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- Inferential Data Analysis on Parameters of Voluntary Libraries
- Ethical use of Information and Plagiarism
- Social Media for Creative Libraries
- Data Repositories in India
- Heritage Collections of Manipur
- Bradford's Law of Scattering and Core Journals of Indian Biochemistry Research

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An Inferential Data Analysis on Select Parameters of Voluntary Libraries of Mumbai and Thane

Santosh C Hulagabali[a]

Abstract

Purpose*: This study aimed to find out the facts and status of select voluntary libraries of Mumbai and Thane on three parameters viz. motive of starting the libraries, their financial dependency and educational background of the staff working there in.*

Methodology: *Three hypotheses were framed concerning with the motive of initiating the voluntary libraries; their financial reliance and educational background of the library staff. In the absence of any source indicating the exact number of voluntary libraries functioning in Mumbai and Thane, 42 libraries were identified as voluntary libraries using online business directories, books and newspaper clippings. Of the 42 libraries, 26 libraries responded to the questionnaire.The collected data was tested using 'z' test under inferential analysis.*

Findings: *It was found that majority of the voluntary libraries were initiated with social service motive however the voluntary libraries are self-reliant financially. Another significant aspect of the libraries is that the majority of the staff working in them is not having library professional background. It is inferred from these findings that the libraries and their services are well received by the patrons.*

Originality/ Value: *The study is an original work and has potentiality to influence further research on voluntary libraries of different regions on as many as parameters concerning the working of the voluntary libraries.*

Keywords: *Voluntary library; Voluntary group; Public libraries; LIS education; Mumbai; Thane .*

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Ethical use of Information in Digital Age : Strategies to Curb Plagiarism

Rajesh Singh[a] **and Vikas Singh**[b]

Abstract

Purpose: *The paper aims to provide basic understanding of the concept and create awareness among researchers, academicians and library professionals towards promoting academic integrity with the ethical use of information.*

Methodology: *The present study explains the concepts of 'Information Ethics' and 'Plagiarism'. The types of plagiarism are deliberated to further clarify the concept of plagiarism. It discusses the prominent reasons for plagiarism; explains good scholarly practice and how plagiarism may be prevented. It critically deliberates on the national policy and discusses the role of academic libraries in curbing plagiarism.*

Findings: *Plagiarism reflects incompetence of researcher and must be prevented at all levels to safeguard the academic integrity. Manuscript suggests that the stakeholders need to join hands together to curb the menace of plagiarism. Academic libraries need to come forward and shoulder the responsibilities in a proactive manner. They should run various kinds of information literacy activities and programs to educate the students and researchers in information handling skills. Such programs should primarily focus on issues like defining and articulating 'Information Needs', skills and expertise for precise and relevant 'Information Access' available in multiple forms and formats, 'Information Evaluation' with respect to its authenticity and reliability, critical thinking skills for effective 'Information Use' and a complete understanding of skills and competency for 'Information Use Ethics'. A close and collaborative effort of libraries with teaching faculty will yield fruitful results in this respect.*

Originality/Value: *The paper will generate basic understanding on the menace of plagiarism and help to promote ethical use of information.*

Keywords: *Aacademic honesty; Academic integrety; Information use ethics; Plagiarism; Research misconduct.*

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Social Media for Creative Libraries : An Analysis for Strategic Implementation

Moorttimatee Samantaray[a]

Abstract

Purpose: *The purpose of the paper is to highlight the importance of social media. The application of social media tools has a great impact on library services. Community of users get an opportunity to access, share and disseminate information among them. This paper is also to describe the need of proper planning to exploit the benefits of social media in libraries.*

Methodology: *The methodology used is based on practical experience. Many libraries have implemented social media tools with great benefit to user community. Case studies have also been carried out to gather knowledge.*

Findings: *Based on the observation and practical approach, the present paper described the benefits of social media tools to users, role of library professionals and risk factors associated with.*

Value: *Application of social media tools in libraries enhances the visibility of institution by providing creative and innovative library services in the greater interest of the users.*

Keywords: *Social Media; Planning and Application in Libraries, Value Addition*

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Data Repositories in India : A Study

Dimple Patel[a]

Abstract

Purpose: *The purpose of this study is to identify the data repositories hosted by Indian institutions, the type of access provided to the data, the data licenses used, software used to host the data and metadata standards being used for data description by these repositories.*

Methodology: *The data repositories in India as listed in Registry of Research Data Repositories (re3data) website were identified collected and analysed for the study.*

Findings: *It was found through this study that almost 91% of the research data repositories from India are available as open access. Almost, 36% of the repositories use standard open licenses. Only around 5% use data hosting software. And merely around 17% of the data repositories use any kind of metadata standard for data description.*

Value: *This is a study of the status quo of data repositories in India. It is a precursor for further studies into data access, data licensing, data organisation, data description and data repository management in India.*

Keywords: *Data repository; Research data management; RDM; Open data; Data description*

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A Study into the Heritage Collections of Manipur

Salam Binoy Singh[a] and Charoibam Ibohal Singh[b]

Abstract

Purpose*: The basic purpose of the study is to assess the heritage collections owned by different institutions in the state of Manipur, a tiny border state of North East India.*

Methodology*: Conducting a survey of 31 institutions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, archaelogical sites, cultural places, etc. possessing heritage materials. Data has been collected using a semi-structurally designed questionnaire. Spot visit to their respective places and personal interviews with the custodians have also been performed as supplementary techniques.*

Findings: *Different heritage institutions have very old nature of heritage collections, the development of which have been started since 1950 onwards. Such collections developed through different modes are available in varied format and size and they constitute the age-old rich heritage of the region. Analysis of their contents has revealed many clues on the significance of these materials in various dimensions.*

Originality/Value: *The contributions of the heritage institutions of the state in preserving world memory can be understood.*

Keywords: Heritage institutions; Heritage collections; Heritage nature; Manipur.

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Testing Bradford's Law of Scattering and Identifying Core Journals of Indian Biochemistry Research

V Gopakumar[a] and K G Sudhier[b]

Abstract

Purpose: *This paper is to examine the application of Bradford's law of scattering on research articles published in the field of biochemistry by Indian scientists in between 2004-13.*

Methodology: *Indian scientists have published a total of 24,921 journal articles during the period. The authors retrieved bibliographic data of these articles from the Web of Science (WoS).*

Findings*: The core journals of the field were identified. Bradford's law of Scattering was tested to verify the data set and found that the distributions of journal contributions of biochemistry scholars were in agreement with Bradford's distribution pattern, i.e., 1: n: n^2. The number of core journals of biochemistry is estimated to be 36 numbers. The mean value of Bradford's multiplier was calculated as 8.10.*

Originality*: It is a study to identify the core journals in biochemistry in India by applying Bradford's law of Scattering. The outcome of the paper may be of help for the scientific acquisition of periodicals in a library. Hence the study has significant practical implications, as it provides a choice for identifying the core journals for biochemists as well as for library professionals.*

Keywords*: Bradford's law of Scattering; Biochemistry; Journal citations; Core journals; Bradford zone; Web of Science; India.*

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