ADINET e-News Digest

No. 52   January 2019

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wishing you 12 Months of Success

52 Weeks of Laughter

365 Days of Fun

8760 Hours of Joy

525600 Minutes of Good Luck

31536000 seconds of Happiness

Dawning of a Movement to Transform India's Education System

Source
| https://www.mangalorean.com/dawning-of-a-movement-to-transform-indias-education-system/

Amazon Launches Audible in India: Audio-Books with Attractive Subscription Plans, Exchange & Return Facility

Amazon Audible audiobooks subscription service has arrived in India. We report on the subscription plans, prices, features, and privileges.

Amazon India is bringing 'Audible' an interesting and expansive virtual library of 'books on tape'. The Audible audiobooks service features thousands of interesting titles. To ensure adoption and regular subscription, Amazon is extending several privileges, including the ability to return or exchange audiobooks.

Amazon's Audible, a popular subscription-based audiobook service has been launched in India. The audiobook service grants access to several thousand audiobooks. Moreover, Amazon has assured it will continue to add more audiobooks on a daily basis. Amazon has further added that the present as well as the soon to be added titles will include books written by Indian as well as international authors.

Full Info
| https://www.mysmartprice.com/gear/amazon-launches-audible-audio-books-attractive-subscription-plans-exchange-return-facility/

Nail your Email Strategy

Here are common mistakes that people make when writing email subject lines. Learn how to avoid them

Source
| Economic Times | 27th November 2018

Specialized Domain – Library & Information Science – Much beyond books

Today the differences between turning to a librarian and going to your Google search bar for information are vast. With specified training in areas like the organization of information, computer technology, and research, a librarian is not only internet-savvy but to also know how and where it's best to start and complete the fastest and most accurate online research.

Details Write Up
| https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/jobs-careers/much-beyond-books/689850.html

Universities counting on big data to change the future of job industry

In an era that is driven by data, not only the top players of all industries but also, small and mid-size businesses are betting their money on hiring talents with a knowledge of big data and analytics. Dr. Amit K. Sinha, Director, Kirloskar Institute of Advanced Management Studies, Pune, writes more.

The field of big data and analytics has been evolving constantly and has made way for new technologies. In an era that is driven by data, not only the top players of all industries but also, small and mid-size businesses are betting their money on hiring talents with a knowledge of big data and analytics. In the last few years, there has been a significant hike in the global job portals due to big data related job postings.

An ongoing challenge for today's educators is to impart a quality learning

experience to students. It is also essential for them to keep the tuition fee affordable. As Institutional expenditures are always on the rise, the colleges and universities are looking for ways to be fiscally feasible. At the same time, they also strive to provide the students with a positive experience, from enrollment to beyond graduation. The usage of right data, in the correct way, can prove to be of help to these institutions and educators to meet the needs of the ongoing challenge.

The consolidation of information is done by data analysis. It provides the entire essence of trends and patterns in the higher education industry which can be used for various purposes such as:

- Evaluate & streamline processes
- Creation of efficiencies
- Improve the students' overall
- experience

Where to start?

Students:

The primary step for institutions is the production/ creation of data-savvy students. It means students should be able to work with analytics. It also means courses on data and analytics have to be woven into the curriculum.

Training:

Information analysis training is important for those who administer education. It helps to gather and interpret educational data which can be used:

- To improve higher learning management
- For techniques of teaching
- For the learning environment
- For the learning tools

The Need for Data Analysis

Trends and Insights:

As way back as the 1950s, trends were uncovered with the help of data analysis. They also offered helpful insights which enabled to facilitate management and decision-making.

Educational Information:

The three common data analysis processes which are useful in the domain of higher learning are:

1. EDM- Educational Data Mining

It can sift through large quantities of complicated data related to education. This helps the administrators and educators to discover problem revealing patterns which are related to grade calculations of the students, taking online tests, and to predict student enrollment rates.

2. LA- Learning Analytics

It can gather useful insights and feedback from systems of the administration, online educational environment and social media. This helps to discover flaws in the learning procedures and processes that need to be addressed.

3   Academic Analytics

Problems can be detected by looking at educational data with the use of academic analytics. It can also suggest ways to solve issues such as success rates of the students which can be improved with more human resources.

Academic and learning analytics can be used to help students by providing information to educators regarding the improvement of retention rate and student outcomes.

Source
| **http://www.afternoondc.in/epaper/EpaperPost.aspx?id=236521**

Data Literacy for Data-driven Society

The term data literacy is used to broadly describe the set of abilities around the use of data as part of everyday thinking and reasoning for solving real-world problems.

Data literacy is increasingly considered to be a life skill, as daily interactions with data become ever more commonplace and individuals more frequently make judgments from data and make decisions regarding the use of their own personal data.

Creating an Understanding of Data Literacy for a Data-driven Society

Journal Item

How to cite:

Wolff, Annika; Gooch, Daniel; CaveroMontaner, Jose J.; Rashid, Umar and Kortuem, Gerd (2016).

Creating an Understanding of Data Literacy for a Data-driven Society. Journal of Community Informatics, 12(3) pp. 9–26

Link| http://oro.open.ac.uk/47779/8/1286-Article%20Text-7817-2-1020161121%20%281%29.pdf

How to manage knowledge? When a staff member leaves, they often take valuable industry knowledge and know-how with them.

In hospitality, like any industry, it's vital to manage knowledge. We have all been in a situation where an employee is leaving, taking away a wealth of information, experience and knowledge, and leaving a gap in the operation. This will usually have a direct impact on costs, in the form of training, operational errors, operational advice based on experience, and even the loss of loyal customers, who might follow the member of staff elsewhere or stop coming altogether.

But effective knowledge management can not only keep a business running smoothly, but lead to superior service delivery, increased customer loyalty, reduced employee turnover and thus provide a unique competitive advantage to the business.

So how can we manage knowledge within our workforce? Knowledge can be defined as objective and can be taught from manuals, guides and textbooks, but it is also gained through experience. Due to the nature of our industry, which is people-led, experiential knowledge is deemed to be more beneficial for a business. Since it is embedded and linked to the individual, it is very difficult to articulate.

I am sure that we all have met a member of the team who feels threatened when new employees ask too many questions and can be very defensive when it comes to sharing their experience. At the end of the day, this is – according to their mindset – their strength and reason for holding onto their role; why should they just give it away?

How do we handle situations like this? Some major hotel chains focus on storing, sharing and retrieving operational knowledge between the individual units of the chain and headquarters through the use of IT-based knowledge management systems. Of course, a computerized system would require a large capital expenditure and might not be appropriate or practical for hospitality SMEs. So here are some easy-to-implement, practical tips on how to manage employee knowledge:

• Briefings and de-briefings at the beginning and end of a service cycle: what went well, what went wrong, how we can make things better next time, what have we learned? You need to keep it simple: some short notes or keywords are enough, detailing best practices, service innovations, guest preferences, etc. These

notes should be kept in a place that is easy for staff to access. Do not allow this to become a bureaucratic process – keep it dynamic, collaborative and alive.

• Have a clear and timely succession plan in place: shadowing and on-the-job training will provide experiential learning and the opportunity to build that much sought-after guest knowledge. The aim is to always have someone to take over from the person who leaves with the minimum possible disruption in the operation and to guests.

•Keep clear communication lines within the business and encourage experienced employees to share their knowledge by:

– rotating them within the operation, when possible, so they work with new staff;

– revising and having their say on company training manuals and staff guides (objective knowledge) Encourage them to engage. You could use their personal quotes in there, referred to as "the experts' advice";

– involving them in training sessions. These can be of an informal nature and take place when business levels drop. Guide them in designing a session according to business needs. Research has shown that this involvement motivates employees; and

– creating and maintaining a strong team culture; a culture that promotes innovation, better communication and encourages formal and informal social interaction has the power to motivate staff to knowledge-share.

Experienced employees might still be defensive and resist engaging with and participating in the above. It is crucial to explain to them the significance of their involvement in these plans, make them feel important and valuable, and of course make sure that you reward them for their efforts.

Always keep in mind the fact that knowledge management is not only aiming to keep the operation going, but has the potential to lead to achieving increased customer satisfaction, great quality of service and overall enhanced business performance.

Michael Papaioannou is senior lecturer in hotel management at Sheffield Hallam University

Source | https://www.thecaterer.com/articles/541743/how-to-manage-knowledge

Future of Jobs Report 2018 (by World Economic Forum)

The rise of flexible employment – Can automation-governed IT flexi staffing industry boost the economy

The 'Future of Jobs Report 2018' by the WEF has yet again brought to the fore the discussion around impact of automation and newer technologies on jobs.

According to it, automation and artificial intelligence (AI) could potentially displace 75 million jobs by 2022, as machines become integral to the workplace. But this is not all gloomy, as the same report says another 133 million new roles would get created as companies realign the work between their employees and machines, which will translate into 58 million net new jobs, over the next five years.

Report Link | http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Future_of_Jobs_2018.pdf

Going digital may ease school bag burden

It's a burden that could be well avoided. Hapless school-going children in the country have little choice but lug around bag loads of books, which more often than not are too much to handle. But not anymore, guidelines recently issued by the

Ministry of Human Resource Development put a bar on the load of school bags.

Positive step

Both parents and experts have welcomed the move but feel that making it work is easier said than done. To make it effective, some even suggested a revamp of school curricula.

According to the HRD circular, the weight of school bags for Classes I and II should not be more than 1.5 kg, 2-3 kg for students of Classes III and V, and up to 4 kg for of Classes VI and VII. And it can be 4.5 kg and 5 kg, respectively, for students of Classes VIII-IX and X.

"It is a welcome step, but I am a bit apprehensive about its implementation. Putting a certain digit as a weight of school bag would be of little help," said Anusha Sharma, Principal, Study Hall's Vidhyasthali School in UP.

More important is to change the design of the curriculum and make it more digital, she said. Also, students should be given reading and writing material in schools instead of their carrying them back home.

Carrying heavy school bags can have a negative impact on child's body. InduRathore, a senior paediatrician, said, "Carrying heavy bags can lead to deformity of the spinal cord. Bones are very weak till the age of 12 and lifting heavy weights can affect growing bones and muscles".

Source
| Business Line | 29th November 2018

Couple's library 'startup' gives free books to kids in 4 states - Prerna Book Banks

MEERUT: Amita Sharma, 32, comes from a rural part of Modinagar, 25 km from Meerut. A postgraduate degree holder, for years she was concerned about children who had the aptitude and talent but no access to books.

One day in 2016, in collaboration with her husband, she decided to do something about it. The couple's free library project for the underprivileged — Prerna Book Banks — has now expanded to four states and covers more than 40 rural areas. They have a small army of volunteers. "Amita and I visit schools and colleges and encourage students to give away books they no longer need. The services are completely free," Sanjay said. The endeavour had few takers initially. "It was a novel concept and people were reluctant to be a part of it," Sanjay added.

Lending out space for something as insignificant to them as a library was not accepted easily. Gradually volunteers — majority of them women and young girls — came forward to shoulder the responsibility. Change came sooner than they thought.

For Vishakha Devi, 35, a housewife in Patla (Ghaziabad), her life has a purpose now. "I am a triple MA and today my education is being used for something. When this concept was communicated to us, we gave one room for the library. Gradually children began coming and today we have around 70 kids with us," she said as KumariArzoo, 15, a member of the library and student of class IX, smiled. "I like coming here," she said.

Jagbeer Singh of NaglaKhu village told TOI, "Initially we were reluctant, but now we understand how fruitful this can be." In the last two years, more than 2 lakh books have been sent to Prerna Book Banks, which has 4,500 members. As of now, Ghaziabad has 15 libraries, Meerut (8), Uttarakhand (3), Delhi (4) and Haryana (1).

Source
| https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/

Google aims to transform US libraries into digital training hubs

Starting in January, the tech giant's representatives will hold workshops at libraries in all 50 states, teaching local small business owners and job hunters of all ages how they can best use basic digital tools such as smartphones and spreadsheets. Google will also coach librarians, staff members and local nonprofit officials on tools and curriculum for year-round career training sessions.

As part of the initiative, Google worked with 30 libraries around the country to build "Libraries Ready to Code." Launching Thursday, the online program provides staffers from the nation's 120,000 libraries with a framework to teach coding and computational thinking skills to young people long before they look to enter the workforce.

"Libraries are just so critical to their communities. They've also been playing a huge role as digital community centres," Stephen Brokaw, community engagement manager for the "Grow with Google" initiative, told FOX Business. "What we've decided to do is partner with libraries to really enhance that role."

The partnership comes as more U.S. residents rely on public libraries to serve as digital hubs in their daily lives. A 2015 Pew Research Center poll found 94 percent of respondents said libraries should offer programs to teach people of all age groups, including senior citizens, to use digital tools, while a 2017 report found that millennials were more likely than any other generation to use libraries.

In addition to its nationwide tour, Google is donating $1 million to the American Libraries Association. The money will be dispersed in "micro-funds" to finance programs specifically tailored to local communities. An initial group of 250 libraries will receive funding toward coding programs.

Preliminary plans for the tour call for Google representatives to spend about a week in each state, visiting libraries in about three cities and holding one day of training sessions per city. Company officials will be on hand to host some workshops and for one-on-one counselling with attendees. Google will also stay in touch with the libraries to guide curriculum and training on an ongoing basis.

The "Grow with Google" website will be regularly updated with upcoming workshops and library stops as they are scheduled. Google launched a similar initiative last August to provide training and career support to U.S. military veterans.

"We want to try to get to as diverse a group of cities as we can. We want to go to communities small, medium and large," Brokaw said.

Source
| https://www.foxbusiness.com/technology/google-aims-to-transform-us-libraries-into-digital-training-hubs

Samsung India to conduct research to enhance education technology in middle school

Samsung has launched a new and extremely thoughtful project called 'My Dream' to enhance the learning of middle school students via technology. They have started this initiative in collaboration with UNESCO, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for peace and Sustainable development and NavodayaVidyalayaSamiti to conduct a research survey about the increased stress and anxiety of middle school students & find technology dependent methods to assist & help these students.

On parallel lines, in partnership with the government of Andhra Pradesh, Samsung announced the instalment of 'Samsung Smart Class' in 14 government colleges of Andhra Pradesh which offer a Bachelor of

Education (B. Ed) and Diploma in Education (D.Ed) courses.

Samsung Smart Class plans to deliver 200 hours of lectures, educational videos and audio aids covering the entire course curriculum. This act is monitored under the 'Teaching Teachers for Technology initiative to assist the teachers in teaching with digital pedagogies.

The 'My Dream' project will conduct research and 2-year study in all Jawaharlal Nehru Vidyalayas across India.This entire project aims to build intellectual and emotionally resilient youngsters who enjoy the whole process of learning rather than look at it as a burden.

Since the first Samsung Smart class, 2.5 lakh individuals have benefitted, and more than 8000 teachers have been trained in how to use it to aid them in the making learning more fun and interactive.Every Samsung Smart Class is equipped with interactive Samsung Smartboards and Wifi.

With the help of all this, Samsung has been able to integrate technology into education which has started a new revolution in the fundamental teaching and learning process, thus establishing more headstrong, creative and learned mindsets in the upcoming generation which will be the future of Technological India.

Source
| https://techgraph.co/inside/samsung-apologies-to-factory-workers-in-cancer-case/

How should we prepare for Industry 4.0

The generation stepping into the Fourth Industrial Revolution needs education without boundaries.

☐ Skills for the Future

☐ Social & Creative Intelligence

☐ Child Centric Curriculum

Source
| Times of India | 3rd December 2018

In a first, HRD panel to lay e-content norms for schools

Source
| Hindustan Times | 3rd December 2018

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