

The Changing Role of Library with the Application of Web Resources and its Services

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Abstract

The growth and development of technology has changed the face of education today. The World Wide Web has rapidly become the most useful means of providing information resources. Library and information centers provide access to databases and electronic journal via the online catalogue and the web to the end users. The term e-learning is considered as substitute for online learning. Thus various web resources and services has changed the entire setup and functioning of the library, thus facilitating the users with access to vast and wide range of information.

Keywords: Web Resources, Library Services, Internet Services, Electronicsources, Electronic services, Role of Librarian.

INTRODUCTION:

In today's world technology has a crucial role to play technological advancement has its impact in all spheres of life and thus education as well. The process of teaching and learning has undergone a sea change, with the advent of various technologies coupled with globalization which has posed the challenge for the teaching fraternity. With the increasing impact of information technology on higher education, all those concerned with higher education today are attempting to grasp how information technology could help in modernizing the processes of teaching, research and learning. Internet has a major role to play in this context, facilitating access to wealth of knowledge, supporting academic and research activities.

The www produce a huge network of educational, governmental and commercial resources. The subscription of electronic journals by individuals and Institution has become the order of the day. The library and information centre provides access to database and electronic journal via the online catalogue and the Web to the end user. The library websites of the institutes play an important role in promoting and maximizing access and use of E-journals and databases. If a library's Web site acquires all the E-resources and links them with different options, it could be easily accessible by one and all.

1. NEED FOR WEB-SERVICES:

- a. Due to globalization of education, it is essential to bring teachers and students together at the same time. It is possible through e-learning.
- b. Educational Institutions wants enhancement in their competitiveness by training to manpower.
- c. Teachers and students want to enhance their learning opportunities.

d. Widespread proliferation of Information Technology has enabled the Teachers and Students to have access to Internet.

2. WEB RESOURCES:

All the research and academic institute are connected with net, facilitating numerous and diversified information resources around the world. This helps the library professionals to offer net based services. Library professional need to develop better skills and technologies to retrieve the required information through the enormous data available on the net.

The advantages of Web resources are:

- a. International reach
- b. Speed of communication.
- c. Unlimited Capabilities.
- d. Reduced Cost.
- e. Convenience.
- f. Searchability.
- g. Linking.

Electronic books and journals satisfies the purpose as they are space saving provide powerful searching tools and facilities such as integrated text, hypertext text, hypertext links and multimedia that the printed books and journals cannot offer.

3. ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN WEB – LEARNING

Library resources and services are the backbone of any academic institution as a primary knowledge resource for study , teaching and research. Library has a positive role to play to collect , organize ,and disseminate learning web resources to complement the teaching and learning process.

3.1 Web-based Instruction

It is “hypermedia based instructional programme which utilize he attributes and resources of the World Wide Web to create a meaningful learning environment where learning is fostered and supported”.

3.2 Virtual Learning

“The educational process of learning over the Internet without having face-to-face contact is known as virtual learning. However, for some virtual learning may also include telelearning.

3.3 Online Learning:

It is synonymous to web-based learning where learning is fostered via the WWW only, in an Intranet and distance learning.

3.4 E-Learning:

The term e-learning which is widely accepted as a substitute for online learning and web based learning covers a wide set of applications and processes including computer based learning , virtual classroom and digital collaboration.

Several advantages are seen for web-enabled databases:

1. Global access to data that is in public domain. e.g. bibliographic, statistical, full text, image and multimedia databases.
2. Platform –independent access to data and information.
3. Dynamic updating of data ensuring that live data is available globally for use by decision makers, customers, vendors etc. This is becoming particularly important in the rapidly growing e-commerce sectors.
4. The fact that a single interface viz., Internet browser is all that is needed on the client machine to access databases across the internet , and
5. The possibility for developing and delivering interactive solution and for the collection of valuable feedback, reactions, analyses and user preferences for use in business and other decisions.

4. WEB –SERVICES

1. List of on-line Journals.
2. E-books list.
3. Maintaining the database of the important articles from different magazines / Journals.
4. OPAC : Search for the book, Journals and articles available in the library.
5. Addresses of Reference Libraries: Where one can find their pinpointed information/article.
6. List of websites which provides number of educational and other related active websites.
7. News on conference/Seminars.
8. CD's available in the library.
9. Library Security Deposit Rules.
10. Library News and Views: Information about the library and views of its users about the library.
11. List of Online and Printed Journals: Subscribed by the library for the current year as well as back volumes.
12. Archive of the Photographs (year wise): available in the library . To know more about its alumni.
13. Recent Additions to the library(New Arrivals)
14. Suggested Books/ Journals by the faculty members/students/users of that Particular library.

5. Benefits of Web Resources:

5.1 To the Students

1. Place to store history of development and growth.
2. Control over the information that is stored, displayed and accessed.
3. Can collaborate with anyone in the world.
4. As a tool to demonstrate their skills and competencies required by the employers.
5. It can serve as a streamlined applications by removing the need to fill out multiple applications or doing photocopies.

6. Developing the students ability to reflect to their experiences.
7. Helps in planning more effectively for career development.
8. If a students want to transfer, the ePortfolios data my ease the process of articulation with another institute or university.
9. Even after completion of the study having their work still available to them in a university-supported environment encourages in sustaining the relationship with their alma mater.

5.2 To the Faculty

1. Means of assessing students learning and preparing them for life lng learning.
2. Tool to better manage, review, reflect and comment on student work.
3. Can use to built their own professional ePoerfolios to document successful teaching and accomplishment for promotion and tenure reviews, grants, publications, consulting and other professional development activities.
4. Means to share content with peers.
5. It helps in recalling students performance even after course completion. Say for example designing a letter of reference after some years.

5.3 To the Parents / Guardians

1. As a tool to remain updated about academic progress of their dear and near ones.

6.CONCLUSION :

Internet serves as an important tool in the world of information. Thus to utilize the internet resources to its maximum short term courses of workshops and training programmes should be conducted. This will help users to know various developments and searching techniques for accessing the desired information.

Information and Communication technology based promotional services supplemented by the traditional best practices will enhance of promoting web resources and services in the libraries. The library web pages are playing good role in promoting the web resources. If few more web interfaces are added in the library websites for enhanced functionalities , it will be encouraging to the end user and so that the ultimate goal of investment on web resources could be achieved.

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