

# CREATION AND UTILISATION OF DATABASE OF EXPERTS

Cholin Veeranna & Prakash K

## 1. INTRODUCTION

With the demand for information by individual and society and the widespread availability and the decreasing cost of computer it is both necessary and easy to build large computerised information systems. These information systems plays an important role in decision making process in the broad sense. The decisions that affect people's lives crucially are increasingly based on the computer generating data.

Nowadays Computer Networks have become indispensable communication aid for researcher all over the world and informal communication among scientists is inexorably moving in towards electronic form. An electronic database is a collection of related items of information stored in computer label form and it is well accepted that, the electronic database has the key to improving information accessibility, the ease and weakness our scholars, technologists, and academic community can access the relevant information. At present it is a fact that there is a wide gap in the information accessibility of both actual and potential information users in our country compared to those in the developed countries. There are several interactive factors such as social, economic, political and technological factors considered responsible for this situation. Efforts are being made to narrow this gap. Basically there are two main aspects related which are the production of our own databases and improved utilisation of existing databases.

Universities in this country are having large number of intellectuals engaged in various research activities, their valuable expertise needed by various Research and Development organisations, industries and other institutions. INFLIBNET has started the creation of database of experts in various academic disciplines in the country including science, technology, humanity, social sciences, art, etc. Experts in these field are requested to provide elaborate information about their work and details for contacting them to take advantage of their expertise which will help in establishing a new bridge among those having common areas of interest and also in seeking best expert advise for the government organisations and industries. The databases is growing and soon will be available for the access.

## 2. NEED FOR CREATION OF EXPERT DATABASE

The main purpose for creating expert database includes the following:

- (\*) To enable the scientific and research community all over the country, irrespective of location and distance to have access to information about the list of experts in their related field.
- (\*) To enable researcher to have informal communication, to exchange their ideas with scholars in the related field to have a better solution for a problem.
- (\*) To enable the funding organisation to identify the experts before assigning the projects.
- (\*) To avoid duplication of research.

## 3. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

The input data sheets have been sent to all the Vice-Chancellors, Directors, Heads of the departments and librarians in the Universities/ deemed Universities, Principals of regional engineering colleges, and other technical and professional institutions. At present 6500 input sheets have been sent and mailing of data sheets is in progress. The sources used for mailing includes Association of Indian University's "University Hand Book" and the list of technical institutes from AICTE. We are happy to find the good response from the scholars. Process of creation of database is initiated with the response sheet already received (around 1000). Further sheets are received everyday. The database covers various academic disciplines in the country, including science, technology, humanities, and social sciences, art etc. Since the data is still being received the data base of experts will be completed in about two months time.

## 4. DESIGNING OF DATABASE OF EXPERTS

### 4.1 IDENTIFICATION OF DATA ELEMENTS

Considerable exercise has been done at INFLIBNET

to arrive at list of data elements included for database of experts. Most of the fields are based on the CCF(F): Common Communication Format (factual) (Part-2 of CCF edn. 3) developed by PGI/UNESCO.

#### 4.2 PREPARATION OF DATA INPUT SHEET

The data sheet has been prepared based on the list of data elements, identified and the same has been sent for collecting data. The data elements are listed in Annexure-I, and the data input sheet is annexed in Annexure-II. The response sheets are analysed to identify the broad subject headings and the data sheets are authenticated before putting the data in electronic form.

#### 4.3 STANDARDIZATION OF SOFTWARE

The database is designed in CDS/ISIS based on the data elements identified. The authenticated data sheets are given for data entry. These records are further checked for data errors before putting the data for access. At present the database contains records of about 1000 experts, which is growing day by day. The data elements identified for the database of experts are given in the Annexure-I.

#### 5. SOFTWARE INTERFACE FOR SEARCHING THROUGH THE DATABASE OF EXPERT

Since the database is created by using CDS/ISIS, The end user is expected to know all the operations of CDS/ISIS for searching through the database and printing. In order to avoid this difficulty an user friendly PASCAL interface has been developed at INFLIBNET which allows the end user to search through the database by the name of an expert, institutions, area of specialization, keywords, city, project titles, Boolean search, etc.

The programme has the following features:

1. Allows the user to search by name of expert, institution, keywords, etc.
2. Display the searched results on the screen, if the number of records are more than one it allows the user to scan the next record and previous record.
3. Provides the facility to save the set of records to a for all the selected records to a file.
4. Allows the users to take on line print out. It also allows the user to take the set of records to a printer or all the selected records to a printer.
5. Allows the user to write full statement for

search or part of the statement with the right truncation.

#### 6. DATABASE UTILISATION :

The database services including on line searching have been available for more than two decades from now, but the awareness of their availability, skills to perform the search and competence required to utilize the service effectively has not spread evenly across the universities and research institutions in the developing countries like India. Of course the non availability of suitable technology and efforts in upgrading information technology skills and knowledge of library and information professionals it is hoped that all user categories have equal opportunities and facilities for data base usage. The two ways which are related to database utilisation are provision of database services on-line and off-line.

The database services are provided on-line by mounting database and powerful computer system which will allow the user to search through the database from the remote computer system by dialing at our end the output will be sent either by e-mail or by post.

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Producing a database means being able to collect together related items of information in a chosen area and deliver it in a computer readable form and can provide access to the information by research and academic community. The production of electronic database enables the scientific and research community all over the country, irrespective of location and distance to have access to information about the list of expert in their related field and establish bridge among the scientists having the common area of interest and to make the best use of experts advise for government organizations/ industries.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Field 300	Address	Field 300	Field 300
Field 310	Classification code	Field 310	Field 310
Field 320	Subject areas and the keywords	Field 320	Field 320
Field 330	Research Project handled	Field 330	Field 330
Field 340	Period	Field 340	Field 340
Field 350	Area of Interest	Field 350	Field 350
Field 360	Major Achievements	Field 360	Field 360
Field 370	Research Project handled	Field 370	Field 370
Field 380	Period	Field 380	Field 380
Field 390	Area of Interest	Field 390	Field 390
Field 400	Major Achievements	Field 400	Field 400
Field 410	Area of Interest	Field 410	Field 410
Field 420	Major Achievements	Field 420	Field 420
Field 430	Area of Interest	Field 430	Field 430
Field 440	Major Achievements	Field 440	Field 440
Field 450	Area of Interest	Field 450	Field 450
Field 460	Major Achievements	Field 460	Field 460
Field 470	Area of Interest	Field 470	Field 470
Field 480	Major Achievements	Field 480	Field 480
Field 490	Area of Interest	Field 490	Field 490
Field 500	Major Achievements	Field 500	Field 500

## ANNEXURE - I

The data elements identified for database of experts are :

Field 300 : Name of Expert

This field further divided into subfields for Name of expert with additional elements, date of birth, present and previous positions and the nationality.

Field 430 : Address

This field is further divided into subfield for address of expert with street, city with telephone numbers, fax and e-mail addresses of an expert.

Field 610 : Classification code

This field will be assigned by INFLIBNET for identifying the broad subject areas of an expert.

Field 620 : Subject areas and the  
Keywords

This field is divided into two subfields to give access points:

Subfield A : Subject areas

Subfield B : Keywords

Field 810 : Educational Qualification

The field further divided into 4 subfields:

Subfield A : Graduation

Subfield B : Post Graduation with  
subject specialisation

Subfield C : Ph.D thesis with topic

Subfield D : Post doctoral Qualification

Field 820 : Experience

Experience of research is a repeatable field and represented in three subfields:

Subfield A : Period of Experience

Subfield B : Institutional Name

Subfield C : Responsibilities

Field 830 : Research Project handled

Subfield A : Period

Subfield B : Institution Name

Subfield C : Research Project handled

Field 835 : Doctoral Theses Guided

Subfield A : Researcher name

Subfield B : Title

Subfield C : Institution Name

Subfield D : Submission Year

Field 836 : Research in Progress

Subfield A : Researcher Name

Subfield B : Title

Subfield C : Institution Name

Subfield D : Date of registration

Field 840 : Consultancy

Subfield A : Period of Consultancy

Subfield B : Institution Name

Subfield C : Area of Consultancy

Field 850 : Publications

Subfield A : Papers Published in  
Journals

Subfield B : Books Published

Subfield C : Reports

Subfield D : Papers presented in  
conference

Field 920 : Membership

Subfield A : Name of the organisation

Subfield B : Additional Information

Field 925 : Honor and Awards

Subfield A : Name of award

Subfield B : Additional Information

Field 950 : Area of Interest

Field 960 : Major Achievements (if  
any)

This field is optional contains the major achievements of an expert in his field.

# ANNEXURE -II

## INFLIBENT PROGRAMME UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION AHMEDABAD

### DATA INPUT SHEET FOR EXPERTS

To be filled at INFLIBENT

001 : RECORD ID : \_\_\_\_\_ 020: LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

040 : LANGUAGE : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Expert

First name (Surname) : ^A \_\_\_\_\_

other names : ^B \_\_\_\_\_

additional elements: ^C \_\_\_\_\_  
(Professor, Doctor etc.)

date of birth: ^dday \_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

designation (present post: ^F \_\_\_\_\_

Previous position: ^f \_\_\_\_\_

^f \_\_\_\_\_

^f \_\_\_\_\_

Address

building/institution : ^a \_\_\_\_\_

street address : ^b \_\_\_\_\_

locality, town or city : ^c \_\_\_\_\_

state, country or region : ^d \_\_\_\_\_

country : ^e \_\_\_\_\_

postal code : ^f \_\_\_\_\_

post office box number : ^g \_\_\_\_\_

telephone numbers Office : ^h STD code \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence: ^h STD code \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

telegram address : ^i \_\_\_\_\_

telex number : ^j \_\_\_\_\_

fax number : ^k \_\_\_\_\_

electronic mail address : ^l \_\_\_\_\_

Classification : \_\_\_\_\_

(to be given by the office)

Subject areas \_\_\_\_\_  
(field of expertise) \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality : \_\_\_\_\_

Educational (a) Post Graduate : \_\_\_\_\_  
Qualification (b) Ph. D thesis with topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience

Period	Institution	Responsibilities
1. ^a _____	^b _____	^c _____
2. ^a _____	^b _____	^c _____
3. ^a _____	^b _____	^c _____
4. ^a _____	^b _____	^c _____

Publications : (Attach a separate list if required)

(a) Papers published in journals : ^d \_\_\_\_\_

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(b) Books published ^d \_\_\_\_\_

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(c) Reports : ^d \_\_\_\_\_

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(d) Papers presented in Conference : ^d \_\_\_\_\_

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**Research Projects Handled**

Period	Institutions	Research Project handled
1. ^a	^b	^c
2. ^a	^b	^c
3. ^a	^b	^c
4. ^a	^b	^c
5. ^a	^b	^c

**Doctoral / Theses guided**

Researcher Name	Title	Institutions	Award Year
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

(Attach separate sheet (s) if necessary)

**Research in Progress**

Researcher Name	Title	Institution	Regn. Date
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

(Attach separate sheet(s) if necessary)

**Consultancy**

Period	Institution	Area of consultation
1. ^a	^b	^c

2. ^a \_\_\_\_\_ ^b \_\_\_\_\_ ^c \_\_\_\_\_  
3. ^a \_\_\_\_\_ ^b \_\_\_\_\_ ^c \_\_\_\_\_  
4. ^a \_\_\_\_\_ ^b \_\_\_\_\_ ^c \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information

Honors and awards::^a \_\_\_\_\_

: ^a \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest : ^b \_\_\_\_\_

^b \_\_\_\_\_

Major Achievements (if any) :

Attach separate sheet (s) if necessary

Please mail the completed form to :

Shir O. P. Arora Phone : (079) -6569695 / 6425971 / 6560528  
INFLIBENT Programme FAX : (079) -6560990  
Near Gujarat Uni Guest House Telex : 0121 -6681 INLIN-IN  
Post Box No. 4116 E-Mail : root@ infahd.ernet.in  
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380009 OR inflihqb@shakti.ncst.ernet.in

Researcher Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_

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