

NOVEMBER

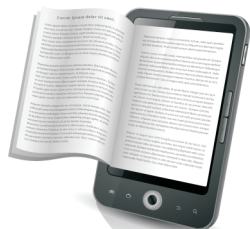
2018



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IASLIC NEWSLETTER

For Members only



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Editor

Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee

Associate Editor:

Dr. Gurudas Ghosh

Assistant Editor:

Shri Partha Sarathi Das

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Quote of the Month

“Books may well be the only true magic”

– Alice Hoffman,
American Novelist and
Children’s Writer

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions / states are solicited from IASLIC members for inclusion in the newsletter. Send such news to the Editor.

Email: chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

28th National Seminar of IASLIC

Venue: Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan

Dates: November 27 - 29, 2018*

Theme: L I S Education in India: Present Scenario and Future Strategies

Themes for SIG Meetings:

SIG1: Rabindranath Tagore's Vision on Libraries and its Relevance in New Era

SIG 2: Data Management in Libraries

*Rescheduled due to unavailable circumstances

IASLIC - IGNOU Librarians’ Day Seminar: Brief Report

Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, in association with IASLIC, Kolkata, and with the support of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, organized a seminar on 'Library Professional at the Crossroads' on September 17, 2018 at IGNOU to celebrate Librarians' Day. The inaugural session started with the welcome address by the Library-in-Charge of Dr. G Reddy Library of IGNOU, Ms. Seema Chandhok. The seminar was formally inaugurated by Prof. Nageswar Rao, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU, by lighting the ceremonial lamp along with other dignitaries. Shri Girija Kumar, former Librarian of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, who graced the inaugural session as the chief guest, in his address, emphasized that Dr. Ranganathan's philosophy was timeless and highly relevant even today. He said that the library happened to be the most democratic institution where no distinction was made in terms of users' cast, religion, age, etc. Dr. J N Satpathi, President of IASLIC, described the activities and functions of IASLIC and explained the objectives and relevance of observing Librarians' Day. He also mentioned about the present challenges in the field of LIS education in our country. Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Professor, DLIS, IGNOU, gave an overview of the objectives, functioning and benefits of NVLI project. Prof. Nageswar Rao, in his presidential address, observed that library and information profession was witnessing rapid strides with the advent of ICT. Information resources could now be made available in multiple formats and in real time mode, he said. He also launched Koha open source software for use at Prof. G Ram Reddy Library. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. V K J Jeevan, Deputy Librarian, Prof G. Ram Reddy Library, IGNOU, and Organizing Secretary of the event.

The inaugural session was followed by a session on presentation of keynote papers, chaired by Prof. Uma Kanjilal, in which five keynote papers were presented. Dr. Nabi Hasan, Librarian, IIT, New Delhi, focused on the friendly and congenial environment which the

library professionals enjoyed at various IITs countrywide and pointed out the glaring disparities and anomalies in the service conditions, grade pay, and retirement age of the professionals. Prof. B K Sen, Chairman, Expert Committee on Bibliometrics, DST, GOI, expressed concern over the prolific growth of LIS schools in the country and at the same time declining condition of libraries and library professionals and pointed out that the senior positions in many libraries remained vacant for years together and the non-library professionals were now heading many libraries. He opined that a comprehensive survey should be undertaken to arrive at a robust solution to arrest the downward movement of the LIS profession. Dr. S K Arora, former Librarian, IGNOU, New Delhi, dwelt upon the challenges and barriers which the distance learning libraries were facing in extending the services to the users. Dr. Narendra Kumar, Librarian-in-charge of Delhi University Library System, said that the five laws of library science were still very relevant, timeless and significant. He stressed that the tools and technologies should be used only as aids for augmenting and enhancing the library services. Dr. P R Goswami, former Director (Libraries), Ministry of Culture, GOI, elaborated upon the pay-scales and service conditions of library and information professionals in the government departments, ministries and autonomous bodies. He stressed that various library associations should submit a memorandum to the government to draw its attention to the anomalies and discrepancies in the grade pays of the library and information professionals employed in various ministries and departments. In her concluding remarks, the chairperson suggested that the library and information professionals should undertake a SWOT analysis for overcoming the glaring disparities and anomalies which now existed in the profession across the country.

In a parallel session on LIS Education chaired by Prof. Jaideep Sharma, Professor, DLIS, IGNOU, the keynote speaker Dr. G Mahesh of NISCAIR, stressed upon the need for making constant efforts to ensure quality in LIS education in the country. Another keynote speaker Dr. J N Satpathi briefed on the efforts made by IASLIC in ensuring equitable and standard education in LIS. Contributed papers were also presented in this session by Ms. Vanita Khanchandani of IIT Delhi and Dr. Uma Tyagi of Vallabhbai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi University.

These sessions were followed by a programme on library quiz. A set of quiz, comprising of 100 questions on various aspects of Library and Information Science, was distributed among the participants. The best three respondents were awarded prizes consisting of books written by Dr. S R Ranganathan. Dr. Sujatha Santosh, Deputy Director, NCIDE, and Dr. Zuchamo Yanthan, Faculty of Library & Information Science, IGNOU, coordinated the programme.

In the next session, Prof. P B Mangla gave an inspiring lecture on the contributions of Dr. S R Ranganathan and said that the library and information professionals should "Develop, sustain and Develop"; they should unite, sustain their status, identify their weaknesses, take concerted efforts to overcome them and aspire to improve and strengthen themselves to

achieve more and scale better heights. Presenting her keynote paper, Dr. Moortimatee Samantaray, Deputy Librarian, LDD, NCERT, New Delhi, highlighted the importance of school libraries and lamented that the status of government school libraries was not up to the mark. Contributed papers were presented in this session by Dr. Mohammad Nazim, Assistant Professor, AMU, Aligarh; Mamata Amarपुरi, Librarian, Darshan Academy, New Delhi; Basharat Ahmad Malik, research scholar, AMU, Aligarh; Dr. D S Thakur, Documentation Officer, NIEPA, New Delhi; Dr. Muzamil Mushtaq, Assistant Professor, DLIS, AMU, Aligarh; Gaurav Srivastav and Jyoti Devi; and Neha Sharma, Professional Assistant, LSR, University of Delhi, New Delhi. This session was followed by a brain storming session coordinated by Dr. P R Goswami and Dr. Manorama Tripathi, Librarian, JNU.

The valedictory session was chaired by Prof. P R Ramanujam, Professor of Distance Education and Ex-PVC, IGNOU, and Prof. P B Mangla was the Chief Guest. Dr. Manorama Tripathi presented the report of the deliberations of the seminar on behalf of Rapporteur General Dr. Archana Shukla. Prof. Mangla, in his address, expressed his concerned over pitiable state of affairs in many LIS schools with regard to infrastructure, curricula and faculty. Prof. Ramanujam advocated for equitable library services for both conventional and distance streams of education.

A good number of library and information professionals and LIS teachers attended the seminar.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Programme on Digital Resource Management

Bose-125 Outreach Programme on 'Digital Resource Management Technology', organised by Bengal Library Association, in collaboration with S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata, will be held during November 2 - 3, 2018. For details visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/nsdrmt2018/home>

Workshop on Koha

Chinmaya Institute of Technology, Kannur, is organizing a National Workshop on 'Koha ILS' during November 2 - 3, 2018. For details visit: www.chintech.ac.in/kohaworkshop

Training on Law Librarianship

A special training programme on law librarianship will be held at Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar, during November 12 - 15, 2018. For details visit: [https://www.gnlu.ac.in/GNLU/News/1510-18%252f1527%252f01%253a%2bTraining%2bProgramme%2bon%2bLaw%2bLibrarianship%2b\(12-15%2bNovember%252c%2b2018\)](https://www.gnlu.ac.in/GNLU/News/1510-18%252f1527%252f01%253a%2bTraining%2bProgramme%2bon%2bLaw%2bLibrarianship%2b(12-15%2bNovember%252c%2b2018))

Workshop on Library Automation

Mandsaur University, Mandasur, is organizing a National

Workshop on 'DSpace and Library Automation through RFID - Training & Certification' for Library and Information Professionals during November 17 - 18, 2018. For details visit: <http://www.mandsauruniversity.edu.in/national-workshop-on-dspace-and-library-automation-through-rfid-training-certification-17-18-november-2018/>

Workshops on Transforming Libraries

Developing Library Network (DELNET), New Delhi, is organizing a National Workshops on 'Strategies for Transforming Libraries: Growing Trends & Technologies' at Kongu Engineering College, Erode, on November 17, 2018 and at Nehru Institute of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore on November 20, 2018. The workshops will highlight DELNET Discovery Services, Open source Software, and DELNET's Delplus Software for Library automation (provided free). For details visit: <http://delnet.nic.in/wsltrnov18.pdf>

Workshop on e-Publishing

The DLIS, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kalamassery, Kerala, in association with INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, is organizing a National Workshop on 'E Publishing using OJS (Open Journal System)' during November 19 - 20, 2018. For details visit: www.rajagiri.edu

IATLIS Conference

The 34th National Conference of Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS), jointly organized by IATLIS and DLIS, Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, will be held during December 3 - 4, 2018. The theme of the conference is 'LIS Education, Research and Training (LISERT): Capacity Building and the Sustainable Development Goals'. For details visit: www.iatlis.org

Conference on Corporate Librarianship

The National Conference of Kerala Library Association on 'Corporate and Media Librarianship' will be held at Institute of Management in Government (IMG), Thiruvananthapuram, during December 14-15, 2018. For details visit: <http://klanationalconference2018.wordpress.com>

Library Technology Conclave

The 4th Library Technology Conclave, jointly organized by Informatics and Cochin University of Science & Technology, Cochin, will be held during January 23 - 25, 2019. For details visit: <http://www.ltc2019.com/>

KSCLA Conference

Department of Studies and Research in Library and Information Science, Tumkur University, in association with Karnataka State College Librarians Association (KSCLA) and Alumni Association of Library and Information Science, Tumkur University, is organizing the 9th KSCLA National Conference on 'Library in the Life of the User' during March 1 - 2, 2019. For details visit: www.sampathkumar.info/conference.htm

International

Conference on Knowledge Engineering

The 21st International Conference on Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Management (EKAW 2018), will be held during November 12 - 16, 2018 in Nancy, France. For details visit: <https://project.inria.fr/ekaw2018/>

Conference on Digital Transformation

National Law University Delhi is organizing an International Conference on 'Digital Transformation: Preservation, Policy and Privacy' during November 29 - December 1, 2018. For details visit: <https://icdt2018.webs.com>

Conference on Innovations in LIS

The 5th International Conference on Contemporary Innovations in Library & Information Science, Social Science and Technology for Virtual World (ICCLIST - 2019), organized by Modern Rohini Education Society, Delhi, will be held in online mode on January 20, 2019. For more details visit: <http://conference.rtmonline.in/>

Conference on S & T Libraries

Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar Library is organizing the 2nd International Conference on 'Changing Landscape of Science & Technology Libraries (CLSTL 2019)' during February 28 - March 2, 2019. For details visit: <http://events.iitgn.ac.in/2019/CLSTL/>

ISKO Spain Congress

The 14th ISKO (International Society for Knowledge Organization) Spain Congress (4th ISKO Spain-Portugal) will take place at the University of Barcelona, during July 11 - 12, 2019, under the slogan 'Organization of Knowledge for the Exploitation of Heritage Collections and Audiovisual Archives'. For details visit: <https://fbd.ub.edu/isko2019/>

ISKO UK Conference

The 6th biennial conference of the UK Chapter of ISKO will be held during July 15 - 16, 2019 in London. The theme of the conference is 'The Human Position in an Artificial World: Creativity, Ethics & AI in Knowledge Organization'. For details visit: <http://www.iskouk2019.org/>

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Libraries in Trains Inaugurated

Maharashtra's Minister for Education Vinod Tawde recently inaugurated a 'Library on Wheels' in the 'Deccan Queen' and 'Panchavati Express' trains run by the Central Railways, says a report in *The Indian Express*. "Monthly Season Ticket holders travelling on these two intercity trains that ply between Mumbai and Pune and Mumbai and Manmad respectively will be able to make use of the library. They would be able to choose books and magazines for reading and return them before alighting," the minister said as he inaugurated the service. Volunteers of the Marathi Vikas

Sanstha of the state government's Department of Marathi Language would provide the passengers with the books and also collect suggestions made by passengers regarding the choice of books and would make changes in the service accordingly, officials in the state government said. The service has been jointly initiated by the Railways and the state government. The library was started as part of the state government's 'Reading Inspiration Day' celebrations that it observes on October 15, the birth anniversary of former President late Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam. For full report visit: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2018/oct/16/library-on-wheels-inaugurated-on-two-superfast-trains-in-maharashtra-1886007.html>

Innovative Library Service!

For a young person, trying to get a job is nerve-wracking enough, without having to worry about whether you look smart. In recognition of the fact that their young members struggle to afford an appropriate outfit, the New York Public Library is lending a helping hand. The library is lending out essential interview attire - ties, briefcases and handbags - in a bid to help job applicants look smart and hopefully land the job, says a post by Alex Gray on www.weforum.org. Adults and teenagers who are members of the library can borrow the items for three weeks, as long as they don't have outstanding fines of \$15 or more on their library cards. The scheme is part of a wider package of help that the library is offering. They also provide a range of career resources for job-hunters and run workshops for teenagers where they can learn how to prepare a resumé, find job listings and apply for jobs online as well as in person. "Many of the teens at the Riverside Library who attend my job hunt talk did not know what would be appropriate to wear for job interviews, or did not have proper attire," says Michelle Lee, the library staff member who came up with the idea. For details visit: https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/10/this-library-loans-out-ties-and-bags-for-people-going-to-job-interviews?utm_source=Facebook%20Videos&utm_medium=Facebook%20Videos&utm_campaign=Facebook%20Video%20Blogs

Library for Jail Inmates

The inmates of the Dimapur District Jail in Nagaland recently got their own library, says a report by Tora Agarwal in *Indian Express*. The small room located just behind the jail superintendent's office is open through the week, has 110 books, and is managed by one of their own. "For a prison that doesn't have many other recreational facilities, this is a welcome change for the inmates and the staff alike," says Esther K Aye Jamir, who is one of the three partners at the KAL Legal Consultants in Dimapur. The local law firm, partnered with Delhi-based NGO Sarvahitey, formally inaugurated the library on June 10, 2018 in the presence of Limasunup Jamir, Commissioner of Police, Dimapur. Since August 2017, the KAL Consultants had been in touch with Delhi-based Prem Prakash, whose "Project Paper Bridge" attempts to bridge north-east to the rest of the country by setting up libraries in the region. "The name, of course, is metaphorical. But the idea is to bring marginalized India

within mainland India and I think these libraries are a good way to bridge this gap," he says, insisting that these are "more than just libraries" but cultural "community" centres. Prakash's NGO Sarvahitey, which he set up with his friend in 2014, has a larger plan to establish 1000 libraries across India, 100 of which will be in the north-east. For details visit: <https://indianexpress.com/article/north-east-india/nagaland/a-crowdsourced-library-opens-a-new-chapter-for-inmates-at-a-nagaland-prison-5248811/>

Bus Full of Books for Afghan Children

It was a homecoming of sorts for this young Afghan national and an alumna of Post Graduate Government College for Girls (PGGCG), Sector 11, Chandigarh, as she returned to the college recently after a gap of almost five years to deliver a talk to its students, says a story by Vidhya Narayanan in *The Hindustan Times*. Having first come to the college in 2010 as an undergraduate student, Freshta Karim, 26, who went on to pursue a master's in public policy from Oxford University, has a lot to share when it comes to achievements and experiences. The one closest to her heart, however, is the mobile library she has set up for children in her turmoil-hit country. Growing up amid the civil war tearing Afghanistan apart, Karim, who had to live in Pakistan for some time as a refugee, says that as a child she had limited access to books. This, she feels, had an impact on her student life later. "International students like me struggled with the coursework here because at that time, we did not have the same kind of educational facilities and infrastructure back home," she says. So while Karim asked why her country didn't have a good educational infrastructure, she also questioned herself about things she could do to change that. And it was from here that her initiative 'Charmaghz', which in Dari means walnut, resembling the human brain was born. As part of the initiative, Karim and her team take a blue bus full of books to different localities in Kabul, where, because of frequent terror attacks, people live in a constant fear for their lives. "The blue bus is where the children aged between 4 and 16 can come and read story books in Pashtun, Persian and English. They tell stories and express their opinions freely," she says. They are also encouraged to play chess as it promotes critical thinking. Funded by friends and well-wishers, the bus, launched in February this year, currently operates mostly in parts of Afghanistan's capital Kabul. Karim hopes to expand the initiative to many more areas in the coming years, keeping with the motto of her alma mater, PGGCG-11 'Courage to Know'. For full report visit: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/punjab/kabul-connect-a-blue-bus-full-of-books-in-an-agonised-city/story-GPR2n9wJFd7bWp41nr7SjJ.html>

Library Discovers Poisonous Books

The University of Southern Denmark found three poisonous books in their library. Well, they are not books about poison, as one would guess. In fact, the books themselves are poisonous, with high amounts of arsenic on their covers, says a report in *The Times of India*. These books are from the 16th and 17th centuries and deal with a range of topics. The toxic

books were unearthed by researchers only by accident. The professors had initially scanned the books by X-ray to determine whether the binding had any old hidden Latin texts. These scans also uncovered the poison arsenic on the covers, something completely unexpected. For details visit: http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/64943656.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Seed Library of Assam

Most people associate libraries with books. But Mahan Chandra Borah's library in Assam is a repository of thousands of indigenous rice seeds, says a post by Nilofer Sen on <https://weather.com> website. Although it sounds strange, the Annapurna Rice Seed Library is not the first of its kind. It is the 'sister library' of the Richmond Grows Seed Lending Library, California. However, it is the first and only seed library in north-east India. Officially established in 2006 with an aim to store and promote the cultivation of indigenous rice seeds, the Annapurna Rice Seed Library started with only three seed varieties. Today it has more than 200 varieties indigenous to north-east India. The first library was built in Meleng in Jorhat district. Today there are additional seed banks in Sadiya, Majuli, Sapekhati and Golaghat, in collaboration with the North-East Affected Area Development Society (NEADS). A history graduate, Mahan Chandra Borah comes from an agricultural family. "My father was a farmer. He taught me about the value of local seeds and their medicinal properties. But all that has disappeared. And so I decided to do something for our society, culture, and for the farming community," recalls Borah. Like any other library, Annapurna works on the concept of lending and borrowing. Farmers borrow indigenous varieties of rice seed, plant them, let a part of it grow into crop, and return the remaining to the library for further conservation. The library also supplies seeds to students for research. Over the years, a large number of farmers have borrowed from the library and then returned to deposit seeds. Borah continues to sow the returned seeds in order to procure more seeds for future use. For more details visit: <https://weather.com/en-IN/india/news/news/2018-05-29-annapurna-seed-library-assam-rice-conservation>

Half-a-Century old Private Library

We live in a digital era where gaining access to books or information is just a few clicks away. It wasn't the case 50 years ago when people had to travel long and far for the same. It was at that time that Krishnamurthy started his library - Gnanalaya - with just hundred books, says a story on <https://yourstory.com/> website. Though Gnanalaya was started in 1959, it did not belong to any one city or district. Krishnamurthy, a government school teacher, took his collection of books wherever he got a transfer of job. It was only after his retirement that he decided to settle down in Pudhukottai, Tamil Nadu. Interestingly, it was love for books that united Dorothy and Krishnamurthy and now the couple own and maintain Gnanalaya - Tamil Nadu's second largest

and one of India's largest private libraries. Talking about the reason behind his fascination with books, he said, "My father was passionate about reading and he read a lot. My obsession with books was inspired by him and I started the library in 1959 with 100 books". Seventy-five-years old now, Krishnamurthy has collected more than one lakh books both in English and Tamil with support from his wife. The library has a lot of first edition books in Tamil and the classics date back to as early as 1500s. In fact, Thambiran Vvanakkam, first Tamil book ever to be printed, is also part of the library's collection. Krishnamurthy did not collect just the books that he wanted to read, but travelled the length and breadth of Tamil Nadu to find books that will add value to his collection. Apart from writers and politicians from India, a lot of people from abroad too have visited the library for research purposes. On an average, the couple spends Rs 2 lakh every year on maintaining the library and the money comes from their pockets. Krishnamurthy's vision for Gnanalaya is to digitize all the books in the library. With him ageing, he is looking forward to either the government or an educational institution taking over responsibilities for the library. For original story visit: <https://yourstory.com/2018/01/fifty-year-old-private-library/>

Internet based Science Channel

It's good, It's awesome, It's Best! India has launched an Internet-based channel dedicated to Science & Technology, to create scientific awareness among its citizens and also to prove that both religion and science can co-exist, says a report by Vardan on indianweb2.com website. Vigyan Prasar, under the active guidance of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), has launched an over-the-top (OTT) channel i.e. TV content via the Internet dedicated only to science and technology content to create scientific awareness among fellow citizen by showcasing the recent developments in science and technology, particularly from our scientific research institutions and laboratories. India Science (www.indiascience.in), a national science channel, is now live and accessible to anyone who has smartphone/laptop/desktop/smart TV, with Internet connectivity. Currently available as a website, the channel will soon be available as a mobile App too. The bilingual channel (Hindi and English) will offer scheduled programmes as well as video-on-demand facility. The channel will have live content every day and a library of theme-based programmes related to science and technology, particularly from research institutions and laboratories based in India, announced Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, recently. For more details visit: <https://www.indianweb2.com/2018/08/07/india-launches-new-internet-based-ott-science-channel-to-create-scientific-awareness/>

Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Guide

A guide for implementing Marrakesh Treaty entitled 'Getting Started Implementing the Marrakesh Treaty for Persons with Print Disabilities: A Practical Guide for Librarians' edited by Victoria Owen, has recently been brought out by IFLA. According to the foreword of the guide, "The Marrakesh

Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled presents an unprecedented opportunity for access to printed works for blind and other print-handicapped persons. Libraries play a key role in facilitating access, and this guide was conceived to enable staff in libraries of all types to take the final, practical steps to deliver materials into the hands of print-disabled readers". The foreword further states that "The information in this guide is organized as an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions), answering questions and providing links for further information. It is meant to be a starting point, a template, available for customization in each Marrakesh Treaty country". For details visit: https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/hq/topics/exceptions-limitations/getting_started_faq_marrakesh_treaty_a_practical_guide_for_librarians_2018_en.pdf

India helps build Library in Nepal

Nepali Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli inaugurated a library built by the Indian Government in the presence of Indian Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri on July 10 last, according to an ANN report in *The Business Standard*. The Indian Embassy handed over a three-storied building for the Library of the Nepal Academy. Nepal received financial assistance of NRs. 43.94 million from India for construction of the building. The inaugural event was attended by representatives of Ministries of Urban Development, Culture, Civil Aviation and Tourism, Government of Nepal, community leaders and a large number of friends of the India-Nepal relationship. "The newly constructed library building would provide research and reference facilities to the researchers and academicians of India and Nepal. The library would also have a facility of an advanced offset press for printing of books," says a statement from the Indian Mission in Nepal. With the assistance from the Indian Government for the construction of the building, the Nepal Academy has further planned to develop the library as a digital library. "The library would not only enhance the friendly relation between India and Nepal but also help develop a strong bond among artists and academicians of the two countries," the statement added. For more details visit: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-constructs-library-for-nepali-academicians-118071100047_1.html

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Technology Trend of 2018

At the 'Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) Top Technology Trends' panel, held on June 25 2018, at the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans, experts from across the library field discussed technology that will affect the profession in the coming years, says a post by Carrie Smith in the blog of *American Libraries Magazine*. Independent technology consultant Marshall Breeding moderated the discussion, which focused on the following upcoming technological shifts:

Quantum Computing: Jason Bengtson, Assistant Director of Library IT Services at Kansas State University Libraries,

kicked things off by explaining quantum computing. While traditional, digital computers use bits (which store a 1 or 0), a quantum computer uses qubits, which are capable of storing much more information. This technology is in experimental stages, but Bengtson predicts that once we reach "quantum supremacy" - the point at which quantum computers can outperform digital computers - there will be severe consequences for the encryption methods on which libraries rely today. Because quantum computers will be able to perform calculations exponentially faster than digital computers, public key encryption in particular will become vulnerable to brute-force hacks.

Psychometrics: Justin De La Cruz, unit head of e-learning technology at Atlanta University Center's Robert W Woodruff Library, spoke about psychometrics. The deep data people provide online has been used to create "hyper-evolved metrics," he explained, with a level of detail that was not possible before, and that can be used to influence and manipulate individual choices. He highlighted three items on which libraries should focus: (1) Planning and executing the gathering of data and being transparent about what is being collected and how it's being used (including where vendors and other third parties are concerned); (2) Thinking about what data is "leaking out" through trackers that are already tied to users through their devices when they are inside the library, and also from third-party vendors and web services on which the library relies; (3) Knowing where to draw the line on collecting user data to minimize the chances of compromising user privacy.

Embedded Digital Libraries: Wider availability of digital content services and services that can open avenues to expand the library's mission. "In the past, public libraries had little effect within small footprints," said Laura Cole, Director of BiblioTech, but new digital technologies will help libraries meet the needs of marginalized populations in new ways. Cole suggested that embedding digital libraries within public housing can help libraries move their mission forward. Having these small-footprint outreach centers close to vulnerable populations could also impact public health. "One of the things we're looking at is how to use our very small branch libraries as a public health portal," Cole said. "People can come in, communicate with physicians, and maintain private records."

Death of Transparency: "We can't tell whether search results are neutral," said Marydee Ojala, Editor-in-Chief of *Online Searcher: Information Discovery, Technology, Strategies*. Most mainstream search engine results are governed by proprietary algorithms that companies refuse to share with the public. This opacity about why a particular piece of information is provided, when, and to whom, is what Ojala defines as the "death of transparency. "When we're teaching information literacy, we need to recognize that the death of transparency will affect the answers we're getting," she said. "We're not used to thinking of information as fluid," but users will need to learn to shift their thinking to accommodate this fact. There's also a trend toward false information - not just

what's labeled as "fake news," but fraudulent research, manipulated images, and manipulated video "deep fakes"- that make it very difficult to verify information.

Next Generation Learning Management Systems: Reina Williams, Reference Librarian and Education Coordinator at the Library of Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, deals with issues in her university's learning management systems (LMS) every day. She urges those who are updating systems to make sure the organizational and pedagogical problems in the current systems aren't duplicated in the new platforms, and that instructors have the tools they need to organize content in a way students can learn from. The next generations of LMS will move away from structured design, she noted, giving students free space to build their own sites and blogs as they progress through the learning process.

For original post visit: <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/2018s-top-tech-trends/>

SPECIAL FEATURE

Hanging Library!

Any hanging item always attracts our attention. That is why we decorate our rooms with wall hangings, hanging plants and hanging lights; we create hanging parks and gardens, hanging restaurants, hanging bridges and so on. Children are possibly attracted more to hanging items. Perhaps this psychological phenomenon prompted two enthusiasts in Uganda Hugh Hawes and Sam Muwonge to moot the idea of hanging libraries and introduce Hanging Library Project in 2007. Hugh and Sam knew that reading was the key to learning and was the most important skill taught in primary schools. Children in Uganda (as in many other countries) needed to read English fluently because their examinations were in English but in schools there was often a shortage of books to read other than textbooks. There was a strong tradition of oral storytelling but there were few story books. Hugh and Sam were keen to build on the love of stories and build a convention of reading for pleasure which was so vital for fluency. And so they gifted mainly English books to children in the form of hanging libraries.

A hanging library mostly consists of a cloth containing pockets, in which books can be inserted, which is hung up in the class room or at a place frequented by students in a school. Some hanging libraries simply use a rope to hang the books. There are again some hanging libraries which have a 'reading net' or 'hanging web' suspended from the architecture of a family library that acts as a second-level reading range, on which the children can bring books to read. The very idea of reading books lying on a net fascinates children and they are found reading books for hours. Obviously, setting up a hanging library is not a costly affair. The promoters of hanging library feel that through such libraries children develop the practice of reading fluently, which in turn help them to understand the textbooks better, understand the questions in the exam papers better and

enable them to answer the questions better.

Children for Health, a UK based charity organization, dedicated to the promotion of health education in developing countries, in partnership with the Hanging Libraries Initiative, is now making children's books accessible and available to communities in the remotest and poorest parts of the world. A comprehensive library of digital books, which includes Children for Health's Stories for Health in local languages and Hanging Library books in English can be downloaded, printed and stored in simple cloth hangers. The Hanging Library books have an A4 printing format, many with pen and ink illustrations and only coloured covers to make it cheap and easy to print in home or office printers. They are free to be translated into local languages. Thus any organization which may like to set up a hanging library to spread health awareness among children can create a hanging library of its own - that too with books in local language - with little effort and without much investment.

Weekend Argus, a Cape Town based media/news company, and Nal'ibali, a national read-for enjoyment campaign of South Africa recently organized a lucky draw among children of that country, in which 31 hanging bags were offered as prizes. Each bag contained 40 books in the language preferred by the child concerned, five story powered home guides, 40 library checkout forms, 40 checkout book-slips, 10 stickers and five door transfer stickers. The sponsors felt that the winners would be able to enjoy the books with their friends and lend books as well by starting a hanging library, which will spread the joy of reading.

According to a Viet Nam News report, a primary school in Vietnam's central province of Quang Tri's Hai Lang district has set up special 'bookshelves' hanging from trees in the school yard, with the support of World Vision organization. The books have been put inside 10 plastic boxes. Each can contain between 10 and 20 books. The boxes are hung from the trees. Students choose their books and sit on stone benches under the trees to read. "Students are free to choose the books they like. At the same time, they have greater responsibility of taking care of the books," Nguyen Thi Mie, the headmistress of the school said. The project has been running since 2012-2013 school year. "With an eye-catching display, the library has attracted many students who have improved their reading skills," Huynh Thi Vinh, a teacher of the school confirmed.

Some organizations and enthusiasts in our country have also realised the utility of hanging libraries as a cheaper but useful alternatives of permanent libraries. There are several instances of starting such libraries in some parts of the country. For example, Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) has launched 'Hanging Libraries' in all the primary and upper primary schools in the agency area in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. It provides an opportunity to the tribal boys and girls to access the world of children literature. Now, students of over 300 schools have

access to such libraries. They are able to pick the books of their choice.

Similarly, in Assam's Barpeta district, children in many schools are now enjoying reading the books of their choice taken from hanging libraries set up in their schools. According to Barpeta Deputy Commissioner Thanesar Malakar, hanging libraries have been introduced in primary schools to arrest the declining reading habit among students. By now hanging libraries have been set up in more than 180 schools in the district through donations from the public with the joint efforts of district administration, Sarba Siksha Abhiyan, and Piramal Foundation. Even the central policy think tank Niti Ayog has lauded the introduction of hanging libraries in Barpeta.

Hanging libraries were introduced in around 1000 schools in Gnjam district of Orissa in 2014 under a new name - 'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR). At present DEAR project is successfully running in over 4000 government and government aided schools in the district and in 2015 it was even selected for national award for innovation in educational administration. "This project", according to District Education Officer (DEO) of Ganjam, Sanatan Panda, "targeted the alarming issue of declining reading habit among school students, which was also affecting their writing skills. Students were found to be concerned only about their textbooks and we wanted to make the children feel that reading is not linked to studies and examination only, it can also be entertaining and activity of pleasure."

Hanging libraries have already shown its value. Those who

have implemented the concept have already witnessed improvement in reading habit among children who use such libraries. Hence a movement to spread hanging libraries should be seriously started so that more and more children can be benefited, decline in reading habit can be arrested and a reading generation can usher in.

[Sources: <https://www.childrenforhealth.org/hanging-libraries/>, <https://in.pinterest.com/lancerlibrary/hanging-library-decoration-ideas/>, <https://www.iol.co.za/weekend-argus/win-your-chance-to-be-a-librarian-and-walk-off-with-your-own-hanging-library-12051068>, <https://news.franchiseindia.com/education/integrated-tribal-development-agency-introduces-hanging-libraries.n16751>, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/a-hanging-library-in-odisha-to-encourage-children-to-read/article17384898.ece>]

PERSONALIA

Dr. Deepak Kumar Shrivastava, Divisional Public Librarian and Head, Govt. PDDU Divisional Public Library, Kota, has been honoured by the Association of African Students in India (AASI) with 'Outstanding Leadership Award' for his 'courageous initiatives and great leadership that contributed immensely to the growth and development of African students in India'. The Award was handed over by Miss Africa -2017 Rukkaya Suleiman in the presence of several distinguished guests from African countries on September 9, 2018 during an African Culture and Award Event.

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