

E-Resources: Role of Librarian

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Abstract

In the several years, many research studies have focused on how people use electronics or on their feelings about electronic and print resources in the library. Information technology has brought the change in all fields of life. Information technology has also revolutionized the role of libraries. Libraries begin the reservoir of the information. People seek information for their research, education, reference and guidance from library. Digital libraries require digital librarians. Digital librarians are required to select, acquire, organize, make accessible, and preserve digital collections. Digital services must be planned, implemented, and supported. Unfortunately, there are presently very few opportunities for librarians to receive training in the new tasks and responsibilities that digital libraries demand.

Introduction

A digital library is a library in which collections are stored in digital formats (as opposed to print, microform, or other media) and accessible by computers. The digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. A digital library is a type of information retrieval system.

E-Learning advantages and disadvantages are important to consider when making instructional and learning decisions. Many organizations and institutions provide different forms of training and instruction to their employees or learners. Typically they provide needed training by sending people to school, holding in-house training classes, or providing manuals and self-study guides. In some situations it is

advantageous for them to use e-learning or other forms of e-learning instead of the traditional training. Other times it is disadvantageous. As with anything else, there are benefits and limitations, as well as pros and cons. There are many advantages to online and computer-based learning when compared to traditional face-to-face courses and lectures. There are a few disadvantages as well.

Electronic Resources

The electronic resources are systems in which information is stored electronically and made accessible through electronic systems and computer networks. Electronic resources are e-Books, e-journals, e-newspapers, databases, bibliographic database, etc. Due to growth of information communication technology most of the document are available in Electronic format also.

Electronic Resource Management (ERM)

ERM is the practices and software systems used by libraries to keep track of important information about electronic information resources, especially internet-based resources such as electronic journals, databases, and electronic books. The development of ERM became necessary in the early 2000s as it became clear that traditional library catalogs and integrated library systems were not designed to handle metadata for resources as mutable as many online products.

Types of E-Resources

In this new world there are many types of E-resources, some different types of e-resources are described as follows:

- 3.1 **E-Books:** electronic books are portable computerized devices that allow readers to download text and then read and mark it. E-books are also paperless book.
- 3.2 **E-journals:** Any journal existing in an electronic format embraces all periodical available electronically as well as in paper copy including the text periodicals.
- 3.3 **CD-ROMs database:** there are journals published n CD-ROM, may be bibliographical or full-text.
- 3.4 **E-Reference Sources:** Reference sources like dictionaries, almanacs, encyclopedias are now available online in full text.
- 3.5 **Image Database:** Users can assess images online.
- 3.6 **E-database:** E-database is an organized collection of information within an e-database can be search and retrieved electronically.
- 3.7 **Web-OPAC:** it is an online catalogue of any library. User can access it through web or internet.
- 3.8 **E-Reports:** Scientist, research scholars' etc. now a say consider as an important electronic resources of library, which contains reports, publish e-reports. These reports are scanned and converted to searchable PDF document.

- 3.9 **E-clippings:** e-clippings are retrospectives search and comprehensive analysis of new items. It facilitates the users to retrieve the news clips by simple clicks.

Advantages Of E-Resources

- 4.1 It provides multiple accesses.
- 4.2 Animations and graphics can also be accessed.
- 4.3 It is cost saving.
- 4.4 Wide ranges of journals articles are searchable.
- 4.5 Information access can be made without wasting any time.
- 4.6 Desired information can be retrieved within few minutes at learning desk.
- 4.7 Economy in maintenance.
- 4.8 Its not cover space in library.
- 4.9 It is very cheap to store data with the reduction in the costs of computing hardware and it is preventable from being lost, stolen or damaged.
- 4.10 E-resources can be downloaded instantly.

Merits and Demerits of Electronic Resources

Every thing has Merits and Demerits. The merits of digital libraries as a means of easily and rapidly accessing books, archives and images of various types are now widely recognized by commercial interests and public bodies alike.

Merits of E-Resources

The merits of electronic resources are as follows:

- 5.1 Space saving in library.
- 5.2 Access for all time.
- 5.3 Economy maintenance.
- 5.4 It can easily merge with altering service.
- 5.5 Compatibility with the search engine.
- 5.6 It provides timely access to documents.
- 5.7 Subjects can be searched across to documents.
- 5.8 E-publishing may be less costly then paper.
- 5.9 It can solve the problems of missing issues of journals.
- 5.10 It can be used by many users simultaneously.
- 5.11 Learners may have the option to select learning materials that meets their level of knowledge and interest
- 5.12 Learners can study wherever they have access to a computer and Internet
- 5.13 Self-paced learning modules allow learners to work at their own pace

Demerits of E-Resources

- 6.1 High speed of communication is required.
- 6.2 Causes more concern about copyright.
- 6.3 Need special equipment to access.

- 6.4 Efficient manpower is required.
- 6.5 Computer knowledge is must to access.
- 6.6 Hardware and software compatibility issues between publishers and users.
- 6.7 User can't read it continuously on computer screen.
- 6.8 Electricity is always required for E-Resources.

Role of Librarian

A Librarian is an information professional trained in library and information science, which is the organization and management of information services or materials for those with information needs. Typically, librarians work in a public or college library, an elementary or secondary school media center, a library within a business or company, or another information-provision agency like a hospital or law firm. Some librarians are independent entrepreneurs working as information specialists, catalogers, indexers and other professional, specialized capacities. Librarians may be categorized as a public, school, correctional, special, independent or academic librarian.

The role of librarian is also changing. They have to keep pace with the technology, help the user in guiding and locating the information required by them. They should provide information about the latest updates in the different field of knowledge through e-mail, information bulletin etc. librarian are required to organize information disseminate, provide references and electronic information services. Handle the task of digitization, digital storage process and digital preservation.

Stresses that the multimedia nature of the next generation of digital libraries requires the digital librarians (DL) to be essentially a type of specialist librarian who has to manage and organize the digital library, handle the specialized tasks of massive digitization, storage, access, digital knowledge mining, digital reference services, electronic information services, search co-ordination, and manage the archive and its access. The digital librarian acts as guardian of the information superhighway/the universal digital library or the global digital library and acts as a symbiotic human-machine guru. This article also highlights the roles and functions of a DL in information retrieval, content delivery, navigation, and browsing. It envisages the professional education and training for digital librarians in the management of digital information systems.

Conclusion

Even though major issues inherent in electronic access management have been raised, not all have been resolved. There are many advantages of e-resources. But demerits are also available. Librarian of the 21th centaury will succeed in surmounting the challenges posed by electronic access of library resources. Part of their eventual success is because librarians consider challenges not impediments, but opportunities to improve the accessibility of their clientele to their library resources. Librarian has to provide universal access and retrieval of electronic contents, catalogue and classify electronic documents.

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