

## **SALIS Newsletter**

**Vol.3 No.4 Oct-Dec 2004**

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### **New Year Greetings**

*SALIS wishes all its members and fellow professionals  
A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year & Pongal*

### **SALIS News**

**General Body** Annual General Body of SALIS will be held on 29.12 2004 at Bishop Heber College Library, Tiruchy at 6 P.M to discuss and finalize the statement of income and expenditure, activities, programmes etc.

#### **Dr. Harish Chandra Sushila Chandra Best Librarian Award**

Dr. T.A.V.Murthy, Director, INFLIBNET was selected for the Dr. Harish Chandra Sushila Chandra Best Librarian Award for the year 2004 based on the criteria set by the award committee which was constituted by SALIS to select a suitable candidate for the award. Applications were sent all major libraries and also the Dept of Library and Information Science in India. The details of the award also published in the SALIS web site.

More than 20 applications received from leading institutions/universities. The criteria were qualifications, contributions, articles/books published in journals, conferences, seminars, conferences organized, invited lectures delivered, membership in professional bodies in various capacities, important position held - regional, national and international level, contribution to the profession – regional and national level, innovative services introduced, etc. The selection procedure was transparent.

The Best Librarian award and the Citation was present to Dr. T.A.V. Murthy in person by Prof. Rajaram Nagappa, a well-know aerospace scientist on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2004 at the inaugural function of Content Creation and Management in the Digital Era. The convener of the Committee Ms. Sakthi Regha, read out the bio-data and the achievements of Dr. TAV Murthy. About 250 LIS professionals all over India participated in the function. Dr. Harish Chandra, Librarian and the sponsor of the award, Prof. S. Thayumanavan, Dr. S.Muralidhar, Chairman, SALIS Chennai Chapter and Mr.A.Hariharan, President SALIS felicitated Dr. TAV Murthy.

#### **Membership Renewal**

Members whose annual membership has expired are requested to take up life membership at the earliest. Contact the respective regional chapters of SALIS.

### **SALIS Chennai Chapter**

*The following lectures were organized by the SALIS Chennai Chapter*

12.09.2004 *Building E-Resources for an Academic Library*

Speaker: Dr.K.Nithyanandam, University Librarian, Anna University

10.10.2004 *Knowledge Management*

Speaker: Dr. S. Gopalakrishnan, Assistant Librarian, MIT, Anna University

#### **Forthcoming Lectures**

Topic : Expert Systems for Indian Pharmaceutical Drug  
Speaker: Dr. S.Palani, Assistant Librarian, University of Madras, Marina campus. Date: 11 Jan 2004

#### **National Workshop on Building Digital Libraries using DSpace**

Central Library, IIT Madras & SALIS, Chennai organized a National Workshop on Building Digital Libraries using DSpace between 16.12.2004 and 17.12.2004 at IIT, Madras. 39 LIS professionals from various places such as Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Gulbarga, Chennai, etc were attended.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof S.V. Raghavan, Dean, Planning, IIT, Madras. Dr. Harish Chandra, Programme Director delivered the welcome address. Mr.A.Hariharan, President spoke about SALIS and the workshop. He thanked the Director, IIT Madras and Dr. Harish Chandra for accepting the proposal and conduct the workshop at IIT. Ms. V.Sakthi Regha, Secretary, SALIS Chennai Chapter proposed the vote of thanks. Dr.A.R.D.Prasad, Associate Professor and Ms. Dimple Patel, DRTC, ISI, Bangalore delivered lectures on various topics of DSpace and also handled the lab sessions. Dr.Harish Chandra delivered a lecture on Building Digital Libraries: Issues and Solutions.

In the valedictory session, participants were interacted with the resource persons and appreciated the efforts taken by Dr. Harish Chandra and SALIS to conduct the workshop successfully. Dr. S.Muralidhar, Associate workshop Director proposed the vote of thanks.

#### **Seminar on Content Creation and Management in Digital Era**

SALIS, Chennai Chapter and Tagore Engineering College organized a one day seminar on Content Creation and Management in Digital Era on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2004 at Tagore Engineering College. About 250 LIS from various places participated in the seminar.

The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Rajaram Nagappa, Chairperson, Prof. K.A.V. Pandalai Memorial Chair, M.I.T., Anna University. Mr. A.Hariharan delivered presidential address and he also thanked the Chairperson Ms. M.Mala for having given an opportunity to SALIS for jointly organize the seminar successfully. Prof. S. Thayumanavan, Principal felicitated the participants. Dr. Harish Chandra

delivered the keynote address and Mr. L.Rajendran, Librarian and the Organising Secretary proposed the vote of thanks. Mr. Ganapathy, CEO, Dr. Dr.K.Nithyanandam, Dr. S. Muralidhar and others were present on the occasion.

Prof. T.N. Shanmugam, Anna University, Prof. B. Muthkumaran, Sri Venkateswara Engineering College, Mr. Srinivasan, MD, Kryon, Graphics, , Mrs. V.Sakthi Regha and Mr. A.Hariharan were the resource persons for the seminar. Mr. G.G.Sivakumar, Vice-Chairman was the Seminar co-ordinator.

Mr. Muniyasamy, Chairman, Madurai Chapter, Mr. G. Dhanasekaran, Deputy Librarian, M.K.University, Mr. S.Swaminathan, Mr. Manikandan, Joint-Secretaries and Mrs. V.Sakthi Regha spoke about the seminar and also about SALIS activities. Mr. L.Rajendran, his library colleagues and also many SALIS members such as Mr. Karunai Raghavan Treasurer, Mr. Abdunnsar, Mr. Sasikumar (E.C Members) Mr. Joel (PRO), Ms. Esther were worked hard for the success of the seminar.

#### **National Library Week**

A committee was formed to conduct a speech competition on 'Library as a Learning Centre' *in order to promote the reading habits of the School children in Govt. and Corporation Schools in Chennai.*

Dr. R.Ramasamy, RRLF was the Chairman and Ms. Esther Hemalath, Joint-Secretary and Librarian, Alpha Arts & Science College was the Co-ordinator and Ms. Sakthi Regha was the member for the programme. Mr. G.G.Sivakumar and Mr. Joel made other arrangements for the programme. Invitations were sent to all the above schools at Chennai. Preliminary selection was made on 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2004 and 4 children were selected for the final round by the committee.

On 14<sup>th</sup> Nov, a function was arranged jointly by SALIS and Readers Forum of Ashok Nagar Circle Public Library, Chennai at 4.30 P.M. at Circle Library, Ashok Nagar to celebrate the National Library Week. Mrs. V. Sakthi Regha, Secretary, Chennai Chapter, gave the welcome address and Dr. R. Ramasamy, RRLF delivered the presidential address. The whole programme was organized under the guidance Dr. R. Ramasamy. Mr.A. Hariharan mentioned that the programme was organized to promote the reading habits of the public and the school children. He also mentioned that SALIS has organized the speech competition for the Govt and Corporation Schools as they will not get opportunities unlike others.

Mr. S.Ramalingam, Asst Director and District Library Officer, Chennai spoke about the activities of the Public Libraries. Mr. P. Kulasekaran, Director, Public Libraries, Tamil Nadu was the chief guest of the function and he delivered a special address. He stressed the importance of libraries in life. Speech Competition for the students of Corporation and Govt. Schools, Chennai was held. Mrs. Kalaiyani, a well known writer and poet distributed the cash awards

to the following students and felicitated the children and the gathering.

**Selvi. Vayala Mary**, Govt Higher Secondary School, MGR Nagar received Rs.1000/, **Selvan M. Vijay Rathnam**, Corporation High School, Mylapore received Rs.750/, Selvi. **V.Iswarya**, Corporation High School, Subarayan Street, received Rs.500 and **Selvi N.Sankari**, Govt.High School, MGR Nagar received Rs.500/.

M/s. AutoLib Software Systems, Chennai sponsored all the cash Award (Rs.2700/-)

Mr. K. Jeevabharathi, a well known writer also felicitated the gathering. Mr. K.Dheena Dayalan, Librarian, Circle Library, Ashok Nagar proposed the vote of thanks. Mrs. R. Esther, Joint Secretary and Coordinator of the Programme was the event manager for the function. Mr. N.Avadiappan, Joint Director, DPL, Dr. S.Muralidhar, Chairman, many members and more than 150 readers of Ashok Nagar Circle library were also attended the function.

#### **SALIS Coimbatore Chapter**

A programme cum lecture on **Internet & Intranet** was conducted by the Coimbatore Chapter on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec at PSG College of Technology Library, Coimbatore. Mr. V Ram Mohan Network Engineer , Maintenance Dept. P S G College of Technology was the resource person. Dr. M.Kanakaraj, Librarian and Chairman, Coimbatore Chapter made all the arrangements for the programme. Many library professionals in Coimbatore attended the programme.

#### **Know a Librarian - Dr. T.A.V. Murthy**

He is presently the Director, INFLIBENT(UGC) at Ahmedabad since 2001. He obtained his B.L.Sc from Osmania University, M.L.I. Sc from University of Delhi, M.S.L.S from Catholic University, Washington DC, (USA) (ALA Accredited) in 1974 and Ph.D from Karnatak University, Dharward. He is the present President and Fellow of SIS and life member of many professional bodies including SALIS. He got many awards including Satkal award for the year 2003. He has been recently awarded Dr. Harish Chandra Sushila Chandra Best Librarian award for the year 2004 by SALIS.

He organized many national and international conferences and also served as organising committee members in various capacities. He is serving as a member of Editorial Board for more than 4 journals which includes Journal of Digital Information Management, an international peer reviewed journal. He underwent many training programmes

Dr. TAV Muthry began his career as Professional Assistant at Administrative Staff College of India Hyderabad in 1971. Since then he worked in many reputed organizations such as Librarian, Institute of Defence Management, Secunderabad (1971-73), Professional Bibliographer, Science Libraries, Catholic University of America, Washington, Dc, USA, (1973-

74), Senior Librarian, Information Assistant, Cleveland Health Sciences Library System of CWRU, Cleveland, Ohio, USA(1974 -76), Assistant Librarian, Central University of Hyderabad(1976-78), Senior Information Officer/Faculty Member, Small Industry Extension Training Institute (SIET), Hyderabad(1978-81), Head, Library Services, IARI, New Delhi (1981-86), Librarian, National Library, Calcutta (1986-87), University Librarian, Central University of Hyderabad(1987-89), Librarian and Project Director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi and Librarian, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad. He has introduced many innovative services wherever he worked.

Dr. TAV Murthy visited more than 18 countries and undertaken several research project work. He has been the resource persons, selection committee member, research guide for many leading organizations. He has guided more than 15 students for their Ph.D work. He was nominated by UGC as a Member of the High Power Expert Committee for awarding Deemed University status to various Regional Engineering Colleges and Institutions across the country.

**Publications:** He published 2 books, edited 6 volumes and also published several articles in national and international journals, conferences and seminars.

His areas of specialization includes library automation/networking, digital libraries, content creation, multimedia, library consortia and electronic publications and subscriptions,

**Know a Library – Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library** is one among the few medieval libraries that exist in the world. It is an unbounded repository of culture and inexhaustible treasure house of knowledge built up by the successive dynasties of Nayak and Maratha Kings. The Library was formed during the reign of Raghunatha Nayak(1600-1633) and developed by the successive Nayaks and Maratha Kings of Tanjore(1676-1855). Among the Maratha Kings, Serfoji II(1798-1832) was an eminent scholar and he employed many Pandits to collect and copy a vast number of works from all renowned centers of learning. Till 1918, this library was Palace property, after that it was made as public library.

**Collection** – The Library has more than 49,000 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Tamil, Marathi and Telugu which reflects the history and culture of South India. It also has 65,000 books in various Indian languages which includes the King Serfoji's personal collection in English, French, German etc printed before 1832. The earliest manuscript of this library is belongs to 10<sup>th</sup> century in Sanskrit, earliest dated manuscript is of 1430 and earliest printed book is dated back to 1692. It has also more paintings, drawings, pictures and modi records.

**Catalogues** – The first catalogue for Sanskrit manuscript in palm leaf of this library was prepared by the order of Serfoji II in 1801. Dr. A.C. Burnell an orientalist and sessense Judge of Thanjavur prepared

and published a catalogue for Sanskrit manuscript of this library in 1880 at London.

**Publication** Rare and unpublished manuscripts are being published in book form by this Library. 473 books were published from the manuscript till date.

**Preservation** – The manuscripts are being preserved in many ways. Rare and unique manuscripts are preserved by means of copying on paper and also in microfilm form. A separate Conservation Dept is functioning with a trained Conservator for preservation of the manuscripts and books. An indigenous insect repellent powder mixture made with the powders of sweet flag, pepper, balackcumin, bark of cinnamon, cloves with camphors has been in usage from 1882 A.D.

The Library is conducting short term Workshop on *Conservation of Library Materials* to the librarians and also courses to impart ancient scripts

**Museum** This library has a museum with rare artifacts, manuscripts, old books, drawings and paintings which opened on all days except Govt holidays.

It is a reference library and any one can consult the books. Manuscripts will be issued for reference only to the bonafide scholars. The library is situated at the center of Palace and functioning six days in a week from 10.00 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. and it remains closed on Wednesday and Govt holidays.

For further details please contact **Mr. P.Perumal**, Conservator cum Librarian or the Administrative Officer, Sarasvathi Mahal Library, Tanjore – 613 009  
Web:www.nictn.sml.org E-mail: tnj-sarsvath@sansarnet.in.  
Ph: 04362-234107, 233568

**Know a Book** – Ethaladaivu (Directory of Tamil Periodicals), Mr. M. Kauthaman( Library, Tamil University, Tanjore), Tanjore: Ram Publishers, 2003, 144p, Rs.60.

The objective of the directory is to compile and alphabetize the dailies, magazines and journals published in Tamil language. The directory consists of 797 entries which are 26 Dailies, 3 bi-weeklies, 44 weeklies, 42 Fortnightlies, 578 Monthlies, 29 Bi-monthlies, 53 Quarterlies, 2 once in 4 months, 6 bi-year lies and 12 without any periodicity.

Each entry consists of the name of the periodical, name of the author and address, year, periodicity, price or subscription rate and brief description. It has an index based on periodicity. The author personally visited many libraries and compiled this directory and it is an useful reference tool

**Know a Web Site:** <http://www.inflibnet.ac.in> is the official website of INFLIBNET: Information and Library Network Centre is an autonomous Inter-University Centre (IUC) of University Grants Commission (UGC) involved in creating infrastructure for sharing information among academic and Research and Development Institutions. INFLIBNET is set out to be a major player in promoting scholarly

communication among academicians and researchers in India. INFLIBNET Centre has been subscribing to quite a few Bibliographic Databases in CD-ROM covering different subjects. These have been subscribed with a view to provide Bibliographic Information Service on the topics of interest to the faculty members and researchers working in the universities and colleges

- The following services can be availed from the site
- Document Delivery Service for journal articles
  - The Contents of Periodicals in Science and Technology
  - Online Bibliographic service from various databases
  - Offline database services through E-mail

This site allows to search bibliographical databases such as books, theses and serials holdings, current serials and secondary serials catalogue and non-bibliographic databases such as research projects, experts and university information system The site also provides latest information about the UGC INFONET, Soul software and other activities of the centre.

This is a very good site for getting information free of cost for those who are working in colleges and universities.

## **Forthcoming Conferences, Seminars**

**Workshop on Conservation of Library Materials,**  
21-23 Jan 2005, Sarasvati Mahal Library, Tanjore.  
Registration Fee: Rs.100

### **Personalia**

**Mr. S.Palani,** Assistant Librarian, University of Madras, Marina Campus, has been awarded Ph.D on the topic 'Expert Systems for Indian Pharmaceutical Drug', by the Dept of Library & Information Science, University of Madras under the guidance of Prof. Manorama Srinath.

**Mr. M.Tamizhchelvan,** Librarian, The New Indian Express, Chennai, has been awarded Ph.D on the topic 'OPACs in South Indian Libraries: a Study of their Facilities and Features', by the Dept of Library & Information Science, University of Madras under the guidance of Prof. B. Ramesh Babu.

**Mr.S.C.Kumaresan,** Librarian, Coimbatore Institute of Technology, Coimbatore has joined as Senior Librarian at BIT, Dubai Campus.  
Congratulations to all !

## **META DATA**

Dr.S.Muralidhar\* and C.Jayakumar (CVRDE, Chennai)

Metadata is important in the information society. It is having a profound impact on most aspects of information work. Although the term 'metadata' is a recent one, many of the concepts and techniques of metadata creation, management and use originated with the development of library catalogues.

**Origin of the term:** Vellucci(1998) suggested that the term 'metadata' dates back to 1960s but became established in the context of Database Management Systems (DBMSs) in the 1970s. Woodley(1999) traces the first reference to 'meta-data' a PhD dissertation on 'An infological approach to data bases' which made the distinction between:

- objects (real-world phenomena)
- information about the object; and
- data representing information about the object (i.e.metadata)

### **What is metadata?**

The simplest definition of metadata is "structured data about data". Metadata consist of information that characterizes data. Metadata are used to provide documentation for data products. In essence, metadata answers **who, what, when, where, why, and how** about every facet of the data that are being documented. Metadata is plural like data. Metadata can be understood data about data, a tool enabling users, seekers and owners of information resources to find and manage them (UK Office of the e-Envoy, 2003).

**Importance:** In answering the question 'Why is metadata important?' several arguments emerge:

- Metadata enhances retrieval performance
- Metadata provides a way of managing electronic digital objects
- Metadata can help to determine the authority of data
- Metadata is the key to interoperability
- Metadata is the future

**Purposes:** The seven purposes of metadata identified by Day can be summarized as follows:

- Resource description
- Resource discovery
- Administration and management of resources
- Record of intellectual property rights
- Documenting software and hardware environments
- Preservation management of digital resources
- Providing information on context and authenticity

Dublin Core is a popular metadata being used for cataloging the digital resources. It consists of 14 data elements such as title, creator, subject and keyword, description, publisher, contributor, date, resource type, format,resource identifier, source, language, relation, coverage and rights management

*Reproduced from:*

1. Haynes, David. Metadata for information management and retrieval. London, Facet publishing, 2004.

2.<http://geology.usgs.gov/tools/metadata/tools/doc/faq.html> (as on 20.12.2004)

3. <http://dublincore.org>

*Book-post*



