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- Use of Social Networking Sites by Library users
- Research Collaboration in Chemistry
- Evaluating Enhancing Research Support Services in Asian Higher Education Institutions
- Reading Habits of Postgraduate Students in Digital Age
- Accessing Social Protection Schemes through Public Libraries
- Digital Information Sources and Acquisition Practices
- Astrobiology Literature on 'X' (Twitter)
- Records Management in University Libraries



Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres

Kolkata - 700054

IASLIC Bulletin

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of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

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CONTENTS

Use of Social Networking Sites by Library users : A Case Study in the field of Agricultural Sciences	243
Laxmi Yallappa Kamble and V M Bankapur	
A Bibliometric Perspective of Research Collaboration in Chemistry	252
Parameshappa Kenchakaller, P Dharani Kumarm and B S Biradar	
Evaluating Strategic Approaches for Enhancing Research Support Services in Asian Higher Education Institutions	260
Biswa Bag	
Reading Habits among Postgraduate Students in A Digital Environment	271
Somanagouda Shankargouda Patil and Ramesh B Kuri	
Access to Social Protection Schemes and the Role of Public Libraries: An Awareness Study among the Inhabitants of Paschim Medinipur District	281
Priya Pore and Pijush Kanti Jana	
Digital Information Sources and Acquisition Practices in Government First Grade Colleges, Karnataka	290
C A Sharadamma and B N Hemavathi	
Astrobiology Literature Discussed on 'X' : An Analytical Study with Tweets and Citations	298
Dyuti Samanta, Soumen Teli and Supriya Mallik	
Records Management in Select University Libraries in New Delhi: A Comparative Study	306
M Masoom Raza, Md Javed, Ambreen Zehra and Amir Khan	
Book Review	320

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Use of Social Networking Sites by Library users : A Case Study in the field of Agricultural Sciences

Laxmi Yallappa Kamble and V M Bankapur

Abstract

Purpose: The study is to examine the use of Social Networking Sites among library users of the agricultural sciences.

Methodology: A questionnaire was designed with the two main components to collect data from users. An ordinary random sample technique was used to get the primary data. The data was analysed using SPSS Statistics, a statistical package for the social sciences.

Findings: Findings show that the majority of library users use social networking sites (SNS) to connect their family and friends and online learning. WhatsApp, YouTube, and Telegram were the most used SNSs by the respondents. Library users are expected to provide library newspaper service and book issue return SMS services through SNSs. Study shows that users face challenges while using SNS i.e. technical and network issues, fear of getting hacked, and health issues. However, social networking sites help people to connect. The majority of respondents were satisfied with using social networking sites.

Originality: This study is purely an original work. This study analyses how agricultural library users utilize social networking sites (SNS) and what services they expect from these platforms. This allows librarians to integrate social media into their libraries and determine what services students desire from them via these channels.

Keywords: Library user; Library service; Expectation; Social networking site; Communication; University; Dharwad; Karnataka.

Article Type: Survey based.

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A Bibliometric Perspective of Research Collaboration in Chemistry

Parameshappa Kenchakaller, P Dharani Kumarm and B S Biradar

Abstract

Purpose: This paper is to study the bibliometric perspective of research collaboration in chemistry during 1998-2022 with a special reference to the contribution of the faculty members of the department of Chemistry of Kuvempu University.

Methodology: The study considered the years from 1998 to 2022 and data collected from the Scopus database. A total of 1049 records were analysed year-wise, including authors' impact factor applied by Lotka's law, journal impact through Bradford's law, country collaboration, and most cited papers.

Findings: The annual growth rate is 13.25%, the author's keywords are 2,537, and the total number of authors is 1613. The most prolific author is Kumar Swamy B E who has a 38 h-index with 3,594 citations and published 133 papers. The International Journal of Electrochemical Science top 1st ranked in this list h-index of 27 and only publications received the highest h-index from this journal. A total of 1,049 papers were published within Kuvempu University (India) and received the maximum number of citations 18,040 and the most frequent word is the article.

Originality: The study used trending bibliometric analysis tools and techniques like the Bibliometrix R package and VOSviewer. Therefore, research collaboration studies are most significant in the LIS subject.

Keywords: Research collaboration; Kuvempu University; Chemistry; Bibliometrics; Lotka's Law; Bradford's Law; Biblioshiny; VOSviewer.

Article Type: Analysis based.

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Evaluating Strategic Approaches for Enhancing Research Support Services in Asian Higher Education Institutions

Biswa Bag

Abstract

Purpose: The article aims to find out the facility of research support services in higher educational institutions in Asian countries. Also, to achieve the desired level of sustainable development goals (SDG), it is intended to find out the research initiatives, facilities, tools, and comparative avenues of Asian nations.

Methodology: The study employs quantitative approaches, including the systematic observation method. This is considered a basic research support area that the researcher expects from their institutions. The services of universities are collected using a table to present the data to and analyse using a spread sheet. The report submitted elaborately supported by a graphic visualisation of research support service.

Findings: Though RSS is in high demand for meeting and accelerating research initiatives in European countries, it is still quite far from achieving this goal in Asian countries. Websites are developed purposefully to disseminate library services, but services towards research are not appreciated. Apart from open-access resources, research databases, and plagiarism support, other areas of research support are lagging. Areas like funding assistance and research data management need to be sensitized for protecting, preserving, and disseminating important information.

Originality: The article's report would strengthen research activities in Asian countries. Its originality will boost library professionals' coverage of all research support areas on their websites, and service will continue in physical mode too as it has for decades.

Keywords: Research support service; Open access; Research database; Plagiarism; Research writing; Funding assistance; Research data management; Research concierge desk.

Article Type: Survey based.

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Reading Habits among Postgraduate Students in A Digital Environment

Somanagouda Shankargouda Patil and Ramesh B Kuri

Abstract

Purpose: This study aimed to assess the digital reading habits among of Postgraduate (PG) students in a state funded university with special reference to Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.

Methodology: Descriptive survey method has been employed and a well-structured questionnaire was constructed based on five-point Likert scale in printed form to collect the primary data. Minimum sample size of 300 was calculated using Cochran's formula and was considered for analysis. Data validation was made using z and one-way ANOVA tests.

Findings: Results of the study revealed that Smartphone is highly preferred device to access digital resources. Majority of the respondents prefer to read subject specific information, news, online and e-mail. Significant percentage of respondents are reading digital information. Most of the respondents believe that Facebook, YouTube, and WhatsApp are crucial for sharing and gaining access to digital information. Due to their ease of use and lower cost, digital resources are preferred by the greatest percentage of respondents, regardless of gender: expense, computers with slow network and health issues like eyestrain are the major factors hindering digital reading among respondents of all the disciplines.

Originality: Keeping in mind the current changes in reading habits, this study contributes to a better understanding of how educational institutions fulfil students' digital information needs. The government and university administration would gain from this study when formulating strategies to encourage digital reading among college students.

Keywords: Reading habit; Screen reading; Digital reading; Information resource; E-resource; z-test; ANOVA test

Article Type: Survey based.

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Access to Social Protection Schemes and the Role of Public Libraries: An Awareness Study among the Inhabitants of Paschim Medinipur District

Priya Pore and Pijush Kanti Jana

Abstract

Purpose: The study aims to assess public awareness of Social Protection Schemes, to identify issues faced by people in Paschim Medinipur to keep them informed, as well as examine the role of public libraries in disseminating information related to these schemes.

Methodology: The study is primarily based on a factual investigation of 400 respondents from the Paschim Medinipur district. Some data have been used from journal articles, conference proceedings, websites and reports. To analyse the surveyed data, the Chi-Square test, K Score and simple sum method have been used.

Findings: The majority of the population is less aware of social protection programs, with factors such as gender, age, caste, education, and occupation affecting awareness. The main barriers include a lack of cooperation from authorities, inadequate publicity, inconsistencies in information dissemination, and illiteracy among beneficiaries. Libraries do not play any role in this process.

Originality: This paper is valuable for understanding the awareness among the people of Paschim Medinipur district and the role of public libraries in providing access to information about social protection schemes

Keywords: Social protection scheme; Awareness; Demographic factor; Public library; Information access

Article Type: Survey based

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Access to Social Protection Schemes and the Role of Public Libraries: An Awareness Study among the Inhabitants of Paschim Medinipur District

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Digital Information Sources and Acquisition Practices in Government First Grade Colleges, Karnataka

C A Sharadamma and B N Hemavathi

Abstract

Purpose: This study tries to explore the status, availability, and management of digital information resources in Government First Grade Colleges (GFGCs) across the state of Karnataka, India.

Methodology: The study is a survey-based research. A structured questionnaire is used for data collection. Drawing on responses from 290 library professionals, the research analyses demographic profiles, acquisition methods - types of e-resources available, and challenges faced in e-resource management.

Findings: The availability of digital information resources exists from moderate level to high. NLIST emerges as the predominantly subscribed database, while the high-impact databases access is limited. High cost of databases, lack of technical staff, inadequate infrastructure are found as key challenges. The study recommends for the establish adequate infrastructure, participation in consortia model, advocacy of open access content and for the professional skill enhancement initiatives for the effectiveness and to offer the equity access to ICT-based/digital library services in the higher education sector of Karnataka.

Originality/Value: This research provides new insights into the digital readiness and limitations of state-run college libraries by combining institutional data from a variety of sources, including resource availability, acquisition strategies, database subscriptions, and operational issues. In addition to highlighting the existing infrastructure and access gaps, the study offers practical suggestions for academic administrators, library professionals, and policymakers.

Keywords: e-Resource acquisition; Digital literacy; Electronic resource; Digital competency; Open access; Digital preservation; Librarians.

Article Type: Survey based

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Astrobiology Literature Discussed on 'X' : An Analytical Study with Tweets and Citations

Dyuti Samanta, Soumen Teli and Supriya Mallik

Abstract

Purpose: The 'X' (formally known as 'Twitter') is a widely used and most popular online social media platform. It is mainly used by the people for 'microblogging' and social networking service. This platform is not only used by the General People but also widely used for the scientific discourses among the scholarly community. The count of 'X' for measuring the social impact of scholarly publications has evolved as important indicator. That's why it has emerged as a potential resource for 'Altmetrics' in showing the social impacts of scholarly communications. The goal of this study is to give a view about how frequently 'X' is used in the subject area of astrobiology in scholarly communication.

Methodology: The present study has covered 1925 numbers of articles retrieved from Scopus database and published within 2013 to 2022. Of the total of 1925 articles, 1550 have been considered for getting at least one tweet count.

Findings: The highest total counts of tweets (2700 nos.) have received in the year 2018 accumulated by four articles of the field and the lowest total counts of tweets (355 nos.) have received in the year 2022 by one article respectively. Correlation Coefficient between total numbers of Tweet Counts of the articles published in a journal with its Impact Factor (IF) of that year has been calculated as 0.72. It has indicated strong positive association between them. The study has concluded with the findings that the indication of academic impact i.e. citation counts (represented by impact factor and other citation based indicators) and the indication of social impact i.e. Tweeter counts have positively correlated between each other in astrobiology subject domain.

Originality: Understanding the relationship between Tweets and Citations is an important parameter for understanding the true societal impact of scientific research. In this study we try to understand this in the field of Astrobiology.

Keywords: Astrobiology; Tweet social media; Citation; Altmetric; Social impact; Twitter; X-handle.

Article Type: Analytical study

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Records Management in Select University Libraries in New Delhi: A Comparative Study

M Masoom Raza, Md Javed, Ambreen Zehra and Amir Khan

Abstract

Purpose : This study evaluates the records management practices of three prominent university libraries in New Delhi: Central Library of Delhi University (DU), Dr Zakir Hussain Library at Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), and Hakim Mohammed Said Central Library at Jamia Hamdard (JH). The research focuses on identifying how these libraries manage the creation, maintenance, classification, retention, and disposal of records and analyses the challenges dealt with by these processes.

Methodology : The study employed a mixed-methods research design utilising both qualitative and quantitative methods, using structured questionnaires distributed to the library staff, followed by on-site visits, observation, and informal interviews with the librarians and key personnel responsible for managing records, sought to explore their current records management systems, practices, and associated challenges.

Findings : The findings revealed a lack of proper record management standards and inadequate storage, security, and retrieval resources in all three libraries. None of the libraries had a formal record retention and disposal policy, nor did they employ a consistent classification model. Although staff acknowledged the importance of records management, none of the libraries had a specific budget.

Value : The study highlights the need for the development of a comprehensive records management policy, along with staff training and the adoption of digital tools to improve efficiency. Addressing these gaps is crucial for the effective management of records, which is fundamental for informed decision-making, operational efficiency, and the long-term preservation of important documents in these university libraries.

Keywords: Record; Record on Management; Document; Record-keeping

Article Type - Survey based

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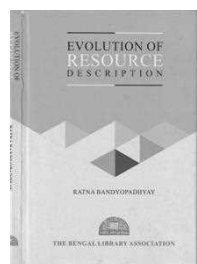
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Book Review

Evolution Of Resource Description. By Ratna Bandyopadhyaya. The Bengal Library Association; Kolkata, 2022. 274 P. ISBN 978-81-908459-3-9. Hard Cover. Language: English. Price Rs 380.00

Information is useful when it is retrieved at the right point of time. To gain access to a right piece of information, it needs to be organised in an efficient manner. This organisation is to be guided by principles which are proven to be helpful and acceptable universally. This has been experimented since the days of Sir Anthony Panizzi. Bibliographic description is an emergent topic of research since long. Neither Libraries/ Information



Centres are now a mere collection of printed books, nor information now-a-days is available in the printed form only. Rather revolution in transformation in library materials has brought out a broader concept of resources covering printed books, audio-video recordings, art works, cartographic materials, artefacts and realia, electronic resources, manuscripts, continuing digital resources, etc. So, resource description become a widely used term. The book under review has given an account of resource description starting right from origination of Panizzi's 91 rules to Resource Description and Access (RDA).

The author has vast experience in practising, teaching and research in resource description. The topic is included in the syllabi of a large number of library schools and the long pending need of such a book is fulfilled here with the aim to enable students and other library professionals to understand the theoretical background and simultaneously to trace the changes that occurred at different times.

The book under review consists of eleven chapters. Of which Chapter 1 gives a brief discussion on objectives as stated by Panizzi, Cutter, Ranganathan, Lubetzky and others. It also includes ICCP, 1961 and Statement of Cataloguing Principles, 2016. Chapter 2 & 3 give a comparison of some retrieval tools and catalogue as a retrieval tool in detail covering different forms of catalogue, types of entries and their arrangements. Chapter 4 deals with codification of rules showing the gradual growth of cataloguing codes. Discussion on

metadata in detail is included in Chapter 5 followed by the discussion on encoding standards for metadata in Chapter 6 that includes MARC family, CCF, MODS, BIBFRAME etc. Chapter 7 contains the discussion on describing the resources being guided by canons, principles of bibliographic description and principles of bibliographic relationships as framed by Panizzi, Cutter, Ranganathan, Bhattacharyya, and others from time to time. It also contains detailed discussions on ISBD, AACR2R, FR family of conceptual models, IFLA LRM, RDA and changes that occurred in RDA after IFLA LRM. Analysing the subject is the topic of discussion of Chapter 8 that gives the overall idea of providing access to contents in both manual and digital environment. It also includes discussions on FAST (Faceted Application of Subject Terminology). Preparation of authority file / record is an important aspect as suggested by different codes and standards and has been discussed in detail in Chapter 9 followed by Chapter 10 that includes the discussion on filing rules. Chapter 11 deals with the discussion on online bibliographical networks. Thus, all important aspects are integrated within a single cover.

The present book under review is a praiseworthy embodiment of decades of long teaching and practising experiences of the author that is well organised as an integral presentation of aspects covering traditional concepts as well as modern ones. This book will be very useful for students, researchers, practising librarians teachers. 'Evolution of Resource Description' is the well fitted title to map with and contents if.

The book contains an index and bibliography at the end which will be very useful for the serious readers. It has been printed carefully. The typesetting and arrangement are good. The quality of binding is perhaps compromised to keep the price of the book within reach. As usual the Bengal Library Association, the publisher, has kept its cost reasonable. Cover design is decent and attractive.

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