

AN EFFECTIVE USE OF INTEGRATED LIBRARY APPLICATION IN COLLEGE

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ABSTRACT

This study delves into the effective use of integrated library applications within the libraries of the College of Engineering in Karnataka State. The investigation explores the multifaceted impact of integrating advanced technologies into traditional library management systems. The analysis encompasses various dimensions, including resource discovery, user experience, collaboration, and the overall transformation of library services. The transition from manual methods to integrated library systems is examined in terms of its efficiency in cataloging, circulation, and resource management. The study also sheds light on the positive influence of integrated systems on resource utilization, providing insights into how advanced search capabilities and user-friendly interfaces contribute to a more seamless learning experience. Furthermore, the study emphasizes the pivotal role of integrated library applications in promoting collaboration and resource sharing among different departments and institutions. The centralized nature of these systems facilitates interlibrary loan services, fostering a culture of interdisciplinary research and academic excellence.

KEYWORDS: Integrated Library Application, College, library management systems.

INTRODUCTION

When it comes to a society's advancement and growth, the discipline of library and information science is pivotal. Individuals' character development and quality of life are both improved by the procedure. Protecting and preserving a nation's cultural legacy is another important function it serves. When it comes to a country's social and economic development, the availability of information as a resource is paramount. When it comes to promoting economic and social progress, libraries are indispensable. These days, a country's level of development is measured by how "information rich" or "information poor" it is. It is possible to view the field of library and information science (LIS) as the meeting point of two historically separate fields. The primary goal of this class is to help students grasp the

meaning of basic expressions. The course's goal is to ensure that its students leave with a solid understanding of library science, including its definition, historical background, necessity, purpose, and many roles.

ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN EDUCATION

When people think about a "library," they usually picture a collection of books or other literary works. Additionally, many people view books as integral to the educational process and identify them with the presence of education. The library exists as a physical object, but education itself is abstract. Inferring from the tenets of Eastern philosophy, one could say that the library represents the material embodiment (deha) and education the spiritual essence (atma). When the atma and deha live side by side, life continues. It is impossible to imagine life on Earth without a particular sentient being. One definition of life is the union of the material body with the immaterial spirit. Together, the education system and the library store a wealth of information. One definition of education is the process by which people learn about the world around them, from their own unique history and present-day experiences. This enormous body of information is then housed in the library.

Libraries and education are two sides of the same coin; they both help each other out. These things are in a condition of being where they are intrinsically linked and cannot be split or separated. There is an intrinsic connection between the two things. When one person is underappreciated, it diminishes the value of the other. From their inception, the library and education have had a strong and mutually beneficial relationship. A person's skills, dispositions, behavior, and social aptitude can be shaped through a wide range of educational experiences. A person's humanity is profoundly impacted by their educational experiences. Civilization progresses in tandem with the improvement of education.

The idea of a library seems to fit in with the educational system well in nearly every way. All of this has to do with the complete tools that help a person progress. In many fields, including religion and sports, this makes it easier to learn new things, gain insight, and find motivation. It is possible to make a mistake by seeing these two institutions via a dualistic lens.

To the extent that libraries carry out this pedagogical role, they are better able to supply the school with necessary curricular materials. Libraries work hard to meet the varied requirements of their patrons by providing a wealth of information. There are many more

things than only books and media that make up a library. For those looking to expand their horizons and fuel their hunger for knowledge, it is an invaluable resource..

SIGNIFICANCE OF LIBRARIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

According to the University Grants Commission (UGC), libraries are absolutely necessary for universities and other educational institutions. Thus, it is believed that all universities should have a library well-stocked with books from a variety of genres and subjects. Every aspect of the library—its service, its organization, and its management—is vital. College libraries are in a terrible condition, showing signs of decay and desolation, and this is disturbing in both hilly and plain areas. The sad truth is that college libraries are in the same predicament they were in when Dr. S. R. Ranganathan was a professor there. College libraries, in his view, were little more than a collection of locked cabinets. The bulk of the audience was crammed into a small area known as the main library. Almost no one from the student body has expressed an interest in using the main library. By weekly completing an application form and autonomously choosing a little amount from a worn-out printed catalog, the student has the possibility to approach the limit. The books would be neatly stacked on the desk by nightfall. Even if a student stumbles into his book in a collection, he or she may be disappointed if the book doesn't live up to their expectations or if it contradicts their preconceived ideas. Ranganathan (1988) argues that college libraries may benefit from receiving more money from student library fees and making better use of the government's library grant to purchase necessary books. It has come to light that there are cases where book vendors try to force libraries to purchase books that are out of date and unneeded. While the aforementioned tendency may raise the standard of literature generally, it will inevitably lower library standards in the process.

The variety of written materials found in a public library is one way in which a college library differs. Faculty, students, non-teaching staff, and a subgroup of connected researchers make up the primary demography of users. Teachers can use the library to satisfy the curiosity of their students and students can use it to further their education. Academic libraries housed within universities house collections of up-to-date scholarly works that are useful for both faculty and students in their chosen fields.

The library must have an extensive collection of textbooks, reference materials, self-help tools, guidebooks, and other pertinent literary works if it is to successfully support the academic curriculum offered by the institution. When users have special demands, it would be tremendously beneficial to include stream-wise chunks that include vital content. Using a contemporary library catalogue instead of an older one has several benefits in today's world.

Regardless of who is in charge of the system, a universally accepted system of cataloging and categorizing would ensure consistency in service delivery and reduce the likelihood of problems. The role of librarian is defined by its portability within the public sector and institutions associated with it. By following established protocols, employees are better able to adjust to new circumstances and carry out their responsibilities to the letter.

ROLE OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES IN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research has an official meaning of "creative work undertaken on a systematic basis to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications"

The power of reading and library use lies in their ability to foster and expand students' imaginations, which in turn helps them become better thinkers and researchers. The library is a great place for students to go to think things over and satisfy their voracious need for information.

For example, findings from the study by Genevieve Hart and Lynn Kleinveldt (2011) show that researchers require the following library services:

- Access to a wealth of up-to-date digital and print resources.
- Historical materials and specialist collections are readily available.
- This has been made possible by digitization projects implemented by libraries in recent years.
- Fast document delivery, knowledgeable resource searching support, and efficient communication and information technology.

College libraries exist primarily to aid students in maintaining relevance in their coursework. College libraries have more restricted room for study compared to university libraries. Educators, on the other hand, benefit from it since it keeps them abreast of developments in the field. Teachers are always learning something new. In order to successfully teach others, one must first have knowledge themselves. Many professors spend their leisure time reading up on their fields and writing scholarly articles to submit to journals or present at conferences. In many cases, the college library is the center of all the research.

When it comes to supporting students who are passionate about writing alongside their academic endeavors, college libraries are invaluable resources. Quite often, people from outside the school, as well as former students and professors, would visit the college library in search of a specific book that they have borrowed in the past. Researchers rely heavily on the college library for assistance in note-taking and writing for a variety of academic reasons, including books, theses, and literary surveys. Educators and students alike can take advantage of its many resources, and it will point them in the right direction as they conduct research.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF LIS EDUCATION IN INDIA

Schools Before Independence Baroda School

It was in 1887 that Melvil Dewey oversaw the founding of the first American library school. For the purpose of staffing the newly established libraries under the State library system, W.A. Borden, a Dewey follower, started librarian training in India in Baroda in 1911. In 1913, an extra training program was started for librarians who worked for city libraries. The classes described above continued even after Borden left. It is believed that John Macfarlane, the first librarian of Calcutta's Imperial Library (today called the National Library), was responsible for instituting in-service training. Countless articles have confirmed this. In subsequent years, the training program was broadened to encompass not only library employees from other institutions, but also those engaged in the administration of books and other materials, irrespective of their occupation.

Punjab University

The American librarian Asa Don Dickinson created a more structured curriculum at Punjab University in Lahore (now Pakistan) in 1915. Being the first of its kind in India, this class

holds a unique distinction. On top of that, Mr. Dickenson wrote a booklet called "The Punjab Library Primer" to help students.

Andhra Desa

Andhra Pradesh's library movement is known as the "people's movement" because the people of the state were heavily involved in the planning, construction, and maintenance of reading rooms and libraries.

There had to be someone on hand with a solid grasp of library administration fundamentals because there were so many libraries. Vijayawada was the site of the first meeting of the Andhra Desa Library Association, which was held in 1914.

Educational seminars, frequently called "training classes," were initiated by the association in 1920 with the express purpose of educating library staff members in the state. Along with lessons on library procedures, the course material covered how to lead adult education sessions.

Mysore State

M. Visweswarayya, who was the Dewan of Mysore in 1920, began the "program of library development" by holding a librarian training school in Bangalore.

Madras Library Association (MALA)

Beginning in 1929, the Malayan Library Association (MALA) began to organize a standardized certificate course in Library Science. The "Summer School" was an educational program that was established in 1928 and continued in 1930 in Madras for the benefit of college librarians and lecturers responsible for college libraries. In 1931, the University of Madras began providing MALA training programs.

LEVELS OF COURSES IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

In recent years, India has expanded its library and information science curriculum to include six distinct levels of study: CLISc, DLSc, BLISc, MLISc, M.Phil, and Ph.D. There are two primary groups that these courses fall into: professional and semi-professional.

Sempronentiality is a feature of CLSc and DLSc courses. At the doctoral level, you can choose from programs like BLISc, MLISc, M Phil, and Ph.D.

Associations for libraries and other non-university organizations provided the bulk of the semi-professional education. Outside of four-year colleges and universities, students can pursue either "vocational" or "non-vocational" courses. Departments of library and information science at universities mostly offer more advanced professional-level courses. The NISCAIR and DRTC courses will also fall under this category. There are two primary levels of university-level education: undergraduate (BLISc) and graduate (MLISc, M Phil, Ph.D.) programs. A new era in library and information science (LIS) education has begun in India, thanks to online programs offered by both traditional institutions and more informal correspondence schools that are affiliated with them.

According to a curriculum development committee report (UGC, 1990), library and information science bachelor's and master's degree programs should offer electives and special courses that focus on current research in both general and niche areas of the field. Examples include advocating for library services, incorporating IT into library operations, etc.

CONCLUSION

One of the ways to evaluate a university is by looking at its library and the resources it has available to students. Recognizing this, libraries have, and will continue to do, develop new programs and services in an effort to enhance their collections and meet the needs of their patrons. Scientific and technological advancements, including the widespread availability of computers and other information technology (IT) capabilities, have had a disproportionately large effect on library programs, services, and operations. Library services have been and will continue to be enhanced through the use of computers and other IT-related benefits. Understanding the current state of library automation, the software used, the services provided, the benefits and limits, and the existing heterogeneity in technology adoption was therefore deemed vital. This program is specifically designed to automate the activities of libraries. Most library software packages used by engineering institutions in Karnataka have not been the subject of a comprehensive evaluation. Additionally, some libraries are utilizing state-of-the-art library software to improve library services to the community of users and

have well-equipped facilities. Thus, it was believed that the researcher would conduct the current study to get first-hand information from all Karnataka engineering colleges and report on the state of their library software. Library management software suitability and shortcomings are the primary foci of the research. It goes on to provide ways to get over these shortcomings.

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