

Dynamic Approaches to the Next Generation Librarianship: A Discussion

Bedadyuti Sahoo

Bijaylaxmi Rautaray

Abstract

People anticipate major changes in the field of library automation, digitization, and dissemination of resources, better library products and services in the upcoming years. The upheavals started in real after 20th century because of the demand of the users for research as well as academia. Accordingly, the importance in the field of library systems and services developed for creating better scope through the process of data management, reserving contents in the archives, creating remote access to the electronic resources, and managing library activities technically through the library management software and databases. Simultaneously, the workflow and the efficiency of the staff members also have developed than the decades before might be the change of the wanting of the users' or supportive mechanisms and impact of the ICT. This paper vividly discuss in details about the present library management systems and services of the library for the benefit of the whole users' community.

Keywords: Dynamic Approach, Information, Information Professional, Librarianship, Library, Next Generation

1. Introduction

In general, People access library for various information. The scope and its interoperability have been increasing because of the development of the information technologies and the impetus skill of the library professionals. Now a day, the importance of the digital library is an important aspect in disseminating online resources and fulfilling various demands of the users in the information era. In this aspect, Li & et al. (2019) stated that, the role of the Information Technologies (IT) in enabling automation and digitization is of having paramount importance in making the civilization information based. It is in the other ways can be said that, cloud services, virtual learning, remote accessing of the online resources, effectiveness of the institutional repositories and digital library, internet services, big

data, artificial intelligence are the present influential factors of the library services. Based on the analysis of the above topic, this article will focus on the different directions of the library resources, services and its optimistic approaches of the present library system which impacts on the library users' in the modern digital era.

Literature Review

In general, People face difficulties in accomplishment to the resources and services in the library. It may be one of the reasons that, the staff members working in the library may not market themselves effectively or might be the lack of state-of-the-art. In this direction, Liang & Chen (2018) stated that, Cyber Physical System (CPS) is a kind of networked library system that consists of physical and cyber elements in favour of academic, industry as well as government. It can provide high-quality, thoughtful, convenient and efficient services to

publics as well as library users' in all information exchange platforms. Supplementing to the above social scientists, Choi & Rasmussen (2006) stated that, digital library is the main hub for the fulfilment of the requirements of the academic as well as research. The digital professionals need to develop strong interpersonal and team work skills with digital collection management. Data mining is the important aspect of the library system that synthesizes and extracts data from the data warehouses. In this regard, Sahoo & Mishra (2015) stated that, data mining supports in getting data for the unsolved decisions. Extraction of data from the data warehouse and filtering them for the utilisation of data for end users' benefits librarian. Here, the role of the Association, Classification and the Clustering (ACC) system no doubt a privileged factors which benefits library to provide right data to the right users'. Another aspect of the library and librarianship is to re-brand and re-position the library through the automation what Breeding (2009) in his article has elaborated about the present importance of the library automation process. Information and knowledge is media and technology agnostic (<https://library.iimb.ac.in/conference2019/panel1>) but its creation and management are technology-centric and digital driven. People becoming informed through their inquiries and they are apparently satisfied from the instrumented records (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library_and_information_science). Therefore, the past findings of the study on this topic gives importance about the data, information and knowledge and its availability through the technology based services results about the importance of the library and librarianship.

Therefore, the above opinions of the varied social scientists on present watermarking of the library services clearly signify that, Library users need information for their day-to-day works, which is an inevitable factor. Here, modern library facilities with well-equipped systems and services play crucial roles in creating awareness among the users'. Another important thing is the availability and usefulness of digital resources for teaching and learning, research and development and many other commercial and communication purposes are the targeted purpose in the modern information era. Taking to the present instances, the elaborative aspects of dynamic approaches of library, librarianship and its usefulness in different aspects have been richly discussed in the succeeding paragraphs.

Objectives of the Study

We have seen vast changes in the library sector in the last ten years. Be it the use of Google books in the laptop or lecture notes against the books reading, or remote access of the e-books from the library. No doubt, it is the sea changes in the library facilities to accommodate the wanting of the users' according to their suitability not vice-versa. Therefore, for this, the main objectives of this study are to elaborate the manifold library parts favouring users' satisfactions. Keeping in view, few important selected objectives of this study have been undertaken to elaborate in the succeeding paragraphs.

- ❖ To articulate realistic aspects of Library status and its role in knowledge sharing which value the role of the library staff;
- ❖ To aware the different opportunities and filtering the minds of the users' in creating the

right truth of the matter which Google cannot solve;

- ❖ To explain different uses of electronic devices, tools and technologies and formats so that, the quick and extensive services could have been provided and have massive impact on library sector;
- ❖ To gear up the intelligence and personality of the professionals so that, the advanced services with speed and accuracy would have been provided in the present Smartphone and tablet age; and
- ❖ To universalise the importance of the library services for the advancement of the academia as well as research in all fields of study, so that; users' faith on library will grow more than the past time.

The role of library and information professionals

Librarianship and library management are the two dichotomies in the library operations and management. Obviously, the important works of the library are to collect, preserve and make accessible our documentary heritage for the people. However, time span has changed the confined concepts of the library services and it is not limited within the significant and contemporary collections of books, newspapers, magazines, pictures, maps, reports, dissertations, theses, and digital resources. It is in present demand, the circle of the work have been developed into the books exhibitions, orientation programmes of the software and databases, making cubicle for the group interactions and quiet study and putting special significance on copyright, restrict plagiarism of the publications and availability of resources according to the demands

of the users are the concerns of the present library services. Now a day, LIS sector is characterised by varied workforce and it promotes values to the LIS profession.

Adding value to the above discussions, the other aspects of the library activities is to respond cultural, social, right information to the right user at the right time and learning needs of the stakeholders and the library customers. Library Profession is also to look after the affairs of storing, organising, accessing and retrieving the documents, preserving and enabling free access to the information. It is also the part and parcel of the library is to think over the matter regarding employability of the clientele in different sectors by which the faith of the clients would be increased more on the library centres. The present role of the library manager has extended the boundary of the library and looking into the matters like resource management, control over the research programmes, Supervising and leading staff members, designing, directing, formulating the policy and applying in the form of services to meet the demands of the clients, and Providing expert advice and/or consultancy services on planned information management cases. So to say, planned and strategic budget, automation, digitization, remote access and cloud services are the stretched services, which add value to the library and information centres. It is possible based on the action plans of the library staff members for enhancing calibre and scope in acquiring knowledge for better services. The influential factors which promotes staff affiance are attainment of the seminars, workshops, updated database trainings and changes in the UG and PG courses comparing with world class institutions beholding latest techniques.

Where does today's Library Stand?

The present status of the library professional is to identify problems and provide solutions for the problems. Staff members of the library can support researchers in providing literatures and data for publications, CAS and SDI services. So, library can be the source of faith for all for the development of industry and academia. Now- a-day, users are not needed to come to the library for services. They can communicate with the library point of contact and get services from the professionals through online, which are commonly called as the service beyond the library walls. Continuation of the beauty of the library services can be maintained if the property of the library is safe. Sometimes threat may come to the library professionals during providing library services. However, it is a general parlance in every service platforms and it should be handled tactfully by which the exposure of the professional skill would have figured out. Strengths and weakness are the internal related terms where threats focus on the external environment. Strength thrives over the others and always considered as the advantageous in the common management parlance. It evaluates competitive position and develops strategic planning (<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/s/swot.asp>). Here the role of the SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) plays vital roles in bringing library into a very service oriented hub feeling importance of the information and knowledge for all domain users. SWOT analysis facilitates realistic, fact based and data driven avoiding preconceived beliefs. Library should consider it as a guide not as a prescription.

Strength of the Library: users' love and need to get valuable services from the library experts. The term 'Library' has been used from the centuries,

which have societal awareness. It is not considered as the only place of materials but a centre for documentation where most of the wanting of different users is satisfied in the eyes of equality and fraternity.

Weaknesses: Sometimes non-professionals are the decision makers of the library. They do not have many ideas to study and plan out for prompt and valuable services. Management decision lacks regarding disbursement of fund, staffing pattern, implementations of new types of tools and techniques. It keeps library far away from the techno-centric services. Traditional pattern of services kill the time of the users and puts users' into the troublesome in many ways. Therefore, to understand the importance of the information services, library staff development activities like, computer training, short-term training on library services and training on database management and software operations can keep library professionals more energetic and updated. Automation and digitization, implementation of RFID technology, and online supportive library services can provide library services more tangible.

Threats: Library is the storehouse of knowledge. It is in the present time, considered as the knowledge hub where universe of intellectual property is stored for the present and future generations. In this context, the importance of the security and risk management taking to the library collections and state of the art infrastructures are to be acknowledged with much importance. The role of the Data centre is of having much importance in keeping back up of data. Cyber security has been trans-national and network based threat. In this regard, the following important points are to be taken care of so that, the security of the library property will not be in stake.

In this context, the following points are to be implemented for the safety and security of the library collections as a whole.

a) Burglary Protection: It is required to prevent violent entry against the intellectual property or for any financial loss. The door and window sensors, glass break protection, vibration detectors, audio discriminators, alarmed window screens, motion detectors, ultrasonic and microwave motion detectors, photoelectric motion detectors, passive infrared motion detectors, sounders (<http://www.lisbdnet.com/security-and-risk-management/>) are the latest systems for preventing the property of the institutions. As library is an institution beholding intellectual property, Implementations of these systems can make the library more safety.

b) Collection Security: Library materials should not be left out without being legally checked. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) is the best way of checking the materials. If the material is not scanned for check out, an alarm set up in the door will produce a big sound. So that, the staff members of the library will be alerted that something is going out illegally by the user.

c) Video Surveillance: Video surveillance and CCTV keep record of the images and detect crime-ensuring safety (ibid.) of the library collections. Now-a day, it is an inevitable part of the not only in LIS centres but for all malls and houses for the safety and security purpose.

Opportunities: people are living in an information rich, knowledge-based society. Modern technologies help in improving access to resources of the library. E-books, e-theses, e-dissertations and e-journals and many other e-content library materials help users' for their day to day lesson plans, class note

and lecture note preparations, report writing, theses and dissertations writings, articles writing and making a user's mind into the expanded zone. So, present library system has an expanded role in the fields of content creation, and information dissemination for the better research enrichment. Other way, it can be the act for executing overload information.

Here, taking to the above discussions, it can be said that, the role of the library professionals is not confined within the four walls of the library. Starting from the acquisition until the execution of the materials and dissemination is of having paramount importance. The succeeding paragraphs will tell about the rest importance of the library and information centres for the benefit of the entire intellectual community as a whole.

Future proposition

Most of the futurists tell that, it is important to look at the trends and develop the same state of the art environment to accomplish the demands of the future users. Presently, library is playing major roles in collaboration with the authors and publishers and making trends for users' benefit. So that, emerging topics and its study materials in different domain areas will be available. Maintenance and preservation of the collection, disaster management, planned physical infrastructure, well technology based housekeeping operations, Change management, premeditated budgetary system, HR Planning and Policy for recruiting skilled library professionals will make the library more transparent. Above all, users' cooperation, and coordination of the management will add value to the hard conservation and preservation of the library collections. Unstable time is in ahead. Library

professionals need a firm handle on their value proposition (<https://www.alia.org.au/sites/default/files/documents/advocacy/ALIA-Future-of-the-Profession-ALL.pdf>) and to articulate their professional contribution in providing right information to the own clients will minimise the risk of the people.

Conclusion

In all fairness it is observed that, though library services are considered as the welfare services, still, it is very much essential to think twice in disseminating services to the users' at this information age. Library supports academia, industry and research in worldwide. In this regard, Li stated that, users are not only the target of the service but also they are the valuable part if standing on the side of resources. The era of big data, artificial intelligence, data networking allow users to be connected with the library and information centres. Exploring digital resources has wider perspectives through internet services, data science services, cloud services, remote services, and services within the Wi-Fi library framework. Therefore, the existence of the library and the present support to the information age is of having much contribution in the present era. Modern approaches towards the library profession are no doubt technology-based changes where both the library professionals and the users' community are getting benefited. We should give stress on automation and integrated library systems for the significant library services.

References

1. Breeding, Marshall (2009), "Next Generation Library Automation: It's Impact on the Serials Community", *The Serials Librarian*, Vol. 56 No. 1-4, pp. 55-64.
2. Choi, Youngok & Rasmussen, Edie (2006), "What Is Needed to Educate Future Digital Librarians", *D-Lib Magazine*, Vol. 12 No. 9, Available at: <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/september06/choi/09choi.html>
3. Li, Shuqing & et al. (2019), "Problems and Changes in Digital Libraries in the Age of Big Data from the Perspective of User Services, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, Vol. 45 No. 1, pp. 22-30.
4. Liang, Xueling & Chen, Hong (2018), "The application of CPS in library management: a survey", Available at: <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/LHT-11-2017-0234/full/pdf?title=the-application-of-cps-in-library-management-a-survey>
5. Sahoo, B. and Mishra, B. S. P. (2015), "Data Mining is a Perpetual Concept For Library and Information Science: An Estimated Overview, *International Journal of Digital Library Services*, Vol.5 No 3, pp. 14-21.

About Authors

Dr. Bedadyuti Sahoo, Dy. Librarian, KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar-24, Odisha, India
Email: beda_sahoo@yahoo.co.in

Dr. Bijaylaxmi Rautaray, Chief Librarian, KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar-24, Odisha, India
Email: bijaylaxmi@kiit.ac.in

