



One Day Meet for Networking of Librarians & Resource Sharing

Sunday 7th March 2010

A **One Day Meet for Networking of Librarians & Resource Sharing** was held on 7th March 2010 at the St. Xavier's College in Ahmedabad. It was organised by ADINET (Ahmedabad Library Network) & GGSS (Gujarat Granthalaya Seva Sangh) in association with the St. Xavier's College. This Meeting was attended by seventy five enthusiastic Librarians.

The program started by an invocation rendered by Ms. Hema Raval. The Hon. Director of ADINET & the President of GGSS spoke about the need & importance of this Meeting. The emphasis was on giving better services by creating a culture of cooperation which could be achieved by an attitudinal change, that is a change in mindset. Mr. H.M.Jadeja Librarian of St. Xavier's College introduced the Chief Guest Fr. Dr. Vincent Braganza the Principal of St. Xavier's College. Whilst inaugurating the Meeting, Fr. Braganza spoke about the importance of Library Services and the need to serve society.

Dr. H. Anil kumar & Shri Satish Deshpande gave the modus operandi for conducting this meeting. They informed the participants that the discussion should be restricted to the following four topics :

1. Training Needs for all Sectors of Libraries
2. Technical Processing
3. Resource Sharing Activities
4. Value added Services

The members were requested to highlight issues which need to be addressed, so that they could be then taken up as action items.

Before the discussion, all the participants were divided into five groups, consisting of two groups from college librarians, two groups of special libraries and one group of university libraries. One hour was given for the discussion each group Topics. After the discussion, the issues which were to be addressed were written by each group on large sheets of paper by felt pens and these sheets were displayed.

Once the discussions were over all the members were requested to assemble in the main hall. One member from each group was requested to present all the issues which they felt were important. Since all the members of that group also came forward with the leader of the group, they also gave their views.

A large number of issues, about 15 to 20, were listed by each group. Some valuable suggestions were raised and all these were collated topic wise by Dr. Anil Kumar. The topic wise suggestions are given below:-

TRAINING

1. Library Software training
2. Library Orientation Program (User Awareness)
3. Research & Writing Skills
4. Communication Skills
5. In-service Training & Training for new professionals
6. Visit to Libraries
7. Start a Quality Circle (Book Club)
8. Build Image of Library (Sensitise Management)

TECHNICAL PROCESSING

1. Book Classification
2. Copy Cataloging
3. e-journals processing
4. Common Library Manual for all Library Activities.
5. Data Validation

RESOURCE SHARING

1. Inter Library Loan
2. Bank of Question Papers
3. New Arrivals of Books can be circulated or put on ADINET Website
4. Subject wise Portal of Open Sources
5. Directory of all Resources
6. Consortia of Small Libraries

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

1. Vocational Guidance Courses
2. Study Abroad
3. Competitive Exams
4. Entrepreneur Opportunities
5. Virtual Reference Service
6. Celebrating Various Days

During the concluding session the following four issues which were to be taken up as action items were discussed:-

1. Library Orientation

It was agreed that for Library Orientation both a power point presentation and also a hardcopy should be prepared. A general framework, which would be applicable to all libraries highlighting the fact that the Librarian welcomes the opportunity to assist the readers, List the resources available, the Services provided etc. should be included. Four persons Shri P. V. Mehta, (CERC), Kunjan Mehta (Sir L A Shah Law College), Chetna Joshi (I M Nanavati Law College) & Neha Jani (SAL Institute of Technology) have kindly volunteered to prepare this presentation.

2. Comparative Analysis of Library Software

It was felt that an objective analysis of both commercial and open source software should be carried out. Both the positive & the undesirable features of each software need to be highlighted without making any recommendations. S. Shravan Kumar (IPR), Raja Kumar (DA-IICT), Leena Jayswal (SAL Inst. Of Pharmacy), Jayshree Pandya (Nirma University) & Sunil Kumar (Libsoul) will do this analysis.

3. Database of Question Papers

It was essential to Compile a Bank of Question Papers for basic college degrees (BA,BSC, B.Com,BBA, BCA) for the last three years. This will have to be done subject wise. The following Librarians will undertake this work:-

Nandini Patel (K K Shah Science College)
Rekha Shukla (M P Arts College)
Kusum Bhatt (Shree M M Patel College)

4. Quality Circle for Book Reading

Books/Literature on various subjects need to will be discussed. One member who has read the material will first give a brief presentation. This activity will be undertaken once a month in different libraries. This will enhance communication skills and will also include visits to different libraries. These were two issues which most of the discussion groups felt were very important, Pragnya Pathak (IPR), Vaibhavi Thackar (IPR), Swadha Majmudar & Hema Raval (EDI) have kindly volunteered to handle this Book Club.

The entire program was very interactive and was enjoyed by all. There was a lot of enthusiasm especially amongst the large number of young librarians. They were involved in the decision making process and they willingly volunteered to do the work. Mr.S.R.Deshpande, former Librarian of the British Library, has kindly agreed to monitor the working of all the groups.

