A discussion programme was organized by the Education Committee of SLLA on 02nd February, 2020 at SLLA Auditorium to discuss about the essay writing module of level III DIPLIS course.

The main objective of this programme was to appoint supervisors for the Level III students to complete their essays on time, discuss the method of evaluation of essays and discuss the guidelines already given for the students to guide in essay writing. Lecturers who are already engaged with the examination of the submitted essays and new lecturers who are willing to supervise and teach the essay lesson for the Level III course were invited for this discussion.

Altogether 15 lecturers participated along with Education officer, Dr. (Ms.) Champa N. K. Alahakoon and Asst. Education Officer Ms. K. N. Samanthis. The discussion was led by Mr. K. K. G. Wijeweera, Dr. G. R. Padmasiri and Mr. P.B. Gallaba. In addition, to that all the participants presented their suggestions, ideas and thoughts related to essay evaluation.
DIPLIS News

DIPLIS Level I Examination

The Level I Examination of the Diploma in Library and Information Science was held on 29th February and 01st March, 2020. For the first time in SLLA history, an examination centre was established in Galle due to large number of candidates applying from the area. In addition the examination was conducted in other centres such as Colombo, Kandy, Badulla, Jaffna and Batticaloa as usual.

Inauguration Ceremony of DIPLIS Level I - 2020/2021

Inauguration of the Diploma in Library and Information Science, Level I (Sinhala Medium) course was held on 14th March, 2020 at Auditorium of the Organizations of the Professional Association, Colombo.

Students from Kandy, Colombo, and Galle centres and the Distance Education Programme participated in this event. The President of SLLA, Dr. (Ms.) Nayana Wijayasundara, President-Elect, Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Education Officer, Dr. (Ms.) Champa N. K. Alahakoon, Colombo Centre Coordinator, Mr. Jagath Wedasinghe, Kandy Centre Coordinator, Mrs. H. M. P. Herath, Distance Course Coordinator, Mr. Sugath Gunatillake and representatives of the lecturer panel Ms. K. R.N. Harshani, Ms.K. N. Samathi addressed the gathering. Assistant Education Officer, Ms. K. N. Samanthi compered the event.

There are around 65 students registered for the distance course, while nearly 150 students enrolled for the face-to-face courses.

Seminar for DIPLIS Level I and Guru Pooja

Revision Seminar for Diploma in Library and Information Science- Level I students was conducted in Badulla centre on 16th March 2020 and a “Guru Pooja” (an appreciation of teachers) was also organized by the Centre Coordinator Mr.T.G. Padmasiri on the same day.
DIPLIS renamed as HDIPLIS

The ‘Diploma in Library and Information Science (DIPLIS)’ course conducted by the Sri Lanka Library Association was renamed as ‘Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science (HDIPLIS)’ with effect from 15th February, 2020 as per the decision taken at the Council meeting held on 25th January, 2020.

In parallel with this change, each level of this course has been aligned with the ‘Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF)’ published by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka in 2015. In addition, the ‘National Vocational Qualifications Framework (NVQ)’ level is given for reference, based on the above document (see www.ugc.ac.lk/attachments/1156_SLQF_2016_en.pdf, p.11). Qualifications earned and corresponding levels of SLQF and NVQ are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of the Course</th>
<th>Qualification Earned</th>
<th>Abbreviation of Qualification</th>
<th>Relevant SLQF Level</th>
<th>Equivalent NVQ Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level I</td>
<td>Diploma in Library and Information Science</td>
<td>Dip (Lib Sc)</td>
<td>SLQF 03</td>
<td>NVQ 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level II*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level III</td>
<td>Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science</td>
<td>HDip (Lib Sc)</td>
<td>SLQF 04</td>
<td>NVQ 06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* As per the new system the Levels II and III of the course together contribute to the Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science. For more details visit www.slla.org.lk
Let's think beyond the circle....

A workshop was organized by the academic group of SLLA on "Let's think beyond the circle: changing attitude and developing communication skills" at the Staff Development Center, Makandura, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka on 11th March, 2020.

The main objective of this workshop is to provide knowledge and experience for the Library Information Assistants who are working in the Sri Lankan Universities to offer better customer care services at their institutions. Prof. B.P.A. Jayaweera Dean, Faculty of Livestock, Fisheries, and Nutrition, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and Mrs. K.R.N. Harshani, Senior Assistant Librarian, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka served as resource persons for the sessions. Around 35 participants form 6 Universities and 2 institutes participated in the workshop. Academic Group Convener, Dr. Ananda Tissa, also participated in the event. The workshop was coordinated by Ms. D.G.A.S. Malkanthi, Senior Assistant Librarian, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka.

サークルを越えて考えましょう…

ワークショップは、SLLAの学術グループがスリランカの大学図書館情報助手の知識と経験を提供し、その機関でより良い顧客サービスを提供する目的で行われました。教授B.P.A. Jayaweera(農業、漁業、栄養学、ウェイamba大学)とMrs. K.R.N. Harshani(ウガルタ大学の高校図書館協力者)は、セッションのリソースとして務めました。6大学および2機関からの35名の参加者が参加しました。アカデミックグループの主催者は、Dr. Ananda Tissaも参加しました。ワークショップはD.G.A.S. Malkanthi(ウェイamba大学のサブリバリアント)の協力により行われました。
Due to the prevailing situation in the country which has arisen due to the Corona Virus outbreak, SLLA has postponed all activities scheduled from 15th of March 2020 until further notice. Accordingly, classes in the Diploma/Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science (DIPLIS/HDIPLIS) and Course on Library Automation (COLA) have been postponed.

Also deadline for Fellowship, Associateship & Membership renewal of SLLA and Vijita de Silva Research Award will be notified later.

SLLA kindly request all our members to stay at home and follow guidelines offered by the Government and the Health Authorities. Please visit SLLA website (www.slla.org.lk) to get updates regarding SLLA activities.

The results of Diploma in Library and Information Science - Level II examination which was held on November, 2019 were released through the web based online results releasing system for the first time on 06th March, 2020.

The web based online system was developed and designed by Mr. M. Norman Ravikumar, Web-Coordinator of SLLA. The examination results were successfully released via this system with the support of Education Committee headed by Dr. (Ms.) Champa N. K. Alahakoon.

Using this system students can view their results through the online search portal available at www.slla.org.lk. The system provides more privacy and a convenient way to release the educational programme results. This project was initiated under SLLA Strategic Plan 2016-22 with the objective of improving quality of exam procedures with the guidance of Committee of Monitoring and Assisting the Implementation of Strategic Plan (COMAISP).

Appointment of the NLDSB Chairman

Mr. Sonala Gunawardana appointed as the new Chairman of National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) and he has assumed duties on 1st January, 2020. He obtained his secondary education at Royal College, Colombo. He has followed LLB degree at Faculty of Law, University of Colombo and studied Master of Business Management & Economics at Shenyang Aerospace University, China.

SLLA Congratulates Mr. Gunawardana and wish him every success in his new duties.

Special Announcements

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