

Current trends in GNLU library

and library users

A review study

Gujarat National Law University

Gujarat National Law University is the statutory university established by the Government of Gujarat under the GNLU act, 2003 and commenced academic work from 2004. There are total number of 14 national law universities in India and GNLU is one of them. GNLU offers five years integrated LLB, one year LLM, Ph.D and many diplomas/certificates course from its permanent 50 acres campus at Koba-Gandhinagar.

GNLU Library

- GNLU library is a global library aiming to provide access to the world's legal literature. The library makes every effort to provide its users a core collection of legal literature, world's jurisprudence and allied subjects literature. More than 37000 volumes of print collection, 11 online databases and thousands of e journals and e books are the current collection.

GNLU Library

- Library occupies largest wing in administrative building spreads in four floors. It provide sufficient space for physical and digital access of library resources with 300 readings sheets. Library provides a comfortable, inviting facility to its users. Library is fully air conditioned. Library offers an environment that support creativity, flexibility, and collaboration.

Objectives of the study

- To know the ICT effect on library system, services and functions
- To know the latest trends of library users
- To know the users demand and satisfaction level in this latest trends
- To review the collection development trends

Objectives of the study

- To major the changes happened during the last few years since establishment of library from 2004
- To appraise the overall usage of library
- To determine the preference level of library collections and services

Research Methodology

The methodology was based on in house record, circulation statistics, reference statistics, various recommendation, suggestions from faculty members/students and routine observations.

Findings

- ICT effect and latest developments trends are seen in collections, services and functions of GNLU library.
- Library opening hours risen by 40% from 9 hours to 15 hours includes Sunday, and public holidays.

Findings

- Big improvements are observed in library access for reading, reference and research in addition to circulation. Rich and updated collection with regular new arrivals, Major national and international online databases, print and online journals, Conducive environment, Centralized air conditioner, vast reading areas, and group discussion rooms these are the main features, which brought this drastic change.

Findings

Despite the increasing of number of students in library access, library is able to provide excellent services to its users. (Review Commission Report, 2013: the library has a large collection of books and periodicals which are being added regularly to cater to the needs of faculty and students. There is good collection on foreign legal systems also, the electronic collection is also impressive. Several e-books, and electronic databases and information resources including on-line resource services add to the requirements of researcher and advanced learners).

Findings

As per latest trends and library users' demand, library is parallel developing electronic collection in all format i.e. E books, E Journals and Online databases. Able to fulfill users needs in all formats of available resources. E Format is not restriction for GNLU library.

Findings

Library collection coverage areas are very wide. Rich and latest collections from all over the world. In addition to Indian law collection of monographs, commentaries, law reports, encyclopedias, library procure all major international laws, treaties, conventions, yearbooks, journals, law reports, and basic laws of foreign countries. Nearly 37000 volumes of print collection, 150 current national/international print journals subscription, 11 national/international online databases, more than 3600 e journals and 1500 e-books. In addition to this, collections of English literature, (Auto) Biographies, and competition exams preparation section are our well recognized collections. In recent UPSC result two students are from GNLU on rank 35 and 64.

Findings

- Library shifted its functions from bar code technology to latest RFID technology, covers all functions, circulation, security, locating the materials on racks, and stock verification.
- Overall this review study reveals high stratification from users' side in addition to few improvement suggestions.

Main Challenges

Move from broad to specific search services: - even in law also users ask for specific information like patent law for human genetics, Maritime security law in Somalia. Single window search facility. Discovery search is the only solution but it is very costly.

Main Challenges

Increase demand for online access: - Our students move around the world for various researches, project, internship and other academic activities. During this period they want to access library resources. Online access is the only solution to provide them library resources. Even regular users in campus also demand more and more online resources. To fulfill their, this need is the challenge for us. Some times all resources are not available online or in digital format particularly Indian content.

Main Challenges

Digital archives: - this is the big issue in today's digital era. We subscribe various online database, e books and e journals but there is no control or possession of this digital content. How to preserve these online resources, e-books are the challenging issues for library management. With the internet and computer we are connected with these online resources but in absence of this facility we are empty handed in library.

Main Challenges

Updated edition/information: this is really big challenges for particularly law libraries. Regular changes occur in various laws and immediately we need a latest edition. Law libraries are directly connected with enactment and amendment of various acts. Enactment or amendment reflects in commentary, reference books and old edition become absolute. In taxation related books we need every year new editions

Main Challenges

Purchase norms for E Books: - With the changing form of library materials the same has effected on purchase process also. As far as electronic journals and database purchase are concern things is clear. In all subscription base purchase there is no big issues because we pay normally for yearly or maximum for five years and we have access rights only. But in E Books purchasing when we purchase books there are lot of issues connected with it. Originally books are not in our possession but we access it from publishers/aggregators server. Purchase agreements, maintenance cost, downloading issues, strong ITC infrastructure, copy rights issues etc.

Main Challenges

- Institutional repository:- Creation of institutional repository is not a big issues but maintain, regular update by and through academic community is the big challenge for library. What should be included and what not, from what period and upto what time, who should be allowed to access, to view, to update and who not these are the main IR policy related issues is the main challenge for library.

Main Challenges

- IT expertise for library professional: LIS software operating knowledge and general computer access knowledge was enough till now, but with the increase ICT application in all functions and services of library, more and more IT expertise is needed. Library is simply not running on the base of automation software only but now more and more servers, software and systems applications are running in library. Remote access services with server, IR server, web hosting server etc. We know institutions IT department support us but without sufficient ICT knowledge and some

THANK YOU