

E-Learning Initiatives in LIS Profession: A view

Vijay A. Dakhole

Shivaji Science College, Congress Nagar, Nagpur-12, Maharashtra, India

Abstract

Twenty first century is known as age of information technology the world, through Information technology a revolution has been brought in almost every field of life. Information Technology has potential to gather information. Internet has popularized it in every book & corner of the world. Information & Communication technologies has transferred our lives and reshaped the nature of everyday activities and contemporary times are called the information age. LIS profession plays a big role in which we are and what we achieve in our life time. In present time scenario, arrival of computer and Internet, in the field of education has changed the procedures and Patterns of learning patterns knocks at the learning. Today's learning patterns knock at the door of learner. Today any one learns anywhere and anytime. Latest information and content is getting at low cost. New technological term E-Learning is the sensation in the field of LIS profession. The concept of information is ageless; Information technology is the savoir of mankind. It has played a major role on library and Information Science professional

Introduction:

Today's libraries have travelled from paper to paperless society and from print to non print environment and are transforming into digital once. Libraries have changed from mere static storehouse of knowledge to dynamic service centers. The internet is blurring the traditional roles of creators, suppliers and distributors of scientific information and injecting a long overdue element of competition. The concept of information is ageless; Information Technology is the savoir of mankind. The method of classroom learning is changed to e-learning. It has played a major role library and information science professionals. The aim of e-learning is to explore and to accumulate useful knowledge over and above faster copying, searching and to distributing. E-learning refers to learning that is facilitated using digital tools and contents. LIS profession according to Kaplan Leiserson e-learning covers a wide set of applications processes such as web-based learning, computer based learning, virtual classrooms and electronic collaboration. It includes the delivery of content via internet, Internet Extranet (LAN/WAN), audio and video tape, satellite broadcast, Interactive TV and CD – ROM. LIS courses aim to produce skilled LIS professionals to cope up with the new frontiers of Librarianship. E-learning is the new global shift in education Reflecting profound changes brought out by computer and communication technology. In LIS distance education e-learning aims to enhance student learning opportunities by enabling them to partake in global, team based educational projects. E-learning provide the tool to meet the challenges such as quick and up to date information at global level and will enhance student learning opportunities by enabling them to take part in global world and self learning knowledge of the user.

Traditional LIS Education Versus E-Learning with the tremendous benefits and increasing success of e-learning. Traditional LIS education provides a strong knowledge base to the professional. It develops in him the most basic library management skill- cataloguing classification indexing. The traditional LIS education also fulfills the basic objective of education i.e. to develop an attitude for the profession to get all these advantages the traditional LIS education is a must. But this is all true that e- learning has its own advantages.

E-learning should be adopted for the following reasons.

- Management of change
- Increased expectation from the employers as well as user.
- Multi skilled personnel.
- Job specific need.
- Image of the profession
- More content and short duration.
- Changing learning trends.
- Distance education and e-learning.

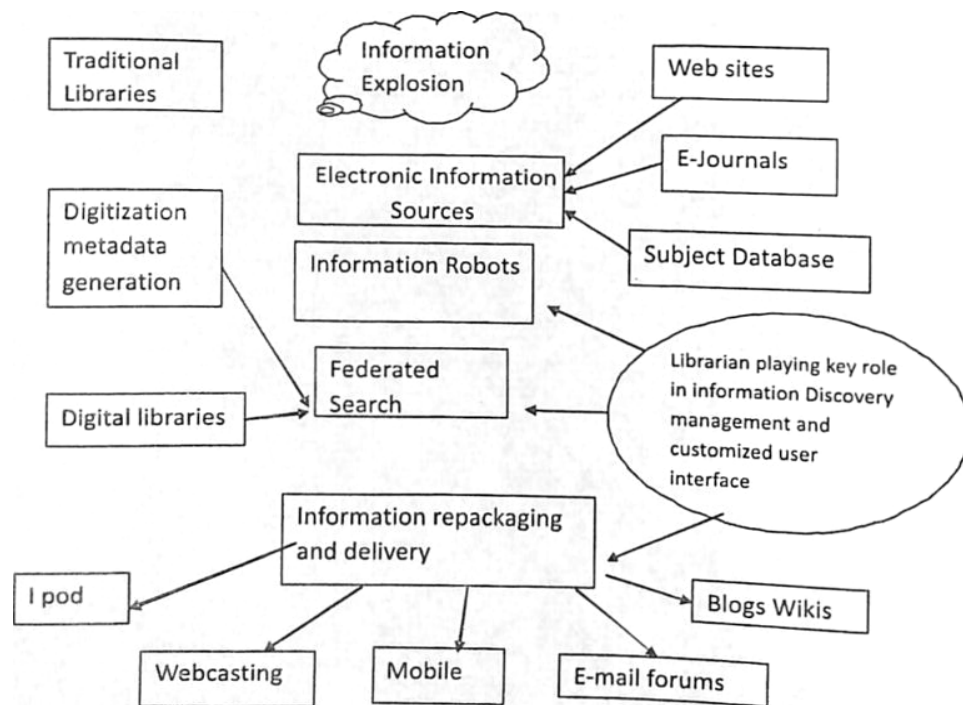
Meaning of E-learning

The term E-Learning is used in so many ways such as online learning computer based learning (CBL), Web Based Training (WBT) online Recourse-Based learning (NCL) Computer Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) E-Learning attempted through electronic means for achieving computer and network-enabled transfer of skills and knowledge E-Learning is the high-teach, net-enabled subset of larger university of distance education of distributed learning.

TYPES OF E - LEARNING there are basically two types of E-Learning synchronous learning and asynchronous learning. Synchronous means “At the same time”, involves interaction of participations with an instructor via the web in real time. Synchronous technologies are video, telephone conferencing, web conferencing etc. Asynchronous means “Not at the same time”, allows the participant to complete the WBT at his own pace without live interaction with the instructor. Technologies are audio cassette, e-mail, message board forum print material voice mail / fare video cassette, CD-ROMS.

New Ground in E-learning LIS Profession Paradigm

The conventional Library should go through some major transformations in terms of its knowledge source, knowledge delivery management and connecting all element with string bonds. Library is as a heart of institution of higher learning due to the impact of ICTs. It has made it mandatory for these to have both print and non print collections such as CD ROM/DVD database online full text electronic journals, e-books etc. In addition to managing various housekeeping activities of the library, thereby reducing the repetitive processes involved in acquisition, cataloguing and circulation of resource as and time of the user and staff. The crux of the story is the transformation of libraries and librarians in terms of terms of their tools media and the modus operandi in knowledge exploration and management. The conceptual model of the framed is shown in figure.



E-learning Initiatives in LIS

LIS e-learners learn by using electronic information sources and various ICTS. As a result they will be in a better position to manage electronic information sources effectively in hybrid and electronic library and there for more capable to provide effective services to his e-learning user. E-learning is more suitable for short term specialized courses in LIS. The following e-learning initiatives in LIS are undertaken in recent times.

Drexel University:

Drexel University has developed e-learning courses for librarian. It has given 20% reactions to member of the Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont Library association.

ALA (American Library Association):

ALA has developed e-learning program such as caresses in libraries it content journal information about the profession various areas of librarian ship, competencies.

ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries):

ACRL has developed e-learning courses the topic include creating plan for information literacy Resigning websites for libraries, teaching portfolios for librarian and virtual reference competencies. This course has three week duration. ACRL also has e-learning courses 1 and 2 hours duration on topics such as technology trends in arcade.

SLA (Special library Association):

Special library association known as click University recently it is offering courses on knowledge management for 15 days.

YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association):

YALSA provides online continuing education classes to enhance the skill and knowledge of young adult librarian and library worker who serve teem. The classes

are taught by specials in young adult librarian ship and are offered on a rotating basic during summer, autumn and winter sessions.

RUSA (Reference and User Services Association):

RUSA is responsible for stimulating and supporting excellence in delivery of journal library services and material to adults and the provision of the reference and information services, collection development and resources sharing. **AASL (American association of School libraries.)**

AASL offer short term e - learning courses for school librarian. The topic include school libraries role in reading, children, literature, how to create collaboration literature etc. are of 3 to 10 hours courses

PLA (Public Library Association)

PLA offers e-learning programmes to solve to problems in public library, it organizes conference, events through e-learning recently e-learning @ PLA has announces power tool planners program for librarian of public libraries.

IMARK (Information management resources kit)

IMARK is mobilizing & building upon existing resources to create a comprehensive suite of distance learning resources for information management &exchanges IMARK supports agencies institution &network world wide web & helps them to work together & share information more effectively.

LEAD (Library Education At Desktop)

Texas state library has developed e-learning courses. LEAD courses are web delivered written for the continuing education of library staff by subject matter experts hired by the University of North Text School of library &information sciences. These courses typically take one to two hours to complete & are delivered in the web et online courses environment

University Of Illusions:-

The graduate school of library & information science at university of illusions offered non credit continuing education & the topic are budget & finance for the library , scholarly writing for LIS profession , current issues in planning & management of library buildings the library duration of above courses are 35days.

ALCTS (Association Of Library Collection & Technical Services)

ALCTS offer three continuing education courses over the web & is in the process of developing several more e-learning is very much suitable for short term specialized courses in LIS so that LIS professional can update knowledge throughout life. There are so many other universities, association & institution are offering certificates to master level e-learning courses in LIS some of them are the Indian state university Mansfield university Syracuse university Texas women's university . university of Arizona , the university of north Texas , university of Pittsburg ,university of Tencesses & university of Wisconsin.

The distance education in India is spreading very fast, the institution of distance education are the first to depth the e-learning in LIS. Indira Gandhi national open university Y.C.M.O.U. Barktullah university. Annamlli University. vidyasagar university have started using e-learning for distance learning program . “vidya online” is upcoming e-learning program of the LIS education run by vidyasagar university. DRTC (Document Treating and Research Center) LIS profession is new system to start.

Bangalore provides digital resources to these interested in e-learning courses, parallel to their traditional courses.

Information technology is developing at a rapid pace and forcing a change in the structure and dynamics of the information society. E-learning is becoming an essential in the digital environment and has rapidly transferred traditional means of learning & teaching. Library professionals cannot run away from this change we have to accept the challenge we face in the new millennium. E-learning for LIS has to develop accordance with demand of IT ERA so that LIS students and faculty members can compete with latest technology.

References:-

<http://www.ejci.com> Last Access Date: 22 Jan 2011.

<http://www.expressitpeople.com/2Q02Q722/cover.html> Last Access Date : 22 Jan 2011.

Jasroti , Punita. E-learning Belying great expectation In: Express IT people New Delhi

<http://www.expressitpeople.com/20020722/cover.html> Last Access Date : 15 Jan 2011.

Kumbhar, Rajendra. Use of e-learning in library and information science education , DESIDOC journal of Library and Information Technology, 2009,29(1),37-40.

Lobo, Janet and Bhandi M. E-learning Indian science and it's impact on library and information science professionals. 4th international convention CALIBER 2006, Gulbarga, 2-4 February. 2006 232-239.

Sahu , Satya Rajan and Singhal, Madhuresh. E-learning: A myth or reality on information resource management, 13-15th march 2002 ,DRTC,Bangalore.

Sangam, S. L. and Badagi Ganga, Impact IT on library services, library vision 2000. Indian libraries and librarianship, edited by Sarden, 1999 ICA, New Delhi 466-477.

Sarkar, Amit, Online training Vying to be the hottest In: Dataquest <http://www.dqindia.com/content/special/101/10620Q2.asp> Last Access Date: 20 Jan 2011

Tripathi, Manrama and Jeevan. V.K. J. - E-learning library and information science: a programmatic view for India . DESIDOC journal of Library and Information Technology, 30(5), 2010,83-88.