

Innovative Library Services Provided by College Library

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Abstract:

Information provided by the library is entirely different in the early days compared to the current library environment. The library plays a vital role in providing accurate information to users. In present days, information and services provided by the library must meet the acceptance of the utilizes. The article describes some of these innovative library services in detail.

Keywords- College Library, Innovative Library Services, E-resources, Social Media, E-Resources, Quality Education

1.Introduction:

The pivotal role of libraries in higher education cannot be overstated. Education serves as the cornerstone of a nation's economic, social, and cultural development, embracing not only science and technology but also the access to a vast repository of knowledge. A well-equipped library plays a multifaceted role as an information provider, catering to the needs of faculty, research scholars, and students in a professional academic environment. It is pivotal for the research and development endeavors across all disciplines, necessitating continuous modernization to keep pace with evolving needs. At the college level, the library's significance extends beyond traditional classroom-based teaching methods. It serves as a vital catalyst for the holistic development of students, nurturing their personalities, communication skills, career prospects, and creativity. The quality of education offered by an institution is closely intertwined with the resources and services provided by its library. At the college level, the library's significance extends beyond traditional classroom-based teaching methods. It serves as a vital catalyst for the holistic development of students, nurturing their personalities, communication skills, career prospects, and creativity. The quality of education offered by an institution is closely intertwined with the resources and services provided by its library.

2. Role of College Libraries in Higher Education

The role of libraries in higher education is of paramount importance, especially as education transcends the traditional paradigm of mere teaching and emphasizes the process of learning. In this context, libraries assume a vital role as reservoirs of knowledge, containing diverse forms of intellectual wealth. The role of libraries in higher education is multi-faceted and essential in shaping the academic journey of students and faculty. From providing access to vast repositories of knowledge to fostering research, critical thinking, and innovation, libraries play a pivotal role in the educational landscape.

3. Changing Role of College Libraries: College libraries have always been regarded to be the nerve center of universities as these are responsible to support the teaching, research and other academic programs of the college. Now these libraries are passing through a phase of great transition being influenced by social, political, economic and technological developments that are taking place in the society. The era is over when college librarians were involved in housekeeping jobs like classification and cataloging, etc. Now they have to act as the knowledge navigators and change facilitators to fulfill the

clientele's specialized needs. For this, it has become essential to use cutting edge technology tools and techniques. The re-engineering of the teaching and learning framework is under way in the progressive universities worldwide. This provides a window of opportunity for their libraries to demonstrate their existing and potential contribution to educational change.

4. Innovative Library Services Provided by College Library

There are several types of coextended services in college libraries.

4.1. Virtual Library Tours

The library webpage leads to giving a virtual library tour. The library webpage gives a virtual lead to the entire facilities available in the library. Such as library holdings, types of facilities provided, and other services regarding the library.

4.2. Web OPAC

Utilizes can find the information from the web OPAC by linking the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). It offers to know the holdings of libraries, and access to the utilizes to use. In web OPAC, library books and other reading materials are classified subjects wise by giving a call number. Some search facilities are limited for utilizes and guests.

4.3. Web-Based Utiliser's Studies/Research

Web-based user education gives a high degree of interactivity and flexibility to the utilisers. Users must know the common library terms and to know how to access the library OPAC and other reading materials situated in the library.

4.4. Bulletin Board

It is an electronic communication forum that hosts posted messages and articles connected to standard subject or themes of interests. It permits the utilisers to call in and leaves or retrieve messages.

4.5. Mirror Room Services

The service mainly focuses on the utiliser's body language, way of speaking, and other aspects. Users rectify their problems and correct the skills regarding non-communication skills. While presenting the paper at the conference, taking seminars, and attending the interviews this service plays an essential part in users' non-communication skills.

4.6. Current Awareness Service

The main function of the current awareness service is to intimate the new additions of library materials to the users. This can help the users to access the library materials like important dates, articles related to the subject, government exams, fellowship details, and other details posted through CAS.

4.7. Social Media Services

One of the library professionals allocated to monitoring and maintaining all types of social media accounts. Posts are mainly related to libraries, institutions, and information related to the library.

4.8. YouTube

YouTube, allows all visitors to visit, store, and share a video, or related content free of cost. With the support of YouTube, we can share our library-related ideas, newly added resources, etc. It may help users all around the world.

4.9. Book Exhibition and Lecture Series

The larger amount of the budget is spent on purchase of books through exhibition. Principal, Professors and students select and recommend the books for purchase. Lecture series has been organized every year along with the books exhibition.

4.10. Library Orientation Programme

Library arranges the Orientation Program twice a week. To acquaint the students about the library rules, collection and services. It helps them to know the library, its information sources, searching tools and facilities thoroughly.

4.11. Reference and Referral Service

Library provides the long-term and short-term reference service to all its readers. Reference desk deals with all sort of authentic and important reference books, dictionaries, manuals, directories, indexes, annuals. All types of queries are promptly responded through reference desk.

4.12. Competitive Exam Section

There are near about 108 books related to MPSC, UPSC, NET, SET, CET and other competitive examination acquired and kept in special section for the concerned students and the teachers preparing for the exams.

4.13. Library best user award

Library best user award will attract more students and teachers to visit the library and use the resources. It increases the user statistics.

4.14. Users' feedback

Collect user feedback at regular intervals in different formats (print/digital) to identify the gaps in providing services. Through this feedback system, we can assess and increase the quality in services delivered by the library.

4.15. Group discussions/Peer group/Brainstorming sessions

Now most of the modern libraries are providing space for group discussions/peer group/brainstorming sessions inside the library irrespective subject areas.

5. Key Skills for College Librarians

- Assessment of resources and library users' needs.
- Presentation and verbal communication skills.
- Strong IT skills and familiarity with the use of databases and the internet.
- Subject-specific knowledge or expertise in a particular function, for example ICT resources or resource ordering.
- Team working and management skills.

6. Future Trends

Artificial Intelligence

Closing the gap between biology & technology
Increased free time
Increasing Entrepreneurial/Flex work force
International Wireless Network
Project-based workforce
Presumes rather than Consumers (producers-consumers)
Virtual Education

7. Conclusion- Expectation from the library for utilisers is much higher, compared to older-generation libraries. Libraries are in a situation to serve both physical modes and digital modes. Librarians must be updated to modern features and modify the library for current generation users' demands. A librarian should receive feedback or suggestion from users to give a better service in the library. This increases the users count.

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