Library and Information Links: A Great Platform for LIS Professionals

Shaveta
Librarian
Amardeep Singh Shergill Memorial College
Mukandpur Distt. SBS Nagar
(A Constituent College of Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar)
e-mail : savetagndu@gmail.com
http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9750-9943

Abstract - Paper is a small effort to compose the LIS Links.com a great work of Mr Badan Barman. Paper discribe the aims and objectives of LIS Links. Library Professionals can share useful information on various aspects of library and information science through voluntary membership of Lislink.com. Here members can get solution of their problem on professionals and technical issues. They can share and discuss their ideas, opinion and experiences related to library. LIS Links acts as a social networking site of a special professional group. Its also highlight the coverage area, Financial aspects, awards and projects of LIS Links.

Keywords: LIS Links, LIS Professionals, Library and Information Links, Networking links.

Introduction

The Library and Information Science Links (Lislinks.com) is India’s first and largest social network for library professionals. Lislinks.com is created by Badan Barman Assistant Professor in Guwahati University, Guwahati from Assam. Dr. Badan Barman create LIS Links website as part of his PhD programme on 26th of February, 2008. Lislinks is one of the most popular site among library professionals in India. It provides a platform to library professionals where they are connected with each other. Library Professionals can share useful information on various aspects of library and information science through voluntary membership of Lislink.com. Here members can get solution of their problem on professionals and technical issues. They can share and discuss their ideas, opinion and experiences related to library. LIS Links acts as a social networking site of a special professional group. The interface has a provision of customize searching, browsing and subscription options through SMS, email, Chat, RSS etc. Member of link can share data and can discuss their opinions through chat, Scrape message, email, discussion forum, groups, blog, event, note, photo, video etc. It promote the e-learning among LIS professionals and create a habit of cooperation between them.

Aims and Objectives

To provide the right information to right user at right time is the aim of library and it is proved by Lislink.com. The main aim of the link is to sharing of experiences, information, views with
each other to provide best library services. The major aims and objectives of LisLink is are discussed as:

- To help in career development of LIS professionals
- Work as mobile library service for LIS professionals
- This link explores the information without any geographical boundries.
- To provide a platform for researchers from where they can get data required to their research from target audience.
- To provide CAS/SDI services to Indian LIS professionals.
- To provide a group discussion platform for LIS professionals by using Web2.0 technology.
- To provide a plateform where researcher, teachers, students and LIS professionals can interact with each other at any time.
- To provide easy access in retrieving required information.
- It works to create awareness among LIS professionals.

Coverage

LIS Links deals with the library and information science field. Subject, area and audience covered by it is given as:

**Subject Coverage:** It deals with subject of library and information Science. LIS specialists can upload posts related to jobs, events like seminars, workshops, conferences etc., photos and videos related to professions are there. The static data of posts on LISLinks is given as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Members</td>
<td>20,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Discussions Posting</td>
<td>8,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Job Posting</td>
<td>5,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Event Posting</td>
<td>973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Photos Posting</td>
<td>1,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Videos Posting</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Daily Pageviwes</td>
<td>9,583(Average)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Geographical Coverage:** It is the first India’s social network for the area of library and information science. It is very popular site in the field of library. Link provide very useful information related to LIS from outsides of India. Number of people follow it on facebook, twitter etc. are:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Facebook Likes</td>
<td>7,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Twitter Followes</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Broad caste Message Subscribers</td>
<td>19,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Google Plus Followers</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SMS Subscribers</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alexa Rank</td>
<td>10,015 (in India)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>LIS Links Digest Subscribers</td>
<td>8,559</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Language Coverage:** Main language of LISLinks is English; only in some cases people can found content in Hindi language.

Financial Aspects of LISLinks: LISLinks deals to provide current information related to library and information science through website. Funds are very important to operate website. The main source of income is online advertisements, sponsorship and voluntary Donation. The financials support and grants for running LISLinks website is discuss as:

Corporate Sponsors (http://www.lislinks.com/lis-links-sponsors)
From Corporate Sector Following agencies are providing funds to LISLinks:
- Academic Book Centre, Guwahati.
- Daphne System Private Limited, Delhi.
- DVS Publishers, Guwahati.
- Eastern Book House Publisher, Guwahati.

Except these there are many individual donors who provide money to run this link successfully.

Advertisement (http://www.lislinks.com/advertise-with-us)

LIS Links provide a facility to market products on LISLinks at non-refundable charges decided by administrator. People can provide the advertisement of their product in the form of a Text, JPG file, GIF animation etc.

Events related to LIS like seminars, conferences, workshop, refresher course in India can advertise at discount of 50%.

There is a voluntary donation option for the member to run the website and minimum acceptable amount of donation is $13 USD or RS600/-.

**Supporting Activities of LISLinks**

LISLinks Grant (http://www.lislinks.com/lis-links-grants)
LISLinks Grant is a programme where non-profit LIS related organisations in India can avail some free facilities for one year from LISLinks. The LIS organization who have 100 members and works for development and promoting LIS can be eligible for grant. Assam Library Association for the period of 26/4/2013 to 25/4/2015 and Library and Information Science Professionals Association for the time of 14/7/2014 to 13/7/2015 was recipient of LIS Link Grant.

**Scholar Award**

LISLink is rewarding through LIS Links Scholar Award (http://www.lislinks.com/lis-links-awards) to those people who work to promote LIS and who provided news of Job vacancy, seminar posting, tips to work effectively in library and answered the queries of others and help to grow the site. To motivate the professionals and to boost them for continue work for professional developments this award was started from the year 2010. It is a small effort of acknowledgement to those people who spent their time on site for sharing their great advice, opinions and ideas, each LIS Links Scholar will be awarded with a Certificate, a Mementos as an appreciation of their efforts.

6.3 India’s Best Institutional Reportory Award (http://www.lislinks.com/lis-links-awards)

From 2012, LIS Links through Open Access Journals Search Engine awards the India’s Best Institutional Reportory Award to promote the institutional repositories. The award will include a Certificate and a Mementos. In 2012 ePrints@CMFRI was selected for this award.

**Projects**

UGC NET Guide (www.ugcnetguide.com)

UGC NET Guide is a complete online guide book for directing the users in a proper way for preparing UGC NET examination. It also provide syllabus, previous years solved paper of NET SET/ SLET Examinations of all subjects and papers are arranged accordingly to the subject alphabetically. The answer keys of the solved papers after June 2012 are taken from the updated answer keys released by UGC.

**LIS Links Document Delivery Service (DDS)** (www.lislinks.com/group/document-delivery-service-dds)

Document Delivery Service is a very useful service of LISLinks.com. you can compose a message with detailed information about required document (particularly e-book, e-journal, article) to LISLink DDS members and then send message by clicking on “Send Message to Group”. Members have to follow certain policies of LIS Links DDS to attain the service of DDS. Currently 554 people are members LIS Links DDS which are increased day by day. Some e-database/e-journals/e-books which can be access by members of LIS Links DDS are:

- http://accessengineeringlibrary.com/
- http://as.wiley.com
- http://cers.jccc.in/
Sample in Library and information Science (sample.lislinks.com)

It is a very important project of LIS Links for library professionals especially for new library professional. It provide different formats, samples, models or template like as Inter Library Loan Reminder Letter For Library, Library Accession Register, Seminar Certificate, Library Gate Register etc. and assist to manage the library. The files in the form of .text, .doc, .docx, .ppt etc are used to design the samples. Library Professionals can view and download the required sample.

Circular in Library and information Science (circular.lislinks.com)

This website is designed to provide latest information about LIS to LIS professionals. It store different kinds of important circular related to LIS released by different institutes/organizations in India and beyond. Circular file is accepted in all types of file format.

LIS Links Live Programme (Video Chat) (www.lislinks.com)

It is also one of the most important activity of LIS Links. In this programme member of lislinks.com can watch and listen live video of an event, classroom lecture, seminar etc. It is very helpful for professionals for any discussions. For live video chat you needed to install a camera and speaker with your PC then open the site www.lislinks.com and here click on button Start a Hangout and then send an invite to lislinks@gmail.com.

LIS Links Newsletter (newsletter.lislinks.com)

LIS Links start its first publication named as LIS Links Newsletter on July 2015. It is an online newsletter. Mr. Siddhartha Shankar Ray is Editor and Mr. Badan Barman is work as both Associate editor and publisher of newsletter. Newsletter provides valuable information of LIS like job vacancies, upcoming events, new PhD awardees, LIS news etc to professionals. There is an option of to download and view the newsletter from vol.1, no.1, 10th July, 2015 to vol.1, no.7, 10th Oct, 2015.

Impact of LIS Links on Library Professionals

LIS Links have a great impact on LIS professionals. More than twenty thousands people are member of the links. LIS Links provide them a great opportunity to update their information.
regarding profession. LIS Professionals here can get advice, ideas and latest information regarding LIS. They use it as guide for preparing UGC NET Exams. Members can take an idea about using a new software and starting a new project from the experiences of the other co-workers and seniors.

**Suggestions**

Lislinks.com is best social network site for the professional development of LIS. It works very hard for the development of LIS. As it is a non-funded site. Administration team is working hard to manage the site. I suggest to library professionals to become the donor of Lislinks to sponsor the site and take imitative to help the other professional. Library Associations and organizations in India should take some steps for the more development of Lislinks.com LIS Links team should organize seminars, workshops, lectures for the professional developments.

**Conclusion**

LIS Links play a vital role for development of LIS and LIS professionals. Professionals can be a member of LIS Links at free of cost and can help to develop the LIS. Members can upload current information regarding events, jobs, admissions etc. and they can discuss and can get suggestion regarding their professional work. LIS Links is distributing the information through website, mobile version of website, email alert, sms (to subscriber) and email broadcast (to members), google plus, twitter, facebook, RSS feed and LIS Links Newsletter. It provide a broad platform to the LIS Professionals where they can encourage, update their knowledge, assist each other without any geographical and time boundaries.

**References:**