

University Librarians' Competencies and Scope of the Library and Information Science Curricular (LIS): A Case Study of Sri Lankan Universities



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Abstract

In the fast changing technology, information is exploding, education system is Changing and more people concentrate to education .Library professionals agile flexible and able to adjust to the changing world in the digital information era. The purpose of this study is to identify Sri Lankan university librarians' competencies and to identify the requirement of changes in LIS curricular in Sri Lanka. Data was collected from Librarians' of state universities and resource persons who are engaged in library and information science curricular in Sri Lanka .97 number of questionnaires distributed and 34 numbers librarians responded, rate was 35%.12 numbers questionnaires distributed among the LIS resources persons 6 numbers responded, rate was 50%.Collected data was analyzed using SPSS and excel calculation. Only 41% university librarians aware of competencies .This research verified competencies are highly essential for the Sri Lankan university librarians. Most valuable competency is Communication skills .There were nine competencies identified. According to the new development of higher education system in Sri Lanka and the technological development in the field of LIS, Sri Lankan LIS curricular will have to be updated to meet ever changing needs of the library professionals. Responded of teachers in LIS stated that they are ready to produce competency plus librarians with adequate knowledge and skills. Local and foreign trainings, workshops, seminars, Conferences, Short durational courses, Experimental surveys, Industrial trainings tool are to be used to enhanced librarians competencies in the digital information era. Finally develop competency model for Sri Lankan university librarians with nine core competencies, thirteen professional competencies, fifteen personnel competencies and nine personal attributes.

Keywords: Librarians competencies, Sri Lankan University Librarians, LIS curricular and competencies