BOSLA *Infoline*

A Newsletter of Bombay Science Librarians' Association

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Good News!

BOSLA congratulates Dr. M Koganuramath on being selected as President of ILA and Mr. Satish Kanamadi for acquiring Ph.D

Dear Members,

Welcome to the first issue of *Bosla Infoline 2005!* Briefly, going a little backwards, in the past three issues, we have attempted to encourage useful articles, profiles of the libraries, new items and reports in Infoline from our members. In our future issues, we should aim to increase the scope of this newsletter in terms of coverage and contributors or authors. We would therefore like the members to participate actively and make it a value-added newsletter.

Dealing with information is not an easy task in the digital age with the newer technologies popping up every quarter of the year. We need to keep pace with the developments if we are to retrieve and represent information in an organized manner to our users. BOSLA, therefore organized a two day workshop for its members to provide them with useful knowledge and insight about the emerging technologies This was done by way of inviting papers from the experts in the field. This workshop on Information Communication Technologies was held on October 15 and 16, 2004. It was nice to see so many members actively participating in the workshop. We thank all our members who participated and attended this workshop.

In this issue, we have a detailed report of above BOSLA workshop followed by a library profile of Lala Lajpat Rai College of Commerce and Economics.

Further in this issue, we have a detailed report of a five day Workshop on Information Communication Technologies organized by IIT, Mumbai during 16-20 May 2005. INDEST

members from all over the country attended this workshop. The topics covered were the state-of – the-art technologies like the Open archives, Dspace, Web Designing and the like.

The first step to reduce the tension of the new library users is to have a meaningful guided tour of the library and its services. But have we ever thought these tours could actually help us evaluate ourselves in terms of improving the quality of services. The next write up by Ms. Dhanashree Date on "Library Orientation" highlights some facts which can be used for better services.

Our next issue will be on "Ease and Problems of E-books: A practical approach. We look forward to having more contributions from BOSLA members on the above theme.

Truptee Shah
Editor

Report of the BOSLA Workshop on Information Communication Technologies held at TISS on October 15-16, 2004

The developed countries have long recognized information as a strategic asset. If we have to compete with the developed nations in the present open economic environment, we should know how to use the   right information, in the right place, at the right time with right tools.

Librarians are the best known people to not only recognize information as an asset but are good managers of this asset. With the ever growing technology, these assets are going digital. Librarians therefore must know how to retrieve those using right tools.

Information Resource Management (IRM) is an emerging discipline that helps managers assess and exploit their information assets for various developmental activities. It draws heavily on the techniques of Library and Information Science

and Information Technology (IT). It is an important foundation for knowledge management. It helps in management decision process, identifying gaps and avoiding duplication of information and finally saving the cost.

Realizing the importance of Resource Management, BOSLA organized a two days Workshop on "Information Communication Technologies for Librarians" during 15th and 16th October 2004. It was held at the Conference Hall of Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Workshop started with the Introduction and Welcome speech by Dr.Muttayya Koganuramath, Chairman, BOSLA. Dr. Vijai Kumar, Head, Scientific Information Resources Division, BARC, Mumbai inaugurated the workshop and delivered inaugural address. Dr. S. Parasuraman, Director, TISS presided over the function.

On the first day, Prof. Jeffrey Clovis, ISI, Philadelphia, USA, delivered a lecture on the "Importance of Citation Searching". This was followed by a panel discussion on "How does a Librarian decide which journal to subscribe?"

Prof. Jeffrey Clovis, Mr. Daulat Jotwani, IIT Bombay, Ms. Medha Joshi, TMC Mumbai and Dr. Muttayya, TISS were the panel members.

Dr. C. P. Prakasam of IIPS explained the nuances of creation of web resources. Mr. Manish Mankad of HLL delivered a lecture on "Library Web Portals". Mr. Kishore Ingale, TCS spoke on "E-Books".

On the second day, 16th October 2004, Dr. Maya Avasia spoke on "E-Resources-Boon or Bane". Dr. Sangayya Shirurmath, IIMA spoke on "Digital Culture: Future of LIS professionals". Mr. G. K. Manjunath delivered a lecture on "Does IT make you mighty? Certain essential skills for LIS professionals"

The workshop received a very good response with more than 75 participants from Bombay. The sessions were quite interactive and it was

hoped that they have yielded desired results. Workshop Volume was also brought out. Mr.B.S.Kademani, BARC was the Rapporteaur General for the workshop.

This workshop was partly sponsored by M/s. Thomson Learning and M/s. Elsevier Science and Technology.

Lala Lajpat Rai Commerce and Economics College Library: A Profile
by
Jayadev H. Kadli

The mission of the Library is to provide College students with the information they need to achieve their highest academic potential and to help them acquire research skills necessary for lifelong learning; to support faculty and administrative staff; and to participate in cooperative information exchange within the wider library/educational community.

Resources:

Established in 1972, this library is one of the oldest libraries amongst the Commerce Colleges in Mumbai. This college conducts courses like

- BMS
- BMM
- B.Sc-IT,
- B.Sc Computer Science,
- M.Sc-IT,
- M.Sc- Computer Science,
- M.Com,
- B.Com in Accounting and Finance and
- B.Com in Banking and Insurance.

Library resources include a growing collection of 34000 titles; current subscriptions to 80 periodicals and newspapers; and other different types of resources to support every course offered by the College. The Library's collection is continually growing in all the subjects every year. There is a back volume section for research oriented study.

Automation and Services:

The Library is partly automated, with SOUL library integrated software developed by INFLIBNET. Library has six terminals with OPAC facilities for searching and locating books and journals meant for students' use. These PCs can be used by students for their Project work, Dissertation etc. Students and Faculty can search the public catalogue and access library services via the campus-wide computer network. Half of the Retrospective Conversion of the catalogue has been done. Bar-coding of documents is also underway.

Special Support for Students and Staff:

The library provides instruction in library use through *freshman orientation* and printed materials. It provides students and staff with free internet facility and free interlibrary loan service. The College Library is linked with Libraries of Mumbai University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, IGIDR and The British Library, Mumbai. The library service is monitored by the Library Advisory committee. The book bank facility is available for students who belong to under-privileged sections of the society.

Technology in the Library:

1. Internet Access in the Library – The Library PCs are connected with Internet. Everyone in college is free to access.
2. Photocopying / Scanning / Printing – The Library has a MODI photocopier and HP Scanjet 3670 Scanner. Make copies or scan print materials to Word, PDF and TIFF for OCR conversion.
3. Faxing – Digital Faxing facility is available in Library

Innovative Initiatives:

Library has started digital information service through GSDL (GreenStone Digital Library) Software. Course Syllabus, Question Papers,

University and Govt. Circulars, Journal Articles can access through GSDL.

The library has students e-mail, fax, and telephone database. The new arrival list, subject gateways list, new URLs in their field of study is delivered in e-form through e-mail.

Recently library has started a *Web Resource Centre*, where one can get the new URLs, subject gateways and other free web resources for the learning and teaching.

A Report on Workshop on Information Communication Technologies for Information Management in S & T Institutions by IIT held during May 16-20, 2005

The application of ICT in libraries today is indispensable. It enlarges the scope of acquisition, processing, organization and dissemination of information and knowledge; it raises speed, reduces cost and over comes space, time, language and media barriers. It links knowledge sources with researchers and creates knowledge networks. The librarians in academic and research institutions have to apply the tools and techniques of ICT to meet the changing requirements of the users by innovating its procedures and systems.

The Workshop on ICT (Information-communication technologies) for Information Management in S&T (Scientific and Technical) Institutions organized by the Central Library, IIT Bombay from 16-20 May 2005 was a step in that direction. The main objective of the workshop was to expose participants to the state-of-the art in library systems and services and how ICT can transform it into a more efficient, knowledge sharing organization facing new challenges and fulfilling aspirations of its users.

Prof. Ashok Misra, Director IIT Bombay while inaugurating the workshop lauded the efforts of the Librarian and his team for organizing such a workshop. He said, "We are in the era of knowledge economy and those who are able to achieve faster access to information and knowledge, will remain ahead of others." Librarians can play a significant role in ensuring that their users get the latest information as quickly as possible. The workshops like this offer an opportunity not only to acquire new skills but also to share the experiences and knowledge, and develop future collaborations.

Mr. D. Jotwani, Librarian while welcoming the participants and the chief guest, gave a brief introduction to the workshop. He mentioned that the Central Library had organized a two days workshop on "Optimal Use of e-Resources" in May 2004 for INDEST member institutions so that they are able to make optimum use of the information resources. Since quite a few of such workshops have already been organized, it was considered appropriate to expand the scope of the workshop to not only cover the resources available through INDEST, but also to highlight the newer technologies that can help libraries improve their services, visibility and image.

Prof. D K Sharma, Convener Library Committee and Dr. J Arora, Coordinator INDEST Consortium also addressed the gathering.

The important topics covered during the workshop include:

- Overview of ICT applications in the libraries by Prof G Sivakumar, Head CSE, IITB
- Scientific & Technological Libraries by 2020 by Prof. D B Phatak, Head, SOM, IITB
- Web designing, development of library website by Mr Shashi, Computer Centre, IITB
- Changing face of the library by Mr. D Jotwani, Librarian IITB
- Introduction to Linux by Mr. Pradeep, Computer Centre, IITB

- INDEST Consortium: future directions by Dr. Jagdish Arora, Coordinator INDEST, IITD
- Development of digital library by Dr. Jagdish Arora, Coordinator INDEST, IITD
- Open archives, Eprints by Mr. Filbert Minj, IISc, Bangalore
- Dspace by Prof. A R D Prasad, DRTC, Bangalore
- RFID by Prof. Sridhar Iyer, Kresit, IITB

Besides presentations by experts and few vendors, participants got an opportunity for hands-on training of Eprints and Dspace software for setting up open archives / institutional repositories. They also gained first hand information and knowledge of the technologies being used in the IIT Bombay Library.

42 participants from 36 organizations (IITs, NITs, other engineering colleges, scientific and technical institutions) participated in the workshop. They were given certificate of participation by Prof. Dipan K Ghosh, Deputy Director, IIT Bombay during the valedictory function held on 20th May 2005.

Library Orientations – The Flip side Benefits
by
Ms. Dhanashree A. Date

An immediate impression cast by the term 'Library Orientation' is, to introduce the new library users to the library. It typically covers issues like - what a library holds for them as a user, what is the organisation, what are the set rules and policies as disciplinary steps, what they should expect from the library and how they could draw benefits. Considering the drive for how the users will have an uninhibited and unflinching access to library repository, such orientations are rightly 'user' orientations.

This article will not talk about the library orientation that is so often spoken and practiced from a user perspective. Rather, it is an attempt to educate librarians on how library orientation programmes can be a useful tool to evaluate their own performance. Following are eight pointers which are noteworthy to enhance the quality of library services -

1- *Watch out for inflated presentations* - While preparing and presenting orientation programmes, librarians can judge exactly where and how they inflate a library service description. This means the library wants to 'be there' when in reality it is falling short.

2- *Feel the user pulse* - Rather than telling the users all about what the library repository holds, the librarian can first seek inputs from the group by putting questions to them on what they would like to see in the library. Commonalities could be considered. Their answers can spurn new ideas that are worth contemplating on.

3- *Benchmark* - Librarians can ask users to speak out on particular library services that they have liked elsewhere. This way, librarians can indirectly learn of their library benchmarks to be studied and emulated if found appropriate.

4- *Make users speak out* - Some user questions during the programme could lead to a need for establishing a new service or altering the present system due to unforeseen loopholes.

5- *Observe inducted users* - Observe for user behaviour instances, which are anti to instructions mentioned during the library orientation. They indicate which points can be emphasised and put across to avoid such anti-situations.

6- *Observe growth* - A conscious observation of the orientation presentation over a period will *indicate the growth in library services, e.g. new services are*

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introduced or the same presentation is being run unaltered for years together.

7- *Evaluate services* - Successes and failures of library services can be identified i.e. the consistency of a particular service over years against the disrupted services.

8- *Improvise* – Ensure to put in continuous efforts to make necessary improvisations, though some may take a little longer time.

New Life Members

BOSLA welcomes the following life members:

1. Ms. Priya Pillai, Librarian, Bombay Teachers Training College, Mumbai
2. Ms.Swapna Baburao Varthak, Asst Librarian, Rajiv Gandhi College of Arts, Commerce and Science, Vashi, Navi Mumbai.
3. Ms.Shradhha Prashant Kumbhar, Mumbai.
4. Mr. Prashant D Kumbhar, Library Assistant, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai.
5. Ms.Mugdha A. Raut, Scientific Assistant - B ACTREC, Tata Memorial Center, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai.
6. Mr. Uday Umashankar Kulkarni, Librarian, Vikas College of Arts, Commerce and Science, Mumbai.
7. Mr.Prashant Vasantrao Patil, Inspector, Directorate of Public Libraries, Maharashtra State, Mumbai
8. Dr.Bapurao, Eknathrao Sananse, Asst Director of Public Libraries, Mumbai.
9. Ms.Anuradha Dilip Saswade, Tech Asst, Directorate of Public Libraries, Maharashtra State, Mumbai.

Achievements of BOSLA Members

Mr. Satish T. Kanamadi, Assistant Librarian, Tata Institute for Social Sciences has been awarded a Ph.D in Library and Information Science on June 4, 2005 from Karnatak University, Dharwad. His research was about the impact of information technology on library resources and services".

On behalf of the Chairman, BOSLA, all the committee members and BOSLA members, we congratulate Dr. Satish T. Kanamadi for his successful achievement.

Forthcoming events

IASLIC 2005: 25th All India Conference of IASLIC will be held at IIT, Madras from December 26-29, 2005. The main theme of the conference is LIS Profession in India: Vision 2010. For more details visit http://www.cenlib.iitm.ac.in/iaslic2005/

NACLIN 2005: Eighth National Convention on Library and Information Networking will be held at PES Institute of Technology, Bangalore from August 22-25, 2005. For more details visit http://delnet.nic.in/naclin-2005.htm

ICADL 2005: The eighth International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries will be held at Bangkok, Thailand from December 12-15, 2005. The theme of the conference is Implementing Strategies and sharing Experiences. For more details visit http://www.icadl2005.ait.ac.th/

IFLA 2005: 71st IFLA General Conference on Libraries: A voyage of Discovery will be held at Oslo, Norway from August 14-18, 2005. For more details visit http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm

To read a book for the first time is to make an acquaintance with a new friend; to read it for a second time is to meet an old one.

— Anonymous, Chinese saying

BOMBAY SCIENCE (SPECIAL) LIBRARIANS' ASSOCIATION

BOSLA Membership Form

Membership Fees:

Life Membership: Rs 200/-

Name: _____

Designation: _____Date of Birth: _____

Residential Address: _____

_____

_____

Office Address: _____

_____

_____

Phone: (O)_____(R)_____

E-mail   _____

Qualifications: _____

Special activities if any: _____

Purpose of enrolling: _____

I enclose cash/cheque/D.D. no._____for Rs. _____(Rupees _____

_____) drawn on _____in favour of "Bombay
Science Librarians' Association. (BOSLA)"

Date:_____   Signature_____
_____

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