Virtualization Appliances for Library and Information Management Studies Munasinghe, M.A.K.S. and Sumangala, Ven. P.

kasunm@kln.ac.lk2013, _sumangala@kln.ac.lk

Virtualization provides means to create several virtual computers on one physical computer, therefore number of physical computers can be reduced radically .Students can connect to virtual computers using remote connection . With virtualization teachers can utilize new technologies such as the newest operating systems in teaching, even if those are not used in physical computers. One of the advantages of this method is to provide totally isolated and unrestricted learning environment for students, who will gain the administrative rights for the virtualized operating system. That use to learning those library and information science methods .Therefore, installation and configuration library management system like KOHA or GREENSTONE etc. A hypothesis of this study is to explore if the use of virtualization in learning environment is more effective than traditional teaching method .The base of library and information science education environment is individual learning styles and experiential learning. Rapid advances in information technology have provided new learning methods and environments . This has been the case for the teaching of librarianship and Information centers .Library and information Students pointed out deficiencies and inadequacies in ICT resources and facilities, and suggested upgrading software and hardware. They appeared to be satisfied with the ICT skills being targeted by visualization environment. They also appeared to be satisfied with the ICT instructors. Librarians and information management officers need special knowledge and skills including techniques of using software and hardware, selection and assessment of resources, use of information systems, ability to search networks and databases, as well as problem-solving and research skills and the ability to teach users . The study pointed out a need for collaboration with professional forums for continuing education programs and the need for revisions in curricula to introduce more focused courses that meet the needs of the ever-changing market requirements and give the students access to professional.

Keywords: Virtualization, technologies, Library and Information Science, KOHA, GREENSTONE, Information Centers, Administrator, Security policies, Information systems