

The Changing Landscape for the Libraries and Librarians : Issues & Challenges



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for the Libraries and
Librarians:
Issue and Challenges***



***Dr. D.D. Lal
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Prof. Manoj Kumar Sinha***

BFC PUBLICATIONS



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Title : The Changing Landscape for the Libraries and Librarians

Chief Editors : Dr. D. D. LAL Editors : Ms. Yogita Talwar, Prof. Manoj Kumar Sinha

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Edition : 2022

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Published by:

BFC Publications Private Limited
CP-61, Viraj Khand, Gomti Nagar,
Lucknow-226010

ISBN: 978-93- 5509- 746-0

Printed at : Thomson Press India Limited

Acknowledgements



I would like to take this opportunity to thank those very special people, without whom the completion of this work would not have been possible. People, who shaped me, guided me and supported me in their own special ways.

First, I would like to extend my deepest and most sincere gratitude to Prof. Biplob Chakrabarti, Professor, University of Calcutta, for all I have learned from him and for his continuous help and support.

I would like to sincerely thank Prof. Pravat Mandal, Director I/C, National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), Manesar, for providing necessary infrastructure and resources to accomplish my Book work and his constant supports and works of encouragement and being my incessant source of inspiration.

I am also thankful to Prof. Pankaj Seth, Senior Professor of NBRC, for always being so approachable & inspiring in his interactions. I am especially thankful for his wholehearted support of my work as well as his encouragement for all my works.

I would like to express my whole hearted thanks and deep gratitude to Prof. Manoj Kumar Sinha (Professor, DLISc, Assam University) and Ms. Yogita Talwar (Assistant Librarian, Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab) for their valuable suggestions.

I am greatly indebted, and wish to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Mahender Kumar Singh (Information Scientist), our DeLCON Consortium staffs Mr. Sukhvir Singh Pundir (Technical Associate), Mr. Neeraj Kasana (Technical Assistant), and Ms. Shalini (Technical Assistant) for their generous help and expert advice in carrying out this work. I sincerely thank all my colleagues for their timely support and encouragement that made my 'Edited Book', even at the peak of intense pressure, a joyous experience.

I extend my sincere thanks to Prof. P. K. Roy (Ex. Director, NBRC), Prof. Subrata Sinha (Ex. Director, NBRC) and Dr. T. Madhan Mohan Sir (Ex. Adviser, DBT) for their wholehearted support and encouragement for my work during their tenure.

Last but not the least, I express my heartfelt gratitude towards my parents (Father - Sh. Kunj Bihari Prasad, Mother - Smt. Kamla Devi), my wife (Mrs. Sunita), my daughter (Ms. Nitika), and my family members, whose unflinching love and confidence helped me to pursue this work as my passion for Library Science. I am truly indebted to all of them.

My special thanks go to the owner and staff of M/s. BFC Publication for bring out this beautiful edited book in record time.

Thanks to those whose names I have forgotten to mention.

Dr. D. D. Lal

Preface

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The Changing Landscape for the Libraries and Librarians : Issues & Challenges

Today, people get their information online, - often filtered through for-profit platforms. If a book isn't online, it's as if it doesn't exist. Yet much of modern knowledge still exists only on the printed page, stored in libraries. Libraries haven't met this digital demand, stymied by costs, e-book restrictions, policy risks, and missing infrastructure. We now have the technology and legal framework to transform our library system. The Internet Archive, working with library partners, proposes bringing millions of books online, through purchase or digitization, starting with the books most widely held and used in libraries and classrooms.

With the emergence of new technologies, the traditional library, acting as a medium for sharing information, needs an integral refinement in its processes. This transformation will bring in efficiency and minimise human error in the processes with the help of smart gates, material location finders and smart check-out booths to automate the processes of controlling access, locating item as well as the issuing/returning of materials. However, the changeover to a smart library system might face several challenges, like, for instance, the cost of implementing numerous high-frequency RFID readers at prime locations in the library.

Another crucial challenge of this system will be the equipment's limitations to achieving a more performant system. Highly sophisticated equipment will be required which will largely affect the cost.

Libraries are facing increased expectations from users, and challenge of developing technologies including: Web 2.0, e-books, digitations and a problem of archiving digital content. Web-based technology provides users and information professionals with powerful and flexible tools for information dissemination.

Librarian offers a helping hand for users to find out the required piece of information and to use it for personal and professional purposes. Due to the advent of the Internet, the World Wide Web and the proliferation of online catalogues, the role of a librarian has been changed. Now he is more efficient and has new roles as intermediary, facilitator, end-user trainer/educator, web organizer & designer, researcher, interface designer, knowledge manager/professional and sifter of information resources. Librarian should

be knowledgeable about a variety of information sources and follow the new trends and advancements in computers, media, and publishing.

In a wider informational ecosystem throughout the world, a “smart library” is an information centre with networks of numerous libraries and their services. Smartness means that the evaluation of real resources and users is used to guide the development of new library e-tools and services.

The concept of a smart library focuses on the use of technology in libraries and is intended to be a highly collaborative learning environment in which users are encouraged to contribute ideas and information. Smart libraries enhance standard and non-traditional library services, as well as the library experience of users and students.

A number of fantastic digital projects are going on around the world. Some of the emerging technologies being leveraged by libraries can be enlisted as: digital maker labs, coding clubs, digital storytelling, virtual reality, mobile apps; open libraries, RFID technologies, robot technologies, cloud printing, web technologies etc.

Libraries are in a prime place experiment with creative spaces and take on costly duties that are limited to acting as more than just information resources. Libraries must harness the spirit of the user community, analyse their needs, and provide tailored resources to promote e-governance, information literacy, content creation, native languages, and lifelong learning for the poor, underprivileged, and marginalised. They must expand their reach outside of the traditional area and promote e-culture on a large scale. There is a special guideline that consumers should be aware of the above initiatives.

This proposed book will focus on traditional libraries, smart and modern libraries, challenges of library transformation, issues and challenges of libraries and librarians etc.

S/d

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Contents



• Acknowledgements	(iii)
• Preface	(iv)
• List of Contributors	(vi)
1. Emerging Trends and Technologies in Academic Libraries : Vision and Challenges	1
Avijit Dutta	
2. University Library Staff Training - A Need of the Day.....	14
Sangita Purohit	
3. Use of Social Media in Libraries Services Keeping in View of Connecting Users.....	23
Subhankar Ray Chowdhury and Than Singh Niranjana	
4. Virtual Reading Room in Academic Library	35
Yogita Talwar & D D LAL	
5. Library Information System: Transitions and Need for Digital Libraries in India	46
Ashish Singh Yadav; Ashwani Kr Sharma; Brahm Prakash and Kamini Singh	
6. Issues and Challenges in Developing Artificial Intelligence in Academic Libraries.....	76
B. Raviivvenkat and Rajeev B.A.	
7. Quality Education and Lifelong Online Learning through MOOCs: A Bibliometric Mapping of MOOCs	85
V. K. Bharati	
8. Effective Library Website Creation Using Cognitive Neuroscience	100
Jismy Vakkachan and Jomy Jose	
9. Bigdata Ameliorates Library Services	109
Pramod Kumar Hota and Lopamudra Hota	

10. Reinvention of Libraries Using Technology to Improve Community Information Seeking Behaviour	118
Aruna Chanu Oinam and Purnima Thoidingjam	
11. Green Libraries : An Introduction to Global World for Chapter	134
Geetanjali Rana Kanwar	
12. Digital Rights Management and Their Implications in the Library and Information Centres	160
Meghabat Singh and Akriti Sharma	
13. Social Media in Strategic Management of Library and Information Services	172
Sanjeev Kumar	
14. Web 3.0 Technologies and Its Application in Libraries	182
Jyotsna Rajan	
15. Modern Library Services for a Dynamic World.....	197
Kalliani J	
16. Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) Resources	208
Sahil Bains	
17. Role of Library Science Associations and their Awards	217
Shalini Tyagi	
18. Patent Pool: An Effective Intellectual Property Competition	246
Kamini Singh; L.S. Gangwar, Brahm Prakash, Ashish Singh Yadav and A.D. Pathak	
19. Resource Sharing and Library Consortia for the Libraries and Librarians : Issues & Challenges	259
NK Kharti and Payal Malhotra	
Index	277

Index



A

Academic Libraries, 36, 264
Academic Library Services, 1
Architecture Of Digital Rights Management, 162
Artificial Intelligence, 78, 185
Awards, 221

B

Big Data, 112
Biodegradable, 137

C

Cloud Computing, 137
Cognitive Neuroscience, 102
Communication, 23
Competition, 250
Consortia, 264
Content, 23
Copyright, 23

D

Digital Library, 48, 264
Digital Rights Management, 162
Digital Security, 162
Digital Technology, 1
Digital Watermarking, 162
Dspace, 212

E

Effective, 102

Electronic Thesis And Dissertations, 212

Energy Efficiency, 137
Environmental Challenges, 137
E-Resources, 264
ETD Repository, 212
ETD Resources, 212

G

Global Warming, 137
Green Libraries, 137

I

ICT, 201
Image Processing, 78
Information Literacy, 121
Information Services, 201
Information Sources, 201
Information Technology, 1, 121
Intellectual Property, 250
Intelligent Libraries, 185
IOT, 112

L

Libraries, 23, 121, 201
Library, 14
Library 2.0 Services, 175
Library 3.0, 185
Library Information Services, 48
Library Promotion And Marketing, 175
Library Science Associations, 221

Library Services, 112

Library Staff, 14

Library Website, 102

License Generation, 162

Lifelong, 87

LIS, 14, 221

M

Marketing Library Resources And
Services, 174

Messaging, 23

Metadata, 162

Moocs, 87

N

Need, 14

NLP, 78

O

Online Learning, 87

Open Access, 212

Open Digital Rights Language, 162

P

Patent Pool, 250

Pricing Models, 264

Q

Quality Education, 87

R

Resource Sharing, 264

Robotics, 78

Role, 221

S

Scholarly Community, 212

Semantic Web, 185

Services, 23

Social Media, 23, 201

Social Media And Libraries, 174

Social Media Tools, 175

Study Room, 36

Sustainability, 137

T

TDM, 78

Texts, 23

Tools, 78

Training, 14

Transitions, 48

V

Virtual Reading Room, 36

W

Water Conservation, 137

Web, 23

Web 3.0, 185

Web Technology, 201

Women, 121



This book emphasizes about the Issues and Challenges of the Library and Librarians and focussed on the crucial challenge of the Library system as well as on the emergence of new technologies, in the libraries. Today, people get their information online — often filtered through for-profit platforms. If a book isn't online, it's as if it doesn't exist. Yet much of modern knowledge still exists only on the printed page, stored in libraries. Libraries haven't met this digital demand, stymied by costs, e-book restrictions, policy risks, and missing infrastructure. We now have the technology and legal frameworks to transform our library system. The Internet Archive, working with library partners, proposes bringing millions of books online, through purchase or digitization, starting with the books most widely held and used in libraries and classrooms.



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