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Dear Members,

Competency is the key concept to face ongoing challenges in any discipline. The success and failures are the building blocks of any development and they largely depend on the specialized skills an individual or an organization has in any competitive environment. Capacity building and ICT literacy skills are essential elements in this present digital environment particularly for LIS professionals. ICTs can contribute in achieving universal education worldwide, through delivery of education and training of teachers, and offering improved conditions for lifelong learning, encompassing people those are outside the formal education process, and improving professional skills.

The acquaintance of technology and infrastructure itself will never have any output. It needs adept manpower to use the facility for effective utilization of resources for better outcome. It has been observed since last few years

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that online sources are constantly, changing their look, navigation platforms with added features in this competitive world. It becomes equally difficult for the end user to understand and use these sources even though they are available at his disposal. The need of understanding these features and training the trainers apart from training the end users are essential requirements for effective utilization of resources. There is a transformation of infrastructure in almost all kinds of libraries in India. It is the need of the hour that the LIS professionals to enhance their capability to upbeat the present generation of tech savvy users.

Satish Munnolli

News

TISS-IFLA-BOSLA Workshop

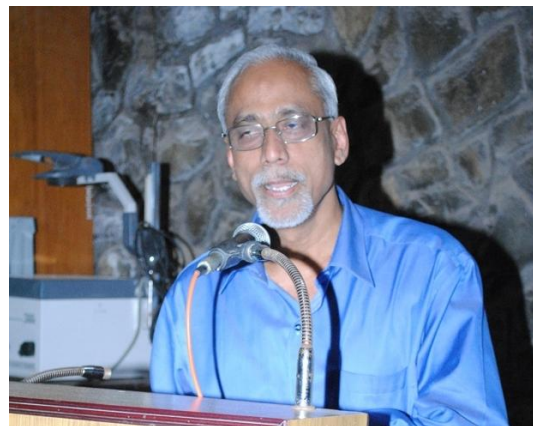
One day workshop on “*Academic and Research Perspectives: Challenges and Concerns for Digital Libraries*” under the Central Theme of ‘Capacity Building in the Knowledge Environment’ was organized on 30th October, 2010, at Conference Hall, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

Libraries are one of the most important components of the information age as they are becoming agile, learning oriented information centers. It needs no more emphasis that the present knowledge society understands the value and contributions of libraries, particularly in the areas of organizing, preserving and providing access to information.

It was deeply felt that the gap between the info-rich and info-poor societies is increasing day by day. However, a critical thinking and research done into this revealed that even if the information is made available to the societies, the use of it for the betterment of one’s own life is still limited because of various reasons like infrastructure and connectivity. One of the most prominent reasons appears to be the inability of users at all levels to effectively access even the available information.

To address this situation, Sir Dorabji Tata memorial Library, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai in collaboration with International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), The Hague and Bombay Science Librarians’ Association (BOSLA), Mumbai organized the workshop to train library and information professionals in information literacy skills.

Dr. B. S. Kademani, Vice Chairman-BOSLA welcomed the gathering and introduced the guests. Prof. S. Parasuraman, Director, TISS, inaugurated the workshop. In his speech, Prof. Parasuraman emphasized



the importance of capacity building programs for information professionals in this ever growing information and internet age.

Mr. N. V. Sathyanarayana, CMD, Informatics (India) Ltd., Bangalore shared his views on *“challenges and concerns for digital libraries”* in the present scenario. Dr. G. G. Wankhede, Professor & Liaison Officer – SC/ST cell, TISS, Mumbai envisioned his thoughts



on *“Users’ views on digital libraries”*. Dr. P. S. Halyal, Professor, Dept. of Psychology, Karnataka University, Dharwad touched on *“personality development skills required for librarians”*

In the post lunch session, Mrs. Vasumathi Sriganesh, CEO, QMed Knowledge Foundation, Mumbai spoke on the *challenges and concerns for digital libraries in academic institutions with a special emphasis on health science libraries.*

Dr. B. D. Kumbar, Professor & Chairman, DLISc, Karnataka University, Dharwad spoke about the various *challenges posed by the libraries from the academicians point of view.*

Dr. Muttayya Koganuramath, Chairman, BOSLA emphasized the need of information literacy skills for the professionals in present internet and tech savvy users environment. Mr. R. Prabakaran, General Secretary –BOSLA proposed vote of thanks.



Felicitations to superannuated LIS professionals

On the occasion of TISS-IFLA-BOSLA workshop BOSLA felicitated superannuated LIS professionals. Ms Shyamala Subramanian, Deputy Librarian, TISS, Mumbai was felicitated and a citation was presented to her in recognition of her contributions to the profession for over 37 years of service at TISS. She worked in various capacities and retired as Deputy Librarian in 2010.



Mrs Mallika Narayan, Scientific Officer 'D' was felicitated for her contributions over three decades at SIRD, BARC, Mumbai. She worked in the INIS Section and worked towards updating the International INIS database.



Mr. Gangadhar Murshillin, Library and Information Officer, IIT, Mumbai could not be present on the occasion due to ill health. The citation highlighting his contributions and services was read on the occasion and later it was personally presented to him by Dr Muttayya Koganuramath, Chairman, BOSLA and other office bearers of BOSLA at his residence.

Annual General Body Meeting

The Annual General Body Meeting began with condolence message by the Secretary, BOSLA, for the deceased founder members of BOSLA, Dr. V.A. Kamath, Dr. S. K. Havanur and prominent professionals like Dr. N.M. Malwad, Shri V. L. Kalyane and Prof. A.C. Tikekar. The members observed silence for two minutes and prayed the Almighty to rest the departed souls in peace. The members also remembered their contributions to the library profession. Dr Muttayya Koganuramath, Chairman, BOSLA briefed about the

activities of the Association to the new members. Mr. Omprakash Bendigeri, Treasurer, BOSLA presented the Accounts for the year 2009-10. Chairman reviewed the election status for the new Committee to take over the association. Election Officer revealed that only few nominations were received as nominees against the announcement made on 6th October 2010. The members who have sent their nominations proposed the continuation of existing Chairman and office bearers. Chairman emphasized that the existing committee is carrying on the legacy and conducting activities since long and opined that the fresh members should come forward and take up the responsibilities and take the leadership. He again mentioned the Election Officer to send a fresh mail for inviting members to shoulder the responsibilities as office bearers to carry on the activities of the Association. The meeting concluded with vote of Thanks by the Secretary, BOSLA.

MLISc Program at TISS

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai invites applications for its regular Master's program "Master of Library and Information Science" (MLISc) for the academic year 2012-13.

TISS, established in 1936, is known for its well crafted curriculum, sound theory, high quality teaching and experimental learning unique to TISS. This two year, four semester and 66 credit master's programme comprises 20 core courses which provide common and essential inputs covering the whole gamut of Library and Information

Science. Building on these fundamentals, students undertake a dissertation in an area of interest.

The Program emphasizes on practical aspects of library and information science and its multidisciplinary nature of subject drawing expertise from all the schools/centres of TISS and other related institutions/industries in India.

Candidates who have completed graduation in any stream are eligible to apply. Candidates will have to register themselves on website and then apply online. The selection will be based on an Entrance Test, Group Discussion (GD) and Personal Interview (PI).

Entrance test will be conducted at Mumbai, Hyderabad and Guwahati campuses. The GD/PI will happen only at Mumbai Campus. Last date for applying is 20th May 2012. For registering and applying online, prospectus, entrance test pattern and other details, visit the URL <http://ma-programmes.tiss.edu/>

One can also download the complete prospectus with full curriculum and other course details from the website <http://library.tiss.edu/>

Obituary

Sad Demise of Prof. A. C. Tikekar

BOSLA deeply mourns the sad demise of academician, a great teacher Prof. A. C. Tikekar who passed away on 26th October 2010 in Mumbai.

Prof. A. C. Tikekar was born on 5th January 1935 who devoted his life to the library profession. He was the Librarian of the Government Polytechnic College, Solapur (1956-65), Lecturer in Library Science & Assistant Librarian at Shivaji University, Kolhapur (1965-73), Reader in Library Science & Deputy Librarian (1973-84) and Professor, Department of Library Science and University Librarian of Mumbai University (1984-95).



He served the cause of profession till his last day thereby spanning 55 years for professional activities. During his long career and even later, he strived to provide prompt and wholesome service to every type of information seeker with the same attention. That set a standard in the field and he earned goodwill of individuals and institutions from different areas. He was a distinguished teacher in LIS profession. His teaching, research guidance and advice helped countless students and professionals who are spread globally. Numerous organizations and libraries ranging from the school to corporate to public libraries in the country derived immense benefit by his knowledge and

experience. He worked as a Member on several Committees of the UGC and State Government. He was in constant demand as a speaker at different forums.

He has published several papers in national and international journals and written several works in both English and Marathi with equal proficiency. Prof. A. C. Tikekar breathed his last on 26th October 2010. It is a great loss to BOSLA and to the LIS profession. BOSLA deeply mourns the sad demise of Prof. A. C. Tikekar and conveys heartfelt condolences to the family members to bear this irreparable loss.

Sad Demise of Mr. Gangadhar Murshillin



BOSLA deeply mourns the sad demise of Mr. Murshillin who passed away on 3rd February 2011 at Mumbai. Shri. Gangadhar Murshillin was born on 23rd August, 1950 in Gadag, Karnataka. He completed his science graduation from Karnataka University, Dharwad. In the year 1974, he successfully completed

B.Lib.Sc. degree from Karnataka University, Dharwad.

He started his career as Librarian for a short period of six months at Ayurveda College, Hubli. Later, he got an opportunity to serve in Dept. of Public Libraries, Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru as Technical Assistant. He was In-charge of Rajajinagar branch Library and South end Circle Public Library from May 1975 to December 1979, which were considered as biggest public libraries during those days. He took the leadership of around 700 daily wage employees working in the Public Libraries and fought against the government policies. This agitation helped all the daily wage employees to get regularized their service as permanent employees in the state government. He joined Central Library, Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT), Mumbai as Library Assistant on 27th December, 1979. Since then, he worked in almost all sections of the library during his tenure. While serving at IIT-Bombay, he completed Masters degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from University of Madras, Chennai in the year 1986. Shri. Gangadhar G. Murshillin served as Treasurer of Bombay Science Librarians' Association (BOSLA) for two terms and actively participated in all activities of BOSLA.

Shri Gangadhar Murshillin breathed his last on 3rd February 2011. It is a great loss to BOSLA and to the LIS profession. BOSLA deeply mourns the sad demise of Mr. Murshillin and conveys heartfelt condolences to Mr. Murshillin's family members to bear this irreparable loss.