



MEDICAL LIBRARY NEWS



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Medical Library | University of Kelaniya

The Library Awards Ceremony-2024

Faculty of Medicine

The Library Awards Ceremony, organized by the Library, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, in collaboration with the Faculty Library Committee and the Students' Library Committee, was held on the 1st of April 2024 at the Main Auditorium of the Faculty.

The event was aligned with the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace. The event aimed to raise student awareness of library resources, inspire the current library user community, and enhance student engagement in library affairs.

Cash awards and certificates were presented to winners of the Poster Competition on Breast Cancer Awareness, the Best Library User in 2023, and the Online Library Quiz competition organized by the Medical Library. The publication of "Medical Library News, Volume 02" was also launched at this ceremony. Professor Aranjan Karunanayake from the Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, delivered the guest speech titled "How to prevent injuries during sports and physical exercises".

Senior Professor Nilanthi de Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Professor Madawa Chandrathilake, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; Dr. Chiran Jayasundara, the Librarian of the University of Kelaniya; Senior Professor Janaki Hewavisenthi, Former Dean of the Faculty; Ms. Chithra Abeygunasekera, Former Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty; Professor P.

Paranitharan, Chair of the Faculty Library Committee; Dr. (Ms.) Lakmini Marasinghe, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Faculty and Secretary of the Faculty Library Committee; Dr. Kavinda Dayasiri, Chairperson of the organizing committee of the Library Awards Ceremony; Dr. R. Suraweera, Former President of the Medical School Alumni Association, Heads of Departments, Academic Staff members of the Faculty and the Main Library, Senior Assistant Registrar, and Senior Assistant Bursar of the Faculty graced the event.

The members of the Faculty Library Committee, the Students' Library Committee, students from MBBS, Speech & Hearing Sciences (SHS), and Occupational Therapy (OT) degree programs of the Faculty and Non-Academic Staff members actively participated at this event.



The Library Reward Programme - 2024

The Library Reward Programme is conducted for three different categories: *the Best Library User Award, the Online Library Quiz and the Poster Competition*. The winners are awarded with the certificates and book vouchers.

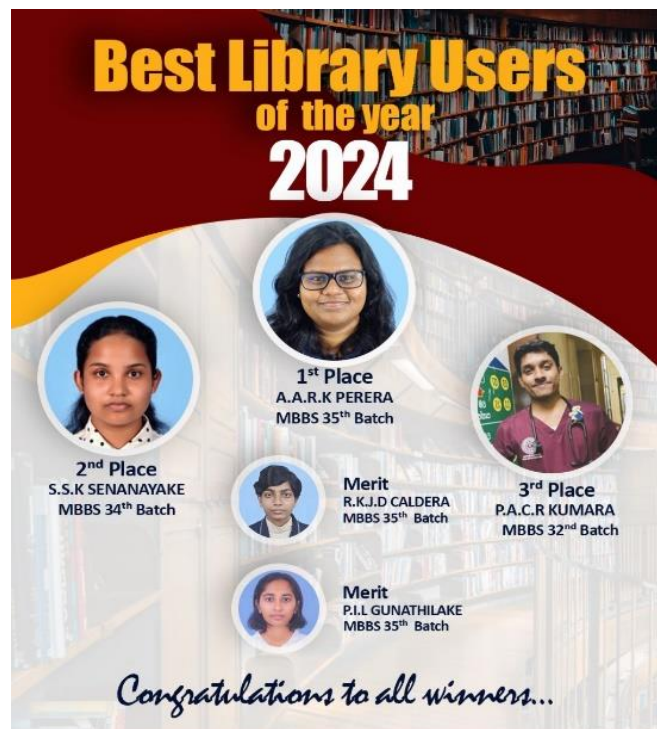
The Best Library User Award - 2024

The Best Library User Award encourages the utilization of information sources and facilities available in the library, motivates the current library user community, and attracts more users to the library. The evaluation period is from the 1st of January to the 31st of December 2024.

The evaluation process was conducted by a panel appointed by the Faculty Library Committee. All students from MBBS, SHS (Speech & Hearing Sciences) and OT (Occupational Therapy) degree programs are entitled to this competition.

The winners of the Best Library User Awards:

- 1st Place : A.A.R.K. Perera
- 2nd Place : S.S.K. Senanayake
- 3rd Place : P.A.C.R. Kumara
- Merit Awards : R.K.J.D. Caldera
- Merit Awards : P.I.L. Gunathilake



Online Library Quiz - 2025

The Online Library Quiz aims to make students more aware of the E-resources available in the library and to motivate and increase the E-resources usage in the library.

The competition was announced in advanced, and quiz was opened on Moodle Platform from March 02, 2025 from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. All students from MBBS, SHS and OT degree programs are entitled to this competition. The evaluation process was conducted by a panel appointed by the Library Committee.

The winners of the Online Library Quiz:

- 1st Place : A.M.M. Miyuran
- 2nd Place : S.K. Edirisingha
- 3rd Place : G.M.M.C.N. Silva



Poster competition- 2025

The Medical Library and the Library Development Committee of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, organized a poster competition to mark World Health Day on the 07th of April 2025. The competition was opened for all students (MBBS, SHS, OT) in any academic year in the faculty. Each applicant was allowed one poster entry.

Poster content needs to highlight one of the following themes using Painted, Digital, or Photographic Modes.

- Mental Health & well-being
- Prevention of non-communicable diseases
- Emergency preparedness and elimination of epidemics of infections

The competition received a total of 32 posters including 11 in painted mode and 21 in digital mode. The posters were evaluated by a panel of judges using an evaluation guide.

The judges of the poster competition:

1. Prof. Kavinda Dayasiri, Senior Lecturer, Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya
2. Dr. Padmapani Padeniya, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya
3. Dr. Harith Wickramasekera, Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya
4. Ms. Dinukshi Ileperuma Department of Disability Studies, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya



The winners of the poster competition (Digital mode):

- 1st Place : S.A.H. Sathruwani
- Merit Awards : Y.P.H.K. Sathsarani
- Merit Awards : A.R.M.V.D.D. Rathnayaka
- Merit Awards : S. Shashivarnan



The winners of the poster competition (Painted mode):

- 1st Place : R.T.D. Senewirathna
- Merit Awards : K.P.A.R.M. Chandrarathne
- Merit Awards : H.P.S.C. Weerasiri
- Merit Awards : W.D.S.R.S. Jayasinghe



Book Donation to the Library of the Faculty of Medicine



The Medical Library received a generous donation of books (61) from Ms. Diana Lancaster, an Occupational Therapist from Hong Kong, in April 2024. This donation was facilitated by Dr. Nanadana Welage, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Disability Studies of the faculty.

The donated books are a valuable resource for undergraduate students enrolled in the Occupational Therapy Degree program, enhancing their learning and academic experience.

Library visit by the team of International Allied Health Professionals

A distinguished group of international allied health professionals, led by Professor Kit Sinclair, renowned occupational therapist and former president of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, visited the Library, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, on 25th February 2025. The visit was organized by Dr. Nandana Welage and Mr. Pradeep Gunarathne at the Department of Disability Studies.

Their visit highlighted the importance of the library in shaping globally connected health professionals and fostering academic excellence. This milestone event strengthened international ties between the university's occupational therapy community and global allied health professionals and laid the groundwork for future collaboration, including resource-sharing and the donation of specialized information materials to enhance the library's collections further.



Library Renovation Project

The Library at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, plays a vital role in supporting the academic pursuits of the students and faculty. Offering a wide range of physical and electronic resources, the library also collaborates with other health libraries across Sri Lanka to enhance access to information.

To ensure the library remains a modern and conducive learning space, it was planned to upgrade both its physical and technological aspects. The renovation project of the medical library includes the establishment of;

- **New Student Study Area** – a dedicated space fostering a conducive learning atmosphere.
- **Research Hub** – a facility supporting research activities, including proposal writing, manuscript preparation, and short courses to strengthen research capacity among students and health professionals.
- **IT Hub** – a resource center providing essential technology for academic staff and students.
- **Student-Friendly Study Area** – A space designed to promote academic success in a supportive setting.

These enhancements significantly improve the library's services, ensuring it remains a dynamic hub for learning and research.

The renovation project was funded through a Rs. 500,000 allocation from the University Library Development Fund by **Dr. C.C. Jayasundara**, Librarian, University of Kelaniya. Additional financial contributions from **Dr. R. Suraweera**, Former President of the Kelaniya Medical School Alumni Association, and **Prof. Aranjan Karunanayake**, Department of Anatomy, played a vital role in its success. Their generous support was officially recognized at the 2024 Library Awards Ceremony.

The establishment of the New Student Study Area was funded by Emeritus Professor Ranil Fernando and Dr. Asvini Fernando and the Research Hub was funded by the Research Management Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya.

Opening the New Student Study Area for students: "Prof. Ranil Fernando & Asvini Fernando Student Study Quadrum"



The medical library's past periodical section was renovated to establish a new student study space. This project was made possible by a generous donation of over Rs. 2 million from Emeritus Professor of Surgery Ranil Fernando and former Professor of Paediatrics Dr. Asvini Fernando.

The study area, named the "***Prof. Ranil Fernando & Asvini Fernando Student Study Quadrum***," was officially opened on January 28, 2025, as part of the faculty's commitment to enhancing learning facilities.

The study area was inaugurated by Professor Ranil Fernando and Dr. Asvini Fernando, in the presence of Senior Professor Nilanthi de Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya and Professor Madawa Chandratilake, Dean of Faculty of Medicine, Dr Chilran Jayasundara, The Librarian of the University of Kelaniya who attended to honor the generous contribution of the two esteemed academics. The event was also graced by the Heads of Departments, academics, administrative staff, non-academic staff members, and student representatives. This project is part of a broader initiative to improve faculty facilities for students by leveraging external funding. This initiative is part of a broader effort to enhance student facilities through external funding. The library staff, civil work superintendent, and faculty supervisors played a key role in bringing this project to life.

Contribution of the academic staff to the Multidisciplinary Desk Research Conference (DRC)

The second Multidisciplinary Desk Research Conference (DRC), organized by the Library, University of Kelaniya, was held on the 25th of October 2024, at the auditorium of the Faculty of Computing and Technology, University of Kelaniya. Senior Prof. Nilanthi De Silva, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, graced the inaugural session as the Chief Guest, and Senior Professor Buddhi Marambe, University of Peradeniya, Dr. Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo, Prof. Liyanage Amarakerthi, University of Peradeniya, Dr. Ravibandhu Vidyapathy, Arts Council of Sri Lanka, Mr. Milinda Tennakone, Lecturer, University of Kelaniya served as the distinguished Keynote speakers at the conference while Prof. Madawa Chandratilake, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, attended as an honored invitee.

The Medicine technical session of the conference was chaired by Cadre Chair, Professor Niranga Devanarayana, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and Professor P. Paranitharan, Department of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya.

Professor Chamila Mettananda, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, presented the lead paper in the Medicine technical session titled “Improving cardiovascular risk prediction of Sri Lankans using artificial intelligence”.

Several academic staff members; Emeritus Prof. HJ de Silva, Senior Prof. A. R. Wickramasinghe, Prof. A. S. Dassanayake, Prof. A. Kasturiratne, Prof. Madawa Chandratilake, Prof. Nayana Gunatilake, Dr. Pavithra Godamunne, Dr. K. Kodikara, and Dr. Harith Wickramasekera, along with postgraduate students and

demonstrators; S. C. Sooriarachchi, D. R. T. Wijewardena, S. N. Bandara from the Medical Faculty, contributed as authors to publications at the conference.



Podcast series organized by the Student Library Committee

The Student Library Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya introduced a webinar series to strengthen students' research skills. The first session, "**Embark on Your Research Journey with Confidence,**" took place on January 30, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.. Prof. Janake de Silva led the session, providing valuable insights into starting research with clarity and confidence. The event saw an enthusiastic response, with 108 students participating. This initiative marked a significant step in fostering a strong research culture among students.

“Embark on your Research Journey with Confidence!”

DISCOVER THE ESSENTIALS OF STARTING IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

JOIN OUR **Webinar** ON **30th Jan** FROM **8.00-8.30p.m.**

BY **Professor-Emeritus Janaka De Silva**

SCAN TO JOIN

MODERATOR **ABHISHEK KUMARAGE**

Organized by the Medical Students Library Committee

Library Orientation Programs for the first-year students

Library introductory sessions for the MBBS students in the 36th batch were held on December 04, 05, and 06, 2024, for Group A to H. The library tour practical sessions for MBBS students from the same batch was conducted on December 31, 2024, and January 1 and 2, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Library introductory session for the first-year SHS students in batch 17 and OT students in batch 4 was conducted on April 02 from 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.



Medical Faculty and Library Unite for the Annual CSR Health Camp

In collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, the University Library successfully carried out its 2nd Annual Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative at Welcome Village, Makandura, on September 22, 2024. This meaningful event included an alms giving ceremony and a comprehensive medical camp. The medical library organised the medical camp, which was conducted by the academic staff and students from the MBBS, SHS, and OT programs of the Faculty of Medicine. Nearly 100 elderly residents at the Welcome Village Elderly Home benefited from this initiative.

The following academic staff of the faculty conducted the medical camp:

Academic staff from the MBBS degree programme:

Dr. Harith Wickramasekara (Lecturer, Department of Medical Education), Dr. W.G.E.P. Gamage (Demonstrator, Forensic Medicine), Dr. B.D.D.R. Jayamanne, Dr. M.S. Ruwandeepani (Demonstrators, Department of Medicine)

Academic staff from the Occupational Therapy (OT) degree programme from the Department of Disability Studies:

Dr. Nandana Welage (Senior Lecturer), Mr. Pradeep Gunarathne (Lecturer Probationary)

Academic staff from the Speech & Hearing Sciences (SHS) degree programme from the Department of Disability Studies:

Ms. Dinukshi Ileperuma (Senior Lecturer), Ms. Lakmini Balasuriya, Ms. Naumi Ampemohotti (Lecturer Probationary), Ms. Prashani Kavindya, Ms. Dasunika Dissanayake, Ms. Bihara Perera (Demonstrators)

With the active involvement of academic staff and students of the faculty, the Health Camp provided:

- Clinical assessments and medical check-ups
- Diagnosis and treatment of health concerns
- Distribution of essential medicines and spectacles

This initiative highlights the leadership of Medical Faculty in community health outreach, with strong support from the University Library in fostering collaborative service projects.





Short Course on Basics in Research for Health Professionals

The Medical Library, University of Kelaniya, is organizing a short course titled *Basics in Research for Health Professionals*, coordinated by Dr. Padmapani Padeniya, Senior Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine. This course aims to enhance research skills among postgraduate medical students, undergraduate medical students, and health professionals in Sri Lanka.

Approved by the Faculty Quality Assurance Committee and the Faculty Board on 5th November 2024, the initiative has also been endorsed by the Senate, Finance Committee, and University Council.

The course consists of five key components:

1. How to Write a Good Research Proposal
2. Literature Searching made easy, Literature Review and Bibliographic Referencing
3. Implementation of a Research
4. Data Analysis and Presenting Results
5. Publishing Results

With a total duration of 30 hours (24 hours of theory and six hours of practical sessions), the course will be delivered over five consecutive Saturdays from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. through online and onsite sessions. Learning will be assessed through formative and summative evaluations, and sessions will be conducted by both internal and external subject experts. This is a great initiative by the Medical Library, contributing to enhancing research capacity among health professionals.



ENROLL NOW!!

SHORT COURSE ON BASICS IN RESEARCH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

SATURDAYS 9.00AM - 4.00PM (30 HOURS)

WHO CAN APPLY?

- UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL STUDENTS
- POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS / PG TRAINEES IN THE MEDICAL STREAM
- ALL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

ORGANIZED BY

 **MEDICAL LIBRARY**
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA

COURSE COMMENCES:
5TH JULY 2025

REGISTER BY:
25TH JUNE 2025

COURSE FEE:
LKR 25,000/=

*Don't miss out
Secure your spot today!*

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FUELS THE IMAGINATION. THEY OPEN UP
WINDOWS TO THE WORLD AND INSPIRE US
TO EXPLORE AND ACHIEVE, AND
CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING OUR QUALITY
OF LIFE"

~ SIDNEY SHELDON

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*"If You Can
Dream It,
You Can Do It"*