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Librarian's Competencies and Library and Information Science (LIS) Curricular in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

In the fast changing technological environment, LIS is changing and growing day by day. Therefore, Library and Library professionals should adapt to these changes. Most of those changes have an impact on libraries and the information profession. It has become a necessity to learn and adjust themselves to the new environment and to catch up with the technological advances. As a result, information professionals must learn to acquire various roles on their knowledge, skills and competencies. The purpose of this study is to examine the requirement of competencies for Sri Lankan Librarians and to identify the requirements to be adopted for changing in LIS Curricular in Sri Lanka. Data was collected from Resource persons who are engaged in Library and Information Sciences Curricular in Sri Lanka and referred LIS course outline of both Universities. Twelve numbers of questionnaires were distributed for resource persons and six numbers were responded. Collected data was analyzed by using Microsoft Excel software package. According to the resource persons' view, the competencies are highly essential for the Sri Lankan Librarians. Also, they emphasized that a lack of communication skills should be avoided in LIS Curricular. According to the new developments in LIS; Sri Lankan curricular will have to be updated. Finally the resource persons are of the view that Sri Lankan librarians should effectively participate to enhance their competencies through workshops, seminars, conferences, short durational courses, experimental surveys, industrial trainings, and foreign trainings and ultimately the goal "to produce competency plus Librarian" can be achieved continuously.