Chapter 11

Use of N–List Resources Among the Faculty Members of Affiliated Colleges of Bharathiar University, India:
A Study

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ABSTRACT

Library consortium is an umbrella term that covers the concept. With cooperation it was possible for sharing of union catalog, document delivery services, storage facilities, collection development, and human resources at local, national, and regional levels. It is the single solution of these concepts. Consortium gives the freedom for a library having less collection as they can access any product at the nominal price. Out of 335 respondents, 232 (69.3%) respondents were aware of N-LIST resources, whereas 103 (30.7%) of them somewhat aware of N-LIST resources. This study shows that majority of the respondents were aware of N-LIST resources. All the respondents, 335 (100%), were utilizing the N-LIST resources. 177 (52.8%) respondents were spending '1-2 hours' for accessing N-LIST resources, 101 (30.1%) respondents were spending '3-4 hours', 30 (9%) of them spent 'below 1 hour', and 27 (8.1%) of them spent 'more than 5 years'. This analysis shows that nearly 53% of the respondents were spending '1-2 hours' to access N-LIST Resources in a day. 111 (60.3%) assistant professors and 66 (45.7%) associate professors were spending '1-2 hours' in a day to access N-LIST resources. The authors were made to aware about N-LIST resources the respondents have given 'guide by the librarian' as first priority, followed by 'orientation programme', 'trial and error method', 'through YouTube tutorial', 'online user guide', and 'guide by friends and colleagues' is the least priority.

INTRODUCTION

Today libraries are shifting their role from the custodian of traditional resources to the provider of service-oriented digital information resources. Widespread use of computers, increased reliance on computer networks, the rapid growth of the internet and explosion in the quality and quantity of information, compelled libraries to adopt new means and methods for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of information. The modernization of libraries and information centers enabled to information transfer and access, thereby helping in established of well-known the network of libraries and information centers. This initiative paved the way for resource development, resource sharing and their utilization at various levels.

The National Commissions on Libraries and Information Centers in its National Programme Document (1975) defined a network as "Two or more libraries engaged in a common pattern of information exchange, through communications for some functional purpose". (Sahoo, 2004). Co-operation amongst institutions for sharing their library resources has been practiced for decades. Traditionally, the primary purpose of establishing a library consortium is to share physical resources, including books and periodicals, amongst members. However, the mode of co-operation has been transformed with an infusion of new information technology, whether in the print-based environment or the digital environment. The emergence of the Internet, particularly the World Wide Web, as a new medium of information delivery triggered the proliferation of web-based electronic resources. An increasing number of publishers use the Internet globally to offer their publications to the international community of scientists and technologists. The technology provides an unparalleled medium for delivery of information with greater speed and economy

CONCEPT OF LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

Library consortium is an umbrella term which covers the concept with co-operation it was possible for sharing of union catalogue, document delivery services, storage facilities, collection development and human resources at local, national and regional level. It is the single solution of these concepts consortium gives the freedom for a library having less collection as they can access any product at the nominal price.

The term consortium existed for decades but it is gaining so much importance in recent years. A consortium is said to 'a co-operative arrangement among groups or institutions or an association or society'. Consortia are commonly formed to increase the purchasing capacity of the collaboration institutions to expand the resource availability and of offer automated services. In other words, it is described as a group of organizations whose purpose is to collectively facilitate and support the work of a service program in ways that add material and human resources beyond those available to each organization individually. A consortium is an association of two or more individuals, companies, organizations or governments (or any combination of these entities) with the objective of participating in a common activity or pooling their resources for achieving a common goal. The consortium is a Latin word, meaning 'partnership, association or society' and derives from consumers 'partner', itself form con 'together' and sors 'fate', meaning owner of means or comrade (Wikipedia – free Encyclopedia)[7].

There are many different interpretations of the word "Consortium". A consortium could be described as a group of organizations who come together to fulfill a combined objective or project that usefully requires co-operation and the sharing of resources. They sometimes develop out of existing working partnerships, but need to have a clear mutual goal in order to ensure their success. The aim should be

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