

# Meera Muhiadeen Rifaudeen

# University Librarian

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# **CAREER OBJECTIVE**

Striving to excel as a proficient Professional, equipped to adapt to the dynamic information landscape within an organization. Committed to driving innovation, motivation, and delivering top-tier professional services.

# PROFILE

Experienced in university library management and practices for over 25 years, I've worked in both local and international academic settings, serving diverse multi-ethnic and multi-cultural patrons. As an academic librarian, my role involves leading, managing, and cultivating customer-centric, professional library services. I prioritize aligning these services with the university's objectives and strategic Information Services requirements to cater to the needs of staff, students, and researchers effectively and efficiently.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Meera Muhiadeen Rifaudeen

<b>University Librarian</b> South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL)	Feb 2013 – present Sri Lanka
<b>Chief Librarian</b> Derrick Campus Library, Fiji National University (on sabbatical leave)	Feb 2017 – May 2018 Fiji
<b>Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. I</b> South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (4 years)	Nov 2008 – Jan 2013 Sri Lanka
<b>Coordinator</b> American Corner (5 years)	Apr 2006 – Apr 2011 Oluvil, Sri Lanka
<b>Senior Assistant Librarian Gr. II</b> South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (6 years)	Nov 2002 – Oct 2008 Sri Lanka
<b>Assistant Librarian</b> South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (7 years)	Nov 1995 – Oct 2002 Sri Lanka

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#### LIBRARY FIELD

- University Librarian at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka since February 1, 2013, to the present. With over 10 years of experience, and in addition to the University Librarian, I have accumulated a total of 18 years in University Librarianship, having held roles such as Chief Librarian at the Fiji National University and positions as Senior Assistant Librarian and Assistant Librarian at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.
- I served as the Coordinator of the "American Corner" within the Library of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka for 5 years from April 24, 2006, to April 23, 2011. This American Corner functions as the branch Library & Information Centre of the American Centre at the Embassy of the USA in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

#### During my tenure, I covered various professional areas including:

- Library Management: Managing library manpower, materials, and overseeing general administration of the libraries.
- Metadata Services: Organizing and managing information resources using standardized metadata formats to enhance discoverability and accessibility of library collections.
- Technical Services: Handling tasks related to cataloguing, classification, acquisitions, and database management to ensure efficient organization and maintenance of library materials.
- Reader Services: Assisting library users, providing reference services, guidance on research materials, and facilitating access to information resources.
- Information Literacy: Teaching and guiding users on effective search strategies, evaluation of information, and utilization of resources to enhance their research and critical thinking skills.
- Digital Library Services: Managing digital collections, electronic resources, and online databases, ensuring their accessibility, preservation, and usability within the library's digital environment
- Quality Assurance Cell : (QAC) within a library setting. It succinctly explains the responsibilities of the QAC in overseeing and ensuring the quality of diverse aspects of library services, resources, and processes.

## LIBRARY TEACHING / PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Visiting Lecturer for the Diploma in Library & Information Services program, conducted by the University of Peradeniya, since 2021 to date.

Subjects Taught: - LIB 1123: Knowledge Organization and - LIB 1223: Information Resources & Servicescvx

- In addition to the substantive position as a Chief Librarian at Fiji National University, I have also served as a Lecturer in Library and Information Science for the Bachelor Degree program in Library and Information Sciences, conducted by the Fiji National University, Fiji Islands.

Subjects Taught: - LIS 701: Research Methods for Information Work; - LIS 604: Managing Library Automation Projects; - LIS 603: Bibliographic Control II

- Visiting Lecturer for the Postgraduate Diploma in Library & Information Science 2011/12, conducted by the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. Subjects Taught: - LIS 1101: Foundation of Library and Information Science - Library Architecture
- One of the teaching panelists conducting the optional course entitled "ILE 21012 Information Literacy for creating Independent Learners" for undergraduates of the 2nd year, Faculty of Applied Science. Subjects Taught: ILE 21012 Information Literacy:

- Topic Covered: "Academic Referencing: Citing and Referencing in Research", "Radiant thinking and Mind mapping: maximizing brain's potential", "Libraries and Information Centres: Their Role in Information Society"

- Visiting Lecturer for the Diploma in Library & Information Science program, conducted by the Sri Lanka Library Association, from 2002 to 2010. Subjects Taught:
  - Librarianship; Library Resources & Services; Library & Information Services and Products
  - Library Automation; Financial Management in Libraries

- One of the teaching panelists conducting visiting Lecturer sessions for the final year students of the Faculty of Technology, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. Subjects Taught:
  - Academic Integrity: avoiding plagiarism and understanding academic honesty
  - Academic Referencing: Citing and Referencing in Research

#### **MUSEUM FIELD**

Established the Cultural Museum at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka and have served as its Head since 2001 to the present day.

#### **RESEARCH & PUBLISHING**

#### **Editorial Experience**

#### **Edited Books**

- I had the honor of serving as the Editor in Chief for the SEUSL's silver jubilee souvenir entitled "Silver jubilee memories of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka : celebrating 25 years 1996 2021" which was published in 2021.
- Served as an Editorial Assistant and published a valuable SEUSL publication entitled "Exploring Sri Lankan Muslims: selected writings of MMM. Mahroof". This is one of the rare and comprehensive works so far recorded in a single volume on the lives of Sri Lankan Muslims. This book consists of fifty three research articles written by M.M.M. Mahroof between 1966-2000 which were published in journals of international reputation (https://www.worldcat.org/title/exploring-sri-lankan-muslims-selected-writings-of-mmmmahroof/oclc/974612451)

#### **Editing of Journals**

- I served as the Managing Editor of the 'Journal of Management' from 2003 to 2006 and currently hold the position for the 'Sri Lankan Journal of Technology' (SLJoT) from 2020 to the present. These are scholarly, peer-reviewed publications respectively associated with the Faculty of Management and Commerce and the Faculty of Technology at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

#### Served as a Member of the Editorial Board for the following works

- Writings of S.M. Kamaldeen: a Bibliography / Compiled by M.B.M. Fairooz. Oluvil: South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, 2007.- p. xviii, 88; 20cm.- (Islam & Muslims in Sri Lanka :Bibliographical Series No. 02)
- Souvenir to Mark the Occasion of the Handing over of the Private Library of Late Prof. M.M. Uwise to South Eastern University of Sri Lanka
- A Bibliography of the Literary Works of A.M. Sherifudeen & Jinnah Sherifudeen

#### **Documentation Works : Bibliography**

The collected writings of Dr. A.M. Aboobucker: A bibliography of the published and unpublished works /Compiled by M.M. Rifaudeen. – Oluvil: South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, 2007.- p. xviii, 88; 20cm

## EDUCATION

#### Master Degree with research : Master of Library & Information Science (MLS) University of Colombo, Sri Lanka Medium : English

#### Special Degree (4 years) : B.Sc. (Agric) (Hons)

Eastern University, Sri Lanka Class : Second Class Division | Medium : English Dec 1993

Nov 2002

#### **Associateship of Professional Bodies**

- Obtained Associate Member of the "Charted Institute of Library & Information Professionals - cilip" and discontinued due to non-payment
- Obtained Member of American Library Association and discontinued due to non-payment
- Associate Member (life member) of the "Sri-Lanka Library Association" (ALA (Sr)- and designated as a Chartered Librarian

#### SHORT TERM COURSES IN LIBRARIANSHIP

- Successfully completed 30 week-hours course on "Computing Methods applied to DH: XML Markup and Document Structuring" conducted by 3rd European Summer School in Digital Humanities "Culture & Technology" held at the University of Leipzig, Germany (23rd – 31st July, 2012) on a fellowship granted by the Volkswagen Foundation and University of Leipzig, Germany
- Successfully completed a three week course on "E Library Management", conducted by the National Institute of Science Communication & Information resources, New Delhi, India. (1st Dec, 08th to 19th Dec, 08) on a fellowship of IRQUE Project.
- Successfully completed five week course on "Information Technology for Information Management", conducted by the National Institute of Science Communication & Information resources, New Delhi, India. (12th Sept, 2007 to 17th Oct, 2007) on a fellowship of India –Sri Lanka Foundation
- Successfully completed an eight month Course on Library Automation, (COLA) conducted by the Sri Lanka Library Association. (Feb 1998 Sept 1998)

# S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP

# These conferences & workshop gave me an exposure in Modern trend in Library & Information Sciences

- Participated in 3rd European Summer School in Digital Humanities "Culture & Technology" held at the University of Leipzig, **Germany** during 23 31 July, 2012.
- I have won a scholarship as an IVLP fellow and invited to the **United States** under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program, during June 21 to July 9, 2010 and learn on American Libraries in the context of modern system of library services by visiting Libraries and interacting with many Librarians.
- Participated in the Workshop on "Supporting and Sustaining Your American Corners are using Social Networks" at US Embassy in **Nepal**, Kathmandu, Nepal, during June 8 to June 10, 2010.
- Participated in 06 Day International Workshop on Greenstone Digital Library Software organized jointly by the FDP Centre, IIMK, **India**, UNESCO and TIFP (DSIR), India during November 27 to December 02, 2006
- Successfully completed 02 days Workshop on "South Asia Regional Negotiation Skills for Librarians Workshop" held on 23-24 March, 2015 conducted by the INASP, UK held in Dhaka, **Bangladesh**

#### Peer reviewed publications

#### Research publications in refereed journals (full paper published) and at International Conferences

- Bandara, B.E.S., Nahfees, A.M., Rifaudeen, M.M., Azwer, M.C.M., Mashroofa, M.M., and Sajeer, S.L.M., 2023. Innovative application for the stock verification process of library materials : a case of SEUSL libraries in 13th International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka -2023 on "Transforming academic libraries for sustainable future". 26th October, 2023. University Librarians Association (ICULA), Sri Lanka
- Rifaudeen M.M 2022 "Copyright Issues and Challenges Pertinent to Digital Archiving of Printed Documents: A Sri Lankan Perspective" (Address of Resource Person) in the One Day International Webinar on "Digital Archiving of Printed Documents in view of Copyright Act: Issues and Challenges in Post Covid Era" organized by Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, West Bengal, held on February 26, 2022.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2021 "The impact of LIS education on Sri Lanka's library systems and services: special reference to the University libraries of Sri Lanka" which was held on 25th to 27th November 2021 at the conference of the Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS) in the Department of Library & Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkatta, India.
- Bandara, B.E.S., Mashroofa, M.M., Rifaudeen, M.M., Azwer, M.C.M., Nahfees, A.M. and Sajeer, S.L.M., 2021. Undergraduates' satisfaction on service quality of library services of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka in 11th International Conference of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka -2021 on "Scholarly Publishing & Open Access for the Enhancement of Research Visibility". 22nd September, 2021. University Librarians Association (ICULA), Sri Lanka.
- Bandara, B.E.S., Rifaudeen, M.M., Kumara, A.D.B. and Premarathne, B.N.G.S., 2019. Current status of the institutional repository at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. 9th International Symposium 2019 on "Promoting Multidisciplinary Academic Research and Innovation". 27th 28th November 2019. South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, University Park, Oluvil, Sri Lanka. pp. 281-290.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2015 "Information Management in Libraries and Its Impact on Sustainable Library and Information Services with Special Reference to University Libraries of Sri Lanka" in the "International Seminar on Sustainability of Library and Information Services" held on January 30-31, 2015 organized by the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2014 "Implementation of KOHA Integrated Library Management System in a Multilingual Environment of the South-Eastern University of Sri Lanka" in the 3rd Annual Research Conference – 2014 held December 01, 2014 organized by the Faculty of Management and Commerce at the South-Eastern University of Sri Lanka 166-174 p.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2008 "The Problems of Resource Sharing in Sri-Lanka: the case among Scientific and Technical Libraries" in International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (ICIKM-2008)" held March 27-29, 2008 organized jointly by the HealthNet Nepal & Tribhuvan University, 393-400 p.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2006. Does the "Sri Lanka Scientific Technical Information Network" (SLSTINET) Stands to Serve the Expectations of its Network Members: A Critical Evaluation. Journal of Management, 4: 35-49.
- Rifaudeen M.M 2005. Inter library loan (ILL) services among the SLSTINET members: a critical evaluation in terms of members' satisfaction, of ILL processing patterns and delivery speed. Journal of the University Librarians' Association of Sri Lanka, 8: 42-52.

# **©** FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS

- Department of State, USA fellowship for the "International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) on American Libraries" 2010
- Volkswagen Foundation and University of Leipzig, Germany fellowship to 3rd European Summer School in Digital Humanities "Culture & Technology" 2012.
- Fellowship of India Sri Lanka Foundation to participate the course on "Information Technology for Information Management" 2007

# ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- University Librarian, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, since 1999 to date.
- Head, Cultural Museum, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, since 2001 to date.
- Coordinator of the "American Corner" located in the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.
- Co-ordinator of the "Improvement of Learning Environment"/ IBG/ of Improving Relevance and Quality of the Undergraduate Education (IRQUE) Project funded by the World Bank.

# **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND SOCIETY**

- Member of the Board of Management to the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS), affiliated to the University of Colombo, since June 2009 to May 2012.
- Organized a Cultural Museum at the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.
- Preparing many proposals on various aspects for the development of the Library and received grants.

# ✤ REFEREES

#### Prof. A. Rameez

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