Vital role of library and librarians in distance learning

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Abstract

This article explores the literature that focuses on the various roles library, Librarians and E- resources play in distance Learning. Learners visit libraries either in person or via networkedcomputing technology to ask for help with their online courses. Questions range from how to upload a document with a learning management system, to how to use software and hardware, to more complex questions about how to locate and research articles for term papers. The literature reviewed provides a glimpse into the historical roles, current roles, as well as possible new roles that libraries and librarians may play in the future. This article identifies various library services that are essential to distant learners and distance education, and will explain how libraries, Librarians and E- resources are providing these services online.

Vital role of library and librarians in distance learning

Library means a building or room containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and recorded music for use or borrowing by the public or the members of an institution. A library is a place where books and sources of information are stored. Theymake it easier for people to get access to them for various purposes. Libraries are very helpful and economical too. Library Materials include Print and non-print materials collected, processed, and stored by libraries. They comprise books, periodicals, pamphlets, reports, microforms, maps, manuscripts, motion pictures, and all other forms of audiovisual records. According to the mode of services rendered to the readers; libraries are broadly divided into four types: Academic libraries serve colleges and universities. Public libraries serve cities and towns of all types. Special libraries are in specialized environments, such as hospitals, corporations, museums, the military, private business, and the government and National Library.

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Libraries are important cornerstones of a healthy community. Libraries give people the opportunity to find jobs, explore medical research, experience new ideas, get lost in wonderful stories, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering.

Books are important because Books give plenty of joy to students, and they learn a lotof things from books. They take them into a unique world of imagination and improve their standard of living. Books help to inspire students to do hard work with courage and hope. They enrich the experience of students and sharpen their intellect.

These all details about offline library now we can discussed about the online services of libraries for distance learners with use of E- resources.

Resources and activities provided by libraries to address information needs of users. These include from circulation services, reference services, online information services, inter library loans, and information literacy skills training Wi-fi and Internet Service and other services we can provide offline as well as online mentioned below:

- Computerized Library in Soul Software
- Online Public Access Catalogue service(OPAC)
- Document Circulation Service
- Reference Service
- Computerized Information Search Service
- News Paper Clipping (on library webpage)
- Photocopy Service (Through Digital Media)
- User Orientation and Education
- Question bank
- Career Information Services
- New Arrivals are Displayed in the library as well as on the Website
- Quiz Competition
- Ask a Librarian

The Internet is not a substitute for the library, but a search tool to be used in addition to traditional sources in the library. Everything Is Not On the Internet The Internet consists of a small percentage of what's published. Search engines such as Google, AltaVista,Firefox and Yahoo access are limited.

General Search Engines

- All The Web
- AltaVista
- AOL Search
- Ask Jeeves
- Bing
- Excite
- DuckDuckgo
- Google
- Gigablast
- HotBot
- LookSmart
- Lycos
- MSN Search
- Netscape
- Teoma
- Yahoo

Meta Search Engines

- Yippy - http://yippy.com
- DogPile - http://www.dogpile.com
- Mamma - http://www.mamma.com
- Zoo (MetaCrawler) - http://www.zoo.com
- IxQuick - http://www.ixquick.com
- Info.Com - http://www.info.com
- ZapMeta - http://www.zapmeta.com

Main difference between library and internet- A library is a place where there are numerous different kinds of books, educational magazines, newspapers and so on for other people to borrow and read to gain information. Unlike a library, the internet is a computer network where students can attain any kind of information simply by opening the network. Libraries are using the internet mostly for acquisition, cataloguing and reference functions. Librarians can increase the users of libraries by providing valuable informationof library holdings through internet.

Useful E- Resources for distance learning

E- resources means Electronic resources (or e-resources) are materials in digital format accessible electronically. Examples of e-resources are electronic journals (e-journal), electronic books (e-book) online databases in varied digital formats, Adobe Acrobatdocuments (.pdf), WebPages (.htm, .html, .asp etc) and more. There are some of E-resources given below:

Shodhganga

- Digital Repository of Indian Electronic Theses and Dissertations set-up by the INFLIBNET centre
- Research (Ph. D) scholars from universities to deposit their theses in the respective department / centre / college
- Provides advance and subject search options for users to search ETD's (Electronic Thesis or Dissertation)
- Free access to digital contents

- URL :https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/

Shodhgangotri

- Repository of Indian Research in Progress (Synopses/Research Proposals For PhD Programmed) who have registered for Ph. D
- Researchers can submit approved synopsis or research proposal in Shodhgangotri
- URL : http://shodhgangotri.inflibnet.ac.in/

DOAJ

- Directory of Open Access Journals
- Access to high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals
- Subject wise searching is available
- Search facility of order by relevance, title, keyword, ISSN, etc is available
- URL: https://doaj.org/

EPAPERGALLERY

- Newspaper publishing & content management software
- Presents the print copy as it is online
- Different language papers of the world are available such as English, African, Bengali, German, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Russian, Spanish, Tamil and Telgu.
- City wise search facility is also available for Indian newspapers
- URL : http://www.epapergallery.com/

N-LIST Database

 Subscribed to INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network) through N-LIST (National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content) Program. College Faculties & Students can access E-books & E-journals through the following website. https://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/

Basically its online database which includes collection of e-resources (6,000+ e-journals and 31,35,000+ e-books. As an authorized user from college registered under NLIST Program you will access the E- resources.

Other useful E- Resources for distance learning:

E- shodh sindhu https://ess.inflibnet.ac. in/

e-PG Pathshala (a gateway to all Post Graduate Courses)https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/

Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)https://www.doabooks.org/

On Line Courses Vidya-mitra- https://vidyamitra.inflibnet.ac. in/ National Digital Library of India https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/

For On-Line Courses- SWAYAM Portalhttps://swayam.gov.in/explorer

Sahitya setu (for journal) http://www.sahityasetu.co.in/main/index.ht ml

Parab

http://gujaratisahityaparishad.com/prakashan/parab/index.html (gujarati)

Online Dictionaries
- https://www.merriam-webster.com/
- Gujaratilexicon (E newspapers also available)
- https://hinkhoj.com/
- http://www.bhagavadgomandalonline.com/
- https://dictionary.cambridge.org/

Conclusions:

The articles and resources reviewed in this article provide a glimpse into what the roles and responsibilities of libraries and librarians are for learners and faculty in distance Learning. As technologies are changing, the library is faced with the challenge of funding, access, and incorporating the new technologies along with effectively training library staff on how to use the resources and technologies so they in turn can help the learners with their informational and technological questions. As we see distance education growing; libraries and librarians need to focus on the basic fundamentals of librarianship and determine how best to meet the needs of these non-residential distance education students. library services are a critically important part of the overall online learning experience and it is vital that institutions provide the same degree of support for distance education as for traditional courses and programs.

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