



SLLA Newsletter

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President's Message

It is my great pleasure to extend greetings to the new term of the Sri Lanka Library Association. During the past few months the Covid-19 pandemic drastically changed the way we live. The rare occurrence of preventing physical access to libraries happened, teaching us new lessons on maintaining services in a crisis situation. 'Online' emerged as the norm of service platforms even for those who overlooked it.

Amidst these global and local turbulences, the Sri Lanka Library Association is nevertheless ready to steer the library profession in the country to the finest destination. While we strive hard to warrant the practice of professionalism and integrity within this respectful profession, we are also determined to ensure our professionals are devoid of instabilities in their career paths.

There lie the specific issues of rectifying anomalies in recruitment and promotion across different library categories. The government, provincial, and school library sectors need special attention on this regard. SLLA is negotiating with relevant organizations and government authorities to regulate employment and safeguard better working conditions.

Streamlining LIS education by enhancing quality and relevance and aligning with local and International qualification frameworks are also our priorities for the new term. LIS education and employment should be closely linked with one another. Those who learn LIS should see a clearer path for their career progression.

LIS education should never be limited to developing skills and competencies among the future librarians. Library theorists, researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs too should emerge. Critical analysis of current issues and clinical assessment and decision making should therefore be necessary to drive SLLA forward.

We hope that all our membership is with us in this endeavor. Those who are still not members or not renewed membership recently may join hands soon. Wish you all the success in your career paths!

Dr. Ruwan Gamage - President - SLLA



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HDIP LIS Awards ceremony 2020

Awarding ceremony of Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science was held on 28th August 2020 at Sri Lanka Foundation.



Prof. Sudantha Liyanage, Vice Chancellor, University of Sri Jayawardenepura graced this occasion as Chief guest. Past Presidents, council members, lecturers and center coordinators of SLLA participated in this event. At this event, SLLA certificates were distributed to 103 students who had successfully completed the Higher Diploma in Library & Information Science (HDIP LIS) conducted by Sri Lanka Library Association.



HDIP LIS Scholarships & Awards

**S.C. Block Memorial scholarships
HDIP LIS Level 1 – 2019/2020
Ms. R M D. Ranatunge (Sinhala Medium)**

**HDIP LIS Level 11 – 2018/2019
Ms. W M N D Bandara (Sinhala Medium)**

**Gold Medal for best achievement
HDIP LIS Level 111 - 2018/2019**

Ms. W A Dharshika Thilini Wijesinghe

Srikanthaluxmy Arulanantham Memorial Award for best overall performance 2018/2019

Ms. W A Dharshika Thilini Wijesinghe



60th Annual General meeting of SLLA 2020

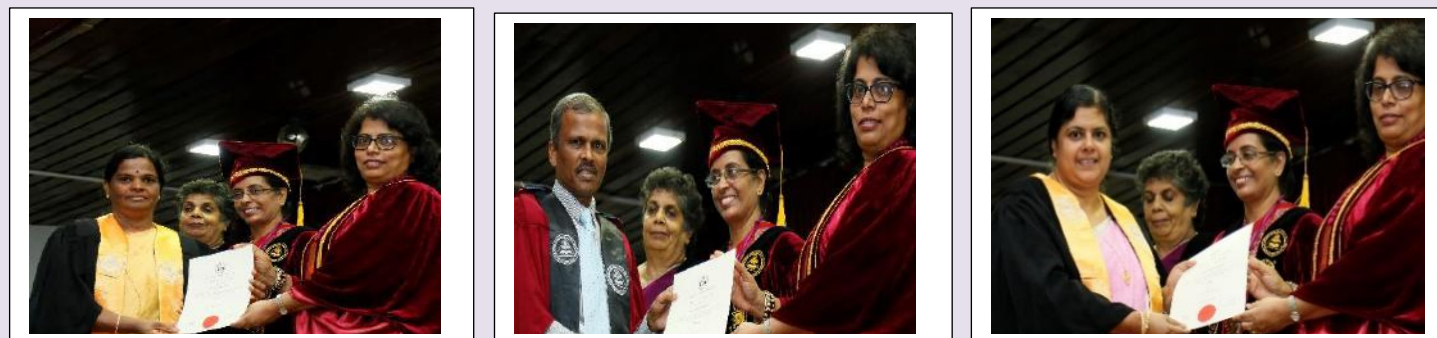
60th Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka Library Association was held on 18th of September 2020 at Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo 07. After the spectacular procession, the AGM was inaugurated by lighting oil lamp by the Chief Guest Mrs. Gayani De Alwis, Dr. Nayana Wijayasundera (President – SLLA), Dr. Ruwan Gamage (President Elect – SLLA), Ms. Leelamani Amarasekara (General Secretary) and other dignitaries of the event. SLLA members and other LIS professionals participated in this event. A valuable discourse was made by the Chief guest Mrs. Gayani De Alwis (Global Chairperson women in Logistics & Transport- WILAT) .



After the inaugural ceremony new council members and professional group conveners were selected for the year 2020/2021. Finally, Dr. Ruwan Gamage (Acting Director/NILIS) was honored as new president of SLLA.



FELLOWSHIP AWARDS 2020



At the 60th AGM of SLLA held on 18th September 2020, Ms. P C D S Gunasekara , Dr.(Ms).K R N Harshani, Ms. Geethani Attanayake , Mr. B N G S Premaratne, Dr. (Mrs.) Vishakaruban, Mr. W Premadarshana and Ms. K P N D Peiris, received the “Fellowship” of the Sri Lanka Library Association for their significant contributions made to the association and Library & Information Science field in the country

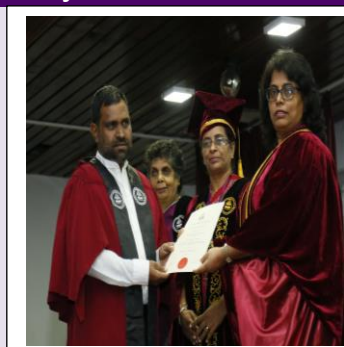
ASSOCIATESHIP AWARDS 2020

Following SLLA members received the honor of becoming corporate members (Chartered Librarians) of the Sri Lanka Library Association at the 60th AGM of SLLA held on 18th September 2020

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Ms. K.Danusha Swarna Athukorala | 5. Ms.A P C Chaddrakanthi Perera | 9. Mr. Selvanayakam Santharuban |
| 2. Ms. H G P S Chathurika Dilhani | 6. Ms. W P Gayani Lasantha Perera | 10. Mr. Herath Mudiyeselaga Thilakarathne |
| 3. Dr. (Ms). B M M C B Hindagolla | 7. Ms. Prangige Merangiga Ayomi | 11. Ms. Pradeepa Erandi Chathurani |
| 3. Ms.Kahduwa Arachchige Vishaka Narmada | 8. Premadasan Prashanthan | Wijayamunige |
| | | 12. Ms. B G Suleka Pathmini Wimalasiri |



Vijita De Silva Research Award 2020



Vijita De Silva Research award was jointly presented to Dr. R.D. Ananda Tissa (Convenor), Rev. Legumdeniye Piyaratna Thero, Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Mr. U.P Alahakoon,, Prof. W. Weerasooriya and Sugath Gunatilaka (members) for “An index to Library and Information Science Articles published in Sri Lanka from 1962 to 2018 and Mrs. Chandima Dissanayake(Convenor), Mrs.Kusumanjali, Ms.Chandani Senerath, Ms. Kanchana De Silva, Ms. Chamari Yapa, Ms. Yamuna Geeganagamage and Ms. Amara Pathirana (members) for “Architectural designs for buildings, interior layout and furniture for small and medium size libraries in Sri Lanka”.



Visit of TVEC members

Two officials of the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) visited SLLA on 22nd September 2020 and had the initial discussion on NVQ level for the SLLA DIPLIS/HDIPLIS courses. Further, they provided the guidelines which had to be prepared before getting the NVQ level for the courses. Based on these, the Sub-Committee of the Education Committee was assigned to prepare the necessary documents and guidelines regarding the courses and lecturers up to the standards which were given by the TVEC.



SLLA COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020/2021

President: Dr. Ruwan Gamage
Immediate Past President: Dr.(Mrs). N. D. Wijayasundara
President Elect: Dr. R.D. Ananda Tissa
Vice President: Mr. Anton Nallathamby
General Secretary: Dr. (Mrs). K.R.N.Harshani
Assistant General Secretary: Mrs. Priyadharshani Hemakumara
Treasurer: Mrs. Varuni Gangabadaarachchi
Education Officer: Dr. (Ms). Champa Alahakoon
Assistant Education Officer: Mrs. Priyani Balasooriya
Publication Officer: Mrs.T.Sritharan
Information & Public Relations Officer: Dr. S.K. Illangarathna

PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Academic Libraries: Mr. Norman Ravikumar
COMAISP: Mr.S.Santharuban
Government Libraries: Mrs. Yanika Nandasena
National Library: Mr. Wijaya Premadharshana
Provincial Libraries: Mrs. Wasantha Kuruppu
Public Libraries: Mr. Dammika Weerakoon
Special Libraries: Mrs. Ranjani Herath
School Libraries: Mrs. Chandima Dissanayake

Nominated Council Members: 1. Mrs. Shivanthi Weerasinghe
2. Mr. Lal Pannila

Nominated Ex-Co members: 1. Mrs. Sunethra Perera
2. Ms. Rukmali Sepalika

DILIS NEWS

Inauguration of DILIS Level I (Tamil Medium) - 2020/2021 at Batticaloa

Inauguration of the Diploma in Library and Information Science, Level -I course was held on 26th July, 2020 at Auditorium of the Batticaloa Public Library. The Centre Coordinator Mr. M.N. Ravikumar, Lecturers Mr. B. Prashanthan, Mr. A.C.A. Sathath and Librarian of Batticaloa Public Library Mr.T. Saravanapavan were participated and addressed the gathering. There are around 40 students registered for the DIPLIS course at Batticaloa Centre.



SLLA Publication Committee 2020/2021

Mrs. T. Sritharan (Publication Officer)
Mrs. K. Murugathas
Mr. M.S.M Shiham
Ms. Pavithara Wijayawardane

Mrs. Chandima Wadasinghe
Mr. B. N .G .S. Sunil Premaratne
Mrs. A. V. M. K . Ankumbura

News Items for SLLA Newsletter Vol. 37 No. 02 (Oct. – Dec.

Share your experiences, best practices and activities held in your libraries to be published in the forthcoming SLLA Newsletter. Its main aim is to exchange and disseminate news and views among the membership. Send your news items in MS Word format to publication officer via email sritharan@lib.cmb.ac.lk or sllapublicationofficer@gmail.com

Announcement

Call for Articles – Sri Lanka Library Review (SLLR) Vol. 35. Iss. 1

Publication committee of SLLA wishes to receive articles from members and scholars to be published in SLLR, Vol. 35 issue 1. SLLR is now being published as a double blind pure reviewed open access journal with two issues per year. The first issue (35, 1) will be published in January 2021. Articles will be accepted till **30th November, 2020**. You may submit articles written in Sinhala or Tamil or English. Please send your manuscripts in MS Word file to publication officer via email- sritharan@lib.cmb.ac.lk or sllapublicationofficer@gmail.com. Guidelines and other details available at SLLA website - www.slla.org.lk

If undelivered please return to:

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Colombo 07.

To: