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Changing Roles of the Librarians in the Digital Era

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Abstract

This article throws light on the changing role of librarian in the digital library. Digital era have imposed challenges for the library community. In today's age library does not mean only as a building that houses the information. It has reached beyond the four walls of buildings. Librarians have a long history of adopting technology to enhance services.

Librarians have changed them self from using early typewriters to the present internet. We have entered in the digital age and accordingly librarians have to use the digital technology to provide best access and service to its reader.

Librarians are professionals trained in the acquisition, organization, retrieval, and dissemination of information. In essence, the practice of librarian ship in the digital library environment will not be very different from that in the traditional print-based library. Digital library is not the ultimate answer to everyone's information needs. It is merely another step in this process. The traditional print library and its services will not disappear. Librarians must accept and adapt to the new techniques of digital library. They must recognize the tremendous potential of the digital library, involved in its creation, and take a leadership role in integrating these new systems and services into libraries, for their own good and for the good of users.

Keywords: Digital, Role, Librarian, library

Introduction

As we have entered in digitization, now the role of librarian is not limited to acquisition, organization, retrieval, and dissemination of information. Librarian of today digital library have changed himself from using early typewriters to the present internet. We are entering the digital library and librarians have to use the changing technology to provide the best access and service to their patrons.

The Digital library is:

1. Organized collection of multimedia and other types of resources;
2. Resources are available in computer processable form.
3. The function of acquisition, storage, preservation, retrieval is carried out through the use of digital technology.
4. Access to the entire collection is globally available directly or indirectly across a network.

Objectives

The objectives of this study are given below:

1. To define and explain the concept of digital learning environment.
2. To explore the challenges faced and the changing roles of librarians and various skills expected of librarians to meet the need.

Requirement for the Adoption of Digital Library

- storage problem
- The limited buying power of libraries.
- complex nature of recent documents
- Information explosion.
- Searching problem in traditional libraries.
- Needs of new generation users.

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Advantages of digital libraries are:

- It saves the physical space
- Digital libraries can be accessed at any time, 24 hours a day and 365 days of the year.
- The library materials are available at the user's desktop, regardless of where the user is physically located.
- User can download text.
- It often allows for multiple users.
- It eliminates the problem of a book being missing or off the shelf.
- It is less labor intensive.

Digital library provides access to much richer content in a more structured manner we can easily move from the catalog to the particular book, then to a particular chapter and so on.

Disadvantages of digital library:

- DRM - Digitization disregards the copyright law as the idea substance of one creator can be uninhibitedly transferred by other without his affirmation;
- Clients need to recall different passwords for various items.
- There are regularly troubles with downloading or printing;
- Regularly there is no cost investment funds, particularly when both the virtual and print items are kept up and the cost of equipment, programming; renting correspondence circuit is for the most part high.
- Everything is not accessible in computerized organize.
- IT framework - The virtual library depends on power and PC organizes keeping in mind the end goal to be accessible for utilize;
- Absence of learning in utilizing to get to the required data.

Challenges Faced by Librarians in Virtual Library Environment and

The New Skills Required

The most problems that need to be addressed and challenges that the administrators confront in the present advanced time for giving advanced data administration to the learning society are:

- New era of students.
- Copyright and protection issues.
- On the web/Virtual wrong doings and security.
- Innovation challenges.
- Skilled labor.
- Collection of advanced e-assets.
- Organizational structure.
- Preservation/filing of advanced e-assets.

Changing Roles of Librarians

Despite the fact that the advanced condition is worked as a framework, which can be specifically utilized by its end-clients from their desktop, the part of custodians can't be neglected. The obligation of the bookkeeper also, data researcher has expanded as far as bundling and repackaging of data, electronic distributing, and exhorting clients about the system to distinguish significant electronic sources, and so on.

Leadership Role And Managerial Skills One essential part of custodians is to give administration and mastery in the outline, improvement, also, moral administration of learning based data frameworks with a specific end goal to meet the data requirements and commitments of the benefactors. He ought to advance his administration aptitudes for arranging, overseeing and dispersing e - education to clients.

IT Skills as Digital Information Provider

Giving data assets to benefactors - paying little mind to organize, it is most important to have nature of a virtual administrator. He ought to have the capacity to fulfill a wide range of clients particularly research scholars and youthful era who utilizes web much of the time for the most recent up gradation of the data. He ought to have the capacity to make his own particular site as a less demanding approach to impart to others what they know. He should assemble electronic data and make electronic pathfinders and front-end scan instruments to help clients for getting to the required information. The improvement of electronic save (e-hold) accumulations, exhibits that he is equipped for adjusting new innovations and convey benefits all the more adequately including appropriation of Z39.50 standard to offer assistance clients all the while seek over different data Resources. Assessing the correct data at the perfect time is the most critical factor in Virtual library. A refinement is to be made between those wellsprings of information which have been digitized for the speed and simplicity of transportation, and information which is of restricted helpfulness, unpredictable and liquid in nature. He ought to give connects to sites on particular points and lead supporters to these assessed locales as a beginning stage for recovering related and significant data.

Classification of Online Information and Taxonomies

Artisan (1998) noticed that 'the more there is on the web, the harder it progresses toward becoming to find'. It is amusing that sorting out tremendous amounts of data is turning into a requesting issue for those associated with building up the web and procuring web assets. This requires sharp comprehension of the conventional library administration issues and the ability of embracing those organising instruments in new condition.

Staff Development Programs

Quickly changing condition both inside and outside the library, staff improvement programs and Data recovery is the most evident aptitude a book keeper exhibits to the general population. Satisfactorily gifted staff ought to be selected to meet the expanded requests of the information society with a basic to the proceeded with achievement of the association.

Proactive Information Professional Role

The present day slant is for the part of the curator to move from that of a detached delegate part in charge of managing benefactors to fitting data assets, towards that of a considerably more proactive expert part which incorporates breaking down and repackaging data, content data administration and institutional advanced archive administration.

Information Literacy Programs

Administrators need to change their part in the e-learning condition by taking an interest in e-learning explores and getting to be noticeably engaged with colleges e-learning focuses. A very much learned Sarasvathy, Nambratha, Giddaiah must show data proficiency to teach future learning specialists, in customary ways or by means of Web based direction modules.

E-Resource Managers

Scholastic and research libraries have a noteworthy part in guaranteeing that they and their home establishments stay crucial players in the changing territory of data and training. Personnel may not be mindful of copyright issues and don't comprehend what material is electronically accessible or authorized by the library. Virtual learning frameworks can be associated with library frameworks, through the incorporation of library frameworks at the backend by means of the innovation parts, and through the nearby contact what's more, association of library staff in VLE improvement.

Conclusion

Curators as experts prepared in obtaining, association, recovery, and spread of data need to adjust and secure new abilities of advanced age. Virtual library is not a definitive reply to everybody's data needs. It is simply another progression in a dynamic and developmental process. The conventional print library and customary library administrations won't vanish. In any case, as curators, we should acknowledge and adjust to the presentation of new procedures and frameworks. We should perceive the huge capability of the virtual library, address the issues engaged with its creation, what's more, play a position of authority in coordinating these new frameworks and administrations into our libraries, for our possess great and for the benefit of our clients.

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