Redefining Libraries to Create Next Generation Libraries

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PREFACE

Each year ADINET celebrates the birth anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan. Besides being the Father of Library & Information Science, he was an educator, mathematician and a philosopher. As part of the celebration, a seminar is held on an important current topic. The seminar helps the Library & Information Science professionals to know about the latest Information and Communication Technology used in libraries, to interact with each other and to discuss important current developments.

The theme of this year's Seminar is "Redefining Libraries to Create Next Generation Libraries".

The sub-themes are :
Enhancing Skills of Librarians
Managing e-resources/Digital Libraries
Innovative Library Services
Use of Social Media in Libraries

It is said that the only thing constant is change. Libraries have changed, and are still changing rapidly. New technologies have changed the way work is being done in libraries. There are new challenges and also new opportunities. This networked world has enabled librarians to work together, to share resources and also to reach out to their users.

It is important to periodically reflect on the work being done in libraries, its aims and its mission. Librarianship has always been about helping users, about finding resources which enable them to learn, to facilitate knowledge and thereby empower them to take better decisions.

It is imperative to enhance skills of librarians, as we cannot have good libraries, unless and until we have good Librarians, properly educated, having various skills and a proper and positive attitude. Librarians also need to have various abilities, such as ability to embrace change, to troubleshoot new technologies, to evaluate needs of all stakeholders, and to market library services and so on.

Owing to the availability of digital technology and internet connectivity, libraries now have material in both print and digital form. E-resources and Digital Libraries have the ability to enhance access to information and knowledge and also bridge barriers of time and space. They have an immense impact on education and therefore on learning.

Libraries, especially small libraries need to focus on providing more innovative library services even with the available limited resources.

Social Media is an online platform which is being used by librarians. It allows users to link to each other and contribute and share content and or comments. Social Media sites like Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+ and Twitter are being used in the library to connect with a library audience for reference, library instruction, outreach and marketing.

By revamping traditional libraries to create modern libraries, librarians can fulfil the mission of libraries which is to empower society by providing information. In today's Web 2.0 world the librarian is more & more the key to information in a digital format. Librarians are indeed the ultimate Search Engines!

Ahmedabad Library Network (ADINET)

ADINET is a Network of Libraries and Information Centers in Gujarat. It was established in 1994 with an initial grant for a few years from National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT), Department of Science and Industrial Research, Government of India. **It caters to all types of Libraries:** school, college, universities, institutional libraries and even public libraries. Hence, **access is provided to hundreds of libraries**, librarians and organizations through the ADINET Network.

The main **vision of ADINET** is to join Libraries, to enable them to achieve what cannot be done by one library alone. This will help them to harness their limited resources and collective strengths so that Libraries can continue to play their historic role as society's portal to information. ADINET therefore promotes sharing of resources and disseminates information among Libraries by networking them.

Objectives

- To **integrate the economic, scientific and technical information systems** into an effective network
- To **co-ordinate with** other regional and national networks, Libraries & Information Centers by providing links especially to OPAC's of Libraries. This will provide seamless connection & universal electronic access to the collective collection of Libraries, together with web-based material.
- To provide **Library Consultancy Services** like creation of Website, Institutional Repositories, etc. This will be of great help to small libraries.
- To prepare **products & services** for the Library profession.
- To help Library & Information Center users & also individuals who practice different professions in **getting specialized information** of their interest.

Services & Activities

a   ADINET is maintaining a **Database of over 5500 Current Periodicals** received by over 140 libraries in & around Ahmedabad.

b   **Document Delivery & Inter-library Loan**:- ADINET enables users to locate periodicals/books/reports, so that these can be borrowed on inter-library loan.

c   **Content Pages** of Library & Information Science journals are regularly supplied to all members. Full texts of selected articles from content pages are supplied.

d   **Supply of Photocopies** from journals published by more than 19 major publishers which cover over five thousand journals.

e   **Manpower development programs.**

f   **Completion of backlog** of any work of library & information centers.

g   **Digitization work.**

h   **Quarterly Seminars on Current Trends in Libraries**

i   **Ranganathan's Day celebration**:-
Each year ADINET celebrates the birth anniversary of Dr.S.R.Ranganathan as Librarians' Day, by conducting a Seminar on an important current topic.

j   **ADINET Website has been redesigned with vital links to important databases:-**

1   Directory of Libraries & Information Centers
2   Union List of 5540 Journal Titles
3   Directory of Librarians
4   Open Access Resources
5   CUCOLIS
6   ADINET Newsletters
7   Power Point Presentations of Lectures and Seminars

Publications of ADINET

1. **ADINET Newsletter** is published quarterly.
2. **Directory of Institutions and Colleges,** in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar and Universities in Gujarat, 2010.
3. **Union List of 5540 Current Journals**.
4. **CUrrent COntents for Library and Information Science** (CUCOLIS)
5. **Book of Papers of Seminars** held each year**.**
6. **Course Materials** of Workshops & Training Programs

Membership of ADINET

All Institutions, Libraries and Information Centers, LIS professionals and students are invited to become members of ADINET and avail professional services. Membership fees are:-

1. Institutional Member: Rs. 10,000/-
2. Associate Institutional Member   Rs.   5,000/-
3. Associate Academic Member:
    (Colleges and Schools)   Rs.   2,000/-
4. Individual Member:
    Life Membership   Rs. 1,200/-

Administration of ADINET

The apex body of ADINET is the Governing Council which is headed by a Chairman. The day to day administration of ADINET is looked after by an Executive Committee, which consists of Chairman, Director and Secretary.

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Visit ADINET Website : http://www.alibnet.org

for latest news & activities of ADINET