Collection Development and ICT Academic Libraries in E-Environment

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Abstract - *The ICT have changed the collections, organizations and services of libraries to a great extend which was not possible to predict a few decades ago. This paper highlights the causes of change in library environment. Discusses the changes in libraries e-environment. Critically analyses the changing role of LIS professionals in academic library environments and Professional Development Tools in LIS. Concludes with the remarks that LIS professionals need to find optimum solutions in the library service and information management after properly analyzing the present conditions and future trends and put through needed reform continuously with full courage and intelligence which will lead towards a better future.*

Keywords: Collection Development, Professional Development Tools, Electronic Resources, Content Management, Digital Library, Institutional Repositories.

Introduction

Library environment has been drastically changed with the rapid growth and development of Information communication technology. The ICT have changed the collections, organizations and services of libraries to a great extend which was not possible to predict a few decades ago. With this development the library environment have been changed from manual library to computerized library. Accordingly the roles of Library an Information science professionals have also been changed drastically. Due to this changes the qualification, knowledge and skill required for Library and Information science professionals have also been changed. In this changing library environment, the role of LIS professionals is using the modern ICT tools and technologies.

Causes of change in Collection Development in Academic Libraries E- Environment

The library and information science environment has been seriously altered because of the social and technological changes that took place during past few decades. The manic causes of change in library environment are:
   a) Information technology has made a great advance with popularizing www and its access by people throughout the world.
   b) The volume and variety of information, particularly the electronic are being produced day by day have reached to an alarming stage.
   c) The trends of libraries have been more users oriented than past with the use of various web based tools.

d) The value of information has been enhanced within an organization as well as in an individual.

e) The changing attitude to reach in a state of excellence Rapid development of Information communication Technology and its impact on library system and services.

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g) Striking and unexampled changes that have been brought by end users of information and information system for the pin pointed and exhaustive information with in very limited time. It may be termed as behavioral changes of users in the end use of information.

Change in Academic Library E-environment

a) **online databases**: the databases which contains a number of journals on one or related subjects arte being popularized by the users due to its added advantages over print journals. A good number of online databases such as IEL online, ASME, ASCE, Science Direct, Emeralds, Proquest etc are available in the market on reasonable prince.

b) **journals to Online Journals**: the print journals are being shifted to electronic journals stored in some external storage medias such as CD/DVD are now being further supplemented by online journals.

c) **patents from Print to Online**: Many patents are now accessible through online through INPADOC or the issuing authtirties such as US Patent House, House, IBM patent Office etc.

d) **standards from print to CD**: Several standards such as ASTM standards, ASME standards, IEC standards are now available on stand alone or networked version of CD and online also.

e) **Research Reports form Print to Online**: Research reports which were available in print are now available online. Example of such online reports are CERN, KEK, DESY etc.

f) **Books to e-books**: In library collections e-books are gradually occupying a significant position. A good number of publishers such as Springer, Wiley, Elsevier, Cambridge University Press are Producing a large number of e-books which are in demand by users.

Changes in access tools to retrieve information sources: Over the years, retrieval tools have changes from printed library catalogue cards and printed indexing and abstracting journals to OPAC, Web OPAC search engines and online databases with a lot of value additions such as citations, full text linking, references linking, RSS feed etc.

Changes in Media of Information resources: the media of information has been transformed in libraries from print to microform to electronic (CD/DVD/Online). But it is fact that these changed medias are not replacing print documents rather these are supplement to the print resources.

Change in Organization of Library materials: Due to the developments of computers, library software, library networking's, the manual system of organization of computerized system and an automated system. A number of library software have been developed and are in user by the libraries for systematic organization of library materials and to automate various housekeeping operations.

Change in library service: with the changes in library collections, organizations and expectations of users, the library services have also been changed over past few years. The basic services which are now being normally provided by modern libraries are

- Automated issue and return of documents through library software, RFID etc
- Online public Access catalogue (OPAC) and Web OPAC
- Document Delivery services through e-mail, Fax etc
- Online Inter library loan facilities by allowing external users to access the e-books, online journals as guest users
- Online access facilities for electronic resources
- Digital library services
- Link to relevant Web resource (licensed and free) through library portals and electronic resources registry databases
- Photocopying to digital photocopying to network printing
- Translation service form manual to automatic
- Citation analysis through web of science
- Web based CAS, Conference announcement, news paper clipping services
- Reference help desk to '' Ask a librarian online'
- Digital archiving of journal articles, research report, thesis, project reports and other
- internal publications through the institutional repositories.

Changing Role of LIS Professionals in Digital Libraries

The following discussed In modern libraries, the role of LIS professional have been changed As

a) Electronic publishing and web based content management: The LIS professionals have to play an important role in the web based content management of the library. Besides. For internal publications such as newsletters, research reports etc the LIS professionals may have to play an important role by offering their resources-technological and human to provide a site for developing , testing and archiving electronic publications

b) As a search Intermediary: Since a large amount of information is available in a network environment, there needs a role for trained intermediaries having search skills, abilities to analysis and evaluating information resources an match the need with the resources. Besides, large amount of information and easier ways to access sometimes posed problems for users where accuracy and authenticity may be at question. In this changing environment, the role of LIS Professionals as both user-educator and intermediary is most important.

c) Provide access to electronic resources: The LIS professionals need to provide access to the electronic resources along with the print resources. They may also have to provided access to the online resources by creating online resources registry databases

d) Creation of Digital Library and Institutional Repositories: with the growing popularity of digital documents, digitization of internal publications such as e-articles of the faculty researchers, thesis project repots etc, the LIS professionals have to create digital libraries and institutional repositories to meet their users demand in a satisfactory way.

e) Role in educating users: In the present information environment, the LIS professionals have to play a role of teacher/advisor in educating users. They have to provide instructions

about information resources and assist the users in locating and evaluating information using variety of methods and techniques

f) Role in Information policy development: The LIS professionals need to give continuing attention and leadership in information policy development due to the changes in acquisition policies of the libraries, particularly in the context of acquisition of e-resources, consortia, copy right, intellectual property right and digital right management etc. with the change of the media form print to electronic/online, the concept of acquisition has also changed to licensing. Instead of fixing terms and conditions for the supply of documents by the vendors, the present role of professionals may have to negotiate a license agreement with vendors or publishers. Cost of accessing electronic information and other terms and conditions such as access fee, assess restriction, downloading facilities, usage statistics and mining, back volume access, historical archive etc have to be set in case of purchase of electronic resources either form publishers or vendors or through consortia. They have to play a role in the contractual, legal and ethical aspects of information use. Other concern of information use such as confidential, open, censorship, piracy etc should also be taken into consideration at the time of policy formulation.

Professional Development Tools in LIS

The information towards Professional Development should be practically downloaded from the senior level professionals and library executives. Their personal experiences and familiarity towards the enhancing skills in the LIS field helps the junior level professionals a lot. They can provide better guidance to the fresher's in growing to higher levels in the profession. Fresher's in the field have to establish better inter personal relations to grow together. In addition to the above there are many programmers to participate individually or in groups. Such few programmers are listed below:-

- Orientation Programs
- Refresher Courses
- Conferences, Seminars, Workshops,etc
- Training Programs
- Internships
- Library Tours and In-House Orientation Classes
- Internet and Library Web Sites
- Information Literacy Participation
- Consortia Participation
- Collaboration Activities
- Man Power sharing through Turn-Key Projects
- Library Week Celebrations
- Dr.S.R.Ranganathan Birth Centenary Celebrations
- Book Faire
- Library Visits

Conclusion

The Library environment irrespective of type, size etc is already in the process of change and the change process will also continue in future. In this context the Library and Information science professionals have to accept the changes and develop themselves accordingly to suit the changing library situation to serve the user clientele in a better way. In near future it will be indispensable that LIS professionals are endowed with the ability of efficient

communication basic knowledge on technology that are used in libraries and literacy on computers and networks. Besides, they are expected to be leaders to lead a team. Hence, LIS professionals need to find optimum solutions in the library service and information management after properly analyzing the present conditions and future trends and put through needed reform continuously with full courage and intelligence. All these will lead towards a bright future for library and information science professionals.

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