



SLLA NEWSLETTER

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SLLA 53rd AGM on 22nd June 2013

All library professionals gathering under one flag...

The 53rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of SLLA was held on 22nd of June 2013 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo. Mr. Wasantha Ekanayake, Secretary of Ministry of Cultural Affairs was the Chief Guest and Prof. Ranjith Senaratne, Vice Chairman, UGC and Chairman, NILIS was the Guest of Honour at the inauguration ceremony. A large number of LIS professionals participated at the colorful ceremony. In addition to the impressive addresses delivered by the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour, presentation of awards and certificates were also held at the inaugural session.



NILIS RECEIVES THE SLLA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

At the 53rd AGM, NILIS, University of Colombo was awarded the '2013 SLLA Award of Excellence' for its unique contribution to the LIS education and training in Sri Lanka. Provision of postgraduate studies for SLLA Associateship holders is one of the many new features introduced by NILIS recently.



SLLA Life Membership

SLLA at its Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on 12.10. 2013 at Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) Auditorium decided to award SLLA Life Membership using the following Criterion. SLLA extends its thanks and deep appreciation to all senior members who helped to resolve the life membership issue in a professional and amicable manner.

(a) **Category 1:** SLLA senior members who had been active participants of the Association prior to the SLLA Act No. 20 of 1974 was enacted, irrespective of their qualifications and the membership category will be eligible for Life Membership without a Membership Fee.

(b) **Category 2:** SLLA Senior Members with 20 years of continuous membership after obtaining the SLLA Associateship will be eligible for Life Membership without a Membership Fee.

(c) **Category 3:** SLLA members having 10 years of continuous Corporate Membership could apply for Life Membership.

SLLA is pleased to announce that in March 2014, it has awarded the first batch of life membership under the new criterion.

SLLA OFFICE BEARERS 2013 –14**President**

Ms. D.I.D.Andradi

Immediate Past President

Mr. M.S.U .Amarasiri

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Ms. S.C Weerasinghe

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Publication Officer

Mr. K.G.S.Gunathilake

**Information & Public
Relation Officer**

Ms. B.A.I. Kolonne

Nominated Members

Mr. P. B. Gallaba

Ms. Daya Ratnayake

GROUP RETIVESPRESENTA**Academic Libraries**

Ms. Gethani Attanayake

Government Libraries

Mr. W.G.L.Kumarasiri

Public Libraries

Ms. Varuni Gangabodarchchi

Special Libraries

Mr.Preethi Liyanage

School libraries & Educational Institute

Ms. Amara Pathirana

National Library Group

Mr. Wijaya Premadarshana

NGO Libraries

Mr. Sarath Nandakumara

Provincial Libraries

Mr. L.R Amarakoon

Includes the office bearers and the following nominated members.

Nominate Members

Pro. Mr.Russell Bowden

Dr. Ms. Wathmanel Senaviratne

**REGULER COMMITEES &
CONVENORS****Advocacy & Grievances
Committee**

Mr. P.B.Gallaba

**Associate & Fellowship
Committee**

Mr.M.S.U.Amarasiri

**Coutinuing Professional
Development Committee**

Dr Ms.Wathmanel Senaviratne

Distance & Online Committee

Mr.G.R.Padmasiri

IT Committee

Ms. Hirini Kanchana

**Professional Ethics
Committee**

Ms.Daya Ratnayake

**Office Management &
Finanace Committee**

Ms.Lilamani Amarasekera

Social affairs Committee

Ms.Yamuna Geeganagamage

NACLIS GROUP

Dr.Ms.Pradeepa Wijetunga

**Books for Asia Program : Uplifting the
standard of Libraries**

The Asia Foundation's Books for Asia Program in partnership with the Sri Lanka Library Association and the National Library and Documentation Services Board held a two day Training program on October 24 and 25 for 110 Public Librarians from across the country.

The training program was conducted by two senior library professionals from the National Library of Singapore, focusing on developing and implementing innovative library programe and services that would strengthen the public librarians' knowledge and skills in designing and applying initiatives to enhance literacy skills, reading habits and bilingualism among children and youth.

Vijita de Silva Research Award

The Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) is pleased to announce the '**Vijita de Silva Research Award**' the annual research award for the best research in Library and Information Science (LIS) field in Sri Lanka. The award will offer Rs. 50,000.00 in cash with a certificate. In the event, there are two equally good researches, both parties will receive Rs.25,000.00 each. Details of the award including eligibility criterion and application procedure have already been distributed among the members of the SLLA, which is available in the SLLA website too. SLLA Council earnestly requests all LIS professionals to submit their recent researches for this prestigious award. The first Vijita de Silva Research Award will be presented at the inauguration of the 54th SLLA AGM in June 2014.

New Director General of the NLDSB



Mr. W. Sunil has been appointed as the new Director General of the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) recently. He has more than fifteen years of experience at the NLDSB and he served as a Deputy Director of the NLDSB prior to the appointment as the Director General. Mr Sunil obtained an Honours degree in Sinhala from University of Colombo and a Masters degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Malaya, Malaysia. He has been an active member of the SLLA and is currently holding the position of Education Officer of SLLA. We wish him all success.

NILIS Director Retires



Mr Upali Amarasiri has retired from NILIS, University of Colombo on 23.02.2014 after serving two terms as the Director from 2008 February. Introduction of new courses in Information Management, Archival Science, ICT, extending postgraduate education facilities to SLLA Diploma and Associateship holder and Kelaniya University LIS Higher Diploma holders and senior working librarians, attracting foreign students and students from the private sector, improving infrastructure facilities, collaboration with foreign universities, introduction of CONL is, NILIS consultancy services project in LIS field, laying foundation for degree programmes in LIS, Information Management and information Audit fields, initiating the NILIS annual research symposium are some of the major achievements of NILIS during Mr Amarasiri's tenure. Mr Amarasiri also served as the President/SLLA from 2009 to 2012 and successfully conducted the golden jubilee celebrations of the SLLA in 2010 with participation of the President/IFLA and the Presidents of the Library Associations of SAARC Countries. He was also instrumental in introducing an official attire/cloak for the SLLA members and also launching the Vijita de Silva Research Fellowship of SLLA. Mr Amarasiri earlier served as the 3rd Director/Director General of NLDSB (1989-2008) and also as the founder National Librarian (1990-2008) of the country.

Workshop on CAS

SLLA Continuous professional Group 2013/14 is Organizing a workshop on Current Awareness Service Products & Material Design 'This workshop is scheduled to be held on 28 th March 2014.

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රාජ්‍ය හා පළාත් රාජ්‍ය අංශයේ පුස්තකාලයාධිපති සේවා ව්‍යස්ථව සංශෝධනය කිරීම සම්බන්ධව ජාතික පුස්තකාල ප්‍රලේඛන සේවා මණ්ඩලයේ අධ්‍යක්ෂ ජනරාල් තුමාගේ ප්‍රධානත්වයෙන් සාකච්ඡා වට දෙකක් එම මණ්ඩලයේ දී 2014.02.07 සහ 2014.03.06 දෙදින තුළ පැවත් විය. මෙහිදී දැනට ක්‍රියාත්මක සේවා ව්‍යාප්තවේ වගන්ති කිහිපයක් සංශෝධනය කිරීම හා එහිදී සාකච්ඡා වූ කරුණු අදාළ යොජනාවලියක් සකස්කර රාජ්‍ය පරිපාලන අමාත්‍යාංශයට ඉදිරිපත් කිරීමට යෝජනා විය.

මෙම සාකච්ඡාව සඳහා ශ්‍රී ලංකා පුස්තකාල සංගමය,කැලණිය විශ්ව විද්‍යාලය පුස්තකාල හා විඥාපන විද්‍යා අධ්‍යයන අංශය සහ පුස්තකාලයාධිපතිවරුන්ගේ වෘත්තීය සංගම් නියෝජිතයන් සහභාගී වූහ.

New Director of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS) University of Colombo



Mr. Prasanna Ranaweera has been appointed as the new Director of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences, (NILIS) University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. Before appointment to the present post, Mr. Ranaweera was employed as a Senior Lecturer at the same Institute. Prior to joining NILIS, he was employed as an Asst Librarian at the

University of Sri Jayewardenepura and at the National Library of Sri Lanka, which has enabled him to gain 22 years of professional experience in the field. His research interests are in the areas of information literacy skills among the University students, and Information center management. He has published several Journal Articles and presented a large number of conference papers locally and internationally. His academic background includes B.A. (Hons), Master of Arts, and Masters in Library and Information Sciences, while also being a PhD scholar. He is a qualified university lecturer, having successfully completed the Certificate of Teaching in Higher Education, and also holds the Diploma in Advanced English for Administration and Academic Purposes from the University of Colombo.

Condolence



Mr N Amarasinghe, former Director, Sri Lanka National Library Services Board (SLNLSB), (present NLDSB) and the founder Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kelaniya, passed away in August 2013. Mr Amarasinghe joined the public service as an Assistant Archivist at the Department of National Archives. Later he served at the Junior University College in Dehiwala and Peradeniya University library. Mr Amarasinghe joined SLNLSB in 1976 as the second Director of the organization and served till 1988. He served as the Education Officer and a lecturer of SLLA for a long time. After leaving the SLNLSB he joined the University of Papua New Guinea. With his demise Sri Lanka lost a pioneering bibliographer, excellent teacher in the Library and Information Science (LIS) field and a quality librarian.

SLLA Education Programme - Revision Seminar

The SLLA annual revision seminar was held on 25th January 2014 at NLDSB auditorium. SLLA level 1 students attached to centres in Kandy, Galle and Colombo participated at the seminar.

Examinations

SLLA DIPLIS Level-I examinations was held on 1st & 02nd of March 2014 at Lumbini Vidyalaya, Colombo.

Sri Lanka Library Review

The SLLA is receiving the abstracts and papers for the next issue of Sri Lanka Library Review, the professional journal of SLLA. The deadline for submitting research articles is 30th April 2014. *Please contact the Publication Officer on malibrary@gmail.com or 0112-868914 for further information*

IFLA Annual Conference



IFLA World Library and Information Congress
80th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

16-22 August 2014, Lyon, France

Congress theme: **Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge**

More information regarding the 80th IFLA General Conference and Assembly will be available on this website: <http://www.ifla.org/conference>

If undelivered Please return to:

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