, Collection Development, Citation Analysis

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