



National Institute of  
Library and Information Sciences,  
University of Colombo,  
Sri Lanka



## *“Challenges and Opportunities for Libraries in the New Normal”*

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

9.00 to 13.15 (SL Time) - Via Zoom

### Programme

9.00 Inauguration

9.05- 9.10 Welcome Address

Dr. Ruwan Gamage  
NRS 2020 Symposium Co-Chair  
Acting Director, National Institute of Library and Information Sciences  
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

9.10-9.25 Address by the Chief Guest

Senior Professor Chandrika. N. Wijeyaratne  
Vice-Chancellor, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

9.25-9.30 Introduction of the Keynote Speaker

Dr. Chiranthi Wijesundara,  
NRS 2020 Program Committee Member

9.30-9.50 Keynote Address

Dr. Bhuva Narayan, Assistant Professor, School of Communication, University of  
Technology Sydney, Australia

*Topic: “Challenges and Opportunities for Libraries in the New Normal”*

10.00-10.50 Technical Session 1A: Librarianship (LIB) - I

**Chaired by:** Dr. N.D. Wijayasundara, Librarian, University of Sri Jayewardenepura,  
Sri Lanka & Mr. Uditha Alahakoon, Assistant Librarian, NILIS, University of  
Colombo, Sri Lanka

**Technical Session 1B: Information Sources and Services (ISS)**

**Chaired by:** Dr Syeda Hina Batool, Assistant Professor, Department of Information  
Management, University of the Punjab, Pakistan & Ms. Ruvini Kodikara, Librarian,  
University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

**Technical Session 1C: Covid-19 and Learning (COL)**

**Chaired by:** Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam, Associate Professor, Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh & Mr. P.G. Premadasa, Retired Senior Lecturer, NILIS, University of Colombo

10.50-11.00 Q & A

**11.00-11.50 Technical Session 2A: Librarianship (LIB) - II**

**Chaired by:** Dr. G.R. Padmasiri, Librarian, University of the Visual & Performing Arts of Sri Lanka & Ms. T.C. Ranawella, Acting Librarian, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka

**Technical Session 2B: IT Applications (ITA)**

**Chaired by:** Mr. Prasanna Ranaweera, Senior Lecturer, NILIS, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, Dr. Chaminda Jayasundara, Librarian, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, & Dr. Muhammad Rafiq, Associate Professor, Dept. of Information Management, University of the Punjab, Pakistan

**Technical Session 2C: Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on Libraries (CPL)**

**Chaired by:** Dr. Naresh Agarwal, Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Science, Simmons University, Boston, USA & Mr. M.M. Rifaudeen, Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

11.50-12.00 Q & A

**12.00-13.00 Plenary Session**

**Plenary Session Chair:** Dr. Bhakti Gala, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, Central University of Gujarat, India (Symposium Co-Chair)

**Panelists**

Dr. Nadeera Rupesinghe, Director General National Archives, Sri Lanka

Mr. W. Sunil, Director General, National Library and Documentation Services Board of Sri Lanka

Dr. Namali Suraweera, Head, Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

Dr. Kapila Bandara, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dr. Pradeepa Wijetunge, Librarian, University of Colombo

Dr. Ruwan Gamage, Acting Director, NILIS, University of Colombo

**13.00-13.10 Vote of Thanks**

Ms. Sakeena Alikhan,  
NRS 2020 Program Committee Member

**13.15 Closing of the Symposium**