



INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

ICMR Library Bulletin

Volume 6, No 2,3&4
April-Dec 2009

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EFFECT OF ICT ON LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

Introduction

As information technology is becoming the cornerstone of every organization, it is bringing great changes in the organization's structure and management & delivery practices. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and development in modern technology especially in the field of electronic communication and computer science and technology influenced the traditional libraries. It is bringing out fundamental change in the process of acquiring, storing, processing, retrieving and delivering the information generated constantly across the globe in the universe of knowledge

over multidisciplinary fields of subjects. Technologies development has been so fast in recent decades. It has imposed many changes on traditional library approaches, methods, solutions. Technologies have created a new service environment that has pushed conventional boundaries much farther, with the calculated risk and opportunities. In this environment, only those libraries can survive that have the ability to deal effectively and proactively to a broad spectrum of contemporary challenges that focus on speed, cost and quality.

Library in knowledge economy

The knowledge-based economy places greater importance on the diffusion and use of information and knowledge, as well as its creation. In this new economy, libraries are obliged to focus on maintaining and enhancing their knowledge capital in order to develop core competency for survival. Only those education systems that develop interactive self-learning, formal and

informal education with focus on values, merit and quality will be promoted.

In future, the type of work instead of being structured and hardware driven will be less structured and software driven. Finally, knowledge and knowledge driven institutions will mostly drive the economy. The emphasis in knowledge society will be on sustainable development.

ICT Effect on library management

Due to the impact of ICT, the library end-users expect information irrespective of format, time and location of information. To provide better and faster service and to maintain a leadership role in the information technology, libraries have accepted the electronic resources. In doing so librarians are confronted with some critical criteria within the existing set up of the library.

- As per need of the users, the library is to maintain dual subscription to both electronic and traditional materials during this transitional period that may last for some years.
- Identification of users in electronic environment is one of the major problems. The actual users of the network remain unknown.
- To meet the needs the individual user requires a single point of access to a totality of electronic library collection to retrieve a relevant set of references with adequately and efficiently ranked suitable annotations. Still it is an unachievable idea in spite of many technical efforts is made.
- Users' training cum guidance to use the computer and electronic devices needs the physical presence of the users. The lack of their physical presence in the scheduled time-slot makes the assistance more difficult to provide at any later period of time.
- Electronic library is fully dependent on rapid development of technology. The constant pressure of advancement in technology forces the libraries to upgrade the technology to reflect changes.
- Each user frequently insists to allot electronic device to him/her to make the best use of time in electronic library. To accommodate all the users in a certain time in electronic library creates problems, because library is unable to provide each user one electronic device (computer) at this juncture.
- Increased access to electronic information costs library timings and technical expertise. Thus library is compelled to extend electronic library timings with the existing strength of manpower and to involve the existing staff members in good number to cope up with situation.
- Personal relation built up from face to face-human contact in the traditional libraries gradually transfers to the man-machine interaction.

ICT Effect on library policies

Change in the objectives and functions of the library and information system by the planning body would directly impact the existing plans and policies of the library. Accordingly, change in plans and policies become essential. The developmental plans and policies should be in conformity with the objectives and functions of library and information system as well as the institution it serves.

Planning rarely works if top management does not support it. To plan properly for library and information centers certain organizations of planning may be useful guides for the librarians.

- Understanding well-defined objectives to make the future performance purposive
- Identifying the information resources to run electronic library.

ICT Effect on communication

Communication is critical in achieving successful and persisting change. Employees are more likely to commit to change when they have full and

Resource involves human as well as time, money, technical and physical resources

- Searching opportunities. It is primarily data collecting, analyzing and evaluating functions relating to library activities
- Obtaining support from top management
- Making the plan flexible. Planning will be more fruitful if the process is modified from time to time to stimulate new thinking and to focus attention on different issues. The process used should be tailored to the needs and experience of the library and management rather than being abstracted from a planning text.

clear information about the nature of changes and the reasons for change, what has been achieved, and what is still to be done.

- Recognize that organizations vary and communicate accordingly
- Listen- don't just talk
- Demonstrate commitment to genuine and open communication at all levels of management and involve all managers in the process of communicating about change.
- Make communication regular, timely, honest, clear, interactive and easy to understand.
- Take sufficient time to communicate.

ICT Effect on staff skills

Present ICT based environment has demanded new job requirements; new roles, adequate competence and different kinds of skills from the professionals which would help them to develop new product and services in response to new developments. The existing staff must be trained

continually to sustain in the global competition market. Skills and competencies once acquired cannot guarantee lifetime survival in this constantly changing electronic continuing professional development programs.

Generic skills are:

- effective communication skills;
- professional ethical standards and social responsibility;
- project management skills;
- critical, reflective, and creative thinking;
- problem-solving skills;
- ability to build partnerships and alliances;(Public Private Partnership)
- effective team relationship skills;
- self management skills;
- a commitment to life-long learning;
- relevant information and communications technology and technology application skills;
- appropriate information literacy skills

ICT Effect on user community

Exposed to different applications of technology in their life, users nowadays are more adapted at its use and are expecting to have access to it in their times of need. In libraries, users that are knowledgeable in using computers and the internet for their research demand nothing less than a computer with Internet access. However, this may not be true and not applicable to those who have no

access to such technologies due to financial difficulties. Thus, two different kinds of users have emerged that libraries must cater for: the “haves” and “have-nots”. Ideally a balance must be maintained in providing services for both groups so that all users will have equal access to information. This can be effectively done through the use of powerful and appropriate technologies.

Feedback

Providing the right kind of feedback to students can make a significant difference in their achievement. There are two key considerations. First, feedback that improves learning is responsive to specific aspects of users, and provides specific and related suggestions. This kind of feedback extends the opportunity to work by alleviating misunderstanding and reinforcing learning. Second, the

feedback must be timely. Feedback is a research-based strategy that management, and users, can practice to improve their success. The impact of changes is to be measured in terms of attainment of objectives; improvement of services, readers increased satisfaction, employee motivation and increased level of efficiency and effectiveness of each activity, product and service.

Conclusion

Technology alone is not the solution to efficient and effective information delivery, although it is the major contributor to the development of multimedia information and networks. ICT are powerful tools that can only

be used effectively if the users, administrators, librarians and patrons in this case - have acquired adequate knowledge and skills and a certain level of competency according to their needs.

References:

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2. Kamila, Kanchan. "Managerial change for the survival of library and information centers in information and Communication technology era" ICAL 2009, Delhi, 5-8 October 2009 <http://crl.du.ac.in/ical09/papers/index.htm>
3. Steinerova, Jela (2001) "Human issues of library and information work" Information Research, 6(2) Available at: <http://InformationR.net/ir/6-2/paper95.html>

New Arrivals

GENERAL

1. A Primer of Genome Science/Gibson, 2009.
2. An Introduction to Behavior Genetics/Benjamin, 2008.
3. Basic & Clinical Pharmacology/Katzung, Bertram G; McGraw Hill, 2009.
4. Epidemiology & Biostatistics: an Introduction to clinical research / Kestenbaum B, 2008.
5. Epidemiology for Public Practice/Robert, 2008.
6. Essential Readings in Infectious Disease Epidemiology/ Manya Magnus, 2009.
7. Genetics/ Peter, Bejaman, 2008.
8. Genetics/Bsazzett, Sinaur, 2010.
9. Handbook of Satatistical Genetics /Balding, D.J; John Wiley & Sons, 2009.
10. Human Development in India/ Gopal Jee, Ane Books, 2008.
11. Microbiology: with diseases by body system/Bauman Robert W.; Peason, San Francis, 2009.
12. Nanomedicine/ Vardan, Wiley, 2008.
13. Robust Methods in Biostatistics/Heritier, Stephane I; UK, john Wiley, 2009.
14. Scientific Thought/Lerner, Gale, 2008
15. Textbook of Therapeutics/ Richard A Helms; Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2008.
16. Translation Approach in Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine/Mao, 2008.
17. Virus and Nanotechnology / Manchester, M, 2009.

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1. Encyclopedia of Global Warming & Climate Change, 2008.
2. Encyclopedia of Molecular Pharmacology, 2008.
3. Encyclopedia of Survey Research Method, 2008.
4. India Who's Who 2008-09/
5. Stedman's Medical Dictionary, 2009.
6. The Dictionary Series, 2009.
7. Ulrich's Periodical Directory 2009.

NEWS

TechJournalContents

TechJournalContents is a brand new service which lets us to search across the current issues of more than 3,600 scholarly technology journals from multiple publishers, in order to find the latest research articles. The results of searches

made in TechJournalContents as feeds, can be saved as RSS feeds and then keep up-to-date with new content via a feed reader. TechJournalContents can be used as a current awareness service.

<http://www.techxtra.ac.uk/techtocs/>

NACLIN -2010

13th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking - NACLIN 2010 will be held from June 15-18, 2010 at the BITS –Pilani, Goa Campus organized by DELNET- Developing Library Network. The theme of convention is "Revitalizing Libraries in a Global Village: High-end Technologies and Resource Management." This convention will mainly focus on the following sub-themes.

- Information and Knowledge Resources
- ICT Applications
- Networking Library and Knowledge
- Digital Library Development : Technical Solutions
- Information Services
- Knowledge Society
- Human Resource
- Library Commission

<http://www.naclin.org>

ETTLIS- 2010

2nd International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information services (ETTLIS) 2010, will be held from 3-5 June 2010 at the Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT) Wakhnaghat (HP), Jointly Organized by Learning Resource Centre Jaypee

Institute of Information Technology Noida (UP) & Learning Resource Centre Jaypee University of Information Technology Wakhnaghat (HP). The sub-theme of the International Symposium are:

- Global Best Practices in Libraries and Information Services.
- Emerging Technologies: Issues and Challenges.
- Perception Changes in Librarianship.

- Strategic Partnership.
- Open Access and Open Source.

<http://www.jiit.ac.in/jiit/ETTLIS/home.html>

ICDL-2010

International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL 2010) will be held from February 23-26, 2010 at The Energy and Resource Institute, New Delhi organized by TERI. The theme of the conference is 'Digital Libraries: Shaping the Information Paradigm' and the focus is on the strengths and potential of digital libraries and their role in education, cultural, social and economic development.

- Digital Libraries Development, Architecture and Management
- Content Management in DLS
- Information Storage and Retrieval for Global Access
- Multilinguality and Interoperability Issues
- Digital Rights Management
- Digital Preservation and Access Management
- DL Case Studies
- Semantic Web

- KM AND Organizational Repositories
- E-Learning and e-Publishing
- DL Standards & Policy
- Open Archive Initiative
- Role of Digital Libraries in Education, Cultural, Social and Economic Development
- ODOL (Open Distance and Online Learning)
- Multimedia Content
- Virtual Support to Distance Learners Web Based Methodologies (web 2.0, wiki etc)
- E-Resources Management for Distance Learners
- Access Management
- M-Learning Technology
- Open Educational Resources

<http://www.teriin.org>