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Opp. Gujarat University Guest House, Gujarat University Campus, Navrangpura,  
Ahmedabad 380 009 Tel.: 079 26305630  
Email : alibnet@gmail.com • Website : www.alibnet.org

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Dear Friends,

As usual in the month of August, ADINET celebrated Librarian's Day in collaboration with INFLIBNET and the Gujarat University Library, by conducting a Seminar on "Libraries and Education: Vision 2020". This was a very relevant topic as Libraries do play a major role in the field of Education. The Report of this Seminar is covered in this Newsletter.

Also a write up on "Libraries and Education – How can vision 2020 be achieved?" is included.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to thirteen new members, who have joined ADINET. The Life Membership has been Rs. 1200/- since the last several years. From January 2015, it will now be increased to Rs. 2000/-. Hence, we request all LIS Professionals who are not members of ADINET to become members before the end of this year.

## Libraries and Education: Vision 2020 - Report

The one day seminar on the theme "Libraries and Education: Vision 2020" was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2014 at the Senate Hall, Gujarat University. The following were the sub- themes of this seminar:

1. Skills and Competencies of Library Profession
2. Impact of Technology on Library Services
3. Challenges in Collection Building
4. Changing Needs of Users

The seminar, like all the previous year's one day seminars was organized in commemoration of the birth anniversary of Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, Father of Library Science. The event was organized by ADINET, INFLIBNET and Gujarat University (GU). Over 300 Library and Information Science professionals including students of Library and Information Science attended the seminar.

The Seminar started with an inaugural session by a melodious prayer recited by Ms.Bhumika, a student from Dept. of Performing Arts of GU. Ms. Rhoda Bharucha, Hon. Director, ADINET, then welcomed the eminent dignitaries present on the dais. She also gave a brief introduction of ADINET and the activities carried out by the network. During her speech, she informed about the theme of the Seminar. Ms. Pragnya Pathak, Rtd.Librarian, IPR, Gandhinagar introduced the dignitaries on dais.

Lighting of the lamp by the chief guest Dr. Hemant C. Trivedi, Director, School of Petroleum Management, PDP, Gandhinagar and other distinguished guests on the dais marked the formal beginning of the Seminar. During his inaugural address, Dr. Hemant Trivedi discussed about the changing role of libraries and librarians with reference to the drastic and phenomenal changes taking place in the educational sector. While praising librarians for providing latest information in the libraries, he mentioned that "quality comes with passion and motivation and it's always required to be proactive than reactive". He also suggested to the library fraternity to try to adapt **Critical Behavioral Competency** to excel in the profession.

In his address Dr. N.D. Shah, I/C Vice Chancellor, GU emphasized more on impact of ICT on Libraries and transformations taking place in education with reference to MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). Further, he assured that he will do his best for the development of the Gujarat University Central Library, during his tenure. During the keynote address Dr.Shailish Yagnik, LIS-Head, KEIC-MICA, Ahmedabad informed about progress and growth of various branches of education. His mastery in the art of collecting, organising & extrapolating the available data related to several fields of education was clearly revealed. Further, he suggested various ways for developing infrastructure, collection development



and providing information services with the help of available technology that matches the requirements of all categories of users (from Traditionalists to Gen-Y & Z). He stated that ethics and values are pillars of any profession, hence LIS professionals should strictly adhere to them.

At the end of the inaugural session Dr. Yogesh Parekh, Officiating Librarian, GU proposed a vote of thanks to all the dignitaries, invited guests, INFLIBNET Center, Gujarat University for their support, sponsors and advertisers, authors of the papers, Chairpersons, Mr. Rajesh Chandrakar, rapporteur of the technical sessions, Dr. Lalitha Poluru for concluding remarks of the seminar, all volunteers, Ms. Bhumika for invocation, Ms. Seemita Somani for anchoring the event, and all the participants for making this Seminar a success.

The inaugural session was followed by high tea and a Book Exhibition visit.

#### **Technical Session- I**

The first technical session was chaired by Mr. Satish Deshpande, Head, Resource Centre, DA-IICT, Gandhinagar. The subthemes were Skills and Competencies of Library Profession and Impact of Technology on Library Services. One commercial presentation by ProQuest and five technical presentations took place during this session.

The first paper titled **Technology Impact in Access to Information: Creating Possibilities for Environment** was presented by Ms. Bhakti Gala (D.L.I.S Faculty of Arts, M. S. University of Baroda) on behalf of Dr. Sanghamitra Pradhan, also from M. S. University. The paper focussed on major constraints that hamper intellectual access to information and provided some good solutions to overcome them. It also stressed more on practising Information Literacy in academics and the need for academic librarians & the teaching faculty to work collaboratively to develop among the student's critical thinking & technology skills.

The second paper titled **LIS Education and E-Learning: Vision 2020** was presented by Ms. Khandker, (Scientific Assistant B-Library, Institute for Plasma Research) on behalf of Dr. Parul Zaveri, Assistant Professor, SHPT School of Library Science, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. The paper discussed and emphasized about E-Learning features and drawbacks, providing E-learning

through some Open Source software like MOODLE (Modular Object Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) and also on the use of E-learning that is gradually being introduced in LIS. Universities have started online courses & existing programs are being made available online.

The third paper titled **Changing World: Impact of IT on Library of a Higher Education Institute** was presented by Ms. Prachi Doshi, (Ashok & Rita Patel Institute of Integrated Study & Research in Biotechnology & Allied Sciences, New Vidyanagar). During her presentation she strongly stressed on the importance of 'Learn to Connect and Connect to Learn'. She discussed in detail about Elibrary mission in ARIBAS, Library OPAC, N-LIST, VLAB, Dspace etc. and pleaded that quality education can happen through implementing ICT and Peer Education.

The fourth paper titled **Open Access: A Viable Path for Journal Collection Building** by Dr. Shyama Rajaram, Associate Professor & I/C Head, DLIS., M. S. University of Baroda & Mr. Pawan R. Agarwal, Assistant Librarian, Govt. Arts, Commerce & Science College, Naroli-Silvassa. The paper which was presented by Mr. Pawan R. Agarwal mainly focussed on development of Open Access growth of Journal Publishing. It emphasized that Open Access is the solution to cope up with the shrinking budgets and increasing demands for journals. It also listed the number of available Open Access Journals from different subjects and platforms. Directories of open access journals such as DOAJ, Open-J-Gate & Public Library of Science has revealed that there are 5098 open access journal titles in English which could be grouped into 103 subjects

The fifth paper titled **Collection Development at the American Library: An Overview** was presented by Ms. Sita Lakshmi Moopnar, Reference Librarian at the American Library, Mumbai. She stated that collection development is one of the core functions of a library, since the efficiency of library services depends largely on the strength, value & utility of the library's collection. She discussed about resources of American Library in Mumbai and about the new initiatives in Selection Development like Centralized Acquisition, Finding gaps in the collection, Evaluating Online Resources usage statistics, and using iPads and Kindle.

#### **Technical Session -II**

Post lunch session was chaired by Dr. Manish Pandya, (Rtd. Senior Scientist - LS, ISRO, Ahmedabad). Themes for 2<sup>nd</sup> technical session were Challenges in Collection Building and Changing Needs of Users. Four technical papers were presented in this session. The first paper titled **Users' Satisfaction in Libraries of Management Institutes in Gujarat** was presented by Mr. Upendra P. Pandya, Assistant Librarian, V. S. Library, Indian Institute of Management. He explained about the Five Laws of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan with respect to current scenario. The paper discussed about the survey conducted in Libraries of academic institutes of Management in Gujarat to improve the collection and services of a library. He found that almost all

users are satisfied and concluded that users' satisfaction is a very important factor for a library.

The second paper titled **New User Service Models: Academic Library, Perspectives** was presented by Ms. Bhakti Gala. Her presentation was based on 'Redefining users' needs in the changing information landscape. She discussed about different aspects of services provided by Libraries in USA which have a more practical approach. She listed topics of some workshops of very short duration which are being conducted at the Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign which she visited recently. Points related to providing MOOCs, Information Commons, Embedded Librarianship were very interesting with respect to the changing information needs of the users.

The third paper was presented by Mr. Lagdhir Rabari, Head, Library & Language Services, Division, Gujarat National Law University, Koba-Gandhinagar. The title of the paper was **Current Trends in GNLU Library and Library Users: A Review Study**. He discussed about the infrastructure and resources available at GNLU library. He also focused on current trends in academic libraries, practical challenges in providing infrastructure, building digital repositories and services. He opined that more IT expertise is required to serve users in the current scenario.

The fourth and last paper of the day was presented by Ms. Nuri K. Chauhan, Librarian, Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, on **Challenges for Acquisition and Collection Building in Medical Libraries**. She discussed about Collection Development with respect to Budget, Different formats-Print-Online, Procedures of selection etc. Emphasising on networking and resource sharing, she stressed on the need of developing professional competencies which are required to serve users of health and allied sciences.

At the end of the seminar Dr. Lalitha Poluru, Librarian, Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University gave the concluding remarks.

#### **Recommendations :**

- Promote & support knowledge seekers, and increase organizational effectiveness.
- Be flexible and continuously learn, unlearn, and relearn.
- Communicate effectively with all stakeholders and obtain appropriate permissions for using all information respecting copyright law.
- Use all formats of information, physical and digital: e-book content.
- Keep more research based content.
- Obtain feedback from users to evaluate the content provided and information services, given.
- Effective usage of knowledge networks, mobile and social media.
- Promoting use of Open Access resources and Open Source Software for supporting scholarly communication keeping in view the Government's MOOC policy.
- Effective user services based on ICT.

- Develop and retain the talented LIS professionals.

**Reported by Dr. Lalitha Poluru, Nirma University**

## **Libraries & Education**

### **Can this Vision be Achieved by 2020?**

Owing to the enormous developments in the field of ICT, both the education and information landscape have undergone a sea change, and are still undergoing unprecedented changes. Hence, it is important to see what change or transformation we need to make in libraries by the year 2020, to support education in a more meaningful manner.

There is a fundamental relationship between libraries, literacy, education and national development. Education and libraries are inseparable and indivisible. One cannot be separated from the other. Education provides information, knowledge and skills where as the library preserves this information and knowledge and makes it available as and when required.

The Planning Commission, Govt. of India constituted a commission in the year 2000, on India: Vision 2020. Amongst all the issues examined, education was listed as the top priority for the development of the country, as it is the primary requirement for the development of all the other segments. Herein the Role of Libraries & the Library Science Profession has become very crucial & critical, as a library is a fundamental component of education.

In order to transform India into a vibrant knowledge based society, the Govt. of India has started many initiatives. The National Knowledge Commission was set up about 10 years ago. NKC has addressed a wide range of subjects, some of which are a comprehensive reform of higher education, overhaul of public libraries, creation of a knowledge network etc. To achieve this, it is essential to recognise a new role of libraries & new skills & competencies for librarians.

To reform LIS services, NKC setup a Working Group on Libraries. Eminent experts prepared several recommendations, starting from Setting up a National Commission on Libraries to Revamping LIS education & ending with Encouraging public-private partnership in LIS development.

Human Resource development is of paramount importance hence MHRD, Govt. of India in 2008-09 allocated a budget of Rs. 502 crore for National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT).

Also to promote e-learning education environment in India, the Govt. has launched many projects such as SAKSHAT – under the NME-ICT e-content development project, e-Gyankosh, FlexiLearn, NPTEL (National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning), CEC (Consortium for Educational Commission), VLE-ILL (Virtual Learning Environment) & e-PG Pathshala.

Developments in the field of ICT, digital tech, Web tech & network environment have provided a

powerful medium for learning. We also have MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) model for delivering content online over the internet. On 15<sup>th</sup> August, our P.M. Shri Narendra Modi has gifted to the nation an Indian specific MOOC platform with unlimited participation & access through the web-called (Swayam) indicating self-learning. World-wide there are thousands of high quality educational materials organised as open source courseware. In MIT alone, there are more than 2000 courses which have been used by more than 100 million students. Also more than half the professors use these open source coursewares.

## What impact does all this have on the LIS profession?

A major goal of libraries & librarians is not just to provide access to crucial information, but to be a major agent for development, for growth and act as hubs for economic & social change.

LIS profession will need to further student's critical thinking & writing skills, to support faculty research & teaching. It will be essential to focus more on providing access to the seemingly endless stream of information, be it digitised, print or multimedia, rather than in-house collection building. Owing to the proliferation of new technology, there is a major role which librarians have to play as intermediaries to help their users.

Both academic librarians & teaching faculty need to work collaboratively, especially now that universities have started online courses & existing programmes of study are being made available online. The focus of education is now shifting from teaching to learning. Higher education is now interdisciplinary & is made available online. Information Technology has now empowered libraries with new tools & techniques to provide more meaningful services which are of immense help to library users.

There are many new developments, which help to provide more services to the academic community, some of which are:

1. Librarians with help of subject specialists could conduct mini-workshops of only a few hours to help students to use new technology.
2. Library spaces are now being used in some libraries for different purposes to provide new services, to provide more electrical power points for their users for using educational electronic devices.
3. It is essential to provide space to enable group work or collaborative work and also for discussions.
4. IT support facility needs to be provided for using desktops, laptops, tablets & other electronic devices. Both hardware and software support also needs to be given.
5. To enable maximum usage of both print and electronic material, libraries could also use

resource discovery tools. Some of these tools go beyond federated searching.

6. Mobile technology & social networking are now being used to provide access to library websites, OPACs (Online Public Access Catalogues) and also to market library services.
7. Another interesting concept which needs to be implemented is that of Embedded Librarians (to embed is to fix something firmly in a surrounding mass). The librarian goes out either physically or virtually & embeds herself or himself in the work of the group. To do this, they have to understand the work being done by the group & their information needs & also build good relations with the members of the group.

To enable the library profession, to provide effective & meaningful services, many factors need to be addressed. The most important ones are (1) strengthen LIS education by supplementing it with e-learning. (2) LIS teaching departments need to be equipped with proper infrastructure and adequate manpower resources. (3) It is extremely essential to change the individual mindset by giving more weight age to soft skills, by emphasising the need and importance of hard work, need for co-operative & collaborative work and also the need for working ethically.

## Welcome to New Members

ADINET welcomes new members into its growing community. Following professionals joined as Life Members of ADINET during this quarter:

- 1) Ms. Jigna Raval from Ahmedabad
- 2) Dr. Ghanshyam G. Patel, Mahila Arts & Commerce College, Dhansura
- 3) Ms. Shaila B. Mishra, M. N. Law College, Ahmedabad
- 4) Dr. Kokila T. Tank, DLISc, Saurashtra University, Rajkot
- 5) Mr. A. M. Pandya, Late M.J. Kundaliya Arts & Commerce College, Rajkot
- 6) Ms. Geeta B. Zala, Shankar Singh Vaghela Institute of Engineering, Bapuji Knowledge Village, Gandhinagar
- 7) Mr. K.N. Muralidharan, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
- 8) Mr. Viral Kumar Navik, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
- 9) Mr. Jayaprakash Sirusamy, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
- 10) Ms. Hima Bhavnesh Soni, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
- 11) Mr. Upendra P. Pandya, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
- 12) Ms. Jyotsana B. Suthar, IKDRC-ITS, Ahmedabad
- 13) Mr. Deep Kaushik Patel, Agro Economic Research Centre, Anand