

# ADINET e-News Digest

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## HAPPY DIWALI

MAY THIS DIWALI KINDLE THE LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE, WITH THE OIL OF DISPASSION (to be impartial), AND A WELL TRIMMED WICK OF MENTAL HARMONY SOAKING IN IT!

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## PAUSE & PONDER

“Every thought I think, every word I utter, every deed I perform, every emotion that arises within me, every feeling, wish, that awakens within me, are seeds I am sowing in my field of life. And every seed must yield its fruit.” Dada J.P.Vaswani

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## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Our Attitude, not our Aptitude, determines our Altitude”

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## LIBFACTS

### Definition

### of *blockchain*

: a digital database containing information that can be simultaneously used & shared within a large decentralized, publicly accessible network

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[e-Vidhan to make functioning of State Legislatures paperless](#)

e-Vidhan is a Mission Mode Project to digitise and make the functioning of State Legislatures paperless. This is part of **Digital India** programme.

Source| <http://www.uniindia.com/e-vidhan-to-make-functioning-of-state-legislatures-paperless/india/news/1360154.html>

## Blockchain-Based Data Storage Solutions Help Secure User Data

In terms of technical change for the way in which data is managed, blockchain technology is gaining momentum. A number of companies are creating blockchain-based data storage solutions to provide users with full control over their personal data.

Antoine Verdon, co-founder of Proxeus, a Swiss-based start-up that has just released a data storage DApp to give users total control over their digital identity, believes that traditional cloud storage will be massively disrupted in the near future.

“Used smartly, blockchains will unlock more flexible ways to store data, while giving users better control over their personal information,” Verdon told me.

As opposed to centralized cloud storage services, like Google Drive for example (which stores all files, including deleted files in its system), decentralized blockchain network data files are broken apart and spread across multiple nodes. This process is called **sharding**. These files are encrypted with a private key, which makes it impossible for any other node participating in the network to look at the file. Sharding ensures that files are just a fraction of their original self, which means reading their entire content is impossible.

## Is The World Ready For Blockchain-Based Data Storage?

Blockchain solutions aim to put control of data into the hands of the user, yet developments are still underway. Also,

Gartner predicts that nearly all of the blockchain platforms implemented through 2021, “will require replacement within 18 months to remain competitive and secure, and to avoid obsolescence.”

Source| <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rachelwolfson/2018/09/25/blockchain-based-data-storage-solutions-help-secure-user-data/#5f8aa52b7512>

### **Social media metrics for new-age Library / Business Firms**

In recent years, a central feature of the digital strategy of new age users / companies has been brand building using powerful social media tools such as Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram. This has created a potent platform for library / companies and their brands to connect with their digital audience.

Today’s users / consumers are demanding and expect Library / companies to engage with them 24X7, making their brand experience personal and sincere. This has largely been possible due to the advent of social media that has turbo-charged library / companies to explore innovative branding strategies. New-age library or LIS Professional / companies also use multiple machine learning algorithms to generate user media feeds and analyze user / consumer behaviour.

Library / Organizations have come to recognize social media as possibly the central tool for gathering insights about and reaching out to users / customers — both B2B and B2C—and guiding them from discovery to retention.

Today’s new-age library / companies leverage social media to analyze their online performance metrics and gather critical information about their target audience.

These metrics are classified under four basic categories:

- Awareness: Metrics that estimate the amount of share of voice about your library services / company/brand among your current and potential target user / audience.

- Engagement: Metrics that explain how users / audiences are interacting with your content. (A metric which is most important for content creators/media publishers)

- Conversion: Metrics that demonstrate the effectiveness of your social engagement on popular platforms such as Facebook/LinkedIn.

- User / Consumer: Metrics that reflect how active users / customers think and feel about your brand

Today’s library / organizations must work hard to differentiate themselves from competition in a sea of digital content. They should leverage the power of social media platforms to connect with their target users / audience who are available for engagement on multiple touch points through social media. This will help make their presence felt in the face of stiff competition, offering superlative content across varied platforms. Why qualitative content remains ‘king’ New-age library / companies should have a keen understanding of their target audience-- where they consume, what they want to consume and when they consume.

If new-age digital content-focused continue to follow a multi-layered approach, with each aspect of the library / business aligned with the corresponding metric, social media will proliferate further into the users / consumer’s awareness.

Source | Mint | 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018

### **There is no magic mixture for effecting digital transformation**

When implementing digital transformation, expectations from digital technologies should be tempered. Terms like artificial

intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), blockchain or the internet of things (IoT), after all, have to solve a real business or societal problem to make sense. For one, other than blockchain that was conceptualized a decade back, AI, ML, IoT, blockchain, 3D Printing, augmented reality, virtual reality, robotics and automation have been around for over three decades. So why this delayed euphoria?

AI's growth is being driven by sophisticated algorithms that can be trained on mountains of data that requires a lot of computing power ([bit.ly/2ztGuoD](http://bit.ly/2ztGuoD)). ML, a subset of AI, does not require a computer to be explicitly programmed. Deep learning, an ML technique, is modelled on the human brain and uses artificial neural networks to feed inputs and get outputs. However, it still has to train on data and images to be effective—a good deep learning algorithm cannot be trained on bad data.

This brings us to the prowess of IoT. In this context, numbers like 50 billion devices by 2020 are thrown at us. That said, the fact is that data gleaned and analysed from cheaper sensors used in wearables, smartwatches and sectors like oil and gas, retail, healthcare and manufacturing are helping companies track damages, leaks and make better predictions—where to stock goods or monitor health remotely. IoT will get a fillip as sensors get smarter with AI and bandwidth speeds increase with 5G.

The younger blockchain, a technology that powers cryptocurrencies like bitcoin and ether, is witnessing private (permissioned) blockchain pilots and is being used by the financial and manufacturing sectors for smart contracts and improving supply chains among other uses. But it has to move beyond pilots to achieve success ([bit.ly/2QBgoGV](http://bit.ly/2QBgoGV)). 3D printing, as our cover story will also demonstrate, is being used to make everything from houses to airplane parts and even blueprints for 3D-printed guns ([bit.ly/2P8idud](http://bit.ly/2P8idud)).

Digital technologies, however, have challenges too—security, privacy, interoperability of standards, return on investment, and AI bias being some. Some of these issues are being addressed by the industry. For instance, “Explainable AI” is attempting to “enable human users to understand, appropriately trust, and effectively manage the emerging generation of AI partners ([bit.ly/2x2sS3P](http://bit.ly/2x2sS3P))”.

In its Future of Jobs Report 2018, the World Economic Forum estimates that by 2022, 75 million jobs may be displaced by a shift in the division of labour between humans and machines. On the positive side, 133 million new roles may emerge that are more adapted to the new division of labour between humans, machines and algorithms. However, the report adds that this “will require significant re- and upskilling”. Policymakers should take the cue and ensure that companies and governments do their part in making the transition smooth.

**Source | Mint | 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

### **What's my data worth, anyway?**

How to keep your private life private in a digital world

“The video, audio and pictures surrounding you when the computer is just open and running ... think about that. Even that information costs money,” you don't only need to worry about your banking information, but also if people are taking pictures of you and selling those pictures.”

When your personal data and information is compromised, the bits and pieces are sold on an underground market that illegally trades on the information plucked from the trove of data each one of us carries.

### Steal these privacy tips

- Cover up your computer video lens with a piece of opaque tape, especially if it is used in your home as hackers scour the photos for valuable information and prey on photos or videos of us when we're at our most vulnerable. Phishing tactics work here.
- Yes, changing your 10-digit password every three months can be a nuisance, but password managers like LastPass, Keeper and 1Password help.
- Don't do your banking or any other private tasks while connected to public WiFi. Whether you're in a coffee shop or piggybacking on your neighbour's service, you're at risk as WiFi creates a near-seamless access point to the devices of every individual logged on.
- If you think you've been hacked immediately check all of your accounts and change your password. If you think your banking information is safe, monitor it for a few weeks to be sure.

**Full Info**  
| <http://www.thechronicleherald.ca/more/spaces/whats-my-data-worth-anyway/245177/>

### **Full Text Searching is now available on LIBERO Cloud**

This means all text in PDF, Word, Text in PowerPoint documents can be fully indexed. As soon as a document is attached to a record and saved, it will be full-text indexed and searchable.

Searches include the ability to retrieve *all* data being searched in bibliographic records and indexed attachments or can be limited to indexed attachments only.

**Source** | <https://libero.com.au/full-text-search-makes-libero-most-powerful-library-software-for-searching/>

### **Researchers have built a system that allows brain-to-brain communication**

Reading one's mind may scientifically be true after all.

Researchers have built a system called BrainNet which allows an actual exchange of thoughts between the brains.

In a paper entitled "Conscious Brain-to-Brain Communication in Humans Using Non-Invasive Technologies," the authors stress that this is a form of "mind-to-mind" transmission as opposed to "brain-to-brain," because "the origin and the destination of the communication involved the conscious activity of the subjects."

**Paper Details Available At**  
| <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0105225>

### **3D printing in India: Inflection point?**

**As corporate India opens to the new technology, prospects for 3D printing are growing quite fast in the country**

**New Delhi:** Twenty-six-year-old Amitt Sharma, who runs an ad-tech firm in New Delhi, uses a 3D printer. Having won the NASA Space Apps Challenge in Delhi three years ago, he has since been working on various 3D printing projects as a hobby.

Sharma falls in the category of the so-called makers (part of the Do It Yourself (DIY) culture). Makers play a significant role in helping the growth of 3D printers. However, the maker space in India largely comprises of young entrepreneurs who don't always have the means to buy 3D printers. Sharma, for instance, spent about \$600 some years ago to build his 3D printer based on the Prusa i3—part of the RepRap (Replicating Rapid Prototyper) and the world's most-used 3D printer .

He points out, though, that there are online communities that allow makers to skip the cost of buying their own 3D printers by inviting others to share 3D printers.

**Push needed:** There are some start-ups, however, that would need industrial grade printers that can cost upwards of ₹1 lakh and even run into crores. It's in such cases that incubators like Maker Village come handy. "3D printing is the 'in thing' as far as we're concerned," says Prasad Balakrishnan, chief executive officer (CEO) and founder of Maker Village—a joint initiative between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Kerala, Kerala Startup Mission and Kerala government. Balakrishnan said Maker Village already has five 3D printers which it allows start-ups to use. It plans to acquire five more in the next few months, to meet the growing demand.

**Industry will drive growth and scale:** On the industrial side, however, the prospects for 3D printing are growing quite fast. Swapnil Sansare, CEO of Divide by Zero Technologies, a leading 3D printer maker in India, says his company has seen nearly 500% growth in the five years of its existence. According to Sansare, 3D printing is being used by artists, healthcare and automotive companies, among others. He added that the small SMEs in places like Rajkot have adopted 3D printing "quite well".

One of the main drivers is the automobile industry. Tata Motors Ltd has been using 3D printing for building prototypes in its research and development facility in Pune. Sansare has also seen growth in competition in the last five years, especially in the last three, he said.

"Historically, 3D printing has largely been focused on prototyping because it didn't have the ability to produce parts at scale, at low cost," said Sumeer Chandra, managing director of HP India. Chandra says HP's goal is to have a goal at the \$12

trillion manufacturing market, which its solutions can cater to.

Similarly, Raj Kumar Rishi, managing director of Xerox India, expects India to rub shoulders with the rest of the world in the adoption of 3D printing. He concluded, "We are not up there with the world right now. However, as more innovation happens and cost efficiency improves, India should catch up very fast."

### What is 3D printing?

■ 3D printing belongs to a class of techniques known as additive manufacturing, or building objects layer by layer.

■ The concept of 4D printing allows materials to "self-assemble" into 3D structures.

■ 3D printing, which has been around for over 30 years, is now used not only to make jewellery and toothbrushes, but also football boots, racing-car parts, food products, guns, human organs, houses, aircraft parts and even the controversial 3D-printed guns.

### 3D printing in India

**Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Genesis Foundation:** A 3D-printed heart was used to operate on an 11-year-old girl with congenital heart defects. The heart allowed doctors to forego the 2D stage, including X-Rays and MRIs.

**Maruti Suzuki:** Uses 3D printing to test its prototypes for design, engineering, production and mass production.

**Mellora:** This online jewellery brand uses 3D printing to make jewellery for millennials.

Source | [Mint – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018](#)

[Creative thinking's an innovative approach](#)

Creativity is the heart of innovation. On one hand, the understanding of creative thinking is extremely simplistic when we say that everyone is creative and that it is an intrinsic part of human nature.

On the other hand, it is not easy to understand the creative thinking in all its dimensions and complexities.

I have been conducting corporate workshops on creativity, innovation and design thinking for quite some time and have found that recently the demand and urgency for an understanding of creative thinking has increased. This is partly due to increasing awareness and being exposed to the danger of not being innovative.

In such workshops, the first challenge is to remove the layers of conformity and have a sense of wonder and excitement like that of a child. I have always wondered why we wake up to the need for creativity and innovation in organizations while throughout our lives we have tried to trample it.

Children are creative: they are curious, they are not afraid to ask seemingly stupid questions, they like to try out things, to explore, to experiment, they are not scared of failure and they have tremendous energy, enthusiasm and optimism. All the attributes we are looking for in a creative individual. And yet both our conventional schooling system as well as our social system kills creativity in a child.

If professionals can become like children in their approach to ideation, they would be able to come up with wonderful innovative ideas. And yet when it comes to innovation, what children do not have is subject-specific knowledge and expertise. Otherwise, children could very well be creative directors and CEO of innovative companies.

Associative thinking is a very important aspect of creativity. How well do we associate completely disparate things

together in our mind determines how creatively we can think. Poets and creative writers do it all the time. If we only focus on being curious about knowledge from different areas, our associative thinking could become much richer. Our entire approach in professional education has been to specialize and super specialize.

If an engineer was interested in wildlife, a manager was interested in sociology, a psychologist was interested in technology, imagine how many ideas would materialize through these connections?

Finally, it is not enough to come up with out of the box creative ideas. These ideas have a great power to change the lives of people- for good or bad. Great ideas can only come with a liberal mindset which thinks about the larger good rather than narrow self-interest. This is perhaps as difficult as it is to be a child.

There are three main lessons to learn from this:

1 Be creative as a child. Nurture creativity in schools and in society.

2 Have breadth of knowledge like a young professional. Don't be a specialist, be a generalist with a wide range of interests

3 Be wise as an old person. Use creative thinking with a great degree of responsibility.

The writer is a senior faculty at the National Institute of Design. She believes that we have a lot to learn from children.

**Source | Daily News Analysis | 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018**

### The Evolution of Learning Technologies

Innovative learning tools and work training share an exciting history that stretches

back centuries. That history continues to be written as technologies evolve and talent development professionals apply them in ever more effective ways.

- Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Adaptive Learning
- Mobile Learning
- Virtual Training
- Virtual Reality (VR)
- Augmented Reality (AR)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

**Full Article**  
[| https://www.td.org/insights/the-evolution-of-learning-technologies](https://www.td.org/insights/the-evolution-of-learning-technologies)

### [Library of Congress Debuts Virtual Screening Room for Historical Films](#)

The Library of Congress introduced **National Screening Room**, a free collection of hundreds of hours of (mostly public domain) motion pictures dating from 1890. The public domain movies are downloadable, while those that are copyrighted are streaming-only. The initial launch features 281 titles, with more added every month going forward.

The collection has content such as:

- 33 issues of the “**All-American News**” (1942-1945), a newsreel made specifically for African-American audiences during the mid-20th century;
- 103 titles from the **Library’s Paper Prints Collection**, including several shorts directed by D. W. Griffith for Biograph Company;
- Historical and iconic figures such as **Theodore Roosevelt**, **William**

**McKinley**, **Frank Sinatra**, **Mary McLeod Bethune**, **Adam Clayton Powell** and **Art Carney**;

- Titles named to the **National Film Registry** because of their cultural, historical and aesthetic significance;
- A selection of films about **mental health** released in the 1950s.

**More Infor**  
[| https://www.loc.gov/item/prn-18-125/national-screening-room-of-free-motion-pictures-now-online/2018-09-26/](https://www.loc.gov/item/prn-18-125/national-screening-room-of-free-motion-pictures-now-online/2018-09-26/)

### [EU backs treaty to produce disabled-friendly books.....Marrakesh Treaty - UN agreement now expands to 70 countries](#)

The 28-nation European Union on Monday ratified the Marrakesh accord to ease access to reading material for people who are print-disabled the world over.

The coverage of the 2013 United Nations treaty now expands to 70 countries across the globe, according to a World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) press release. With the decision, over 270,000 titles would be available to be shared globally.

At the ratification ceremony in Geneva, Francis Gurry, WIPO Director General, commended the EU’s commitment to the Marrakesh treaty as “ensuring that the multilateral system works for the widest public good”. He urged countries remaining outside the framework to join, “so we can make this a universal, worldwide treaty so visually impaired people can benefit from any accessible book that is produced in any corner of the globe.”

India was among the earliest to ratify the Marrakesh treaty in June 2014. The Sugamya Pustakalay, a government-backed private initiative, has been



engaged in the creation of accessible texts in several Indian languages.

The governments that are party to the Marrakesh accord are obliged to adopt laws authorizing the conversion of books into accessible formats such as braille, e-text, audio and large print by designated organizations. They are also allowed to exchange these alternative formats across national borders without clearance by copyright owners.

The Accessible Books Consortium (ABC), a stakeholder forum established in 2014 at the WIPO headquarters, assists in the implementation of the Marrakesh provisions.

Source | [The Hindu](#) | 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### [Virtual school launches Standard 9th and 10th curriculum](#)

Virtual school AAS Vidyalaya has launched its services for Grade 9 and 10, under CBSE curriculum. **Anytime Anywhere School (AAS)** Vidyalaya is an app-based education system, which brings a school to a smartphone. The virtual app earlier had Classes 5th, 6th and 7th available, but the founders have now launched 9th and 10th curriculum as well, as 10th Standard is the minimum qualification required for the students to study further or get jobs.

**A one-of-a-kind in the country, the app provides children access to regular lectures of all the subjects under CBSE curriculum. It operates exactly like a regular school with a class-teacher, timetables, subject periods and regular assessments.**

"10th Board has a huge significance in India as it is the minimum qualification needed to get a government job," said Vikas Kakwani, the CEO of the virtual school, adding, "We were inundated with not just requests but straightforward demands to launch curriculum for Grade 9 and 10, which is why we have launched it in record time."

The application has seen a positive feedback so far, and is used primarily in rural schools, where students are often made to drop out of schools after completing primary education. Often, schools in these areas also lack quality education, which this app makes sure is provided.

The application is also used by students in metropolitan cities as aid as the students can view classroom videos on repeat mode for revisions, and access the entire syllabus at any given time without having to enrol in tuitions. **Currently, the application has reached to 25,000 students, adding 400-500 students per day to its user base.**

Targeted towards the middle and the lower-middle class, the app has the potential to scale and reach these 85 million children who cannot, but wish to attend school. With Grade 9 and 10 being launched, AAS Vidyalaya is all set to transform the lives of students with its easy accessibility.

Source | [Afternoon](#) | 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### [Want to Improve Student Retention? Enlist Some Librarians.....According to Study](#)

### [Study finds that academic library instruction helps keep undergraduates in school](#)

Bowles-Terry's initial findings linking university libraries and librarians directly to student retention are a compelling addition to the story of impact these spaces and professionals have on student success.

The study identified three major findings:

- Retention rates for students who participated in library instruction courses were significantly higher than for those students who did not attend a library instruction class.
- First-year students who took classes that included information

literacy instruction had higher grade point averages than students whose courses did not.

- Students who participated in library instruction successfully completed 1.8 more credit hours per year than students who did not.

“As librarians, we feel good about helping individual students, and there was a lot of qualitative data detailing how library instruction helps students develop literacy skills, but now we have some data that supports what we are doing is having a broad impact on students,” Bowles-Terry said. “The most exciting thing we’ve noted in this research is that library instruction is playing such an important role in helping students graduate.”

**Full Info**  
| <https://www.unlv.edu/news/article/want-improve-student-retention-enlist-ome-librarians>

**[Blockchain: The Path Forward for Libraries and the Information Professions - White Paper from San José State University](#)**

There have been conferences, books, white papers, start-ups, and numerous back-channel discussions on ways blockchain technology can be applied to various organizational procedures and processes, but librarians have not been evidenced in these mainstream discussions.

However, the use of blockchain technology in libraries is on the radar of many information professionals who are curious about or understand its disruptive potential.

However, librarians must engage in serious dialogs within our profession and with other blockchain developers and users to make sound decisions for the future.

**Source** | <http://www.infotoday.com/>

**[Free \(and Open Source\) Software for Colleges and Universities to Use in Their Strive for Digital Transformation](#)**

Below are listed a few FOSS that colleges and universities could use for

**School Management System (SMS) or School ERP,**

- Fedena
- Gibbon

**Learning Management System (LMS) - LMS tools are**

- MOODLE
- Bodginton
- Sakai
- Claroline
- Dokeos
- ATutor
- OLAT

There are also several **commercial or proprietary**

- LMSes
- WebCT
- Blackboard
- ANGEL Learning
- Desire2Learn

**Open Educational Resources (OERs)**

- [Connexions](#)

□ **MIT OpenCourseWare**

**Source| <https://www.liberianobserver.com/columns/education/free-and-open-source-software-for-colleges-and-universities-to-use-in-their-strive-for-digital-transformation/>**

**Audiobook – Also called a “Talking Book” ... Books you listen to**

Would you rather hear a story than read it? Audio books are just what you need, says Santana Fell

An audiobook, also called a “talking book”, is a recording of a text being read. It is as if someone is telling you the story. A combination of great authors, vibrant narrators, multiple voice artistes, musical background and, sometimes, even a celebrity voiceover, make a story come alive.

While audiobooks emerged during the 1990s, the resurgence of audio storytelling is widely attributed to the Internet, portable media players, smartphones, tablets and multimedia entertainment systems in cars. India is already one of the fastest growing audiobooks markets in the world — an easy transition for a society that has always had a vibrant oral tradition.

**Why they are good**

Indians have one of the longest commute times in the world and they use it to listen to audio books. A recent survey by the Audio Publishers Association found that the overwhelming majority of audiobook users listen in the car, and more than two-thirds of buyers described audiobooks as a good way to multitask while doing chores or exercising. They also spare you eye strain while letting you “read” in bed.

Audiobooks are also useful for the visually challenged and dyslexic. Listening Books, a UK audiobook charity, provides Internet streaming, download and postal service to

anyone who has a disability or illness that makes it difficult to read a paperback. Bookshare, an online library of computer-read audiobooks, provides accessible formats for people with print disabilities.

**Where to get them**

There are many online sites and apps such as Storytel, [audiobooks.com](http://audiobooks.com) and audible that provide a plethora of choices, including bestsellers, classics, award-winners and more. The books are in English and many Indian languages. Once you download the app, you are most likely to get any audiobook free with a 30-day free trial. You can also choose to listen to a sample audio being narrated from the book to help you finalize which book you want to hear. After your free trial, you’ll enjoy one audiobook every month for \$14.95 (about Rs. 1,080). If one book isn’t enough, you can buy additional credits.

**Source|<https://www.telegraphindia.com>**

**Home Libraries Confer Long-Term Benefits**

A large new study finds people who grew up in book-filled homes have higher reading, math, and technological skills.

Research data from 160,000 adults in 31 countries concludes that a sizeable home library gave teen school leavers skills equivalent to university graduates who didn’t read

Growing up in a home packed with books has a large effect on literacy in later life – but a home library needs to contain at least 80 books to be effective, according to new research.

The paper has just been published in the journal Social Science Research.

The paper raised the possibility that the move towards a digital culture could reduce the impact of printed books, but said that “for now ... the beneficial effects

of home libraries in adolescence are large and hold in many different societies with no sign of diminution over time”.

“Moreover, home library size is positively related to higher levels of digital literacy, so the evidence suggests that for some time to come, engagement with material objects of scholarly culture in parental homes – ie books – will continue to confer significant benefits for adult ICT competencies,” concludes the report.

“For the time being ... the perception that [the] social practice of print book consumption is passé is premature.”

**Paper Published at**  
| <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X18300607>

**Source**  
| <http://meity.gov.in/writereaddata/>

**[Reclaiming Reference at the Library.....in the era of Google!!!!!!!](#)**

**[For librarians, reference work today is increasingly about community service](#)**

I still remember life before the internet, when librarians helped people find answers to real-life problems. It felt powerful—as though librarians held the keys to life’s answers, and I couldn’t understand why everyone didn’t just ask librarians whenever they needed info of any kind. How things have changed.

### **Then Google came**

In the late 1990s, as internet search engines were becoming more powerful and Stanford PhD students Larry Page and Sergey Brin were creating Google that powerful feeling librarians once had at the reference desk began to dim. Initially, librarians called out internet search engines, criticizing them as imperfect and often inaccurate reference tools. But not for long.

There is no question that the internet has changed how the public consumes information, how they seek information, and how librarians help connects the public to what they are looking for. But the change has largely been a good thing—the old model of reference librarianship could be intimidating for patrons. Today, what information seekers truly seem to want is the compassionate ear of a friend or the help of a neighbour.

However, you think of reference today, the reality is that librarians can’t just sit back and wait to deliver information any more. Our future is in proactively helping our communities ask the right questions, find the right answers, make meaning of the information they find, and put it to productive use.

**Full Info at**  
| <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/78010-reclaiming-reference.html>

**[Strategy for students to become Knowledge Creators - Giving Students Ownership](#)**

Being a professor comes with a certain amount of authority. But some instructors have found that letting go in the classroom and finding ways for students to construct their own knowledge can create a richer experience for them.

Using a project created by Robin DeRosa, a professor of interdisciplinary studies at Plymouth State University, as a model, Paige is having her students create a “resource book” for the course.

In order to design a course to meet these kinds of goals, Lang argues, professors

need to use “backward design,” beginning the process not by selecting content, but by articulating what they want students to walk away with.

**Full Info**  
| [https://www.chronicle.com/article/One-Way-to-Help-Students/244769?cid=at&utm\\_source=at&utm\\_medium=en&elqTrackId=6b2767a7ae9044448ca35a5a7c2a3313&elq=dba910dd9dda40ebbb608a4d984ab016&elqaid=20940&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=9916](https://www.chronicle.com/article/One-Way-to-Help-Students/244769?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en&elqTrackId=6b2767a7ae9044448ca35a5a7c2a3313&elq=dba910dd9dda40ebbb608a4d984ab016&elqaid=20940&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=9916)

**Information for this issue has been provided by Mr. Pralhad Jadhav, Senior Librarian, Khaitan & Co. Mumbai**