IASLIC 34th All India Conference 2025

Organised by

Department of Library & Information Science,
Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University,
Vijayapura, Karnataka
January 5-7, 2026

Abstracts of Papers

On

Library Vision 2047

SIG 01: Social Science Information

Theme: ***Community Empowerment and Libraries***

SIG 02: Computer Applications in LIS

Theme: ***Innovative Library Services in Digital Age***

INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES (IASLIC)

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IASLIC 34th All India Conference 2025, Karnataka

ABSTRACTS

1 Developing New Age Libraries : Operations and Services

Paper Ref: ST-1/4

ACADEMIC SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES IN THE DIGITAL ERA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR UNIVERSITY ACADEMICS IN KARNATAKA

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Purpose: This study aimed to examine the awareness, usage, opportunities and challenges of ASNSs among research scholars and faculty members. The study also sought to identify factors influencing effective use and to suggest strategies for improving engagement through institutional support and digital literacy initiatives.

Methodology: A structured questionnaire was administered to collect quantitative data, which were analysed to understand respondents' familiarity with various platforms, reasons for creating profiles, preferred document formats, perceived benefits and challenges in using ASNSs.

Findings: The findings reveal a high level of awareness among respondents, with 80.6% reporting familiarity with ASNSs. Among the platforms, Google Scholar (73.91%) and ResearchGate (69.44%) were the most recognised, while Zotero (17.24%) and Publons (11.61%) were less known. Respondents primarily created ASNS profiles to disseminate research outputs (53%), Get in touch with other researchers (52.3%), follow others' research activities (44.5%), find collaborators (33.7%), and share teaching materials (22.3%), whereas job-seeking (12.6%) was a less common motive. The preferred document formats indicated a tendency to avoid multimedia and large file types such as .mov (60.7%) and MPEG (56.9%), favouring standard academic formats for research dissemination. Regarding opportunities, uses of ASNSs included identifying prestigious journals, gaining professional visibility, accessing research metrics, improving teaching and research quality, and connecting with peers. Despite these benefits, respondents reported certain risks, with data security (43.4%) being the most significant concern, while cybercrime, privacy issues, copyright infringement, and cyberbullying were less frequently perceived as risks. Challenges included fake identities, lack of technical skills, difficulty in use, time constraints, and poor internet connectivity, highlighting infrastructural and digital literacy limitations.

Value: The paper's value lies in its practical relevance for higher education, emphasizing the need for training, policy support, and IT infrastructure to promote effective ASNS use. These findings contribute to understanding how ASNSs are integrated into scholarly practices and provide insights for enhancing their adoption in higher education and research institutions. It adds to the limited literature on ASNS adoption in India by offering insights to enhance digital literacy, research visibility, and academic collaboration.

Keywords: Academic social networking site; Challenge; Collaboration; Opportunity; Research visibility; Research scholar; Faculty member.

Paper Ref: ST-1/6

CHALLENGES IN ERMS IMPLEMENTATION IN LIBRARIES : A STUDY IN SELECT ENGINEERING COLLEGES IN KARNATAKA

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Purpose : This pilot study is to examine the challenges librarians face while implementing Electronic Resource Management Systems (ERMS) in engineering college libraries located in the Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Coastal Karnataka. In academic libraries, effective management of e-resources has become increasingly crucial as they rely on an ever-growing number of digital resources. The study aims to evaluate the perceived efficacy and value of ERMS in enhancing library services, as well as to identify IT-related issues, including technical limitations, poor integration with current systems, vendor support, and user-related barriers to ERMS adoption.

Methodology : A survey-based methodology was adopted for this pilot study. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire validated by 25 subject experts and administered to librarians from five engineering colleges. The institutions included NMAM Institute of Technology, SMVIT Bantakal, SJEC Mangalore, CEC Mangalore, and AITE Moodbidri. Supplementary library visits and a review of existing literature on ERMS best practices and case studies provided contextual depth. Quantitative data were analysed using suitable tools, and the findings were presented in both tabular and graphical formats to highlight key trends and challenges.

Findings : The study revealed that all the participating libraries used the Knimbus platform to access the e-resources provided by the VTU consortium. Based on the survey findings, librarians agreed that the benefits of implementing ERMS include increased user satisfaction, reduced manual workload, and enhanced tracking of e-resource usage. The study also identified several challenges for implementing ERMS, including technical and software limitations, poor system integration, low user awareness, low participation in training programs, insufficiently skilled staff, deficient coordination with IT teams, and vendor-related issues such as inadequate customer support, incomplete metadata, and delayed activation. According to the study, participants strongly recommended enhanced ERMS features for academic libraries and also desired flexible reporting tools, improved integration, and user-friendly interfaces.

Value : This study is among the first to explore the implementation challenges of ERMS in engineering college libraries in Coastal Karnataka. It highlights the need for standardised frameworks that are adaptable to local contexts and provide a foundation for broader regional research, aiming to comprehensively investigate the implementation and impact of ERMS on a broader sample of engineering college libraries in the region. By identifying gaps and proposing improvements, the study contributes to enhancing digital resource management and library service delivery in academic institutions.

Keywords: Electronic resource; Remote access; Digital resource management; Library professional; Coastal region; Karnataka.

Paper Ref: ST-1/8

IMPACT OF SERVICE QUALITY ON LIBRARY USER SATISFACTION : A CASE STUDY OF ONLINE PLATFORMS

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Purpose: The purpose of this study is to examine the impact of service quality on library user satisfaction in the digital era, with a specific emphasis on the growing use of online meeting platforms such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and Google Meet in academic library environments. As libraries increasingly in transition toward hybrid and virtual operations, it has become crucial to understand how these digital platforms influence the user experience and overall perception of service quality. This study highlights that the key service quality dimensions-reliability, accessibility, responsiveness, and user support-are fundamental to building user trust, sustaining engagement, and ensuring effective delivery of virtual library services. By analysing how these factors collectively shape satisfaction levels, the research provides actionable recommendations for developing user-centered digital service models that enhance institutional performance, communication, and outreach in modern libraries.

Methodology: A mixed-methods research approach was adopted to explore both quantitative and qualitative aspects of library service quality and user satisfaction. Quantitative data were gathered through an online survey comprising 150 respondents, including students, faculty, and research scholars who regularly participated in virtual library programs such as orientations, workshops, and webinars. Participants evaluated key service dimensions using a 5-point Likert scale based on the SERVQUAL model. To enrich the analysis, 20 semi-structured interviews were conducted to capture detailed perspectives on user experiences, technological challenges, and support expectations. Statistical correlation analysis and thematic interpretation were applied to identify significant relationships and recurring patterns between service quality components and overall satisfaction outcomes.

Findings: The study revealed a strong positive correlation between service quality and user satisfaction. Reliability ($r = 0.85$) emerged as the most influential factor, followed by accessibility ($r = 0.75$) and user support ($r = 0.70$). Participants expressed greater satisfaction when online sessions were stable, easy to access, and supported with timely assistance. Conversely, connectivity issues, unclear communication, and delayed responses negatively affected satisfaction levels.

Originality: This research bridges classical service quality theory with the evolving digital landscape of library services. Its originality lies in incorporating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) tools within service frameworks to automate user assistance, forecast needs, and personalize learning environments. The study contributes a forward-looking model for intelligent, user-driven, and sustainable virtual library ecosystems aligned with IASLIC's vision of technological empowerment and academic excellence.

Keywords : Virtual library; Provider excellent; Library consumer pleasure; Online meeting platform; Generation integration; Consumer engagement.

Paper Ref: ST-1/10

MANAGING RESOURCES IN THE DYNAMIC UNIVERSE OF KNOWLEDGE: A STUDY OF FACETS AND NUMBERS IN SOCIOLOGY

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Purpose: The study aims to evaluate how effectively two major library classification systems, the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) and Colon Classification (CC), organise and manage resources in sociology, a discipline that continuously evolves in scope and inter disciplinarity. The research aims to analyze the structural depth, subject coverage, interdisciplinary relations, and real-world applicability of both schemes to determine which system better reflects the evolving nature of sociological knowledge.

Methodology: A mixed-method approach combining quantitative and qualitative analysis was adopted. Structural analysis of sociology schedules in both schemes was performed by counting class entries, sub-divisions, and links. A sample of 185 sociology book titles published in the last five years (sourced from the WorldCat database) was classified using DDC (23rd edition) and CC (6th edition). The occurrence and mapping of key terms were analysed to assess coverage, relevance, and interdisciplinary representation.

Findings: The study reveals that in the DDC, sociology spans classes 301-307, comprising 365 entries that focus mainly on Culture and Institutions and Groups of People. While DDC demonstrates strong terminological coverage (65%) through direct mapping and tables, its growth is uneven, and it struggles with interdisciplinary synthesis. Nonetheless, it remains reliable due to its structured organization, consistent updates, and broad coverage within the social sciences. On the other hand, CC with 1,068 entries, offers greater structural depth and faceted flexibility through its Personality (P) and Energy (E) facets. Although it maps only 53% of terms, it enables more flexible and synthetic classifications, supporting interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and geographical linkages across field, its terminology is somewhat outdated, limiting usability. Overall, DDC excels in consistency and coverage, while CC stands out for analytical depth and interdisciplinarity, yet both fall short of fully reflecting sociology's dynamic and evolving nature.

Value: This research fills a significant gap, as no previous study has comprehensively assessed DDC and CC within the context of today's dynamic and interdisciplinary universe of knowledge. It emphasizes the urgent need for revision and modernisation of the Colon Classification to align with evolving academic scenario, inclusive terminology, and interdisciplinary research. By highlighting the strengths and limitations of both systems, the study contributes to ongoing discussions on improving knowledge organization and management in the social sciences.

Keywords: Knowledge organisation; Library classification; Dewey Decimal Classification; Colon Classification; Universe of knowledge; Sociology.

Paper Ref : ST-1/13

IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON INFORMATION SEEKING AND SHARING BEHAVIOR AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN KSAWU, VIJAYAPURA

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Purpose: The study aims to examine the impact of social media on information-seeking and sharing behaviors among postgraduate students at KSAWU, Vijayapura. In today's digital age social media platforms play a crucial role in academic communication, collaboration, and knowledge dissemination. The study focuses on understanding how students do utilise various social media platforms to search for access evaluate, and share academic information. It also seeks to identify the frequency, purpose, and nature of their social media engagement for academic activities as well as to explore the benefits and challenges associated with such use.

Methodology: A descriptive survey method was used for the study. A structured closed-ended questionnaire was designed to collect data related to students' social media usage patterns for academic purposes.The survey employed a simple random sampling method, wherein 200 questionnaires were distributed, and 179 responses were received. The collected data were organised and analysed using descriptive statistical methods. The analysis focused on the type of social media platforms used frequency of use, and purposes for which postgraduate students engage in academic information seeking and sharing activities.

Finding: The results indicate that social media platforms are widely used by postgraduate students for academic engagement. WhatsApp, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn emerging as the most popular platforms. Students primarily used these platforms for seeking research material, sharing study notes, discussing academic topics, and collaborating with peers and faculty members. The study indicates that social media enhances access to up-to-date academic information, promotes collaborative learning, and supports knowledge. Respondents reported using these platforms mainly to access, exchange. However, issues such as information overload, distraction and concerns over the credibility of online content were also identified as challenges that need to be addressed.

Value: This study provides valuable insights into the evolving role of social media as an academic information tool among postgraduate students. It highlights the increasing significance of social media in supporting collaborative learning, information sharing, and academic networking. The findings offer important implications for educators and policymakers to strengthen digital literacy and media awareness programs that promote the responsible and critical use of social media for academic growth and lifelong learning.

Keywords: Social media; Information seeking; Sharing behavior; Postgraduate student; KSAWU

Paper Ref : ST-1/15

ASSESSING DIMENSIONS OF LIBRARY ANXIETY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF STATE UNIVERSITIES OF KARNATAKA

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Purpose: The study is to examine and compare the multiple dimensions of library anxiety among postgraduate

students and research scholars of Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi, and Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Bellary. The study aims to identify institutional and psychological factors influencing users comfort, confidence, and utilisation of library services.

Methodology: The study adopted a survey method of research using a structured questionnaire distributed personally to respondents selected through random sampling. Data were analysed using statistical pakage to compute frequencies, percentages, and mean scores. The comparative analysis focused on five major dimensions of library anxiety - library timing, security, staff, co-users, and books - to determine the variation in anxiety levels between the two universities.

Findings: The study revealed distinct variations in the nature and intensity of library anxiety between the two institutions. At Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University (VSKUB), users showed high anxiety related to library timing, particularly concerning limited library hours during examination periods ($\bar{x}$ = 4.08), restricted hours for book issue and return services ($\bar{x}$ = 3.92), and early closing times ($\bar{x}$ = 3.75). These findings indicate that rigid operational schedules hinder students' academic preparation. In terms of security, respondents reported significant anxiety because security staff were not visible enough ($\bar{x}$ = 3.92) and they felt uneasy about leaving personal belongings or information unattended ($\bar{x}$ = 3.76 and $\bar{x}$ = 3.37), highlighting inadequate supervision and safety measures. For library staff, VSKUB users expressed concern about staff unavailability when needed ($\bar{x}$ = 3.20), unclear instructions ($\bar{x}$ = 3.24), and lack of approachability ($\bar{x}$ = 3.40), reflecting communication gaps and service inefficiencies. Conversely, students at Gulbarga University experienced greater anxiety due to co-user disturbances and noise ($\bar{x}$ = 3.10) and difficulty in navigating or managing the large book collection ($\bar{x}$ = 4.00). The findings demonstrate that library anxiety is not uniform but context-dependent-arising from both infrastructural limitations and psychological perceptions. Institutional design, staff responsiveness, and the physical and social environment collectively influence how users experience the library space.

Value: This comparative study offers original insights into library anxiety across two state universities of Karnataka. By identifying specific anxiety triggers, the findings provide valuable guidance for librarians and policymakers to implement improvements such as extending library hours, ensuring visible and active security presence, enhancing staff communication skills, and promoting orientation programs. Such measures can help foster a supportive, inclusive, and anxiety-free library environment that enhances learning and research productivity.

Keywords: Library anxiety; University library; Gulbarga University; VSKUB.

Paper Ref : ST-1/17

PRESERVING THE PAST AND EMPOWERING THE FUTURE: ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

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Purpose : Libraries have always been more than just buildings filled with books they are living, breathing institutions that reflect the values, knowledge, and culture of the societies they serve. Libraries are evolving from traditional repositories into vibrant, hybrid spaces that blend physical collections with cutting-edge digital technologies. In today's digital era, libraries have become interactive, technology-driven centers that promote learning, innovation, and community engagement. This review explores the transformation of libraries from ancient archives of knowledge to modern digital hubs that blend tradition with innovation. Drawing on diverse scholarly and institutional sources, the study highlights how Information and Communication Technology has reshaped library operations, services, and professional roles. Librarians are now digital curators, educators, and

data managers who support research, enhance digital literacy, and foster inclusive access to information, Libraries continue to uphold their mission of preserving cultural heritage while expanding digital access and community impact. Ultimately, the study underscores that libraries remain vital institutions in a knowledge-driven society is adapting dynamically to technological change, empowering individuals, and bridging the gap between information and people in an increasingly digital world.

This article examines the evolving role of libraries within the rapidly changing ICT landscape. It aims to explore how libraries are transitioning from traditional, book-centered institutions to dynamic, digitally-enabled spaces that serve as hubs for lifelong learning, cultural preservation, and community engagement. The study highlights the significance of integrating digital tools and emerging technologies to ensure that libraries remain relevant, inclusive, and impactful in the digital age.

Methodology: This article offers a thorough review of the evolution and future direction of library science, blending insights from scholarly research, case studies, and institutional reports. It highlights how emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and open access are reshaping library services and enhancing user engagement in both public and academic contexts.

Findings : The study finds that libraries are not merely adapting to digital transformation but are proactively shaping it. Through digitization projects, virtual services, and strategic use of ICT, libraries are expanding access to information while preserving cultural heritage. Additionally, the professional roles of librarians are undergoing significant shifts, with emerging opportunities in data services, digital curation, community outreach, and technology integration.

Originality: This article contributes original insights into the as both preservers of cultural heritage and promoters of digital inclusion. It uniquely highlights their evolving role as hybrid spaces that link tradition with technological progress.

Keywords: Digital transformation; Cultural heritage; Emerging technology; Digital literacy; ICT.

Paper Ref : ST-1/20

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF PRINT READING MATERIALS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN VIJAYAPURA CITY, KARNATAKA

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Purpose: The main purpose of this study is to examine the preservation and conservation of materials on public libraries, with particular reference to the libraries of Vijayapura city. Public libraries are vital institutions that safeguard the documentary heritage of society and provide access to information for all. This study aims to understand how effectively these libraries preserve their print and non-print collections to ensure their long-term use. It also focuses on identifying existing preservation systems and policies to highlight areas that need improvement for better resource management and protection.

Methodology: A structured questionnaire was designed and distributed among librarians and staff of selected public libraries in Vijayapura. The questionnaire covered aspects such as the physical condition of materials, maintenance procedures, storage facilities, and preventive measures adopted against environmental and physical damage. The survey method was used as the main approach for data collection, enabling both qualitative and quantitative analysis. The collected responses were analysed to assess current preservation practices, identify challenges, and understand the overall state of conservation efforts in these libraries.

Findings: The findings of the study reveal that although librarians are aware of the importance of preservation,

several challenges hinder effective conservation. Common issues include insufficient funding, lack of dedication preservation rooms, inadequate staff training, and limited adoption of modern techniques such as digitization. The study also notes that preventive care, proper handling, and environmental control are not consistently practiced. It emphasizes the need for improved policies, regular maintenance, and government support to enhance the preservation infrastructure and ensure the longevity of library materials.

Originality: This research makes a distinctive contribution by examining the preservation status of public libraries in Vijayapura, an area that has received very little scholarly attention in previous studies. By assessing the current condition of library materials and the practices used to maintain them, the study offers valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of existing preservation efforts. It also provides practical recommendations that can help enhance sustainable library management and conservation methods. The findings are intended to guide policymakers, librarians, and other stakeholders in developing stronger preservation strategies that address both present challenges and future needs. Ultimately, this work seeks to ensure the long- term protection of library collections so that important knowledge and cultural resources remain accessible, usable, and well- preserved for generations to come.

Keywords: Preservation; Conservation; Library material; Public library; Vijayapura.

Paper Ref : ST-1/38

ACADEMIC SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES AT UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR : PERCEPTIONS AND COLLABORATION

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Purpose: This study aims to investigate the use, collaborative engagement, and perceptions of Academic Social Networking Sites (ASNSs) among research scholars at the University of Kashmir. It focuses on understanding the extent of ASNS adoption, the perceived benefits associated with their use, and the level of engagement with both basic and advanced platform features. The purpose is to assess how effectively these platforms contribute to scholarly communication, research visibility, and academic collaboration.

Methodology: A quantitative research approach was employed to examine ASNS usage patterns among Ph.D. scholars. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered to 131 research scholars selected using simple random sampling across various departments. The questionnaire captured information on awareness levels, preferred platforms, motivations for use, perceived benefits, and engagement with specialised ASNS features. Descriptive statistics were used to analyse the data and identify key trends in platform adoption and scholarly engagement.

Findings: The study found a high level of awareness, with 97.70% of the respondents familiar with ASNSs. LinkedIn was identified as the most preferred platform (73.43%), followed by Google Scholar (65.62%) and Mendeley (53.90%). Scholars frequently used ASNSs for enhancing research visibility and citation impact (77.34%), networking with experts (70.31%), and fostering research collaboration (53.12%). Motivations included gaining free access to scholarly publications and staying updated with developments in their respective fields (both 75.78%). However, advanced ASNS features such as mentorship seeking (13.28%), participation in academic discussions (16.40%), and exploring funding opportunities (11.71%) remained underutilized. Perception data showed that 90.62% of scholars believed ASNSs positively influence research visibility.

Value: This study contributes empirical evidence on ASNS engagement within a leading Indian university, highlighting both widespread use and gaps in feature utilisation. It underscores the need for institutional initiatives to promote deeper engagement with advanced ASNS functionalities to maximise their potential for

scholarly collaboration, academic visibility, and professional growth. The findings offer practical insights for enhancing the effective use of ASNSs in higher education settings.

Keywords: Collaboration; Perception; Academic social networking site; University of Kashmir.

Paper Ref : ST-1/54

ENHANCING LIBRARY COLLECTION AND RESOURCES: A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DEVELOPING READING CULTURE AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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Purpose: The purpose of this study is to analyse the library collections and resources that contribute to the development of strong reading culture among undergraduate students. Specifically the study seeks to determine the extent to which improved access to diverse, up-to date and relevant library materials both print and digital can influence students reading habits, preference and overall academic engagement. Additionally, the study aims to explore how the availability, quality and organisation of library resources as well as supportive library services, shape students motivation to read for academic and personal development. By identifying effective strategies for strengthening library collections and resource provision the study intends to offer evidence based recommendations for promoting reading culture in higher education institutions.

Methodology: The Study followed a survey based research design and employed Random sampling method to select respondents. Data were collected through questionnaire administrated to undergraduate students from Vijayapura City. Total 2168 questionnaire were distributed among undergraduate students and 1467 valid responses were received, yielding a response rate 67.6%. Specifically, the study seeks to determine the extent to which improved access to diverse, up-to date and relevant library materials both print and digital can influence students reading habits, preference and overall academic engagement.

Findings: This study on the reading culture among undergraduate students in Vijayapura City shows that students use both print and digital media. However, there is a noticeable lack of awareness and skill in navigating digital resources effectively. While students engage with digital content, they struggle with accessing resources, utilizing search strategies, and assessing the authenticity of online materials. Despite these challenges, students are adapting to the evolving information landscape by using both print and digital media.

Value: Enhancing library collections and resources in undergraduate colleges is crucial for supporting academic excellence, fostering lifelong learning, and meeting the evolving needs of students and faculty. This tool outlines strategic approaches to modernise and expand library resources, focusing on both digital and physical collections. This study would help the Educational institutions should prioritise these programs to bridge the gap between students' current reading habits and the skills needed to navigate digital resources confidently with some of the strategies addressed in this study in order to improve library collection and resources.

Keywords: Reading; Reading habit; Reading culture; Promote reading culture; Library collection

Paper Ref : ST-3/63

WORK STRESS AMONG WOMEN LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS IN NORTH KARNATAKA: AN EXPLORATIVE STUDY

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Purpose: To study the intensity, nature and types of work-related stress among women LIS professionals in North Karnataka and to analyze district-wise variations in different forms of work-related stress and their relationship and their influence on job performance. The study is also covered possible remedies for reducing stress hence the study is undertaken. The study proposes Vision 2047-aligned interventions focusing on digital skill enhancement, gender-sensitive human resource policies, infrastructure improvement, mental health support, leadership development, and workload rationalization. This study offers original empirical insights to inform policy and institutional strategies aimed at improving the well-being and job performance of women LIS professionals in the digital era.

Design: A descriptive designed was followed where in the survey method of research was used to collect the data through a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed based on the reviewed literature and the objectives of the study. Stratified random sampling was used and collected the data from eight districts, yielding 80 valid responses from 110 distributed questionnaires (72.72%). Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics along with ANOVA, Chi-square, and Pearson's correlation through Excel and SPSS.

Findings: Results indicate high overall stress levels among women LIS professionals. ICT-related stress ranked highest, followed by work–family conflict and workload stress. ANOVA confirmed significant district-level differences ($p < 0.05$). Chi-square analysis revealed that ICT training significantly reduces stress ($p < 0.01$). A moderate negative correlation between experience and stress ($r = -0.36$) suggests stress declines with increasing professional experience.

***Value*:** The study is original in nature and the first of its kind as the literature survey reveals that only piecemeal studies has been reported on this area. Further no studies have been focused exclusively on Women LIS professionals in North Karnataka. The study is basically empirical nature and is based on primary data collected from the target population. It examines the work-related stress its types and its influence on job performance and also highlights emerging challenges of librarianship in the digital era. The findings provide valuable empirical support for institutional reforms that enhance digital competence, promote work–life balance, strengthen recognition systems, and improve overall well-being and productivity of women LIS professionals.

***Keywords*:** Work stress, Women library professionals, North Karnataka, ICT skills, ANOVA, Digital library, Organizational climate.

2 Tools and Technologies

Paper Ref : ST-2/1

NEXT-GEN LIBRARY WEBSITES BUILDING WITH DRUPAL

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Purpose: The primary objective of this study is to explore the implementation and customisation of an interactive, user-friendly academic library website using Drupal Content Management System (CMS). The research highlights the benefits of adopting open-source technologies for delivering innovative and user-centric digital library services. In an era of digital transformation, academic libraries are increasingly expected to provide dynamic interfaces, personalised access to resources, and real-time information services. This paper demonstrates how Drupal CMS 1.0.0 can serve as a robust and scalable platform for meeting these evolving needs while ensuring cost-effectiveness and technological sustainability.

Approach: The study employs a case study approach, documenting the end-to-end process of installing and configuring Drupal CMS version 1.0.0 using DDEV on Ubuntu 22.04 LTS. The methodological steps include environment setup, system configuration, database creation, and optimization of performance parameters. The customisation phase focuses on theme development aligned with institutional branding, content structuring for different library collections, and integration of essential Drupal modules. Furthermore, AI-based tools such as chatbots, content recommendation systems, and real-time analytics plugins were deployed to enhance interactivity and improve the overall user experience. The entire implementation process was tested and validated through iterative design and usability evaluation.

Findings: The findings reveal that Drupal CMS 1.0.0 provides a flexible and comprehensive solution for developing academic library websites. Its modular architecture enables seamless integration of Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) tools, media management systems, social media plugins, and AI-driven services. The CMS supports intuitive navigation, advanced content categorisation, and dynamic information retrieval features. The adoption of open-source tools contributed to a cost-effective, secure, and scalable infrastructure adaptable to institutional growth and user demand. The study also found that AI-based modules significantly improved user engagement and accessibility.

Value: The research underscores the transformative potential of open-source CMS platforms in academic library environments. It provides practical insights for librarians, IT administrators, and developers seeking to modernize library operations, enhance user satisfaction, and support long-term digital sustainability.

This paper represents one of the first documented efforts to implement Drupal CMS 1.0.0 in an academic library setting. It offers a detailed, practice-oriented guide for institutions aiming to create flexible, interactive, and future-ready digital library systems through open-source technologies.

Keywords: Drupal; Open source software; Content management system; Library website; AI assistant.

Paper Ref : ST-2/9

COMPLIANCE AND SECURITY: EVALUATING INFORMATION GOVERNANCE PRACTICES IN DEEMED UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN KARNATAKA

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Purpose: In an era defined by digital transformation, academic libraries have evolved from traditional repositories into complex information hubs. This important shift necessitates a robust Information Governance (IG) framework to mitigate risk, ensure regulatory compliance, and safeguard institutional integrity. The purpose of this study is to investigate the current state of IG practices, focusing on compliance, cybersecurity, and risk management, within the central libraries of deemed-to-be universities in Karnataka.

Methodology: This research adopted a quantitative survey design to collect data from librarians across ten selected deemed to be universities. The methodology was structured to quantitatively assess the implementation and maturity of various IG components, providing a measurable snapshot of existing practices and gaps. The approach centred on a systematic evaluation of three core IG pillars such as cyber security controls (e.g., firewalls, encryption and other), risk management protocols, and copyright compliance mechanisms in the libraries of selected universities. This allowed for a holistic analysis of how these libraries protect sensitive data and manage information-related risks.

Findings: The findings reveal a landscape of fragmented and often reactive governance. While awareness of foundational security principles is high, evidenced by the near-universal adoption of firewalls and anti-virus software, there is a critical deficit in advanced data-centric protections. Measures like data encryption and two-factor authentication are severely underutilised. Copyright management relies predominantly on user education, with minimal proactive enforcement, exposing libraries to potential intellectual property violations. Significant operational challenges, including staffing shortages and the reliance on librarians as ad-hoc emergency contacts, further impede effective governance.

Originality: This study provides the first focused analysis of IG maturity in this specific academic context. Its originality lies in connecting technical security postures with broader operational and policy challenges. The value of the research is its practical contribution, which is a strategic roadmap to bridge identified gaps. This includes advocating for a consolidated, institution-level IG policy aligned with India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act (2023), strategic investment in advanced security controls, and continuous staff development. The study concludes that transforming these libraries into secure, trustworthy pillars of academia requires a cultural shift from ad-hoc compliance to a holistic, proactive governance framework.

Keywords: Information Governance; Compliance and security; Data protection; Copyright; University; Karnataka.

Paper Ref : ST-2/14

A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF INTEGRATED DIGITAL COLLECTION MANAGEMENT TOOLS : KOHA AND DSPACE

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Purpose: The present study aims to analyse global research trends related to Koha and DSpace as integrated digital collection management tools in libraries. These two open-source systems have become essential components of modern library automation and digital repository management. The study seeks to understand how scholarly literature over the period 2010-2024 reflects the evolution, adoption, and integration of these platforms in the library and information science domain. It particularly focuses on their role in advancing open-access, interoperability, and collaborative knowledge management practices. By exploring patterns in research output, the study highlights the global interest and technological transformation shaping the future of digital library ecosystems.

Methodology: A systematic content analysis approach was adopted for this study. Bibliographic data were retrieved from the Web of Science database, covering publications between 2010 and 2024. Relevant records were identified using a set of keywords including "Koha", "DSpace", "Collection Management", "Digital Content Management", "Library Automation" and "Institutional Repository." The collected data were analysed across several key parameters such as annual publication trends, authorship patterns, country-wise contributions, leading organisations, and highly cited journals. Analytical tools were employed for data visualisation, citation mapping, and network analysis to derive meaningful insights from the dataset.

Findings: The findings reveal a steady and significant growth in research output on Koha and DSpace integration, reflecting increasing global engagement with open-source library solutions. India, China, and the USA emerged as the most productive countries, contributing the majority of publications in this area. The study identifies Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Library Philosophy and Practice, and the Electronic Library as the most influential journals publishing research on this topic. Collaborative authorship patterns indicate a strong interdisciplinary connection between library science, information management, and computer science. The integration of Koha and DSpace is shown to enhance unified access, improve content discovery, and streamline digital workflows. However, persistent challenges such as metadata interoperability, technical integration, and user interface standardisation continue to limit seamless adoption.

Value: This study provides a comprehensive overview of research productivity and thematic development in the field of open-source digital library systems. It offers valuable insights for librarians, system developers, educators, and policymakers to better understand emerging trends and integration challenges. The findings support evidence-based decision-making for future digital transformation, emphasising the need for continued innovation, collaboration, and policy support to strengthen the interoperability and sustainability of digital library ecosystems.

Keywords: Collection management; Digital content management; Content analysis; Library automation; Institutional repository; Koha; DSpace.

Paper Ref : ST-2/22

AMULYA SHODHA MUSEUM, KARNATAKA : PRESERVING ITS COLLECTION USING OMEKA

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Purpose: In this digital era, the advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has transformed how libraries, museums, and cultural institutions preserve and disseminate knowledge. The primary purpose of this study is to presence the collection of AmulyaShodha Museum using Omeka-an-open-source digital repository software. The study aims to enhance accessibility, visibility, and preservation of the museum's valuable artefacts. It also demonstrates how Omeka can serve as an effective digital tool for museums to manage, organize, and showcase their collections online for global access.

Approach: The study adopted a practical-based approach using Omeka.net to develop a digital repository for Amulya Shodha Museum. The research process involved several steps including creating an Omeka account, designing the museum website (https://amulyashodha.omeka.net/), uploading digitised materials, and classifying them into thematic collections. Metadata creation followed the Dublin Core metadata standard, ensuring standardised bibliographic description for each item. A total of 109 items-including manuscripts, sculptures, coins, paintings, and historical objects-were digitised and organised into 13 collections. The interface was customised using Omeka's built-in plugins, layouts, and themes to provide an intuitive browsing and search experience.

Findings: The findings reveal that Omeka is a reliable, flexible, and user-friendly content management system suitable for digital curation projects in cultural institutions. The digitisation of the Amulya Shodha Museum collections has enhanced the visibility and preservation of regional cultural heritage while providing open and remote access to scholars, students, and the general public. The online repository supports interactive features such as browsing, searching, tagging, and metadata display, offering an immersive digital exhibition experience. This digital transformation significantly contributes to the museum's educational mission and cultural continuity.

Value: This study is among the first to apply Omeka for the digitisation of a regional museum in Karnataka, India. It provides a practical framework and methodological guide for implementing open-source platforms in heritage documentation and management. The research demonstrates the value of adopting Omeka for sustainable digital preservation, cost-effective management, and long-term accessibility of cultural assets. The project highlights the growing importance of open digital repositories in ensuring the preservation and global dissemination of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage.

Keywords: Digitisation; Digital collection; Amulya Shodha Museum; Omeka; Open source software; Digital repository.

Paper Ref : ST-2/30

AWARENESS OF UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AMONG PG STUDENTS : A STUDY AT KSAWU VIJAYAPURA

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Purpose: This study examined the relationship between library services and postgraduate students' awareness of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) at Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura. It aimed to assess how library resources and programmes enhance sustainability awareness and promote lifelong learning among students. In the current era of global educational transformation, university libraries play a crucial role in integrating the principle of sustainable development into teaching, learning, and research. Libraries are no longer limited to information storage; they serve as facilitators of knowledge, innovation, and social responsibility, aligning their objectives with the UN 2030 Agenda for sustainable development through their services and activities. Libraries play a vital role in building a culture of sustainability by connecting students with information that promotes environmental consciousness, innovation, and equitable access to learning opportunities.

Methodology: A survey method was adopted for this research. Data were collected from 302 postgraduate students selected through simple random sampling. A structured questionnaire was used to gather information on library usage, sustainability, awareness, and familiarity with SDGs. The data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics, and Pearson's correlation analysis in SPSS was applied to examine the relationship between library services and students' awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Findings: The study found that most postgraduate students are actively use the university library and prefer a hybrid model combining physical and digital resources. The library plays an essential role in promoting sustainability awareness, research development, and lifelong learning. While overall awareness of sustainability concepts was high, familiarity with specific goals, particularly SDG 4(Quality Education), SDG 9(Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 10(Reduced Inequalities), was moderate. The increasing adoption of digital platforms has complemented traditional library use, making information access more efficient and eco-friendlier. Pearson's correlation ($r = 0.524$, $p < 0.01$) revealed a significant positive association between library services and students' SDG awareness, showing that effective library initiatives can meaningfully enhance students understanding of sustainability

Value: This study provides empirical evidence of the contribution of academic libraries to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It emphasises that libraries are not only centres for knowledge dissemination but also dynamic agents that contribute to social, environmental, and educational processes. The results highlighted the need for libraries to emphasize the importance of inclusive digital access, targeted training, and sustainability-centered library programs, thereby empowering students to become informed and responsible global citizens. the finding reinforces the idea that libraries are not just information centres but active partners in driving social and educational transformation toward a more sustainable future.

Keywords: UN SDG; Library service; Sustainability awareness; Academic library; Eco-friendly practice.

Paper Ref : ST-2/37

DESIGNING AN ONLINE RESOURCE-SHARING LIBRARY NETWORK : A MODEL FOR SRI KARAN NARENDRA AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY, RAJASTHAN

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Purpose : This study aims to examine the need for, and feasibility of, establishing a unified resource-sharing framework among the libraries of Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University (SKNAU), Jobner. Agricultural university libraries in Rajasthan often function with limited budgets, shared government funding, and varying levels of infrastructure, which restrict their ability to individually provide comprehensive scholarly materials and digital services. In this context, the study seeks to develop an integrated and sustainable model that strengthens access to scholarly content, optimises technological resources, supports teaching and research, and enhances the overall information ecosystem across SKNAU's constituent colleges.

Approach: The paper analyses the existing library environment across SKNAU campuses-including SKN College of Agriculture, SKN College of Agri-Business Management, and the College of Dairy Science and Technology-focusing on operational workflows, digital systems, and available collections. It reviews the use of KOHA (cloud-hosted LMS), participation in CeRA (Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture), and contributions to Krishikosh (ICAR's institutional repository). Based on these assessments, a conceptual framework, the Sri Karan Narendra Agricultural University Libraries Information System (SKNAULIS), is proposed using a ring-based network structure. The approach emphasises transparent cataloguing, development of a unified union catalogue, and systematic documentation of all print and digital resources as essential prerequisites for effective sharing.

Findings : The study finds that while SKNAU libraries possess fundamental digital capabilities and operate within a supportive national ecosystem-such as Digital India, ONOS, and ICAR's e-resource platforms-collaborative mechanisms remain fragmented. There is no unified system for sharing collections, coordinating acquisitions, or providing seamless access to research materials across campuses. The proposed ring-based network model demonstrates the potential to improve visibility of resources, reduce duplication of subscriptions and research efforts, enable better planning, foster inter-library lending and document delivery, and ultimately enhance the quality of academic support available to students, researchers, and faculty members.

Value : This paper presents the first structured and scalable digital resource-sharing library network model developed specifically for agricultural university libraries in Rajasthan. The proposed SKNAULIS framework aligns with national priorities for digital inclusion and academic networking, and offers a replicable blueprint for other agricultural universities seeking to strengthen information access through cooperative strategies. It contributes significantly to long-term sustainability, efficient resource utilisation, and the advancement of agricultural research, education, and extension in India.

Keywords: Resource sharing; Agricultural university library; CeRA consortium; Krishikosh repository; Digital collaboration; SKNAULIS; Library network model; KOHA.

Paper Ref : ST-2/41

BLOCKCHAIN SOLUTIONS FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES : A FRAMEWORK FOR TRUSTWORTHY LICENSE AUTHENTICATION AND SECURE DIGITAL RESOURCE LENDING

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Purpose: This paper aims to how restrictive licenses, vendor-controlled digital rights management system and non-transparent data on usage limit the ability of libraries to distribute digital resources in a fair manner especially in Indian consortia, such as INFLIBNET, DELNET and NDL India. It aims to show how blockchain as a decentralised and -proof registry can help to make license checks more credible and safe digital lending, in this regard. This paper situates an India- framework with such global projects as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Digital Credentials Initiative and the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure.

Methodology: In the study, a mixed-methodology approach that combined a systematic literature review of the subject of blockchain in information systems and libraries (2015-2025) and a technical assessment of major blockchain platforms was used. It evaluated such platforms as Hyperledger, Ethereum and Filecoin in terms of their potential, license tracking, decentralised storage and smart contracts. Based on the analysis, the researchers developed a blockchain lending architecture through workflow and architectural mapping to demonstrate key elements and how they interact.

Findings: This study indicated that the academic libraries in India apply licensing yet fail to distribute most of the digital resources across the institutions leading to multiplicity of subscriptions with escalating costs such as unique e-book purchases at different Indian Institutes of Technology. International efforts and Controlled Digital Lending model show that legitimate records may support secured possession management, but they also point to legal and administrative obstacles which libraries must address. The proposed structure suggests that lending rules can be automated through smart contracts, permanently register one user at a time guaranteed to prevent dependency and reduce reliance, permanently record all transactions and make resource allocation all while assisting in resource distribution.

Value: The article introduces a blockchain-based framework designed to support digital lending procedures at Indian academic libraries consortia in filling current gaps in the domain of transparency, interoperability and equitable access. It bridges the framework with the goals of the National Education Policy 2020 in India as well as with the ideals of the International Federation of Library Associations arguing that blockchain technology has the potential of creating more open and accountable online spaces, in higher learning. New competencies of librarians as negotiators of digital rights, new metadata managers, facilitators of technology, and policy decoders offering practical guidance to policymakers and leaders of libraries making training, infrastructure, and governance reform decisions are also outlined in the study.

Keywords: Blockchain; Academic library; Digital lending; Smart contract; Digital rights management; Licensing; Information governance.

3 Digital Library and Smart Library

Paper Ref : ST-3/3

INTERNET OF THINGS: EXPLORING ITS UTILITIES IN MODERN LIBRARIES

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Purpose: The aim of this research is to rigorously review and compare the uses of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies in intelligent libraries with respect to their capability to change traditional library services into dynamic, automated, and user-focused spaces. Particularly, the research seeks to determine the benefits, limitations, and future trends of IoT usage in libraries, hence providing guidelines for sustainable, secure, and scalable use. This research systematically examines IoT-based services in intelligent libraries in terms of their applications, advantages, disadvantages, and future trends.

Methodology : The research used a qualitative systematic literature review to analyze the use of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies in smart library services. Related literature was taken from five prominent databases-Scopus, DOAJ, PubMed, Science Direct, and Google Scholar-spanning from 2013-2025. Peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and review articles alone were considered, and grey literature, non-English sources, and non-library studies were rejected. Search queries used combined terms like "IoT," "Smart Libraries," "RFID," and "Library Automation." Data were thematically coded within categories of technologies, functions, benefits, challenges, and user impact. Study quality and validity were appraised through a modified CASP checklist.

Findings: The analysis determined that IoT technologies, particularly sensors and RFID, have revolutionized library services by streamlining circulation, inventory, and resource tracking. Environmental monitoring equipment enhanced collection preservation as well as users' comfort. Self-service kiosks, mobile notification, and smart navigation systems made service more user-centered and efficient. IoT-based services within libraries include Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) -based circulation, environmental monitoring in real-time, occupancy analytics, automated kiosks, and intelligent navigation. Integration with Software-Defined Networking (SDN) has promoted scalability and responsiveness to a level where high tracking precision (>95%) is possible. The review emphasises that while IoT significantly transforms library operations and user services, it has gaps in addressing data privacy, cost factors for environments with limited resources, and long-term sustainability.

Value: IoT implementation in libraries turns them into responsive, dynamic, and user-centric spaces. The research future needs to integrate Artificial Intelligence, big analytics, and immersive technologies Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality in order to further strengthen predictive services, remote access, and personalised learning.

Keywords: Smart library; Internet of things; IoT; Radio frequency identification; Library automation; Software-defined networking; RFID.

Paper Ref : ST-3/29

INTERNET OF THINGS-ENABLED SERVICES IN SMART LIBRARIES : APPLICATIONS, BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

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Purpose: Libraries are becoming connected, intelligent learning environments rather than just physical spaces due to the quick development of digital technologies. This study aims to comprehensively examine the role of IoT in the development of smart libraries, with a focus on identifying the wide range of IoT-enabled services currently implemented, assessing their contribution to operational efficiency and user experience, and analysing the challenges that influence their successful adoption. The paper demonstrates how IoT facilitates innovation, sustainability, and user-centered service delivery in contemporary library ecosystems by examining these facets.

Design: A comprehensive study of academic literature, case studies, and technological reports serves as the foundation for the research's descriptive and analytical methodology. Peer-reviewed publications, conference proceedings, and expert documents discussing modern IoT applications in library settings are examples of sources. A comprehensive knowledge of real-world IoT implementation, its quantifiable results, and the associated organisational, ethical, and technical challenges is made possible by this scientific framework. To assess new trends and operational effects, data from current deployments-such as RFID systems, smart shelving, automated circulation tools, environmental sensors, and occupancy monitoring technologies-were combined.

Findings: The study reveals that IoT-enabled services substantially transform library functioning across multiple dimensions. RFID-powered automated check-in/check-out systems reduce manual workload, eliminate human error, and accelerate circulation processes. Smart shelves and inventory tracking systems enhance resource accuracy and accessibility, while indoor navigation tools support seamless user movement within library spaces. Environmental monitoring systems, including temperature, humidity, and light sensors, preserve collections and contribute to energy-efficient building management. Security is significantly strengthened through IoT-enabled access control, surveillance, and emergency alert systems. Furthermore, IoT facilitates data-driven decision-making by collecting real-time analytics on foot traffic, resource usage patterns, and user behaviors. However, the findings also underscore notable challenges such as high implementation and maintenance costs, data privacy concerns, interoperability limitations, dependence on robust internet connectivity, and the need for staff training and institutional readiness.

Value: This study contributes to contemporary library science by offering a consolidated and comprehensive analysis of IoT's transformative role in smart libraries. It emphasises IoT as a pivotal driver of innovation, sustainability, and user-centered service delivery. By highlighting both benefits and challenges, the study provides valuable insights for library professionals, policymakers, and technologists seeking to develop future-ready, intelligent library environments aligned with the evolving needs of digital-age learners.

Keywords: Internet of Things; Smart library; RFID.

Paper Ref : ST-3/34

IMPACT OF MOBILE APPS AMONG STUDENTS STUDYING IN ENGINEERING COLLEGES IN TELANGANA : AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT PERSPECTIVE

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Purpose: The study aims to find out the impact of mobile apps among engineering college students in the state of Telangana.

Methodology: Structured questionnaires were distributed to the Engineering College Students in the State of Telangana. A total of 700 questionnaires were distributed, 600 responses were received, 576 fully filled questionnaires were considered for the study, 24 questionnaires with insufficient data were excluded from the study. SPSS Version 26.9 is used for data analysis.

Findings: Mobile apps are widely using in libraries to improve the delivery of information resources and services. The study revealed that 187 respondents (32.47%) spent an average of 2 hours per day using mobile apps, with NPTEL, IEEE xplore and SWAYAM being the most popular Choices. A total of 122 respondents (21.18%) revealed that these apps meet their Academic needs. 440 (76.38%) respondents are using Mobile Apps to access authentic information. 356 respondents (61.80%) reported using mobile apps to solve day-to-day problems at their workplace, and 384 (66.66%) use them to write seminar and conference papers. 348 (61.80%) respondents are using to collect latest information, 347 respondents (60.24%) believe that mobile apps are helpful tools for group discussions, 315 (54.68%) respondents are using Mobile Apps to learn new things around the world, and 321 (55.72%) appreciate the ability to allow discussions on a single platform.280 (48.6%) reported that their research work significantly improved while using these mobile apps placed in first rank. 182 respondents (31.59%) indicated that the app helps save time in their research work, placing it in second rank. Meanwhile, 78 respondents (13.54%) ranked the app third for enriching their research skills, and 36 respondents (6.25%) ranked it fourth for diminishing the need for library visits. The constraints encountered by the students revealed that a lack of knowledge about the usage and handling of mobile apps, network connectivity issues. Excessive use of Mobile Phone leads to Poor Academic Performance, eye strain, techno stress, neck pain, lack of attention on studies, sleep disturbances when reading on mobile devices for too long time.

Value: The study provides unique insights into the impact of mobile apps on the academic environment among engineering college students in the state of Telangana. It also offers valuable recommendations that excessive use of mobile phones effects on students' health. It also suggests training needs for users to effectively utilise mobile apps in the academic environment.

Keywords: Mobile application; Library mobile app; Use pattern; Impact of mobile app; Engineering college student; Telangana.

Paper Ref : ST-3/42

TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATIONS AND THE NEW PARADIGM OF LIBRARY SERVICES

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Purpose: The introduction of barcodes significantly accelerated content discovery in retail, a trend library swiftly adopted, integrating the technology into various operational aspects. Libraries further leveraged the versatility of RFID technology and QR codes for enhanced content discovery and reference services. Augmented Reality (AR) which refers to the real-time integration of digital information into a user's environment, has significantly improved content discovery appeal. While introduced in the last decade, AR's true potential is now being realised, with increasing library adoption. Subsequently, new innovations have come across using new state-of-the-art devices for content discovery, enhanced user experience on library usage with better AI integration. This study examines the chronological appearance of recent technological tools such as barcodes, QR codes, RFID, and augmented reality. They all represent few of the scientific innovations of the 21st century. This study is portraying comparative features, their advantages as well as disadvantages, probable implementation of the same in the library context in enhancing the service efficiency in terms of quality and promptness whereas the long-term viability of these tools are also taken into consideration. It also gives light on how RFID implementation in libraries manages the budgetary and staffing challenges. It showcases a phased implementation approach that could make the project more financially palatable.

Methodology: The study includes case studies and a detailed literature survey. The study being a theoretical one mainly the data is collected from scholarly publications. It also includes the use of very recent technologies that can be used for information dissemination and access.

Findings: Preliminary findings reveal that adoption of these technologies significantly enhances access to relevant resources, enhances the library operations, service quality and satisfies users. This study also highlights the importance of timely adoption of these technologies to remain relevant in the current era. Challenges related to the adoption and applicability are also addressed. However, a forward-looking approach, where library staff monitor and evaluate innovative technologies across environments, is key to upgrading services and boosting the library's public profile.

Originality: This study contributes to the growing need for technology adoption to the libraries in providing effective and timely service to the users. It offers practical suggestions for adoption of emerging technologies in the field of library and information service.

Keywords : Emerging technology; Library and information service; Barcode; RFID; QR-Code; Augmented reality.

Paper Ref : ST-3/47

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN LIBRARIES USING PRISMA IN SCOPUS DATABASE

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Purpose : The study is to examine the academic publications on capacity building in libraries which are found in the Scopus database between 2015 and 2025. It looks at trends, patterns, and thematic changes in library professionals' digital competency, ICT literacy, and professional skill development. In order to understand how libraries are adapting to changing user requirements and technological improvements, the review especially aims at publication distribution, authorship traits, institutional and regional contributions, and the type of capacity-building activities.

Methodology: To promote transparency and reproducibility, the study employs the PRISMA methodology in four stages: identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion. Scopus yielded 92 records when a structured search string was used. 14 articles were selected for in-depth analysis after inclusion and exclusion criteria pertaining to document type, subject area, language, and relevance were applied. Five study questions about publication distribution, authorship, country and institutional affiliations, and thematic elements of "what skills," "who is involved," and "how" capacity-building programs were effectively explored in these articles.

Findings : The review indicates continued scholarly interest in capacity building, with publishing peaks in 2017 and 2024-2025. There is a considerable regional concentration in Asia and Africa, as seen by the fact that India accounted for about 79% of all research analyzed, followed by Ghana, Pakistan, and Nigeria. Significant benefactors included academic institutions such as the University of Delhi, Government College University, Faisalabad, IGNOU, and IITs. Thematic findings indicate that capacity-building activities mostly focus on ICT literacy, digital literacy, copyright education, MOOCs, knowledge management, and online citation tools. Academic and university librarians are the primary target group. Self-learning is the most widely used approach, followed by formal training, seminars, workshops, and online courses. It suggests a shift towards adaptable and technologically assisted teaching methods.

Originality: This systematic review, which applies the PRISMA technique just to the LIS context, provides a thorough synthesis of ten years of research on capacity building in libraries. It draws attention to how professional development is increasingly reliant on digital, self-directed, and blended learning methods. Policymakers, LIS educators, and library administrators who need to create inclusive, evidence-based, and future-ready capacity-building strategies that are in line with global digital revolutions.

Keywords : Capacity building; Library; PRISMA; Professional development; Digital literacy.

Paper Ref : ST-3/52

AWARENESS OF THE CLOUD COMPUTING SYSTEM AMONG THE LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS OF ACADEMIC COLLEGES VIJAYAPURA AND GULBARGA DISTRICTS IN KARNATAKA

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Purpose: Library is the collection of different resources and services. It is very difficult to manage everything

with traditional management. Cloud computing system is a combination of technology with trends that makes infrastructures and applications more dynamic, flexible. New technologies are available to manage and distribute the resources as effective in providing information for all, is a web-based technology, a new form of computing. It is a service provided on the internet or network. It is a server-based service, so many computers are connected to a server. The applications are installed in a remote server usable. Even most of the modern libraries are moving towards Cloud Computing technology for maintaining digital libraries, and social networking with multiple flexibilities.

Methodology: The present study explores the awareness of the cloud computing system among the library professionals of academic colleges like medical, engineering, universities, government, private, aided degree colleges, of Vijayapura and Gulbarga Districts. A survey method of research was used for the present study where in structure questionnaire was designed for the purpose of data collection 200 questionnaire were distributed among the library professionals academic colleges out of which 150 responses were received. The data so collected was analysed, tabulated and interpreted. Questionnaire was designed according the objectives and available literature on the topic further appropriate sampling technique was adopted for selection of the sample, and structure questionnaire was distributed among the librarians of academic libraries.

Findings: Purpose of cloud computing in library reveals that majority of respondents agree with centralized data is managed by the cataloguing tools over the Internet, benefits of cloud computing for the libraries 150 (100.0%) cost efficiency lot of cost saves in the libraries, applications of cloud computing in libraries 150 (100%) respondents said building institutional repositories/ digital libraries, problems and barriers of cloud computing majority respondents 126 (84.0%) less control and flexibility, librarians require constantly update their existing knowledge information available in different form and structure they should have knowledge regarding importance of cloud computing its applications, purpose, benefits, which offer better services and stay relevant in the digital age.

Value : This paper and its findings would add value to the LIS field of studies.

Keywords: Cloud computing, Cloud model service, Digital library, Academic library.

Paper Ref : ST-3/62

TRANSFORMING KNOWLEDGE ACCESS THROUGH INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGIES : A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SMART LIBRARIES

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Purpose **:** This paper examines modern digital technologies are changing the role and functioning of libraries globally. It explores how modern technologies are reshaping libraries into smart knowledge centers. It focuses on the role of digital tools, including intelligent systems, automated cataloguing, semantic search systems, virtual assistants, IoT- enabled infrastructure, VR and AR applications. The aim is to understand how technologies can help libraries become more inclusive, efficient, and user focused. While also considering challenges such as ethical concerns, infrastructure gaps, and professional skill development in the context of India's Library Vision 2047.

Methodology **:** This study adopts an exploratory and qualitative approach to understand how emerging technologies are reshaping library practices. It is based on a systematic review of existing literature, and an analysis of case studies drawn from global and national libraries. A comparative study was conducted to examine the differences between traditional library operations and technology-driven library practices. The study identifies key patterns, highlight innovative trends and interpret the implications of technological interaction for modern library services, including its impact on accessibility, user engagement and operational efficiency.

***Findings* :** The present paper finds that technology-enabled libraries improve cataloguing, resource discovery, and user services. This study finds that modem technologies are strengthening library functions. Virtual assistants and smart helpdesks support accessibility and engagement, while IoT and VR/AR create interactive and immersive learning experiences. International examples from Singapore, the USA, and Finland illustrate enhanced operational efficiency, whereas NDLI demonstrates equitable access for diverse populations. Key challenges include data security, ethical use of technology, infrastructure limitations, and the need for continuous skill development.

***Value* :** This study offers practical insights for library policymakers, administrators, and professionals seeking to develop smart, inclusive, and user-centered libraries. By adopting ethical, accessible, and well-planned approaches, libraries can improve learning, research, and community engagement, ensuring equitable access to knowledge for all users. The study emphasizes that intelligent technologies, when thoughtfully implemented, can enhance library services without compromising their core values. It provides a roadmap for Indian libraries to become models of innovation, knowledge empowerment, and cultural preservation, contributing to the realization of the objectives outlined in Library Vision 2047.

Keywords: Smart library; Intelligent system; Internet of things; VR/AR; Digital transformation; Knowledge management.

***Paper Ref* : ST-3/63**

UTILISATION OF E-LEARNING PLATFORMS FOR THE CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL GROWTH OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS

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Purpose: The present work is an effort to know the present status of utilization of e-learning platforms for the continuous professional development of library professionals. The purpose of this study is to know the perceptions of e-learning platforms for the library professionals, to identify the motivating factors to engage librarians in online learning programs for continuing professional development (CPD), and to investigate the challenges of adopting e-learning faced by librarians.

Methodology*:* The study adopted the survey method, and a questionnaire was used as a tool for the collection of data. The primary data was collected from the respondents with the help of a structured questionnaire in Google Forms and a shared link to the library professionals. A structured questionnaire has been designed keeping in view the set of objectives and distributed to 100 respondents with the help of Google Forms, out of which 94 respondents have responded positively. The data collected through the questionnaire has been analysed by using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

Findings*:* Based on the study, the recommendations are offered to support the successful adoption of e-learning in libraries. E-learning courses should be delivered using current technologies, particularly AI tools, to equip librarians with the necessary skills to deliver customer-centred services. Library professionals are encouraged to actively apply newly acquired skills and knowledge in their libraries to serve their library users efficiently. Institutions should provide support and encouragement for librarians' continuous professional development through e-learning. Librarians should be motivated to overcome challenges, develop a proactive attitude towards learning, and embrace the opportunities provided by online learning to advance their professional growth and improve library services. It has provided holistic solutions, informed by evidence-based, efficient adoption of e-

learning technologies in academic libraries, to deliver innovative library services that assist library users. Library professionals should take a personal interest in applying e-learning to their continuous professional development. New technologies should be used in libraries to achieve fruitful outcomes and knowledge.

Value: This research study is highly productive for library professionals, library administrators, and educators, policymakers, thought leaders, trainers, higher education bodies, motivational speakers, decision makers, government representatives, and all other stakeholders to adopt e-learning applications to bring innovation to library services and facilitate library users effectively. The study serves as a benchmark for adopting e-learning in libraries to support lifelong learning.

Key words: E-earning; Library professional; Continuous professional development.

4 Cloud based Library Systems and AI based Service

Paper Ref : ST-4/2

APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LIBRARIES: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

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Purpose : The purpose of this study is to demonstrate how AI is used in library operations such as cataloguing, classification, indexing, periodical databases, information retrieval system etc. The primary purpose of the study is to implementing AI in library and to enhance efficiency and providing more relevant and accurate information. AI can automate task, such as cataloguing, metadata, management and collection development, reducing manual labour and improve efficiency.

Methodology : AI methodologies in libraries including various techniques like Machine Learning (ML), Natural Language Processing (NLP) and computer vision used to improve library operations and services. AI algorithms can assist in creating metadata (titles, authors, keywords etc) for library resources, streamlining the cataloguing process and making it more efficient. AI can be used to digitalise and preserve historical documents ensuring their long-term accessibility. Algorithimic decision-making in library must be transparent and accountable, allowing user to understand how recommendation are generated. This study is based on qualitative method using content analysis technique.

Findings : Implementing AI in libraries provide several positive outcome. The findings reveal that using AI in library operations will accelerate libraries in the right direction. AI Powered search engine, can understand user quires in natural language, providing more accurate and relevant result than traditional keyword based search. The study also reveal that AI can help libraries to promote digital literacy by providing access to AI powered tools and resources. AI technologies have several benefits for libraries. AI empowers libraries to offer more efficient, accessible and user-or tented services. Libraries must carefully plan and implement AI technologies while considering its various aspects.

Value : Application of new information technology has brought in dramatic changes in libraries and modern information centers. Libraries are undergoing a big change by bringing in Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI is revolutionising library services and enhance user experiences and streamline operation. The integration of AI in libraries brings both opportunities and challenges. Opportunities include increase efficiency, enhance user services and better decision making process. This paper explores the perspective of Indian library professional on the use of AI in libraries. The study covers various aspects of AI, AI concept, knowledge perspective on AI in libraries, ethical consideration and adopting AI tools and services etc. AI applications such as intelligent cataloguing systems, the organising resources and categorisation of other materials and resources, are saving

time for library personals.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Machine learning; Expert system; Natural language processing; Chatbots in library, Ethical standard.

Paper Ref: ST-4/7

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN MEDICAL LIBRARIES: USE OF AI FOR LIBRARY VISION 2047

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Purpose : This study explores the evolving role of medical libraries in government medical colleges and hospitals in Lucknow in the context of ongoing digital transformation and the growing influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI). It aims to assess the current state of digitalisation, levels of AI adoption, and the preparedness of medical librarians to transition toward technology-driven services. Additionally, the study examines key challenges-such as limited training, infrastructural constraints, and user resistance-that affect the effective implementation of AI-enabled systems. The broader objective is to align strategic library development with the national framework of Library Vision 2047, which envisions technologically advanced, inclusive, and user-centered information environments.

Design: A descriptive research design was adopted to gather empirical evidence from six government medical libraries in Lucknow. A structured questionnaire was administered to senior librarians through purposive sampling to capture top-level managerial insights into digital transformation practices. Quantitative data were analysed to identify patterns related to demographics, digital service adoption, AI readiness, infrastructural gaps, and barriers to technological implementation.

Findings : The findings indicate that most medical librarians are mid-career professionals (66.67%) holding postgraduate degrees (83.33%) but lacking specialised training in digital repository management or AI applications (66.67%). Only 16.67% of libraries have transitioned to a fully digital model, while half (50.00%) maintain a balanced hybrid of print and digital collections. Increasing preference for online resources (44.44%) and remote access (22.22%) signifies a shift in user behavior; however, limited digital literacy (37.50%) and continued preference for print materials (25.00%) pose significant barriers. Remote login for databases (62.50%) is the most prevalent digital service, whereas AI-based tools like literature recommendation systems and chatbot assistance are absent but urgently needed. Most respondents (83.33%) express confidence in AI's potential to improve library services, despite current adoption being minimal.

Originality: This paper offers original empirical insights into the preparedness, challenges, and perceptions surrounding AI integration in Indian medical libraries-an underexplored area in Library and Information Science research. It highlights the urgent need for digital literacy programs, structured AI adoption strategies, and recruitment of research-trained professionals to strengthen evidence-based and technology-enabled library services. The study contributes to shaping the roadmap for AI-driven medical libraries envisioned under Library Vision 2047.

Keywords: Medical libraries; Artificial intelligence; Digital transformation; Library Vision 2047; Digital literacy; AI adoption; Healthcare information.

Paper Ref : ST-4/27

NEXT-GENERATION LIBRARY SEARCH SYSTEMS: A NEURAL-HYBRID INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPROACH

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Purpose: Conventional library discovery tools, including Online Public Access Catalogues (OPACs) and repository search layers, have historically relied on Boolean operations and probabilistic keyword ranking approaches. While effective for structured bibliographic records, these methods often struggle with natural-language queries, lengthy full-text documents, multilingual collections, and subtle variations in user intent. Vocabulary mismatch, limited semantic interpretation, and inadequate contextual reasoning remain persistent challenges. This paper introduces a modern neural-hybrid Information Retrieval (IR) architecture designed to improve contextual accuracy, reduce semantic ambiguity, and support complex research behaviours within digital library environments.

Methodology: The proposed methodology integrates field-sensitive BM25F weighting with transformer-based embedding representations to capture deeper semantic relationships. Long documents (e.g., theses, reports) are segmented into overlapping passages for fine-grained relevance estimation. Scores from lexical BM25F and neural embeddings are unified through Reciprocal Rank Fusion (RRF) to enhance robustness. A cross-encoder reranking layer provides further contextual interpretation, while language-aware scoring enables cross-lingual discovery, particularly across English-Bengali collections. Performance is evaluated using established IR metrics, including Precision@10, Recall@20, Normalised Discounted Cumulative Gain at rank 10 (NDCG@10), Mean Reciprocal Rank (MRR), and the average time required to surface the first relevant document.

Findings: Experiments demonstrate that the hybrid architecture consistently outperforms keyword-centric systems across all evaluation measures. Improvements are notable for , conceptual, and subject-driven queries requiring reasoning beyond literal term overlap. Passage-level indexing mitigates bias toward lengthy documents by assigning relevance at localised segments. The reranking stage enhances semantic precision, diversifies retrieved results, and aligns outputs with user intent. Overall, the combined lexical-neural approach offers more meaningful, contextually grounded responses and enhances user satisfaction in research-intensive settings. It highlights the importance of context-aware reranking, cross-lingual retrieval, and passage-based indexing in next-generation digital libraries. Findings align with national initiatives such as Library Vision 2047, supporting trends in AI-assisted metadata enrichment and intelligent discovery.

Value: Libraries and repositories can adopt this architecture with minimal disruption to cataloguing workflows. It scales effectively, improves discovery accuracy, lowers search friction, and supports multilingual access. The framework also enables conversational assistance, automatic subject tagging, and recommendation services. The work's originality lies in its holistic fusion of BM25F prioritisation, transformer embeddings, cross-encoder reranking, and language-aware mechanisms into a deployable, future-ready architecture for intelligent digital discovery.

Keywords: Information retrieval; Semantic search; BERT; Embedding; Multilingual IR; Cross-lingual retrieval.

Paper Ref : ST-4/46

PERCEPTION AND UTILISATION OF AI TOOLS IN TEACHING AND LEARNING AMONG THE FACULTY OF SVV SANGHA DEGREE COLLEGES

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Purpose: This study is to investigate the perception, awareness, and utilisation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools among faculty members of SVV Sangha Degree Colleges, Kalaburagi. As AI-driven technologies increasingly influence higher education through enhanced instructional efficiency, personalised learning, and automated academic processes, understanding faculty readiness and the challenges it poses becomes essential. The Study aims to assess levels of awareness, examine perceptions of usefulness, explore the extent of AI utilisation in teaching-learning activities, identify existing barriers, and determine the training needs required to strengthen AI integration in higher education.

Methodology: A descriptive survey method was employed to collect primary data from undergraduate faculty members across five degree colleges under SVV Sangha. A structured questionnaire was designed using Google Forms and disseminated through official faculty WhatsApp groups. Of the 150 targeted respondents, 120 (80%) completed the survey. The data were analysed to generate frequency distributions, percentages, and descriptive interpretations. The analysis focused on faculty demographics, awareness levels, perceptions toward AI, utilisation patterns, perceived benefits, challenges faced, and preferred training formats.

Findings: The study reveals strong awareness of key AI tools, particularly generative AI applications (66%), plagiarism detection tools (60%), and AI tools for data analysis and research (64%). Faculty perceptions are predominantly positive: 67% agree that AI enhances teaching quality and student engagement, 59% believe it improves efficiency, and 56% recognise its role in personalised learning. AI utilisation is widespread, with frequent or widespread use reported in lesson planning (67%), instructional material creation (69%), assessment design (67%), research and data analysis (59%), and student support activities (56%). Faculty also identified significant benefits, including time savings (100%), improved student performance (122%), accurate assessments (121%), personalised learning support (112%), and enhanced creativity (105%). However, substantial challenges persist, such as resistance to change (98.33%), ethical concerns (93.33%), inadequate training (79.17%), limited infrastructure (70.83%), and difficulty using AI tools (69.17%). There is strong demand for structured AI training, including foundational knowledge, advanced applications, hands-on workshops, and research-oriented AI skills.

Originality: This study provides one of the first institution-level assessments of AI adoption among faculty within SVV Sangha Degree Colleges. By offering comprehensive insights into awareness, perceptions, utilisation, and challenges, the research highlights critical gaps in training, infrastructure, and ethical preparedness. The findings offer valuable guidance for policymakers, institutional leaders, and educators seeking to design effective AI capacity-building programmes and foster responsible AI integration in higher education.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Utilisation; Perception; Teaching; Learning; Faculty.

Paper Ref : ST-4/48

INFLUENCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN MODERN LIBRARIES

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Purpose : The purpose of this paper is to examine the expanding role and transformative influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in modern libraries. As libraries evolve into digital and hybrid knowledge ecosystems, AI-driven technologies have become central to improving efficiency, strengthening user engagement, and supporting innovative service delivery. This paper seeks to explore how do AI applications-such as machine learning, natural language processing, semantic search, automated cataloging, and virtual assistance-are redefining traditional library operations. It also aims to highlight the emerging opportunities and challenges associated with AI adoption, with particular attention to issues of ethics, data privacy, equitable access, and professional readiness. The study further investigates how AI contributes to the future-readiness of libraries as they realign themselves with the changing demands of the academic and public information landscape.

Approach : The study adopts a qualitative, narrative review approach, drawing on recent research articles, professional reports, and practical case studies related to AI implementation in libraries. It analyses how AI-based tools and techniques are being applied across diverse library functions, including cataloging, metadata management, search enhancement, digital preservation, accessibility services, and research support. The methodology synthesises theoretical discussions with real-world examples to present a holistic understanding of the strengths and limitations of AI in library contexts. This review-oriented approach allows for the identification of trends, gaps, and future possibilities that can guide library professionals, researchers, and administrators in adopting AI responsibly and strategically.

Findings : The findings reveal that AI significantly enhances operational efficiency by automating repetitive, time-intensive tasks such as cataloging, classification, circulation, reminders, and user notifications. AI-powered systems improve information discovery through semantic search, natural language understanding, personalised recommendations, and adaptive retrieval mechanisms. Virtual assistants and chatbots provide round-the-clock reference support, while AI tools for summarisation, pattern identification, and data mining strengthen research activities. AI further improves digital preservation through automated transcription, restoration, and digitisation of historical and rare materials. However, the study also identifies critical challenges: concerns about user data privacy, algorithmic bias, ethical deployment, infrastructural disparities, skill gaps among professionals, and the risk of widening the digital divide.

Value : The paper provides a comprehensive and updated overview of the ways in which AI is reshaping the functions and services of contemporary libraries. Its originality lies in the integrated analysis of both the opportunities and the challenges posed by AI adoption. By organising current knowledge into a clear thematic review, the study offers valuable insights for librarians, policymakers, educators, and researchers seeking to implement AI responsibly. The paper emphasises the need for professional training, user-centered planning, ethical guidelines, and sustainable technological strategies to ensure that AI strengthens-not replaces-the human expertise at the heart of library services.

Keywords : Artificial intelligence; Library; Automation; Natural language processing; AI powered reference service; AI ethics; AI; NLP.

Paper Ref : ST-4/50

USE OF ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOGUE BY MEDICAL STUDENTS: AN ASSESSMENT

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Purpose: This study examines the extent to which medical students utilize the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) to locate and access library resources. The primary objectives are to assess students' awareness, frequency of use, search competencies, satisfaction with OPAC services, and the challenges encountered during its use. The study further aims to offer practical recommendations to improve OPAC usability and enhance overall library service delivery within medical institutions

Methodology: Adopting a survey-based descriptive research design, the study gathered quantifiable data on students' familiarity with OPAC, their usage patterns, search behavior, and the difficulties they face while accessing the system. The survey targeted medical students to gain insights into their information-seeking habits and to understand how effectively OPAC supports their academic and research needs..

Findings : Findings reveal that although a majority of students are aware of the OPAC facility provided by the library, only a smaller group has a comprehensive understanding of its full range of features and functions. The frequency of use varied significantly: some students accessed OPAC regularly, mainly to locate textbooks, reference materials, and research resources, while many used it only occasionally-particularly during examination periods or when searching for specific academic content. The study also identified differences in students' search competencies. While some students were able to perform basic searches efficiently, others struggled with advanced search options, Boolean operators, and effective use of filters. Common challenges reported included difficulty navigating the interface, limited knowledge of search strategies, slow system response, and occasional technical glitches. Such barriers negatively affect the efficiency, accuracy, and satisfaction levels associated with OPAC usage. These findings highlight the need for improving OPAC usability through system enhancements and expanded user education. Simplifying the interface, introducing guided search features, and ensuring system reliability can significantly improve user experience. Additionally, conducting regular orientation programs, hands-on training sessions, and digital literacy workshops can empower students to utilise OPAC more effectively, thereby improving their access to library resources.

Value : The study contributes meaningful insights for library professionals and medical educators by revealing user behavior patterns and identifying existing gaps in OPAC usage. Implementing the suggested improvements can strengthen library services, enhance information retrieval efficiency, and support the academic success of medical students. Ultimately, the study underscores the vital role of academic libraries in fostering effective information-seeking behavior through optimised OPAC systems and targeted user support. Ultimately, the study adds value to academic libraries by helping them align their OPAC services with the evolving needs of medical students. The study offers several important contributions to library management, medical education, and information-seeking behaviour, enhances understanding of user behaviour, supports evidence-based library services, identifies gaps and training needs, improves access to academic resources, promotes digital literacy,

Keywords: OPAC; Online Public Access Catalogue; Medical student; Library usage; Information retrieval; User awareness; Search behavior; Library service; Digital library; Survey-based study.

Paper Ref : ST-4/55

ETHICAL DIMENSIONS OF AI INTEGRATION IN LIBRARY RESEARCH AND SERVICES

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Purpose : Artificial intelligence (AI) has driven immense change in areas of library research and services in the modern digital environment. AI changes how information is created, accessed, and is used on campus. Academic libraries have traditionally been respected for their firm commitment to principles of equitable access to information and to intellectual freedom. They now seek to harness technologies of AI with the aim of achieving operational efficiencies, enhancing user engagement, and offering high-quality, responsive services. In this mix of opportunities and challenges, examination of the ethical implications of adopting AI technologies in academic libraries would thus be appropriate.

Methodology : The study conceptually discusses AI-driven innovations such as machine learning-based cataloguing systems, intelligent virtual assistants, automated metadata generation, predictive analytics, and personalised resources. These examples are used to frame how AI-driven tools invite a new consideration of traditional library roles and responsibilities. The discussion also incorporates ethical considerations surrounding privacy, bias, user autonomy, transparency, and accountability as part of the analytical approach.

Findings: AI driven innovations have better in positions libraries to meet emerging demands such as those of digital scholarships, dynamic user needs, and sustainable information management in today's knowledge economy. Yet this increasing dependence also introduces a set of ethical and professional challenges that require mindful consideration. Concerns regarding privacy and confidentiality protection and respect for user autonomy are seriously compromised by the increasing use of personal and behavioral data to train these systems. Algorithmic bias inscribed within these systems leads to issues concerned with unequal representation, biased search results, and continued historical inequities in knowledge access. AI decision-making processes, mostly obscure, raise concerns about the core library ethics of transparency and accountability. The rapid evolution of information environments in technology now requires librarians and information professionals to take up interdisciplinary responsibilities around data governance, ethics decision-making, and user advocacy.

Originality: Therefore, responding to issues around data privacy, bias, transparency, and professional accountability provides a way through which academic libraries can ensure that integration of AI reinforces core missions related to equitable access, intellectual freedom, and responsible use of technology in research and learning. This structured examination highlights both opportunities and risks, offering a balanced perspective that supports libraries in aligning AI adoption with their foundational values.

Keywords: AI; Library service; Research; Ethical dimension; Digital library; Data privacy.

Paper Ref : ST-4/59

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LITERACY AMONG RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY

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Purpose: This research study aims to assess Artificial Intelligence Literacy (AIL) among research scholars at Kakatiya University, Warangal, focusing on knowledge, skills, ethical awareness, and perceptions related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) in research.

Methodology: This research study employs a quantitative survey method; data were collected through a structured Likert-scale instrument from 135 scholars across science and social science disciplines. This study employed a quantitative approach to examine AIL among Research Scholars of Kakatiya University of Science and Social Science disciplines by examining the key components of AI literacy, like knowledge and understanding of AI, skills in using AI tools for Research, ethical awareness and critical thinking, and attitudes and perceptions towards AI.

Findings: Findings reveal that while most participants possess foundational knowledge of AI and demonstrate confidence in using AI tools for research tasks, significant gaps exist in the practical application and ethical citation of AI-generated content. Attitudes toward AI are predominantly positive, yet ethical concerns persist. These results highlight the necessity for targeted educational programs to enhance technical understanding and ethical practices in AI usage. The study underscores the importance of developing comprehensive AIL initiatives to improve research quality and promote responsible AI integration in higher education. AIL is a vital competency, and libraries should become key players. As AI technology shapes the future and information professionals in libraries should upskill and possess the distinctive expertise to facilitate its instruction across library settings.

Originality: Research on AIL in universities has identified several key gaps, with both students and scholars primarily focusing on a lack of systematic integration, empirical evaluation, and long-term ethical analysis. The study highlights significant gaps in AIL among research scholars in Kakatiya University, particularly in distinguishing AI concepts, the practical applications of AI tools, and ethical practice. This study examines the key components of AIL, like knowledge and understanding of AI, skills in using AI tools for Research, ethical awareness and critical thinking, and attitudes and perceptions towards AI. The finding highlight significant gaps in AIL among research scholars, particularly in distinguishing AI concepts, the practical applications of AI tools, and ethical practice. Despite strong foundational knowledge and positive attitudes towards AI, scholars hesitate to integrate AI into their research process and consistently cite AI generated material. The result demonstrates the critical need for targeted educational interventions and comprehensive AIL programs that include technical, practical and ethical dimensions. By incorporating AI related content into academic curricula and providing hands-on training, universities can better equip scholars to handle the complexities of AI in their research work.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Literacy; Research scholar; Kakatiya University.

Paper Ref : ST-4/60

AWARENESS, ACCESSIBILITY, AND APPLICATION OF AI TOOLS AMONG UNDERGRADUATES : AN EXPLORATORY STUDY IN AN ENGINEERING COLLEGE EVIRINMENT

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Purpose: The study aims to examine the awareness, accessibility, and academic application of artificial intelligence (AI) tools among undergraduate engineering students at BLDEA's V P Dr P G Halakatti College of Engineering & Technology, Vijayapura. It further seeks to understand students' perceptions of AI-assisted learning, the extent to which AI tools support academic activities, and the concerns related to ethical, responsible, and effective use within an engineering education context. The case study approach tries to provide insights into the local academic context and highlights trends in student engagement with emerging technologies

Methodology: A descriptive survey method was adopted to collect data from undergraduate students across multiple engineering branches. A structured questionnaire consisting of closed-ended and Likert-scale based items to capture information on students' familiarity with AI platforms, accessibility, frequency of use, academic purposes served, perceived benefits, and challenges encountered. Responses from 69 participants were analysed using descriptive statistical techniques, enabling the identification of patterns, levels of engagement, and emerging trends in AI-mediated learning practices.

Findings: The results reveal high levels of awareness and widespread usage of AI tools among engineering undergraduates. Students predominantly employ AI for assignment preparation, coding assistance, conceptual clarification, brainstorming, report writing, project development, and information retrieval. The perceived benefits include improved learning efficiency, enhanced clarity in understanding complex engineering concepts, increased productivity, and greater creativity in academic tasks. However, several concerns emerged, such as inconsistent access to advanced tools, limited formal training, occasional technical or connectivity issues, fear of over dependence, accuracy-related doubts, ethical worries related to plagiarism, and universal concerns regarding data privacy. The findings highlight a growing gap between students' rapid adoption of AI and the lack of structured institutional support, policies, and guidance for responsible use.

Value: This study provides empirical insights into the practical use of AI tools within a regional engineering institution, offering evidence that can guide educators, administrators, and policy makers in framing AI literacy initiatives, ethical guidelines, curriculum integration strategies, and institutional policies. The results contribute to ongoing national and global discussions on enhancing engineering education through thoughtful and responsible AI integration.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence tool; Engineering education; Student awareness; Accessibility; Academic usage; Digital learning; AI literacy; Responsible AI use

Paper Ref : ST-5/11

DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT : A LIBRARY VISION 2047 PERSPECTIVE

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Purpose: This study is to investigate the digital empowerment and technological readiness of Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals in India in the context of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the long-term national framework of Library Vision 2047. It aims to evaluate how emerging technologies and continuous capacity building can redefine professional roles, user engagement, and library service delivery in the evolving digital knowledge ecosystem. It is to focus on reviewing policy directions, institutional initiatives, and capacity-building programs that influence digital competencies among LIS professionals. The study also highlights the significance of fostering a supportive policy environment that encourages sustainable digital transformation within the library sector.

Methodology: A qualitative policy review and analytical framework have been adopted to study major government and institutional initiatives supporting digital library transformation. Policies and programs of INFLIBNET, RRRLF, MeitY, UGC, AICTE, and ICAR have been analysed to identify their role in professional development and digital capacity enhancement. The study also explores emerging technologies-such as Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), blockchain, holographic virtual assistants, and metaverse-based library environments-to assess their potential in creating smart, adaptive, and user-driven library systems. Further, the analysis emphasises how these initiatives collectively contribute to the modernisation of library services and the strengthening of digital infrastructure across institutions. This methodological approach enables a holistic understanding of policy-driven digital transformation and its implications for library professionals and users alike.

Findings: The review reveals that India's library sector is rapidly adopting digital infrastructure but faces challenges in professional preparedness, data ethics, and advanced ICT integration. To realise the goals of Library Vision 2047, LIS professionals must be reskilled through structured training modules in AI ethics, cyber security, metadata management, and digital preservation and other advanced tools to transform libraries into smart, immersive and user-centric hubs. Strengthening digital governance, enhancing collaborative networks, and integrating multilingual digital resources are essential for inclusive access and equitable information dissemination. The transition from traditional libraries to smart and technology-enabled knowledge hubs demands synergy between policymakers, educators, and professional bodies.

Value: This paper provides a comprehensive policy perspective that connects national education reforms, institutional capacity building, and emerging digital technologies within a unified framework. It presents a comprehensive perspective that connects technological progress with institutional and professional growth. It offers strategic recommendations to empower LIS professionals as digital knowledge leaders capable of supporting India's vision for a globally competitive and digitally inclusive knowledge society by 2047.

Keywords: Digital literacy; LIS professional; NEP 2020; Library Vision 2047; RFID; Emerging AI; Professional development; Supporting organisation.

Paper Ref : ST-5/18

LIS CURRICULUM @ NEP 2020: A PERSPECTIVE

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Purpose: The present study is to attempt to know about the LIS curriculum reforms, different courses introduced and their nature in the context of NEP 2020 alongwith the general issues associated with the LIS education in India. The study also assesses the new approaches introduced in the UG and PG courses in Library and Information Science, their course structure and contents.

Design: The study is based on a general conceptual discussion on the LIS Curriculum prevailing in Indian LIS Schools. Related literature on the LIS Curriculum, published between 2016 and 2025 which have been collected from various sources such as Emerald, JSTOR, ResearchGate, Indian Journals, and other websites have been reviewed, to understand current trends on the curriculum reforms in the field. Syllabi of some select universities including the Undergraduate syllabus of Manipur University have been considered for the study.

Findings: The findings demonstrate the LIS Curriculum's alignment with NEP 2020 that provides progressive and flexible learning pathways at all the academic level in LIS. Based on the NEP 2020 a number of courses in Library and Information Science are found to be incorporated. These include major, minor, ability enhancement, multidisciplinary, value added in UG and core, discipline elective, open learning course, value added, etc. in PG are included by different universities. Discontinuation of M Phil program and changes in the Pre Ph D program has also been taken into consideration. The key issues and challenges associated with the implementation of NEP 2020 as per the new curricula have been identified to draw solutions for the LIS schools. The need to transact issues to be emerged concerning employability of the different degrees under NEP 2020 has been emphasised upon in the study.

Value: LIS curriculum remains competitive at the international level. Curriculum reforms provide avenues to produce more skilled, innovative, and competent professionals. The study examines various aspects of higher education in LIS, including university settings in India, faculty composition, and implementation issues under the NEP 2020. This is an original study to explore the changing curricula with the implementation of the NEP in the LIS sector.

Keywords: NEP 2020; LIS curriculum; LIS education; Course content.

Paper Ref : ST-5/19

ASSESSING PROFICIENCY LEVELS OF LIS PROFESSIONALS FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES : A STUDY OF UNIVERSITIES IN KARNATAKA STATE

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Purpose: The primary aim of the current study is to assess degree of proficiency level of LIS professionals working in various university libraries throughout Karnataka state in delivering research support services in universities. Understanding the efficiency of research support services in universities require understanding the

efficiency of LIS professionals in providing them. Hence the study focuses on evaluating their competency in key areas like database searching, reference management, bibliometric analysis, plagiarism detection, research data management and intellectual property rights in order to identify current skill gaps recommend suggestions.

Methodology: Descriptive survey methodology was adopted for the present study, data was gathered by distributing developed structured questionnaire among 67 LIS professionals including chief librarians, deputy librarians, assistant librarians and library assistants employed across various universities across Karnataka state, in which 56 filled questionnaires were received back, resulting in 83.58% of response rate. The data collection ensures coverage of LIS professionals with a range of duties, designations, qualifications and experiences. The collected data was analysed to determine the current competency levels, skill gaps and training requirements among LIS professionals.

Findings: The study findings revealed that LIS professionals possess a good proficiency in database searching, reference management, bibliometric analysis and plagiarism detection. However the study identified significant gaps in proficiency related to research data management, academic profile management and copyright and intellectual property rights management. These results imply that although LIS professionals are knowledgeable about conventional research assistance, they need further exposure to emerging research support services. It also highlighted the need for skill enhancement programs to strengthen research support services in university libraries.

Value: The value of the present study holds in understanding competency levels of LIS professionals working in university libraries in Karnataka, particularly related to research support services in the digital era. The findings help to identify skill gaps to meet the evolving research needs, it also highlights the critical areas where professional development is necessary to match library services with the rising demands of researchers and suggests policy makers and academic administrators to design capacity building programs for effective research support services in universities.

Keywords: Research support service; Library professional; University library; Karnataka.

Paper Ref : ST-5/21

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN INDIA : A CONTENT ANALYSIS

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Purpose: The study is to investigate the role of Central University libraries in India in promoting Open Educational Resources (OERs) through their official websites. It aims to evaluate the extent of integration, accessibility, and visibility of OER initiatives, focusing on how libraries support open learning and knowledge dissemination through digital platforms. The study also seeks to determine the relationship between institutional quality indicators, such as NAAC accreditation grades, and the adoption of OER-related tools and resources.

Methodology: A total of 56 Central University library websites across India were systematically examined using content analysis of library website. The assessment focused on the presence of OER-related links, types of resources made available, and the integration of Learning Management Systems (LMS), Institutional Repositories, and other digital learning platforms. Data were collected based on clearly defined parameters such as link visibility, category of OER platforms (national or international), and accessibility features. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches were applied to analyze patterns and trends in OER adoption and use promotion.

Findings: The analysis revealed limited adoption and uneven integration of OER resources among Central

University libraries. Indian OER platforms such as SWAYAM, NPTEL, and the National Digital Library of India (NDLI) were more prominently featured compared to international platforms like MERLOT, Coursera, and MIT OpenCourseWare. Universities with higher NAAC accreditation grades demonstrated stronger digital infrastructure and better integration of OER tools. However, several universities still lack dedicated OER sections or structured strategies for promoting open learning. The findings also highlight insufficient efforts in providing user guidance, metadata organisation, and multilingual access options. Despite the growing recognition of OER in academic environments, gaps remain in policy implementation, staff training, and technological readiness.

Value: This paper provides an in-depth understanding of how Central University libraries in India are contributing to the national and global OER movement. It emphasises the importance of institutional commitment, library leadership, and collaborative policy frameworks in enhancing the adoption and effective use of OER. Strengthening digital competencies, improving library web design, and integrating open access tools can significantly improve OER visibility and usage. The study underscores the need for coordinated efforts to ensure equitable access to knowledge resources and to promote lifelong, inclusive learning opportunities through libraries.

Keywords: Library resource; Open educational resource; Use promotion; Library website; Central university; India.

Paper Ref : ST-5/25

RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY : A CASE STUDY ON REDESIGNING PERSPECTIVE

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Purpose: The study is to investigate the concept and design of research support services that could invigorate the research aptitude among the new researchers and postgraduate students at the Department of Applied Chemistry, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Kerala. It tries to understand the strategic advantage and feasibility of enabling support services with minimal infrastructure support and promotion.

Methodology: The development of the research support services to inculcate the idea of research among students was carried out using QR code-assisted infographics. To conceptualise the framework for creating infographics, three major aspects of research were identified: the top impact journals, major databases and digital libraries, and prominent Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) for research management. These were then assessed for their applicability to researchers and students being inducted into the program at the Department. The design of the infographic was minimalistic in nature to provide a clear focus on improving user engagement, and the service was envisaged by re-purposing existing infrastructure to enhance sustainability and facilitate organic reach.

Findings: Upon evaluating resources using the parameters that ascertained (a) accessibility, (b) purpose, and (c) impact on research and education, the QR-based infographics enabled the creation of services that focused on effective engagement and information repackaging. To create the right impact on the user, the QR-based infographics were positioned strategically to enhance maximum visibility and approachability. The categorization of elements in the design enabled to help the students absorb the information presented to them with ease and clarity. Each design developed focused on different areas of resource identified.

Originality: The design provided a novel approach to information repackaging by consolidating the table of contents for top journals, by profile registration, and tutorials for databases, digital libraries, and subscription-based facilities, and by addressing research management and evaluation needs for the FOSS. The study focused

on the idea that building research support can blend with the design and effective utilisation of information consolidation and repackaging techniques. By experimenting with this study, the student community in the Department was enabled to manoeuvre through the dilemma of identifying the prominent resources that drove the research trends and better management of research.

Keywords: Research support service; Information design strategy; Infographics; QR-code; Subject library; CUSAT; Kochi.

Paper Ref : ST-5/26

A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY OF THESES IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE WITH REFERENCE TO KSAWU VIJAYAPURA

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Purpose: The study aims to analyse the research productivity and thematic orientations of doctoral work in Library and Information Science (LIS) submitted between 2013 and 2025. The primary objective is to identify the research trends, supervisory contributions, and thematic patterns that characterise LIS scholarship at KSAWU. The study further seeks to understand the academic focus, evolution of research interests, and the role of faculty guidance in shaping the research landscape of the discipline.

Methodology : The study employed bibliometric methods to evaluate 29 doctoral theses submitted during the twelve-year period from 2013 to 2025. Data were collected from the official university records and analysed using bibliometric indicators such as year-wise distribution of theses, research themes, guide-wise supervision, citation patterns, and thesis length. The analysis was designed to measure productivity, assess thematic focus, and determine emerging trends in LIS research. Each thesis was categorized according to its dominant area of study to reveal major research priorities and supervisory strengths within the department.

Findings: The findings indicate that research output in LIS at KSAWU has shown a steady growth over the years, with notable peaks in 2017 and 2024. Information Seeking Behaviour emerged as the most dominant research theme, representing 31.03% of the total theses. This highlights the growing academic interest in user studies and information behavior research. The study also found that Prof P G Tadasad has been the most prolific research supervisor, guiding over half of the total theses (51.72%), reflecting his significant contribution to LIS doctoral research at the university. Most theses were of moderate length (101-300 pages), with balanced citation practices, indicating adherence to academic research standards. The thematic diversity across the theses also suggests an expanding scope of LIS research, encompassing emerging domains such as digital libraries, information literacy, and user behavior analysis.

Value: This bibliometric analysis provides a comprehensive overview of LIS research trends at KSAWU and contributes to understanding the scholarly productivity of the institution. The study emphasises the importance of tracking doctoral research output to assess institutional strengths, to guide future research directions, and to enhance the visibility of LIS scholarship in India.

Keywords: Library and information science; Bibliometric study; Doctoral thesis; Research trend; Information seeking behaviour; Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University.

Paper Ref : ST-5/32

CITATION ANALYSIS OF HEART TRANSPLANTATION RESEARCH USING VOSVIEWER

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Purpose: This paper aims to provide quantitative insights, trends in patterns, and the impact of heart transplantation research from 2015 to 2024. This analysis intends to identify the most influential papers, sources, authors, institutions and countries based on citations and network analysis.

Methodology: Bibliographical details were retrieved and extracted from Web of Science core databases for 10 years, from 2015 to 2024. Employed advanced and exact phase as search techniques. VOSviewer (version 1.6.20) and spreadsheets were used to analyse and visualise datasets applying citation analysis, the most essential bibliometrics technique.

Findings: The researchers analysed 9,673 papers and identified 8,794 articles with active citation counts, receiving 162162 citations with an average of 16.77. Of these, 5.6% citations were scattered among the top ten papers. The paper by 'Riley DS, 2017, J Clin Epidemiol' is the most influential paper, with 1,217 citations and an average of 135.22 per year. However, the paper by Mehra MR shows highly collaborative work, with a total link strength of 420. Followed by a paper by 'Clerkin KJ, 2020, Circulation' highlighted the emerging topic COVID-19 and Cardiovascular Disease, which is highly relevant and seeks immediate attention from research groups, and it received 1179 citations within a short duration. The study identified that the top ten sources account for 44.34% of citations. Among these, The Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation is significantly impacted in collaborative work, with 19,038 (13.71%) of total citations and 7325 TLS. Following the second most highly impacted source is Circulation, which received 10,083 citations from 2015. Columbia University led in citations with 9332, Stanford University has 19567 TLS, which is top-ranked in collaborative work, and 69962 citations were distributed among the top ten organisations. Stehlik J, the most influential author and co-author of numerous reports of official associations, received 4859 citations. Lund LH, highlighted as an emerging author with 4,543 citations for 37 articles. The United States is engaged in and funding research projects to produce influential and impactful contributions to heart transplantation research.

Value: It helps policymakers of the scientific and medical industries to identify the most significant authors, sources, and institutions in a specific subject. This study enables surgeons, doctors, research scholars, and other medical practitioners to identify the most influential research in cardiology, heart transplantation, and related fields. It also assists librarians, researchers and other library science professionals in evaluating the gap between research trends and predicting research needs.

Keywords: Heart transplantation; Citation analysis; VOSviewer; Science mapping; Network analysis.

Paper Ref : ST-5/33

UTILISATION OF E-RESOURCES AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS AT RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY, BELAGAVI : A STUDY

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Purpose: This study aims to examine the extent to which postgraduate and research students at Rani Channamma University, Belagavi. Use electronic resources. It seeks to assess their knowledge and competency with different digital formats and identify preferred formats and devices, and explore the benefits students derive as well as the obstacles they encounter while accessing e-resources. The research also evaluates how effectively e-resources support students' academic and research activities and offers practical recommendations to improve user training, library services, and access to digital content.

Methodology: The study adopted a descriptive survey method to examine the utilisation of e-resources among postgraduate students and research scholars at Rani Channamma University, Belagavi. A structured questionnaire served as the primary data-collection instrument and included sections on demographic information, types and frequency of e-resource use, purposes of use, levels of knowledge and competency, perceived benefits, and difficulties encountered while accessing e-resources. A total of 120 questionnaires were distributed to PG students and research scholars, 108 were completed and returned, yielding a response rate of 90%

Findings: Results indicate that a clear majority of students regularly use e-resources, with many acquiring the necessary skills through self-learning rather than formal instruction. Laptops emerged as the preferred device for accessing digital content. Academic study and research were reported as the primary reasons for consulting e-resources. Among formats, e-books were most favoured, closely followed by e-journals and online databases. The most frequently cited benefit was time-saving and convenience. Nonetheless, a significant proportion of respondents reported limited search and information retrieval skills as the principal challenge. Other notable difficulties included intermittent or slow internet connectivity, restrictions imposed by subscription limits, and eye strain from prolonged screen reading. On average, respondents reported a 75% success rate in locating the e-resources they needed.

Value: The paper offers practical insights into how and why students use e-resources, the guidance currently available, and the tangible benefits these resources provide. By pinpointing currently available and the tangible benefits these resources provide. By pinpointing major barriers- limited search skills, connectivity problems, subscription restrictions, and screen fatigue- the study recommends focused information literacy training, enhanced library support services, and improved access to subscriptions and network infrastructure to strengthen effective and equitable use of digital resources.

Keywords: Electronic resource; Academic use; Information access.

Paper Ref : ST-5/36

DIGITAL LITERACY FOR LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS IN SCHOOLS : KVS INITIATIVES THROUGH POLICY AND CAPACITY ANALYSIS UNDER NEP 2020

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Purpose: The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 mandates a pivotal professional shift for school librarians in India, transforming their function from passive resource custodians to proactive Digital Information Literacy (DIL) specialists and pedagogical collaborators. This study's purpose is twofold: first, to systematically delineate the advanced digital competencies required by this mandate, encompassing infrastructure, content creation, and ethical governance. Second, the study scrutinises the implementation mechanisms-specifically the infrastructure development under the PM SHRI Scheme and the mandatory Continuous Professional Development (CPD) framework of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)-to assess their effectiveness in addressing the current capacity gap and to formulate a strategic roadmap for embedding sustainable digital leadership within the educational structure.

Methodology: This research employs a policy and institutional analysis methodology, relying on a systematic examination of core documents, including the NEP 2020, KVS CPD guidelines, and the PM SHRI Scheme implementation frameworks. The approach involves decomposing the required digital literacy into three functional domains: Foundational Technology (e.g., cloud-based e-Granthalaya, RFID integration), Digital Content Curation (e.g., Open Educational Resources (OER) contextualisation, Web 2.0 skills), and Advanced Ethical Literacies (e.g., Media Bias evaluation, AI Governance). The study specifically analyses the content of the mandatory 50-hour KVS CPD modules and the data requirements of the School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF) to provide a rigorous, evidence-based institutional capacity assessment.

Findings: The analysis confirms that the digital mandate requires a holistic skill set, demanding expertise in managing advanced library infrastructure and acting as a pedagogical collaborator through the integration of immersive technologies (like VR). Crucially, the analysis finds the librarian's most significant new role is that of an AI Mediator and the ethical leader for the school. This role necessitates specialised training in prompt engineering, developing school-specific AI/DPDP (Digital Personal Data Protection) policies, and instructing students on anti-plagiarism and source evaluation. Institutional findings validate that KVS provides targeted specialized training, and PM SHRI ensures requisite ICT infrastructure while linking the library's performance directly to outcome-based Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under the SQAF.

Originality: The study's primary value lies in its timely, integrated assessment of policy vision and ground-level implementation, offering a practical, forward-looking three-pronged roadmap for sustainable professional leadership. This roadmap is crucial for securing the library's position as the accountability hub for fostering the 21st-century skills (the 4Cs) mandated by the NEP 2020. The proposed strategy dictates: (1) Urgent LIS curriculum reform integrating Project-Based Learning (PBL) and practical digital management; (2) Focused pedagogical innovation via the application of Gamification techniques (grounded in Self-Determination Theory) and AR/VR integration; and (3) Mandatory alignment with outcome-based SQAF KPIs and Privacy-by-Design principles to justify the Return on Investment (ROI) of digital infrastructure and services.

Keywords: Digital literacy; AI literacy; NEP 2020; KVS; Curriculum partnership; Information ethics; Digital curation; Gamification.

Paper Ref : ST-5/43

THE DIGITAL LEGACY OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY : TRACING WEB FOOTPRINTS THROUGH THE WAYBACK MACHINE

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Purpose: The research paper is to examine archival snapshots from the Wayback Machine for all major Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) over the period 2015-2024. By analysing how the websites of these institutions changed over time, the study uncovers significant differences in their digital presence, activity levels, and online evolution.

Methodology: The study adopted a methodology to determine the frequency with which the websites of various Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have been archived by the Wayback Machine. For this analysis, the official websites of all IITs across the country were selected. The URL of each IIT was entered into the Wayback Machine, and the number of archived days as well as the total instances of website captures were systematically recorded and compiled into a separate dataset.

Findings: The IITs exhibit significant variation in web archiving activity on the Wayback Machine. Older institutions such as IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, and IIT Kanpur-established between the 1950s and 1960s and consistently ranked high in NIRF-show strong digital visibility and richer archival presence. Among them, IIT Bombay records the highest number of archived days, while many newer IITs display comparatively fewer snapshots, reflecting their shorter digital history and lower web activity. Between 2015 and 2024, the Wayback Machine captured over 4.3 million website saves and archived more than 1 million new URLs across all IITs, with IIT Kanpur emerging as the most frequently archived institution during this period. In terms of file formats, the archived corpus includes approximately 3.5 million text files, 2.2 million images, and over 700,000 application files. These findings collectively indicate substantial digital preservation, though levels of archival depth differ considerably among institutions.

Originality: The study provides a detailed view at how all IITs websites are preserved online using the wayback machine. Unlike previous works that focused on individual institutions or limited time spans, this research offers a comprehensive comparison of archived days, frequency of website saves, number of new URLs, and diversity of archived file formats across both older and newly established IITs. By combining the history of each IIT with this large set of web data, the study clearly shows differences in online visibility, website activity, and digital preservation among the IITs.

Keywords : Wayback machine; Web archive; Digital preservation; Archival metrics; Indian Institute of Technology; IIT

Paper Ref : ST-5/45

NEED FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES FOR LIS PROFESSIONALS

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Purpose : The purpose of the study is to highlight the importance of entrepreneurial skills and competencies for Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals. These skills are essential due to developments in

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) along with Mobile applications. Shrinking job opportunities in the library sector is another cause to embrace entrepreneurship. Traditionally, LIS professionals were largely employed in academic, public and special libraries. To be relevant, competitive and sustain in this disruptive technological era, diversification and expansion of the job market is very essential. In this context, Entrepreneurship skills play a vital role in accelerating this diversification. As information becomes a valuable commodity, LIS professionals have the opportunity to create innovative services, products and enterprises which will eventually lead to entrepreneurial culture among LIS Professionals

The paper aims to identify entrepreneurial abilities and examine whether current LIS education prepares students for self-employment, innovation and business opportunities in the information field.

Approach: The work is based on a conceptual and descriptive approach. It reviews selected literature, curriculum development committees' reports and the role of professional associations to understand how entrepreneurship is integrated into LIS education. The study discusses different entrepreneurial competencies, examines challenges in the LIS job market and analyses LIS education to determine whether entrepreneurial elements are included in LIS programmes.

Findings: (i) ICT and mobile technologies have created both challenges and new business opportunities for LIS professionals. (ii) There is a disparity between increasing LIS graduates and limited job availability, leading to unemployment. (iii) The expansion and diversification of job markets for LIS professional is very essential for sustenance and to be competitive in the digital era. (iv) LIS curricula lack focus on entrepreneurship and do not impart entrepreneurial skills among LIS students. (v) Essential entrepreneurial competencies include self-confidence, innovation, risk-taking, leadership, decision-making, technical knowledge, communication, independence and critical thinking. (vi) Professional associations like IATLIS and MANLIBNET have made recommendations to integrate entrepreneurship, but practical implementation has not been done.

Value: This study tries to draw the attention of LIS educators to the urgent need for entrepreneurship-oriented training within LIS education. This study also identifies core entrepreneurial skills required for LIS professionals and argues for integration of such skills in LIS curriculum to promote innovation, self-employment and professional sustainability. This work encourages a shift from traditional job-seeking patterns toward entrepreneurial thinking and venture creation in the LIS domain.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship; Entrepreneur; Entrepreneurial skill and competency; Entrepreneurship Education; Library and information science

Paper Ref : ST-5/49

UPSKILLING AND RESKILLING OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS : NAVIGATING ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND CHALLENGES

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Purpose : The purpose of this paper is to examine the growing need for upskilling and reskilling among library professionals in response to rapid technological advancements, digital transformation, and evolving user expectations. As libraries transition into hybrid, digital, and AI-enabled knowledge environments, the traditional skill sets of information professionals are no longer sufficient. This paper aims to identify the major issues influencing skill development, explore the opportunities emerging from new technologies, analyze the challenges faced by professionals in acquiring new competencies, and highlight strategic approaches that can support continuous learning and capacity building in the library sector.

Approach: This study adopts a descriptive and analytical approach based on an extensive review of literature, professional guidelines, global reports, and contemporary digital skill frameworks. Trends related to digital literacy, artificial intelligence, data analysis, user experience design, and emerging learning platforms were examined to understand current competency gaps and future requirements. The paper also integrates insights from global initiatives such as Skilltype, Disprz LXP, ALA guidelines, IFLA recommendations, and corporate reskilling models. The methodology further incorporates a comparative assessment of issues, opportunities, and challenges influencing professional development in the library sector.

Findings : The findings indicate that library professionals face substantial skill gaps in AI literacy, data analytics, digital content management, and user experience design, with AI-related skills showing the largest proficiency deficit. While digital transformation has created significant opportunities for innovation in library services-including virtual service delivery, analytics-driven decision-making, and AI-enabled workflows-professionals struggle with challenges such as resistance to change, lack of institutional support, limited funding, fast-paced technological evolution, and digital divide issues. The paper also reveals that structured professional development strategies, technology-enabled training platforms, leadership-driven initiatives, and continuous professional development (CPD) frameworks are essential for strengthening competencies. Global examples demonstrate that systematic reskilling programs significantly enhance workforce readiness and service innovation.

Values : This paper provides a holistic and structured examination of the upskilling and reskilling needs of library professionals within the context of rapid digital transformation and emerging AI-driven environments. It combines conceptual analysis with practical skill assessment, integrates global best practices, and highlights technology-supported learning pathways that are particularly relevant to modern library ecosystems. The value of the study lies in its comprehensive coverage of issues, opportunities, and challenges, as well as its actionable strategies that institutions can adopt to build a future-ready, resilient, and innovative library workforce aligned with Library Vision 2047 and NEP 2020.

Keywords : Upskilling; Reskilling; Library professional; Digital literacy; Professional development; Artificial intelligence; Continuing education; Learning experience platform; LXP.

Paper Ref : ST-5/51

REIMAGINING LIBRARIANSHIP THROUGH DIGITAL LITERACY : INSIGHTS FROM A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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Purpose : This paper is to explore the transformative impact of digital literacy on Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals, synthesizing research on how digital skills have reshaped librarianship in the wake of rapid Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) advancements and global initiatives. It seeks to clarify the multifaceted dimensions of digital literacy within LIS, highlighting its evolution from basic computer proficiency to a multidimensional framework encompassing technical, cognitive, ethical, and socio-emotional skills that underpin contemporary librarianship. These skills now form the foundation of modern librarianship, enabling professionals to support users in navigating digital platforms, online resources, and emerging technologies.

Approach: This paper systematically reviews the evolution, components, and implementation of digital literacy in LIS, examining international frameworks (e.g., DigComp-EU, UNESCO, JISC), and national initiatives of

India alongside literature on library-led skill development, curriculum modification, and ongoing professional training. The review includes scholarly literature, policy reports, and examples of innovative practices from libraries engaged in digital skilling. Using these sources, the paper categorises different components of digital literacy, evaluates competency requirements for LIS professionals, and assesses how these skills support professional growth and preservation of indigenous knowledge.

Findings : Findings reveal that librarians have taken on enhanced roles as navigators, educators, curators, and promoters of equitable digital access. Their expanded role requires technical proficiency, strong digital problem-solving skills, online communication abilities, and awareness of ethical and cyber security issues. The study concludes that although digital literacy has become a cornerstone of LIS, several challenges persist including insufficient infrastructure, limited funding, inadequate faculty training, cyber security concerns, and resistance to technological adoption. The findings emphasise that strengthening digital literacy through updated curricula, continuous professional development, and collaborative digital programs is essential for advancing the LIS profession. The study also highlights that digital literacy plays a crucial role in preserving and promoting Indian Knowledge Systems through digitisation, metadata creation, and digital archiving. Additionally, emerging competencies such as AI literacy and data literacy are becoming vital for future LIS professionals.

Value: The originality of the paper lies in its comprehensive synthesis of international digital literacy initiatives and its analysis of how digital literacy competencies have evolved and role of digital literacy played in the Indian Knowledge System context. It also suggests some recommendations, stressing the need for improved infrastructure, curriculum reform, and sustainable professional development in a rapidly changing digital landscape.

Keywords: Digital literacy; Library and information science; Librarianship; ICT competence; Professional development; AI literacy.

Paper Ref : ST-5/53

EVALUATING DIGITAL LITERACY COMPETENCE AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS: A CASE STUDY AT KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPURA

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Purpose : The purpose of this study is to assess the digital literacy competencies of postgraduate students and research scholars at Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura. With the rapid integration of information and communication technologies (ICTs) into higher education, the ability to effectively access, evaluate, create, and communicate information through digital platforms has become essential for academic success and research productivity. This study aims to examine learners' conceptual understanding and practical skills related to various digital tools, including email, online databases, subject gateways, webpages, portals, Wikipedia, and information-searching techniques. It also seeks to identify existing gaps in advanced research-oriented digital skills such as database searching, reference management, academic integrity tools, and cyber security awareness.

Methodology : A descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire administered to a sample of 358 postgraduate students and research scholars representing various disciplines. The questionnaire measured multiple dimensions of digital literacy, including basic ICT operations, information navigation, digital communication skills, online learning readiness, research-related digital competencies, cyber security practices, and ethical information use. The collected data were

analyzed using descriptive statistics such as mean, percentage, and standard deviation to identify competency levels. Inferential statistical techniques were used to determine significant variations in digital literacy based on demographic factors such as discipline, year of study, type of digital exposure, and prior training experience.

Findings : The study found that respondents exhibited moderate to high competence in basic digital functions, internet browsing, and the use of communication tools. However, considerable gaps were observed in advanced research skills, including effective use of online databases, reference management software, and digital academic integrity tools. Awareness of cyber security practices, safe online behavior, and digital ethics was relatively low among many participants. Factors such as access to digital resources, frequency of ICT use, prior training, and academic discipline were found to influence digital literacy levels. The findings suggest the need for structured digital literacy training tailored to academic and research requirements.

Originality : This study offers an in-depth assessment of digital literacy among women postgraduate learners and research scholars within a regional university context. It highlights specific competency gaps and provides evidence-based recommendations to enhance digital readiness, thereby supporting academic performance and empowering women in the digital knowledge society.

Keywords : Digital literacy; Postgraduate student; Research scholar; ICT skill; e-Resource; Cyber security; Vijayapura; Karnataka.

Paper Ref : ST-5/58

FROM PHONES TO PHOBIA: A GLOBAL SCIENTOMETRIC EXPLORATION OF NOMOPHOBIA RESEARCH (2010-2024)

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Purpose: "No-Mobile-Phone-Phobia" (NOMOPHOBIA) is considered a modern-day phobia, used to describe a psychological condition in which a person experiences a fear of being out of mobile phone contact or being unable to use one. There has been an exponential upward trend in research on Nomophobia over the last decade. The phenomenon has become mainstream in research, reflecting how deeply mobile connectivity is integrated into modern life and affecting the psychological factors. To accelerate and evaluate research, Scientometrics analysis is crucial for developing the most effective strategies to enhance further research activity.

Methodology: The data was collected from the Scopus database using the keyword "Nomophobia". The number of records found against the word "Nomophobia" in the Scopus database during the last 15 years (2010-2024). A total of 481 records have been downloaded and recorded in the spread sheets for further analysis and VOSviewer software tools were used to create data visualisation and networking.The analysis of Nomophobia research data from the Scopus database, including metadata such as the year-wise growth of Nomophobia literature, types of documents on Nomophobia, authors, affiliations, most productive countries, most cited articles, research areas, most productive journals, and languages.

Findings: The study found that 22.0% of the most productive records were recorded in 2024 (106 records), followed by 2023 (87 records, 18.1%) and 2022 (81 records, 16.8%). The study found a significant positive association between the year and record visibility (r=.928**, p=.000). The study noted that the citation counts have increased during the last fifteen years in the Scopus database. The notable findings of the study are that 86.1% of the documents are research articles. Among the top 15 researchers, Griffiths, M.D., has the most

publications (14 papers, 11.5%) and is ranked 1st. The notable findings of the study found that Nottingham Trent University had 16 (11.5%) publications and ranked first among the top 15 institutions. The study found that Turkey leads the global rankings with 87 (19.1%) records, securing the top position among the 15 leading countries. The study found that, overall, 201 (24.9%) publications were recorded in the medicine subject, securing most studies, followed by psychology (141 publications, 17.5%); social sciences (139 publications, 17.2%).

Originality: The present study fills the research gap and contributions comprehensive information in the growth of literature on Nomophobia.

Keywords: Internet addiction disorder; Nomophobia; Smart phone; Research visibility; Citation database; Scopus.

SIG 01: SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

Theme : Community Empowerment and Libraries

Paper Ref : SIG 01- A/39

INFORMATION SUPPORT SERVICES IN RURAL LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY OF THE HORTI GRAM PANCHAYAT LIBRARY

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Purpose: The main purpose of this study is to discuss the information needs, channels of information, types of information resources, services offered, and the facilities available at the Horti Gram Panchayat Library in Vijayapura district. The study also aims to identify the various information resources available at the Horti Gram Panchayat Library in Vijayapura District, along with the services offered and facilities provided to the users. In addition, the study seeks to understand how effectively these resources and services meet the information requirements of the local community and to highlight areas where improvements can be made to enhance user satisfaction and library performance.

Methodology: For the present study, the survey method was used. A structured questionnaire, developed in accordance with the objectives of the study, was used as the main data collection instrument. The questionnaire was designed to gather information on user demographics, information needs, preferred information channels, and their satisfaction with the library's resources and services. A total of 55 library users were selected as the sample for the study. The respondents were chosen using a simple random sampling technique, ensuring that each user had an equal chance of being included in the survey. This approach helped in obtaining unbiased and reliable data for analysis.

Findings: The study reveals that the majority of the users are young, less educated, and predominantly from the OBC category. Most of them visit the library twice a week, mainly for reading newspapers and magazines. The majority of users require general information and agricultural information and are comfortable using author search techniques. They mainly use newspapers, novels, and magazines. Further, reference services and book borrowing are highly utilised, although users continue to face some basic infrastructural challenges. Finally, they pointed out that library timings and inadequate furniture are among the main problems they encounter in the Gram Panchayat library under study.

Value: This study holds significant value as it provides a deeper understanding of how the Horti Gram Panchayat

Library supports the information needs of its local community. By examining the types of resources, services, and facilities available, the study highlights the strengths of the library as well as areas that require improvement. The findings will be useful for library staff, local administrators, and policymakers in planning better services and making informed decisions for the development of rural library systems.

Keywords : Rural library; Gram panchayat library; Public library system; Rural community information centre.

Paper Ref : SIG 01- B/16

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN HARYANA: REVIVING DHAROHAR MUSEUM LIBRARY AS A LIVING ARCHIVE FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

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Purpose: In a rapidly evolving cultural economy, public libraries and museum libraries are assuming expanded roles beyond preservation. This study is to focus on the Dharohar Museum Library at Kurukshetra University, Haryana, exploring its function as a 'living archive' that uniquely bridges cultural heritage preservation, indigenous knowledge documentation and community empowerment. It serves to educate and promote the cultural legacy of Haryana. Furthermore, strengthening indigenous knowledge dissemination through Dharohar aligns closely with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasises the integration of Indian culture, heritage, and traditional knowledge systems into education. NEP 2020 encourages experiential learning, heritage-based education, and the inclusion of local traditions and art forms in curricula.

Methodology: The study is qualitative and exploratory in nature based on the interview with the curator and professor-in-charge of Dharohar and observations made, museum brochures, annual reports and related literature on heritage informatics. This research paper investigates how the museum library preserves Haryana's tangible and intangible heritage, engages local communities as contributors and beneficiaries, and fosters empowerment through participation, identity formation and knowledge transmission. Analysing the interview with the museum curator and observations made, institutional reports and literature on heritage informatics, this research paper investigates how the museum library preserves Haryana's tangible and intangible heritage, engages local communities as contributors and beneficiaries, and fosters empowerment through participation, identity formation and knowledge transmission. Through field data and institutional survey analysis, the paper identifies the mission, scope, and challenges of Dharohar and evaluates how its Library and Research Section contributes to academic and community engagement.

Findings: The findings underline Dharohar's emerging role as both a community cultural hub and a digital knowledge center. Dharohar's primary mission can be summarised under three core objectives namely: (a) Preservation: Safeguarding Indian tangible and intangible heritage through proper documentation and archiving; (b) Education and Dissemination: Facilitating public learning through exhibitions, educational programs, and digital access and (c) Community Engagement: Involving local communities in knowledge sharing, festival documentation, and traditional practices.

The study identifies strengths in community participation and thematic representation of indigenous practices, alongside challenges in digitisation, metadata standards and resource sustainability. It emphasises that the Dharohar Museum Library offers a replicable model for culturally responsive librarianship - where heritage becomes living, knowledge becomes shared, and communities become empowered. Besides these, the library plays a significant role in helping and guiding interdisciplinary researchers and scholars across India and abroad.

Value: Unlike traditional studies focusing solely on archival collections, it demonstrates how participatory heritage practices engage local communities, foster inter generational knowledge transfer, and create accessible

resources for researchers, academicians, and information seekers. By emphasising the library's dual role as a scholarly resource and a cultural hub for travelers and heritage enthusiasts, the study provides actionable insights for replicable models of heritage librarianship that bridge research, education, and community engagement.

Keywords: Community empowerment; Cultural heritage; Dharohar; Haryana; Haryanvi culture; Indigenous knowledge; Living archive; Museum library; NEP 2020.

Paper Ref : SIG 01- B/23

STUDIES OF AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION LITERACY AMONG THE RURAL COMMUNITY IN KALYAN REGION OF KARNATAKA : A LITERATURE REVIEW

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Purpose: The present study provides a comprehensive review of literature focusing on the information literacy skills, seeking behaviour and impact of information literacy in agricultural development among rural communities. Information literacy is the set of abilities for farmers to engage in agricultural activities the review aims to trace the current status of agricultural information literacy, identify existing challenges, and highlight areas for future researches.

Methodology: This study undertakes systematic qualitative literature reviews of 77 peer reviewed articles published in between 2007 to 2023 were analyzed. The literature was collected from databases like Scopus, Google Scholar, Emerald Insight and Shodhganga etc. The review was planned to address 3 research questions which are Information needs and seeking behaviors, Information literacy skills and ICT impact and Applications.

Literatures are reviewed by Authorship pattern, Area-wise distribution of articles Subject-wise distribution of articles, Year-wise pattern and Gender-wise distribution of articles.

Findings: The findings reveal that the integration of information literacy into agricultural practices has significantly enhanced farmers' ability to access, evaluate, and utilize relevant information for effective decision-making. Improved information literacy encourages the adoption of modern agricultural technologies, thereby reducing dependence on manual labour, lowering operational costs, and increasing productivity. Applying selection criteria referring inclusive and exclusive method to select appropriate studies, focusing on peer-revived journal articles information was collected and studied their methods, findings and problems they found concerning how farmers access and use the agricultural information.

Among total 77 reviewed articles, 19 of which were single-authored and 38 were dual authored and 20 were multi-authored papers. Among these, 45.54% were national publications, while 54.45% were international. It shows that majority of the international authors slightly higher than national authors. Male authors contributed the highest number of publications44.57.14%, compare to female authors9. 11.68.10%, this ratio shows a noticeable gender gap in research output related to agricultural information literacy. However, the increasing number of co-authored papers 24. 31.16% indicates growing collaboration and interdisciplinary research in this domain.

Originality/ Value: The literature review helps in understanding and strengthening agricultural information literacy as crucial for empowering farmers, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and enhancing socio-economic development in the Kalyan region of Karnataka and similar rural areas.

Keywords: Information literacy skill; Agriculture information literacy; Information seeking behavior; ICT impact.

Paper Ref : **SIG 01- B/61**

EXPLORING THE ACCESSIBILITY AND USE OF MUSEUM RESOURCES: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY

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***Purpose*:** This study, titled "Exploring the Use and Accessibility of Museum Resources: An Empirical Study", examines how visitors in Udupi District engage with and access museum resources. The objectives of the study are to study the demographic characteristics of museum users in Udupi District; to evaluate the use and accessibility of museum resources among visitors and to identify barriers or challenges faced by the respondents while accessing the resources.

***Methodology*:** The study adopts a descriptive and empirical research design, combining both quantitative and qualitative methods to analyse visitor experiences. Primary data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered to 95 respondents chosen through random sampling from different museums in the Udupi District. The questionnaire captured demographic details, frequency of visits, usage patterns, and perceptions of accessibility. Secondary data were obtained from books, journals, museum records, and official websites to support the primary findings. Data were analyzed using frequency and percentage analysis to identify trends and patterns, while qualitative responses were thematically interpreted. The study is geographically limited to Udupi District and reflects visitor perceptions, which may vary based on personal experience.

***Finding*:** The findings of the study provide valuable insights into the use and accessibility of museum resources among visitors in Udupi District. The demographic profile revealed that male respondents constituted a majority of the participants, with most belonging to undergraduate and postgraduate educational levels. This indicates that the museums in Udupi primarily attract young, educated visitors, possibly students and teachers, who engage with museum spaces as part of academic or institutional exposure. The frequency of visits and time spent in museums reveal moderate levels of engagement. Most respondents visit museums monthly and spend between one to two hours per visit. This pattern suggests that museums are viewed as occasional yet meaningful destinations for learning and leisure. However, the relatively low percentage of weekly or fortnightly visitors implies limited habitual engagement, which could be improved through regular educational programs, community events, or interactive exhibitions. Artefacts, maps, and photographs were the most utilised resources, while documents and audio-visual materials were less accessed. Barriers such as limited opening hours and maintenance issues were reported by a small percentage of visitors.

***Value*:** The study concludes that while Udupi's museums are moderately accessible and culturally vibrant, greater awareness and educational integration are needed to enhance visitor engagement.

Keywords: Museum resources; Cultural heritage; Accessibility; Public participation.

Paper Ref : **SIG 01- C/65**

INFORMATION LITERACY FOR STUDENT EMPOWERMENT AT KSAWU : THE ROLE OF LIBRARY

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***Purpose**:* The purpose of this study is to examine how the library at Karnataka State Women's University (KSWU) contributes to developing information literacy skills among UG students and to evaluate how these skills empower them academically, professionally, and personally. The study aims to identify the library's existing information literacy initiatives, assess their effectiveness, and explore ways to enhance library services to better support student empowerment and lifelong learning.

***Methodology** :* A descriptive research design combined with a survey method was adopted for this study. A structured questionnaire was used as the primary tool for data collection. The sample was selected using a simple random sampling technique to ensure equal representation of respondents. The collected data were analyzed using statistical tools, including the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), to obtain accurate and meaningful results.

Finding: The study finding is revealed that most respondents were young first-year students, mainly from the BSc program. Library usage was fairly regular, with many visiting weekly. Awareness of Information Literacy was moderate about two-thirds had heard of it, and online sources were their main way of learning about IL. Most students felt confident in their IL abilities, though many still used both physical and electronic resources only rarely. Library accessibility and staff support were rated positively, though participation in IL orientation programs was low. Students generally felt that library facilities were adequate. A majority agreed that IL is important and that their IL skills need further improvement. Over half noticed a significant improvement in their abilities, and many felt moderately empowered.

Value: This study is valuable because it highlights how the library at KSWU supports the development of information literacy skills among students, which are essential for academic success and lifelong learning. By understanding students' awareness, usage patterns, and confidence levels, the study helps identify the strengths and gaps in current library services. The findings provide useful insights for librarians, faculty, and administrators to improve Information Literacy programs, enhance resource accessibility, and design training that better meets students' needs. Ultimately, the study contributes to strengthening student empowerment by promoting informed decision-making, critical thinking, and independent learning.

***Keywords**:* Information Literacy, Student Empowerment, University Libraries, Library Services.

Paper Ref : SIG 01- D/24

FROM SHELVES TO SOIL : LIBRARIES EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN WITH AGRICULTURAL INSIGHTS

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Purpose: This study tries to highlight the transformative role of libraries as centres for agricultural knowledge and innovation, explores effective methods for delivering women-focused agricultural content, and discusses strategies such as literacy support, partnerships with agricultural institutions, and the use of digital technologies. Additionally, the article seeks to present case studies, identify key barriers, and offer actionable recommendations for policymakers and library professionals to enhance women's contributions to agricultural production and food security. The purpose of this article is to examine how rural and community-based libraries can empower rural women by improving their access to agricultural information, training, and decision-making resources.

Methodology: This article employs a qualitative, exploratory approach to investigate the role of rural and community-based libraries in empowering rural women through agricultural information services. A comprehensive review of existing literature was conducted, including scholarly articles, policy documents, reports from agricultural and development organizations, and studies on gender, rural libraries, and information access. The review helped identify current gaps in agricultural information delivery to rural women and the potential contributions of libraries. Selected case studies from diverse rural contexts were examined to illustrate. Findings from the literature, case studies, and stakeholder insights were incorporated to develop practical recommendations for policymakers, library professionals, and agricultural institutions. These recommendations aim to strengthen the role of libraries in supporting women's agricultural productivity and decision-making capacity.

Findings: The study found that rural libraries significantly reduce women's agricultural information gaps by providing accessible, tailored learning resources. Libraries that offer multimodal dissemination methods and literacy support better enhance women's confidence and decision-making capacity. Partnerships with agricultural institutions strengthen the relevance and accuracy of information provided. However, limited funding, digital barriers, and cultural constraints continue to hinder the full utilization of library services by rural women.

Value: This study offers a unique perspective by positioning rural and community libraries as key actors in agricultural information delivery for women-an area rarely explored in existing research. It contributes original insights by integrating case studies with analysis of gender-responsive library services. The study highlights innovative, low-cost strategies libraries can use to support women's agricultural productivity and decision-making. Its recommendations provide practical guidance for policymakers and practitioners seeking inclusive, sustainable rural development solutions.

Keywords: Rural woman; Agricultural information; Empowerment; Knowledge dissemination; Digital literacy; Community development; Gender equality.

Paper Ref : SIG 01-D/28

ENHANCING WEST BENGAL DISTRICT LIBRARIES OUTREACH FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH FACEBOOK: A STUDY

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Purpose : Social media is the most cost efficient tool for public library outreach. As Facebook is the mostly used social media platform, public libraries use it to increase visibility, enhanced community engagement, effective promotion of services and resources and educational outreach. Twenty six district libraries including of West Bengal Government and Sponsored of West Bengal utilise facebook to enhance active participation of community two-way dialogue, relationship-building, empowerment and help to decrease digital divide, promoting digital inclusion and Information literacy. Facebook is used for easily reaching diverse audiences with a welcoming digital environment. The purpose of the article to identify using pattern of facebook by district public libraries of West Bengal; to analyse content and Interactive engagement with local communities for their empowerment.

Methodology : Facebook pages of twenty six government and sponsored libraries which are functioning in the twenty three district libraries are identified and analyze the contents regarding enhancing community empowerment. Content types - community stories, community events organized by libraries, Interactive contents such as polls, quiz are analyzed and managing policy for enhancing community empowerment programmes identified. Data from January 2021 to October 2025 have been analysed.

Findings : In this study, analysis shows that most of the district libraries have no official websites. Librarians use facebook page as interactive digital platform to communicate their users and local communities to inform about activities and upcoming events of libraries. Library general and social group rules and regulation reminders, welcoming posts for new members and membership related posts, book related information images of community engagement programmes organized by libraries, book reading and cultural videos by users and library staff are posted mostly. Notices are also posted here. They also use facebook for information literacy of the local communities. Most of the district libraries use their facebook page as a social media platform as well as website. Facebook banner, album, YouTube Link sharing options help them enhancement of library visibility through use of multimedia to connect local user community easily.

Value : Analysis of the use of facebook by district public libraries help to identify the community involvement with library activities and the strategies of district public libraries of West Bengal in post COVID-19 society which has been habituated to use digital social media platforms.

Keywords : Public library; Social media; Facebook; Community empowerment.

SIG 02: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES

Theme : Innovative Library Services in Digital Age

Paper Ref : SIG 02-II/5

RESOURCES AND SERVICES ON LIBRARY WEBSITES : A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF WOMEN'S UNIVERSITIES IN INDIA

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Purpose: The study aims to analyse the structure, accessibility, resources, services, and technological integration of library websites of women's universities in India. It explore, how effectively online platforms can optimise

their resources and services to support teaching, learning, and research. In the era of ICT, where digital platforms play a crucial role in higher education, the research examines, how these libraries are adapting emerging technologies to support women learners and researchers. The study identifies strengths and gaps in these library websites to suggest effective ways of improving inclusivity, usability, and digital innovation.

Approach: The research covered 20 women's universities across India, which were selected from recognised official sources, such as AISHE, UGC, and the Ministry of Education. Each library's website or webpage was reviewed using a structured checklist, based on previous literature and best practices. Data were collected through direct observation during February 2025 and analysed with simple dichotomous "Yes/No" coding format. It evaluated key features such as e-resources, library services, physical and digital collections, accessibility functions, and emerging technological adoption.

Findings: The analysis revealed that 95% of women's universities maintain an online presence, mostly as pages under their parent university websites rather than as independent domains. While most of library provide the access to e-resources and e-journals, only a few provide comprehensive or user-friendly content. Accessibility for differently-abled users remains limited, and less than half the libraries have a direct homepage link, that reducing reachability. The use of emerging technologies like AI chatbots, discovery tools, and RFID systems is minimal. However, e-learning platforms such as NPTEL and SWAYAM are widely linked, though international platforms like Coursera and EdX are rarely used.

Value: This study offers a significant evaluation of library websites at women's universities in India. It emphasises the advancements achieved in digital access while pointing out critical areas that need enhancement. The findings highlight the necessity for enhanced independent and accessible library websites, stronger digital collections, and greater use of modern technologies. By doing so, women's university libraries can grow into inclusive, interactive, and genuinely empowering digital spaces for learning and research. Overall, women's university libraries have established a strong digital foundation but must innovate further to become inclusive and comprehensive digital knowledge hubs.

Keywords: Women's university; Library websites; Digital resource; Accessibility; Learning platform; Library service; Emerging technology; Academic library in India; Resource optimisation; Digital transformation.

Paper Ref : SIG 02-II/12

AI, DIGITAL INNOVATION, AND THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES

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Purpose: This study explores the evolution of library services in India with respect to the country's upcoming 100th anniversary in 2047. The research is concerned with the influence of artificial intelligence (AI) and other developing technologies on the work of libraries, users' access to these resources, and libraries societal roles during the digital era. This study addresses how AI empowers libraries to personalise content provision, efficiently deliver information, and predictively manage collections. In addition, this study examines how virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and Internet of Things (IoT) contribute to increasing user involvement and the operational efficiencies of library infrastructures. Furthermore, this study identifies ways that libraries may bridge the digital gap between urban and rural libraries through the use of employee skills training, increased connectivity, and inclusive outreach programs. This study also aims to provide life-long learning and equitably providing knowledge-based opportunities aligned with the long-term vision of a "knowledge-based India" by 2047.

Approach: An analysis of the available academic literature, national policy documents, and case studies of Indian libraries utilising innovative technologies will be conducted using an analytical and exploratory research design. An assessment of the effects of AI-based tools such as customised recommender systems, natural language processing for information retrieval, and predictive models for acquisition planning will be performed.

Findings: The study's findings demonstrate that new technologies are capable of supporting user-centric library services that offer both functional and educational benefits. Digital tools and AI enable libraries to overcome the limitations presented by limited infrastructure and budgets, while community-based initiatives such as mobile library services, digital literacy education programs, and inclusive technology centres expand the accessibility of libraries for underserved populations.

Value: This paper provides evidence regarding how libraries in India can align themselves with the nation's 2047 development vision through the application of advanced digital solutions and social inclusion. The paper emphasises the dual responsibilities of libraries: to adopt sophisticated digital solutions and preserve cultural heritage and foster creative expression. Through an emphasis on employee development and sustainable funding, the paper provides a forward-thinking framework for creating intelligent, inclusive, and resilient library systems in the context of digital transformations.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Digital library; Vision 2047; Library innovation; Digital literacy; Community engagement; Cultural preservation.

Paper Ref : SIG02-II/31

WEB-ENABLED INNOVATIVE SERVICES IN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN INDIA

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Purpose: Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have revolutionised the library services all over the world particularly web technology followed by AI technology and smart library concepts. Agricultural universities across the world are no exception to this. In the Indian context, ICAR has made many initiatives to provide ICT based innovative services to the user community. Hence, it becomes imperative on part of the Agricultural Universities to provide innovative services using these web enabled technologies. The current study is to analyse the web-enabled services provided by different agricultural university libraries in India to find out the current status of them in providing innovative services.

Methodology: This study analyses the websites of 71 Agricultural University Libraries in India. It analyses the different services and information products provided. The data is collected from the individual websites of all the 71 agricultural universities including State Agricultural Universities, Central Agricultural Universities and Deemed-to-be Agricultural Universities in India. The relevant data retrieved from the websites using content analysis method are put in the MS Excel to generate the tables which are analysed for further study using SPSS.

Findings: When analysed the websites of 71 agricultural university libraries it is found that traditional services like circulation service (100%), reference service (95%), reprographic service (95%), newspaper clipping service (88.33%), literature search service (80%) are being provided by the libraries but with regard to innovative services like CeRA (93.33%), adoption of RFID, NFC (88.33%), Krishikosha (88.33%), web 2.0 tools (85%) are being provided. Very few university libraries provide integrated search engine (10%), Bulletin Boards (3.33%), Expert system application (1.67%) and AI services (1.67%). Development of information products like links to e-books (95%), link to e-journals (95%), e-course wares (91.67%), catalogue of thesis and dissertations (91.67%), web OPAC (81.67%) are been provided but Data portals (6.67%), Technical digests (3.33%), Handbooks/manuals, Expert databases, State of the art reports, Translation pools (1.67%) are some of the information products developed by very few agricultural universities.

Value: This study would help the researchers and library professionals to know the strength and weakness of the

different web-enabled services of agricultural university libraries. It is found that less usage and importance is given to the web-enabled innovative services like Expert system applications, AI services, data portals, infographics, and so on. These services are need of the hour and should gain importance which will help to develop more convenient services to the user community.

Keywords: Library service; Web-enabled library service; Agricultural University; University library; India

Paper Ref : SIG 02-II/35

AWARENESS AND USAGE OF CHATGPT AMONG PG STUDENTS OF ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

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Purpose: The rapid integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education has significantly influenced students' learning behaviors, academic productivity, and engagement with digital tools. Among these technologies, ChatGPT has emerged as a widely adopted AI-powered conversational system that assists students in academic writing, conceptual understanding, and information retrieval. This study aims to examine the awareness, usage patterns, perceived usefulness, benefits, and challenges of ChatGPT among postgraduate students of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU). The objective is to understand how students utilise this emerging technology in both academic and non-academic contexts and to assess its implications for learning, creativity, and responsible AI engagement.

Methodology: A quantitative survey method was employed to gather empirical insights from postgraduate students. Data were collected from 117 respondents selected through random sampling using a structured online questionnaire distributed via Google Forms. The instrument comprised sections on awareness level, sources of information, academic and non-academic usage, perceived usefulness, and benefits and challenges. Responses were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages, enabling clear identification of usage trends and perceptions. The study was limited to PG students of AMU and relied on self-reported data, which may reflect subjective interpretation.

Findings: The study found very high awareness of ChatGPT among students, with 95.7% reporting familiarity. Social media (35.9%) and peer networks (35.0%) emerged as the dominant sources of awareness. ChatGPT was used extensively for classroom assignments (62.4%), preparing study notes (57.3%), clearing conceptual doubts (53.0%), and exam preparation (42.7%). Non-academic use was also notable, particularly for general information searches (45.3%) and creative writing (39.3%). A large majority rated ChatGPT as useful or extremely useful (80.4%), citing benefits such as quick access to information (66.7%), time-saving (56.4%), reduced academic stress (40.2%), and improved assignment quality (34.2%). Challenges included over-reliance (47.0%), inaccuracies (33.3%), limited depth (33.3%), and ethical concerns (23.1%).

Value: This study contributes to understanding the evolving role of generative AI in higher education and highlights ChatGPT's growing influence on students' academic practices. The findings underscore the need for AI literacy, ethical guidelines, and pedagogical strategies that promote informed and responsible use of AI tools. The study offers valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and institutions aiming to integrate AI technologies effectively while ensuring academic integrity, critical thinking, and balanced technological engagement.

Keywords: ChatGPT; Aligarh Muslim University; Awareness

Paper Ref : SIG 02-II/40

CHATGPT IN ACS PUBLICATIONS: TACKLING ORIGINALITY, PATENTING CHALLENGES, AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS

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Purpose: This study is to examine the intersections of Artificial Intelligence, originality, and patenting practices in the context of American Chemical Society (ACS) journals, with an emphasis on the ethical implications of integrating AI models into the field of chemistry. The research explores how ACS standards for originality, innovation, and intellectual property (IP) align with patenting norms, with a focus on the responsible use of AI technologies in scientific work. It examines the role of AI tools in shaping the future of chemistry in research, while addressing the challenges posed in upholding ethical and legal standards in publishing.

Methodology: Utilising a comprehensive literature review, this study synthesises key insights from a broad range of academic sources on AI ethics, intellectual property rights, and patent law developments. It critically examines scholarly and legal perspectives on originality, patenting trends, and the ethical dilemmas emerging from AI-driven research. The analysis pays particular attention to emerging issues, including data privacy, algorithmic bias, and responsible disclosure practices. In addition to a review of relevant literature, the study conducts a comparative analysis of the ethical and legal frameworks surrounding AI applications in scientific publishing, identifying gaps and proposing practical solutions to align AI research ethics with the established guidelines of ACS journals.

Findings: The research finds that AI-powered tools offer significant potential to enhance scientific creativity, data analysis, and predictive modelling. However, they also present ethical and legal challenges related to originality, authorship, and patent ownership. The integration of AI in patenting often brings about concerns regarding transparency. Additionally, potential biases in AI training data, privacy risks, and the propagation of misinformation raise critical ethical questions. The study emphasises the need for clear ethical frameworks that address these concerns while preserving the integrity and originality of AI-assisted publications. Ensuring the responsible use of AI in the context of ACS journals is essential to preserving the credibility of scientific research.

Originality: This research contributes a perspective by highlighting the intersection of AI, originality, and intellectual property in scientific publishing. By integrating discussions on patent law, AI ethics, and ACS publishing standards, it provides a balanced viewpoint on how researchers can responsibly employ AI technologies like ChatGPT in their work. The study emphasises the importance of transparent recognition of AI contributions, equitable patenting practices, and the establishment of ethical safeguards to ensure that AI can act as a catalyst for responsible innovation while upholding the highest standards of scientific integrity.

Keywords: Intellectual property protection; ACS journal; OAI; Open artificial intelligence; ChatGPT; Artificial general intelligence; AGI.

Paper Ref : SIG 02-II/57

REBUILDING HUMAN CONNECTIONS IN THE AI LANDSCAPE : ROLE OF HUMAN LIBRARIES IN MODERN EDUCATION

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Purpose: Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping higher education sectors and is making a noticeable impact on how students use, interpret, and get information. While AI can provide an efficient and more personalised assistance

for learning, it doesn't offer real time conversations, empathy, and thoughtful engagement. This article is to discuss role of Human Library model that re-introduces human touch in learning spaces affected by AI technologies. It aims to explain how direct conversations with Human Books can support learning that is predominantly guided by AI, by increasing emotional intelligence, social awareness and practices for more inclusive learning.

Design : The paper chooses to use conceptual and exploratory method. It looks at literature focused on human library activities, experiential learning plus what artificial intelligence is doing socially in education. The analysis follows growing up of the human library movement through history, gives details about its structure and what it means for education, then examines how it fits inside current situation shaped by artificial intelligence. Trust-building is made with some initial observations from a pilot Human Library project at Tata Institute of Social Sciences Library, which included the Library and Information Science students. Librarians acted as Human Books; students got to carefully interact with actual professionals. These observations are not final but seem to provide a good early signs about ways Human Libraries can operate in academic environments.

Findings : Review of literature and pilot observations suggest human libraries sustain interpersonal ties and can offer experiential learning in digital scenarios. The arrangement makes dialogue, empathy and having new perspective possible, which are areas AI applications partly lack. Students indicated they got a better grasp about problems faced by workers in practical settings, had more emotional engagement, and reflected more strongly than they did inside regular classrooms. Human libraries also decrease solitude linked with tech-based studying, push against stereotypes support inclusive approaches, and make the connection between theory and real-life experiences stronger. The initial feedback for TISS pilot demonstrates strong involvement and positive response from students and Human Books.

Value : This paper would add values to the field providing a new scope of libraries specially human library.

Keywords: Human library; Library with human touch; Humanisation of library.

Paper Ref : SIG 02-III/44

APPLICATION OF SYNTHETIC INTELLIGENCE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to conceptually analyze the emerging role of Synthetic Intelligence in enhancing library and information services, while investigating its applications, benefits, challenges, and future opportunities for transforming libraries into intelligent knowledge ecosystems. The rapid evolution of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into Synthetic Intelligence (SI) marks a major shift in the technological landscape of knowledge institutions, including libraries and information centers. Unlike conventional AI, which largely imitates human cognition, SI represents a more advanced, autonomous, and generative form offers machine intelligence capable of creating new knowledge, developing its own strategies, and improving performance without continuous human intervention. As the volume of global information grows exponentially, libraries must adopt intelligent and adaptive technologies to remain relevant, efficient, and user-centered in the digital age. This conceptual study explores the role and potential contributions of SI in transforming modern library and information services by enhancing information retrieval, digital preservation, knowledge discovery, personalised services, and smart resource management. Further, the paper discusses the technological foundations of SI-including deep learning, cognitive computing, natural language understanding, and autonomous decision systems-that support its integration into library environments.

Approach: This paper adopts a conceptual research approach, reviewing scholarly literature, theoretical perspectives, and emerging trends in SI-driven library technology. The study synthesises current knowledge to propose a structured understanding of how SI can be integrated into various library functions.

Findings: The study finds that SI significantly improves: Information access and retrieval accuracy, Operational efficiency through automation, Personalized and inclusive user services, Knowledge analytics and decision

support, Sustainability of digital preservation initiatives However, ethical issues, high costs, and skill gaps remain major obstacles that libraries must address through policy and capacity building.

Originality/Value: This research contributes a future-oriented model of SI integration in libraries, expanding beyond the capabilities of traditional AI. It provides valuable insight for LIS researchers, practitioners, and policymakers by positioning SI as a transformative and strategic innovation essential for the advancement of smart library services in the digital era.

Keywords: Synthetic intelligence; Smart library; Knowledge management; Information retrieval; Digital preservation; Automation; Library technology.

Paper Ref : SIG 02-IV/56

CLOUD COMPUTING IN LIBRARY: AN ASSESSMENT FOR ADOPTION

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Purpose : This conceptual study aims to evaluate the role, evolution, and implications of cloud computing in Library and Information Science (LIS), As libraries move from traditional computer systems to modern digital environments with a focus on academic libraries and university Libraries. It analyses how cloud technologies enable library automation, remote access, AI-driven services, resource sharing, and service modernisation amid rapid technological shifts from traditional library to smart digital environments. The paper assesses cloud adoption across technological, service quality, economic, human resource, and organisational dimensions, highlighting needs for digital readiness, policy development, and sustainable frameworks.

Design: This study based on a systematic literature review and conceptual analysis approach, journal Articles, scholarly publications, empirical studies, and technology reports published between 2015to 2025. The evaluation synthesises evidence across technological, service-related, economic, human resource, and organizational dimensions. Key cloud models (SaaS, PaaS, IaaS) and widely used tools-such as cloud-based ILS, Google applications, reference managers, and communication platforms-are examined to understand their applicability in academic libraries. The study also reviews the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) to interpret staff perceptions and readiness.

Findings : Cloud computing greatly enhances library operations by reducing infrastructure costs, providing scalability, accessibility, automatic updates, disaster recovery, and improved collaboration, leading to higher service quality and user satisfaction. Tools like cloud ILS support circulation, interlibrary loans, and scholarly searches, transforming libraries into efficient knowledge ecosystems. Challenges include data security, privacy risks, vendor lock-in, unstable internet, limited ICT skills, legacy integration, legal compliance, and inadequate policies, underscoring the need for organizational preparedness.

Value : This paper contributes value by offering a holistic, multi-dimensional evaluation of cloud computing in the LIS field, integrating recent research (2015-2025) with practical insights on technology, human resources, and organisational strategy. Unlike earlier studies that focused primarily on technical benefits, this review emphasises the interdependence of skills, policy, infrastructure, and security in shaping cloud adoption outcomes. The study provides actionable recommendations for strengthening digital competencies, establishing robust governance frameworks, and leveraging emerging technologies-including AI and analytics-through cloud platforms. It highlights the transformative potential of cloud computing in enabling smart, future-ready libraries that support innovation, research, and lifelong learning hub.

The study highlights key challenges such as data security and privacy concerns, vendor dependence, unreliable internet, ICT skill shortages, resistance to system changes, and inadequate policies. These issues indicate that libraries need to enhance technical readiness, staff training, and governance frameworks

Keywords: Cloud; Cloud computing; Integrated library system; SaaS.

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