NEWSLETTER

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FROM

PUBLISHER'S DESK

This issue of the ADINET Newsletter covers details of a fruitful **Meeting of School Librarians**. About 20 LIS Professionals from large schools attended this meeting which was held to see how ADINET can help to empower School Librarians.

A **Quarterly Seminar** was conducted by ADINET in collaboration with the LIS School of CUG. Since libraries can play a crucial role in national development, the topic covered was **"Rethinking the Role of Libraries in National Development".**

A useful article on **"Metadata Management"** has been included. Owing to the advent of electronic resources, the work done by LIS Professionals keeps changing. Hence the author has provided various Metadata Harvesting Tools.

As usual ADINET will be conducting the Librarians' Day Seminar on **"Future Libraries-Overcoming Challenges"** in collaboration with the Physical Research Laboratory on 14 September 2019. Please do submit your papers before 20 July 2019. The last date for Registration is 17 August 2019.

This year owing to the stringent security measures required by PRL, **ONLY online registration** can be done through Payment Gateway of SBI Collect. To do this, please visit our website "www.alibnet.org". Also **Spot Registration** will be restricted to only a few delegates. Hence please do register in advance.

School Librarians' Meet

A Meeting of School Librarians was held on Saturday 9th February 2019, by ADINET (GujLbNet), Ahmedabad Library Network at their premises.

The Meeting was conducted Dr. Rashmi Kumbar, Asst. Prof, CUG. The following Discussion Points listed by her have been discussed:-

Networking of Large School Libraries -

- Initiate under the umbrella of ADINET
- Take lead from professional bodies, IASL, ISLA
- Strengthen the present school librarians' Whatsapp group. ADINET has at present 80 School Librarians from Gujarat in this Group
- Form SIG groups of school librarians on common topics
- Explore putting up a proposal through to respective school boards, management

Helping Municipal Schools –

- Each big school library can adopt one small library

- Each professional can offer an hour or two in a month for these schools
- Collaborate with public libraries
- Donate books
- Tie up with NGOs & professional bodies
- Explore government projects and/or organizations to obtain support

Empowering School Librarians –
- Reading relevant literature / aware about own resources (Library collection) that they might be adding to their libraries. This will help to provide meaningful services to both students & staff.
- Taking online courses – MOOCs. There are a large number of Open Access e-courses
- Attend conferences, seminars & workshops, two Conferences especially for School Librarians have been conducted by ADINET
- Visit one another's schools and taking note of the best practices
- Taking membership of professional associations
- Use the Open Access List which has been prepared especially for School Librarians, Parents and

Issues faced by School Librarians –

- Categorize them (Internal, external, management, users, resources, technology, guidance) so that they can be tackled at that level
- Collectively bring the issues to the notice of professional bodies
- Seek Fellow professionals' guidance, advice
- Consult Senior professionals
    - Ex: Budget
    - Need to be clear about school objectives,
    - Mission & vision,
    - Form a library committee,
    - Convincing capacity

- Reading material (Network with other professionals)
- Library Activities (No of websites available & check AASL, CASL, SLA, etc.)
- Staff (Justification, train student volunteers, parent volunteers, support staff)

Action Points:

- Identify municipal schools in our areas and inform ADINET.
- Ms Shilpa and Ms Anubha can be consulted for information regarding library automation by using E-Granthalaya and KOHA software.
- Compile the list of Best Practices of your school library and share with ADINET.
- Share how each Librarian is dealing with complimentary books received in their libraries.

Rashmi T Kumbar (Asst. Prof, CUG)

Quarterly Seminar on 'Rethinking the Role of Libraries in National Development'.

ADINET & the LIS School of CUG conducted a Quarterly Seminar on 'Rethinking the Role of Libraries in National Development'. It was held on 9th March 2019 at the Central University of Gujarat

About 60 librarians and students participated. **Prof Atanu Bhattacharya** Dean-in-charge of School of LIS set the tone to the discussions and welcomed the participants.

Ms. Rhoda Bharucha, the Hon. Director of ADINET, briefed the participants about ADINET's activities, challenges and forthcoming plans.

Dr. K B Agadi the Librarian-in-charge of Central Library of CUG introduced the library, its collection, facilities and services.

The seminar contained two crucial talks by two well-known LIS professionals. The first talk on the topic 'Re-skilling: Call of the Day' was delivered by **Mr. Manish**

Mankad, the Librarian, of the Resource Centre at DAIICT & the second talk was delivered by **Mr Saroj Das**, the Librarian at Institute for Plasma Research on the topic 'Rethinking Role of Librarians in the Present Day'

Dr Bhakti Gala, Co-ordinator of the School is the Secretary of the South Asia Chapter of ASIS&T. She gave a brief of ASIS&T, its activities and its objectives.

A beautifully illustrated & informative **Poster Exhibition** was prepared & presented by the students of the School. The vote of thanks was proposed by **Dr. Minaxi**, Assistant Professor at the School. After lunch, the participants visited the excellent CUG Central Library. To see the detailed report please visit the ADINET Website alibnet.org

Report by Prof. Rashmi Kumbar

Metadata Management for Next Generation Librarians

The field of metadata is in transition, where job titles and responsibilities are making the shift from traditional cataloguing to non-MARC resource description. The role of cataloguer has now changed to integrating non-MARC metadata in response to libraries' increasing focus on the collection of electronic resources and to provide easy discovery of library resources for users.

Jung ran Park and Yuji Tosaka have made a survey among the American Library professions associated with cataloguing and metadata and sought their experience with emerging standards and technologies for data and information organization. They found that 70% of the respondents have implemented RDA and the other newer initiatives that are being implemented or planned include "digital repository", "discovery layer", "digital library" and "metadata standards" like Dublin Core and MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema). However, the survey found that Metadata-harvesting tools, which are essential tools for cross-platform resource discovery have a very low adoption level. More implementation discovery layer than metadata harvesting tools may suggest that libraries are more dependent on different discovery service providers like EDS, Summon etc. which provide a discovery layer over all kind of library resources subscribed or available in their library.

The discovery service providers harvest the metadata from various sources including the library catalogue with various metadata formats and represent it through a common search portal which saves time of the library users and helps the library in pushing the relevant content from less popular sources enabling its usage. However, the cost of such commercial discovery service is not affordable for smaller libraries who struggle to find funds for subscription to wide range of resources for their libraries. In such a situation, to provide quality services to their users' library professionals can experiment with different open sources software which provide an option to integrate different kind of sources in a single search interface.

The most popular open source softwares in this domain are Vufind by the Villanova University's Falvey Memorial Library and Blacklight by University of Virginia Library. Both the softwares are built over the Apache Solr technology which is used to store the harvested content from various sources as an index for searching. Another harvesting software is the Open Harvester Systems developed by the Public Knowledge Project for creating a searchable index of the metadata from Open Archives Initiative (OAI)-compliant archives.

For the library community, the MARC format has been enabling exchange of bibliographic and related information since long. There are also several tools and techniques available for retrospective conversion of bibliographic data, such as ISISASCII, ISISMARC, and Marc Edit etc. which are available in open domain or in open source. But the new age librarians have to manage several kind of resources which come with metadata standards that are specific to that format or category of resource. Some of the important metadata formats or projects that metadata librarians should

follow or need to have working knowledge are as follows:

❖ **Digital Repository**

DCMI: Dublin Core Metadata with addition of qualifiers specific to different category of materials presented in XML format

❖ **Theses repository**

ETD-MS an Interoperability Metadata Standard for Electronic Theses and Dissertations is an extension of the DC Metadata Standard and presented in XML format

❖ **eBooks and e-Journals**

Knowledge Bases And Related Tools (KBART) used for exchange of metadata of e-journals/e-books in text format by publishers

❖ **Journal Articles**

Publishing Requirements for Industry Standard Metadata (PRISM) is an XML metadata vocabulary for the publishing industry and is mostly used to deliver metadata of articles.

Journal Archiving and Interchange Tag Library NISO JATS for describing article metadata for submission to the NML database in XML format

❖ **Data Repositories**

Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), an international standard defined for describing the data produced by surveys and other observational methods in the social, behavioral, economic, and health sciences.

❖ **Learning Objects**

IEEE Standard for Learning Object Metadata (IEEE-LOM) standard for describing learning objects used in MOOCs repositories or other such repositories.

❖ **Semantic Web**

Semantic Interoperability of Metadata in unLike Environments (SIMILE) to assist metadata specialists in defining ontologies, converting existing XML-based metadata into RDF, and creating RDF.

Simple Knowledge Organization System (SKOS), a model for expressing knowledge organization systems in a machine-understandable way and is used to express the structure and content of concept schemes (thesauri, classification schemes, subject heading lists, taxonomies, terminologies, glossaries, or other types of controlled vocabulary).

Library professions need to have a sound knowledge of all these formats to expose the desired metadata of their content to the external users as well as to harvest an aggregation of the metadata available in various formats. In addition to having knowledge of traditional cataloguing, library staff need to update themselves with knowledge of metadata/advanced metadata topics; emerging metadata standards; general programming; XML and organization of information including electronic resources.

Mooney Gonzales, made a study about preparing LIS students in metadata and related fields and suggested that "a strong foundation in cataloguing is the best preparation for a career in metadata, and students interested in this field should seek out courses on basic and advanced cataloguing, metadata, and general programming, particularly XML." For better management of metadata, a metadata librarian should have the above knowledge in addition to having knowledge about transformation of metadata from one format to another format using XSLT if available in XML format and to have basic knowledge of json format which is easier to read than XML and is quite popular in the present IT environment.

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