

Librarians' Day Seminar 2013 at EDI

A Report

Celebrating Librarian's Day Seminar in the month of August is a tradition followed by ADINET (Ahmedabad Library Network) since long, to salute the father of Library Science Dr. S.R. Ranganathan. This year the Librarian's Day Seminar was jointly organized by Ahmedabad Library Network (ADINET), Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) and Information Library Network (INFLIBNET) with the theme "Redefining Libraries to Create Next Generation Libraries" on Saturday 10th August, 2013 at EDII, Gandhinagar. More than 250 delegates from all over Gujarat benefited from this seminar.

Inauguration:

After the registration and high tea, the seminar started with a melodious prayer recited by Ms. Swadha Majumdar and Ms. Hema Rawal on 'Saraswati Vandana'. Ms. Rhoda Bharucha, Hon. Director, ADINET welcomed the audience and introduced all the eminent dignitaries present on the dais. She gave a brief introduction of ADINET and its activities carried out over the year. Introducing the topic, she mentioned the relevancy of the current theme and its role in present library environment. Madam Bharucha said that the only thing constant is change and that by changing mindsets and beliefs we can positively bring change.



Inauguration of Seminar

The seminar began with the lighting of the lamp by the chief guest and all the dignitaries on the dais. The Book of Papers was also released during the inauguration.

The main session started with the keynote address by Dr. H. Anil Kumar Librarian IIMA. The topic of the presentation was "Emerging perspectives in librarianship". He described the new higher education landscape and how Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) can play a role in current librarianship. He urged library professionals to look beyond traditional librarianship. By citing various studies and

reports, he clearly showed the important roles which librarians do play.

Address by chief guest Dr. Anup K. Singh was on "The Next Gen Library". He compared the library with the Hollywood movie "The Matrix", where we can't recognize if the library is in the "real world" or "virtual world". He depicted how the services will change in next generation libraries, where user will come not for books but for services, not for information but for integration and not knowledge but for projects and wisdom. He advised library professionals to know their new generation users by searching their profile, usage behavior; search history etc., to serve them in a better way. Dr. Singh felt that it was essential to engage with library users through different library activities like focus group, library club and provide them facilities like study area, entertainment, films and music which will be helpful to attract and retain the customers.

The presidential address was given by Dr. Dinesh Awasthi. He informed that the EDI Library is top most in satisfaction survey conducted every year in the institute, as about 95% students are highly satisfied with the services offered by library. He mentioned about the important contributions of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, and congratulated the entire library professional for the role played by them.

At the end of the inaugural session Mr. B. Ganapathi, Librarian, EDII Gandhinagar, gave the vote of thanks. He thanked all the persons who contributed directly and indirectly to making this seminar a great success.

Technical Session-1:

The first technical session was chaired by Dr. Shailesh Yagnik and reported by Mr. Mallikarjun Dora from IIM-A and Mr. Bharat Chaudhari from PDPU. There were four presentations in this session on different topics. The first paper titled "e-learning Environment" by Mr. Abhishek Kumar and Ms. Pallavi from INFLIBNET Center briefly described e-content, content management systems and their use. Author gave details about the ePG Pathsala programme which is an initiative of Ministry of HRD under NME- ICT project.

The second paper entitled "Professional Competencies and Skills for Better, Effective and Efficient LIS Services" was presented by Dr. Manish Pandya, ISRO. He stressed that the "art of listening" is more important and encouraged library staff to develop this and other many other useful skills.

The next presentation was from Mr. Ganapathi Batthini, Librarian, EDII on "Librarianship Needs Entrepreneurial Behavior". The author gave the difference between a traditional librarian and entrepreneurial librarian. The presentation evoked several discussions and suggestions, which included developing a training programme for librarians on entrepreneurship.

Next paper in the series was by Ms. Amita Parmar on the topic "Enhancing Skills of Librarians in the 21st Century". She talked about different skill set required for librarians in the current library environment. She stressed that communication skill is more important to interact with the patrons.

The last paper in this technical session was presented by Dr. Lavji N. Zala, Assistant Librarian, MICA on "How to Create One-Stop-Search Facility for Electronic Periodicals through GSDL? A Do-it-Yourself Approach. In the paper author showcased how libraries can use Green Stone Digital Library (GSDL) open source software to create one stop search solution for the subscribed electronic resources in the library. He also discussed the benefits and limitations of the project.

On completion of this session, Dr. Shailesh Yagnik summed up the main points from the papers presented and shared his views on the different issues.

Technical Session II:

The second technical session was started immediately after lunch. The session was chaired by Dr. Nishtha Anil Kumar, Librarian, PRL. The technical session II comprised of two invited speakers and four technical papers. The first invited speaker in this session was Dr. Rajiv Joshi, Professor, EDI, the topic of the presentation was "Changing Dynamics of Library Users". The speaker explained how the manner of interaction, characteristics and behaviour are changing of new generation user, in the changing environment and how librarians should give more focus on users rather than collection building. Library should work as a learning center and focus inclusively on the learning need of students. He advised that librarians can also work as counselors or friends to play a larger role in resolving the different issues faced by the students.

Mr. Ashok Madnani and Mr. Umesh Mehta's paper was titled "Information Sources for Budding Entrepreneur". The author provided a brief overview on information resources available on entrepreneurship and discussed the usefulness of this type of information to the entrepreneurs for their business.

Next paper in the session was "Increasing Services in Academic Libraries" written by Dr. C.K. Patel and Dr. K.D. Tandel. This paper was presented by Dr. Manish Pandya. Authors gave the changing academic library environment and also listed several services which could be provided without using computers and internet.

Dr. Pankaj Bharti, Faculty, EDI was the second invited speaker. His topic was "Knowing the self". He conducted a test which helped the participants to know about their strengths. This test was very useful and definitely helped the participants. Dr. Nishtha Anilkumar concluded the session by highlighting the important points and also shared her views on different issues presented in the session.

Mrs. Geeta Gadhavi, Assistant Professor, Gujarat University concluded the seminar. She described each detail of the seminar. She appreciated Mr. Jignesh Amin and Mr. Bhavesh Patel for helping her in preparation of the Presentation for the Concluding Session.

The anchor of the seminar was Ms. Rupam Sikligar, Librarian from Gandhinagar Institute of Technology.