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- **Open-Source Digital Library Software**
- **Literary Association in development of Library Professionals**
- **Influence of ChatGPT in Academic Libraries**
- **ICT in Learning and Research in LIS**
- **Publishing Practices among Indian LIS Professionals**
- **Advancing Professional Excellence in LIS**
- **Research Productivity in influence of Air Pollution on Human Health**
- **Assessing Service Quality and Users' Satisfaction**



Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres

Kolkata - 700054

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Literature on Open-Source Digital Library Software: A Review

Sadanand Bansode and Aditi Gaikwad

Abstract

Purpose: The study is an attempt to identify published research work and the current status of research related to open-source digital library software.

Methodology: Literature published in different sources of information such as journals, ~~articles~~, magazines, conference proceedings, etc. has been collected and presented in the form of a review.

Findings: It is found that significant research attention is devoted to the selection, adoption and comparison of open-source software (OSS) for developing digital libraries. More literature has been published on DSpace and Greenstone software. However, no research has been found on implementation of software by libraries of an institution/organization offering specific courses and the use of any service provider in adopting and maintaining open-source digital library software.

Originality/Value: The research paper is original based on the review of the literature. The study will help researchers identify new thrust areas where more research can be done.

Keywords: Open-source software; Digital library software; Dspace; Greenstone; Open-source digital library software.

Article Type: Review report

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Meghalaya Library Association in the Development Of Library Professionals in Meghalaya: A Study

Pr Lanhiamliu and Bikika Laloo Tariang

Abstract

Purpose: The study is aimed to examine the role of Meghalaya Library Association (MLA) examined the members' views on its purpose and why other state library professionals had not joined.

Method: The study is exploratory in nature and adopted a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods for data collection.

Findings: The Meghalaya Library Association did not succeed despite its zeal. This deters librarians from joining the association. Library professionals recommend that the Association encourage membership through awareness initiatives and restructure leadership to rejuvenate the state library movement.

Originality/Value: First scholarly analysis on Meghalaya Library Association's role. It also surveyed association members and non-members, making it unique.

Keywords: Librarianship; Library profession; Profession; Library associations; Library professionals; Meghalaya Library Association.

Article: Exploratory

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Unveiling the Influence of ChatGPT in Academic Libraries

Raghavendra B Bonal and Shilpa S Uplaonkar

Abstract

Purpose: This compelling study explores the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and academic libraries in the agricultural realm, focusing on the ground-breaking emergence of ChatGPT. With its remarkable Natural Language Processing (NLP) capabilities, ChatGPT has become a focal point for revolutionising research, learning, and library services.

Methodology: Utilising the multifaceted approach, this research delves into the transformative impact of ChatGPT within agricultural libraries. Through comprehensive analysis and examination of its implementation, this study aims to uncover the extent of ChatGPTs influence on information accessibility, personalised assistance, and research support in academic settings.

Findings: The results of this study reveal the profound transformation occurring within agricultural libraries due to ChatGPT's integration. From facilitating instant resource access to providing tailored recommendations and research aid, ChatGPT has fundamentally reshaped the landscape of academic library services. However, alongside its revolutionary potential, ethical considerations surrounding privacy and bias necessitate ongoing scrutiny and adherence to ethical guidelines.

Originality: This research subsidises the burgeoning dissertation on artificial intelligence integration in academic libraries, particularly in the agricultural domain. By highlighting the innovative role of ChatGPT and its insinuations for library facilities, this study offers unique insights into the evolving nature of research support and information access. Moreover, it underscores the importance of responsible development and ethical usage of AI technologies as catalysts for positive change in academic environments.

Keywords: ChatGPT; Artificial intelligence; Agriculture library; Open AI; Library service.

Article Type: Exploratory

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Exploring the Benefits and Challenges of ICT in Learning and Research for LIS Students and Research Scholars: A Study of Central Universities in North India

Neha Lata, Amreen and Sharad Kumar Sonkar

Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to examine the benefits and challenges of integrating Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the Central University of North India, specifically focusing on the students and research scholars of the Library and Information Science department. The study also aims to investigate the information literacy skills of the participants, with the objective of understanding how effectively they utilise ICT tools for academic purposes.

Methodology: The study utilises a mixed-methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative research methods. A sample size of 392 students was selected from a pool of 665 respondents using Raosoft software, ensuring a 95% accuracy rate. Data collection involved the use of an interview and a quantitative survey to gather numerical data. The research team analysed the collected data to determine the participants' information literacy skills and their attitudes towards using ICT for educational purposes.

Findings: The findings of the study revealed that most of the respondents exhibited good information literacy skills and displayed positive attitudes towards utilising ICT tools to access educational resources and enhance learning outcomes. The participants acknowledged the value of ICT in facilitating efficient research processes, improving access to information, and promoting collaborative learning. However, the study also identified several barriers associated with the integration of ICT, including challenges related to capability, infrastructure, connectivity, resources, and individual well-being. These barriers were found to hinder the seamless adoption and effective utilisation of ICT in the academic environment.

Originality/Value: The findings shed light on the importance of information literacy skills in utilizing ICT effectively and highlight the need for educational institutions to address the identified barriers. By addressing these barriers, institutions can harness the full potential of ICT to enhance the quality of instruction and research outcomes.

Keywords: ICT; Learning; Research; Higher education; Students ; Research scholars

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Exploring the Academic Involvement and Publishing Practices of Indian Library and Information Science Professionals

S U Shiva Kumara and B T Sampath Kumar

Abstract

Purpose: This study aims to investigate the academic involvement, publication practices, and factors considered for publishing articles by Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals in India.

Methodology: The study designed a structured questionnaire using Google Forms. The Google Form link was sent to Indian LIS professionals through an email-based LIS community forum. A total of 336 responses were received from LIS professionals and analysed using SPSS.

Findings: The study revealed that 89.09% of teaching professionals actively engage in publishing research articles, whereas 65.48% of working professionals participate in such activities. Interestingly, a higher percentage of working professionals (37.01%) are pursuing PhD degrees than teaching professionals (25.45%). The majority of male respondents have published articles (86.07%) compared to female respondents (76.76%). The main criteria the LIS professionals used to submit and publish their articles is whether the journal is indexed in the Web of Science, Scopus, or UGC CARE list.

Originality/Value: This study provides unique insights into the publication practices of Indian LIS professionals, highlighting the differences in academic involvement and publishing patterns between teaching and working professionals. It also offers valuable recommendations for improving research output and promoting an inclusive academic environment within the LIS community.

Keywords: Research productivity; Publishing practice; LIS professional; Academic activity.

Article Type : Exploratory

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Advancing Professional Excellence: In-Service Training and Staff Exchange Programmes for Library and Information Science Professionals

Parbati Pandey and Margam Madhusudhan

Abstract

Purpose: The paper tries to elucidate the challenges that Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals face during in-service training and staff exchange programmes and offers recommendations for effective implementation.

Methodology: Drawing on a robust theoretical foundation and an extensive review of pertinent literature, this research introduces a comprehensive conceptual model delineating the pivotal factors underpinning the implementation of in-service training and staff exchange programmes in the LIS field. Additionally, it meticulously evaluates the impact of staff exchanges, unveils the procedural steps involved, and scrutinises the challenges faced in executing professional development programmes for LIS professionals over the last two decades.

Findings: In-service training, a linchpin of professional development, encompasses various forms like seminars, workshops, on-the-job coaching, and mentoring. Simultaneously, personnel exchange programmes foster skills development, knowledge sharing, and effective communication. Despite their advantages, in-service training and staff exchange programs face challenges, including financial constraints, workflow disruptions, logistical intricacies, skill disparities, and cultural divides. Deliberate planning and proactive measures are essential to tackle these hurdles. Maximising the impact of professional development efforts necessitates stakeholders to allocate adequate funding.

Originality/Value: This study underscores the importance of cultivating a culture of continuous learning, such as through in-service training and staff exchange, to empower LIS professionals to thrive in their ever-evolving domain. Thoughtful planning and an unwavering commitment to ongoing improvement are pivotal in overcoming challenges and sustaining these initiatives, ultimately promoting the continuous professional development of LIS professionals.

Keywords: Professional development programme; In-service training; Staff exchange; Training; LIS professional; Human resource development; Skill and competency.

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Global Research Productivity Concerning the Influence of Air Pollution on Human Health

Payal and Maya Verma

Abstract

Purpose: The objective of this study is to assess the potential applicability of Lotka's Law to the literature concerning the impact of air pollution on human health.

Methodology: For the purpose of scientometric study, a comprehensive set of bibliographic information from 5930 research papers, collectively authored by 23247 scientists and published across 1150 scientific journals, was gathered.

Findings: This work represents a source-wise analysis of publications and examines language-wise distribution. Furthermore, we have compiled data on publication distribution by country, core journals, and most productive authors, with a specific focus on the top ten categories within each criterion. The overall goal is to examine global research output in the field of air pollution's impact on human health. The annual average growth rate of increase in number of publications is 0.95. The K-S (Kolmogorov-Smirnov) goodness-of-fit test was applied to test the applicability of Lotka's Law fit with the value of $n = 2.63$.

Value: The study attempt to analyze the research output on air pollution using Web of Science core collection and provide better result for researcher and policy makers in this field.

Keywords: Bibliometrics; Scientometrics; Informetrics; Altmetrics; Librametric; Author productivity; Lotka's law; Kolmogorov-Smirnov.

Article Type: Review report

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Assessing Service Quality and Users' Satisfaction : A University Library Perspective

Anindya Bhattacharya

Abstract

Purpose: University library per se in its entirety exists to support the objectives of its parent body. Be that as it may, it is the quintessential backbone of the research and teaching-learning process by offering a wide range of information resources both in print and electronic format to academic community. The present study strives to measure and encapsulate the quality of library services rendered by Assam University, Diphu Campus and the extent of user satisfaction from the perspective of respondents consisting of different user groups. Here perception should take back seat vis-a-vis performance.

Methodology: For the study, a structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed to the Postgraduate students, Faculties, M Phil and PhD Research Scholars of Assam University, Diphu Campus in order to explore users' degree of satisfaction in handling various library resources and also service performance of the staff members.

Findings: The results of this study unfold that most of the users are satisfied with quality of resources provided by Central Library, Assam University, Diphu Campus and with service quality of library staff members. However, some ways of improvements have also been discussed.

Value: This study bears its own merit. So far no such study has been made to explore the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of Central Library, Assam University, Diphu Campus in terms of users' satisfaction and act accordingly to maintain quality services.

Keywords: Users' satisfaction; Service quality; Service Performance Matrix (SPM); SERVQUAL; Likert Scale.

Article type : Survey based.

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Book Review

Emerging Technology and New Vistas in Library and Information Science: Padma Shri Prof P N Kaula Centenary Volume. Edited by Karisiddappa (C R), Gupta (Pawan Kumar) and Laxman Rao (N). Raj Publishing House; Jaipur, 2024. 378P. ISBN 978-93-88997-68-3 Rs 690.00 (Paperback)

“A champion is one who is remembered. A legend is one who is never forgotten.”
— Matshona Dhliwayo

Padmashri Prof P N Kaula Centenary Volume is a treatise which holds the experiences, insights, understanding, and expertise connected with the work, contributions, vision, and dreams of Prof P N Kaula, who is regarded as a legend in the library and information science discipline in India. Published by Raj Publishing House, Jaipur, the volume is a paperback containing 378 pages with a few rare photographs is presented aesthetically with a well-designed front cover, neat binding, with good font size and type. Three well known professionals and dedicated students of Prof Kaula, Prof C R Karisiddappa, Dr Pawan Kumar Gupta and Prof N Laxman Rao have served as the editors along with an equally passionate professional and sincere student, Dr S P Sood who donned the mantle of the managing editor.

Of the thoughtfully curated 42 articles, there are 20 reminiscences written by Prof P N Kaula's beloved students, noted LIS professionals, and ardent admirers. Few contributors have touched upon Prof Kaula's subject expertise and his specialized skills in LIS journalism. Countable few of the professionals have specified the ideal relationship of Dr. Ranganathan and Prof Kaula, in their articles. In addition, a few have recollected the influence of Prof Kaula on their professional performance and achievements. Prof Kaula's daughter, Namita Bhan's revelation of her father's professional life is very short

but sweet. Some of the authors have held high the life and contributions of Prof Kaula with narrations, experiences, anecdotes, and recollections. Prof Asundi and Prof Karisiddappa's tribute is more of a biopic of Prof Kaula's professional life covering his entry into professional life, career in publication, awards and honours, his rapport with his students, snapshot of his achievements among other aspects. Prof Alaka Buragohain recounts the occasions affirming his versatile personality. While Prof B B Shukla's article along with chronicling Prof Kaula's life and education, academic work and teaching pedagogy, coveted positions and honours brings to the forefront the contributions and impact of Prof Kaula's work on the library and information field, globally. AS Chandel and Pabitra Sharma have highlighted Prof Kaula's innovative teaching methodology, communication and correspondence, relationship with his students and his role as a mentor among other things. Prof Laxman Rao recollects his student life at Banaras Hindu University while doing his masters and his interactions with Prof Kaula. Prof M P Satija and Prof K P Singh bring to the table the leadership aspects of Prof Kaula, especially his association with Delhi University and Delhi Library Association. Prof Arun Kumar Sinha discusses Prof Kaula's role as an exceptional source of encouragement and inspiration and his role in the genesis of National Librarian's Day along with his personal interactions with Prof Kaula on various professional platforms. Prof Kaula's multifaceted personality is well bought out by Prof S D Vyas as he identifies Prof Kaula as a prolific writer, spokesman of Dr Ranganathan's contributions, as a fearless crusader, an orator par excellence well supported with dates and facts. Prof A A N Raju has

added his dimension of being Prof Kaula's student, educational tour experience, experience of conducting a national conference on universe of knowledge along with the congratulatory letter received by Prof Raju from Prof Kaula after getting the complimentary copy of the seminar proceedings. Prof P P Rawat's writeup talks about the encyclopedic personality of Prof Kaula with reference to him being the most inspiring educator, trail blazer of Dr Ranganathan, Prof Kaula's stint in journalism along with references to the awards, D Litt thesis evaluating Kaula's work. Prof Karisiddappa's article presents the mentor role played by Prof Kaula in his professional career with an emotional rendering of personal experiences which shaped his career and life. Dr Anil Kumar Dhiman's article discusses the conferences and seminars attended by Prof Kaula, his personal library and endowment among other aspects. Prof H N Prasad shares his experience as student at BHU, his interactions with Prof Kaula, his personal career graph, comprehensively in his article. Prof R L Raina's note talks about his association with Prof Kaula. Prof Binwal poignantly sketches Prof Kaula's contributions. An elaborate scientometric study to assess various publications produced by Prof Kaula in LIS was carried out by Prof Meera and the results are produced in the article. Prof Kaula's mentoring of junior professionals through his letters is very beautifully discussed by Dr V K J Jeevan and he has pointed out Prof Kaula's cosmopolitan outlook and his habit of writing letters or replying to the letters he received. It is interesting to know about Prof Kaula's practice of reproducing what he read in the form of notes and digests in his journals. Dr Jeevan has mentioned 'Notes and News' in HLS and 'Digests and Trends' in INICAE which is of immense value for professional development. Dr Jeevan's proposed action plan as part of centenary celebration is worth examining and implementing them as a tribute to the legend. Dr Ashwini Vaishnav has brought out her observations during her meeting with Prof Kaula and his remarks in support of young deserving colleagues' candidature by illustrating her personal experience. She rightly mentions that Prof Kaula is a pole star on LIS map apart from being a distinguished academician and teacher par excellence. Prof Ibohal Singh's sketch

of Prof Kaula's contribution for the library movement in northeast India is a worthy read.

The themes of the centenary volume 'Emerging Technology and new vistas in library and information science' is well reflected in the remaining 22 articles with the topics ranging from blockchain technology to assistive technology, e-governance to online learning management system, NEP 2020 to AI tools among others in the context of different types of libraries. Annu Kumari and Dr Mahendra Kumar have done a systematic review of literature on blockchain technology. In their article they have attempted to find out the year wise growth rate of blockchain technology and the subjectwise distribution of articles. They have also analyzed highly cited articles on blockchain technology and have also analysed the most prolific authors in the field of blockchain technology. Ms. Shipra Awasthi, Dr Anup Kumar Das and Dr Manorama Tripathi in their study have highlighted the implementation of Assistive technology services in university libraries and have identified various tools and technologies available for users with specialized needs and discussed the challenges encountered by disabled users in accessing information. Dr Jotwani and Dr Hemant Sharma have described the application of chatbots and ChatGPT in library services. Mr. Rohit Khushwaha and Dr Neelam Thapa's article has attempted to identify various e-governance initiatives and online resources available in assisting farmers. An assessment of the data, offerings, resources and amenities found on the homepages of some selected research institutes and their libraries' websites and is presented in the article by Dr Sugandha Saxena and Dr Jitendra Shrivastava. Ashwini Tiwari's article on EduNext, an online learning management system gives an overview of online communication platforms in general and on EduNext which is an open-source online learning management system. Dr Avineni Kishore and Avineni Kiranmai have discussed the digital transformation in libraries by harnessing AI, Social Media and Machine Learning which thereby enhances the user experiences. AI created content identification technologies and the necessity of using them with caution in learning environments and how these tools help in distinguishing between human and AI generated content is addressed by Prof Richa

Tripathi in her article, Anil Kumar Singh's article has examined the problems in present retrieval platform of DESIDOC and its solution and has also described the installation, customisation and the procedure of implementing VuFind, a open source software. Dr Vineeta Chauhan has discussed in detail about the Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) along with presenting a study on the awareness and usage of consortia-based information and knowledge resources by postgraduate and doctoral students of Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture university. Prof B T Sampat Kumar has discussed briefly about the various applications of the Internet of Things in libraries and how it has impacted the quality of services in libraries. The basics of smart libraries including the concept, the structure, the components, dimensions, and what aspects make a library smart have been addressed in Prof Tadasad's article. Prof Purnima Kaushik and Dr Pawan Kumar Gupta have traced the evolution of Artificial Intelligence (AI) by covering its history, types of AI, its functioning, advantages and disadvantages, application of AI in various fields including libraries. A user centric study by Sitanshu Takher has identified key factors influencing resource utilization, while emphasizing the significance of understanding user needs and behaviour. Sarfaraj Molla and Prof Sangeeta Singh have presented the case study of Visva-Bharati Library Network. Prof M P Singh's article presents a study which emphasized the critical need for libraries to adapt and prosper in the digital age while exploring a variety of new technologies including digitization, energy efficiency, innovation, open access initiatives and user-centred services. Dr Mili Bajpai's article aimed at identifying the status of engineering college libraries in Rajasthan regarding cooperation and networking and has also focused on the need for resource sharing in engineering colleges in Rajasthan. The various academic and research initiatives of INFLIBNET especially for the Indian universities along with assessing the impact of such initiatives on the faculty members is presented by Rajesh Kumar Pandey in and

Prof J N Gautam in their article. Payal and Dr Maya Verma's study assessed the potential applicability of Bradford's Law of Scattering to air pollution research publications in the USA by collecting the data from the Web of Science database for the period 2019 – 2023. Prof Arvind Kumar Sharma has studied the specific messages in NEP 2020 in the context of libraries along with identifying the significance of libraries in NEP 2020 and has also listed the challenges of LIS professionals and teachers while describing the role of LIS professionals and teachers. Poonam Gaur and Prof Neerja Verma have studied the use of library services by the faculty and students of Indian Institute of Mass Communication Delhi and have focused on accessing library services by designation, gender and utilization of library services and new innovation of library services. Shri Laxmi Prasad Sharma has discussed the public library movement in Himachal Pradesh and has briefly shared his memories of Prof Kaula.

A scholarly work of this magnitude would be a worthy addition to every LIS professional's collection and to every academic library. As a teacher, I could use some of the articles for my teaching and some of them I could give as assignments. Personally, it was enriching to meet the stalwarts, the legends, and the experts through their reflections in words and spirit in the articles. While the studies presented by practitioners and novices gave me an insight as to how to steer my students towards quality research. For me this volume holds fond memories of all the wonderful senior professionals whom I have had the fortune to meet, interact, and learn values that help me make an impact as a teacher and as a person. I urge all young professionals and established professionals as well to read this volume and can relive the moments and memories of yesteryear professional giants whom we could not meet but can understand their approaches, thoughts and works as reflected in their articles.

*Dr Rashmi Kumbar, Assistant Professor,
School of Library and Information Science,
Central University of Gujarat, Sector 29,
Gandhinagar-382030*

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