MODERN LIBRARY SERVICES IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE LIBRARIES: AN ADVICE

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Today, library users demand a modern library service, whether at home using library services online and or within the library. Online, web-based services have improved considerably over recent years and Capita is committed to making sure your users’ experience of your library easily meets their modern expectations. Capita makes it easy for users to discover your library resources online. With extensive self-service account access and transactions through integration with the back office system, users are empowered and library staffs are freed for more productive service delivery.

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Introduction

In today’s circumstances where information plays a crucial role in every sphere of day to day life irrespective of subjects and profession, Libraries and information centers have an important task to play. There are various types of libraries like academic, corporate, special library or research library. In recent development, the Intranet has become a common technology in most business, organizations and institutions. It is based upon internet technology, in particular World Wide Web (WWW), to build information systems within organization or enterprise to accomplish standardization and automation. In Libraries also Intranet can facilitate so many services. It helps in dissemination of stored information as well as allows to access to remote information. Through Intranet, libraries can discharge the required information to its users in less time, with high effectiveness.

Library Services

Circulation of documents.
References services.
Internet Browsing.
Web Opac
e- Resources

Digital Library Services.
Book Bank
Photocopy services
Printouts.
Current awareness services
Bibliography service
Broadcasting of news
Internet/Online database searching
Separate reading room facility
E-books
E-journals.
Use of CDs, DVDs and VCDs
Resource Sharing

Library Services through Intranet

The Intranet is perhaps our best opportunity to talk to the rest of our corporate, and provides the information center with a valuable and effective tool for the dissemination of information. As in other organizations, the primary benefit of an Intranet in a library is the facilitation of information sharing. The Intranet is also used for following library services.
Collection development

Generally it can be done in following three steps.1.Recommendation to library 2.Approval & 3.Ordering.

Application of Modern Techniques in Library Services

The main aim is to cater all types of information needs of users in view of present and anticipating needs. Or this, Library has implemented/introduced for new projects. These are as follows:

1. Digital Library
2. Podcasting Library
3. Library Blog
4. Virtual Tour of Library
5. RSS Feeds in News broadcasting
6. Visitors Log System

Used of Latest Technology of library & Information Services in Digital Environment

The application and utilization of computer comes automatically, because the computer is the basic element of the digital environment. With the Computer technology, now the library professionals do their work digitally and the users are also searching their information digitally. The library documents are now available digitally both in online as well as offline forms, which make it easier both for the library staffs and the users working their job digitally. For shifting from the traditional “printed books environment” to the “digital environment” the library system should reengineered. Already in the discussion about the characteristics, but to include new methods and technologies to the existing system to revamp it. Some new methods and technologies for using at the time of re-engineering the library and information services in digital environment are below:

Web 2.0
Library 2.0
Digital Library
Tagging
Instant Massaging Reference Service
Wiki’s
Blog
Library Digitization
Social networking
You-Tube
List serve
Web OPAC
RSS
RSS Book list, RSS table of content, RSS Feeds to improve Reference Services.

New additions to the online catalog, New programs and events posted on the library website, Library’s electronic newsletter, Press releases and other media advisories.

Library closings, including emergency closings, Library job openings.

Virtual Reality

Virtual reality has been defined as “a recent development in computer science that promises a new form of human-computer interaction”.

Impact of virtual reality on Libraries

Virtual library: as the place from where there will be access to universal knowledge from the workplace, no matter what the workplace is.

RFID

Radio Frequency Identification device (RFID) is one of today’s most exciting and fastest growing technologies for increasing efficiencies, improving profitability and an important area of study in today’s information environment.

Use of RFID in Library Services

It has the capability for multiple applications.
It provides effective and efficient library detection system.
It has provided full autonomy to users in library transactions. They can issue and return the books as and when they need irrespective of the availability of staff. It has improved users satisfaction. It has enhanced the security level of collections. It has removed various repetitive work carried out by the staff. It has enabled us to update the databases in real time environment. It has enabled self check in/ checkout System. It has faster circulation transactions. Perfect tracker.


E-reference services

In distance education and learning E reference services is playing an important role. Increasingly distance education is utilizing e-mail and web-based facilities to deliver teaching material and provide interactive tutorial support across the internet in both the industrialized and developing world.

SMS Alerts Services

It provides CAS & SDI services by e-mail or SMS Alerts Services: In the present environment every library should adopt these techniques for users, provide Current awareness services like TOC of journals, newspaper clippings, and new arrival list etc.should send the user as per their requirement or frequent intervals by usings email or SMS alerts services. Through users can aware or upto date by getting this kind of services.

Institutional Repository

An Institutional Repository is an online locus for collecting, preserving, and disseminating-in digital form- the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution.

The four main objectives are:

To provide open access to institutional research output by self-archiving it.
To create global visibility for an institution's scholarly research.
To collect content in a single location.
To store and preserve other institutional digital assets, including unpublished or otherwise easily lost (“grey”) literature.

Non-Print Material

In this digital environment every library wants to rich not only in printed material product and services but also in non print material product and services like:

CDs, DVDs, Microfilms etc
Online-Books, Online Journals.
Online Databases.
E-references sources.

Membership with e-consortia

Technology is a driving force in the contemporary education systems. Successful implementation of high-tech programmes like INDEST and UGC-INFONET consortia resources will really get further strengthened and campus wide reach with the adoption of cabled network and wireless technologies.

Advantages of using Modern techniques

There are many benefits for Library, which are as follows.

1. These applications are user friendly.
2. Smooth functioning of services (For eg. News broadcasting)
3. Useful for image building for library amongst users.
4. All applications used are free as these are either open source software or in-house created.
5. It gives creative satisfaction to library staff.

CONCLUSION

Librarians serve as both social and knowledge intermediaries every day. Technological developments have affected not only the format and sources of the information libraries use to provide reference service, but also where we provide reference service. Libraries and their resources have partially moved to the virtual world of the Internet. Virtual reference is reference service initiated electronically, often in real-time, where
patrons employ computers or other Internet technology.

The Intranet has certainly revolutionized the information management process in the libraries. It has distinct advantage over LAN, has helped in faster data collection and dissemination. It is indeed a challenge to the library professional not only to accept and assimilate this new technology, but also to spice it up with the classical knowledge to further improve the entire information management processes in the libraries. Intranets are relatively cheap and easy to develop because they use the existing technology of the internet. The value of intranet is that it can integrate in one central source a combination of internal, external, formal and informal information.

References