
ANNUAL ISSUE-2023

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी
तंत्र में



lisforum_orissa

Estd. 25th October 2006

<https://www.lisforumorissa.com>

Email: lisforumorissa@gmail.com

Annual Issue, 2023

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

ENGLISH SECTION

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

Editors

Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy

Moderator, [lisforum_orissa](https://www.lisforum.orissa.in)

Dr D R Meher

Librarian, OUAT, Bhubaneswar

Editorial Desk

Editorial Advisors

1. Prof B.K. Choudhury
Former Professor, DLIS, Sambalpur University Jyotivihar, Burla, Odisha
E-mail: bkc1948@gmail.com
2. Prof B. Ramesh Babu
Former Professor, DLIS, University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
E-mail: beerakarameshbabu@gmail.com
3. Dr C.K. Swain
Librarian, IIM, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
E-mail: ckswain1969@gmail.com
4. Dr D.R. Meher
Librarian, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
E-mail: meherdebraj@gmail.com
5. Dr D. Kapade
Librarian(Acting), Kaviguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Ramtek, Nagpur, Maharashtra
E-mail : kapade2004@gmail.com
6. Dr K.L. Jena
Librarian, CET, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
E-mail : kljena2@gmail.com
7. Prof N. Radhakrishnana
DLIS, Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu
E-mail: mkuradha@gmail.com
8. Prof R.K. Mahapatra
DLIS, Tripura University, Tripura
E-mail: rkmahapatra@tripurauniv.in
9. Mr R. Sahu
Librarian(officiating), MNIT, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh
E-mail: riteshmnnit4u@gmail.com
10. Dr S.B. Sahu
General Manager, SIDBI, Mumbai, Maharashtra
E-mail: drsbsahu@gmail.com
11. Dr S. Sengupta
Librarian, Pt. R.S. University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
E-mail: supamasengupta61@gmail.com

Moderators

1. **Dr Manoj Mishra**
dr.manojmishra75@gmail.com
2. **Jayanta K Sahu**
jayantaksahu@gmail.com
3. **Bibhuti B Maharana**
bibhutimaharana22@gmail.com
4. **Kiran Pradhan**
kiranpradhan246@gmail.com

Copyright: 2023 by the contributors

The contributors of this Annual Issue are the copyright holders of their write-ups, articles, short communications etc. They are personally and individually responsible for the thought contents, expressions, language and words chosen. The "lisforum_orissa" does not bear any responsibility for the contents or comments in these, except providing a platform for discussion of Library & Information Science/Centres related issues for the development of Library & Information Service and library professionalism in the country. Further, "lisforum_orissa" is not a profit-making web-based forum.

Moderator

lisforum_orissa

E-mail: lisforumorissa@gmail.com

Mobile-09977508422, 08602788759

lisforum_orissa

(The name does not restrict its scope to Odisha state only; rather it is just a name indicating its place of origin)



(Dr. S. R. Ranganathan)

This forum is a common platform for LIS professionals, teachers, researchers, students to share ideas, knowledge, messages, information etc. with each other for the development of LIS profession and professionals. It will help to address issues on Library and Information Science, to solve day-to-day problems of libraries, resource sharing among libraries and generation of new ideas on LIS.

CONTENTS

From the Desk of Moderator
Message by Dr D.B. Ramesh

S.N	TITLE	AUTHOR	PAGE NO
FEATURE ARTICLES			
1.	A Blended Librarian is considered relevant in the digital era: Why?	Dr. Ashok Kumar Sahu	14-18
2.	A Thought on What, Why and How of Blended Librarianship: Is it Boon or Bane for India?	Prof. B Ramesh Babu	19-26
3.	Academic Librarians Turn to Blended Librarianship	Dr. P. K. Panigrahi	27-30
4.	Blended Librarian: Their role in the digital information age	Dr. Siba Prasad Panda	31-33
5.	Blended Librarianship :problems and opportunities	Ms. Pavanpreet Kaur	34-37
6.	Blended Librarianship in the Digital Information Age as Educationist-Metaphor for the 21st Century	Samyak Pratik Pattanaik	38-40
7.	Blended Librarianship in the emerging Digital Era: Is it the need of hour	Dr. Sada Bihari Sahu	41-44
8.	Blended Librarianship: Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Era in Indian context	Dr Monisha Mishra	45-49
9.	Blended Librarianship: In the Indian Library Ecosystem	Neelam Dr. Harish Kumar Sahu	50-52
10.	Blended librarianship: it's phenomenology in Indian library ecosystem	Susanta Kumar Khuntia	53-55
11.	Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem	Sandeep Kumar Mohanty	56-59

12.	Blended Librarianship: its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem	Dr. Brundaban Nahak	60-65
13.	Blended Librarianship: its phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem	Lucky Kumar Sahu	66-69
14.	Blended Librarianship: its phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem	Lipsha Palai	70-73
15.	Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem	Pramod Kumar	74-76
16.	Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem	Manas Ranjan Naik	77-79
17.	Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem	Kaushik Kumar Jena	80-82
18.	Blended Librarianship: its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem	Lalit Kumar Sahu Dr. Jyotshna Sahoo	83-90
19.	Imperative competencies for blended librarianship aiding teaching, learning and research process	Om Prakash Samal	91-95
20.	Fostering blended librarianship: bridging traditional and digital roles	Anand Kumar Swain	96-101
21.	Importance of Blended Librarianship in Indian Library Ecosystem	Mr.Gopal Krishna Chhatar	102-106
22.	Indian libraries and blended librarianship	DIKSHA	107-109
23.	Role of librarian beyond books	Dr. Manoj Mishra	110-113

24.	The Change Of Libraries From The Current Traditional System To The Future Is Inevitable	Dr. Papanna S	114-116
25.	The Indian library renaissance: How blended librarianship is shaping the future	Zeeshan Ali Siddiqui	117-122
26.	The true sense of Blended librarianship: just as defined or beyond.	Yashveer Pratap Singh	123-126
27.	Unconscious Transformation of a Bibliosoph : India Context	Dr Debraj Meher	127-129
28.	Unlocking the Potential of Blended Libraries in the Indian Library Ecosystem	Aparajita Sharma	130-133
SHORT COMMUNICATIONS			
1.	Blended Librarianship: Educational Leader in the Digital Information Age	Kiran Pradhan	135-136
2.	Blended Librarianship: it's Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem	Sakrajit Patra	137-138
3.	Conglomeration librarianship : A step forward to the future	Rudra Prasad Behera	139-140
4.	The Role of a Blended Librarian: Bridging the Gap between Traditional and Digital Resources	Dr Bibhu Prasad Panda Dr Kamal Lochan Jena	141-142

HINDI SECTIONS

संदेश – डॉ. सुपर्ण सेन गुप्ता

क्रमांक	शीर्षक	लेखक	पृष्ठ संख्या
1	डिजिटल ग्रंथालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप कितना सफल ?	डॉ. नीलम सोनी	145-152
2	डिजिटल युग में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की चुनौतियाँ एवं संभावनाएँ	भुवनेश्वर राम चौधरी डॉ. संगीता सिंह	153-157
3	भारत में मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष की अवधारणा	तोरन लाल खूंटे डॉ. हरीश कुमार साहू	158-160
4	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप	प्रियांशी जैन	161-161
5	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप	सूर्यकांत प्रधान	162-164
6	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप और भारतीय पुस्तकालय	विनोद कुमार खूंटे डॉ. एस.आर. कश्यप	165-169
7	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: एक परिचय	शशि ब्रजपुरिया	170-174
8	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की अवधारणा : शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालयों के क्षेत्र में	डॉ. मंजूषा डॉली आशेर	175-181
9	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप	नवीन कुमार ताम्रकार डॉ. दिलीप कुमार चौधरी	182-183
10	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप	श्रवण यादव डॉ. हरीश कुमार साहू	184-187
11	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप	रणजीत कुमार	188-190
12	मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थिकी तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप	हरिशंकर साहू	191-193
13	विकसित हो रहे अकादमिक पुस्तकालय में भागीदारों के रूप में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप	सुचिता साहू सम्यक प्रतीक पटनायक	194-197
14	समाज पर मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का प्रभाव	पियुष कुमार मानिकपुरी	198-199

Dr. Sunil Ku. Satpathy

Moderator, lisforum_orissa

E-mail: drsksatpathy@gmail.com

Mobile-09977508422, 08602788759



From the desk of moderator...

It's a matter of pleasure that lisforum_orissa is going to celebrate its 17th anniversary on 25th October 2023. Over the years, the lisforum_orissa has undergone many changes to connect with Library & Information Science (LIS) Professionals of India for the improvement of LIS education, professions, and professionals. Started as a mailing list forum on 25th October 2006, it has come a long way and has been able to create its own identity with the consistent support, cooperation, and motivation of all members, LIS teachers, professionals, students and well-wishers in India. On this occasion, I congratulate and thank them all.

As per previous practices to publish an online annual issue on the day of the anniversary, an online Annual Issue is brought out this year by the forum on a contemporary theme of Library & Information Science (LIS), namely "**Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem**". Coined by Steven Bell and John Shank in 2004, theoretically blended librarianship can be described as librarianship that combines the traditional aspects of librarianship with the technology skills of an information technologist- someone skilled with software and hardware. It describes the evolving role of librarians in integrating traditional library practices with emerging technologies and new modes of learning. It is a model of librarianship that emphasizes the need for librarians to have diverse skills that blend traditional library practices with instructional design and technology expertise.

But the question arises: can the present librarianship with only applications of some software in the library system and services, or subscriptions or purchases of e-resources, be called blended librarianship in its true sense, or does it require more than this? Are the librarians qualified enough or possess the expertise to develop the required software, ICT-based services, websites, etc. for their libraries? Also, are there sufficient scopes in the Indian library ecosystem to develop oneself as a blended librarian, or does the library system where a librarian works accept or support this? Are the LIS departments and LIS faculty members capable enough to produce the future generations of LIS professionals to function as blended librarians? The answers to all these questions are very intriguing, but they need answers.

Even today, librarians and other library professionals face identity crises and struggle for their successful existence. Most of the libraries function with a shortage of professional staff, little or no scope for professional development (research, higher studies, etc.) in the name of non-faculty staff, a low pay scale or a reduced pay scale, etc. The decisions of non-LIS professional authorities seem to be heavy in the decision-making process of the libraries, may it be at the institutional level or at

Government level. In such an Indian library environment, the concept of blended librarianship seems to be conceptual rather than practical.

But in the Indian library ecosystem, one good thing is that most of the front-line LIS professionals, senior faculty members, and library decision-makers pretend to be self-satisfied, glorified, or honored by the present library system and their belief in the concept of "All is Well" in the Hindi movie "3-idiots". Accordingly, they do not want to say, write, or discuss the present library situation or its actual improvements. This can be well realized from the fact that the number of *Whatsapprians* (WhatsApp-busy-Librarians) sharing knowledge in WhatsApp groups or other social media is increasing and publications and write-ups on real library situations are decreasing.

However, we are not hopeless, and lisforum_orissa will continue to highlight such professional issues in the future to create awareness among LIS professionals in the hope that someday the situation may change, librarians will be recognized, and the library profession will prosper. We are happy that in this gloomy library environment, we have received 31 papers and short communications in English and 14 papers in Hindi for the 2023 Annual Issue of the Lisforum Orissa, which is much more than the last year's annual issue. Also all write ups are peer reviewed and plagiarism checked (English-less than 10% in Turnitin feedback studio and Hindi- less than 5% in Drillbit software) to ensure the quality of write ups.

Since its establishment, the lisforum_orissa has been growing steadily. Being an online forum, all activities are performed online only. It maintains a website and Facebook group of 1200+ members all over India where professional messages and information are shared regularly. Also a quiz competition "Library Awareness Test" is posted fortnightly by one of our moderators Mr Kiran Pradhan, supervised by Dr D R Meher. Besides, lisforum_orissa organizes online Librarian's Day celebration with national-level online quiz competition and invited talk every year.

I expressed my sincere gratitude to the valued contributors of messages, articles, write-ups and short communications for enriching this issue. It will definitely motivate us to work forward for the development of the LIS profession and professionals. I am also highly thankful to the editors and editorial board members for their sincere efforts to bring out the Annual Issue 2023 on time. Last but not the least, I am thankful to all the LIS professionals, LIS teachers, and well-wishers for their continuous support towards lisforum_orissa.

I wish you all good health and professional prosperity on the occasion of happy anniversary of lisforum_orissa.

(Dr Sunil Kumar Satpathy)

Annual Issue, 2023

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

Message



SIKSHA 'O' ANUSANDHAN

(A Deemed to be University declared u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
Accredited (3rd Cycle) by NAAC with A++ Grade

Dr. D. B. Ramesh, PhD

Chief Librarian

Siksha 'O' Anusandhan Deemed to be University

Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

dolababuramesh@soa.ac.in

9437914429 (M)



MESSAGE

It gives me a great pleasure and honor to share a few lines about "Blended Librarianship" through the 17th Anniversary Issue of *lisforum_orissa*, 2023. The *lisforum_orissa* always brings a new thought for discussion and disseminate the same amongst the Library and Information Science professionals of Odisha as well as of India.

The theme of this year is "Blended Librarianship" the term was coined in 2004 by Steven J. Bell, Associate University Librarian at Temple University, and John D. Shank, Director of the Center for Learning & Teaching at Penn State Berks. It is defined as librarian's role that merges the traditional skills of librarianship with the information technologist's hardware/software expertise, and the instructional designer's capability to incorporate technology effectively in the teaching-learning process. The main focus of blended librarianship is a keen understanding of user needs, ensuring that services are relevant, accessible, and engaging, through technology driven librarian's techniques.

Blended librarians proactively reach out to users via various channels, including social media and email. They also prioritize collaboration, working alongside other departments within their community to highlight the library's resources and services, instead of passively waiting for users to approach. These librarians actively seek partnerships and avenues to connect with their audience.

Blended librarianship represents a forward-thinking evolution in the library profession. It underscores the importance of librarians adapting their skills and expertise in response to the dynamic needs of users. By embracing contemporary technologies and teaching methodologies, blended librarians are ideally positioned to deliver user-centered services in the digital age.

I hope the contributions published in this annual issue by other eminent professionals on the topic shall bring more inputs and gain greater insights and knowledge to the topic 'Blended Librarianship'. I appreciate the forum's activities and congratulate all the forum members on the occasion of its anniversary.

I wish all success of the endeavor.

(Dr D B Ramesh)

Khandagiri Square, Bhubaneswar - 751 030, Odisha, India
Phone : 0674 - 2350635, 2350791, Fax : 0674 - 2350642, 2351842
www.soa.ac.in

FEATURE ARTICLES

(Arranged alphabetically according to the title
of the Articles)

A Blended Librarian is considered relevant in the digital era: Why?



Dr Ashok Kumar Sahu

Chief Librarian/ General Manager

Reserve Bank of India

E-mail: aksahu@rbi.org.in

Introduction

Blended librarians serve as catalysts for innovation, ensuring that libraries continue to fulfill their vital role as hubs of knowledge and learning in the digital age. The concept of the blended librarian is centered around building synergies and efficiencies by combining traditional library skills with digital expertise. This approach leverages the collaboration between librarians, instructional design specialists, faculty development professionals, and technology experts to enhance and support undergraduate teaching, learning, and research.

In the emerging world of blended librarianship, these professionals learn from each other's areas of expertise and work together to develop innovative methods for improving the educational experience. By doing so, they increase the value of the education they assist others in providing. This approach recognizes that libraries are evolving, and librarians must adapt to meet the changing needs of their patrons in a digital and technology-driven environment.

Blended librarians not only bridge the gap between traditional library services and modern technology but also actively contribute to the advancement of teaching and learning in higher education. They do this by embracing collaboration, embracing emerging technologies, and continuously expanding their knowledge and skills to meet the evolving demands of education in the digital age.

Goal of Blended Librarianship

The goal of blended librarianship is multifaceted and responsive to the evolving needs of library patrons in the digital age.

- **User-Centered Services:** Blended librarians prioritize the needs and expectations of library users. They strive to create services and resources that are tailored to meet the changing requirements of patrons in the digital era.
- **Integration of Traditional and Digital Skills:** Blended librarians leverage a combination of traditional library skills, such as cataloging and reference services, and modern digital expertise, including managing digital collections and utilizing emerging technologies.
- **Relevance and Accessibility:** The focus is on providing services that are both relevant and accessible to users. This includes ensuring that digital resources are easy to find, access and use, and that they align with the evolving needs of patrons.
- **Proactive Engagement:** Blended librarians actively engage with users through various communication channels, including social media, email newsletters, and outreach programs. They seek to connect with patrons where they are and actively promote library services and resources.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Collaboration is a cornerstone of blended librarianship. Librarians work closely with other departments on campus or within the community to promote and integrate library resources and services into various educational and research initiatives.
- **Optimal User Experience:** Blended librarians prioritize delivering a seamless and enjoyable user experience. This involves designing user-friendly interfaces, ensuring the reliability of digital platforms, and providing responsive customer service.
- **Promoting Lifelong Learning:** Blended librarians play a critical role in promoting lifelong learning and information literacy. They offer instruction and guidance to help users develop essential information literacy skills, enabling them to navigate and evaluate digital resources effectively.

In essence, the goal of blended librarianship is to adapt and evolve libraries to remain valuable and relevant in the digital age. It emphasizes a user-centric approach, collaboration, and the strategic integration of traditional and digital library skills to provide a rich and dynamic library experience that supports lifelong learning and meets the diverse needs of today's patrons.

Importance of Blended librarianship

Blended librarianship is of paramount importance in the modern information landscape for several compelling reasons:

- **Meeting Changing User Needs:** Blended librarianship allows libraries to adapt to the evolving needs of users in the digital age. Users increasingly rely on digital technologies for accessing and utilizing information, and blended librarians are equipped to provide services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging.

- **Integration of Emerging Technologies:** Blended librarians are well-positioned to integrate emerging technologies into library services. This integration enhances the user experience by offering personalized, interactive, and technologically advanced resources and services that cater to modern users' expectations.
- **Promoting Information Literacy:** In an era of information overload and misinformation, promoting information literacy is paramount. Blended librarians play a vital role in teaching users how to evaluate and use information effectively, empowering them to critically assess sources and make informed decisions.
- **Collaboration with Other Departments:** Blended librarians actively collaborate with other departments within institutions and the broader community. This collaboration allows libraries to provide comprehensive, interdisciplinary services that meet diverse user needs and contribute to the institution's overall educational goals.
- **Enhancing User Experience:** Blended librarians prioritize user-centered design principles and instructional design to create optimal user experiences. This ensures that users can easily access and use library resources and services, resulting in greater user satisfaction and engagement.
- **Remaining Relevant:** In a rapidly changing digital environment, blended librarianship helps librarians and libraries remain relevant. By combining traditional library skills with new technologies and teaching methods, librarians can continue to provide valuable services that contribute to the broader information science community.
- **Supporting Lifelong Learning:** Blended librarians actively promote lifelong learning by offering information literacy programs, workshops, and resources. They empower users to become lifelong learners who can adapt to new information technologies and continue their education throughout their lives.
- **Addressing Information Challenges:** Blended librarians are well-equipped to address the challenges posed by the proliferation of information sources and formats. They help users navigate complex digital environments, making it easier for them to access accurate and reliable information.
- **Enhancing Research and Scholarship:** Blended librarians support research and scholarship by assisting users in accessing and using digital resources, conducting literature reviews, and engaging in data-driven research. They provide valuable research support services that contribute to academic success.

Blended Librarians in the Digital Era

Blended librarians are essential in the digital era because they bridge the gap between traditional library services and the digital landscape, ensuring that libraries remain relevant, user-focused, and effective in serving the diverse needs of modern users in an increasingly

digital world. Blended librarians are indeed indispensable in the digital era for several compelling reasons:

- **Navigating Digital Complexity:** In the digital age, the sheer volume of information and the complexity of digital resources can be overwhelming for users. Blended librarians possess the expertise to navigate this complexity, helping users access and utilize digital resources effectively.
- **Information Literacy:** Misinformation and disinformation are rampant online. Blended librarians are essential in promoting information literacy skills, enabling users to critically evaluate and discern credible information sources from unreliable ones in the digital landscape.
- **Digital Resource Management:** The digital era has seen the proliferation of electronic resources, e-books, databases, and multimedia materials. Blended librarians excel at managing these digital collections, ensuring they are organized, accessible, and up-to-date.
- **Technology Integration:** Blended librarians bridge the gap between traditional library services and emerging technologies. They incorporate technology into library services, providing users with seamless access to digital resources, mobile apps, and online databases.
- **User-Centered Services:** Blended librarians prioritize the user experience. They design user-friendly interfaces and offer remote access to digital resources, making it convenient for users to access information from anywhere, at any time.
- **Collaboration and Interdisciplinary Support:** The digital era calls for collaboration across various academic disciplines and departments. Blended librarians collaborate with faculty, instructional designers, and technology specialists to integrate library resources into curricula, research projects, and other academic activities.
- **Research Support:** In the digital age, research often involves accessing vast amounts of digital data and online resources. Blended librarians support researchers by helping them navigate these digital resources, conduct literature reviews, and manage research data.
- **24/7 Access and Virtual Services:** The digital era demands 24/7 access to library resources. Blended librarians facilitate this by offering virtual services, including online chat support and virtual reference services that extend beyond traditional library hours.
- **Digital Preservation:** Blended librarians are critical in preserving digital materials, ensuring they remain accessible and viable for future generations. They employ digital preservation techniques to safeguard valuable digital content.
- **Adaptation and Innovation:** The digital era is characterized by rapid technological advancements. Blended librarians are adaptable and innovative, constantly learning and evolving to incorporate new technologies and strategies into their services.

- **Enhancing Teaching and Learning:** Blended librarians play a vital role in enhancing teaching and learning by embedding information literacy into educational programs, offering workshops, and providing resources that support online and blended learning environments.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship is essential in ensuring that libraries remain dynamic, responsive, and relevant in an ever-changing information landscape. Blended librarians not only bridge the gap between traditional library services and modern technology but also actively contribute to the advancement of teaching and learning in higher education.

References

- Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques.
- Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News*, 65(7), 372-375.
- Corrall, S. (2010). Educating the academic librarian as a blended professional: a review and case study. *Library Management*, 31(8/9), 567-593.
- Sun, H. C., Chen, K. N., Tseng, C., & Tsai, W. H. (2011). Role changing for librarians in the new information technology era. *New Library World*, 112(7/8), 321-333.

A Thought on What, Why and How of Blended Librarianship: Is it Boon or Bane for India?



Prof. B Ramesh Babu

(Professor (Retd),

Department of Library and information Science, University of Madras,
Chennai & Formerly, Visiting Professor, Mahasarakham University,
Thailand)

22/20B Thangavelu Pillai Garden, First Street, Old Washermen Pet, Chennai
600 021, INDIA

email: beerakarameshbabu@gmail.com

Introduction

In today's society, librarianship is a unique and prestigious job. It performs public service and contributes significantly to the advancement of the country. Today, librarianship is referred to as the "Library and Information Profession" since it combines traditional and new skills, including ICT, and has transformed to reflect the evolving information needs of society. The LIS industry's credo is "*meeting the needs and demands of users*". However, the variety of sources is changing from print to digital, and internet-based reference services are taking the place of conventional print-based ones with online access services. In order to increase societal awareness and help people adapt to changes in the information environment, librarianship is now even more crucial. Additionally, it is generally recognized that technical advancements like e-books and broadband Internet access in homes present both opportunities and challenges. These technologies also increase pressure from public service cuts. The usefulness of physical libraries in the twenty-first century has been questioned in light of several of these changes. It has been suggested that there should be a "library without walls" so that patrons can use its resources from any location (Weise, 2004).

Dr S R Ranganathan and Indian librarianship

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan significantly advanced the library profession in India by developing uniform nomenclature, theoretical concepts, LIS education from certificate to research level, and introducing specialization and established techniques. In India, the library profession owes a great deal to his services. Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's tireless efforts have contributed to the current standing and respect that Indian librarianship enjoys. The first systematic method of librarianship in India was introduced by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan in his book *The Five Laws of Library Science*, which is often seen as encapsulating the philosophy

and practice of the profession. The field of librarianship is clarified by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's five laws. Actually, these laws were the starting point of all discussions in librarianship in India and abroad. There was no philosophy associated with library science prior to its formulation. These regulations provided a philosophical foundation, ensuring the continued existence of the field of library science, the librarianship profession, and the usage of libraries. These laws have given the field of library science a scientific framework. These regulations continue to be pertinent to the idea of the international library and help to reform libraries and raise the standard of libraries. His publications on the growth of the Indian library profession are extremely significant and have advanced the discipline. He contributed to the advancement of the library profession in India by developing common nomenclature, theoretical frameworks, and normative standards. According to Ranganathan (1963) "*Librarianship is a noble profession. A librarian derives his joy by seeing the dawn of joy in the faces of the readers who were helped in their search for the right information at the right time.*"

What of blended librarianship?

For the first time in January 2004, Steven Bell and John Shank proposed the idea of integrated / blended librarianship. Sponsored by the Association of College & Research Libraries and the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Group, they held a three-session seminar on blended librarianship in April 2004. Also in November 2005, they discussed mixed librarianship at the College of DuPage's Soaring to Excellence teleconference program. In April 2004, the Blended Librarian Online Learning Community also went live with assistance from the Learning Times Network. Over 4,900 people were a part of the community as of mid-2012. The landmark piece on "The Blended Librarian" first published in "*College & Research Libraries News*" July/August 2004 issue.

The phrase "blended librarianship" refers to the changing role that librarians play in fusing traditional library procedures with cutting-edge technologies and fresh ways of learning. It is a style of librarianship that emphasizes the necessity of librarians having a variety of abilities that combine conventional library procedures with knowledge of instructional design and technology. It entails fusing the methods and apparatuses of information and communication technology with the ethical principles and technical know-how of librarianship.

Why of blended librarianship?

The key points regarding the why of blended librarianship are as follows:

- Offer user-centered library services that take into account consumers' evolving demands in the digital era.
- Fuse new technology, concepts of instructional design, and developing information science trends with traditional library skills and knowledge.
- Pay special attention to comprehending user demands and providing interesting, relevant services.
- Be proactive when contacting users via numerous means, such as social media and email.
- Work together with other campus or local departments to promote the library's services and resources.
- Offer the best possible user experience.
- Encourage information literacy and lifelong learning.
- Complements embedded and developing technologies

How of blended librarianship?

- Takes up a leadership position among campus entrepreneurs and welcomes change in order to successfully provide library and information services in the modern “information / knowledge society”.
- Develops initiatives for information literacy across the institution to promote continuing engagement in the ongoing processes of teaching and learning.
- Develops educational and instructional programs and classes to assist patrons in using libraries and achieving information literacy, which is essential for picking up the trades (skills) and knowledge (knowledge needed for vocations) required for lifelong success.
- Closely collaborates with instructional technologists and designers to develop the programs, services, and resources required to serve the educational mission of academic libraries.
- Implements adaptable, imaginative, pro-active, and innovative improvements in library education by collaborating and communicating with both experienced instructional designers and technologists as well as newly produced Instructional Technology/Design librarians.
- In the areas of information access, retrieval, and integration, it improves student learning and result assessment.
- Relates to faculty in a novel manner that emphasizes the capacity to assist them in integrating information technology and library resources into courses, in addition to their conventional roles in enhancing student learning and outcome assessment (Bell and Shank, 2004).

Is blended librarianship a boon or bane in Indian context?

It undoubtedly benefits Indian librarianship. The main goal of blended librarianship is to use technology to improve existing library resources and services. In a number of respects, it can serve as a powerful metaphor for how the academic librarian's position in education is growing. It strives to offer library services that are user-centered and adapt to users' evolving demands in the digital era. In order to do this, traditional library knowledge and abilities must be combined with modern technology, principles of instructional design, and developing information science trends. Additionally, it emphasizes the significance of adjusting to shifting settings and employing a blend of conventional and cutting-edge methods to serve people. As a result, librarians must be adaptable and capable of performing well in a number of settings. It strives to provide library services that accommodate customers' evolving demands in the digital age. It is a paradigm of librarianship that values the conventional skills and practices of librarianship while acknowledging the value of technology in increasing library services and resources.

Blended librarians are proactive in contacting users through many channels, such as social media and email, and are good at determining user requirements and using data to inform decision-making. They must also be tech savvy and creative in their use of technology to enhance library services and cater to patron requirements. They collaborate with teachers and other academic professionals to develop courses and integrate information literacy and research skills into academic programs in order to satisfy the learning objectives of the students (Shank, & Bell, 2011). They push the limits of academic staff and students to accept new educational technologies to enhance research, teaching, and learning. By combining a variety of technological tools and resources with the traditional services and resources of the library, librarians who engage in blended librarianship can develop a hybrid model of library service. This includes making and delivering cutting-edge learning experiences using technology, such as online tutorials and instructional films.

Bell and Shank (2004) are of the opinion that blended librarians combine *“the traditional skill set of librarianship with the information technologist’s hardware/software skills, and the instructional or educational designer’s ability to apply technology appropriately in the teaching-learning process”*. In the rapidly expanding world of digital information, where library services are increasingly delivered through a range of media, including social networking sites, mobile devices, and even virtual words, digital literacy is a highly sought-after ability among librarians. Due to the accessibility of search engines like Google and Bing as well as the prevalence of digital information in various media formats, library staff must constantly stay up to date on various techniques for gathering, producing, and disseminating information that aren't always supported in the formal academic environment. Additionally, they ought to interact with pupils more effectively. In the words of Sinclair (2009), *“the blended librarian is versed in both print and online tools and can help faculty meet course goals, regardless of the medium or technology”*. They are termed as future hybrid librarians.

Because of this, the responsibilities of library staff have evolved, and a larger focus is now placed on the importance of staying current with new media and digital trends as well as with modern approaches to accessing, using, sharing, and communicating information. The role of the information professional is shifting from being a gatekeeper or custodian of information to one of a facilitator or mediator, claim Currall and Moss (2008). These are mixed with, among other things, technical and instructional design skills and traditional librarian skills. To reflect this trend, specific professions like learning developers, learning technologists, and skills managers have been formed. These are essential for employment in libraries that deal with user training.

The emphasis is on developing skills that go beyond the traditional library skills to encompass the depth and breadth of professional, technical knowledge and transferable talents. These can be used to examine skill sets, as a framework for staff training and development programs, and as a professional development tool. In order for the promise of IT utilities to be fully exploited, it is evident that more support for libraries must be given in the form of money, commercial partnerships, staff training, and skill development.

Blended librarianship is thought to be the key to maintaining an academic librarian's high performance in the fields of teaching, learning, and research. According to Pasipamire (2012) flexible library staff are required in higher education institutions to carry out their duties of supplying and disseminating knowledge. It involves a holistic approach to the field that combines more modern competencies like web development, social media management, and instructional design with more established ones like collection building, reference services, and cataloging. It also incorporates cutting-edge technology like data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality to deliver library services. It is intentionally not library centric, that is, focused on the building and its actual contents, but librarian centric, that is, focused on people's skills, knowledge they have to provide, and the connections they build (Shank, & Bell, 2011).

Future librarians with mixed personalities have the following employment options:

- the director of e-strategy and development,
- the adviser for electronic resources,
- the officer for electronic services,
- the coordinator for electronic material, the web librarian,
- the repository librarian,
- the officer for digitization and copyright,
- the librarian for digital projects, and
- the project manager for digitization are all examples of professionals in this field.

Therefore, by considering the above positive aspects, emerging concept of blended librarianship is a boon for Indian context.

IFLA and the future librarianship

Information and library professionals are assuming new positions outside of libraries. Additionally, there is a chance that positions will shift to various supply chain nodes. Outsourcing is likely to happen. At the moment, there are businesses that offer library employees or perform fee-for-service tasks like cataloguing, but none of them provide a comprehensive outsourced solution for library and information services. Uncertainty about the future has probably never been higher (The IFLA Trend Report, 2021).

In future, the typical tasks of a professional librarian or information manager may include the following:

- Managing and providing resources for a research program, a small special library, a branch library, or a sector of a big library.
- Managing and leading employees.
- Creating, implementing, and directing services to satisfy clients' informational demands.
- Offering specialized counsel or consulting services on issues related to strategic information management.
- Producing budget proposals, briefings for general management, and developing strategic goals.
- Managing large-scale initiatives, such as IT systems and applications, in a resource-constrained setting.
- Offering managerial, commercial, and leadership abilities.
- Creating a marketing and promotion strategy for a library or information management service.
- Offering professional counsel or consulting services.

The trends forecasted by IFLA are:

1. Hard times are ahead;
2. Virtual is here to stay;
3. Physical venues are making a comeback.
4. The emergence of soft skills
5. Diversity is treated with respect
6. A reckoning with the environment
7. A populace in motion
8. The hurried user
9. A pushback from analogs
10. Size is important

11. Data hegemony
12. Search was modified
13. Go all out in a race
14. Constant students
15. One comprehensive collection
16. The privatization of knowledge
17. The importance of qualifications
18. Information literacy is acknowledged
19. "Open" raises concerns regarding libraries' competitive advantage
20. Deepening inequalities(Available at <https://trends.ifla.org/update-2021>, accessed on 9th September 2023)

Keeping in view of the future trends as visualized by IFLA, it is necessary for the Indian librarianship to accept and adopt the concept of blended librarianship which is the ultimate choice to survive.

Conclusion

There are several obstacles in the way of Indian librarianship's future. For libraries, management challenges are becoming just as important as issues with technology acceptance and assimilation. An enormous problem in itself is managing change. Special management is required to ensure increased information flow, the distribution of funds, the hiring of extra people, and support for technological advancement. Librarians must always develop their knowledge and skills in order to guarantee that consumers are satisfied with the services and information products they receive. The most efficient and effective approach for librarians to stay up with these changes is to look for professional development opportunities. They need to be as technologically sophisticated as the clientele they serve. If librarianship is to continue to be a viable and significant player in the fields of information management and research, it must adapt to a mixed character. As a result, the idea of mixed librarianship or blended librarianship should be embraced and seen as a benefit / boon rather than a curse / bane for the profession in general and Indian librarianship in particular.

References

Bell, S. J & Shank, JD (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redesigning the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College and Research Libraries News*, 65(7), 372–375.

Bell, S. J & Shank, J. D (2007). *Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. Chicago: American Library Association.

Corrall, Sheila (2008), The emergence of hybrid professionals: new skills, roles and career options for the information professional, in: Turner, C. (Ed.), *Online Information 2008 Proceedings*, Inclusive Media, London, pp.67-73.

Corrall, Sheila (2010). Educating the Academic Librarian as a Blended Professional: A Review and Case Study, *Library Management* 31 (8/9), 567-593.

Currall J and Moss M (2008) We are archivists, but are we OK? *Records Management Journal*; **18** (1): 69–91.

Karisiddappa, C R and Ramesh Babu, B (2020). Relevance of LIS profession in the Google age, *IASLIC bulletin* 65(1), 17-32

Ramesh Babu, B (2021). Future of Indian Librarianship: Some Random Thoughts. *Journal of the lisforum_orissa*, 1, October 2021, pp. 5-11.

Ramesh Babu, B (2022). Libraries of the future and Emerging Technologies: Role of LIS Professionals. IN: *Libraries of the Future: Emerging Trends*, Ed by BijayalaxmiRautaray et al. Proceedings of the International Conference by KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Delhi: Overseas Press India Pvt Ltd, pp.1-12.

Ranganathan, S.R. (1963). A Librarian Looks Back. *Herald of Library Science*, 2 (1-7), 127-30.

Shank, J. D (2006). The Blended Librarian: A Job Announcement Analysis of the Newly Emerging Position of Instructional Design Librarian. *College & Research Libraries*, 67(6), 514–524

Shank, J. D (2008). Academic Librarianship by Design; A Blended Librarian's Guide to the Tools and Techniques. *Collection Management*.
https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic_Librarianship_by_Design_A_Blended_Librarian_s_Guide_to_the_Tools_and_Techniques

Shank, J.D & Bell, S. J (2011). Blended Librarianship. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5860/rusq.51n2.105>

Sinclair, Bryan (2009). The Blended Librarian in the Learning Commons: New Skills for the Blended Library, *College & Research Libraries News* 70 (9), 504-516

Weise F (2004) Being there: the library as place. *Journal of the Medical Library Association*; 92 (1), 6–13.

Academic Librarians Turn to Blended Librarianship



Dr. P. K. Panigrahi

Librarian

Sir Padampat Singhania University

Udaipur, Rajasthan

E-mail: pk.panigrahi@spsu.ac.in

Abstract

Academic librarians must continually adapt to the challenges as well as possibilities they meet in their work setting at institutions. The conjunction of educational services, which blend libraries with ICT with other education facilities, awareness of knowledge learning, and comprehension of the teaching part of librarians are some important trends that have an impact on their duties and talents.

Keywords: Academic, Blended, Database, ICT, LIS, Learning, Websites.

Introduction

The working environment in academic institutions varies nationally as well as globally, so librarians must constantly adapt to the problems and opportunities they face. The convergence of traditional library services, along with IT and other learning support services have lead the traditional role of librarians towards blended librarianship. The increasingly changing nature of librarians' job is denoted by new terminologies like "hybrid librarian" and "blended specialist" to underline their boundary-spanning activities and identities.

Literature review

It was acknowledged in the study by Dabengwa, I. M. *et al.* (2019) that the library profession was embraced through the teaching of ILS and LTAs.

Raju, J. (2014) explained that the revolutionary changes developing in information and communication technologies (ICT) have had a significant impact on the knowledge and skill requirements for library and information science (LIS) professionals practising in this environment.

In an academic library setting, Corral, S. (2010) investigated the phenomena of the hybridised information experts about developing the initial and on-going professional education for librarianship curricula and specifically making use of the current iSchool trend.

According to Bell, S., & Shank, J. D. (2004), the pioneers of integrated librarianship thought that for librarians to stay useful, they needed to be receptive to acquiring new abilities, information, and perspectives.

Academic librarian

Academic librarians serve important and diverse responsibilities in the operations of the school, college, and university libraries. They assist students and faculties at the reference desk and circulation, lead library research sessions, and develop the library collections.

Academic librarians today work on a variety of difficult projects. They might:

- Work with the library user to resolve, analyse, and meet their information needs.
- Keep up with technological advancements and devise plans to take advantage of them.
- Plan, implement, and administer computer-based systems and electronic databases; design and manage Websites.
- Contribute to effective teamwork among colleagues.
- Participate or assist in research work, conferences, seminars, etc.
- Taking library science classes where library science is a subject.

Blended librarian

A blended librarian is a specialized person who has successfully combined the use of digital technologies with the typical skills of librarianship, including cataloguing, reference services, and collection development. Blended librarians are skilled at gathering, synthesising, and exchanging information with library users using digital tools and platforms. They are adept at guiding others through the process of learning how to use these tools and implementing them into their own research and educational endeavours. An attribute of a diverse librarian is their versatility. The skills required to be a great librarian change along with technology continually. In addition to being tech-savvy, mixed librarians actively seek out new methods and resources to better their field. To keep up with the most recent developments in librarianship, they are always learning new things and refining their expertise.

The purpose of blended librarian

Utilising digital technologies to improve library services and offering a seamless user experience that meets changing user needs are the objectives of a blended librarian. Among the specific objectives of a mixed librarian are the following:

1. **Integrate Digital Technology:** Integrating digital technology with library services efficiently and effectively is the major goal of a blended librarian. They should strive to integrate digital technology with well-established library services, including instruction, collections, and reference.
2. **Increase Accessibility:** Blended librarians should make sure that all library users, especially those with impairments or who may encounter other barriers to accessing library resources, can use their digital collections and services.
3. **Offer user-centred services:** A blended librarian aims to provide services that meet the needs and preferences of library users. To design and deliver user-friendly library services, they should adhere to user-centered design principles.
4. **Improve Instructional Services:** By using digital technologies, blended librarians should work to enhance instruction services at the library. They should create creative instructional materials that include multimedia resources, such as videos and interactive tutorials, to improve learning results.
5. **Fostering collaboration among library employees and other stakeholders,** such as faculty members and IT specialists, is the aim of a blended librarian to take advantage of their resources and experience to deliver high-quality library services.
6. **Teaching of Library Science** where Library Science is a teaching subject.

Conclusion

The blended librarian is still only a concept. We don't fully comprehend all of its consequences or the potential positive or negative effects it could have. If we didn't acknowledge our uncertainty over its potential development into a concept that applies to all academic librarians, we would be negligent, in our opinion. However, we do think the moment is right to take steps that will help our profession become more fully integrated into the core duties of higher education. We invite all of our colleagues to join us in creating

a learning environment that will further define the role of the blended librarian and what that individual will ultimately provide to their institution of higher learning.

References

1. Bell, S., & Shank, J. D. (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News (C&RL News)*, 65(7), 372-375.
2. Corral, S. (2010). Educating the academic librarian as a blended professional: a review and case study. *Library management*, 31(8/9), 567-593.
3. Dabengwa, I. M., et. al. (2020). Applying interpretive phenomenological analysis to library and information science research on blended librarianship: A case study. *Library & information science research*, 42(4), 101055
4. Dabengwa, I. M. et. al. (2019). Academic librarian's transition to blended librarianship: a phenomenology of selected academic librarians in Zimbabwe. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 45(4), 343-357.
5. Raju, J. (2014). Knowledge and skills for the digital era academic library. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 40(2), 163-170.
6. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended librarianship: [Re] envisioning the role of librarian as an educator in the digital information age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110.
7. Tank, S. D. et al. (2017). Blended Librarianship for Academic Libraries in Digital Era Theory and Practice. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331548134>
8. Vargas, G. A. T. et al. (2015). The Blended Librarian and the Disruptive Technological Innovation in the Digital World. *OALib*, 02(08), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.4236/OALIB.1101764>
9. <https://www.ala.org/educationcareers/libcareers/type/academic>
10. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/blended-librarian/>
11. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Librarian>

Blended Librarian: Their Role in the Digital Information Age



Dr. Siba Prasad Panda

Deputy Librarian

GITAM Deemed to be University

Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

E-mail: sibagiet14@gmail.com

Being in the digital age, change is unavoidable. The changes must be accepted in accordance with user requirements. The same is true for the field of library and information science. In the good old days, we librarians used traditional and customary procedures for carrying out day-to-day library tasks. Now it is drastically changing as per the as of time and user needs.

Today's library is known as hybrid or blended library and we professionals are known as hybrid librarian or blended librarian; our profession is known as blended librarianship. In 2004, John Shank and Steven Bell created this term. A blended library combines both conventional and contemporary ideas for various library activities. A blended librarian is one who can efficiently serve both traditional and digital requirements of patron. The library, which was quite old and had been serving its patrons constantly, was transformed into a blended library. Today each user irrespective of age, needs both traditional and digital documents like e-books, e-journals, e-newspapers, etc. So blended librarianship plays a very important role in the modern library concept. A blended librarian is more knowledgeable about technology and digital resources. It is quite easy for them to access more digital resources during routine library tasks.

Differences between traditional and blended librarianship

Traditional Libranship	Blended Librarianship
Only they have traditional skills and deal with only traditional materials.	Having both traditional and modern skills and dealing with both traditional and digital skills
Less proficiency in digital skills.	More proficiency in both traditional and digital skills.
Non-comfortable with digital tools.	More skilled in digital tools.
Pessimistic about the digital tools and its implementation.	Optimistic and encourage the user about digital tools.
Focus more on print resources.	Focus more on digital resources and less on

	traditional resources.
--	------------------------

Blended librarianship may include the following features

1. Fulfill the user need or be user-centric
2. Implementing cutting-edge technologies
3. Knowledge of the Digital Economy
4. Optimum utilization of both type of resources (print and digital)
5. Future trend its practic
6. Information literacy
7. Conscientious librarians

Blended librarians are using both analogue and digital gadgets/tools in the library in addition to the former. They act as a future leader in digital literacy. They should adopt Web 2.0 and 3.0 to increase their conversation and strengthen their relationships with faculty, staff, and students who are increasingly using blended learning. A blended librarian should be an expert in a variety of computer application software, including MS Office, E-Mail, library automation software, and access to various online library resources. He or she should be knowledgeable about hardware as well, including software setup, printing configuration, and many other ideas related to routine library duties.

A blended librarian should adopt the current technologies to achieve the users need. The key features of a blended librarians need to have qualities of good leadership, proactive in nature, and a good transformer. They should increase their knowledge of various e-platforms, such as electronic books, journal databases, and remote access platforms. They ought to have used cutting-edge technology like artificial intelligence, machine learning, block chain, RFID, QR codes, and the Internet of Things in the library. For the benefit of their patrons, they should implement modern technologies in their library.

Principles of blended librarianship

The principles of blended librarianship are:

1. Taking leadership position in the different activities of library.
2. Introducing the different information or digital literacy in the library.
3. Designing instructional and educational programs and assist the patron in using different library services.
4. Implementing different innovative concepts in the library

Blended librarian in Indian library system

The idea of a blended library is still in its infancy in India. In India, the concept of blended librarianship is still in the infant stage. The maximum number of library professionals try to prove themselves as blended librarians, but due to lack of proper support from their higher authority, they are unable to introduce the different latest concepts in their library, so they are still operating their library in traditional mode only. There are very few academic libraries, notably in private and public-sector academic institutions, that have adopted it. Many public and private universities have recently introduced cutting-edge technology like RFID, IoT, and increased the quantity of online resources they subscribe to for their students.

Conclusion

A hybrid librarian ought to be innovative. They should adopt new skills, knowledge, ideas, technologies, and digital skills in the day-to-day function of the library. It is a novel method of librarianship that strongly emphasises the requirements of current library patrons in light of cutting-edge technology. It is a new approach to librarianship that places a strong emphasis on the needs of today's library users in the context of cutting-edge technology. It involves utilising the newest and most versatile tools for library activities.

Blended Librarianship: Problems and Opportunities



Ms. Pavanpreet Kaur

Librarian

Orchid International School, Indore, M.P.

E-Mail : pavanpreet1999@gmail.com

The phrase “blended librarianship” refers to the changing role that librarians play in fusing traditional library procedures with cutting-edge technologies and fresh ways of learning. It is a paradigm of librarianship that highlights the requirement for librarians to possess a variety of abilities that combine traditional library procedures with knowledge of instructional design and technology.

The term “blended librarianship” was coined in 2004 by Steven J. Bell, Associate University Librarian at Temple University, and John D. Shank, Director of the Center for Learning and Teaching at Penn State Berks. They defined a blended librarian as “an academic librarian who combines the traditional skill set of librarianship with the information technologist’s hardware and software skills and the instructional or educational designer’s ability to apply technology appropriately in the teaching-learning process.” Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007).

In order to deliver user-centered services, it takes a contemporary approach to the library profession that integrates conventional library skills with new technology, emerging trends, and instructional design concepts. It entails combining technological tools and approaches with the ethical standards and specialized knowledge of librarianship. Blended librarians are proactive in contacting users through many channels, such as social media and email, and are good at determining user requirements and using data to inform decision-making. Delivering library services that adapt to users’ evolving demands in the digital era is the goal of blended librarianship.

The main goal of blended librarianship is to use technology to improve existing library resources and services. By combining a variety of technological tools and resources with the traditional services and resources of the library, librarians who engage in blended librarianship can develop a hybrid model of library service. This includes making and delivering cutting-edge learning experiences using technology, such as online tutorials and instructional films.

Additionally, mixed librarianship places a focus on the significance of responding to shifting settings and combining old and modern user-service methods. As a result, librarians must be adaptable and capable of performing well in a number of settings. They must also be tech-savvy and creative in their use of technology to enhance library services and cater to patron requirements.

Overall, blended librarianship aims to deliver cutting-edge and efficient library services that fulfill users' demands in a changing world by fusing the best aspects of conventional library operations with new technologies and learning methods. It is a paradigm of librarianship that values the conventional skills and practices of librarianship while acknowledging the value of technology in increasing library services and resources.

The goal of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship aims to provide user-centered library services that meet the changing needs of users in the digital age. This involves combining traditional library skills and expertise with new technologies, instructional design principles, and emerging trends in information science. The focus of blended librarianship is on understanding user needs and delivering services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging. Blended librarians aim to proactively reach out to users through various channels, including social media and email, and collaborate with other departments on campus or within their community to promote the library's resources and services. Ultimately, blended librarianship aims to provide an optimal user experience and promote lifelong learning and information literacy.

Blended librarianship's objective

The goal of blended librarianship is to deliver library services that are focused on the needs of users and adapt to the changing demands of the digital era. In order to do this, traditional library knowledge and abilities must be combined with modern technology, principles of instructional design, and developing information science trends. Understanding user requirements and providing services that are pertinent, accessible, and interesting are the main goals of mixed librarianship. In order to promote the library's resources and services, blended librarians work with other departments on campus or in their community as well as through a variety of channels, including social media and email. In the end, mixed librarianship seeks to maximize the user experience while fostering information literacy and lifelong learning.

The key concepts underlying blended librarianship are as follows:

- Offer library services that are user-centered and adapt to users' evolving demands in the digital era.

- Combine conventional library knowledge and abilities with modern tools, concepts of instructional design, and developing information science trends.
- Put your attention on comprehending consumer wants and providing services that are pertinent, accessible, and interesting.
- Be proactive in contacting people through numerous means, such as email and social media.
- Promote the library's resources and services in conjunction with other campus or local departments.
- Ensure the best possible user experience.
- Encourage information literacy and lifelong learning.

The benefits of blended librarianship include the following

Libraries must adapt to satisfy these shifting user needs as society increasingly relies on digital technology for information access and usage. Through the use of blended librarianship, libraries may offer users interesting, relevant services in the digital era.

2. Adding developing technologies: Blended librarianship enables librarians to include cutting-edge tools like virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and data analytics in their offerings. By doing this, librarians may offer more individualized, interactive services that are tailored to the needs of consumers.
3. Blended librarianship teaches users how to use and assess information sources efficiently, thereby promoting information literacy. In an era where false information is widely available online, this is crucial.

Blended librarianship as the future of the librarianship profession

Blended librarianship is a relatively new approach to the field that combines established library methods with cutting-edge instructional techniques and information science trends. In the digital age, libraries and information services are undergoing a tremendous shift, and librarians must adapt their expertise and skills to be relevant. This is acknowledged by the holistic librarianship idea.

References

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques. American Library Association.
2. John D. Shank. (n.d.). Academic Impressions. Retrieved March 25, 2023, from <https://www.academicimpressions.com/instructors/john-d-shank/>

3. Shank, J. (2008). Academic Librarianship by Design; A Blended Librarian's Guide to the Tools and Techniques. Collection Management. [https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic Librarianship by Design A Blended Librarian s Guide to the Tools and Techniques](https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic_Librarianship_by_Design_A_Blended_Librarian_s_Guide_to_the_Tools_and_Techniques)
4. Steven J. Bell | ALA Store. (n.d.). Retrieved March 25, 2023, from <https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/steven-j-bell>

Blended Librarianship in the Digital Information Age as Educationist-Metaphor for the 21st Century



Samyak Pratik Pattanaik

Research Scholar

UGC-NET JRF

DLIS, Sambalpur University

Jyoti Vihar, Burla, Sambalpur Odisha-768019

E-mail: jesssamyak@gmail.com

Introduction

Today, more than any previous occasion in the extensive past of the profession, librarians play a crucial role in education. The escalating wave of digital information has made it more difficult for teachers to impart the necessary knowledge and skills to help students become and remain "knowledge-able." In a number of ways, blended librarianship may act as an effective comparison for how the academic librarian's position in education is changing.

The phrase "blended librarianship" refers to the shifting role that librarians play in blending traditional library procedures with cutting-edge technologies and innovative methods of learning. It is a genre of librarianship that highlights the necessity of librarians having a broad spectrum of abilities that combine conventional library procedures with expertise in informative design and technology. In order to deliver user-centered services, a contemporary approach to the library profession that integrates conventional library skills with cutting-edge technology, the latest trends, and instructional creation concepts. It entails combining technological tools and approaches with the ethical standards and specialized knowledge of librarianship. Blended librarians are proactive in engaging users through multiple channels, such as social media and other library 2.0 tools, and are proficient at determining user requirements and utilizing data to influence decision-making. Delivering library services that adapt to users' evolving demands in the digital era is the ultimate objective of blended librarianship.

The primary objective of blended librarianship is to use technology to improve existing library resources and services. By combining a wide range of technological tools and resources with the conventional services and resources of the library, librarians who engage in blended librarianship can develop a hybrid style of library service. This involves developing and delivering cutting-edge learning experiences by employing technology, such as online tutorials and online videos.

Objectives of blended librarianship

Here are the key points regarding the objective of blended librarianship:

- To combine conventional library knowledge and abilities with modern tools, concepts of instructional design, and developing information science trends.
- Ensure the best possible user experience.
- Be proactive in engaging people through numerous channels, such as email, social media, and other library 2.0 tools.
- To concentrate the spotlight on comprehending library user wants and providing services that are pertinent, accessible, and interesting.
- Promote the library's resources and services when collaborating with other campus or community.
- Encourage information literacy and lifelong learning.

Academic librarians nowadays have greater opportunities if they have the will to study and move rapidly to seize an opportunity to perform using our talents of "understanding the universe of knowledge" and how it develops, combines, and also the taxonomy. The blended librarianship practice will broaden the job of the librarian to include that of an educator, information specialist, expert in educational technology, and many other roles. We have the option to continue or give up!

The advantages of blended librarianship

The advantages include the following:

- Blended librarianship teaches users how to utilize and assess information sources efficiently, hence promoting information literacy. Users must be able to critically analyse material in this day and age since there is so much misinformation available online.
- Implementing emerging technologies: Blended librarianship enables librarians to include cutting-edge tools like virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and data analytics in their offerings. By doing this, librarians may offer more individualized, interactive services that are tailored to the requirements of library users.
- Libraries must adapt to satisfy these shifting user requirements as society increasingly depends on digital technology for information access and usage. Through the use of blended librarianship, libraries may provide users with intriguing pertinent services in the digital era.
- Collaboration with other institutions: Through blended librarianship, librarians can work with numerous departments on their campus or in the community they serve.

Because of this cooperation, librarians can serve users more thoroughly and more effectively.

- Maintaining pertinence: In a fast-evolving digital environment, blended librarianship helps librarians maintain their relevance. Librarians may continue to offer useful services to customers and contribute to the larger information science community by fusing conventional library abilities with modern technology and instructional techniques.

The future of the profession is blended librarianship because it acknowledges the necessity for librarians to modify their skills and expertise to satisfy evolving user demands. Blended librarians are better positioned to provide user-centered services that address their users' requirements in the digital era by adopting new technology and instructional methodologies.

Reference

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). *Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. American Library Association.
2. John D. Shank. (n.d.). *Academic Impressions*. Retrieved October 9 25, 2023, from <https://www.academicimpressions.com/instructors/john-d-shank/>
3. Shank, J. (2008). Academic Librarianship by Design; A Blended Librarian's Guide to the Tools and Techniques. *Collection Management*. https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic_Librarianship_by_Design_A_Blended_Librarian_s_Guide_to_the_Tools_and_Techniques
4. *Steven J. Bell | ALA Store*. (n.d.). Retrieved October9, 2023, from <https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/steven-j-bell>

Blended Librarianship in the Emerging Digital Era: Is It the Need of Hour?



Dr Sada Bihari Sahu

Assistant General Manager
Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
Swavalamban Bhavan
C-11, G-Block, BKC, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051
Maharashtra
E-Mail: sadabihari@rediffmail.com

In a changing world and digital era, the quest for human wants are unlimited and triggered to know what, why and how in each discipline and enlarge the knowledge capacity in the form of research and development where the relevance of libraries, librarians, knowledge management and dissemination of information is highly required with more and more precision and expertise. These current demands certainly give many opportunities for library professionals to showcase their capabilities to satisfy the user communities and many challenges to overcome the path. Can we the library professionals well equipped with technical, professional, managerial and administrative skills cater to the demands of knowledge and information on time? This question we have to ask ourselves as professionals and teachers of LIS education, researchers or LIS curriculum makers, and LIS education providers. With our better preparedness, enhanced curriculum, updation of knowledge and skills, willingness to adopt new technologies, and changed mindset to cater to the new ever-challenging technological world.

Blended Librarianship: What it is?

Blended librarianship is a term used to describe the evolving role of librarians in integrating traditional library practices with emerging technologies and new modes of learning. It is a model of librarianship that emphasizes the need for librarians to have diverse skills that blend traditional library practices with instructional design and technology expertise. Blended librarianship is about a 'meshing of skill sets' and is more than multi-tasking; it is about 'combining a variety of inter-professional skills and new ways of thinking'.

As per Steven Bell and John Shank (2004), it is defined as "a librarian who combines the traditional skill set of librarianship with the information technologist's hardware/software skills, and the instructional or educational designer's ability to apply technology appropriately in the teaching-learning process.

It is a modern approach to the library profession that combines traditional library skills with new technologies, emerging trends, and instructional design principles to provide user-centered services. It involves integrating the tools and strategies of technology with the professional values and expertise of librarianship. Blended librarians are skilled in assessing user needs, using data to inform decision-making, and acting in a proactive mode to reach users. Blended librarianship aims to provide library services to satisfy the information need of users.

Sometimes blended librarianships are interchangeably used as embedded or hybrid librarianships. Although it is applicable to multiple combinations, the term 'hybrid' is typically used when two different things are combined, while 'blended' often signifies a mixture of three (or more) ingredients.

Principles of Blended Librarianship

As per Steven Bell and John Shank, there are six principles of Blended Librarianship which are as follows:

- 1) "Taking leadership positions as innovators and change agents for success delivery of library services in this knowledge society.
- 2) Committed to develop information literacy initiatives.
- 3) Designing instructional and educational programs and classes to assist patrons in using library services and learning information literacy.
- 4) Collaborating and engaging in dialogue with instructional technologists and designers for the development of programs, services and resources.
- 5) Implementing adaptive, creative, proactive, and innovative change in library instruction to enhance the communication and collaboration for instructional design and technologies.
- 6) Transforming relationship with faculty by integrating technology and library resources (hybrid/blended) to improve user learnings".

Aims of Blended Librarianship

The main aim of blended librarianship is to provide user-centered library services that meet the changing needs of users in the digital age. This involves combining traditional library skills and expertise with new technologies, instructional design principles, and emerging trends in information science. It focuses on providing relevant services by analysing the requirements of users and reaching them through various channels, including social media, email, etc. Ultimately, blended librarianship aims to provide an optimal user experience and promote lifelong learning and information literacy..

The key points regarding the goal/aims of blended librarianship are as follows:

- It provides user-oriented library services that meet users' needs.
- It combines traditional library skills and expertise with new technologies, instructional design principles, and emerging trends in information science.
- It gives emphasis on understanding the needs of users and delivering services accordingly.
- Always tries to reach long tail users through various channels, including social media and email.
- It promotes the library's resources and services through collaboration with others.
- It provides an optimal user experience.
- It promotes lifelong learning and information literacy.

Importance of Blended Librarianship

Blended librarianship is very important in the current digital age because of the following reasons:

1. **Meeting changing user needs:** It helps in meeting the changing needs of users as society increasingly relies on digital technologies for accessing and using information. Libraries must adapt to meet these changing user needs. Blended librarianship enables libraries to provide services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging to users in the digital age.
2. **Integrating emerging technologies:** It allows librarians to integrate emerging technologies, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality, into their services. By doing so, librarians can provide more personalized and interactive services that cater to users' needs.
3. **Promoting information literacy:** It teaches users how to use and evaluate information sources effectively. This is important in an age where misinformation is rampant on the internet, and users need to be able to evaluate information critically.
4. **Collaborating with other departments:** It enables librarians to collaborate with other departments on campus or within their community. This collaboration allows librarians to provide more comprehensive services to users and better meet their needs.
5. **Enhancing user experience:** It enables librarians to create an optimal user experience by using instructional design principles and user-centered design. This ensures that users can easily access and use library resources and services.
6. **Remaining relevant:** It enables librarians to stay relevant in a rapidly changing digital environment. By combining traditional library skills with new technologies and

teaching methods, librarians can continue to provide valuable services to users and contribute to the broader information science community.

Blended Librarianship is the Future of the Librarianship Profession: Why?

After going through the importance or merit as discussed above regarding blended librarianship and the current demands of users in the digital age, can we see that blended librarianship is the future of librarianship? If yes, then why do we think so? Since blended librarianship involves a holistic approach to the profession, which includes a combination of traditional librarianship skills, such as collection development, reference services, and cataloguing, with newer skills like web development, social media management, and instructional design, we may see it as the future. Further, blended librarianship also encompasses emerging technologies such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality to deliver library services. This suits the users of ever-demanding needs.

Further, if we see the core principles of blended librarianship, its main focus is on user-centered services. This means that librarians must understand the needs of their users and develop services that meet those needs. Blended librarians must be skilled in assessing user needs and using data to inform decision-making.

Blended librarianship also shows how librarians interact with their users. Rather than waiting for users to come to them, blended librarians reach their users and also promote the library's resources and services through collaboration.

After going through the above merits, significance, etc., we may agree that blended librarianship is the profession's future. The real question is: are we ready to take on this role, make the profession ever more demanding, and serve with the changing scenario and demand? The call we have to take, and a few have already taken it. Let us move on and embrace it with a folded hand as blended librarianship is here to stay.

Reference:

- 1) Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). The blended librarian a blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News*, 65(7), 372-375.
- 2) Tank, Sheetal, Maradiyat, Manisha and Bhatt, Rakshya (2017). Blended Librarianship for Academic Libraries in Digital Era theory and practice: a case of ATMIYA group of institutions, Conference Paper (<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331548134>)
- 3) Coralla, Sheila (2010). Educating the Academic Librarian as a Blended Professional: A Review and Case Study. ALSR 2010-Conference towards future possibilities.

Blended Librarianship: Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Era in Indian context



Dr Monisha Mishra

Librarian

OUAT, Bhubaneswar

E-mail: monishamishra@ouat.ac.in

Introduction

The field of librarianship has experienced a profound transformation in a time of quickly advancing technology and increased digitization of information. Traditional roles and procedures have made way for cutting-edge methods that integrate the physical and digital worlds. One such strategy that has become popular is "blended librarianship." To establish a comprehensive and dynamic information ecosystem, blended librarianship refers to the fusion of traditional library services with digital tools and resources. This article reflects the idea of blended librarianship, its importance, and the abilities necessary for contemporary librarians to succeed in this dynamic environment in relation to Indian context.

The evolving ways in which customers obtain information are being addressed through blended librarianship. Libraries used to be largely considered as storage facilities for printed books and documents. However, access to and consumption of information has been significantly changed by the Internet and digital technology. By seamlessly integrating digital materials, tools, and services, blended librarianship aims to close the gap between offline and online library services.

Blended librarianship is fundamentally about catering to user needs regardless of how they like to connect with the library. Access to electronic books, online databases, multimedia resources, virtual reference services, and interactive learning modules may be provided as part of this. In addition to helping customers find tangible items, blended librarians show them how to use digital platforms efficiently.

The Significance of Blended Librarianship

Blended librarianship offers numerous advantages that cater to the diverse and evolving needs of library users:

- **Expanded Access:** By leveraging digital materials, libraries can go beyond their physical restrictions. Users can overcome geographical barriers, thanks to remote access to information.
- **Personalized Services:** Blended librarians can leverage data analytics and insights into user behavior to offer tailored recommendations and services and enhance user experience.
- **Efficient Resource Management:** This maximizes the use of time and resources, and is made possible by the mix of physical and digital resources.
- **Educational Support:** Libraries may make a substantial contribution to education by offering interactive workshops, research guides, and online tutorials that encourage digital literacy and research methods.
- **Community Engagement:** The online book clubs, discussion forums, and virtual events are the platforms that allow libraries to interact with their communities.

Skills Required for Blended Librarians

For librarians to excel in a blended environment, they need to possess a diverse set of skills:

- **Technological Proficiency:** Blended librarians need to adopt at using a variety of digital platforms, tools, and software for user engagement, data management, and research.
- **Adaptability:** Librarians are better able to provide pertinent services and support when they have the flexibility to quickly adjust to new technologies and trends.
- **Digital Literacy Advocacy:** They should be capable of teaching customers about assessing online sources, digital etiquette, and cyber security, which is essential in a world that is becoming more and more digital.
- **Collaboration:** To design and offer innovative services, blended librarians frequently work with IT experts, educators, and content developers.
- **User-Centric Approach:** In order to provide specialized services and resources, it is essential to comprehend customer's demands and preferences.

Status of Blended Librarianship in the Indian Context

In a number of libraries around the nation, the idea of merging of conventional library procedures with contemporary digital technologies was being explored and put into practice. The degree of its adoption and integration, though, has changed since then. The current state of blended librarianship in India is summarized as follows:

Govt. Initiatives:

Libraries were influenced by the government's efforts to digitize and the "Digital India" campaign. To support the larger national digitization initiatives, libraries were urged to embrace digital practices and provide online services within India.

Awareness and Implementation: Academic and research organizations in India are increasingly recognizing the benefits of blended librarianship. Libraries are starting to realize that in order to suit users' evolving information-seeking habits, they must offer both analog and digital resources. Because of this, several libraries are working to integrate cutting-edge services, Internet databases, and digital resources into their curricula.

Digital Transformation: For the purpose of converting physical artifacts into digital ones, some libraries in India are running digitization projects. In order to make their services and collections more available to a larger audience, academic and public libraries in India have been working to digitize their holdings and collections. This is particularly essential for preserving rare and precious items and making them more accessible to researchers, scholars and wider audience, taking into the issues of copyright. Access to e-books, online databases, and electronic journals are also included, combining digital resources into their offerings.

e-Learning and Remote Access: Blended librarianship has become increasingly important in the context of e-learning, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Libraries played an important role in providing remote access to digital materials and assisting students and teachers in their virtual learning pursuits when educational institutions were shut down completely and shifted to online learning.

Digital Skill Development: The need of improving digital literacy skills among their consumers has been recognized by Indian libraries. Many libraries provide workshops, training sessions, and tutorials on how to use digital tools successfully for research, information retrieval, and academic endeavours.

Virtual Reference Services: The integration of e-learning platforms and virtual reference services has permitted the formation of virtual reference services, where users can request assistance from librarians remotely without any obstacles via chat, email, or video conferencing by sitting at the comfort of their homes. This has increased access to library expertise. Libraries are providing online classes, webinars, and tutorials to help users improve their digital literacy and research abilities.

Online Catalogs and Discovery Platforms: Libraries have embraced online cataloging tools and resource discovery platforms that let users conduct integrated searches for both physical and digital materials. This improves user experience and promotes exploration of other forms. Indian libraries are converting to digital cataloging systems that allow patrons to conduct online resource searches in place of the old card catalogues. Additionally, online

databases are being created to give users access to e-books, academic papers, research reports, and other digital resources.

Digital Preservation: In India, libraries are also focusing on digital preservation techniques to ensure the longevity and accessibility of digital materials for future generations. Efficient search interface and copyright policy are the two major things for building a digital library collection. This study has observed that, many of the libraries did not have robust search interface. Also, they do not follow or do not mention any copyright policy or related issues.

Professional Development: To enhance the skills required for blended librarianship, librarians in India have been actively participating in professional development opportunities. This involves attending conferences, webinars, and workshops centered on user engagement, digital tools, and technology trends.

Challenges

Where there is progress, challenges remain. Similarly, though blended librarianship offers numerous benefits; there are challenges to its implementation. Those include:

- **Digital Divide:** India has a significant digital divide, with unequal access to technology and the Internet. This could limit the reach of blended library services.
- **Infrastructure:** Libraries, especially in rural areas, might lack the necessary technological infrastructure to fully implement blended librarianship.
- **Digital Literacy:** Ensuring that users have the necessary digital literacy skills to navigate online resources is a key concern in the Indian context.
- **Resource Management:** It requires efficient resource management strategies in integrating digital resources along with physical collections.
- **Training:** Librarians need to be trained to acquire the technical skills necessary for managing digital platforms and offering online services.
- **Copyright policy:** Many of the libraries do not have robust search interface. Also, they do not follow or do not mention any copyright policy or related issues.

Conclusion

A progressive evolution of the traditional librarian role, blended librarianship, reflects the shifting dynamics of information consumption. Libraries may establish a setting that caters to a varied audience and offers all-encompassing assistance for learning, research and community engagement by skillfully fusing digital resources with traditional services. By adopting blended librarianship, librarians are given the skills to negotiate the complex nexus of knowledge services and technology, thereby increasing the value they provide to their

communities. Blended librarianship is a developing idea that is gaining popularity in the Indian setting. To provide a more complete and user-centered environment, libraries are gradually integrating digital resources and services. The function of blended librarianship increasingly important in an era where there is a growing emphasis on digital skills, virtual engagement, and access to online information. The role of blended librarianship in India is likely to expand further, contributing to the enrichment of educational and research experiences for library patrons.

References

1. Jeevan, V. K. J. (2004). Digital library development: identifying sources of content for developing countries with special reference to India. *The International Information & Library Review*, 36(3), 185-197.
2. Singh, Suraj Pratap. (2021). A Vision of Digital India: Its Negative& Positive Impact on Indian Society. *International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, communication and Technology (IJARSCT)*, v4 (2).
3. Yugandhar, Bandi (2022). Digital Libraries in India: A Review. *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research*, v11, 4 (1).

Blended Librarianship: in the Indian Library Ecosystem



Neelam

Research Scholar- NET (NFSC)

E-mail: neelammarkande08@gmail.com



Dr. Harish Kumar Sahu

Sr. Assistant Professor

SoS in Library and Information Science

PT. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur (C.G) 492010, India

E-mail: hari97479@yahoo.in

Introduction

The concept of "blended librarianship" bridges the gap between conventional library procedures and the digital era, redefining the function of librarians in the process. This phenomenon has been gaining traction in the Indian library environment and is changing how libraries provide for their local populations. This essay examines the fundamentals of integrated librarianship and how it has changed the landscape of libraries in India.

Understanding Blended Librarianship

An approach called blended librarianship combines traditional library services with modern technology. It covers a wide range of tasks and responsibilities, making librarians adaptable experts who can successfully traverse the changing information ecosystem.

- **Proponents of digital literacy:** In India, blended librarians are extremely important in increasing digital literacy. They provide instruction in information retrieval, online databases, and digital tools to library users, ensuring that users can fully utilise digital resources.
- **The curators of information:** Blended librarians choose, arrange, and preserve a variety of information sources as curators of both physical and digital collections. They organise electronic books, online journals, and multimedia information so that a larger audience can access them.

- **Technology Integrators:** Indian integrated librarians have mastered the art of incorporating technology into library services in the age of online education and research. They run tech workshops, put learning management systems into place, and facilitate virtual reference services.
- **Collaborators and Teachers:** In order to integrate information literacy into courses, blended librarians work with teachers. They facilitate information literacy classes where they instruct students on how to examine online resources critically and develop their research abilities.

Data Managers

With the expansion of research data, blended librarians support researchers in data management, assisting them in efficiently and ethically organising, storing, and disseminating their findings.

Blended Librarianship in the Indian Context

Several reasons have contributed to a remarkable transition towards blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem:

4. **Digital India project:** The Digital India project of the Indian government is speeding up digitalization in a variety of industries, including education and libraries. Due to the need for libraries to adapt to digital tools and resources, blended librarians have become essential.
5. **E-learning and remote access:** As e-learning platforms have grown in popularity, blended librarians have made it possible for remote students to have easy access to academic materials, broadening access to education.
6. **Research and innovation:** To access international databases, handle research data, and promote open access programmes, India's booming research community depends on blended librarians.
7. **User-centric services:** In India, blended librarians are emphasising individualised and user-centric services, structuring resources and support to accommodate distinct demands.

Opportunities and challenges

While mixed librarianship has resulted in improvements, there are still certain difficulties. These include challenges with the digital divide, the requirement for ongoing professional development, and resource limitations. However, these difficulties also offer chances for creativity, teamwork, and expansion within the ecosystem of Indian libraries.

Conclusion

The term "blended librarianship" refers to a method that allows librarians to be educators, technologists, and information curators rather than just combining traditional and digital practises. This phenomenon is reshaping libraries in India, making them more adaptable, user-centered, and responsive. Blended librarians will remain in the vanguard as libraries continue to change in the digital age, assisting information seekers in the ever-expanding universe of information.

Blended Librarianship: It's Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Susanta Kumar Khuntia

Jr. Librarian, Central Library, IMS & SUM Hospital
S'O'A Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar
E-mail: susanta106@gmail.com

Abstract

Librarianship is basically a noble profession for modern Indian society in this digital era. Librarians are playing the leading role in the development program. Blended librarianship is mainly a hybrid structure of both traditional and digital library management systems. The basic objective of blended librarianship is to manage, change, and upgrade trends for a modern digital society in a progressive manner. The blended librarianship mainly covers a digital literacy program, instructional design with technical skills and abilities, data management, better communication skills, problem-solving attitudes, continuous learning, and user-oriented design for the library ecosystem. The scientific method of blended librarianship is applicable to the future status of a profession due to the progressive hybrid nature phenomenon of different proactive libraries in India.

Keywords: Blended Librarianship, Profession, Information and Knowledge, Phenomenon,

Introduction

A library is a collection of both physical and digital documents. It includes manuscripts, books, and journals, as well as electronic databases. These are more essential for the user's basic needs and purposes.

A library serves different patrons: academic, non-academic, and the public. Apart from the general services, a few libraries are providing some extra services to library professionals for better librarianship. Librarians should have been trained with modern technical knowledge and powered with the latest trending e-resources in order to provide relevant information to users.

Librarianship

Librarianship is the profession of organizing libraries in a structural way for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of information to their users. The main objective of librarianship is to facilitate different essential subject fields. Librarianship provides information and services for library professionals to build their careers by maintaining and enhancing their own knowledge and skills. Indian librarianship is mainly based on cataloguing, classification, documentation, collection development, information literacy, community standards, and common reference services with intellectual freedom conspiracy

and budgetary effects. The field of Library and Information Science should make some provisions for smooth blended learning to train professionals.

Blended Librarianship

Blended librarianship is nothing but a mixture of conventional and new-age smart library management systems in a digital environment. Blended librarianship consists of a technical upgrading system that emphasizes the role and responsibilities of a librarian. It is also necessary for professionals to work in their environment, using their skills and abilities to develop innovative ideas for library services as well as activities on different academic and non-academic platforms. Librarians are to be involved in integrating modern tools with changes in technical strategy and expertise in librarianship with the help of newly supported and adopted technology.

Blended librarianship can opt to deliver library services with the required changing needs of users in digital age. Blended librarianship is a new smart profession that merges traditional/conventional library skills with new technologies, teaching methods, and emerging trends in information science through various digital platforms.

Blended librarianship mainly focuses on using modern technology to enhance most of the conventional library services and its resources are converted or synchronized to modern patterns. Librarians who exercise on blended system can integrate an array of technological tools and resources with the traditional services and resources of the library to create a hybrid model of library services.

Principles and Features of blended librarianship

The basic principles and features of blended librarianship are as follows:

- Librarianship with leadership positions may be taken to mobilize
- Promote educational and instructional program design.
- Should implement through their creativity, innovativeness, and proactive nature of knowledge and information
- Should work with integrated technology and support library resources.
- Should provide user-oriented basic needs and services.
- It enhances emerging technologies and models.
- It emphasizes librarians skills and abilities.
- Tends to deliver smart digital information and knowledge to users
- It promotes library services and resources.
- Technology-based information and application in the digital era
- Should provide scholarly information and knowledge.
- Should maintain the collection development of e-resources

Conclusion

Blended librarianship basically includes all library activities like collection development, reference services, cataloguing, web development, social media management, and instructional design. It envisages emerging technologies like data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality to dispense smart-library and information services. A blended professional is required for blended librarianship with complete skill and knowledge to satisfy the user's needs.

References

1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library>
2. <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/corevalues>
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library_science
4. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/concept-of-blended-librarianship/>
5. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331548134>

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Sandeep Kumar Mohanty

Library Intern

Centurion University of Technology and Management

Paralakhemundi, Gajapati,

Odisha

E-mail: sandeepmohanty993@gmail.com

Introduction

Indeed, the idea of "blended librarianship" represents a change in the responsibilities of librarians. It encompasses the fusion of library practices with technologies and instructional techniques. Within this framework, librarians are anticipated to possess a range of abilities that encompass not only conventional library procedures but also expertise in instructional design and technology. This approach recognizes the evolving nature of libraries in the era where librarians play a role in facilitating information access while also contributing to effective teaching and learning through the integration of technology.

The digital era has brought about changes in the functions and responsibilities of libraries and librarians. With the introduction of technologies, the process of accessing, organizing and sharing information has undergone a transformation. As a result, librarians now require a set of skills and competencies to meet these changing demands. This shift in requirements is often referred to as blended librarianship.

A blended librarian is someone who has effectively merged the abilities of librarianship like cataloging, providing reference services, and building collections, with the utilization of technologies to improve library services. They are adept at utilizing tools and platforms to access, arrange and distribute information to library users. Additionally, they possess expertise in teaching others how to utilize these technologies and integrate them into their research and learning endeavors.

The necessity of blended librarianship

Due to numerous compelling needs and causes, the idea of integrated librarianship has gained importance in the world of library and information science. The following points outline the necessity of mixed librarianship:

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

- The world of information has undergone a transformation due to the emergence of technologies and the internet. Blended librarianship has emerged as a response to effectively navigate and handle this information landscape.
- Libraries now have the responsibility of managing collections, which include e-books, online databases, and digital archives. Blended librarians play a role in curating and organizing these resources for users.
- In light of events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, remote and online learning have gained popularity, leading to an increased demand for digital library services and support. Blended librarians are well equipped to provide assistance to both students and faculty members.
- Given the abundance of information sources available today, there is a greater need for information literacy than before. Blended librarians assume a role in educating users on how to evaluate and effectively utilize information both online and offline.
- Libraries are actively incorporating technology into their services, ranging from self-checkout kiosks to reality experiences. Blended librarians possess the expertise required to manage and assist with these advancements.
- The management of research data is becoming increasingly important in academia. Blended librarians can offer support by assisting researchers in managing and preserving their data while ensuring compliance with data management requirements.
- Lastly, in open education initiatives, blended librarians frequently engage in promoting and assisting open access initiatives and open educational resources, thus enhancing the accessibility of information for everyone.
- Collaboration plays a role in the academic setting. Blended librarians work closely with faculty members, researchers, and other relevant parties to incorporate library resources into the curriculum and research endeavors.
- Integrated librarians put a strong emphasis on providing personalized services that cater to the various needs of library customers, whether through online references or in-person contact.
- Library science is a dynamic area; therefore, it's important to stay up-to-date on the latest innovations and fashions. Blended librarians are dedicated to their ongoing education and professional growth.

Integrated librarianship responds to the changing demands of libraries and their patrons in a world that is becoming more digital and networked. Because of this, librarians are more adaptable and efficient in serving their communities. They mix traditional library abilities with knowledge of digital technologies. With this strategy, libraries are guaranteed to be valuable and current sources of information and assistance in the modern era.

Perspectives on the Indian Library Ecosystem

The environment of Indian libraries' blended librarianship shows an intriguing occurrence. It denotes the merger of conventional library services and digital resources in Indian libraries in this context. Its phenomenology's salient features are as follows:

- **Hybrid Information Access:** Indian libraries are embracing the use of technologies to provide a combination of online resources. This enables users to access information through means such as books as well as contemporary digital platforms.
- **Digital Literacy:** Librarians in India who blend digital approaches actively promote literacy among library users. They assist individuals in navigating resources and critically evaluating digital information.
- **e-Learning Support:** With the increasing popularity of e-learning in India, librarians who embrace this approach play a role in supporting students and faculty members by facilitating access to and usage of digital learning materials, databases, and e-books.
- **Adaptive Services:** Indian libraries are adapting their services to cater to the needs of users. Blended librarians employ a combination of in-person assistance and virtual support to provide help.
- **Instructional Design:** Many libraries in India are incorporating principles of design into their tutorials and guides. Blended librarians actively participate in creating these resources with the aim of enhancing information literacy.
- **Digital Preservation:** Ensuring that digital collections remain accessible is a concern. In India, blended librarians work on strategies for preserving and archiving digital materials.
- **User-Centered Approach:** Blended librarians in India prioritize meeting the evolving demands of users by collecting feedback and continuously improving services to enhance the user experience.
- **Collaborating with institutions, publishers, and technology providers** is a commonly adopted approach among blended librarians in India. This practice enables them to broaden resource accessibility and stay abreast of technological advancements.

The Indian library ecosystem's dynamic response to the shifting information world is integrated librarianship. It entails a seamless integration of analog and digital resources, the promotion of digital literacy, assistance with online learning, and a heavy emphasis on user requirements and participation. This phenomenon showcases how innovative and adaptable Indian libraries are in the digital era.

Challenges and Future Directions

To properly map out the future, it is imperative to address the potential and problems that blended librarianship in India brings.

In India, challenges in blended librarianship include the digital divide, where not all users have equal access to digital resources; insufficient infrastructure in smaller towns and rural libraries, requiring expansion and upgrades; the ongoing need for extensive digital literacy training, especially for older and underserved populations; complex issues around copyright and licensing for digital materials; and the emerging concern of data security and privacy in the digital realm, necessitating the establishment of robust policies. Addressing these issues is crucial for the advancement of digital library services in the country.

Expanding digital inclusion initiatives, upgrading infrastructure with high-speed internet and e-learning capabilities, providing advanced digital and information literacy training, promoting open access resources, encouraging national and international collaborations, prioritizing digital preservation, concentrating on user-centric services, and actively participating in research and innovation are all future directions for blended librarianship in India. These guidelines are intended to improve access, instruction, and creativity in India's developing library science area.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship phenomenon in the Indian library ecosystem represents a dynamic combination of traditional and digital approaches. It covers issues like the need for digital literacy, infrastructure limitations, and the digital divide. The future of Indian libraries will be shaped by a dedication to digital inclusion, infrastructure development, user-centric services, and innovation, providing equal access and strong support for the changing information landscape. The way forward to properly managing these developments is through blended librarianship in India.

References

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News*, 65(7), 372–375. <https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.65.7.7297>
2. LISedunetwork. (2023, March 25). *Concept of Blended librarianship*. Library & Information Science Education Network. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/concept-of-blended-librarianship/>
3. Abrizah, A., Inuwa, S., & Afiqah-Izzati, N. (2016). Systematic Literature Review Informing LIS Professionals on Embedding Librarianship Roles. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 42(6), 636–643. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2016.08.010>

Blended Librarianship: It's Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Dr. Brundaban Nahak

Chief Librarian

Centurion University of Technology,

Paralakhemundi, Odisha

E-mail: brundaban.nahak@cutm.ac.in, bnahak@gamil.com

Introduction

The ancient civilizations used all kinds of materials—palm leaf, bark, tender inner bark of trees, cloth, wood, leather, stone, clay tablets, papyrus, and metal—for writing and preserving information. The first writing ink was invented in 2500 BC by the Egyptians and the Chinese. Ts'ai Lun was the Chinese inventor of paper in 105 A.D. Chinese inventor Tien-Lcheu was the one who made the ink by mixing soot from pine trees and lamp oils. The invention of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg around 1440 marks the entry of the book into the industrial age. The history of books starts with the development of writing and various other inventions, such as paper and printing, and continues through the modern-day business of book printing. The first library was established inside the temple campus in the Babylonian town of Nippur during 21st century BC as a collection of some clay tablets. That was the beginning of the idea of the preservation of information and record management. The first libraries consisted of archives of the earliest form of writing—the clay tablets in cuneiform script discovered in temple rooms in Sumer, some dating back to 2600 BC. The first institutional library came into existence after the establishment of the great Greek School of Philosophy during 4th Century BC.

The library is where books or documents are stored chronologically for human civilization. The library is the mirror of society. The people were writing and preserving information in different formats from the ancient period to today. The information was preserved during first century to in different formats like stone, leaves, clay tablets, papyrus, brick-bark, etc. Information were preserved in book format from 1400 century to 1900 century after invention of printing press by John Gutenberg. When British mathematician Charles

Babbage invented the computer between 1833 and 1871. It brought enormous change to modern society and paved the way for the digital information technological age. The entire information or resource changes from print to digital. Sir Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Wave and is regarded as the father of the WWW. He is a modern maker of web

technology, which shows the path of the Internet. The entire library and information were transferred from ancient times to today (Clay tablet to e-tablet). But the custodian of library and its services are changed from time to time. Now the digital library and services are provided by an online library reference assistant, online reference tools, e-document delivery service, e-books, e-journals, e-databases and online librarian. According to the changes of library information, the librarian changes into blended librarianship.

Mythological library

When Lord Brahma created four vedas with the help of Lord Ganesh and it was stolen by Madhu and Kaitabha Dityas. Later on Lord Hari/Vinshnu killed two Dityas and returned Vedas to Lord Brahma. Lord Brahma gave these vedas to Guru Bruhaspati. As a result, Bruhaspati was caretaker of four Vedas which was knowledge center/library in heaven. Lord Bruhaspati was care taker of library and professor/achary of Gods and goddess of heaven. It proved that library was in Puranas/mythology of Hindus. So, library was in three ways to see in Puran, history and modern age but service, methods of storing, adaptation of technology, and users are different. Readers desire also different from time to time.

Blended librarianship is a term used to describe the evolving role of librarians in integrating traditional library practices with emerging technologies and new modes of learning. It is a model of librarianship that emphasizes the need for librarians to have diverse skills that blend traditional library practices with instructional design and technology expertise.

It is a modern approach to the library profession that combines traditional library skills with new technologies, emerging trends, and instructional design principles to provide user-centered services. It involves integrating the tools and strategies of technology with the professional values and expertise of librarianship. Blended librarians are skilled in assessing user needs and using data to inform decision-making, and they are proactive in reaching out to users through various channels, including social media and email. Blended librarianship aims to deliver library services that meet the changing needs of users in the digital age.

Blended librarianship focuses on using technology to enhance traditional library services and resources. Librarians who practice blended librarianship can integrate an array of technological tools and resources with the traditional services and resources of the library to create a hybrid model of library service. This includes using technology to create and deliver innovative learning experiences, such as online tutorials and instructional videos.

In addition, blended librarianship emphasizes the importance of adapting to changing environments and using a mix of traditional and new approaches to serving users. This means that librarians must be flexible and able to work effectively in a variety of contexts.

They must also be knowledgeable about technology and able to use it in creative ways to improve library services and meet user needs.

Definition of blended librarianship

The term 'blended librarian' was coined by Steven Bell and John Shank in 2004, thence it was desirable but in the third decade of 21st century, it has been nearly indispensable for the library professionals. It includes:

- "Taking a leadership position as campus innovators and change agents to deliver library services in today's "information society successfully."
- Committed to developing campus-wide information literacy initiatives on our campuses to facilitate our ongoing involvement in the teaching and learning process.
- Designing instructional and educational programs and classes to assist patrons in using library services and learning information literacy that are absolutely essential to gaining the necessary skills (trade) and knowledge (profession) for lifelong success
- Collaborating and engaging in dialogue with instructional technologists and designers which is vital to the development of programs, services, and resources needed to facilitate the instructional mission of academic libraries.
- Implementing adaptive, creative, proactive, and innovative change in library instruction can be enhanced by communicating and collaborating with newly created instructional technology/design librarians and existing instructional designers and technologists.
- Transforming our relationship with faculty to emphasize our ability to assist them with integrating information technology and library resources into courses, but adding to that traditional role a new capacity to collaborate on enhancing student learning and outcome assessment in the area of information access, retrieval, and integration."

Overall, blended librarianship is about combining the best of traditional library practices with new technologies and modes of learning to provide innovative and effective library services that meet users' needs in a changing world. It is a model of librarianship that recognizes the importance of technology in enhancing library services and resources while valuing the traditional skills and practices of librarianship.

Blended librarianship involves a holistic approach to the profession, which includes a combination of traditional librarianship skills, such as collection development, reference

services, and cataloging, with newer skills like web development, social media management, and instructional design. Blended librarianship also encompasses emerging technologies such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality to deliver library services.

Blended librarianship also significantly shifts how librarians interact with their users. Rather than waiting for users to come to them, blended librarians proactively reach out to users through social media, email, and other channels. They may also work collaboratively with other departments on campus or within their community to promote the library's resources and services.

Blended librarianship is the profession's future because it recognizes the need for librarians to adapt their skills and expertise to meet the changing needs of users. By embracing new technologies and teaching methods, blended librarians are better equipped to deliver user-centered services that meet the needs of their users in the digital age.

Goal of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship aims to provide user-centered library services that meet the changing needs of users in the digital age. This involves combining traditional library skills and expertise with new technologies, instructional design principles, and emerging trends in information science. The focus of blended librarianship is on understanding user needs and delivering services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging. Blended librarians aim to proactively reach out to users through various channels, including social media and email, and collaborate with other departments on campus or within their community to promote the library's resources and services. Ultimately, blended librarianship aims to provide an optimal user experience and promote lifelong learning and information literacy.

Here are the key points regarding the goal of blended librarianship:

- Provide user-centered library services that meet the changing needs of users in the digital age.
- Combine traditional library skills and expertise with new technologies, instructional design principles, and emerging trends in information science.
- Focus on understanding user needs and delivering services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging.
- Be proactive in reaching out to users through various channels, including social media and email.
- Collaborate with other departments on campus or within the community to promote the library's resources and services.
- Provide an optimal user experience.
- Promote lifelong learning and information literacy.

Importance of blended librarianship in details

Blended librarianship is important for the following reasons:

- Meeting changing user needs: As society increasingly relies on digital technologies for accessing and using information, libraries must adapt to meet these changing user needs. Blended librarianship enables libraries to provide services that are relevant, accessible, and engaging to users in the digital age.
- Integrating emerging technologies: Blended librarianship allows librarians to integrate emerging technologies, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality, into their services. By doing so, librarians can provide more personalized and interactive services that cater to users' needs.
- Promoting information literacy: Blended librarianship teaches users how to use and evaluate information sources effectively. This is important in an age where misinformation is rampant on the internet, and users need to be able to evaluate information critically.
- Collaborating with other departments: Blended librarianship enables librarians to collaborate with other departments on campus or within their community. This collaboration allows librarians to provide more comprehensive services to users and better meet their needs.
- Enhancing user experience: Blended librarianship enables librarians to create an optimal user experience by using instructional design principles and user-centered design. This ensures that users can easily access and use library resources and services.
- Remaining relevant: Blended librarianship enables librarians to stay relevant in a rapidly changing digital environment. By combining traditional library skills with new technologies and teaching methods, librarians can continue to provide valuable services to users and contribute to the broader information science community.

Blended librarianship as the future of the librarianship profession

Blended librarianship is a relatively new approach to the profession that combines traditional library skills with new technologies, teaching methods, and emerging trends in information science. The blended librarianship concept acknowledges that libraries and information services are undergoing a significant transformation in the digital age and that librarians must adapt their skills and expertise to remain relevant.

Indian library ecosystems

The ecosystem of Indian libraries consists of books to digital books, journals to e-journals, resources to e-resources, services to e-services, users to e-users, physical space to Cyberspace, and library to e-library. The librarians should be technocrats and also having knowledge of calcification and cataloguing. They should be user centric and library should go to the reader's place and serve them. They may or may not come to the library, but the

service will reach their place. All types of libraries will come under one umbrella and provide services to users. The librarian has knowledge of software, hardware, soft skills, administrative skills, subject knowledge, ideas about different library in-house software, databases, digital libraries, computer skills, AI, IoT, open access journals and books, different styles of citation formats, federated search, remote access, ideas about plagiarism software, online reference tools, web-OPAC, etc. Then only libraries and the librarian community can exist in the Indian library ecosystem.

Blended Librarianship: It's Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Lucky Kumar Sahu

Asst. Librarian

Kalahandi University, Bhawanipatna

E-mail: luckykumar.sahu5825@gmail.com

Introduction

Blended librarianship is a new approach to librarianship that combines traditional library services with digital technologies. It is a way for librarians to stay relevant in the digital age and to provide users with the best possible experience. In India, blended librarianship is gaining popularity as libraries move to adopt new technologies. However, there is still a lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship among librarians and users alike. This paper will explore the phenomenon of blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem. It will begin by defining blended librarianship and discussing its key features. The paper will next evaluate the current condition of hybrid librarianship in India, as well as the difficulties and possibilities that lie ahead. The concept of blended librarianship is largely built on creating movement that will encourage and enable librarians to evolve into new roles in which skills, knowledge, and instructional skills are wedded with existing traditional skills. In this competition, who will stand out as the academic professional with the best mix of abilities and capacity to utilize technology in library service? The term “blended librarian” was coined by Steven Bell and John Shank in 2004 for user-friendly service in traditional and academic libraries.

What is Blended Librarianship?

Blended librarianship is a hybrid approach to librarianship that combines traditional library services with digital technologies. It is a way for librarians to provide users with the best possible experience, regardless of their preferred learning style or location. Blended librarianship can be viewed as a reaction to changing user demands. Until recently, people depended on libraries for physical items like books and periodicals. However, today, users have access to a wealth of digital resources online. Blended librarianship allows librarians to bridge the gap between traditional and digital resources. It also allows librarians to provide users with more personalized and interactive services.

Key features of blended librarianship

The key features of blended librarianship include:

- A focus on user experience: blended librarianship is designed to provide users with the best possible experience, regardless of their preferred learning style or location.
- A combination of traditional and digital resources: blended librarianship combines traditional library services with digital technologies to provide users with a wider range of options.
- A personalized approach: blended librarianship allows librarians to provide users with more personalized and interactive services.
- An emphasis on collaboration: blended librarianship encourages collaboration between librarians, users, and other stakeholders

Current state of blended librarianship in India

Blended librarianship is gaining popularity in India as libraries move to adopt new technologies. However, there is still a lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship among librarians and users alike. A number of Indian libraries are now offering blended services. For example, the National Library of India offers a range of digital services, including an e-library, online databases, and a digital repository. The library also offers a variety of online programs and workshops. Other Indian libraries that are offering blended services include the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Library, the Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, and the University of Mumbai Library.

Challenges and opportunities of blended librarianship in India

There are a number of challenges and opportunities associated with blended librarianship in India.

One of the biggest challenges is the lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship among librarians and users alike. Many librarians are not familiar with the latest digital technologies, and many users are not aware of the range of blended services that are available. Another challenge is the lack of resources and infrastructure. Many Indian libraries do not have the resources or infrastructure to support a fully blended approach. For example, many libraries do not have enough computers or internet access.

Despite these challenges, there are a number of opportunities for blended librarianship in India. One of the biggest opportunities is the growing number of internet users in India. By 2025, the number of people who use the internet in India is estimated to exceed 900 million. This provides a huge opportunity for libraries to reach new users and provide them

with blended services. Another opportunity is the government's commitment to digital literacy. The Indian government is committed to increasing digital literacy in the country. This provides a good opportunity for libraries to partner with the government and other stakeholders to offer blended services that promote digital literacy.

Blended librarianship is gaining popularity in India as libraries move to adopt new technologies. However, there is still a lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship among librarians and users alike. A number of Indian libraries are now offering blended services. For example, the National Library of India offers a range of digital services, including an e-library, online databases, and a digital repository. The library also offers a variety of online programs and workshops. Other Indian libraries that are offering blended services include the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Library, the Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, and the University of Mumbai Library.

Use of blended librarianship in nowadays library ecosystem

With the increasing need for the use of technology and information seeking, a blended librarian plays an important role in the growth of a library and meeting the demands of users in less time. It's main aim is to provide an effective and efficient library service in any kind of library and develop an instructional design for user needs. The uses of blended librarianship are generally focused on:

- Information management
- Support the role of the library in active learning.
- Development of advanced information technology
- Able to act as a liaison to other sources outside
- Proactive user education
- Information literacy training
- Prevention of plagiarism
- Reference management training for users
- Accompanying and assisting lectures

If libraries are to stay effective at a higher level, we must reestablish them as learning centers for the study and exchange of knowledge, and a blended librarian is critical to their success.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship is a new approach to librarianship that combines traditional library services with digital technologies. It is a way for librarians to stay relevant in the digital age and to provide users with the best possible experience. In India, blended librarianship is

gaining popularity as libraries move to adopt new technologies. However, there is still a lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship among librarians and users alike. There are a number of challenges and opportunities associated with blended librarianship in India. The biggest challenges are the lack of awareness and understanding of blended librarianship and the lack of resources and infrastructure. The biggest opportunities are the growing number of internet users in India and the government's commitment to digital literacy.

References

1. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended librarianship: [Re] envisioning the role of librarian as educator in the digital information age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110.
2. Cherinet, Y. M. (2018). Blended skills and future roles of librarians. *Library management*, 39(1/2), 93-105.
3. Ferri, F., Grifoni, P., & Guzzo, T. (2020). Online learning and emergency remote teaching: Opportunities and challenges in emergency situations. *Societies*, 10(4), 86.
4. John D. Shank. (n.d.). Academic Impressions. Retrieved March 25, 2023,
5. From d-shank/ <https://www.academicimpressions.com/instruction>
6. Steven J. Bell / ALA Store. (n.d.). Retrieved March 25, 2023,
7. from j-bell <https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/steven>

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Lipsha Palai

Librarian

STAR Engineering College, Bhubaneswar

E-mail: jaylipa1467@gmail.com

Introduction

Blended librarianship is a relatively new concept that refers to the integration of traditional and digital library services. It is a response to the changing needs of library users, who increasingly expect access to information and resources from anywhere and at any time. Blended librarianship is also a way for libraries to remain relevant in the digital age. Blended librarianship can be defined as a hybrid approach to library services that combines the best of both the traditional and digital worlds. It is characterized by the use of technology to enhance traditional library services and provide new and innovative services to users. "Blended librarian" is a term coined by Steven Bell and John Shank in 2004. Blended means mixed or combined. Blended librarianship means a mixture of technologies in the library profession.

Meaning

The integration of conventional aspects of librarianship with technology and information techie's abilities aims to create library services that suit the changing demands of users in the digital era.

Overview of the Indian library ecosystem

The Indian library environment is complicated and diversified. Public libraries, academic libraries, special libraries, and school libraries are all available in India. The level of professionalism and scope of services provided by these libraries differ greatly. In the past few years, there has been a rising recognition of the value of libraries in India. The government has implemented a variety of measures to improve library service quality and boost library access. Still, there are other issues that must be addressed. One of the most significant difficulties confronting Indian libraries is a shortage of resources. Many libraries are underfunded and have inadequate staffing. This makes it difficult for libraries to provide

high-quality services to their users. Another challenge is the lack of awareness of libraries and their services. Many people in India are not aware of the benefits that libraries can offer. This is due in part to the fact that libraries have not traditionally been very good at marketing themselves.

Goals of blended librarianship

Librarians who practice blended librarianship can integrate an array of technological tools and resources with the traditional services and resources of the library to create a hybrid model of library services. Such as online tutorials and instructional videos. It emphasizes adapting to changing environments and using new approaches to serve users. This means a librarian must be flexible, able to work effectively, aware of technology, and able to use creative ways to improve the library and meet user needs.

- Provide user-centered library service to meet the needs of the digital age.
- To improve library services by combining traditional services with technologies.
- Proactive in reaching out to users in various channels, including social media and e-mails.
- Collaborate with other departments to promote library resources.
- Provide an optimal user experience.
- Promote lifelong learning and information literacy.

Challenges and opportunities of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship refers to the combination of traditional library practices with digital technologies to enhance the quality of library services and adapt to the evolving needs of users. When examining its phenomenology in the Indian library ecosystem, there are several challenges and opportunities to consider.

Challenges

- **Digital divide:** Many individuals in India lack access to digital resources, resulting in a substantial digital divide. Blended librarianship may exclude people who are unable to access online content, resulting in information access inequity.
- **Infrastructure:** Inadequate digital infrastructure, including internet connectivity and hardware, can hinder the implementation of blended librarianship in remote or underserved areas of India.
- **Digital literacy:** A lack of digital literacy among library staff and users can impede the effective integration of technology into library services.

- Copyright and licensing: Navigating copyright laws and licensing agreements for digital resources can be complex and may limit the availability of certain materials in a blended library environment.
- Privacy and data security: Maintaining user privacy and data security when adopting digital library services is a major challenge, especially in a vast country with various information demands.
- Funding constraints: Libraries in India often face budgetary constraints, which can make it challenging to invest in the necessary technology and staff training for blended librarianship.

Opportunities

- Access to a wider audience: Blended librarianship can extend library services to a broader audience, including remote and underserved areas, through digital resources and virtual services.
- Digital collections: Libraries can create extensive digital collections, preserving rare and valuable materials and making them accessible to a global audience.
- Enhanced user experience: The use of technology can provide users with a more personalized and interactive library experience, improving satisfaction and engagement.
- Data analytics: Libraries can leverage data analytics to better understand user preferences and tailor services to meet their needs effectively.
- Collaboration: Blended librarianship encourages collaboration between libraries, educational institutions, and other organizations, fostering knowledge sharing and resource pooling.
- Professional development: There is an opportunity for librarians to enhance their skills through training and development programs to effectively navigate the digital landscape.
- Innovation: Blended librarianship encourages libraries to experiment with new technologies and innovative approaches to meet the evolving needs of users.
- Open access and OER: Libraries can contribute to the open access movement by promoting open educational resources (OER) and open access publications, making knowledge more accessible to all.
- Cultural preservation: Digital libraries can play a crucial role in preserving India's rich cultural heritage and historical documents.
- Research support: Blended librarianship can enhance research support services, providing researchers with access to a wide range of digital resources and tools.

Conclusion

The blended librarian is still in its infancy. We have yet to fully appreciate its full implications, let alone the possibly fatal cascading impacts. We believe we would be remiss if we did not express our skepticism about its future growth as a concept relevant to all academic librarians. However, we believe the time has come to take action to lay the groundwork for a more thorough integration of our profession into the operations of higher education. We invite all of our colleagues to join us in creating a learning community.

References

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). *Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. American Library Association.
2. Ferri, F., Grifoni, P., & Guzzo, T. (2020). Online learning and emergency remote teaching: Opportunities and challenges in emergency situations. *Societies*, 10(4), 86.
3. Shank, J. (2008). Academic Librarianship by Design; A blended Librarian's Guide to the Tools and Techniques. Collection Management
<https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic>
4. John D. Shank. (n.d.). Academic Impressions. Retrieved March 25, 2023, From d-shank/
<https://www.academicimpressions.com/instruction>
5. Steven J. Bell / ALA Store. (n.d.). Retrieved March 25, 2023, from j-bell
<https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/steven>

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem



Pramod Kumar

NTA NET, JRF, CG SET

(Research Scholar)

Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University Raipur (C.G.)

E-mail: pmd.yahoo123@gmail.com

Introduction

Librarianship, as a profession, has been undergoing a significant transformation in recent years due to the rapid advancements in ICT and changes in information consumption patterns. Blended librarianship is about supporting academic activities as an academic library service in terms of our LIS traditional knowledge and its various aspects; supporting the instructional design as per the curriculum and embedding the role of the librarian in the same; and providing expert support on information technology-related issues, be it hardware or software, to the academic user community, especially students and faculty. This article explores the phenomenology of blended librarianship within the context of the Indian library ecosystem, shedding light on its evolution, challenges, and the potential it holds for the future.

Concept of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship is a dynamic approach that marries traditional library services with technology-driven solutions. It acknowledges that libraries are no longer confined to physical spaces but extend into the digital realm. In India, this concept has been steadily gaining ground, particularly as the country witnesses a digital revolution. Libraries are no longer just repositories of books; they are hubs of information, knowledge, and technology.

- **Technological integration:** The integration of technology within libraries in India has been remarkable. From digitization efforts to the creation of online catalogs, libraries are leveraging digital tools to make their resources accessible to a wider audience. This shift has been accelerated by government initiatives like 'Digital India' that emphasize the importance of digital literacy and accessibility.
- **e-learning initiatives:** Blended librarianship aligns perfectly with the e-learning trends in India. Many universities and educational institutions have adopted a blended learning model where students access course materials both online and

offline. Librarians play a pivotal role in curating and providing access to these digital resources, making education more flexible and accessible.

- **User-centric approach:** Blended librarians in India understand the evolving needs of users. They engage in continuous communication with their patrons, seeking feedback

and adapting library services accordingly. This user-centric approach has resulted in improved library experiences for students, researchers, and the general public.

Challenges faced by blended librarianship in India

While the prospects of blended librarianship in India are promising, several challenges hinder its full realization:

- **Digital divide:** India's digital divide remains a significant concern. A substantial portion of the population still lacks access to the internet and digital devices. Blended librarians must find innovative ways to bridge this gap and ensure equitable access to information.
- **Resource accessibility:** While digital resources are expanding, many libraries struggle to afford subscriptions to premium databases and e-journals. Funding constraints limit the ability to provide comprehensive digital collections, affecting the quality of blended librarianship.
- **Poor digital literacy:** Promoting digital literacy is essential to ensure that users can effectively utilize online resources. Librarians need to invest in training programs to empower their users with the skills required to navigate the digital landscape effectively.

Future of blended librarianship in India

Despite these challenges, the future of blended librarianship in India appears promising. As technology continues to advance and digital infrastructure improves, the role of librarians will become even more critical. Here are some potential avenues for growth:

1. **Collaboration:** Librarians can collaborate with educators, researchers, and policymakers to advocate for the importance of digital literacy and equitable access to information. Building strong partnerships can lead to better funding and resource allocation.
2. **Innovation:** Indian librarians should embrace emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, data analytics, and virtual reality to enhance user experiences and streamline library operations.

3. **Community engagement:** Libraries can serve as community hubs, offering not only information but also cultural and educational programs. Engaging with the local community can strengthen the library's position and increase its relevance.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem is an evolving and dynamic field that holds immense potential. As libraries continue to adapt to the digital age, librarians must remain at the forefront of these changes, ensuring that they continue to serve as vital pillars of knowledge and information dissemination. By addressing the challenges and seizing opportunities, blended librarianship can thrive and contribute significantly to India's educational and cultural landscape.

Reference

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). The blended librarian a blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News*, 65(7), 372-375.
2. Shank, J., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended Librarianship: [Re]Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110.
3. <http://blendedlibrarian.badgestack.net/about>

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in The Indian Library Ecosystem



Manas Ranjan Naik

Assistant Librarian

Centurion University of Technology & Management

Paralakhemundi, Gajapati, Odisha

E-mail: rmanas252@gmail.com

Introduction

In today's digital age, the role of librarians is evolving rapidly. The traditional image of a librarian as a custodian of books is giving way to a more dynamic and multifaceted profession known as blended librarianship. Blended librarianship combines traditional library skills with digital literacy and technology expertise to meet the changing needs of library users. This article explores the phenomenology of blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem, discussing its impact, challenges, and opportunities.

Concept of blended librarianship

The phrase "blended librarianship" refers to the changing role that librarians play in fusing traditional library procedures with cutting-edge technologies and fresh ways of learning. It is a style of librarianship that emphasises the necessity of librarians having a variety of abilities that combine conventional library procedures with knowledge of instructional design and technology.

Additionally, mixed librarianship places a focus on the significance of responding to shifting settings and combining old and modern user-service methods. As a result, librarians must be adaptable and capable of performing well in a number of settings. They must also be tech-savvy and creative in their use of technology to enhance library services and cater to patron requirements.

Overall, blended librarianship aims to deliver cutting-edge and efficient library services that fulfill users' demands in a changing world by fusing the best aspects of conventional library practices with new technologies and learning methods. It is a style of librarianship that values the conventional skills and practices of librarianship while acknowledging the value of technology in increasing library services and resources.

Blended librarianship in the Indian context

The Indian library ecosystem has witnessed significant changes in recent years due to the advent of digital technologies and increased internet penetration. Blended librarianship has emerged as a response to these changes, enabling librarians to adapt to the evolving needs of library users. In India, many libraries, including academic, public, and special libraries, have embraced blended librarianship to enhance their services and engage with a tech-savvy user base.

Impact of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship has had a profound impact on the Indian library ecosystem. It has transformed the way libraries operate, expanding their virtual presence and reaching out to a wider audience. The integration of technology has facilitated the digitization of library collections, making resources more accessible and convenient for users. Blended librarians have also played a crucial role in promoting digital literacy and information literacy skills among users, empowering them to navigate the digital landscape effectively.

Challenges and opportunities

While blended librarianship presents numerous opportunities, it also brings forth certain challenges. One of the primary challenges is the digital divide, particularly in a diverse country like India. Not all users have equal access to technology or possess the necessary digital skills. Blended librarians must address this gap by providing training and support to bridge the digital divide. Another challenge is keeping pace with rapidly evolving technologies. To be effective blended librarians, professionals must continuously update their skills and stay abreast of the latest trends in information technology. This requires a commitment to lifelong learning and professional development.

Despite these challenges, blended librarianship offers immense opportunities for Indian librarians. It allows them to expand their roles beyond traditional boundaries and become key players in information dissemination and knowledge creation. Blended librarians can collaborate with faculty, researchers, and other stakeholders to integrate technology into teaching and research activities, thus fostering innovation and enhancing the overall academic environment.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship has become an essential aspect of the Indian library ecosystem, enabling librarians to adapt to the digital age and meet the evolving needs of library users. By integrating technology and digital resources, blended librarians have transformed the

way libraries operate, making information more accessible and facilitating digital literacy. While challenges exist, the opportunities offered by blended librarianship outweigh them. Indian librarians must embrace this phenomenon and strive to become proficient blended librarians to effectively serve their communities and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the digital era.

References

1. Sinclair, B. (2009). The blended librarian in the learning commons: New skills for the blended library. *College & research libraries news*, 70(9), 504-516.
2. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2020). Applying interpretive phenomenological analysis to library and information science research on blended librarianship: A case study. *Library & information science research*, 42(4), 101055.
3. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). *Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. American Library Association.
4. Norelli, B. P. (2010). Embedded librarianship, inside out. *Public Services Quarterly*, 6(2-3), 69-74.
5. Gall, D. P. (2014). Blended librarianship. *Curriculum-based library instruction: From cultivating faculty relationships to assessment*, 113-122.

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem



Kaushik Kumar Jena

Library and Information Assistant
Centurion University of Technology and Management
Paralakhemundi, Gajapati, Odisha
E-mail: kaushik.jena@cutm.ac.in

Introduction

Libraries have always been a fundamental resource centre for knowledge dissemination and fostering lifelong learning. As the digital age continues to revolutionize our lives, the role of librarians has also evolved to keep pace with the changing needs of library users. One such development in the field of librarianship is the emergence of blended librarianship. Blended librarianship combines traditional librarianship with technology, enabling librarians to fully exploit the potential of digital resources. In the Indian library ecosystem, blended librarianship has gained considerable traction, transforming the way libraries operate and the services they provide.

Concept of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship is a term coined by Steven J Bell, an Associate University Librarian, to describe librarians who integrate emerging technologies and digital resources into their professional practice. Blended librarians are adept at leveraging technology to enhance information access, improve the user experience and promote digital literacy. They possess a unique combination of skills, including traditional library management, information organization, technological proficiency and instructional design.

Essence of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship represents a shift from a primarily print-based approach to an integrated model that incorporates digital technologies within the library environment. It involves the skillful integration of traditional library practices with the effective use of online resources, digital tools and emerging technologies. The key objective is to enhance the quality and accessibility of library services while also adapting to the evolving information needs of library users.

Blended librarians possess a diverse skill set that encompasses both traditional library skills and technological proficiency. They are adept at managing physical collections, conducting research, providing information literacy instruction, and engaging with users in a personalized manner. Additionally, they also possess expertise in utilizing digital resources, managing electronic databases, creating online content, and fostering information literacy in the digital realm.

Impact on the Indian library ecosystem

Blended librarianship has made a significant impact on the Indian library ecosystem, transforming the way libraries operate and enhancing the user experience. Here are some aspects that highlight the phenomenology of blended librarianship in the Indian context:

- **Digital resource management:** Blended librarians effectively manage a wide array of digital resources including e-books, e-journals, databases and online repositories. They employ technology to streamline access ensure proper licensing and facilitate efficient searching and retrieval of information.
- **Collaborative learning:** Blended librarians actively promote collaborative learning by leveraging technology. They utilize online platforms, discussion forums, and social media to foster virtual communities, encourage knowledge sharing, and facilitate networking among library users and professionals.
- **Information literacy:** Blended librarians play a critical role in promoting information literacy in the digital age. They empower library users by teaching them how to critically evaluate online information, recognize fake news, and utilize digital tools for research and analysis.
- **Virtual reference services:** Blended librarians provide virtual reference services, answering queries and assisting users through online chat, email, and other digital communication platforms. This ensures prompt and convenient access to information for users regardless of their physical location.
- **Technology Integration:** Blended librarians seamlessly integrate technology into various library functions. They employ library management systems, digital cataloging tools and web-based platforms to automate processes, improve accessibility and enhance the overall efficiency of library operations.

Challenges and the way forward

- While blended librarianship brings a plethora of benefits to the Indian library ecosystem, it also poses certain challenges. Adapting to rapidly evolving technologies, managing digital platforms, and ensuring equitable access to resources

remain critical concerns. Furthermore, librarians need to continuously update their skills to keep up with the changing landscape of library services.

- To meet these challenges, library professionals should engage in continuous professional development, participate in workshops, conferences and webinars, collaborate with fellow librarians and researchers and embrace emerging technologies. Collaboration between libraries, educational institutions and technology providers is also essential to ensuring the long-term success and sustainability of blended librarianship in India.

Conclusion

Blended librarianship has revolutionized the Indian library ecosystem by bridging the gap between traditional practices and digital innovations. Blended librarians leverage technology to enhance access to information, promote collaborative learning and foster information literacy. As libraries continue to evolve in the digital age, blended librarianship will play a vital role in maximizing the potential of digital resources and ensuring libraries remain relevant in this ever-changing landscape.

References

1. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. D. (2007). *Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. American Library Association.
2. Vassilakaki, E., & Moniarou-Papaconstantinou, V. (2015). A systematic literature review informing library and information professionals' emerging roles. *New library world*, 116(1/2), 37-66.
3. Corral, S. (2010). Educating the academic librarian as a blended professional: a review and case study. *Library management*, 31(8/9), 567-593
4. AGARWAL, M. (n.d.). *egyankosh*. Retrieved from egyankosh: <https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/64149/1/Pg-41-58.pdf>
5. Shank, J. D., & Bell, S. Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age.
6. Bell, S., & Shank, J. D. (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *Temple University Libraries*.

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in the Indian Library Ecosystem



Lalit Kumar Sahu

Library Professional Trainee
National Institute of Technology, Raipur
G.E. Road, Raipur-492010 (C.G.)
E-mail: lalitkumarsahu883@gmail.com



Dr. Jyotshna Sahoo

Associate Professor & Head
Dept. of Library & Information Science
Berhampur University, Odisha – 760007
E-mail: hodlisbu@gmail.com

Abstract

The Indian library ecosystem has undergone a digital transformation, from digitizing their collections to adopting online platforms for information dissemination and remote access. Libraries in India have changed dramatically in recent years, with a growing focus on electronic materials and technological adoption. The COVID-19 epidemic has expedited the digital revolution in Indian libraries since physical access to libraries has become constrained, and virtual resources have become essential for teaching and learning. This paper aims to delve into the concept of blended librarianship within the context of the Indian library ecosystem. It offers an in-depth analysis of the models and elements that affect the acceptability of blended learning in an environment of information systems. The phenomenology of blended librarianship in the Indian library environment is analyzed, with both difficulties and opportunities.

Keyword- Blended Librarianship, Indian Libraries, Digital Technologies, Library Services, COVID-19

Introduction to blended librarianship

With technological improvements and increased demand for digital materials, the discipline of librarianship has experienced a tremendous transition in the past few years. Once primarily dependent on printed materials, libraries have responded to the expanding contemporary digital world by changing into "blended libraries". The merging of conventional libraries with technology-based knowledge centers transferred traditional librarianship to blended librarianship. Blended librarianship seamlessly incorporates library

professionals and information resources into the instructional and educational processes, explicitly focusing on web-based platforms. Initially proposed by Steven Bell and John D. Shank in 2004, this approach combines librarian experience with technology-based instruction and instructional planning abilities. This paper aims to delve into the concept of blended librarianship within the context of the Indian library ecosystem.

Overview of the Indian library ecosystem

The Indian library ecosystem is diversified and active, with a vast spectrum of libraries, especially college and university libraries, open-to-the-public libraries, specialized libraries, and state libraries. These libraries serve diverse user groups and cater to various information needs across different domains, such as education, research, and public access to information. The Indian library ecosystem has witnessed significant changes in recent years, with a growing emphasis on digital resources and technology integration. Libraries in India have embraced technology to enhance access to information and improve user experiences. Libraries in India have undergone a digital transformation, from digitizing their collections to adopting online platforms for information dissemination and remote access. The COVID-19 epidemic has expedited the digital revolution in Indian libraries since physical access to libraries has become constrained and virtual resources have become essential for teaching and learning.

Review of literature

In their study, **Ibacache et al. (2021)** elucidated how libraries adjusted to the remote environment and harnessed various technological tools to maintain their ability to deliver effective instruction and support to library users. **Chakraborty & Jana (2021)** reported how the current COVID-19 outbreak has affected educational sectors, especially the libraries in India. To explore the potential and problems they encountered in light of COVID-19, it outlines four aspects relevant to an academic library: the environment, creation of collections, user service, and general management. According to **Al-Marroof et al. (2021)** the systematic review offers an in-depth analysis of the models and elements that affect the acceptability of blended learning in an environment of information systems. It gives valuable insights for academics, researchers, and organizations hoping to encourage the effective use of blended learning in educational contexts. **Dabengwa et al. (2019)** pointed out that research includes an in-depth investigation of the observations that academic librarians in Zimbabwe are trying to adjust to the changing environment of libraries, highlighting the challenges and rewards of shifting to blended librarianship. It brings into focus the growing importance of librarians in the age of technology and their attempts to deliver essential amenities that benefit their educational patrons. In their study, **Anthony et al. (2019)** **advocated that** the research paper provides empirical data supporting the efficacy of blended learning techniques in educational institutions. It emphasizes the potential benefits

of combining online and in-person instruction for enhancing student results, engagement, and access to educational resources. It does, however, recognize the difficulties that teachers would have in applying this strategy. **Van Laer & Elen (2017)** investigated the characteristics that might improve self-regulation in mixed learning contexts. They also emphasized the significance of feedback, learning analytics, goal planning, self-assessment, metacognition, engagement, and communication in assisting students in managing their learning. Incorporating technology plays an essential role in supporting these characteristics, but problems must be addressed to successfully promote self-regulation in blended learning situations. **Shank et al. (2011)** recommend that librarians transition from information gatekeepers to educators skilled in library science and instructional methodologies. It emphasized the significance of cooperation, constant learning, and technological adaptability in satisfying the increasing information demands of users in the digital age.

Objectives of this study-

- The following objectives encapsulate the multifaceted approach to modernizing library services, empowering users, and ensuring sustainability.
- To enhance the accessibility and availability of library resources through digital integration;
- To develop strategies for preserving and organizing digital content within the Indian library ecosystem;
- To foster collaboration and innovation among library users.
- To promote lifelong learning and information literacy skills among library users

Methodology

The present study is based on a critical analysis of a group of related literature. The review of the literature was conducted following the methodology advocated by the Center for Reviews and Dissemination but customized to meet the unique requirements of this particular study. The search terms like Blended Librarianship, Integrated Librarian, Blended Librarian, Library Ecosystem, and Remote Librarianship were used to find out pertinent literature and to conduct the study.

Exploring the concept of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship has gained considerable attention in recent years as technology continues to reshape the field of librarianship. Librarians are today required to have not only conventional library abilities but also extensive knowledge of the technology and software utilized in how students learn. They are also responsible for providing knowledge

of literature and information resources online and controlling and enabling the usage of different electronic resources and platforms. This concept of blended librarianship is particularly relevant in the Indian library ecosystem, where libraries embrace digital resources and online platforms for teaching and learning purposes. In their study, Steven and Shank (2004) invented the term "blended librarian" to characterize librarians who mix conventional abilities with an understanding of software and hardware in how people learn.

Role and impact of blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem

Blended librarianship plays a crucial role in the Indian library ecosystem by bridging the gap between traditional library practices and emerging technologies. Librarians in India are now expected to possess a diverse skillset that includes providing access to physical resources and leveraging technology to enhance users' teaching and learning experience. This shift towards blended librarianship profoundly influenced librarians' roles in India. Librarians are no longer confined to the traditional role of curating and managing physical collections. They are now actively involved in integrating library resources into online platforms for teaching and learning purposes. By becoming proficient in various e-learning platforms, blended librarians can seamlessly incorporate library resources into the teaching-learning process. This integration not only enhances the accessibility and availability of library resources but also facilitates a more interactive and engaging learning experience for students.

Understanding the phenomenology of blended librarianship

To understand the phenomenology of blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem, it is essential to delve into its various aspects and implications. Blended librarianship in India refers to the immediate and software-driven implementation of librarians and information resources into instructional and educational activities on web-based platforms. This concept is additionally referred to as the "magic formula" since it demonstrates the importance and functionality of academic librarians in facilitating instruction, education, and research initiatives in the age of digital technology. In India, the idea of blended librarianship remains relatively new and not fully adopted or practiced. Despite the partial existence of blended librarianship in India, there have been significant efforts to explore and understand its implications. By investigating the experiences of librarians working in this profession, phenomenology may be utilized to better understand blended librarianship over the years. By listening to the stories of these librarians, we can learn about the challenges and opportunities they face and how they are using blended librarianship to meet the needs of their users. Here are some specific claims about blended librarianship that could be explored using phenomenology:

Claim 1: Blended librarians need to be skilled in both traditional librarianship and new technologies.

Claim 2: Blended librarians need to be able to work collaboratively with other professionals, such as faculty and instructional designers.

Claim 3: Blended librarians must be ready to respond to rapidly evolving user demands.

Claim 4: Blended librarianship is a challenging but rewarding field.

Challenges and opportunities of blended librarianship in india

Implementing blended librarianship in the Indian library environment has been challenging, with both difficulties and opportunities. One of the biggest and major barriers is librarians' lacking knowledge and understanding of the concept and prospects of blended librarianship. This lack of awareness and understanding often results in resistance to change and embracing technology. To address this challenge, there is a need for comprehensive training programs and workshops that focus on developing technological skills and knowledge among librarians. Additionally, there is a need to bridge the gap between librarians and faculty members.

Challenges

- Digital divide: Not all students and researchers have equal access to technology, and this can make it challenging to provide them with the services they need.
- Lack of training and resources: Many librarians in India are not yet fully equipped to provide blended services. They may lack the necessary training or resources or be resistant to change.
- Lack of standardization: There is no standard approach for blended librarianship because what is effective in one particular library might not be effective in another.

Opportunities

Increasing use of technology in education and research: The growing popularity of information technology in academia and research has increased the demand for librarians who can help students and researchers find and use digital material.

Growth of open-access resources: The increasing availability of open-access materials makes it easier for librarians to provide blended services.

Increasing availability of high-speed Internet: The greater accessibility of fast internet connection makes it simpler for students and researchers to access digital information.

Role in promoting digital literacy and information literacy: Blended librarians can encourage technological proficiency and information literacy. They can help students and researchers learn how to find, evaluate, and use information effectively in both traditional and digital formats.

Development of new ways of teaching and learning: Blended librarians can contribute to developing innovative methods of instruction and retention that utilize technology.

Future prospects of blended librarianship in the Indian context

The prospects of blended librarianship in the Indian context are promising. With the increasing demand for online and blended learning, there is a growing need for librarians who possess both traditional library skills and technological expertise. Librarians in India have an important role in supporting and enhancing online education by becoming blended librarians. They can effectively curate and manage digital resources, provide guidance and support in navigating online databases, and assist students in developing information literacy skills.

Some of the prospects of blended librarianship

The increasing use of technology in education: The Indian education system is rapidly adopting technology, creating new opportunities for librarians to use blended approaches to instruction and learning support. For example, librarians can create online tutorials, develop blended learning modules, and use social media to connect with students and faculty.

The growing demand for lifelong learning: Long-term educational options are in high demand in India. This is due to a rise in the number of people returning to school, changes in work, and the requirement for continued professional development. Librarians can help satisfy this need by offering blended learning options open to people of all ages and abilities.

The need for personalized learning: Students today have different learning styles and needs. Blended librarianship can help meet these needs by providing personalized learning experiences tailored to the individual student. For example, librarians can use data analytics to identify struggling students and provide them with targeted support.

The rise of the hybrid library: The traditional library is evolving into a hybrid library that combines physical and digital resources. This creates new challenges and opportunities for

librarians. Blended librarianship can help librarians meet the challenges of the hybrid library by providing seamless access to information and services, regardless of the format.

These are just a few prospects for blended librarianship in the Indian context. As technology continues to evolve and the needs of learners change, blended librarianship will become an increasingly important approach to library service.

Conclusion

In conclusion, blended librarianship holds great significance in the Indian library ecosystem. It combines the conventional role of librarians as keepers of knowledge with the growing technology landscape to provide a dynamic and enhanced learning environment. Blended librarianship in the Indian library environment allows librarians and library resources to be integrated into the teaching and learning process, encouraging cooperation and information sharing among students and professors. This integration is particularly crucial in online and blended learning, where librarians can play a pivotal role in curating and managing digital resources, providing guidance in information literacy skills, and collaborating with faculty members to integrate technology into the curriculum. Libraries in India can successfully address the increasing requirements of their patrons in the digital era by embracing integrated librarianship concepts. Furthermore, the idea of embedded librarianship aligns closely with blended librarianship by emphasizing the physical presence of librarians in close proximity to their customers or user groups. This physical proximity allows librarians to better understand and address the requirements of their users, both inside academic institutions and in broader corporate contexts. Blended librarianship also tackles the problems of emerging technologies by providing librarians with the technical abilities and experience required to explore and use multiple digital tools properly. Blended librarianship is more than simply incorporating technology into library services; it is also about acknowledging librarians' evolving responsibilities and capabilities in today's technological age. Librarians are now more than just information guards; they are also facilitators of learning and designers of meaningful interactions within the library environment.

The concept of blended librarianship in the Indian library ecosystem is a response to changing library use patterns and technological advancements. It recognizes the need for librarians to adapt and embrace new technologies while still upholding their traditional roles as information experts. Blended librarianship promotes an integrated approach where librarians actively participate in designing, delivering, and assessing learning experiences. This strategy requires librarians to thoroughly understand the needs and contexts of their client groups in order to guarantee that library materials and amenities are effectively integrated into the teaching and learning process. Blended librarianship also highlights the need for cooperation and partnership between librarians and academic members. This

collaboration allows for the effective integration of library resources and technology into the curriculum, enhancing the overall learning experience for students. Furthermore, in India, the notion of blended librarianship is strongly tied to the idea of integrated librarianship.

Reference

1. Ibacache, K., Koob, A. R., & Vance, E. (2021). Emergency remote library instruction and tech tools. *Information Technology and Libraries, 40*(2).
2. Chakraborty, S., & Jana, S. (2021). Challenges and opportunities of academic libraries in India because of COVID-19. *Annals of Library and Information Studies, 68*(2), 110-118.
3. Al-Marouf, R., Al-Qaysi, N., Salloum, S. A., & Al-Emran, M. (2021). Blended learning acceptance: A systematic review of information systems models. *Technology, Knowledge and Learning, 1*-36.
4. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2019). Academic librarian's transition to blended librarianship: a phenomenology of selected academic librarians in Zimbabwe. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship, 45*(4), 343-357.
5. Anthony, B., Kamaludin, A., Romli, A., Raffei, A. F. M., Nincarean, A., L Eh Phon, D., ... & Baba, S. (2019). Exploring the role of blended learning for teaching and learning effectiveness in institutions of higher learning: An empirical investigation. *Education and Information Technologies, 24*(6), 3433-3466
6. Van Laer, S., & Elen, J. (2017). In search of attributes that support self-regulation in blended learning environments. *Education and Information Technologies, 22*, 1395-1454.
7. McGEE, E., & Poojary, P. (2020). Exploring blended learning relationships in higher education using a systems-based framework. *Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education, 21*(4), 1-13.
8. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended librarianship: [Re] envisioning the role of librarian as educator in the digital information age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly, 51*(2), 105-110.
9. Corrall, S. (2010). Educating the academic librarian as a blended professional: a review and case study. *Library management, 31*(8/9), 567-593.
10. ASLAN, S. A. Thematic Content Analysis of Blended Learning Studies in the Field of Mathematics Education. *Journal of Computer and Education Research, 10*(20), 572-589.

Imperative Competencies for Blended Librarianship Aiding Teaching, Learning and Research Process



Om Prakash Samal

Professional Trainee

Central Library,

IIT Kharagpur

E-mail: omprakashsamal6@gmail.com

Introduction

The information and knowledge needs of different types of users are fulfilled by libraries, and it is the librarian's responsibility to achieve this objective. With various users and the demand for more refined information, the field of librarianship is always developing and changing in terms of technology. The speed of change and ICT integration eventually led to the emergence of modern libraries' digital landscape concerning services and activities. This has an impact on library professionals' roles, competencies, skills, and knowledge to stay relevant in this digital ecology. The concept of blended librarianship evolved with the definition of blended librarian as "an academic librarian who combines the traditional skill set of librarianship with the instructional technologist's hardware/software skills, and the instructional or educational designer's ability to apply technology appropriately in the teaching-learning process."

Prerequisite conditions to facilitate blended librarianship in libraries

To determine whether blended librarianship can be implemented in a library, the circumstances that allow it to exist in libraries must be met:

- **Mind-map for integration of library into the teaching, learning, and research processes**

To add value to using libraries for research and discovery, library professionals might employ "design thinking" in the integration of libraries into the teaching, learning, and research processes. Identifying learning gaps, such as a low score for a student or a lack of information skills among instructors and learners, is the first step in instructional design. According to some researchers in this field, this gap occurs due to the mismatch of present knowledge with the skills that they actually need. Also, researchers emphasized that library professionals must be informed about the prior knowledge of learners as well as what they

still need to know. This helps them evaluate the skills they need to develop so that they can implement the skills in work field for their learners or users.

- **Adoption of emerging technologies**

Blended librarianship becomes a success if it can integrate ICT into the teaching, learning, and research processes effectively. The present generation of learners or users of libraries are so into the Information Communication Technology, coping with them as an instructor or a service provider becomes a challenge. However, this can be achieved by adopting technological skills required in the present-day context such as to be an expert in software systems relating to information sources, services, and products. Such areas are e-learning management systems (eLMS), Content Management System (CMS), Library Automation, Database Management, Research Support Tools Management, etc.

- **Convincement from authority and cooperation from community**

Collaboration between library and faculties should move beyond cooperative activities to create new forms and methods of engagement in intellectual professions. To facilitate that, library professionals must first demonstrate that they have the capabilities such as being an instructional designer in which library professionals design effective ILMS and models which help in bridging the gap between pedagogical theory and knowledge.

Libraries can be involved in interdisciplinary collaborations, where they can exchange their subject expertise together with other sorts of knowledge. These kinds of collaborations may also require the knowledge of diverse librarians including those with experience in public service, subject specialization, technical assistance, and digital technologies.

- **Competencies to be reframed to apply blended learning**

Skills and competencies to be better updated considering this emerging digital era. From traditional information literacy to digital literacy i.e. proficient use of digital technologies such as online databases, search engines, multimedia tools. Also, from managing traditional library collection to managing digital resources and services including web development, data curation, database management, instructional designs, etc.

“Continuing Professional Development” (CPD) has become the defining concept and a vital characteristic for a professional person considering the rapid growth of the 21st century. In this context, many organisations practice it mandatorily; however, professionals need to be more conscious regarding their own development as well as the staff they manage. At the same time, for the concept of employability, the focus must be shifted towards “the

capability to move self-sufficiently within the labour market to realise potential through sustainable employment.”

Those who work in the library and information science field need to manage, track, and evaluate their professional growth. They should be working within a comprehensive framework of professional competence that, ideally, will help them develop professional growth and acquire updated technology.

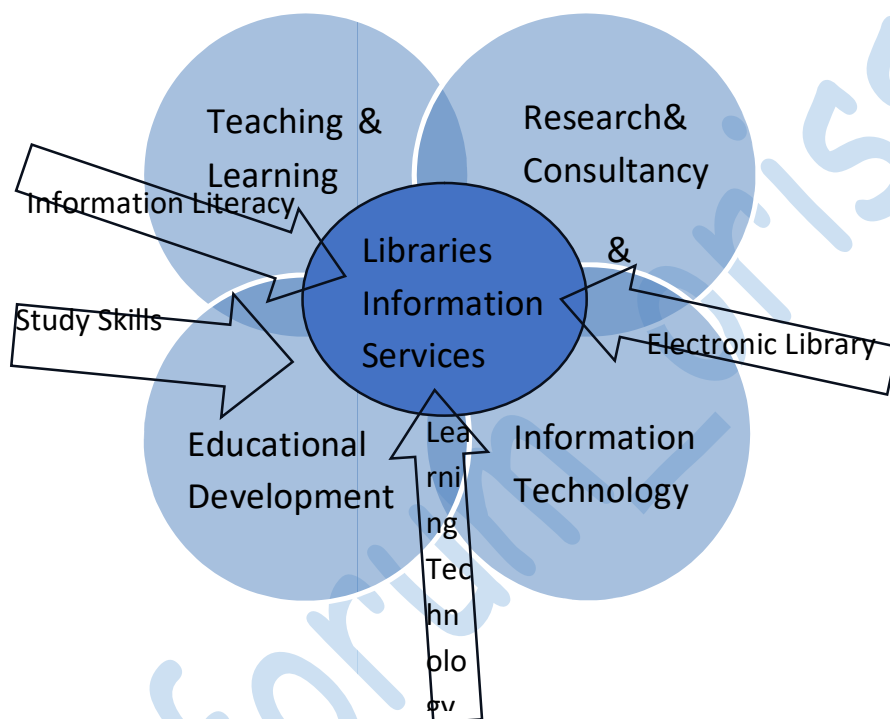


Figure 1: Evolving and overlapping professional specialism (Source: Corral, 2005)

- **Blended librarianship aiding research process.**

According to some studies, blended librarianship changed the roles of library professionals into researchers instead of only as research supporters. Also, library professionals play an important role in the research data management sectors. Subject librarians, in particular, are transitioning from simply assisting research to becoming research partners. To put it another way, they are transitioning from subject librarian to embedded librarian. The future

roles of library professionals are as copyright protectors, innovators, partners, media professionals and technologists, etc.

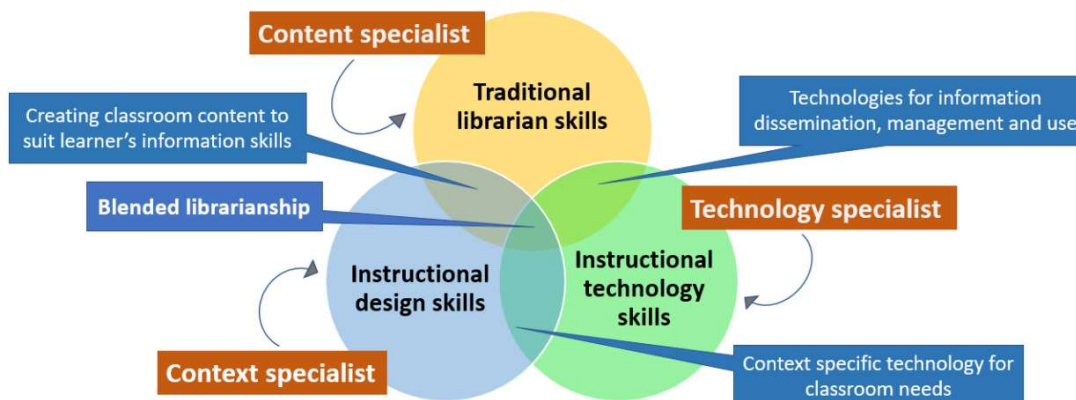


Figure 2: Blended librarianship process (Source: Dabengwa, 2020)
(Adapted from Bell and Shank, 2004, 2007, 2011; Corral, 2010)

Conclusion

The name itself stresses that blended librarianship is a combination of skill sets and more than just multi-tasking. It is a mesh of variety of interprofessional skills and innovative thinking. Adopting and practicing blended librarianship will open doors for librarians in identifying their roles as educators, information specialists, technology experts, web developers, data curators, etc. Also, they will be better equipped to deliver user-centred services that meet the requirements of users in the digital age.

References

1. Ashcroft, L. (2004). Developing competencies, critical analysis and personal transferable skills in future information professionals. *Library Review*, 53(2), 82–88. <https://doi.org/10.1108/00242530410522569>
2. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). *The blended librarian A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians*.

3. Cherinet, Y. M. (2018). Blended skills and future roles of librarians. *Library Management*, 39(1-2), 93-105. <https://doi.org/10.1108/LM-02-2017-0015>
4. Corral, S. (2005). *Developing models of professional competence to enhance employability in the network world.*
5. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2019). *Academic librarian's transition to blended librarianship: a phenomenology of selected academic librarians in Zimbabwe.* The Journal of Academic Librarianship, 45(4), 343-357. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2019.04.008>
6. Nonthacumjane, P. (2011). *Key skills and competencies of a new generation of LIS professionals.* <http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77>
7. Zabel, D., Shank, J. D., & Bell, S. (2011). *Blended Librarianship ReEnvisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age*, (51)2.

Fostering Blended Librarianship: Bridging Traditional and Digital Roles



Anand Kumar Swain

Library Trainee

Central Library,

NIT, Raipur (C.G.)

E-mail : anandaswain91@gmail.com

Abstract

The librarianship profession is one of the fastest-growing professions as compared to other professions. It has changed from traditional librarianship to modern blended librarianship, having concepts of both traditional and digital librarianship. This paper has been prepared on the basis of a review of the literature. It analyses the need for blended librarianship; discusses the tools and techniques used in blended librarianship; and also describes the threat and opportunities of blended librarianship.

Introduction

Information is wealth in modern-day society. To get the desired and authentic information, the library is the most reliable place that stores human knowledge of the past and present for future use. Over the years, the library system and services have been changed due to changes in collections, storage media, tools, and techniques used to retrieve information and users' information needs and seeking behaviour. The Indian library system has reached a stage of blended librarianship with hybrid collections and services. However, the question is how far blended librarianship is applicable in libraries and to what extent it is practically acceptable by LIS professionals in India.

Overview of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship represents a modern transformation of traditional library roles by integrating technology and digital resources into the age-old profession of librarianship. While traditional librarians primarily manage physical collections and assist with reference queries, blended librarians take on a more dynamic role. They leverage their expertise in digital tools, information literacy instruction, and online resources to provide

comprehensive support in the digital age. This shift is essential to adapting to changing user needs and the increasing prevalence of digital information. Blended librarians bridge the gap between the timeless principles of traditional librarianship and the demands of a technology-driven society, ensuring libraries remain vibrant and relevant centres of knowledge and learning.

Using both traditional and digital tools and techniques, librarians have digital competencies in information literacy, managing research data and electronic resources, integrating library 2.0 technology, etc. Collaboration with other libraries and developing new services is one of the new practices in libraries. Blended librarians often collaborate with faculty, researchers and other stakeholders to integrate information resources and services into various academic or organizational activities. Providing open access resources and open access publishing to the user in the digital age is one of the most critical tasks for librarians. In the list of activities, the user-centric approach is also a task of both mediums of librarianship, and making it to the state of the art is the need of the user in the information age.

Need for blended librarianship

As the world becomes increasingly reliant on technology and digital resources, libraries must adapt to meet the changing needs of their patrons. Blended librarianship fulfills this need by combining traditional library skills with technological expertise. It enables librarians to effectively curate and provide access to both physical and digital collections, teach essential digital literacy skills, and offer remote services. These services can be easily utilized by assessing different needs, like their objectives, planning, and other implementations, etc. And this can't be done without the below steps:

- **Need Assessment:** A proper assessment is required to find out the actual need for it. If the user needs and situation require changing the traditional practice and integrating new technology then it is going to be quite beneficial for the user.
- **Need objective:** A clear view is needed to make a blended library because, without a goal and clear vision, it is not possible to establish a blended library.
- **Need Planning:** After finding out the objective, now it is possible to plan a proper technology-based library that will meet the user's needs. In this process, all the stakeholders need to be involved so that a proper plan can be executed.
- **Tools and Technology Integration:** In traditional libraries, all the services are provided by using paper and other antiquated materials. Changing from print catalogue to online catalogue by using different tools and technology. Most of the services can be given by using a Library management system, databases, Library 2.0 tools, etc.

- **Staff Training and Development:** In a blended library, staff training and development is the most important factor where they can engage themselves for the betterment of service. They can aware users and make information literate, through that a library can run in blended mode. This teaching and learning process can help the user to grow in a continuous learning adaptability process. Also, library staff must be allowed to experiment and innovate with open-source technology so that library services can be utilized better. They must be provided with extra activities like assessment and evaluation of innovative projects so that they can learn and use more.
- **Open Access and Digital Initiatives:** Advocate for open-access publishing, open educational resources (OER), and other digital initiatives that promote equitable access to knowledge. Evaluate and select digital resources and databases that align with the needs of your users and academic programs. Ensure that access to e-books, journals, and other digital materials is seamless. Ensure that privacy regulations and data security best practices are in place to protect user data and digital resources.
- **Sustainability:** Continuously assess the effectiveness of blended library services and make adjustments based on feedback and data. Measure progress toward defined objectives. Leadership is crucial to driving the transformation. Communicate the vision for the blended library and inspire staff to embrace change. Ensure that the blended library model is sustainable over the long term by securing adequate funding and resources. Establish a feedback loop with library users and staff to continually refine and enhance blended library services.

Transformation to a blended library is an ongoing process that requires adaptability and a commitment to meeting the evolving needs of your user community. Regularly review the strategic plan and make adjustments as necessary to ensure the success of the blended library model.

Tools and technology and essential practice

Implementing new technology in blended librarianship is essential to enhance library services, improve user experiences, and stay relevant in the digital age.

- **Library Automation:** By implementing ICT and digital library tools and technology, a blended library can be established from a traditional library. In this library, daily routine tasks like issuing and returning, overdue notices and hold management, etc. can be easily performed, and it saves a lot of time for the user. Using chatbots and virtual assistants like Ask Your Librarian for basic references and inquiries Considering RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) technology for efficient inventory

management, self-checkout, and security, it also enhances user convenience and reduces staff workload.

- **Library Management Systems (LMS):** Implementing LMS facilitates seamless cataloging, circulation, resource management, and many more offerings like robust reporting and analytics capabilities, through which the use of services can increase and users can be benefited. Implementing user-friendly digital catalogs and discovery tools that provide easy access to physical and digital resources. Also, these tools must support faceted searching, relevancy ranking, and other support systems through which it can be possible to modify and increase facilities according to user needs.
- **New Tools and Technology:** A librarian can Invest in libraries to procure and make available new services like hosting and managing digital collections, archives, maintaining special collections, etc. Develop and maintain open-access repositories for institutional research and scholarly output. Collaborate with educational institutions to integrate library resources into LMS platforms. Provide tutorials and course-specific library guides.
- Ensure that users can access digital resources remotely through secure authentication methods. Utilize cloud services for storage, backup, and disaster recovery. Develop mobile apps and also ensure that the library's website is responsive for users accessing resources on smartphones and tablets.
- Provide mobile-friendly access to catalogue and e-resources. using AI applications for chatbots, virtual assistants, and natural language processing to improve user interactions and automate routine tasks.
- Consider block chain technology for ensuring the authenticity and integrity of digital archives and historical records. Mostly, these tools must be used for seamless access to resources and to provide better services to users through a blended library and librarianship can sustain...

Threat and opportunity in blended librarianship

Opportunities:

- **More access to information:** Blended librarians can help people find lots of different kinds of information, both in books and on computers. It means we can get more information that we need.
- **Learning how to find information:** Blended librarians can teach you how to find information online and in books. This is important because there's a lot of information out there, and it's not all true.
- **Saving online information:** Blended librarians can make sure that important information on the internet is saved so people can use it later.

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

- **Doing things faster:** Using computers can help librarians do some library jobs more quickly, like organizing books and checking them out to people. This means librarians have more time to help us.
- **Help from far away:** Blended librarians can help us even if we are not at the library. We can ask questions and get help online.
- **Changing to meet needs:** Librarians who know about both books and computers can change and adapt to new things, so the library stays useful.

Threats:

- **Losing jobs:** Some library jobs that are about putting books on shelves or organizing them might not be needed anymore because computers can do those jobs.
- **Learning new things:** Librarians might have to learn new things, which can be hard and take time. If they don't learn, they might have to face trouble with their jobs.
- **Privacy and being fair:** Librarians need to make sure that library data is safe and the use of digital resources is done in a secure environment.
- **Always learning:** Computers change a lot, and with that, access to resource mediums has also drastically changed. This is one of the key challenges for library professionals, so library professionals need to keep learning to keep up.

Conclusion

In conclusion, traditional and blended librarianship both play essential roles in serving the evolving needs of library users. Traditional librarians offer valuable expertise in managing physical collections, providing personalized assistance, and curating tangible resources. On the other hand, blended librarians bring technology skills to the table, enabling access to digital resources, teaching digital literacy, and expanding services beyond library walls. The future of librarianship lies in striking a harmonious balance between these two approaches, creating a dynamic and inclusive library environment. By embracing the strengths of both traditional and blended librarianship, libraries can ensure that they remain relevant, accessible, and responsive to the diverse needs of their communities. In this synthesis, libraries can continue to be bastions of knowledge and support in an increasingly digital world, fostering lifelong learning and serving as vital community resources.

Reference

1. Tait, E., Martzoukou, K., & Reid, P. (2016). Libraries for the future: The role of IT utilities in the transformation of academic libraries. *Palgrave Communications*, 2. <https://doi.org/10.1057/palcomms.2016.70>
2. Zabel, D., Shank, J. D., & Bell, S. (2011). *FOR YOUR ENRICHMENT Blended Librarianship [Re]Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age* (Vol. 51, Issue 2).
3. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2020). Applying interpretive phenomenological analysis to library and information science research on blended librarianship: A case study. *Library and Information Science Research*, 42(4). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lisr.2020.101055>
4. Bell, S. J., & Shank, J. (2004). *The blended librarian A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians*.
5. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). American Library Association Blended Librarianship: [Re]Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105–110. <https://doi.org/10.2307/refuseserq.51.2.105>
6. Saib, M. O., Rajkoomar, M., Naicker, N., & Olugbara, C. T. (2023). Digital pedagogies for librarians in higher education: a systematic review of the literature. *Information Discovery and Delivery*, 51(1), 13–25. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IDD-06-2021-0066>
7. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2020). Applying interpretive phenomenological analysis to library and information science research on blended librarianship: A case study. *Library and Information Science Research*, 42(4). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lisr.2020.101055>

Importance of Blended Librarianship in Indian Library Ecosystem



Mr. Gopal Krishna Chhatar
Central Library
NIT, Raipur (C.G.)
E-mail: gchhatar@gmail.com

Introduction

Blended librarianship is the process of combining traditional library services and resources with digital technologies and online services. In the digital age, librarians require a combination of traditional skills and digital skills to serve their users and manage information. Blended librarians are experts at using both physical and virtual resources, bridging the gap between the physical library space and the online information landscape.

Blended librarianship becomes especially relevant in the context of the Indian library ecosystem as a result of the nation's quick adoption of digitalization and technology. India has experienced an immense rise in smart phone use, Internet access, and online content consumption. Libraries in India have changed as a result to adapt to these developments and meet the demands of people who are linked to the Internet.

Important elements of blended librarianship

- **Digital Literacy:** Blended librarians are skilled in digital tools and frequently help users learn how to use and access digital resources efficiently. They help people browse online databases, e-books, multimedia, and other digital resources.
- **Information Literacy:** They play a vital role in teaching information literacy skills, helping users critically evaluate and use information from various sources, both digital and traditional, to support their research and decision-making.
- **Instruction and Education:** In order to ensure that students are adequately prepared for the information-rich environments they will experience, blended librarians frequently take part in curriculum development and work with educators to include information literacy into courses and assignments.

Importance in the Indian library ecosystems

In the Indian library ecosystem, blended librarianship is extremely important for several kinds of reasons:

- **Access to diverse information sources:** India, a multicultural nation that is developing promptly, has an increasing demand for access to a wide range of information sources. Using both traditional and digital resources, blended librarians may guide users to the information they need, ensuring that they can access it effectively.
- **Digital transformation:** India has seen digital transformation in recent years as a result of increasing internet access and government initiatives to promote digital services and literacy. Blended librarians play a critical role in this evolution by helping users get the most out of digital materials and online databases.
- **Education and research support:** Blended librarians are essential to helping students, academics, and researchers in a nation where education and research are highly valued. They provide information on how to properly conduct research and develop crucial information literacy skills.
- **Bridge between communities:** Urban and rural regions can be found in India, as well as many different types of communities. No matter where they are located or what their history may be, blended librarians can serve as a link in the community, ensuring that everyone in society has fair access to knowledge and technology.
- **Preservation of cultural heritage:** India has a rich cultural legacy with numerous historical documents and artifacts. Blended librarians can work to digitize and preserve these cultural treasures, making them accessible to a global audience and helping to safeguard India's history.
- **Support for language diversity:** In India, there are several different languages that are spoken in different parts of the country. To make sure that language is not a barrier to information access, blended librarians can help curate and provide access to resources in many languages.

Blended librarianship in Indian libraries

- **Integration of Traditional and Digital Services:** The integration of traditional and digital services refers to the process of combining both offline and online service delivery methods to enhance customer experience, improve operational efficiency, and stay competitive in today's digital age. This integration can apply to various industries, including retail, healthcare, banking, education, and more. There are some important factors to consider when integrating traditional and digital services:

- **Customer-Centric Approach:** Know the demands and preferences of your customers. While some customers could like digital self-service choices, others would want conventional in-person encounters. Create a customized integration approach.
- **Data Integration:** Ensure that data collected through traditional and digital channels can be integrated and analyzed together.
- **Digitalization of Traditional Services:** Create digital versions of paper-based processes. For example, electronic paperwork and phone calls can be replaced or added to by digital forms, online appointment scheduling, and e-commerce platforms.
- **Mobile-Friendly Solutions:** Make sure your digital services are mobile-friendly, given the popularity of smart phones. Mobile apps and responsive website design fall under this category.
- **Security and Privacy:** To protect client information, take strong security measures, especially when working with sensitive data in digital services. Ensure that all applicable data protection laws are followed.
- **Employee Training:** Employees should receive training on how to use digital technologies and deliver exceptional customer service across all channels. Staff members must be familiar with both conventional and digital service choices.
- **Scalability:** Make sure your integrated strategy is extensible to take into account expansion and evolving customer needs. Be ready to include new technologies and change your approach as necessary.

Role of librarians in a blended environment

Librarians play a vital role in a blended learning environment where traditional in-person instruction is combined with online and digital resources. Their role extends beyond the traditional library setting to support both students and educators in this modern educational landscape. Here are some important roles and responsibilities for librarians in a blended environment: -

- **Curating Digital Resources:** Librarians maintain and arrange digital resources, including e-books, databases, online journals, and educational websites. They ensure that these resources are accessible to both students and teachers, helping them find relevant and reliable information.
- **Information Literacy Instruction:** Librarians teach information literacy skills, which are essential for students to evaluate and use information effectively, especially in an online environment. They help students in the growth of critical thinking abilities, the evaluation of the reliability of sources, and the management of the challenges of conducting online research.

- **Digital Literacy Support:** Digital literacy is crucial in a blended environment. Librarians can provide training and support to students and teachers in using digital tools and software, comprehending copyright and fair use, and maintaining online safety.
- **Collaboration with Educators:** Librarians collaborate with teachers and curriculum designers to integrate digital resources into the curriculum. They can recommend online resources and technologies that fit with lesson plans and learning objectives.
- **Online Reference Services:** Librarians provide virtual reference services through email, chat, or video conferencing to help students and teachers with research inquiries, resource recommendations, and information-related questions.
- **Creating Online Tutorials and Guides:** Librarians create online tutorials and guides that address specific research or digital literacy topics. These resources can be accessed by students and teachers at their convenience.
- **Promoting Copyright Compliance:** Librarians educate both students and educators about copyright laws and intellectual property rights. They help users understand how to use digital resources ethically and legally.
- **Professional Development:** Librarians engage in continuous professional development to stay updated on emerging technologies, trends in education, and best practices in information and digital literacy. They can then share this knowledge with the school community.

Conclusion

Librarians who play multiple roles typically go through a dynamic adaptation to their evolving tasks. This ongoing development can be both challenging and beneficial. Phenomenology says that this adaptation implies a continuous process of adjusting to new technological advancements, user needs, and educational trends.

Collaboration is a fundamental aspect of blended librarianship. Collaborating with teachers, technologists, and students can be viewed by librarians as a form of meaningful interaction. From a phenomenological perspective, these interactions show potential to develop mutually understood concepts and ideas. Librarians may find fulfillment in co-creating educational opportunities with others.

Librarians in blended roles frequently engage in professional development to stay current with technology and best practices. These experiences of learning and growth can be transformative. Phenomenologically, librarians may describe their experiences as a journey

of self-discovery and self-improvement. They may find satisfaction in expanding their knowledge and skills.

References

1. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended librarianship:[Re] envisioning the role of librarian as educator in the digital information age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110.
2. Tait, E., Martzoukou, K., & Reid, P. (2016). Libraries for the future: the role of IT utilities in the transformation of academic libraries. *Palgrave Communications*, 2(1), 1-9.
3. Al-Marroof, R., Al-Qaysi, N., Salloum, S. A., & Al-Emran, M. (2021). Blended learning acceptance: A systematic review of information systems models. *Technology, Knowledge and Learning*, 1-36.
4. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2019). Academic librarian's transition to blended librarianship: a phenomenology of selected academic librarians in Zimbabwe. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 45(4), 343-357.
5. Tank, S. D., Maradiya, M., & Bhatt, R. (2017). Blended Librarianship for Academic Libraries in Digital Era Theory and Practice.
6. Bell, S., & Shank, J. D. (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *Temple University Libraries*.
7. Adebayo, O., Iwu-James, J., Olawoyin, O., Fagbohun, M. I. C. H. A. E. L., Esse, U., Yusuf, F., ... & Owolabi, S. (2019). Blended learning in higher education: implication and strategies for academic library support. In *INTED2019 Proceedings* (pp. 7210-7217). IATED.
8. Oyeronke, A., Juliana, I. J., & Olajumoke, R. O. (2019). Blended learning in higher education: implication and strategies for academic library support.

Indian Libraries and Blended Librarianship



DIKSHA

Research Scholar,
Department of Library & Information Science,
University of Jammu, J&K, India
E-mail: dikshaphd23@gmail.com

Introduction

Blended librarianship has become increasingly outstanding in recent years, particularly within the discipline of instructional librarianship. This concept encompasses the combination of traditional library practices and emerging technology, with the goal of enhancing the function of librarians in facilitating coaching, gaining knowledge of, and conducting research (Eric, 2021). It is believed that blended librarianship may represent a transformative method for maintaining the performance of instructional librarians in their endeavours related to both study and teaching.

Phenomenology of blended librarianship

The idea of blended librarianship is still at an early stage in the Indian library atmosphere. Despite being mentioned and recognized by students, its implementation and adoption in Indian libraries are restrained. LIS literature show that Indian educational librarians have not yet begun to fully embrace and exercise mixed librarianship. The concept of blended librarianship in the Indian library environment promotes the direct integration of librarians and library sources into coaching and gaining knowledge of procedures, especially online systems. Blended librarianship is taken into consideration as the number one thing that might exhibit the relevance and effectiveness of educational librarians in facilitating study and teaching.

Overview of the Indian library ecosystem

To realize the phenomenon of blended librarianship within the Indian library sphere, it's imperative to gain a concise overview of the prevailing state of libraries in India. Libraries in India, specifically those at tertiary establishments, play a pivotal role in facilitating the academic necessities of students and teachers in a college or university. These libraries are normally entrusted with the responsibility of buying, arranging, and presenting access to a

wide spectrum of resources, which include books, journals, databases, and other data formats. Furthermore, Indian libraries are steadily assimilating virtual technology and online systems to cater to the needs in the form or alternative ways the users wish to have. Blended librarianship emerges as a response to the evolving panorama of higher education and the surging demand for virtual literacy and online resources.

Blended librarianship in the Indian context

The concept of blended librarianship in the Indian context encompasses the direct placement of librarians in the online academic surroundings. This placement allows librarians to actively engage with teachers and college students, thereby contributing to the achievement of instructional objectives. The embedding of blended librarians in online school rooms in India provides them the opportunity to interact at once with teachers and rookies via the same online structures.

This technique enables the seamless integration of library resources and services into the teaching and studying manner, and in the long run enhancing the educational experience for all members. By serving as co-instructors, mixed librarians in India offer valuable help to instructors in finding applicable coaching and gaining knowledge of sources, thereby decreasing the time spent on searching for substances and answering scholar queries.

Challenges of implementing blended librarianship in India

The implementation of blended librarianship in India presents numerous demanding situations, usually because of the shortage of essential competencies and resources among librarians. The constrained adoption and practice of blended librarianship, compounded by the gap in training and curricula for librarianship courses, further exacerbate those demanding situations.

One of the largest limitations encountered in the course of the implementation of mixed librarianship in India is the shortage of crucial competencies and resources among librarians. This inadequacy impedes the successful adoption and implementation of blended librarianship in India.

Furthermore, there exists a gap within the training of librarians and within the curricula of librarianship courses in India, as stated with the aid of (Macula and Borges (2017). This gap, in turn, prevents librarians from acquiring the interdisciplinary education vital to becoming gifted in mixed librarianship.

Another assignment in enforcing combined librarianship in India is the limited adoption and exercise of this idea. According to LIS literature, blended librarianship continues to be in its infancy amongst Indian librarians.

Future prospects of blended librarianship in Indian libraries

The ability for mixed librarianship in Indian libraries is promising, as this technique has the ability to raise the role of librarians and deal with the evolving wishes of library customers in the digital era. Blended librarianship is a methodology that merges traditional library abilities with information and communication era; talents to seamlessly contain generation into the teaching and mastering technique. In India, blended librarians will serve as critical intermediaries between resources and users, making use of technology to decorate the teaching-learning process and gain superior outcomes in terms of student information literacy. Furthermore, combined librarians in India could have a pivotal role in navigating the challenges supplied by means of new technology and ensuring that library sources and statistics literacy are efficiently provided online. Furthermore, these individuals will possess the necessary capabilities to efficaciously enable the usage of diverse technological equipment and codecs, correctly catering to the heterogeneous requirements and inclinations of library customers. Additionally, the mixing of blended librarianship will drastically be a useful resource in the accomplishment of instructional goals in India.

Conclusion

In the end, the incorporation of blended librarianship provides a promising approach for enriching the library environment in higher education institutions. According to numerous authors and researchers, mixed librarianship merges the regular aptitudes of librarianship with record technology and educational design proficiencies. This integration of diverse talent units empowers mixed librarians to efficiently utilize technology within the coaching-studying technique and attain advanced student statistics literacy consequences.

References

1. Ibacache, K., Rybin Koob, A., & Vance, E. (2021). Emergency Remote Library Instruction and Tech Tools: A Matter of Equity During a Pandemic. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 40(2). <https://doi.org/10.6017/ital.v40i2.12751>
2. Macula, B C M D S., & Borges, G S B. (2017, December 14). Blended Librarians in Academic Libraries: a Brazilian Panorama. <https://scite.ai/reports/10.5209/rgid.58213>

Role of Librarian Beyond Books



Dr. Manoj Mishra

Asst. Librarian,
IMS & SUM Hospital,
Siksha 'O' Anusandhan University,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha
E-mail: dr.manojmishra75@gmail.com

David Lankes said “Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, and great libraries build communities”.

Introduction

In the concept of library and librarianship, society may feel the expanding roles and functions of libraries and librarians beyond their traditional focus on physical books. However, the concept of “beyond books” highlights how libraries and librarians adapt to the digital age and the changing needs of their communities, even becoming dynamic and versatile centers for learning, creativity, and community engagement.

The changing role of librarianship is a model that emphasizes the requirements for librarianship to have diverse skills that blend traditional practices for instructional design with technology expertise. Traditionally, the librarian performs collection, organization, and dissemination duties, but libraries throughout the world have undergone great change over the last three decades. Global networking and telecommunications, digitization, electronic publishing, and document delivery services have been developed due to the rapid growth of technology.

In this context, society speculates on the future of the library as: virtual library, a library without walls, an electronic campus, etc. It is evident that, young professionals as well as some veterans are willing to be a part of the changing library system. The role of the academic and special librarian is changed by the development and implementation of technology in different library services.

Transformation of the librarian's role:

The mission of librarianship is to promote services for the ever-increasing amount of information. It is now not confined to the "guardians of books", This led to the need for new and different skills for the library and information science professions to support their services and activities. Now the librarians are information providers in this constantly changing environment, where they need to collect information quickly and effectively.

In this modern and digital society, librarians are known as cybrarians, information managers, policymakers, information researchers, electronic resource experts, database managers, knowledge managers, etc. Due to the overload of information, the role of the librarian has changed drastically to select and find the authentic information required for online users.

The library professionals have to know the curriculum / research programs mandated by the academic and research communities. They have to understand the user's social, emotional, and intellectual needs and provide appropriate information resources or instructions to satisfy the needs of individuals and groups.

They have to use appropriate information technology to acquire, organize and disseminate information and to manage library programs, services and staff to support the above goals. They have to place priority on staff relationships and leadership in the implementation of change and to provide leadership in collaborative program planning and teaching. The responsibility of library professionals is increased by means of packaging and repackaging information, electronic publishing, and guiding users about selecting and finding electronic sources, etc.

Relevance of library profession

It is very important to diminish jobs with less attractive salaries. It becomes a general discussion on every platform in the library profession. Due to some hidden reasons, working librarians lose their role as information intermediaries. Every user has his/her smart phone and other devices with them. So the number of footfalls in the library is being reduced. But the working librarians are not willing to increase their numbers. Different search engines are now performing some of the library functions.

But the working librarians should make some policy and take some fruitful decisions to be relevant in the profession, which are visualized within the institutional environment. The library professionals have to understand the needs of the users and aware them of specific and timely information. They may collect their personal information to serve them on their own ways and they should organize some of the orientation and training sessions for the users on how to use the electronic resources. The library must meet the IT support

requirements of its users and create a network-based platform to archive digital information. They also have to decide on the appropriate technology solutions and the implementation of such devices in their working environment. Society may discuss the evaluation and selection of Internet-based information resources and build subject gateways or portals as part of the library website. The library professionals must address the question of authenticity, integrity, and origin of information to prepare a critical literature review to support academic and research counterparts.

The working librarians are to collaborate in the publication process, prepare annual reports and reviews, etc. within their concerned institutions. They have to assist in the institutional patent process, help the researchers with their homework, like literature search, and minimize the level of patent rejection. Apart from this, the working librarians need to transform themselves and change some of the present roles to serve better their users meeting the expectations.



(Concept of librarianship beyond books: Internet source)

The librarians have to build institutional repositories, revive and promote “book discussion groups,” and serve the user community through social networking on smart phones.

In this changing society, working librarians have to look after copyright issues, prevent plagiarism, and promote open access. They have to work as image builders for the faculty members on the Academic Performance Indicator (API) scientometric analysis for awards and recognitions of the institutions they serve. They can act as an “Open Access Administrator” and understand different types of APCs to help researchers focus on their research work only and not bother about the publications. They have the knowledge of transformative agreements and read and publish models to ensure that the librarians collaborate with the researchers for the value of institutional growth.

Conclusion

User expectations significantly shape how they perceive the library service and they are greatly influenced by usability and practical applicability. The development of libraries mainly depends on the availability of professional manpower with adequate provision of continuous training to keep updated with changing technology, and they will thrive as dynamic, inclusive spaces that empower individuals, foster lifelong learning, and contribute to the cultural and social fabric of their community. Whereas librarians are now knowledge navigators, technology facilitators, community connectors, and advocates for equitable access to information. The library profession requires its strength with remarkable sincerity and dedication. A professional career also depends on self-commitment. The behavioral approach of different user groups commonly finds the position of library professionals. The changing positions of working librarians are noticed due to the probable causes. The working librarians should have the willingness to collaborate with other associated professionals on the latest developments in the required technology for libraries. The working librarians are to empower the users by unifying library solutions, foster institutional success through the library, and stay on top of the digital transformation.

The Change of Libraries from the Current Traditional System to the Future is Inevitable



Dr. Papanna S*

Librarian – Selection Grade,
HPPC Government First Grade College,
Challakere, Chitradurga District, Karnataka – 577522.
E- mail: appudorelib@gmail.com

Introduction

Libraries are more than just community spaces; they are gateways to everyday resources, from information, training and study groups to child care. So, what does this mean at a time when community libraries are changing so much? Libraries face renewal, both in terms of the social processes they enable and the diversity of services and experiences they offer. If libraries are not ready to change like the world around them, they risk losing relevance or even extinction. The future of libraries is uncertain, but it's not all doom and gloom. As long as we think about courage, there are many things worth looking forward to. The digital revolution, COVID-19, and the changing desires of readers present a possibility to rewrite the role of public libraries in our lives. It is not any marvel that the manner of analyzing has modified the usage of libraries. When human behavior is modified our business enterprise wishes to trade with it. Even inside the instructional or public sphere, libraries want to exchange the way they view their customers. Because they are no longer simply customers, they're clients and they want to have a fantastic customer experience first. According to Andrew Roth, the President Emeritus at Notre Dame College, "Higher education is moving because its core parts' students are beginning to behave extra like customers and are less forgiving of a number of the inefficient and useless elements of the academy not tailored for a robust customer enjoy." We have visible the solution to these expectancies after diverse enterprise fashions including subscription models which include Netflix and Spotify. In trendy world, the commercial enterprise fashions at the back of newspapers, magazines, books, movies, music, food and apparel have modified to house main adjustments, and libraries have had to adapt or be left at the back of. People need something personalized, elective, and bendy sufficient to meet their needs. How? We blanketed you.

Changing aspects of libraries from present to future

The following three aspects are proposed to explain what changes will occur in library systems from the present to the future.

- a. **It will inevitably be a change from a collection-centric organization to a people-centric service in the future:** Similar to Google, you can find a lot of information online. There are listed and available to view more than 50 billion web pages. More effort than we may realize goes into reading, categorizing, and focusing. What makes your library unique from others, then? by genuinely interested in your clients' life and treating them as individuals.

- b. **Focus on the following discovery to help you adjust to changes in parenting style:** We all agree that content is crucial, but how it is disseminated can determine whether or not buyers discover it. The video and music industries have long understood that people's methods of discovery are crucial when they are interested in certain content. All devices (laptops, tablets, desktops, and mobile phones) can now be accessed remotely and without restriction. Keep in mind that your library reaches its clients online.

- c. **Library services need to be made available to students and parents when they want, when they want:** Libraries will need to take into account their ability to help students self-direct their learning and access content when and when they need it as more open-source content is generated. The secret is to make investments in services that are more comprehensive and distribute material via a single, searchable service. The amount of digital content keeps increasing rapidly. There is no escaping it. The jobs of librarians must change to include database navigation, data migration, and digital preservation. These could appear unusual or even frightening. But what they really mean is that libraries' main responsibility is to assist their patrons in navigating the vast amount of information available to them today. The issue is that not many publishers are eager to cooperate with libraries in the manner preferred by users, students, and librarians. How can you persuade creators to sell physical copies of their works rather than website subscriptions? Press reader is an example of a technology platform that gathers content from a large number of sources into a single searchable platform. By identifying connections using IP addresses, referral URLs, or geophones, we give students quick access to information. Libraries can connect with readers in ways that are important to them when they collaborate with distributors, publishers, students, and other digital partners.

Conclusion

So, try not to dwell too much on what has already occurred. To match the requirements of their patrons and better suit their lifestyles, libraries must adapt. Assist your consumers in accessing material in their preferred way by prioritizing mobile devices, reducing

geographical constraints, and reacting to their particular demands. Offer them a personalized customer experience. Help them discover new interests or pastimes while they are travelling. Sell to your library's patrons to keep them coming back. At the end of the day, the customer's experience is what matters most.

Reference:

1. The Independent Library Report <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-library-report-for-england>
2. Nicky Morgan and David Walliams launch child literacy campaign <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nicky-morgan-and-david-walliams-launch-child-literacy-campaign>
3. Alcock, M., & Nemes, G. (2018). The impact of emerging technologies on libraries: A SWOT analysis. *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, 50(3), 275-284. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0961000617748426>
4. Borgman, C. L. (2015). *Big data, little data, no data: Scholarship in the networked world*. MIT Press. <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/big-data-little-data-no-data>
5. Kwon, N. (2017). The future of academic libraries: An exploratory study using the Delphi method. *Library Hi Tech*, 35(3), 405-423. <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/LHT-10-2016-0118/full/html>
6. Lankes, R. D. (2011). *The atlas of new librarianship*. MIT Press. <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/atlas-new-librarianship>
7. Lin, Q. (2019). Emerging technologies in libraries: Opportunities and challenges for learning, teaching, and research. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 45(4), 102050. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0099133319300882>
8. Mulimani, M. N., & Naikar, S. (2022). Use of ICT in teaching and learning: A role of institutions, teachers, students and technology. *Pearl: A Journal of Library and Information Science*, 16(2), 121-128. <https://doi.org/10.5958/0975-6922.2022.00014.6>

The Indian Library Renaissance: How Blended Librarianship is Shaping the Future



Zeeshan Ali Siddiqui

Ex Assistant Librarian,
BNMA College, Bhadrak

E-mail: zeeshanamubdk@gmail.com

Abstract

Numerous reasons have paved the way for the Indian library renaissance. Blended librarians in India assume multifaceted roles that go beyond the traditional boundaries of their profession. Blended librarians, in partnership with educators provide students with the necessary reading materials and proper guidance for their courses. Today's library users aren't satisfied with dusty stacks and complex catalogues. Blended librarians are critical to this dynamic shift because they are the architects who shape the future of Indian libraries. As a result, the Indian Library Renaissance is about more than just surviving the digital age. Blended librarians are at the forefront of meeting these expectations by categorizing and ordering digital collections and improving search interfaces..

Introduction

Libraries have long been seen as repositories of knowledge, their shelves brimming with books, manuscripts, and the cumulative wisdom of centuries past. These revered information vaults have evolved throughout the ages, adjusting to the changing tides of technology and education. This transformation, however, is especially significant in the context of India, where a renaissance in library services is being led by a new breed of professionals known as blended librarians. In the age of information technology, the Indian library ecosystem, like libraries globally, has witnessed significant challenges. The change from print to digital has been quick and unwavering, altering not merely the medium by which knowledge is accessed but also the basic definition of what defines a library. Despite this paradigm shift, libraries in India have discovered an unexpected source of resilience and innovation: the blended librarian. During the first conference of the American Library Association in the year 1876, Robinson stated that *"A librarian should be much more than a keeper of books; he should be an educator."* (Robinson, 1876)

Blended librarianship is a theory as well as a practice. It reflects a harmonious blend of conventional library skills and the prowess of information professionals in the digital age. In

an era when the frontiers of information are increasing fast, these librarians are the bridge builders, knowledge navigators, and protectors of intellectual freedom. Blended librarianship encompasses a 'meshing of skill sets' and therefore goes beyond multitasking (Corrall, 2010).

Numerous reasons have paved the way for the Indian Library Renaissance. The most visible of these is the digital revolution that has swept the country. India's embrace of technology, from the rapid spread of smartphones to the government's ambitious Digital India mission, has altered the information landscape. Libraries have been converted from dead warehouses of books to dynamic information centres in this era of easy access to the Internet, and the function of the librarian has shifted from storekeeper to guide, with the blended librarian leading the way. Academic librarians at higher educational institutions are usually paving the way for adopting blended learning in the library environment (Ashraf et al., 2021).

Another driving force behind this pertains to shifting user expectations. Today's library users aren't satisfied with dusty stacks and complex catalogues. They want online resources to be convenient, to have quick access to e-books and e-journals, and to be able to connect with library services from the comfort of their own homes. Blended librarians are sensitive to these changing demands, designing user-centered experiences that combine the finest of traditional library services with the efficiency of the digital environment. In addition, the growing popularity and acceptance of e-learning and online education platforms in India has brought libraries into the centre of the learning experience. Blended librarians now work closely with teachers to ensure that students have access to the digital resources they need for their classes. They compile course-specific reading lists, provide research methodology advice, and support educational endeavours.

In today's dynamic environment, information literacy has become a top priority. The flood of information available on the web, differs in regards to accuracy and trustworthiness, necessitates the development of abilities to traverse this data sea. Blended librarians play an important role in developing information literacy. They teach users how to critically evaluate Internet sources, distinguish reliable material from falsehoods, and successfully use citation tools.

As a result, the Indian Library Renaissance is about more than just surviving the digital age. It is about flourishing in it, harnessing technology to improve information access, and ensuring that libraries remain vital, important pillars of society. Blended librarians are critical to this shift because they are the architects who shape the future of Indian libraries.

The evolution of blended librarianship

Blended librarianship is a relatively newer approach that flawlessly consolidates conventional library skills with digital literacy, recent information technology advancements, and modern teaching methods. Blended librarians are integrated professionals who have theoretical knowledge of library and information science as well as concurrent capabilities that enable them to handle both printed and digital information; they additionally possess an understanding of how to utilise and handle information and communication technologies (G. A. T. Vargas et al, 2015) The notion that librarians should and can be integrated teaching collaborators as well as an impetus for students' knowledge enhancement and intellectual exploration influences blended librarianship (Shank & Bell, 2011) In India, this evolution has been influenced by several factors:

- **Digital Revolution:** The increased adoption of the modern digital technologies has transformed the way information is created, stored, and retrieved. Blended librarians have adapted themselves well to this new arena by becoming proficient in digital resources and technologies and acquiring significant skills.
- **Dynamic Expectations of the Users** Library users now expect instant access to information, both in physical and digital formats, thanks to the digital revolution. Blended librarians are at the forefront of meeting these expectations by categorizing and ordering digital collections and improving search interfaces.
- **e-Learning:** The rise of online education platforms and e-learning has increased the demand for digital resources. Public libraries are also known as informal universities as they support informal education. Blended librarians, in partnership with educators, provide students with the necessary reading materials and proper guidance for their courses.
- **Information Literacy:** Blended librarians play a vital role in promoting information literacy skills by teaching users how to critically evaluate online sources, navigate, and filter the required information from a vast sea of information. They promote the use of modern tools to search for the required materials or information.

Key roles of blended librarians

Blended librarians in India assume multifaceted roles that go beyond the traditional boundaries of their profession. Some of their key functions include:

- **Digital Resource Management:** They curate and manage digital collections, ensuring that users have access to a wide range of physical books along with e-books, journals, and databases.

- **Technology Integration:** Blended librarians harness technology to improve library services. This includes implementing user-friendly search interfaces, offering online reference services, and conducting online workshops regarding the use of OPAC, Web OPACs, make users aware of various sections of libraries as well as their functions.
- **Keeping up-to-date with the technological advancements** - The responsibilities of librarians have shifted with the goal of keeping up to date with leading-edge digital trends, increasing technological advances, and innovative approaches to information access, usage, collaboration, and engagement. Other transferable skills, such as instruction and education with the aid of new media and learning approaches, have been gaining traction in the past few years (Sain & Negi, 2023)
- **Collaboration:** They collaborate with teachers, researchers and students take their feedback on how to promote research endeavours, assist in academic projects, assignments and pave the way to digital scholarship.
- **Advocacy-** Blended librarians advocate for open access initiatives, promote the use of open educational resources by making the users aware of how to pick up a book of their choice by using a shelf list and giving them a brief idea of classification of books in the library, and work to make scholarly information more accessible to all.
- **Information Literacy Instruction:** They educate their clientele on how to critically evaluate information sources, abstain from plagiarism, and make effective use of citation tools and reference managers. Beyond the library and across the curriculum, the blended librarian focuses on course goals and learning objectives. Several educators and pupils may find that books, articles, and reserve readings (both e-resources and print) fulfill their needs (Sinclair, 2009)

Shaping the future of indian libraries

Blended librarianship constitutes a genuine job assignment performed by academic librarians by means of roles and duties that meet their institutions' aims and the demands of the community they serve (Dabengwa, 2019). Blended librarians are instrumental in shaping the future of Indian libraries in several ways:

- **Increased User Experience:** The librarians augment the user experience by flawlessly amalgamating physical and e-resources, thereby making it easier for patrons to find the required information and use it.
- **Innovation Centres-** The advent of the 21st century has witnessed drastic changes in each and every field. Libraries are not lagging behind any field; they have modified their roles from mere storehouse of books to innovation centres where users can experience recent technologies, starting from virtual reality and 3D printing to AI, with the assistance of blended librarians.

- **Make Knowledge accessible:** Blended librarians work very diligently to bridge the digital divide that exists in our society due to socio-economic conditions. They make sure that remote location, age, caste, religion, and socio-economic conditions do not act as barriers for accessing information and, subsequently, will help in democratizing information. The impact of libraries on student performance has been determined by applying both institutional and individual-level criteria, as one might expect. Several studies at the institutional level have looked into the library's impact on both GPA (grade point average) and retention among students (Walker, 2022).
- **Supporting Lifelong Learning:** They play an important role in promoting lifelong learning initiatives, making it viable for the people to acquire new skills and knowledge. They have been entrusted to equip everyone with the power of information.

Conclusion

The Indian library ecosystem has witnessed rampant technological development, from the earlier register entry system to modern library management software, the introduction of RFID, automatic charging and discharging of books and the development of artificial intelligence, which has the potential to transform the functions of a library. Libraries are experiencing a renaissance driven by the innovative and adaptive approach of blended librarians who are well versed with the developments around them and incorporating those developments in the libraries, improving the experience of users and saving a lot of time and hard work. These professionals are not only preserving the rich heritage of libraries but also propelling them into the digital future. As they continue to evolve and adapt, Indian libraries will remain vibrant centres of knowledge and learning, serving as beacons of information accessibility and progress in the 21st century. Blended librarians are indeed shaping the future of Indian libraries, ensuring that they remain indispensable in the ever-evolving world of information.

Reference

1. Corrall, S. (2010). Educating the academic librarian as a blended professional: a review and case study. *Library management*, 31(8/9), 567-593.
2. Ashraf, M. A., Yang, M., Zhang, Y., Denden, M., Tlili, A., Liu, J., ... & Burgos, D. (2021). A systematic review of systematic reviews on blended learning: Trends, gaps and future directions. *Psychology Research and Behavior Management*, 1525-1541.
3. Vargas, G. A. T. (2015). The blended librarian and the disruptive technological innovation in the digital world. *Open Access Library Journal*, 2(08), 1.

4. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended librarianship:[Re] envisioning the role of librarian as educator in the digital information age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105-110.
5. Sain, S. K., & Negi, M. A. Libraries in the 21st Century: Redefining their Future through ICT.
6. Sinclair, B. (2009). The blended librarian in the learning commons: New skills for the blended library. *College & research libraries news*, 70(9), 504-516.
7. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2019). Academic librarian's transition to blended librarianship: a phenomenology of selected academic librarians in Zimbabwe. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 45(4), 343-357.
8. Walker, K. W. (2022). A silver lining for pandemic-weary libraries: How blended and flipped instructional programs have improved upon pre-pandemic norms. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 48(6), 102595.

The True Sense of Blended Librarianship: Just as Defined or Beyond



Yashveer Pratap Singh

Knowledge Consultant,

E-mail: replyhenry83@gmail.com

Blended librarianship is a modern approach to librarianship that combines traditional and basic library skills and services with ICT and information resources. It is blending of traditional library practices, such as cataloguing, organizing, collection management, reference services and reporting with the digital and newer technologies that have transformed the information practice and landscape.

In essence, blended librarianship reflects the changing nature of libraries and the need for librarians to blend traditional library skills with technological expertise to provide effective information services in today's information-rich and digitally connected world.

Blended librarians actively engage with their communities, both in-person and online. They may use social media, webinars, and virtual events to connect with patrons and promote library services. They advocate for the value of libraries and librarians in the digital age, emphasizing the importance of information access, intellectual freedom, and privacy.

So, the question comes is that "Is it a new concept? In my understanding it is basically the "original librarianship" and digital stuff put together. So, the new entrant here is the technology, rest other things are going to be the same and governed as it was done, not to ignore newer practices, innovation etc.

Digital expertise has become increasingly important in many professions due to the widespread integration of technology into various aspects of our lives and work. While it may not be an absolute requirement for every profession, having digital skills and expertise can provide significant advantages in today's interconnected world.

Now the question is it important or not so important. This is immensely important. Digital friendly librarians are and will play the most crucial role in ensuring that digital information remains accessible and organized, not only for today's users but also for future generations. Their work is interdisciplinary, combining aspects of library science, information science, computer science, and archival studies. Digital-friendly librarians are essential for modern libraries to remain relevant and continue serving their communities effectively in the digital age. They act as intermediaries between technology and library users, making it easier for people to access and utilize the wealth of digital information available today.

I agree that blended librarians are very important in today's digital age. They are proficient in using digital tools and platforms to access, organize, and disseminate information to

library patrons. They can also teach others how to use this more effectively and efficiently and contribute greatly to the learning process. It is going to enhance the academic output and impact. However, one must also understand that digital is not solid, it is fluid for few and semi solid for few and librarians will fall here. So, they need to be adaptable for changes and proactive in keeping up with technological changes and collaborating with other professionals to provide effective learning experiences.

Librarians do not need digital expertise like software professional or marketing may require. Envisioning newer roles, transformed roles in new era has always been the requirement. There is no need to coin a new term of blended librarianship.

Even librarians must not worry that this is a new concept or a new profession or they need to undergo some major courses or something similar. They just need to update themselves digitally. They need to learn few things and that are all. This is not a new kind of librarianship just they become digital ready. All the logics and any digital interface are going to be governed by the basic principle of library science.

They can work greatly to decrease the digital divide. With the help of technology, it can be scaled and speeded. The spread can be multiplied with less investment and time. It can play a vital role in filling the digital gap by combining traditional library skills with digital expertise. By providing digital literacy education, access to digital resources, technology support, and community engagement, blended librarians can help ensure that all members of their community have the skills and resources they need to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Access to information has increasingly moved online over the past few decades, and this trend is likely to continue in increasingly continue in the future. The internet has revolutionized the way we access and share information, making it more accessible and convenient than ever before. As information continues to migrate online, it will be essential to address these issues to ensure equitable access and responsible use of digital resources. Here also Blended librarianship can play a big role.

It's not surprising that the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the trend of people using online resources. The pandemic led to significant disruptions in daily life and forced many individuals, businesses, and organizations to adapt quickly to the new circumstances. It's likely that many of these changes will continue to shape the way people work, learn, shop, and interact even after the pandemic subsides. The digital transformation that took place during this period will likely have a lasting impact on various aspects of how, when & where information is going to be accessed.

Increasing digital literacy plays a crucial role in improving information access in today's digital age. Digital literacy refers to the ability to use, understand, and navigate digital devices, platforms, and information effectively. This is going to increase year on year and it

is going to influence the choice of users and users will move towards devices and digital way to access the information.

Indeed, society has become increasingly device-friendly in recent years. This trend has been driven by rapid advancements in technology, particularly in the field of mobile devices and the internet. Device-friendliness in society, characterized by the widespread use and integration of digital devices such as smartphones, tablets, and laptops, has indeed brought many benefits. One of those would be their preferences as fast as access of information is concerned and it is going to be impacted greatly.

In India the regulatory framework also motivates and mandates the use of digital libraries and online resources and hence any librarian or indeed every librarian will have to work in a blended manner. The volume of information is so much today that it can be processed electronically only, and this will further fuel the demand of librarians to work in an integrated manner where they know the library science principals and have to have digital expertise to support that kind of requirement.

If blended librarianship becomes a vision of the educational role of the academics, the context of exemplary shifts occurring in society driven by the evolution of ICT only is responsible. Then it can be truly, re-envisioning a librarian's role as educator in the digital information age. This is very important that when we talk about blended librarianship it does not remain only digital, but the academic role of librarians must increase and made parallel. Their roles extend beyond simply managing books and resources; they contribute significantly to the learning and intellectual development of students and the public.

We must also think how we can utilise and play a vital role to increase the overall academic output with librarian's special skill and expertise over information. Till today I have not seen any librarian in the curriculum committee, research committee. I think they have a very crucial role there. Hence, when we talk about blended librarianship the blending must happen to each layer of the academic sphere. Then in real a sense the main objective of blended librarianship will be achieved in the true sense.

When we talk about blended librarianship, it must be collaborative approach with bipartisan sense and mutual trust. They must be engaged in the process of planning of everything because without the integration of information no academic goal can be achieved and that would be actual blended librarianship.

A blended librarianship the librarians will have to make capable and become a master in true sense. It will not be sufficient just to learn the technology, but they have been better in terms of information and its application in every academic activity. When a faculty devise a new course and he consults librarian. When a faculty plans for assignments, and he collaborates with the librarians. When a PhD guide take s a meeting with the librarian and

discusses the thesis title till end, takes insight and then it will be blended librarianship. But before that librarians will have to gain that trust.

It is imperative and due on library and information science (LIS) professionals to fully understand & be able to practice educational and independent life-long learning processes and shifts in technology-based learning and teaching strategies. Also to prove and win the confidence of entire academia that they go behind librarians for their activities, because they cannot discharge any of their role without information. All need to understand this. If all this happens then it will be blended librarianship not just that a librarian learns few technologies and become at par with understanding the technical part only.

Reference-

1. Dabengwa, I. M., Raju, J., & Matingwina, T. (2020). Applying interpretive phenomenological analysis to library and information science research on blended librarianship: A case study. *Library and Information Science Research*, 42(4). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lisr.2020.101055>
2. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., & Zabel, D. (2011). Blended Librarianship: [Re]Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age. *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 51(2), 105–110.
3. Oyelude, A. A. (2022). Blended learning and working options in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Library Hi Tech News*, 39(3), 1–4. <https://doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-06-2021-0041>
4. Pati, B., & Majhi, S. (2019). Pragmatic implications of embedded librarianship in academics: a review of eminent literatures. *Library Hi Tech News*, 36(2), 11–16. <https://doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-08-2018-0052>

Unconscious Transformation Of A Bibliosoph : India Context



Dr Debraj Meher

Librarian

Central Library

Odisha University of agriculture and technology

Bhubaneswar-751003

E-mail: meherdebraj@gmail.com

A bibliosoph can be seen in almost all academic establishments. If not considered sexist, the author could refer to that person's pronoun as 'he.' After completion of his degree in library and information science from a university, he seeks an appointment unavoidably, for he cannot run his own business as other professionals can afford to, like in the fields of law, chartered accountancy, medicine, pharmacy, interior designing, web designing, event management, nutrition, *hatha yoga*, and the list may not end.

His counterparts in public as well as special library systems play almost their role suitable to their respective establishments. But his is different. In an academic library, especially in higher education, the readers pursue different courses, from undergraduate to PhD, so their nature of requirements and information seeking behavior are different. The bibliosoph do his job as per the demand of the institute as well as time.

When the bibliosoph joined his position, the library work was very much akin to the syllabus he had finished in the library science school. The reading materials were paper-based, like print books and journals. From acquisition to circulation work, the jobs were manual. The procurement of books and subscription to journals for apt utilization of the budget was a priority. While accessioning newly arrived books, he was delighted to see the appealing get-ups and arrested by the delicate whiff of press-fresh publications.

The gravity and importance of the accession register; entering the documents' details therein all correctly and neatly; assigning a correct class number; rendering bibliographic information in card catalogue with a care not to miss any added entry; discussion with colleagues over choice of access points; deciding an accurate subject heading to a multidisciplinary book; then jobs of making the book ready with the pasting of a date slip, book pocket, and book card; and finally placing that particular publication on the shelves... oh! A thin smirk line on his face was noticed. The card catalogue was sacred to him. The fear of damaging the cards was more than readers' finding their titles/authors etc. in the cabinet of the card catalogue. Nevertheless, noting a call number, searching and finding a book on the shelves of the book stack accordingly was a win-win situation for both himself and the readers.

He was enjoying the circulation in the Browne system. Students on the other side of the circulation desk, perhaps, might not understand the picking and placing of cards game from books to readers tickets and vice versa, and asserting a particular reader's ticket from the charging tray. Providing reference service to the readers was not easy, but was still a liking one. He confesses to never

delivering SDI service that theoretically looks good. But helping the readers find their required piece of information or document has given him ultimate satisfaction. He never-ever forgets the readers who were visiting the library for other than reading purpose and showing extra courtesy. Amusing! Over the times, computer was introduced to libraries in parallel to other sectors like banking and railways. Two things were evident. First, undergoing training for its operation, and secondly, not using those computers lest those costly items be damaged if not handled with the right commands, as those were expensive. Because of this bugbear only, a horde of computers supplied to many establishments including libraries were damaged. Thanks to the library management software (LMS), of course they were in the developing stage too and were introduced sporadically. Since the prices of software were high and their workability was dubious, many establishments, especially government-run ones, hesitantly adopted the automation programmes in their libraries. In due course, the use of computer in libraries became rampant and preferable. A new era was dawning—the electronic age.

Now, with the advent of new technologies and their applications in library services pose the academic libraries in critical professional juncture. A very rapidly tumultuous change in the generations of technology happened, and people in academia looked upon libraries to adopt all those. The advent of the digital age has impacted on the nature of the contents/artifacts and the technologies librarians work with dramatically restructured. The profession experimented with new ideas for the capture, organization, and delivery of information. All of these changes are happening in a new, increasingly competitive information environment in which the academic libraries have to find a notch for securing their *de facto* positions as 'resource centres.' The 'e,' form, fondly called an abbreviation of the word 'electronic,' gained ground and became ubiquitous in every sphere of library activities. The prevalence of e-collections comprising e-books, e-journals, e-databases, e-theses repositories, e-portals, network and remotely accessed services, discovery service, and many utility software, etc. enabled the users to access the library services without their physical footfall in the libraries. In addition to these, libraries adopted many management philosophies like total quality management, customer relationship management, etc. in their ambit, and as a result, the readers of yesteryears are also changed to users, clientele, or customers. Today, his library has to reach out to its users instead of waiting for them. This is how the bibliosoph with his traditional skills of handling print-documents and his self-upgradation, with and along the information technologists' acumen in application of hardware and software in library services, found himself transformed himself unconsciously and non-deliberately to a blended librarian.

He, here and now, thrash out the library ecosystem in India context and needs to measure it on the scale of Bell and Shank's propounded 'principles of blended librarianship' against university libraries in the following paragraph.

1. *Taking leadership positions as change agents...*: The librarians in university libraries in India are seldom valued for their innovative mechanism/procedures towards delivering effective information services. For taking leadership positions— where a librarian is not considered faithful or capable of running a library despite their qualifications and experience and is bound to be placed under the management of the officer-in-charge, thinking of taking leadership is a nightmare.
1. *Committing to developing campus-wide information literacy initiatives*: In this digital age, faculty patrons of universities are reluctant to join information literacy programmes. Some of the senior

members are taking the excuse of their age that they are left with only a very few years for retirement and do not need to upgrade themselves. The young ones say they are busy with some other assignments.

2. *Designing instructional and educational programs and classes to assist patrons in using library services and learning information literacy...:* The library users do not take the library programme seriously. For instance, in the ICAR system, PG/PhD students are required to complete a compulsory paper on 'library and information services' that includes literature search and digital literacy. It is experienced that barely students take interest in acquiring the search techniques of digital resources the libraries make available.
3. Today, *collaboration with other institutions, instructional technologists and designers* ,,are rampant now-a-days. This yields nothing for the libraries. On many websites of leading academic institutes in India, libraries come under the sub-menu "facilities" not academic. This is how the institute does not want to recognize the librarians as academic staff and library activities as academic. Any of the endeavors of the library are considered trivial.
4. *Implementing adaptive, creative, proactive, and innovative change in library instruction...* Libraries organize different hands-on training programmes, in collaboration with the publishers of a database, for example, on plagiarism. Hardly two to three percent of faculty members attend the training programmes, despite requests in advance from the library. While uploading theses, they do not enter the proper name of the scholar and title proper of the theses for academic integrity! How long a library can act proactive?
5. *Transforming our relationship with faculty... efforts to assist them in integrating technology and library resources into (hybrid/blended) courses:* It becomes difficult for a faculty member when they are in the students' seat. Librarians in Indian academia are looked down upon by the teaching community, and relationships are established with equal counterparts. No doubt, library professionals work hard to familiarize and assist them with integrating technology and library resources into (hybrid/blended) courses. But everything depends on the takers.

Other phenomena are: digital divide, want of hardware and software, debarring librarians from training because of their stature in terms of pay scale, paucity of funds for subscription of e-resources, management whim of compromising in quality when manning the library professionals, keeping librarians at bay in decision-making on libraries, not including any working professionals by the syllabus revision committee of nearby universities, and stagnation in professional careers is one of the major causes of affecting the making of blended librarians. From professionals' front, the attitude of some senior staff to remain traditional and the newly entrants' sticking to modern technology supplement the process similarly.

The above are a microcosm of the library ecosystem in the Indian context. Uncountable examples can be had in this environment with an exclusion to IITs, IIMs, NITs and others in the same rung. However, glory is, the librarians in higher education institutions are facing the above problems, still working with so many odds situations and thriving. They have embraced the change as it is inevitable, and surprisingly, any changes that take place in the information industry are embraced first by the librarians.

Ah! Everything around the library is changing. Then what about the bibliophile turned blended-librarian introduced in the beginning?

After a considerable period, his position and recognition are still insidiously undermined, and he continues in the same job inescapably.

Unlocking the Potential of Blended Libraries in the Indian Library Ecosystem



Aparajita Sharma

Guest Lecturer,

S.o.S in Library and Information Science,

Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University

E-mail: aparajitasharma2001@gmail.com

Abstract

Libraries have evolved into dynamic spaces where technology meets knowledge. The user or patron is not bound to borrow books but can use them to explore virtual space or libraries. Blended librarianship holds immense potential in the Indian library ecosystem, enabling libraries to adapt to the digital age and provide enhanced services to users. By embracing the concept of blended librarianship, Indian libraries can bridge the gap between traditional and digital practices, fostering innovation and promoting access to information. Despite the challenges, the implementation of blended librarianship in India presents numerous opportunities for librarians and library professionals to create a dynamic and inclusive library ecosystem.

Keyword: Library environment, Indian librarianship, digital library, blended library

Introduction

In today's expeditious world, technology has become an intrinsic part of our lifestyle. From smartphones to smart lifestyles, we are constantly surrounded by digital innovations that have transformed the way we used to live and work. Technology has revolutionized the field of librarianship, transforming the way librarians interact with patrons and provide access to information. Digital libraries have become evidently groundbreaking and trailblazing in the library ecosystem. With just a few clicks, users can access vast collection of e-books, e- journals, articles and multimedia resources from their comfort zone in their own devices.

Those days are gone when the user or patron had to physically visit a library or wait for books to be retrieved through library loans. Meanwhile, digital libraries offer convenience and instant access to information, but they cannot fully replace conventional or traditional libraries. By espousing these blended models, library professionals can cater to diverse user needs while preserving the essence of conventional libraries. They can curate an online

database along with physical archives and can also offer virtual assistance rather than face-to-face interaction. Blended librarianship plays a crucial role in promoting digital literacy among library users in India. It encourages Indian libraries to embrace innovative technologies and practices to enhance library services. What lies ahead is not in choosing between digital or conventional but rather in seamlessly integrated terms into harmonious coexistence with an evolving library ecosystem. It's an exciting time indeed for librarianship in India to use blended approaches, which means to be a librarian in this modern era.

Traditional / Conventional Library: A typical library has a distinct physical layout and collection of locations. The majority of the collection consists of printed goods such as books and printed documents, journals, newspapers, conference materials, many types of reference sources, and so on. Routine Manual operations are carried out.

Digital Libraries - The main collection of a digital library has been digitized from various types of storage media such as electronic memory or magnetic and optical disk. However, consumers will not notice much of a difference between them. Obviously, in order to access digital information, special purpose, multimedia 'reader' stations or some type of computer system are required. The data may also be accessed remotely via telephones and modems, as well as other computer and communication networks. This knowledge may be provided for very little money. As a result, while a traditional library may only have one or two copies of a book, a digital library may produce an endless number of copies on demand, either for free or for a fee.

Blended Libraries: Blended libraries are an amalgam of physical collections with online resources and interactive technologies to create an immersive learning environment for patrons of all groups or ages. Blended librarianship refers to integration of traditional library practices with emerging technologies and digital resources. The term blended library was first used by Steven Bell and John Shark in 2004.

Library ecosystem

A library ecosystem is made up of all types of libraries, all types of library employees, all types of volunteers, trustees, friends, foundations, and associations that provide and manage library services for communities, college and university campuses and information needs. Even all the sections of library would be part of library ecosystem

Role of blended librarianship in Indian libraries

- Enhancing access to information: Enables Indian libraries to provide access to a wide range of digital resources, including e-books, online databases, and research tools.
- It allows users to access information remotely, eliminating geographical barriers and increasing convenience.

Blended Librarianship: Its Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem

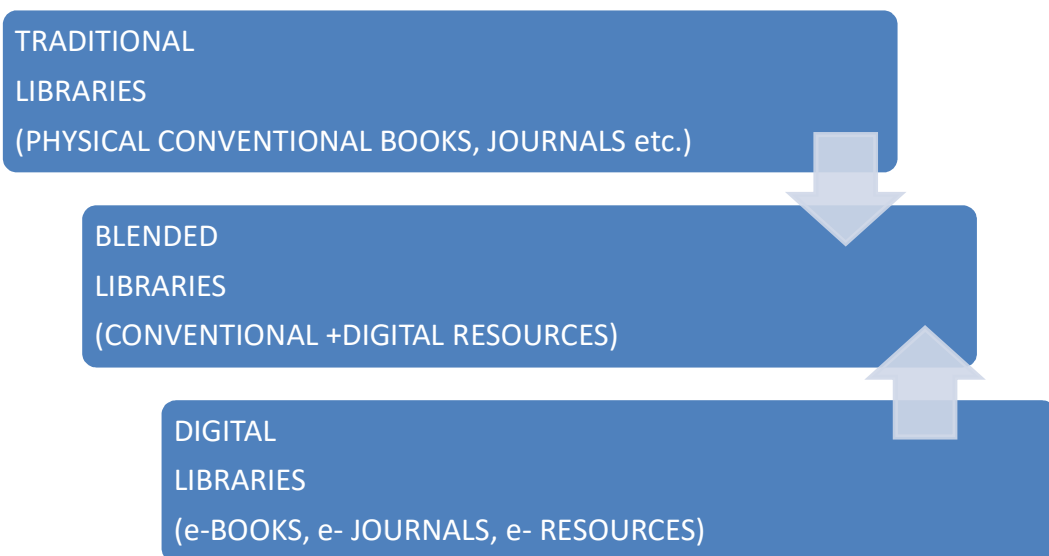
- Promoting digital literacy
- Blended librarianship plays a crucial role in promoting digital literacy among library users in India.
- Librarians can provide training and support to help users navigate digital resources and develop essential digital skills.
- Fostering innovation
- Encourages Indian libraries to embrace innovative technologies and practices to enhance library services.

Challenges and opportunities in implementing blended librarianship

- Infrastructure limitations
- Limited access to high-speed internet and technological resources can pose challenges in implementing blended librarianship in India.
- Libraries need to invest in infrastructure development to ensure seamless integration of traditional and digital resources.

Professional development

- Librarians in India may require additional training and professional development opportunities to acquire the necessary skills for blended librarianship.
- Collaborative efforts between library associations, educational institutions, and government bodies can facilitate professional development in this area.



(Co-relation between Traditional and Digital Libraries with Blended Libraries)

Availability of resources in Traditional, Digital and Blended Library Ecosystem

Traditional / Conventional Library Ecosystem	Digital Library Ecosystem	Blended Library Ecosystem
Physical format book availability	Electronic format book availability	Both resources are available
Cataloguing	Metadata – MODS, METS	Both available
Catalogue cards	OPAC	Both available
Document Delivery	Browsing through internet	Both available
Written publishing	Web publishing	Both available

Conclusion

Libraries have become a space where technology interacts with knowledge. The user or patron is no longer limited to just borrowing books but can also use the space or library as a platform to explore the world around them. Blended librarianship has tremendous potential in India's library ecosystem. It allows libraries to evolve with the times and provide better services to their users. By adopting this concept, Indian libraries will be able to bridge the divide between the traditional and digital worlds, driving innovation and increasing access to knowledge. Although there are challenges associated with blended librarianship implementation in India, there are many opportunities for librarians and LPCs to create an inclusive and dynamic library environment.

References

1. Halyal, S. B. (2022). Electronic Resources: Collection Development Policy. *ILIS Journal of Librarianship and Informatics*, 5(1), 79–82.
2. M. Lesk, *Practical Digital Libraries – Books, Bytes and Bucks* (Morgan Kaufmann, San Francisco, CA, 1997)
3. Bell, S J, shank , john (2004). The blended librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College and Research Library News*, Vol 65 (7)

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

(Arranged alphabetically according to the title
of the Short Communications)

Blended Librarianship: Educational Leader in the Digital Information Age



Mr Kiran Pradhan

Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology

Bhubaneswar

E-mail: ailkiranpradhan246@gmail.com

“The future of the library is that there is no library; the functions that the library performs have been blown up and are scattered throughout the universe”. — Leigh Watson Healy, Outsell, Inc

Academic libraries exist in a fast-evolving environment where it is essential to adapt, develop, and utilize new and emerging technology. The traditional role of librarian and the methods through which the library serves as the central body for collecting, archiving, and disseminating information for an academic community may be challenged by these technologies. To meet these challenges, the role of librarian should require both traditional and technological skills. Libraries are also creating new positions to respond to these challenges. This new position has more traditional roles for academic librarians as well as instructional technologists. Steven Bell and John Shank have given a fashionable name to this new position— they call it ‘Blended Librarian’.

An academic librarian who blends a traditional set of librarianship skills with the hardware and software expertise of information technologists and the competence of instructional or educational designers to effectively integrate technology into the teaching and learning process is called blended librarian. It is a model of librarianship that emphasizes the importance of librarians having a variety of abilities that combine traditional library procedures with knowledge of instructional design and technology.

In the past, librarians used both print and analog technologies to preserve and transmit information; nowadays, they are the technologists of their era. But in the digital age, the technologies for collecting, preserving, and disseminating information have tremendously blown-up. In order to improve learning, blended librarians should encourage teachers, staff, and students to utilize new educational technologies. To be responsive to the changes currently impacting higher education, blended librarians play the role of disruptive, compassionate innovators on their campuses. To achieve this, a librarian must have the abilities and knowledge required to employ the new digital technologies and information formats. In addition, librarians will have to update themselves persistently, just as digital technology does. It is necessary for academic librarians to integrate these skills and

expertise into their work in order to effectively collaborate and support educators as well as students.

The blended librarian can assist instructors in meeting course objectives, irrespective of the medium or technology, because they are versed in both print and online resources. By incorporating a grasp of an ever-increasing array of technologies (such as software apps and mobile devices), librarians can aid and permit the use of digital technology tools in information creation, access, and discovery. With the inclusion of a fundamental understanding of instruction design, librarians are able to discover vital information about "how learning occurs, how structures for effective learning are designed, and how learning outcomes are assessed." This knowledge is essential for partnerships with academics, educational technologists, and instructional designers. These partnerships are now more crucial than ever for higher education.

Instructors will need to work with librarians and other support staff in order to develop more efficient courses that enhance learning outcomes for students' retention and success once the course becomes more blended (e. g. integrating more online components of learning activities, tools, resources, communication technologies, and assessments).

Blended librarianship is more than just multitasking because it involves a meshing of skill sets. It is a combination of various professional skills and new ways of thinking. Academic librarians today have greater opportunities, if they have the passion to learn and move rapidly to grab an opportunity to work with the abilities we possess in "understanding the universe of knowledge" and how it grows, merges, and also the classified." The blended librarianship practice will broaden the role of the librarians to include that of educators, information specialists, educational technology experts, and many other roles.

Blended Librarianship: It's Phenomenology in Indian Library Ecosystem



Sakrajit Patra

Librarian

Govt. ETEI, Patnagarh

E-mail: sakrajitpatra2@gmail.com

The role of the librarian today is going to be more difficult as compared to the early days. Not because advanced technology has emerged in the field of library and information science but due to the latest demand from smart or updated users. Not only the library, librarian, and technology are updating continuously, but also the users are updated accordingly. A library without users is like a storeroom of books and furniture. If we cannot update the library as per user needs, the library will lose its identity, and the librarian will lose their designation. The users of the library are now updated, and they are also technology-oriented. In the earlier stages, librarians were trained with the traditional format or syllabus prescribed by the university or department. But somehow the syllabus for the MLIS degree in Library Science has included the latest update related to technology. The prominent institutes in India, like IITs, NITs, IIMs, IISERs, NISERs, Central Universities, and State Universities, have given a good change to the young MLISc students to understand the profession practically, and students are getting new knowledge beyond the syllabus. Actual librarianship is groomed at these institutes under the guidance of senior library professionals. From time to time, the librarianship role is changing due to the emerging of new technology. Today, librarians are in a race to adopt new technology and update their libraries to provide the best services to their users as per their knowledge or capability. But somehow they are facing difficulties in adopting new technology in the library due to administration support. Administrative approval is highly essential, or librarians have to convince them of new changes in the library. Most of the administrative officers are not aware of the services and use of the library, so they think it is a waste of money. Seminars and workshops, both physically and now online, are very helpful today to update ourselves and learn new technology. In some cases, the career background of the librarian helps him become easily acquainted with new technology. The best librarian award is given by different publishers, and ALA, ILA, OLA, IASLIC, or any organization motivates the librarianship profession. When study tours of the MLIS students boost their practical knowledge, like that, librarians of any academic institution should go to other libraries to

explore what has been updated in recent trends. The different aspects of library services have been updated and adopted, and for that reason, the role and responsibility of librarians have also changed. Different academic libraries have started research librarian jobs as the researchers are very active in using the e-resources. In order to get the ROI (return on investment) of the library, librarians have to market their products. Now e-resources are the first choice of users, and libraries are spending lots of money on them. Here, the role of the librarian is to study and analyze the use of those e-resources for renewal. Many libraries are updating their libraries with a green library concept. The role of the librarian also changed here to understand the concept and utilize it. Different libraries in western countries are planning to implement drones for book issues and artificial intelligence systems to understand the needs of their users. In order to stay connected with an updated world, we have to update our profession.

Conglomeration Librarianship: a Step Forward to the Future



Sri Rudra Prasad Behera,
Librarian & DDO
HKM State Library,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha
E-mail : rudrabehera1966@gmail.com

Prologue

Blended librarianship is a concept that has gained significance in modern library science due to the evolving role of libraries in the digital age. It combines traditional library practices with technology and new pedagogical approaches to better serve the information needs of patrons. While the concept is up-to-date, this can provide some insights into how blended librarianship might be professed in the Indian Library Ecosystem based on general trends in library science.

Integration of technology: Blended librarianship emphasizes the integration of technology into library services. In the Indian context, this could involve the use of digital catalogs, online databases, e-books, and library management systems. Indian libraries have increasingly adopted these technologies to provide easier access to information resources, especially in academic and research libraries.

Information literacy: Blended librarianship also focuses on promoting information literacy among patrons. Indian libraries, particularly in educational institutions, have recognized the importance of information literacy in the digital age. Librarians are often involved in teaching students how to search for and critically evaluate information online, skills that are essential for academic success.

Collaboration with faculty: A key aspect of blended librarianship is collaborating with faculty to integrate information literacy into the curriculum. In India, librarians are working closely with educators to design courses and assignments that incorporate library resources and research skills. This collaborative approach enhances the learning experience for students.

User-centric services: Blended librarianship places a strong emphasis on meeting the diverse needs of library users. In India, libraries are increasingly adopting user-centric

approaches to tailor their services to the preferences and requirements of patrons, whether they are students, researchers, or the general public.

Digital preservation: Given the rich cultural heritage of India, digital preservation is a significant concern. Blended librarianship involves strategies for preserving digital collections, and Indian libraries are gradually addressing this issue to ensure that valuable cultural and historical materials are accessible to future generations.

Remote access and outreach: Blended librarianship enables remote access to library resources, which is particularly relevant in a country as geographically diverse as India. Libraries are making efforts to reach out to users in remote areas through digital resources, mobile libraries, and online services.

Professional Development: Librarians in India are increasingly recognizing the need for continuous professional development to keep pace with technological advancements. Blended librarianship requires librarians to acquire new skills, which is being facilitated through workshops, training programs, and conferences.

Challenges: While blended librarianship offers numerous benefits, Indian libraries may face challenges related to infrastructure, budget constraints, and digital literacy disparities across different regions. Addressing these challenges is crucial to ensuring that blended librarianship can be effectively implemented throughout the country.

Future Trends: The future of blended librarianship in India may involve further expansion of digital collections, the adoption of AI and machine learning technologies for information retrieval, and a continued emphasis on user-centered services.

Epilogue

In summary, blended librarianship is a relevant and evolving concept in the Indian library ecosystem. Libraries in India are adapting to the digital age by integrating technology, promoting information literacy, collaborating with educators, and focusing on user-centric services to meet the embryonic needs of their patrons. However, challenges related to resources and access disparities should be addressed to fully realize the potential of blended librarianship in India.

Role of a Blended Librarian: Bridging the Gap between Traditional and Digital Resources



Dr Bibhu Prasad Panda

Chief Librarian

Driems Group of Institutions

Tangi, Cuttack, Odisha

E-mail: bibhuprasadpanda@driems.ac.in



Dr Kamal Lochan Jena

Librarian

OUTR, Bhubaneswar

E-mail: kljena2@gmail.com

Introduction

In today's digital age, libraries are no longer just repositories of physical books and resources. They have evolved to become dynamic spaces that offer a wide range of traditional and digital resources. This shift has given rise to a new role in the library profession: the blended librarian. Blended librarians bridge the gap between traditional and digital resources, ensuring that patrons have access to the best of both worlds. In this blog post, we will explore the role of a blended librarian and the importance of their work in modern libraries.

Role of a blended librarian

Understanding the needs of patrons

- Conducting surveys and interviews to gather information about patrons' preferences and needs
- Analyzing data to identify trends and patterns in library usage
- Collaborating with other library staff to develop programs and services that meet patrons' needs

Curating and managing digital resources

- Evaluating and selecting digital resources that align with the library's mission and goals
- Organizing and categorizing digital resources to ensure easy access for patrons
- Managing subscriptions and licenses for digital resources

Promoting digital literacy

- Providing training and workshops to help patrons navigate and effectively use digital resources
- Creating online tutorials and guides to assist patrons in using digital tools and platforms
- Collaborating with educators to integrate digital literacy skills into the curriculum

Importance of blended librarianship

Enhancing access to information

- Blended librarians ensure that patrons have access to a wide range of resources, both physical and digital.
- They help bridge the digital divide by providing training and support to patrons who may be unfamiliar with digital resources.

Supporting lifelong learning

- Blended librarians play a crucial role in promoting lifelong learning by curating and providing access to a diverse range of resources.
- They assist patrons in developing digital literacy skills, which are essential in today's information-driven society.

Fostering innovation

- Blended librarians are at the forefront of embracing new technologies and exploring innovative ways to deliver library services.
- They collaborate with other professionals to develop and implement new programs and initiatives that enhance the library experience.

Conclusion

The role of a blended librarian is vital in today's libraries, as they bridge the gap between traditional and digital resources. By understanding the needs of patrons, curating and managing digital resources, and promoting digital literacy, blended librarians enhance access to information, support lifelong learning, and foster innovation. As libraries continue to evolve in the digital age, the role of the blended librarian will only become more important in ensuring that libraries remain relevant and valuable to their communities.

HINDI SECTION

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी
तंत्र में

Editors

Dr S.R.Kashyap

Associate Prof, SOS of Lib. & Inf.Science
Pt R.S.University, Raipur(C.G.)

Dr Neelam Soni

Asst.Librarian, Central Library
NIT, Raipur(C.G.)



पं. सुन्दरलाल शर्मा ग्रंथालय
पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)



E-mail: library_prsu@rediffmail.com, Phone No. 0771 – 2262686



आदरणीय डॉ. सुनील सतपथी जी,

जानकर प्रसन्नता हुई कि प्रतिवर्ष अनुसार इस वर्ष का LISforum_orissa अपना वार्षिक अंक निकाल रहा है। इस वर्ष आपने जो विषय चुना है वह बहुत समसामयिक है एवं इस विषय को चुनने के लिए सादर धन्यवाद।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता समय की मांग है। डिजीटल युग ने सूचना तक पहुंचने एवं उपयोग करने के तरीके को बदल दिया है। यह पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय को आधुनिक तकनीकी के साथ जोड़ती है जिससे पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष प्रभावी ढंग से डिजीटल संसाधनों का उपयोग पाठकों के हित में कर सकते हैं।

सूचना अब मुद्रित, डिजीटल और मल्टीमिडिया सहित विभिन्न स्वरूपों में उपलब्ध हैं। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता विभिन्न उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करते हुए विविध संग्रहों को प्रबंधित, व्यवस्थित और उन तक पहुँच प्रदान करने में पाठकों को सक्षम बनाती है। यह सुनिश्चित करती है कि डिजीटल युग में पुस्तकालय प्रासंगिक एवं सुलभ बने। सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देने में यह महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती है।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता को अपना कर पुस्तकालय आज की डिजीटल दुनिया में मूल्यवान संसाधनों के रूप में स्वयं स्थापित कर सकता है।

नए अंक की सफलता के लिए मेरी हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ।

सादर।

रायपुर : 30/09/2023

डॉ. सुपर्ण सेन गुप्ता

ग्रंथपाल, पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर

डिजिटल ग्रंथालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप
कितना सफल ?

डॉ. नीलम सोनी
सहायक ग्रन्थपाल
रा.प्रौ.सं. रायपुर (छ.ग.)
E-mail- nsoni.lib@nitrr.ac.in



परिचय

जितना पुरानी ज्ञान की पिपासा है उतना ही पुराना इतिहास ग्रंथालय का रहा है। ग्रंथालय समय के तमाम उतार चढ़ाव का साक्षी रहा है जहाँ इतिहास धरोहर के रूप में सुसज्जित रहता है। परिवर्तन प्रकृति का नियम है यही परिवर्तन समय के साथ – साथ ग्रंथालय एवं ग्रंथालयित्व में स्पष्ट दिखाई देता है। हमने पारम्परिक ग्रंथालयित्व से आधुनिक हाईटेक ग्रंथालयित्व तक सफर में बहुत सारे परिवर्तन देखे हैं। तभी तो सन् 2004 में स्टीवन वेल और जॉन शैंक के द्वारा “मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप” शब्द की रचना की गई।

ग्रंथालय अपने उद्देश्यों को अनुरूप विभिन्न प्रकार के होते हैं। लेकिन सभी तरह के ग्रंथालयों का मुख्य उद्देश्य अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं को उपयोगकर्ता संतुष्टी प्रदान करना होता है। इस एक शब्द “उपयोगकर्ता संतुष्टी” (User Satisfaction) को प्राप्त करने के लिए ग्रंथपालों को अपने आप को निरंतर अपडेट करते रहना पड़ता है। जैसा की आप सभी जानते हैं कि ग्रंथालय केवल ज्ञान का भण्डार नहीं है बल्कि ज्ञान के भण्डार के अलावा अब ग्रंथालयों को सूचना केन्द्र के रूप में जाना जाता है। ग्रंथालय अब एक ऐसे हब में बदल गया है जिसे हम एक्सेस हब कह सकते हैं। इंटरनेट के आगमन के पश्चात, ग्रंथालय का स्वरूप, रूपरेखा, कार्यविस्तार और सेवाओं में अप्रत्याशित बदलाव आए हैं जो अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं को समय पर, विश्वसनीय और प्रमाणिक सूचनाएँ प्रदान करते हैं।

1990 के दशक से जब से सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग ग्रंथालयों में हुआ है तब से ग्रंथालय उपयोगकर्ताओं को डिजिटली नई नई सेवाएँ प्रदान करना संभव हो पाया है। यँ तो डिजिटल सेवाएँ बहुत सारी है जिसमें से कुछ नई परिवर्तनात्मक सेवाएँ निम्नलिखित है—

1. ओपेक
2. RFID सिस्टम
3. क्यू आर कोड
4. इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रिसोर्स मैनेजमेन्ट सिस्टम
5. रिमोट एक्सेस
6. संस्थागत भण्डार सेवा
7. डिस्कवरी सेवा
8. लाइब्रेरी पोर्टल
9. लाइब्रेरी टेक्नोलॉजी प्रशिक्षण सेवा
10. पुस्तकालय समाचार पत्र सेवा
11. लाइब्रेरी ब्लाग
12. लाइब्रेरी वेबीनार
13. शोध सेवाएँ
14. क्लाउड आधारित ग्रंथालय सेवा
15. सोशल मीडिया सेवा
16. व्यक्तिगत सेवा
17. डिजिटल संरक्षण एवं पुरालेख सेवा
18. साहित्यिक चोरी विरोधी साफ्टवेयर_ग्रंथालय सेवा
19. ई-बुक एवं ई-जर्नल डाटाबेस सेवा

1. **ओपेक** :- पुस्तकालय संग्रह का इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डेटाबेस ऑनलाइन पब्लिक एक्सेस केटालॉग कहलाता है। ओपेक मुद्रित केटालॉग का डिजिटल स्वरूप है।
2. **RFID सिस्टम** :- यह विद्युत चुम्बकीय क्षेत्र आधारित वायरलेस प्रणाली है। यह ग्रंथालय की पुस्तकों या अन्य अध्ययन सामग्रियों में लगी हुई चुम्बकीय चिप को स्वचालित रूप से पहचान लेता है। इसमें पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ता अपनी जरूरत की किताबें स्वयं निर्गमित कर सकता है। इस प्रणाली के तहत आर एफ आई डी सिस्टम में स्वचालित रूप से पुस्तक

की पहचान, उपयोगकर्ता का नाम, उपयोगकर्ता की पहचान संख्या साथ ही पुस्तकों की निर्गमन तारीख भी स्वचालित रूप से दर्ज हो जाती है।

3. क्यू आर कोड :- इसका पूरा नाम क्वीक रिस्पॉन्स है। इन्हें 2 डी कोड, 2 डी कोड्स या मोबाइल कोड भी कहते हैं। क्यू आर कोड मैक्ट्रिक्स बार कोड होता है जिसे स्मार्ट फोन, मोबाइल फोन के कैमरे द्वारा रीड किया जाता है ये कोड म्यूजिक वीडियो, वेबसाइट या अन्य किसी डेटा से जुड़ सकता है। ग्रंथालय इसका उपयोग स्टॉक रूम या जर्नल सेक्शन में प्रिंट आइटम या विषय गाइड की इलेक्ट्रॉनिक होल्डिंग द्वारा पहचान करने के लिए करता है। तथा ग्रंथालय के विलम्ब शुल्क, खोई हुई पुस्तक का शुल्क, रिप्रोग्राफिक सेवा जैसे फोटोकॉपी भुगतान शुल्क क्यू आर कोड के माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ताओं द्वारा किया जाता है।
4. इलेक्ट्रॉनिक रिसोर्स मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम :- किसी भी ग्रंथालय में इनका उपयोग इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों को व्यवस्थित तरीके से क्रम में रखते हेतु किया जाता है ताकि उनका सर्वोत्तम उपयोग हो सकें।
5. रिमोट एक्सेस :- दूरदराज का उपयोग या दुरस्थ पहुँच इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सेवा है जो दूर बैठे ग्रंथालय उपयोगकर्ताओं को संस्था के ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों की पूर्ति, आई. डी. पासवर्ड की सहायता से होती है। उपयोगकर्ता दुनियाँ की किसी भी कोने से अपने संस्थागत ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों को पढ़ सकता है तथा डाउनलोड कर सकता है।
6. संस्थागत भण्डार सेवा :- एक ऐसा डिजिटल प्लेटफार्म जिसके माध्यम से संस्था में उपलब्ध विद्वता साहित्य को संग्रह, संरक्षण एवं संगठित कर प्रसार किया जाता है। इसके अंतर्गत, प्रिप्रिन्ट, प्रकाशित लेख, सम्मेलन पेपर, थीसिस, शोध-निबंध एवं अन्य डिजिटल पाठ्य सामग्री का संग्रह होता है।
7. डिस्कवरी सेवा :- यह एक ऐसा आसान खोज डिजिटल सेवा है जिसका उद्देश्य ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों में अपनी जरूरत की अध्ययन सामग्री को संकेत शब्द या खोज शब्द की मदद से वांछित परिणाम को तीव्र गति से प्रदान करना है। इसका मुख्य

उद्देश्य उपयोगकर्ता के समय की बचत करना तथा वांछित सूचना एक विन्डो में तत्काल उपलब्ध करवाना है।

8. लाइब्रेरी पोर्टल:- लाइब्रेरी पोर्टल का उपयोग ग्रंथालय से संबंधित विभिन्न प्रकार की गतिविधियों को प्राप्त करने के लिए किया जाता है। इसके तहत ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध सेवाएँ, ग्रंथालय नियम एवं कायदे, ग्रंथालय समाचार, विभिन्न आयोजन इत्यादि को अनुक्रमिक कर लाइब्रेरी पोर्टल में उपलब्ध कराया जाता है।
9. लाइब्रेरी टेक्नोलॉजी प्रशिक्षण सेवा :- इसके तहत ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध सूचना एवं तकनीकी की नई नई तकनीकों एवं उपकरणों की कार्यप्रणाली को सरल एवं सहज बनाने के लिए ग्रंथालय कर्मचारियों को प्रशिक्षण की व्यवस्था की जाती है ताकि ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों को संभालने एवं व्यवस्थित करने में कठिनाइयों का सामना न करना पड़े तथा उपयोगकर्ता आसानी से ग्रंथालय में उपलब्ध इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों का उपयोग कर सकें।
10. पुस्तकालय ई-समाचार पत्र सेवा :- पुस्तकालय ई-समाचार पत्र सेवा के तहत संसार के अनेक देशों के अनेक भाषाओं के समाचार पत्र घर बैठे एक प्लेटफार्म पर आसानी से पढ़ सकते हैं।
11. लाइब्रेरी ब्लाग :- लाइब्रेरी ब्लाग एक ऐसा डिस्प्ले है जिसमें ग्रंथालय के होने वाली गतिविधियों को सूचीबद्ध कर सकते हैं।
12. लाइब्रेरी वेबीनार :- एक ऐसा ऑनलाइन सेवा जो ग्रंथालय कर्मी एवं उपयोगकर्ताओं को सुविधाजनक एवं प्रभावी तरीके से विशेषज्ञों से सीखने का अवसर प्रदान करती है।
13. शोध सेवाएँ :- संस्था में अध्ययनरत् शोधार्थियों को उनकी माँग के अनुसार चयनात्मक प्रसार सेवा तथा सामयिक जागरूकता सेवा **online mail, ask a librarian, online chatting** आदि के द्वारा या मोबाइल के द्वारा शोध सेवाएँ प्रदान करता है।
14. क्लाउड आधारित ग्रंथालय सेवा :- आजकल बहुत सारे साफ्टवेयर एवं ई- संसाधन क्लाउड आधारित हो रहे हैं। ये सेवा इंटरनेट के माध्यम से एवं सॉफ्टवेयर एप्लिकेशन

द्वारा प्रदान की जाती है। इस सुविधा से ग्रन्थालयों में भौतिक रूप से सर्वर का खर्च, रखरखाव का खर्च तथा सर्वर हेतु स्थान की समस्या आदि परेशानियाँ नहीं होती हैं जिससे उपयोगकर्ताओं को निरंतर निर्बाध साहित्यिक सेवा प्राप्त होती रहती हैं।

15. सोशल मीडिया सेवा :- सोशल मीडिया का वर्तमान समय में बहुत तेजी से प्रचार प्रसार हुआ है। जैसे लिंकडइन, फेसबुक, ट्विटर, गूगल इत्यादि ये सोशल मीडिया पुस्तकालयों के प्रचार प्रसार के लिए महत्वपूर्ण प्लेटफार्म हैं। सोशल मीडिया से वांछित सूचना बिना किसी रूकावट के कहीं से कभी भी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

16. व्यक्तिगत सेवा :- ग्रन्थालय उपयोगकर्ताओं की विशिष्ट आवश्यकताओं की डिजिटल माध्यम से प्रदान करना जैसे :- संदर्भ सेवा, ग्रंथसूची सेवा, रिप्रोग्राफिक सेवा।

17. डिजिटल संरक्षण एवं पुरालेख सेवा :- डिजिटल संरक्षण लम्बे समय तक ग्रन्थालयों में डिजिटल संसाधनों की व्यवस्थित एवं सुरक्षित रखने का माध्यम है। इनमें दस्तावेजों का संग्रह, संवाद, छवियों, वीडियो, आडियो, ग्राफिक्स इत्यादि डिजिटल रूप में संग्रहित होते हैं ताकि भविष्य में कभी भी उनको शीघ्रता से पुनः प्राप्त किया जा सकें।

इसी तरह ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेजों साहित्यों जो अतीत की धरोहर हैं उन्हें डिजिटलीकृत कर (स्कैनिंग या फोटोग्राफी द्वारा) डिजिटल स्वरूप में संरक्षित कर उपयोगकर्ताओं को ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध करवाना डिजिटल ग्रन्थालय का उद्देश्य होता है।

18. एन्टिप्लेगरिज्म ग्रन्थालय सेवा :- साहित्यिक चोरी रोकने एवं मूल प्रलेखों की समानता रिपोर्ट जाँच करने के लिए शैक्षणिक एवं शोध ग्रन्थालयों द्वारा एन्टिप्लेगरिज्म ग्रन्थालय सेवा उपयोगकर्ताओं को प्रदान की जाती है। ये एक सॉफ्टवेयर होता है जिसका उद्देश्य समानता रिपोर्ट बनाना होता है।

19. ई-बुक एवं ई-जर्नल डाटाबेस सेवा:- शोध एवं शिक्षण कार्य को संबल प्रदान करने के लिए शैक्षणिक एवं शोध संस्थानों के ग्रन्थपालों द्वारा विभिन्न प्रकार के सूचना संसाधनों का संग्रह किया जाता है, जिनमें मुख्य रूप से ई-डेटाबेस एवं ई-बुक होते हैं। यह कम्प्यूटर आधारित पुस्तकों एवं सूचना का इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संग्रह होता है, जिसमें उपयोगकर्ता विभिन्न

संकेत शब्द जैसे – लेखक, सह लेखक, शीर्षक, विषय, प्रकाशन वर्ष जैसे संकेत शब्दों द्वारा वांछित सूचना आसानी से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : मूलभूत आवश्यकता

ग्रंथालयों में नवीन सेवाएं जो सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित हैं। इन्हें ग्रंथालय में कार्यान्वित करने के लिए कुछ मूलभूत सुविधाओं की आवश्यकता होती है जो निम्न लिखित हैं:-

- (i) पर्याप्त स्थान या जगह
- (ii) समर्पित ग्रंथालय पेशेवर
- (iii) वित्त या पूँजी
- (iv) पुस्तकालय समिति
- (v) संस्था प्रमुख का सहयोग
- (vi) कार्य करने की एवं निर्णय लेने की स्वतंत्रता

(i) पर्याप्त स्थान या जगह :- सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के उचित कार्यान्वयन के लिए ग्रंथालय भवन का होना अत्यंत आवश्यक है

- ग्रंथालय भवन बहु कार्यात्मक होना चाहिए
- भवन योजना लचीली एवं सरल हो
- लम्बे समय तक पढ़ने वाले उपयोगकर्ता के आराम का विशेष प्रबंध हो
- आसपास उद्यान और शांत वातावरण हो
- पुस्तकालय भवन की सुरक्षा में विशेष ध्यान रख कर उन्हें डिजाइन करना चाहिए। इसमें अपातकालीन निकास, अग्निशमन प्रणाली तथा सुरक्षा कैमरा जैसी व्यवस्था होना चाहिए।

(ii) समर्पित ग्रंथालय पेशेवर :- ग्रंथालयों में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी से संबंधित नवीन सेवाएँ उपयोगकर्ताओं को प्रदान करने के लिए पर्याप्त संख्या में आई. टी. कुशल ग्रंथालय पेशेवरों को नियुक्त करना अनिवार्य कारकों में से एक है।

(iii) वित्त या पूँजी :- बिना वित्त व्यवस्था के कोई भी कार्य को पूर्ण नहीं किया जा सकता और एक अच्छे पुस्तकालय के बिना शैक्षणिक उद्देश्य को पूर्ण नहीं किया जा सकता। अतः आवश्यक है कि ग्रंथालयों को पर्याप्त वित्त प्रतिवर्ष प्रदान किया जाना चाहिये। क्योंकि ई-पुस्तकें, ई-डेटाबेस, मैनेजमेन्ट साफ्टवेयर, आई. टी. आधारित वो समस्त सेवाएँ जो ग्रंथालय पेशेवर उपयोगकर्ताओं को प्रदान करते हैं उनकी लागत, खरीदी मूल्य एवं उनका रखरखाव महंगा होता है अतः डिजिटल ग्रंथालय में नवीन सेवाओं को प्रदान करने के लिए पर्याप्त वित्त व्यवस्था अनिवार्य कारक हैं।

(iv) पुस्तकालय समिति :- ग्रंथालय हित में कार्य करने वाली ग्रंथालय समिति का होना अनिवार्य है जो समय पर विचार विमर्श कर नई तकनीकों को ग्रंथालय में लाने उनके रखरखाव के प्रबंध तथा सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के क्रियान्वयन में आने वाली कठिनाईयों, कमियों और वित्त व्यवस्था पर उचित निर्णय कर सकें।

(v) संस्था प्रमुख का सहयोग :- बिना संस्था प्रमुख के सहयोग से ग्रंथालय चलाना असंभव है। संस्था प्रमुख एवं ग्रंथपाल के मध्य आपसी समझ के तालमेल से ग्रंथालय में नवीन तकनीकों को तनाव रहित होकर गुणात्मक स्तर के ग्रंथालय की कल्पना की जा सकती हैं।

(vi) कार्य करने की एवं निर्णय लेने की स्वतंत्रता :- ग्रंथपाल/ग्रंथालय पेशेवरों को कार्य करने की आजादी एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के उचित क्रियान्वयन हेतु निर्णय लेने की पूर्ण स्वतंत्रता होनी चाहिए। प्रबंधन, प्रोपेसर इन्चार्ज/ लाइब्रेरी इन्चार्ज जैसे गैर पेशेवरों को ग्रंथपालों के निर्णय का सम्मान करते हुए कार्य करने की आजादी प्रदान करने से ग्रंथालय का समुचित विकास संभव हो जाता है। जिससे ग्रंथालय में नवीन विचार एवं नवीन प्रौद्योगिकीयों का प्रयोग आसान हो पाता है। अतः ग्रंथालय में क्रांतिकारी परिवर्तन लाने के लिए ग्रंथपालों को कार्य करने एवं निर्णय लेने की स्वतंत्रता होना परम आवश्यक है।

निष्कर्ष

ग्रंथालय एक ऐसा स्थान है जहाँ ज्ञान का विशाल भण्डार है एवं शोध को बढ़ावा देने का पवित्र स्थान है। इसी तरह ग्रंथालय पेशेवर अपने कार्य की गरिमा बढ़ाने के लिए और सूचना तथा प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में प्रासंगिक बने रहने के लिए रचनात्मक हो रहे हैं, अपनी कार्य कुशलता बढ़ा रहे हैं, नई नई तकनीकियों में दक्ष हो रहे हैं लेकिन भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में आज बहुत कम ऐसे ग्रंथालय हैं जो पूरी तरह डिजिटल हैं।

भारतीय संदर्भ में अभी तक ग्रंथालयों की दशा बहुत अच्छी नहीं कही जा सकती है क्योंकि ऐसे अनेकों बाधाएँ हैं जो ग्रंथपालों को आगे आ कर कार्य करने से रोकती हैं भारतीय परिवेश के अधिकांश ग्रंथालय एवं ग्रंथपाल बजट, पर्याप्त स्थान का अभाव, विभिन्न श्रेणी के कुशल पेशेवरों की कमी, असमान वेतनमान, दिशा निर्देशों का अभाव, निर्णय लेने की स्वतंत्रता का अभाव जैसे समस्याओं से जुझ रहे हैं। या दुसरे शब्दों में कहे तो असंतुष्ट है जो भारतीय परिदृश्य में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की प्रासंगिकता पर प्रश्न चिन्ह लगाती हैं।

डिजीटल युग में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की चुनौतियाँ एवं संभावनाएँ

भुवनेश्वर राम चौधरी,
ग्रंथपाल एवं विभागाध्यक्ष, पुस्तकालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान विभाग,
शास. बिलासा कन्या स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय,
बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
E-mail: choudharibhuneshwar@gmail.com



डॉ. संगीता सिंह,
ग्रंथपाल एवं विभागाध्यक्ष, पुस्तकालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान विभाग,
डॉ. सी. वी. रमन् विश्वविद्यालय,
बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
E-mail: sangeetamanoj3@gmail.com



मिश्रित ग्रंथालयी का तात्पर्य पारंपरिक ग्रंथालय के साथ-साथ डिजीटल ग्रंथालय की कार्यो एवं सेवाओं का संपादन करने से है। पारंपरिक ग्रंथालय में पुस्तकें और अन्य पाठ्य सामग्री मुद्रित स्वरूप में होती हैं, तथा पारंपरिक ग्रंथालय की पहुँच भौतिक स्थान तक ही सीमित होती है। पारंपरिक ग्रंथालय में पुस्तकें और सामग्री भंडारित की जाती हैं, पारंपरिक ग्रंथालयों में फिजिकल आवश्यकताएं होती हैं, जैसे कि रेक, शेल्क्स, और वितरण प्रणाली, पारंपरिक पुस्तकालयों में मुद्रित पुस्तकों एवं पत्रिकाओं के संग्रह एवं संचालन तथा सूचना पुनर्प्राप्ति में मुद्रित सूची पत्रक का वहीं वर्गीकरण में मुद्रित स्वरूप संहिता का उपयोग किया जाता है। इन सभी कार्यो एवं सेवाओं के साथ नवीन सूचना संचार प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करना वर्तमान ग्रंथालयी के लिए चुनौतियाँ से कम नहीं है। वर्तमान पाठक अपनी वांछित जानकारी तत्काल चाहता है, जो कि यह डिजीटल स्वरूप से संभव है। इसलिए पाठकों के मांग के अनुरूप डिजीटल ग्रंथालयों में पाठ्य सामग्री इलेक्ट्रॉनिक फॉर्मेट (जैसे कि ई-बुक्स पीडीएफ) का

संग्रहण आवश्यक हो गया है। डिजिटल ग्रंथालय विश्वभर में इंटरनेट के माध्यम से पहुँच दिलाते हैं, डिजिटल ग्रंथालय में सामग्री सर्वरों और डेटाबेस में संग्रहित होती है। डिजिटल ग्रंथालय में सामग्री के संग्रहण के लिए सर्वर की आवश्यकता होती है। डिजिटल ग्रंथालय अधिक तेज और नवाचारी हो सकती हैं। आज बच्चा-बच्चा जानता है कि प्रलेखों की प्राप्ति में किसी प्रकार की कोई असुविधा नहीं है, असुविधा है तो उसकी वेबसाइट या एप्लीकेशन की जानकारी की कमी जिसकी पूर्ति के लिए पाठक ग्रंथालय की ओर रुख करते हैं। जिसे ध्यान में रखते हुए वर्तमान में संस्कृति विभाग, नई दिल्ली द्वारा प्राचीन पाण्डुलिपियों के संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन करते हुए भारतीय पुस्तकालयों को आपस में जोड़ने तथा डिजिटल ग्रंथालय को बढ़ाने में अपना कार्य कर रहे हैं। डिजिटल काल के इन पाठकों ने ऑनलाईन पाठ्य सामग्रियों की उपलब्धता से ही आई ए एस जैसे कठिन परीक्षाओं में सफलता प्राप्त किये हैं। इसलिए शासन-प्रशासन स्तर पर डिजिटल ग्रंथालय की महत्ता और ज्यादा बढ़ गई है।

परिवर्तन प्रकृति का नियम है, विकास मानवीय प्रक्रिया है, सूचना का सृजन एवं ज्ञान का परिमार्जन समय की आवश्यकता है। नित्य नये नये खोज एवं आविष्कार से कोई भी क्षेत्र चाहे चिकित्सा, प्रौद्योगिकी, संचार, कृषि, मौसम एवं खगोल हो, अछूता नहीं है, तो ज्ञान की अविरोध धारा कैसे सूख सकती है। विकास का ही परिणाम है कि पुस्तकालय की दशा और दिशा में अमूल्य चूल परिवर्तन हुआ है। समय के साथ-साथ अपने व्यवसाय को अद्यतन रखना एवं होना महत्वपूर्ण है। पहले पुस्तकालय में एक-एक सूची के माध्यम से अपने वंछित पुस्तकों की खोज करते थे। डिजिटल युग में एक क्लिक पर ओपेक या इंटरनेट के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन हजारों प्रलेख उपलब्ध हो जाते हैं। प्रदेश में खुशी इस बात की है कि नये ग्रंथालयी सब प्रौद्योगिकी फेंडली है, जिससे अपने व्यवसाय को एक नवीन आयाम प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से दे रहे हैं। नव-पदस्थ ग्रंथालयी प्रौद्योगिकी एवं साफ्टवेयर की मदद से ग्रंथालय एवं ग्रंथालय साहित्य का सृजन एवं संग्रहण करने में सफल हो रहे हैं। ग्रंथालय आज उस स्थिति में है, जिसे बचपन में सुन-सुन कर बड़े हुए हैं कि "वह पथ क्या पथिक परीक्षा क्या जिसके पग-पग में कोई सूल न हो, वह नाविक की धैर्य परीक्षा क्या जिसके प्रतिकुल धाराएं न हों।" यह आज अपने व्यवसाय में दृष्टिगोचर होता है।

डिजिटल ग्रंथालयों में डिजिटल संसाधनों की संग्रहण और अद्यतन करना, जैसे कि ई-बुक्स, ऑडियो और वीडियो सामग्री, डेटाबेस, और वेब सामग्री। डिजिटल आइटम्स को खोजने और पुनः प्राप्त करने के लिए योग्य साफ्टवेयर और मेटाडेटा का उपयोग। डिजिटल ग्रंथालय की डेटाबेस का प्रबंधन एवं डेटा की सटीकता सुनिश्चित करना। उपयोगकर्ताओं को डिजिटल सामग्री के प्राप्ति और उपयोग में मदद करना, खोज तकनीकियों पर मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करना, और समस्याओं का समाधान करने में सहायक पहुंच होना। डिजिटल सामग्री के निर्माण के लिए लाइसेंस का प्रबंधन करना और कॉपीराइट कानून का पालन करना। भौतिक सामग्री (जैसे कि पुस्तकें, हस्तलिखित मसौदे) को ऑनलाइन पहुँचने के लिए डिजिटलीकरण योजनाओं का प्रबंधन करना। डिजिटल संसाधनों की दीर्घकालिक संरक्षण और पहुँचनीयता की सुनिश्चित करने के लिए बैकअप और आर्काइविंग नीतियों का पालन करना। डिजिटल पुस्तकालय की कार्य क्षेत्र और उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव को बेहतर बनाने के लिए नवाचारी तकनीकों का उपयोग करना चुनौतियां से भरा हुआ है।

किसी भी व्यवसाय में जब तक हम पूर्ण रूपेण समाहित नहीं है तब वह भारी एवं कठिन हो सकता है, लेकिन जब हम उसे अपने व्यवसाय के व्यवहार में शामिल करते हैं तो वही काम सरल हो जाता है। ग्रंथालयी का व्यवसाय एक नवीन जिज्ञासा एवं हमेशा अपूर्णता का बोध कराता है, जिसके बदौलत एक ग्रंथालयी अपने पूर्णता की पूर्ति में बहुत आगे चला जाता है उसे ज्ञात ही नहीं होता कि उसके समकक्ष साथी (प्रोफेसर) कहां पर पीछे हो गये है। पता तब चलता है जब वही प्रोफेसर अपनी जिज्ञासा की पूर्ति के लिए आपसे मदद मांगता है और कहता है कि आपके लिए कोई असंभव नहीं है। तब हमे गर्व नहीं अपने उद्देश्य एवं कर्तव्य का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि अपने पाठकों को सही समय पर सही जानकारी एवं संसाधन उपलब्ध करा पायें। दुः ख होता है कि आज तक विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा संचालित किसी भी विश्वविद्यालय एवं महाविद्यालय के पुस्तकालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान के पाठ्यक्रम में नैतिकता एवं कर्तव्य जैसे पाठों का समावेश नहीं हुआ है और न ही नवीन प्रौद्योगिकी का समावेश हुआ है।

सभी कालों में ग्रंथालय का दायित्व चुनौतियों से भरा रहा है, गुटनबर्ग के प्रिंटिंग प्रेस के आविष्कार के पहले साहित्य ताड़पत्र, चार्मपत्र, जैसे पाण्डुलियों के रूप में उपलब्ध थे, जिसका संधारण एवं व्यवस्थापन करना बहुत ही कठिन प्रक्रिया था। प्रिंटिंग प्रेस के आने के बाद पुस्तक के रूप में साहित्य का सृजन होने लगा। आज लाखों की संख्या में भारतीय प्रकाशनों द्वारा पुस्तकों का प्रकाशन होता है, और उतने ही या उससे ज्यादा डिजिटल साहित्य का सृजन होता है। इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों का बाढ़ सा आ गया है, जिसका व्यवस्थापन मुश्किल है। “आवश्यकता ही आविष्कार की जननी है।” भौतिकवादी इस युग में समय बदल गया है अब “आविष्कार ही आवश्यकता की जननी है।” इसलिए पाठकों की रुचि में भी परिवर्तन हो गया है। किसी भी समाज को परिवर्तन को स्वीकार करने में समय लगता है। ग्रंथालयीन समाज भी आज उसी दौर से गुजर रहा है। आज भी बहुत से पाठक डिजिटल फ़ेडली नहीं है। लैपटाप, माऊस एवं मॉनीटर के माध्यम से सूचना की प्राप्ति में या यों कहें कि डिजिटल गैजेट की उपयोग ज्यादा नहीं कर पाते हैं। वर्तमान में साक्षरता का परिभाषा बदल गया है। जो डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग नहीं करते वह साक्षर नहीं निरक्षर है। ऐसे स्थिति में सभी पाठकों की इच्छाओं की पूर्ति करना मुश्किल है। पुराने पाठकों की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए पारंपरिक पाठ्य सामग्रियों की आवश्यकता पड़ती ही है। नवीन पाठकों की मांग पर भी एक ग्रंथालयी का दायित्व होता है कि कोई पाठक असंतुष्ट न हो। जिसके लिए उसकी आवश्यकता के अनुसार डिजिटल सामग्रियों की आवश्यकता होती है।

एक ग्रंथालयी का ग्रंथालय के प्रति नैतिक दायित्व होना चाहिए कि पुस्तकालय प्रबंधन एवं सेवाओं में नैतिक मूल्य का बोध हो। ग्रंथालयी को उपयोगकर्ताओं, कर्मचारियों और समाज के साथ नैतिकता एवं ईमानदारी का व्यवहार हो। ग्रंथालयी का कार्य और सेवा नैतिक मूल्यों पर आधारित होने चाहिए। अपने कर्मचारियों और टीम के साथ मिलकर काम करने के लिए सहयोगात्मक होना चाहिए। वह अपनी टीम को मार्गदर्शन और प्रेरणा प्रदान करने के साथ-साथ बेहतर संवाद और संबंध बनाने का कौशल होना चाहिए। ग्रंथालयी को समस्याओं को पहचानने और समाधान करने में सक्षम होना चाहिए। अच्छे ग्रंथालयी समय को प्राथमिकता

देते हुए और समय का सफलतापूर्वक सही तरीके से उपयोग करने का कौशल होना चाहिए।
अपने लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने के लिए संयमित और प्रतिबद्ध होना चाहिए।

भारत में मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष की अवधारणा

तोरन लाल खूंटे

शोधार्थी

ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययन शाला

पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर, (छ.ग.)

E-mail: torankhunte@gmail.com



डॉ. हरीश कुमार साहू

वरिष्ठ सहायक प्राध्यापक

ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययन शाला

पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर, (छ.ग.)

E-mail: hari97479@yahoo.in



परिचय

सूचना विस्फोट के युग में, ग्रंथालय अपनी पारंपरिक भूमिकाओं से परे केवल पुस्तकों और पत्रिकाओं के भंडार के रूप में विकसित हो रहे हैं। उपयोगकर्ता की बदलती अपेक्षाओं के साथ डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकी के उदय ने ग्रंथालयों के लिए एक नए युग की शुरुआत की है। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता परिवर्तनकारी परिदृश्य में रूप में जाना जाता है वह है। यह एक बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण है जो उपयोगकर्ताओं के अनुभव को बेहतर बनाने के लिए पारंपरिक ग्रंथालय सेवाओं के साथ डिजिटल टूल और संसाधनों का मिश्रण है। यह भौतिक और डिजिटल दोनों वातावरणों में ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षों के कौशल और विशेषज्ञता को जोड़ती है। यह दृष्टिकोण बताता है कि आधुनिक ग्रंथालय उपयोगकर्ता भौतिक स्थानों और संसाधनों तक ही सीमित नहीं हैं, बल्कि ऑनलाइन डेटाबेस, ई-पुस्तकें, सोशल मीडिया और मल्टीमीडिया सामग्री सहित विभिन्न तरीकों से जानकारी से जुड़ते हैं। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता एक ऐसा माध्यम है जो ग्रंथालय सेवाओं के भौतिक और आभासी क्षेत्रों के बीच अंतर को कम करते हैं।

इसमें विविध कौशल प्रणाली है जिसमें सूचना साक्षरता निर्देश, प्रौद्योगिकी दक्षता और उपयोगकर्ता की जरूरतों और प्राथमिकताओं की समझ शामिल है।

भारतीय परिपेक्ष्य में मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता

वर्तमान में भारतीय परिपेक्ष्य में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप अपने प्रथम चरण में है तथा धीरे धीरे यह लोकप्रियता प्राप्त करने की ओर बढ़ रहा है। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता उपयोगकर्ताओं की बदलती जरूरतों के लिए प्रासंगिक और उत्तरदायी बने रहने का प्रयास करते हैं। भारत में इसे अपनाने और इसकी सफलता के लिए निम्नलिखित बिन्दु महत्वपूर्ण हो सकते हैं जैसे—

तकनीकी बदलाव : भारत में हाल के वर्षों में इंटरनेट की पहुंच और स्मार्टफोन के उपयोग में वृद्धि के साथ एक महत्वपूर्ण डिजिटल परिवर्तन देखा गया है। इस डिजिटल बदलाव ने डिजिटल लाइब्रेरी सेवाओं और संसाधनों की मांग पैदा कर दी है, जिससे मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता आवश्यक हो गई है।

शिक्षा और अनुसंधान : नई शिक्षा नीति में डिजिटल शिक्षा एवं शोध-अनुसंधान को बढ़ावा देने पर जोर दिया गया है। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष डिजिटल संसाधनों, अनुसंधान उपकरणों और विद्वानों के संचार में मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करके शोधकर्ताओं और छात्रों को सहयोग प्रदान करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं।

मुक्त शैक्षिक संसाधन : मुक्त शैक्षिक संसाधन की अवधारणा ने भी मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता की आवश्यकता की ओर ध्यान इंगित करवाया है। वर्तमान में शैक्षिक संसाधनों की निर्बाध उपलब्धता, अद्यतन व प्रमाणिक संसाधन प्रदान करने हेतु मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता आवश्यक हो गई है।

लाभ एवं चुनौती

भारत में मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष को अपनाने के अनेक लाभ हैं, लेकिन इसमें कुछ चुनौतियों का भी सामना करना पड़ता है। जैसे —

मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष सुनिश्चित करते हैं कि उपयोगकर्ताओं के पास ई-पुस्तकें, ऑनलाइन डेटाबेस और मल्टीमीडिया सामग्री सहित संसाधनों की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला तक पहुंच हो, जिससे अनुसंधान और सीखने का दायरा बढ़ सके लेकिन भारत में सभी संसाधन ई-फॉर्मेट में अभी तब उपलब्ध नहीं हैं साथ ही इंटरनेट की धीमी गति इसमें बहुत बड़ी बाधा है।

ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष उपयोगकर्ताओं की सूचना साक्षरता कौशल को बढ़ाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्ष ऑनलाइन स्रोतों का मूल्यांकन करने, संदर्भों का हवाला देने और डिजिटल टूल का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग करने पर मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करते हैं, किन्तु यहां उपयोगकर्ताओं में डिजिटल कंटेंट को लेकर जागरूकता का अभाव देखा गया है साथ वे, नई तकनीकी को सीखने में कठिनाई महसूस करते हैं।

डिजिटल अवसरचना के अभाव के कारण अधिकांश ग्रंथालय आज भी पुराने परंपरागत तरीके से संचालित हो रही है जिसके कारण वे उपयोगकर्ताओं की विशिष्ट आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए अपनी सेवाओं को तकनीकीकृत करने में अभी तक पूरी तरह से सफल नहीं हो सके हैं।

निष्कर्ष

मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता एक गतिशील और विकासशील अवधारणा है जिसे भारतीय ग्रंथालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में एक सार्थक स्थान मिला है। ऐसे युग में जहां जानकारी प्रचुर मात्रा में और आसानी से उपलब्ध है, डिजिटल परिदृश्य की जटिलताओं के माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ताओं का मार्गदर्शन करने में ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। मिश्रित ग्रंथालयाध्यक्षता को अपनाकर, भारतीय ग्रंथालय अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं को डिजिटल युग में आगे बढ़ने के लिए आवश्यक कौशल और संसाधनों के साथ सशक्त बना सकते हैं, और अंततः देश के शैक्षिक और अनुसंधान परिदृश्य में योगदान दे सकते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप

प्रियांशी जैन
पुस्तकालय प्रशिक्षु
मुख्य ग्रन्थालय
राष्ट्रीय पौद्योगिकी संस्थान
रायपुर (छ.ग.)

ई-मेल : priyanshijain2408@gmail.com



मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक अवधारणा है जो पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को प्रौद्योगिकी और डिजिटल संसाधन के साथ जोड़ती है। यह पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को बदलते परिदृश्य के अनुरूप ढलने की क्षमता को संदर्भित करता है, ताकि पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष ऐसी सूचना और सेवाएँ प्रदान करें जो भौतिक और आभासी दोनों संसाधनों को एकीकृत करती हैं। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष संग्रह विकास जैसे पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कार्यों में कुशल होते हैं और प्रौद्योगिकी, डिजिटल साक्षरता और सूचना प्रबंधन का ज्ञान भी पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष को होता है। इन कौशलों को मिश्रित करके पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष आज के डिजिटल युग के उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को प्रभावी ढंग से पूरा कर सकते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियनशिप पेशे का भविष्य है। जैसे-जैसे टेक्नोलॉजी आगे बढ़ती जा रही है लोगों का सूचना तक पहुंचने का और सूचना प्राप्त करने का तरीका भी बदलता जा रहा है। इसीलिए पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ताओं की बदलती जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को अपने कौशल को अनुकूलित और विकसित करने की आवश्यकता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को डिजिटल परिदृश्य को प्रभावी ढंग से नेविगेट करने और सूचना सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी की शक्ति का उपयोग करने में सक्षम बनाती है। पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय प्रथाओं को डिजिटल उपकरणों और संसाधनों के साथ जोड़कर, मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष आभासी संदर्भ, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधन प्रबंधन और डिजिटल साक्षरता निर्देश जैसी नवीन सेवाएं प्रदान करने में सक्षम हैं। वे सूचना तक पहुंच में सुधार करने, सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देने और विविध समुदायों के साथ सहयोग करने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी को अपनाते हैं।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता का लक्ष्य पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ताओं की बढ़ती जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय प्रथाओं को डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों के साथ जोड़ना है। प्रौद्योगिकी को एकीकृत करके और उनकी सेवाओं में डिजिटल संसाधन, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन डिजिटल साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देने वाली जानकारी तक पहुंच बढ़ाने और एक सहज उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव प्रदान करने का प्रयास करते हैं। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता का लक्ष्य सूचना के बदलते परिदृश्य को अनुकूलित करना और उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित सेवाएं प्रदान करना है जो दोनों भौतिक और आभासी संसाधन का अधिकतम लाभ उठाती हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप

सूर्यकांत प्रधान
पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष
केन्द्रीय विद्यालय मनेन्द्रगढ़ (छ.ग.)
E-mail- suryalibsc@gmail.com



वास्तव में उपरोक्त शीर्षक के लिए सपेवितनउत्क्रवतपें सराहनीय है, क्योंकि वर्तमान समय में यह बहुप्रचलित तथा समय की मांग भी है । वर्तमान पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष ग्रंथालय के बदलते परिवेश में समय के अनुरूप ढलते जा रहे हैं । एक समय था जब पुस्तकालय केवल ज्ञान के संग्रहण के लिए होते थे तथा पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष उस संग्रहीत ज्ञान के संरक्षण तथा रखरखाव के लिए होते थे लेकिन इस डिजिटल युग में ये जिम्मेदारियाँ बढ़ जाती हैं तथा कार्यस्थल पर पुस्तकालय के साथ साथ अन्य विभागों के कार्य का भार भी अब पुस्तकालय में आने लग गया है । जहां हम अपने अध्ययन के समय में परंपरागत पुस्तकालय, पुस्तकालय प्रबंधन तथा सेवाओं के बारे में जानते हैं तथा अभ्यास के दौरान भी परंपरागत शैलियों का प्रयोग भी करते हैं, वहीं इस युग में कार्यक्षेत्रों में यह शैली परिवर्तित हो चुकी है । विभिन्न संस्थानों में आधुनिक तकनीकों द्वारा तथा पुस्तकालय के पाठ्य सामग्रियों, संदर्भ ग्रंथों का रख रखाव तथा उपयोगकर्ता तक उसे पहुंचाने की शैली तक में बहुत परिवर्तन आ गया है । इसलिए हमें भी इसके अनुरूप अपने अध्ययन के समय से ही पाठ्यक्रम में नवीन तकनीकों को सम्मिलित करने की आवश्यकता है ताकि हम वर्तमान तथा भविष्य में अपने कार्यस्थल में उसे प्रयोग कर सकें । स्वयं के अनुभव को साझा करते हुए यह संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि भारत के विभिन्न संस्थानों में संस्कृति मंत्रालय द्वारा विभिन्न प्रकार के प्रोजेक्ट्स (त्तवरमबजे) चलाए जा रहे हैं जिसमें केवल पुस्तकालय विज्ञान की जानकारी रखने वालों को नहीं बल्कि साथ ही नवीन तकनीकों से भली भांति परिचित लोग, सॉफ्टवेयर की जानकारी रखने वाले लोगों को ही प्राथमिकता मिलती है जो की पुस्तकालय के मिश्रित व्यवस्था का बहुत ही अच्छा उदाहरण है । यदि पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के अस्तित्व को बनाए रखना है तो यह भी आवश्यक है कि विषय के साथ साथ अन्य व्यवस्थाओं, तकनीकों, प्रशासनिक कार्यों को भी ध्यान में रखा

जाए जिससे सभी लोग अपने कार्य का निष्पादन सही ढंग से कर सकें तथा पुस्तकालय एवं पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के अस्तित्व को बनाए रखें । पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष की भूमिका किसी भी संस्थान में बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण होती है, अन्य कर्मचारियों की तुलना में पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष अधिक ज्ञानी , किसी भी कार्य को करने की अधिक क्षमता तथा तकनीकी कार्यों में निपुण होते हैं तभी पुस्तकालय के साथ साथ अन्य कार्य भी सौंप दिए जाते हैं और उन कार्यों को करने में सक्षम भी होते हैं । भारत में जब से डिजिटल इंडिया का प्रारंभ हुआ तब से सभी क्षेत्रों में कंप्यूटर तथा आधुनिक तकनीकों का प्रयोग सभी क्षेत्रों में अधिक किया जा रहा है जबकि पुस्तकालयों में यह पहले से ही प्रचलित थी लेकिन समय के साथ सॉफ्टवेयर तथा अन्य आधुनिक हार्डवेयर का आविष्कार होते गया तब से पुस्तकालयों में भी यह देखने को मिलता है । वर्तमान में पुस्तकालय सेवा प्रदान करने के लिए ई मेल, सोशल मीडिया अथवा अन्य चैनलों के माध्यम से आदि का भी उपयोग किया जाता है जिसमें उपयोगकर्ताओं के समय की बचत होती है ।

पुस्तकालय अध्यक्ष मिश्रित पुस्तकालय सेवा को स्वीकार करते हैं, और निम्न कारणों से यह महत्वपूर्ण भी है

- आजीवन सीखने और सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देना ।
- उपयोगकर्ता के समय के साथ बदलती जरूरतों को पूरा करना ।
- पुस्तकालय के संसाधनों को आजीवन सहेज कर रखना ।
- कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (तजपिबपंस प्दजमससपहमदबम) जैसी तकनीकों के साथ सहभागिता बनाना ।
- बदलते परिवेश में डिजिटल युग में प्रासंगिकता बनाए रखना ।
- पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को अपने कौशल विकास बनाए रखना ।
- डॉ रंगनाथन के पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के पांचों सूत्रों का पालन करना ।

उपयोगकर्ताओं के आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए पुस्तकालय अध्यक्ष को अपने कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन करना चाहिए तथा पुस्तकालयों के अस्तित्व को भी बनाए रखने हेतु मिश्रित प्रणाली को स्वीकारना चाहिए , इसमें उपयोगकर्ताओं के आवश्यकताओं का आकलन करने और निर्णय लेने की क्षमता में कुशल होना चाहिए ताकि परंपरागत पुस्तकालय तथा सेवाओं के साथ साथ समय के अनुरूप तथा पाठकों के अनुसार कार्यक्षमता को विकसित कर सकें । मिश्रित लाईब्रेरियनशिप , परंपरागत पुस्तकालय अथवा उसकी सेवाओं से भिन्न नहीं है बल्कि परंपरागत पुस्तकालय सेवाओं तथा क्रियाकलापों का ही नवीनतम रूप है, जो कि पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के जनक डॉ रंगनाथन के दिए गए पाँच सूत्रों में से पांचवें सूत्र को परिभाषित करता है, "पुस्तकालय संवर्धनशील संस्था है । "

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप और भारतीय पुस्तकालय

विनोद कुमार खुंटे

शोधार्थी

ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययनशाला,

पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

ई-मेल- vinodkhunte107@gmail.com



डॉ. एस.आर. कश्यप

सह-प्राध्यापक

ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययनशाला,

पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

ई-मेल- santukashyap90@gmail.com



प्रस्तावना

शिक्षा जगत के क्षेत्र में लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक ऐसा पेशा है जो सूचना के चुनाव, संग्रहण, प्रबंधन एवं प्रसार से संबंधित है जो पुस्तक, पुस्तकालय, कर्मचारियों एवं उपयोगकर्ताओं के बीच उचित संबंध स्थापित कर व्यवस्थित रूप से संचालन करता है।

मिश्रितलाइब्रेरियनशिप (Blended Librarianship) शब्द का सर्वप्रथम प्रयोग Steven J. Bell (Associate University Librarian at Temple University Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.) और John D. Shank (Director of the center for Learning and Teaching at Penn State Berks, Reading, Pennsylvania.) के द्वारा 2004 में किया गया, इन्होंने इसे परिभाषित करते हुए कहा कि "मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक ऐसा एकादमिक लाइब्रेरियन है जो लाइब्रेरियनशिप के पारम्परिक कौशल को सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के (हार्डवेयर/साफ्टवेयर) कौशल और शिक्षण एवं सीखने की प्रक्रिया में प्रौद्योगिकी को उचित रूप से लागू करने के लिए निर्देशात्मक या शैक्षिक डिजाइनर की क्षमता के साथ जोड़ता है।"

मिश्रितलाइब्रेरियनशिप (Blended Librarianship)का तात्पर्य है पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कार्यविधि का आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी के साथ जोड़कर बेहतर पुस्तकालयप्रणाली/कार्यविधि का निर्माण करना, ताकि बदलते समय के साथ पुस्तकालय अपने कार्यशैली में आवश्यक परिवर्तन कर आधुनिकता के साथ जुड़ना है एवं वर्तमान समाज की आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपने स्वरूप में परिवर्तन कर स्वयं को आधुनिक एवं अद्यतन पुस्तकालय के रूप में स्थापित करना है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप एवं शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप (Blended Librarianship)कि अवधारणा वैसे तो सभी प्रकार के पुस्तकालयों जैसे –शैक्षणिकपुस्तकालय, सार्वजनिक पुस्तकालय एवं विशिष्ट पुस्तकालय के लिए आवश्यक एवं उपयोगी है परन्तु मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का संबंध ज्यादातर शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय के साथ है।

शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय – किसी शैक्षणिक संस्थान से सम्बद्ध वह पुस्तकालय है जो अपने पैतृक शैक्षणिक संस्थान के उद्देश्यपूर्ति के लिए ज्ञान एवं सूचना का संग्रहण एवं प्रसार करते हैं शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय कहलाते हैं। वर्तमान में शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय में लाइब्रेरियनशिप,मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के रूप में विकसित हो रहा है क्योंकि बदलते समय के साथ सूचनाओं के स्वरूप में परिवर्तन हो रहा है जिसकी वजह से शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालयों में आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी का समावेश अनिवार्य हो गया है, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कौशल एवं आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी के मध्य समन्वय स्थापित कर कार्य करता है जो पुस्तकालय के कार्य प्रणाली एवं सूचना के प्रचार-प्रसार को सफल बनाता है एवं उपयोगकर्ताओं की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर संतोषजनक सेवा प्रदान करता है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप वर्तमान पुस्तकालय की आवश्यकता

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप (Blended Librarianship)आज के समय में पुस्तकालयों एवं उपयोगकर्ताओं दोनों के लिए ही आवश्यक एवं महत्वपूर्ण है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप परम्परागत पुस्तकालय की कार्यविधि एवं आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी के मध्य समन्वय स्थापित करने

के साथ ही पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ताओं एवं कर्मचारियों के लिए नवीन शिक्षण अनुभव (Innovative Learning Experience) पर भी जोर देता है, जिसके लिए ग्रंथालय ऑनलाइन ट्यूटोरियल एवं निर्देशात्मक विडियों के माध्यम से शिक्षण उपलब्ध कराता है ताकि उपयोगकर्ताओं को उनकी आवश्यकतानुसार नवीन और प्रभावी पुस्तकालय सेवा प्रदान की जा सकें।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कार्यविधि को पीछे छोड़कर आगे बढ़ने के बजाय उनमें मूलभूत आवश्यक परिवर्तन के साथ आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी के समावेश पर जोर देता है ताकि पुस्तकालय के पारम्परिक स्वरूप एवं महत्व को बनाये रखा जा सके साथ ही वर्तमान समाज की आवश्यकता एवं माँग के अनुरूप पुस्तकालय का विकास किया जा सके।

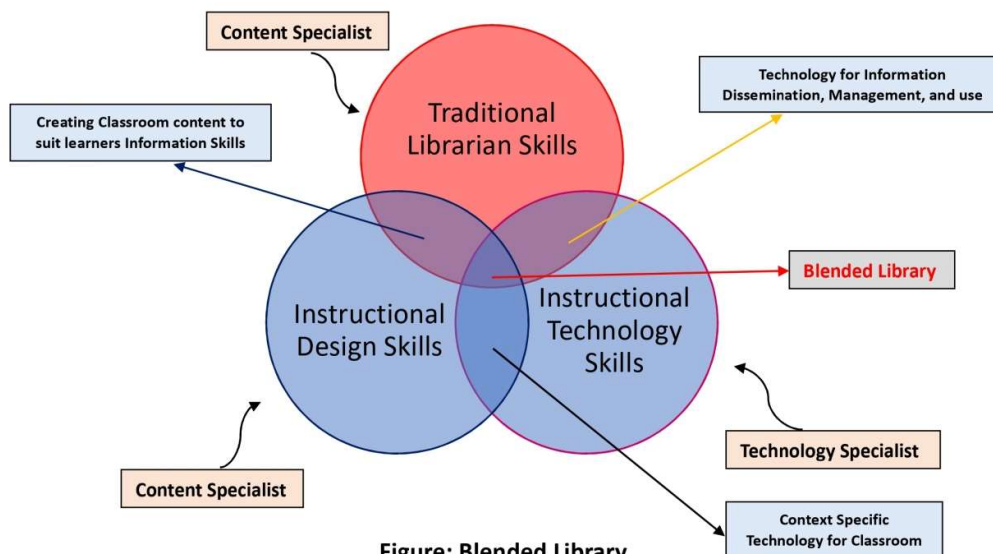


Figure: Blended Library

Adapted from: (Bell and Shank, 2004, 2007, 2011)

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिपका उद्देश्य

1. पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कौशल के साथ आधुनिकतकनीको का समन्वय स्थापित करना।
2. डिजिटल युग के उपयोगकर्ताओं की सूचना जरूरतों को समझना एवं उनका समाधान करना।
3. तकनीकी आधारित नवीन शिक्षण एवं सेवाओं को बढ़ावा देना।
4. डिजिटल तकनीको के माध्यम से ज्यादा से ज्यादा उपयोगकर्ताओं तक पहुंच स्थापित करना।

निष्कर्ष

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की अवधारणा पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कौशल एवं आधुनिक तकनीकी के समन्वय के साथ पुस्तकालय के विकास के लिए विकसित की गई है, जिसका प्रमुख उद्देश्य उपयोगकर्ताओं को अद्यतन पुस्तकालय सेवा प्रदान करना है, जिससे कि वर्तमान डिजिटल युग के उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा किया जा सके एवं सर्वसुविधायुक्त आधुनिक पुस्तकालय का निर्माण किया जा सके।

संदर्भग्रंथ

1. Bell, S.J. & Shank, J. 2004. The blended librarian: a blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of academic librarians. *College & Research Libraries News*. 65(7): 372–375. DOI: 10.5860/crln.65.7.7297.
2. Bell, S.J. & Shank, J.D. 2007. *Academic librarianship by design: a blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques*. Chicago: American Library Association.
3. Bell, S.J. & Shank, J.D. 2011. Blended librarianship: [re]envisioning the role of librarian as educator in the digital information age. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*. 51(2): 105–110. Available: <https://www.journals.ala.org/rusq/article/view/4025/4568> [2016, October
4. Dabengwa, Israel, et al. "Academic Librarian's Transition to Blended Librarianship: A Phenomenology of Selected Academic Librarians in Zimbabwe." *ACADEMIC LIBRARIAN'S TRANSITION to BLENDED LIBRARIANSHIP*, pp. 1–63.

5. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/concept-of-blended-librarianship/>
6. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/librarianship-as-a-profession/>
7. <https://ischool.sjsu.edu/post/types-academic-libraries>

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: एक परिचय

शशि ब्रजपुरिया
ग्रंथपाल
शास. पॉलिटेक्निक महाविद्यालय
भाटापारा, (छ.ग.)
E-mail: sbrajapuriya87@gmail.com



मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप क्या है

'मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन' शब्द 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक द्वारा दिया गया है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप में पुस्तकालय में पारंपरिक सेवाओं के साथ-साथ आधुनिक तकनीक का प्रयोग कर उपयोगकर्ताओं को सेवाएँ प्रदान की जाती हैं। यह एक आधुनिक दृष्टिकोण है जो उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित सेवाएँ प्रदान करने के लिए पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को नई प्रौद्योगिकियों, उभरते रुझानों और निर्देशात्मक डिजाइन सिद्धांतों के साथ जोड़ता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप में पुस्तकालय के विभिन्न तंत्रों को संगठित रूप से मिलाने का प्रयास किया जाता है, ताकि पुस्तकालय सेवाएँ और संसाधनों का बेहतर रूप से प्रबंधन व शैक्षिक संस्थानों में ज्ञान साझा किया जा सके। यह अवधारणा पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कार्यों को डिजिटल तंत्रों और तकनीकी उपकरणों के साथ मिलाकर नये तरीके से कार्य करने पर केन्द्रित है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन

एक अकादमिक लाइब्रेरियन जो ग्रंथालय में पारंपरिक रूप से दी जाने वाली सेवाएँ तो प्रदाय करता है साथ ही एक इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजिस्ट की तरह तकनीकी कौशल सॉफ्टवेयर व हार्डवेयर के विशेषज्ञ की भूमिका भी निभाता है बहुत से ग्रंथपाल इस प्रकार के तकनीकी कौशलों का पहले से प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन पाठ्यक्रम डिजाइन के लिए शिक्षा प्रौद्योगिकी के कौशल और छात्र केंद्रित शिक्षा के लिये प्रौद्योगिकी के अनुप्रयोग को जोड़ता है मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन वह

अकादमिक प्रोफेशनल है जो सबसे अच्छे रूप में योग्यता और सेवाओं का मिश्रण प्रदान करता है ताकि शिक्षण तथा शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिये प्रौद्योगिकी का अनुप्रयोग किया जा सके। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन उपयोगकर्ता की जरूरतों का आंकलन करने और निर्णय लेने की सूचना देने के लिए डेटा का उपयोग करने में कुशल हैं, और सोशल मीडिया और ई-मेल सहित विभिन्न चैनलों के माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ताओं तक पहुंचने में सक्रिय हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप क्यों

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी में एक महत्वपूर्ण अवधारणा है, जिसमें पुस्तकालय कर्मचारियों को तकनीकी ज्ञान, और डिजिटल ज्ञान के साथ समृद्ध किया जाता है ताकि वे पाठकों को बेहतर सेवाएँ प्रदान कर सकें तथा पाठकों को उनकी वांछित पाठ्य सामग्री समय पर प्राप्त हो सके व उपलब्ध सूचना स्रोतों का अधिकतम उपयोग हो सके। इसका उद्देश्य पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को सुविधाजनक और सदुपयोगी बनाना है, ताकि विद्यार्थी, शोधकर्ता, और सामान्य पाठकों को सहायता मिल सके। यह सेवाओं को बेहतर और अधिक पहुंच योग्य बनाने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी में इस प्रकार के लाइब्रेरियनशिप की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है, जिससे विभिन्न विद्यालयों और संगठनों के पुस्तकालयों में उन्नत सेवाएँ प्रदान की जा सकती हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का लक्ष्य

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का लक्ष्य इष्टतम उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव प्रदान करना और आजीवन सीखने और सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देना है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के लक्ष्य के संबंध में मुख्य बिंदु निम्नलिखित है—

1.उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित:— भारत में मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण को प्राथमिकता देते हैं, छात्रों, शोधकर्ताओं और आम जनता सहित विविध उपयोगकर्ता समूहों की विशिष्ट आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए सेवाओं को तैयार करते हैं। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन उपयोगकर्ताओं के उनके पास आने की प्रतीक्षा करने के बजाय, सक्रिय रूप से सोशल मीडिया, ईमेल और अन्य चैनलों के माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ताओं तक पहुंचते हैं। वे पुस्तकालय

के संसाधनों और सेवाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिए परिसर में या अपने समुदाय के भीतर अन्य विभागों के साथ मिलकर भी काम कर सकते हैं।

2.डिजिटल युग के अनुरूप:- तकनीकी प्रगति का सही रूप से उपयोग करके उपयोगकर्ता की सूचना संबंधी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सीमित इंटरनेट पहुंच के साथ, भारत एक महत्वपूर्ण डिजिटल विभाजन का सामना कर रहा है। ऑफलाइन संसाधन प्रदान करके और डिजिटल साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देकर इस अंतर को कम करना।

3.संसाधनों का संयुक्त उपयोग:- भौतिक एवं इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों का संयुक्त रूप से उपयोग करना जिससे पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को बेहतर बनाने में मदद मिल सके।

4.तकनीकी एकीकरण:- भारत में पुस्तकालय धीरे-धीरे प्रौद्योगिकी को एकीकृत कर रहे हैं, ऑनलाइन कैटलॉग, ई-संसाधन और आभासी सेवाएं प्रदान कर रहे हैं। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप उपयोगकर्ता अनुभवों को बढ़ाने के लिए निर्बाध प्रौद्योगिकी एकीकरण पर केंद्रित है।

5.ओपन-एक्सेस पहल:- ओपन एक्सेस संसाधनों पर जोर देना भारत में मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के समावेशी लक्ष्यों के अनुरूप है, जो सभी के लिए ज्ञान तक समान पहुंच सुनिश्चित करता है।

6.विविध उपयोगकर्ता के आधार पर :- भारत की समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक और भाषाई विविधता के कारण विभिन्न पृष्ठभूमि के उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए एक मिश्रित दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता होती है। इस विविधता को समायोजित करने के लिए पुस्तकालयों को भौतिक संसाधन और डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म दोनों प्रदान करने चाहिए।

7.व्यावसायिक विकास:- भारत में पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को उभरते डिजिटल परिदृश्य में प्रासंगिक बने रहने के लिए लगातार कौशल विकसित करना चाहिए। प्रशिक्षण और व्यावसायिक विकास मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के महत्वपूर्ण घटक हैं।

8.सहयोग:- संसाधनों को साझा करने, दोहराव को कम करने और सूचना तक पहुंच में सुधार करने के लिए पुस्तकालयों और शैक्षणिक संस्थानों के बीच सहयोग महत्वपूर्ण है। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष इन साझेदारियों को सुविधाजनक बनाते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप उपयोग के मुख्य क्षेत्र

भारतीय पुस्तकालय परिस्थितिकी तंत्र में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप का उपयोग मुख्य रूप से तीन क्षेत्रों में किया जा सकता है—

1. डिजिटल संसाधनों का प्रबंधन:— डिजिटल पुस्तकालय स्रोतों के प्रबंधन और पहुंच को बेहतर बनाने के लिए मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप का उपयोग किया जा सकता है। यह डिजिटल संग्रहों को सुविधाजनक बनाने और उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए उपलब्ध करने में मदद कर सकता है। यह पुस्तकालयों को डिजिटल पुस्तकालय संसाधनों को संचालित करने में मदद करता है, जैसे कि इलेक्ट्रॉनिक जर्नल्स, डेटाबेस, और ई-बुक्स आदि।
2. उपयोगकर्ता सेवाएँ:— मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप के माध्यम से पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को डिजिटल और भौतिक दोनों प्रारूपों में अपनाया जा सकता है। यह उपयोगकर्ताओं को बेहतर सेवाएँ प्रदान करने में मदद कर सकता है, जैसे कि ऑनलाइन संदेश, वीडियो कॉल, और डिजिटल प्रोजेक्ट्स के माध्यम से आदि। यह पुस्तकालयों को उपयोगकर्ताओं को डिजिटल तरीकों से सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए उनके लिए उपयोगी सेवाएँ विकसित करने में मदद करता है।
3. शिक्षा व शिक्षण संस्थानों में:— मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप का उपयोग शिक्षा प्रदान करने में किया जा सकता है। यह छात्रों को डिजिटल संसाधनों का उपयोग करके अधिक प्रभावी शिक्षा प्राप्त करने में मदद कर सकता है। यह लाइब्रेरियन्स को नये तरीकों से पुस्तकालय सेवाओं के प्रशिक्षण और शिक्षा के लिए डिजिटल शिक्षा माध्यम का उपयोग करने में मदद कर सकता है।

अतः यह कहना उचित होगा कि मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशीप भारतीय पुस्तकालय परिस्थितिकी को सुधारने और विकसित करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण और आवश्यक उपकरण हो सकता है।

लाइब्रेरियनशिप प्रोफेशन के भविष्य के रूप में मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप प्रोफेशन के लिए एक अपेक्षाकृत नया दृष्टिकोण है जो पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को नई प्रौद्योगिकियों, शिक्षण विधियों और सूचना विज्ञान में

उभरते रुझानों के साथ जोड़ता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की अवधारणा यह स्वीकार करती है कि पुस्तकालय और सूचना सेवाएं डिजिटल युग में एक महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन से गुजर रही हैं और लाइब्रेरियन को प्रासंगिक बने रहने के लिए अपने कौशल और विशेषज्ञता को अनुकूलित करना होगा। पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को समझना होगा और उन जरूरतों को पूरा करने वाली सेवाएं विकसित करनी होंगी। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को उपयोगकर्ता की जरूरतों का आकलन करने और निर्णय लेने की जानकारी देने के लिए डेटा का उपयोग करने में कुशल होना होगा।

संदर्भ

1. https://www.academia.edu/12883317/Academic_Librarianship_by_Design_A_Blended_Librarian_s_Guide_to_the_Tools_and_Techniques
2. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/concept-of-blended-librarianship/>
3. <https://www.lisedunetwork.com/blended-librarian/>
4. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331548134_Blended_Librarianship_f_or_Academic_Libraries_in_Digital_Era_theory_and_practice_a_case_of_ATM_IYA_group_of_institutions
5. <http://blendedlibrarian.badgestack.net/about/>

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की अवधारणा : शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालयों के क्षेत्र में

डॉ. मंजूषा डॉली आशेर
ग्रंथालय सहायक – 1
पं. सुन्दर लाल शर्मा ग्रंथागार,
पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय,
रायपुर (छ.ग.)
E-mail: manjushaasher@ymail.com



प्रस्तावना

जैसे जैसे हम आधुनिक युग में बढ़ रहे हैं हमारे जानने की इच्छा रखने अनुसंधान एवं विकास के रूप में प्रचलित हो रही है। पुस्तकालय, ग्रंथपाल एवं ज्ञान के प्रसार की प्रासंगिकता एक ऐसा कार्य बन गया है जिसके लिए अधिक से अधिक विशेषज्ञता की आवश्यकता होती है।

यह विशेष रूप से अकादमिक पुस्तकालयों और अकादमिक लाइब्रेरियन की विभिन्न उभरती भूमिकाओं को परिभाषित करने के अवसर देता है। इन अपेक्षाओं की पहचान करने और समय पर ज्ञान और सूचना की मांगों को पूरा करने के लिए खुद को तैयार करने में सक्षम होना। लाइब्रेरियन को लंबे समय से सूचना के द्वारपाल, पुस्तकों के संरक्षक और ज्ञान के रखवाले के रूप में जाना जाता है। हालांकि, प्रौद्योगिकी के उदय और सूचना के डिजिटलीकरण के साथ, लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक अधिक जटिल और बहुमुखी पेशा बनने के लिए विकसित हुई है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पहली बार जनवरी 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक द्वारा विकसित एक अवधारणा के रूप में उभरा। अप्रैल 2004 में, बेल और शैंक ने मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पर एक तीन सत्र की कार्यशाला दी जिसे शिक्षण, सीखने और प्रौद्योगिकी समूह और एसोसिएशन ऑफ कॉलेज एंड रिसर्च लाइब्रेरीद्वारा प्रायोजित किया गया था।

लाइब्रेरियन को लंबे समय से सूचना के द्वारपाल, पुस्तकों के संरक्षक और ज्ञान के रखवाले के रूप में जाना जाता है। हालांकि, प्रौद्योगिकी के उदय और सूचना के डिजिटलीकरण के साथ, लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक अधिक जटिल और बहुमुखी पेशा बन गया है।

एक मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप को एक पेशेवर के रूप में परिभाषित किया जा सकता है जिसने पुस्तकालय सेवाओं के वितरण को बढ़ाने के लिए डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों के उपयोग के साथ लाइब्रेरियनशिप के शैक्षणिक कौशल, जैसे कैंटलॉगिंग, संदर्भ सेवाओं और संग्रह विकास को सफलतापूर्वक जोड़ा है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ताओं को जानकारी तक पहुंचने, व्यवस्थित करने और प्रसारित करने के लिए डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्लेटफार्मों का उपयोग करने में कुशल हैं। वे दूसरों को सिखाने में भी कुशल हैं कि इन प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग कैसे करें और उन्हें अपने शोध और सीखने की प्रक्रियाओं में शामिल करें।

एक मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन की प्रमुख विशेषताओं में से एक परिवर्तन के अनुकूल होने की उनकी क्षमता है। जैसे-जैसे प्रौद्योगिकी विकसित होती जा रही है, वैसे-वैसे एक प्रभावी लाइब्रेरियन होने के लिए आवश्यक कौशल भी विकसित होते हैं। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन न केवल प्रौद्योगिकी के साथ सहज हैं, बल्कि अपने काम को बेहतर बनाने के लिए नए उपकरणों और रणनीतियों की तलाश में भी सक्रिय हैं। वे अकादमिक समुदाय में अन्य हितधारकों के साथ संबंध और साझेदारी बनाने में विशेषज्ञ हैं ताकि यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि पुस्तकालय अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा कर रहा है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन भी डिजिटल साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। आधुनिक युग में जहां सूचना प्रचुर मात्रा में उपलब्ध है लेकिन हमेशा विश्वसनीय नहीं होती है, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन डिजिटल संसाधनों के जटिल परिदृश्य को संचालन करने में मदद करते हैं। वे जानकारी का गंभीर रूप से मूल्यांकन कैसे करें, प्रभावी ढंग से खोजना, और जानकारी को व्यवस्थित और प्रबंधित करने के लिए डिजिटल टूल का उपयोग करना सिखाते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन और शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन के बीच अंतर

मिश्रित और शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन कर्तव्यों और जिम्मेदारियों में भिन्न होते हैं।

एक मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन वह लाइब्रेरियन है जिसने आज के डिजिटल युग में उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को प्रभावी ढंग से पूरा करने के लिए डिजिटल कौशल के साथ शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को जोड़ा है। वे जानकारी का प्रबंधन और प्रसार करने के लिए डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग करने में कुशल हैं, और वे इन उपकरणों का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग करने के तरीके पर दूसरों को पढ़ाने और प्रशिक्षित करने में कुशल हैं। वे उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों के साथ सहज हैं और पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए उनका उपयोग कर सकते हैं।

दूसरी ओर एक शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन की लाइब्रेरी के कार्यों में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होती है, जिसमें पुस्तकों को सूचीबद्ध करने, संग्रह बनाए रखने और संरक्षक करने एवं संदर्भ सेवाएं प्रदान करने जैसे कार्य शामिल होते हैं। वे पुस्तकालय विज्ञान और प्रिंट संसाधनों के उपयोग में पूरी तरह से कुशल होते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन के पास शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन के अतिरिक्त कर्तव्य हो सकते हैं। वे पुस्तकालय वेबसाइटों, सोशल मीडिया खातों और डिजिटल संग्रह के प्रबंधन के लिए जिम्मेदार हो सकते हैं। वे पुस्तकालय के कर्मचारियों और उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों को विकसित और कार्यान्वित भी कर सकते हैं।

मिश्रित और शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन दोनों पुस्तकालय व्यवस्था में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन के पास कौशल का एक अनूठा संयोजन होता है जो उन्हें डिजिटल युग में प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोगकर्ताओं की सेवा करने की अनुमति देता है, जबकि शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन पुस्तकालय कार्यों पर अधिक कार्य करते हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन और शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन के बीच कुछ महत्वपूर्ण अंतर यहां दिए गए हैं:

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन	शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन
मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय कौशल और डिजिटल कौशल का एक संयोजन है ।	शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन मुख्य रूप से पुस्तकालय कौशल पर केंद्रित होते हैं ।
जानकारी का प्रबंधन और प्रसार करने के लिए डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग करने में कुशल होते हैं ।	डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों में दक्षता हो सकती है
डिजिटल उपकरणों का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग करने के तरीके और प्रशिक्षित करने में कुशल होते हैं ।	डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों को पढ़ाने में कभी कभी सहज नहीं हो सकते हैं ।
लाइब्रेरी वेबसाइटों, सोशल मीडिया और डिजिटल संग्रह का प्रबंधन करता है ।	पुस्तकों को सूचीबद्ध करने, संग्रह बनाए रखने और उपयोगकर्ताओं को संदर्भ सेवाएं प्रदान करने पर केंद्रित होते हैं ।
पुस्तकालय कर्मचारियों और संरक्षकों के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों को विकसित और कार्यान्वित करता है ।	प्रौद्योगिकी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों के लिए उत्तरदायी नहीं होते हैं ।
पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए नई नई प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग करते हैं ।	प्रिंट संसाधनों के उपयोग पर केंद्रित हो सकते हैं ।

कुल मिलाकर, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन के पास शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन की तुलना में एक व्यापक कौशल और जिम्मेदारियों की अधिक विविध श्रृंखला होती है, जो मुख्य रूप से शैक्षणिक

पुस्तकालय कार्यों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हैं। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए डिजिटल उपकरणों और प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग करने में सहज हैं और दूसरों को सिखा सकते हैं कि इन उपकरणों का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग कैसे करें। दूसरी ओर, शैक्षणिक लाइब्रेरियन को पुस्तकालय विज्ञान का गहरा ज्ञान है और संदर्भ सेवाएं प्रदान करने और पुस्तकालय संग्रह को बनाए रखने के लिए प्रिंट संसाधनों का उपयोग करने में विशेषज्ञ हैं।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का महत्व –

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप निम्नलिखित कारणों से महत्वपूर्ण है:

- बदलती उपयोगकर्ता आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना: जैसा कि समाज जानकारी तक पहुंचने और उपयोग करने के लिए डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों पर निर्भर करता है, पुस्तकालयों को इन बदलती उपयोगकर्ता आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए अनुकूलित करना चाहिए। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पुस्तकालयों को उन सेवाओं को प्रदान करने में सक्षम बनाता है जो डिजिटल युग में उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए प्रासंगिक, सुलभ और आकर्षक हैं।
- उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों को एकीकृत करना: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को उभरती हुई तकनीकों, जैसे डेटा एनालिटिक्स, कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता और आभासी वास्तविकता को अपनी सेवाओं में एकीकृत करने की अनुमति देता है। ऐसा करके, लाइब्रेरियन अधिक व्यक्तिगत और इंटरैक्टिव सेवाएं प्रदान कर सकते हैं जो उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करते हैं।
- सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा देना: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप उपयोगकर्ताओं को सिखाती है कि सूचना स्रोतों का प्रभावी ढंग से उपयोग और मूल्यांकन कैसे करें। यह एक ऐसे युग में महत्वपूर्ण है जहां इंटरनेट पर गलत सूचना व्याप्त है, और उपयोगकर्ताओं को गंभीर रूप से जानकारी का मूल्यांकन करने में सक्षम होना चाहिए।

- अन्य विभागों के साथ सहयोग: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को परिसर में या उनके समुदाय के भीतर अन्य विभागों के साथ सहयोग करने में सक्षम बनाता है। यह सहयोग लाइब्रेरियन को उपयोगकर्ताओं को अधिक व्यापक सेवाएं प्रदान करने और उनकी आवश्यकताओं को बेहतर ढंग से पूरा करने की अनुमति देता है।
- उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव को बढ़ाना: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को निर्देशात्मक डिजाइन सिद्धांतों और उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित डिजाइन का उपयोग करके एक अनुकूलतम उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव बनाने में सक्षम बनाता है। यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि उपयोगकर्ता आसानी से लाइब्रेरी संसाधनों और सेवाओं तक पहुंच और उपयोग कर सकते हैं।
- प्रासंगिक बने रहना: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को तेजी से बदलते डिजिटल वातावरण में प्रासंगिक रहने में सक्षम बनाता है। नई प्रौद्योगिकियों और शिक्षण विधियों के साथ शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालय कौशल के संयोजन से, लाइब्रेरियन उपयोगकर्ताओं को मूल्यवान सेवाएं प्रदान करना जारी रख सकते हैं और व्यापक सूचना विज्ञान समुदाय में योगदान कर सकते हैं।

References

1. Bell, S.J. & Shank, John. The Blended Librarian: A blueprint for redefining the teaching and learning role of Academic Librarians. College and Research Libraries News. 2004
2. Bell, S.J. & Shank, J.D. Academic Librarianship by design: A blended Librarian's guide to the tools and techniques. American Library Association.2007.

3. Tank, Sheetal & others. Blended Librarianship for Academic Libraries in Digital Era theory and practice: a case of ATMIYA group of institutions. Conference Paper 2017
4. Blended librarian - Library & Information Science Education Network (lisedunetwork.com)
5. Blended librarianship - LISWiki

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी
तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप

नवीन कुमार ताम्रकार
अंशकालीन सहायक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष
स्व. श्री पुनाराम निषाद मात्स्यकी महाविद्यालय, कवर्धा
E-mail id- naveentamrakar4@gmail.com



डॉ दिलीप कुमार चौधरी
पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष
दाऊ श्री वासुदेव चंद्राकर कामधेनू विश्वविद्यालय, दुर्ग
E-mail id- dilipchoudhary05@yahoo.com



पुस्तकालय ही एक ऐसा स्थान है जहाँ विभिन्न विषयों के सूचना स्रोत, पुस्तकें, पत्रिकाएँ एवं डिजिटल सूचना प्राप्त की जाती हैं। गुरुकुल में रह कर अध्ययन करना हमारे देश की प्राचीन शिक्षा पद्धति थी। इस शिक्षा प्रणाली का मूलभूत उद्देश्य अनुशासन एवं अभ्यास था। जिसमें विद्यार्थियों को वहाँ सामाजिक, आर्थिक, नैतिक, आध्यात्मिक एवं धार्मिक शिक्षा दी जाती थी। यह शिक्षा प्रणाली आजकल आधुनिकता के प्रभाव में खो गई है। पुस्तकालय गुरुकुल का ही एक अभिन्न अंग हुआ करता था। आधुनिकता के इस प्रवाह में पुस्तकालय अपने अस्तित्व को बनाए रखने में पूर्णतः सफल रहा है।

पुस्तकालय की भूमिका को आधुनिकता से जोड़ने का मुख्य श्रेय पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष को जाता है। आधुनिकता के इस दौर में पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों ने नई तकनीकों से हाथ मिलाया है। इसी के फलस्वरूप पुस्तकालय का अस्तित्व और विशेषता आज भी समाज में बनी हुई है। इस आधुनिकता के दौर में पुस्तकालय का अस्तित्व को बनाये रखने के लिए पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों ने पारम्परिक व्यवस्था के साथ-साथ आधुनिक तकनीकों को सीखा और अपनाया है। जिसका मुख्य उदाहरण कोरोना महामारी के दौर में प्रत्यक्ष रूप से देखने को मिलता है, जब सम्पूर्ण शैक्षणिक एवं सूचना संस्थाएँ भौतिक रूप से बंद थी तब पुस्तकालयों ने डिजिटल पाठ्य सामग्रियों एवं सूचना स्रोतों के माध्यम से विद्यार्थियों और

पुस्तकालय के उपयोगकर्ताओं को निरंतर अद्यतन रखने में सहायक रही एवं उन्हें उनके विषय से संबंधित सूचनाएँ निरंतर प्रदान करते रहे।

वर्तमान में किसी भी पुस्तकालय का विकास पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष के ज्ञान और आधुनिक तकनीकों के अर्जन एवं उपयोग पर निर्भर करता है। पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष को आधुनिक शिक्षा पद्धति, पुस्तकालय में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग एवं आधुनिक पुस्तकालय प्रबंध प्रणालियों की भी जानकारी होना अतिआवश्यक है। आधुनिक एवं पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय पद्धति को एक साथ मिलाकर पुस्तकालय में उपयोग करने की व्यवस्था को "मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन" का नाम दिया गया। इस शब्द का सर्वप्रथम उपयोग 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक द्वारा किया गया था। यह शब्द पुस्तकालय द्वारा आधुनिक पुस्तकालय प्रणाली को अपनाने का एक संकेत है।

आज के युग में आधुनिक प्रणालि को लेकर चलना अतिआवश्यक है। इतिहास गवाह है कि जो समय के साथ स्वयं की जीवन शैली नहीं बदलता वह विलुप्त हो जाता है। पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों ने इस इतिहास से सीख लेकर स्वयं को आधुनिकता में ढाला है। वर्तमान समय में पुस्तकाल डिजिटल होते जा रहे हैं जिसमें कम्प्यूटर एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग कर पुस्तकालय प्रबंधन साफ्टवेयर का उपयोग कर पुस्तकालय को स्वचालित किया जा रहा है। अब लिखित पाठ्य सामग्रियों के साथ-साथ इलेक्ट्रॉनिक पाठ्य सामग्रियों का संग्रह भी किया जा रहा है।

आज की डिजिटलीकृत पुस्तकालय व्यवस्था से पुस्तकालय का अस्तित्व अपनी गहराई में टिका हुआ है। जिस प्रकार सबसे बड़े पेड़ की जड़े जमीन के अधिक गहराई में होती हैं और ऊँचाई आसमान छूकर सभी को शीतल भरी छाँव प्रदान करती हैं। ठीक उसी प्रकार पुस्तकालय भी उसी बड़े पेड़ की तरह अपने संग्रह, कार्य एवं सेवाओं के माध्यम से ज्ञान रूपी छाँव सभी को प्रदान करता आ रहा है और आगे भी करता रहेगा। अतः इससे सिद्ध होता है कि भारतीय पुस्तकालय के पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों ने आधुनिक तकनीकों को अपनाया है और मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के विचार का स्वागत किया है। और पुस्तकालय ने पारम्परिक के साथ-साथ आधुनिक पुस्तकालय प्रणाली को अपनाने के इस प्रयास में जीत हासिल की है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
में इसका स्वरूप

श्रवण यादव
शोधार्थी
ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययन शाला
पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर, (छ.ग.)
E-mail- syadav_11@rediffmail.com



डॉ. हरीश कुमार साहू
वरिष्ठ सहायक प्राध्यापक
ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययन शाला
पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर, (छ.ग.)
E-mail: hari97479@yahoo.in



परिचय

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष (Blended Librarianship) को सर्वप्रथम जनवरी 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक ने उपयोग किया था। शैंक और बेल का मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष का मुख्य विचार यह है कि पुस्तकालय संगठनों को समृद्धि और प्रगति के लिए समाज में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभानी चाहिए और यह समझना जरूरी है कि पुस्तकालय केवल पुस्तकों की रखवाला नहीं होता, बल्कि एक सामाजिक, प्रौद्योगिकी और विश्वासी संगठन भी होता है जो ज्ञान और सूचना को प्रबंधित करता है।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष (Blended Librarianship) एक तरह से हाइब्रिड पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष (Hybrid Librarianship) है, जिसमें पारंपरिक और डिजीटल दोनों का परस्पर मेल है। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष (Blended Librarianship) का मुख्य उद्देश्य पुस्तकालय पाठकों की आवश्यकता को समझकर उसको पूरा करना है। यह तभी संभव है जब पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय सेवा और डिजीटल सेवाओं की तकनीक का प्रयोग करके किया जाये।

आज एक पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष और पुस्तकालय कर्मचारी को अपने पाठकों को उनके प्रश्नों के उत्तर प्रदान करने के लिए प्रशिक्षित होने की आवश्यकता है। वर्तमान समय पुस्तकालय सेवाओं और संसाधनों का डिजीटल स्वरूप की अग्रसर है।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष के गुण :

एक मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष में निम्नलिखित गुण होना चाहिए :-

1. सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी कौशल प्रशिक्षित होना चाहिए ।
2. सुलभ पाठ्यक्रम प्रदान करने के लिए सहयोग करना चाहिए ।
3. विषय से संबंधित प्रश्न के उत्तर देने को तैयार रहना चाहिए ।
4. यह अनुमान लगाना कि विद्यार्थी और अध्यापक पुस्तकालय से क्या चाहते हैं।
5. उपयोगकर्ता को सेवायें प्रदान करने के लिए समय का विशेष ध्यान रखे ।
6. विद्यार्थियों एवं अध्यापकों की सेवाओं के लिए अन्य परस्पर इकाईयों से सहयोग प्राप्त करना ।
7. इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संसाधनों से भलीभांति परिचित होना चाहिए ।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष के सिद्धान्त

शैंक और बेल (2004) ने निम्नलिखित छः सिद्धान्त दिए हैं :-

1. वर्तमान सूचना समाज में पुस्तकालय सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए कैंपस इनोवेटर्स और परिवर्तन एजेंटों के रूप में नेतृत्व का होना महत्वपूर्ण है।
2. शिक्षण और सीखने की प्रक्रिया को और अधिक सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए सूचना साक्षरता पहल को विकसित करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध होना चाहिए ।
3. पुस्तकालय सेवाओं का उपयोग करने और सूचना साक्षरता सीखने में संरक्षकों की सहायता के लिए शैक्षिक कार्यक्रम और कक्षाएं डिजाइन करना नितांत आवश्यक है।
4. शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालयों के शिक्षण मिशन को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए आवश्यक कार्यक्रमों, सेवाओं और संसाधनों के विकास के लिए प्रौद्योगिकीविदों के साथ सहयोग और बातचीत करना महत्वपूर्ण है।

5. पुस्तकालय अनुदेश में अनुकूली, रचनात्मक, सक्रिय और नीवन परिवर्तन को लागू करने को नव-निर्मित अनुदेशात्मक प्रौद्योगिकी/डिजाइन पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों और प्रौद्योगिकीविदों के साथ संचार और सहयोग करके बढ़ाया जा सकता है।
6. संकाय के साथ संबंधों को बदलने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि हम प्रौद्योगिकी और पुस्तकालय संसाधनों को पाठ्यक्रमों में एकीकृत करने में उनकी सहायता करें। पारंपरिक भूमिका में सूचना पहुंच, पुनर्प्राप्ति और एकीकरण के क्षेत्रों में छात्रों के सीखने और परिणाम मूल्यांकन में सुधार के लिए सहयोग की एक नई क्षमता भी जोड़नी चाहिए।

निष्कर्ष

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष (Blended Librarianship) एक पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में एक नया और प्रगतिशील दृष्टिकोण है जो विभिन्न पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को सामाजिक, तकनीकी, और विश्वासी दृष्टिकोण से एक साथ जोड़ने का प्रयास करता है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य पुस्तकालय कर्मचारियों को नई तकनीकी और सामाजिक परियोजनाओं के साथ सहयोगी बनाना है, ताकि पुस्तकालय सेवाएँ और संसाधन सबसे अच्छे तरीके से प्रदान की जा सकें। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयध्यक्ष का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू यह है कि पुस्तकालय कर्मचारी नवाचारों और तकनीकी प्रगति के साथ कदम मिलाते रहें और अपने ज्ञान को अद्यतन रखें। पुस्तकालय कर्मचारी तकनीकी उपकरणों, सॉफ्टवेयर, और डिजिटल संसाधनों का सवालों का सामर्थ्यपूर्ण रूप से उपयोग करते हैं।

संदर्भ ग्रंथ

1. Dabengwa, I. M. (2018). *A phenomenological study of experiences in blended librarianship among academic librarians in Zimbabwe with special reference to selected higher education institutions. February.*
2. Shank, J. D., Bell, S., Zabel, D., Shank, J. D., & Bell, S. (2011). *Blended Librarianship [Re]Envisioning the Role of Librarian as Educator in the Digital Information Age. 51(2), 105–110.*

3. Tank, S., & Bhatt, R. (2017). *Blended Librarianship for Academic Libraries in Digital Era theory and practice : a case of ATMIYA group of institutions 2nd National Conference Transforming Libraries into Digital Era A Journey from Librarian to Cybrarian Jointly organised by C . U . Sh. March 2019.*

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप: भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में इसका स्वरूप

रणजीत कुमार
पुस्तकालय प्रशिक्षु
केन्द्रीय पुस्तकालय, एन. आई. टी. रायपुर (छ. ग.)
E-mail: rsranjeet2011@gmail.com



अवधारणा

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पारिस्थितिक तंत्र, भारतीय पुस्तकालयों में पुस्तकों के संग्रहण, संरक्षण, प्रकटन और प्रबंधन के लिए एक आधुनिक और सुदृढ़ प्रणाली का संदर्भ देता है। यह तंत्र डिजिटलीकरण, डेटाबेस प्रबंधन, ऑनलाइन पहुँच और जानकारी साझा करने के लिए नवाचारी तकनीकों का उपयोग करता है। इसका उद्देश्य पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को अधिक प्रभावी और उपयोगकर्ता मित्रक बनाना है, जिससे लोग पुस्तकों और जानकारी तक आसानी से पहुँच सकें।

इस प्रणाली में पुस्तकालयों के लिए संग्रहण और प्रबंधन की प्रक्रिया बेहद महत्वपूर्ण होती है, जिसमें पुस्तकों के विवरण, श्रेणीकरण और भंडारण का सही से पालन किया जाता है। साथ ही डिजिटल तंत्र के माध्यम से डिजिटल पुस्तकालय भी विकसित की जाती है, जिससे ऑनलाइन पुस्तक पहुँच और जानकारी साझा करने में सुविधा होती है।

इस प्रकार, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप पारिस्थितिक तंत्र भारतीय पुस्तकालयों को एक आधुनिक और अद्वितीय तरीके से पुस्तकों और जानकारी का प्रबंधन करने में मदद करता है।

भारतीय पुस्तकालय : पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के संन्दर्भ में

उपयोगिता :

मिश्रित पुस्तकालय विज्ञान, जिसे "मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप" भी कहा जाता है, भारतीय पुस्तकालयों के पारिस्थितिक तंत्र में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। यह तंत्र पुस्तकालयों को डिजिटल प्रणालियों, डेटाबेस और इंटरनेट के उपयोग से अद्वितीय और उपयोगी बनाता है।

इसके माध्यम से पुस्तकालय संसाधनों को अधिक सुलभ और आसान पहुँच वाला बनाया जा सकता है।

- जिससे विश्वभर के उपयोगकर्ताओं को विशेषज्ञता और ज्ञान का अधिक लाभ मिल सकता है।
- इसके साथ ही, इस तंत्र के माध्यम से पुस्तकालय विश्वभर के साथियों के साथ सहयोग भी कर सकते हैं, जिससे ज्ञान को साझा करने का माध्यम भी बढ़ा देता है।

तंत्र में महत्ता

यह एक प्रमुख विषय है, जिसमें तकनीकी और पुस्तकालय विज्ञान के क्षेत्रों को मिलाकर प्रभावी रूप से प्रयोग किया जाता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का महत्व उन तकनीकी साधनों की ओर इशारा करते हैं जिससे पुस्तकालयों को सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी की मदद से संचालित कर सकें।

- सह तंत्र पुस्तकालय संचालन में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी, डिजिटलीकरण, डेटाबेस प्रबंधन, इंटरनेट उपयोग और डिजिटल संभालन के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। यह पुस्तकालयों को ग्रंथ संग्रहण, पुस्तकों की उपलब्धता, और उपयोगकर्ता सेवाओं को सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से सुदृढ़ और प्रभावी बनाने में मदद करता है। इसके अलावा, यह तंत्र पुस्तकालयों को डिजिटल संभालन, ग्रंथ संरक्षण और डेटा सुरक्षा के मामले में भी महत्वपूर्ण रूप से सहायक होता है।
- इसका प्रयोग पुस्तकालयों को उनके सांख्यिकीय और उपयोगकर्ता सेवा लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने में मदद करता है और उन्हें नवाचारी और सुदृढ़ बनाता है।
- मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप एक सुगम और प्रभावी पुस्तकालय प्रबंधन प्रणाली को बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं, जिससे पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को गुणवत्तापूर्ण रूप से प्रदान कर सकें।

कार्य व संयोजन व्यवस्था

- पुस्तकालय संग्रहण और प्रबंधन : यह तंत्र पुस्तकालय के संग्रहण कार्य को सुदृढ़ और अंगीकृत करने में मदद करता है। यह सिस्टम पुस्तकों की जानकारी, सदस्यता प्रबंधन और पुस्तकों का डेटाबेस बनाने में सहायक होता है।

- डिजिटलीकरण और इलेक्ट्रॉनिक संदर्भ सेवाएं : मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप तंत्र पुस्तकों को डिजिटल रूप में संग्रहित करने के लिए उपयोगी है। यह पुस्तकों को सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से पहुँचाने में भी मदद करता है।
- डेटा प्रबंधन और एनालिटिक्स : यह तंत्र पुस्तकालय डेटा का प्रबंधन करता है और प्रयोगकर्ताओं के लिए डेटा एनालिटिक्स प्रदान करता है, जिससे सेवाओं को सुधारा जा सकता है।
- वेब प्रस्तुतिकरण : यह सिस्टम पुस्तकालय सामग्री को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए मदद करता है, जिससे विचारकों और पाठकों तक आसानी से पहुँच सके।
- सुरक्षा और उपयोक्ता प्रबंधन : तंत्र पुस्तकालय की सुरक्षा की जिम्मेदारी भी लेती है और यह उपयोक्ताओं को प्रबंधन करने और सुरक्षित पहुँच की सुनिश्चित करने में मदद करता है।

निष्कर्ष

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप भारतीय पुस्तकालयों की पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के विकास का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। यह प्रक्रियाएँ और तंत्र उन्नति कराते हैं तंत्र जो पुस्तकालयों को पुस्तकों और स्रोतों को प्रबंधित करने में मदद करते हैं। भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिक तंत्र में डिजिटलीकरण, डिजिटल पुस्तकालय और डिजिटल संग्रहण की ओर एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम बढ़ाया गया है। इससे पुस्तकालयों के संसाधनों को आसानी से उपलब्ध कराने में मदद मिलती है और लोगों को विशेषज्ञता के क्षेत्र में जानकारी प्राप्त करने का मौका मिलता है। इसके साथ ही, मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप ने सोशल मीडिया और नेटवर्किंग के साथ पुस्तकालयों की प्रचलितता और पहुँच को बढ़ाया है। यह उपयोक्ताओं को विभिन्न स्रोतों तक पहुंचने में मदद करता है और विशेषज्ञता के क्षेत्र में साझा करने का माध्यम प्रदान करता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के माध्यम से भारतीय पुस्तकालय अपने उपयोक्ताओं के लिए अधिक वाणिज्यिक, ज्ञानवर्धन और सोशल निरीक्षण के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रहे हैं। यह उन्नति की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण योगदान कर रहा है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप : भारतीय पुस्तकालय पारिस्थिकी तंत्र में इसका
स्वरूप

हरिशंकर साहू
ग्रंथपाल
एकलव्य आदर्श आवासीय विद्यालय, छोटे
मुड़पार (खरसिया), रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)
ई-मेल- harisahu267@gmail.com



प्रस्तावना

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिपका उपयोग पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय प्रथाओं को उभारती प्रौद्योगिकियों और सीखने के नये तरीके के साथ एकीकृत करने में लाइब्रेरियन की बढ़ती भूमिका का वर्णन करने के लिये किया जाता है। यह लाइब्रेरियनशिप पेशे के लिये आधुनिक दृष्टिकोण है। जो उपयोगकर्ताओं केन्द्रित सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिये पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को नई उभरतीतकनीकों के साथ निर्देशात्मक डिजाइन और सिद्धांतों को जोड़ता है। इसका उपयोग उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों का आकलन करने और निर्णय लेने की सूचना देने के लिये डेटा का उपयोग करने के लिये किया जाता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप बदलती दुनिया में उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरत को पूरा करने वाली नवीन और प्रभावी पुस्तकालय सेवा प्रदान करने के लिये नई-नई तकनीक सीखने के साथ पारम्परिक पुस्तकालय सेवा प्रदान करता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन शब्द 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक द्वारा विकसित किया गया था। तब यह वांछनीय था, लेकिन 21वीं सदी के तीसरे दशक में यह पुस्तकालय पेशेवरों के लिए लगभग अपरिहार्य हो गया। यह लाइब्रेरियनशिप का एक मॉडल है जो ग्रंथपाल के लिए विविध कौशल रखने की आवश्यकता पर जोर देता है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के सिद्धांत

(बेल और शैंक 2004) ने मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की निम्नलिखित सिद्धांत दिये हैं –

1. कैंपस इनोवेटर्स और परिवर्तन एजेंटों में नेतृत्व की स्थिति लेना महत्वपूर्ण है। आज के सूचना समाज में पुस्तकालय सेवासफलतापूर्वक प्रदानके लिए।
2. हमें सूचना साक्षरता को विकसित करने के लिये प्रतिबद्ध होना – शिक्षण और सीखने की प्रक्रिया में हमारी निरंतर भागीदारी को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिये आवश्यक है।
3. पुस्तकालय सेवाओं का उपयोग करने और सूचना साक्षरता सीखने में संरक्षकों की सहायता करने के लिए।
4. शैक्षणिक पुस्तकालयों के शिक्षण मिशन को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिये आवश्यक कार्यक्रम।
5. पुस्तकालय अनुदेश में अनुकूल रचनात्मक सक्रिय और नवीन परिवर्तन को लागू करने को डिजाइनरों और प्रौद्योगिकीविदों के साथ संचार और संयोग करके बढ़ाया जा सकता है।
6. संकाय के साथ हमारे संबंधों को बदलने के लिये आवश्यक है, कि हम सहायता के लिये अपने प्रयासों पर ध्यान केन्द्रित करें।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की आवश्यकता

प्रायः यह देख जा रहा है, कि आज की इस डिजिटल युग में उपयोगकर्ताओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करने और विभिन्न संसाधनों सेवाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिये इसकी आवश्यकता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की कार्यविधि मूलभूत आवश्यक परिवर्तन के साथ उपयोगकर्ता के लिये बेहद लाभकारी है। इसके माध्यम से हम Flipped classroom, Virtual physical class, Google Doc/ One drive web20, web conferencing, Audio lecture, Online print resources, CDROM आदि की सुविधा का लाभ ले सकते हैं। पुस्तकालय पारिस्थितिकी व्यापक प्रणाली है जिसमें पुस्तकालय की संरचना संग्रह संगठन और प्रबंधन को समेटा जाता है, इसमें संग्रह का विकास पुस्तकों की उपलब्धता सेवाओं का प्रबंधन और पाठकों के साथ संवाद शामिल होता है।

निष्कर्ष

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप की अवधारणा इस बात पर जोर देती है कि यह विभिन्न प्रकार के अंतर पेशेवर कौशल को नये तरीके के संयोजन के बारे में किस तरह उपयोगकर्ताओं की सम्पूर्ण मांग पूरी हो और वह संतुष्ट हो और बढ़ते डिजिटल युगकी उपयोगकर्ताओं को अधिक से अधिक इस मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिपका लाभ मिल सके। हमारे उपयोगकर्ताओं को हमसे कई चीजों की आवश्यकता होती है। हमसे अपेक्षा की जाती है कि हम अपनी पारम्परिक सेवाओं को बनाये रखें।

नवीन तकनीकों, मिडिया और अनुसंधान शिक्षण और सीखने के तरीकों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए पुस्तकालयों और पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को महत्व दिया जाता है, और उनका सम्मान किया जाता है। क्योंकि हम छात्रों और संकाय की जरूरतों के प्रति समर्पित हैं और उनकी शैक्षणिक सफलता के प्रति चिंतित हैं। अब यह हम पर निर्भर है कि हम शिक्षार्थी की अगली पीढ़ी की जरूरतों पर प्रतिक्रिया दें।

Reference

1. Bell, S.J., & Shank, J.D. (2007) Academic librarianship by design: A blended librarian's guide to the tools and techniques. American Library Association.
2. John D. Shank. (n.d.) Academic Impression. Retrieved March 25,2023, from <https://www.academicimpressions.com/instructed-shand/>
3. Steven J. Bell/ALA Store. (n.d.). Retrieved March 25,2023 from <https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/steven-j-bell>
4. <https://blendedlibrarian.badgestack.net/about>

विकसित हो रहे अकादमिक पुस्तकालय में भागीदारों के रूप में मिश्रित
लाइब्रेरियनशिप

सुचिता साहू
लाइब्रेरी इंटरन
सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ ओडिशा
कोरापुट, ओडिशा-763004

E-mail- suchitasahoo531@gmail.com



सम्यक प्रतीक पटनायक
रिसर्च स्कॉलर
यूजीसी-नेट जेआरएफ
डीएलआईएस, संबलपुर विश्वविद्यालय
ज्योति विहार, बुर्ला, संबलपुर ओडिशा-768019

E-mail- jessamyak@gmail.com



प्रस्तावना

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता वाक्यांश उस परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका को संदर्भित करता है जो पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय प्रक्रियाओं को अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों और सीखने के नवीन तरीकों के साथ मिलाने में निभाते हैं। यह पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता की एक शैली है जो सूचनात्मक डिजाइन और प्रौद्योगिकी में विशेषज्ञता के साथ पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय प्रक्रियाओं को जोड़ने वाली क्षमताओं के व्यापक स्पेक्ट्रम वाले पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालती है।

उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित सेवाओं को प्रदान करने के लिए, यह पुस्तकालय पेशे के लिए एक समकालीन दृष्टिकोण है जो पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय कौशल को अत्याधुनिक तकनीक नवीनतम रुझानों और निर्देशात्मक निर्माण अवधारणाओं के साथ एकीकृत करता है। इसमें तकनीकी उपकरणों और दृष्टिकोण को नैतिक मानकों और पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के विशेष ज्ञान के साथ

जोड़ना शामिल है। ब्लेंडेड लाइब्रेरियन सोशल मीडिया और अन्य लाइब्रेरी 2.0 टूल जैसे कई चैनलों के माध्यम से उपयोगकर्ताओं को संलग्न करने में सक्रिय हैं, और उपयोगकर्ता की आवश्यकताओं को निर्धारित करने और निर्णय लेने को प्रभावित करने के लिए डेटा का उपयोग करने में कुशल हैं। डिजिटल युग में उपयोगकर्ताओं की उभरती मांगों के अनुकूल पुस्तकालय सेवाओं को प्रदान करना मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का अंतिम उद्देश्य है।

मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का प्राथमिक उद्देश्य मौजूदा पुस्तकालय संसाधनों और सेवाओं में सुधार के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करना है। पुस्तकालय की पारंपरिक सेवाओं और संसाधनों के साथ तकनीकी उपकरणों और संसाधनों की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला को मिलाकर मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता में संलग्न पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष पुस्तकालय सेवा की एक संकर शैली विकसित कर सकते हैं।

इसमें ऑनलाइन ट्यूटोरियल और निर्देशात्मक वीडियो जैसी तकनीक का उपयोग करके अत्याधुनिक सीखने के अनुभवों को विकसित करना और वितरित करना शामिल है। यहाँ मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के लक्ष्य के संबंध में प्रमुख बिंदु दिए गए हैं :

- पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय ज्ञान और क्षमताओं को आधुनिक उपकरणों, निर्देशात्मक
- डिजाइन की अवधारणाओं और सूचना विज्ञान के रुझानों के विकास के साथ जोड़ना।
- पुस्तकालय उपयोगकर्ता की इच्छाओं को समझने और ऐसी सेवाएं प्रदान करने
- पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना जो प्रासंगिक सुलभ और दिलचस्प हों।
- ईमेल सोशल मीडिया और अन्य लाइब्रेरी 2.0 टूल जैसे कई चैनलों के माध्यम से
- लोगों को शामिल करने में सक्रिय रहें।
- अन्य परिसर या समुदाय के साथ सहयोग करते समय पुस्तकालय के संसाधनों
- और सेवाओं को बढ़ावा देना।

- सर्वोत्तम संभव उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव सुनिश्चित करें।
- सूचना साक्षरता और आजीवन सीखने को प्रोत्साहित करें।

मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के लाभों में निम्नलिखित शामिल हैं

ब्लेंडेड लाइब्रेरियनशिप उपयोगकर्ताओं को सिखाती है कि सूचना स्रोतों का कुशलता से उपयोग और मूल्यांकन कैसे किया जाए, इसलिए सूचना साक्षरता को बढ़ावा दिया जाए। उपयोगकर्ताओं को इस दिन और युग में सामग्री का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण करने में सक्षम होना चाहिए क्योंकि ऑनलाइन बहुत सारी गलत सूचना उपलब्ध है।

a) उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों को लागू करना: ब्लेंडेड लाइब्रेरियनशिप लाइब्रेरियन को वर्चुअल रियलिटी आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस और डेटा एनालिटिक्स जैसे अत्याधुनिक उपकरणों को अपने प्रस्तावों में शामिल करने में सक्षम बनाती है। ऐसा करके लाइब्रेरियन अधिक व्यक्तिगत, संवादात्मक सेवाएं प्रदान कर सकते हैं जो लाइब्रेरी उपयोगकर्ताओं की आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप हैं।

b) पुस्तकालयों को इन बदलती उपयोगकर्ता आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए अनुकूलन करना चाहिए क्योंकि समाज सूचना की पहुंच और उपयोग के लिए तेजी से डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकी पर निर्भर है। मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता के उपयोग के माध्यम से, पुस्तकालय डिजिटल युग में उपयोगकर्ताओं को दिलचस्प प्रासंगिक सेवाएं प्रदान कर सकते हैं।

c) अन्य संस्थानों के साथ सहयोग: मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप के माध्यम से, लाइब्रेरियन अपने परिसर में या जिस समुदाय की वे सेवा करते हैं, उसमें कई विभागों के साथ काम कर सकते हैं। इस सहयोग के कारण, लाइब्रेरियन उपयोगकर्ताओं को अधिक अच्छी तरह से और अधिक प्रभावी ढंग से सेवा दे सकते हैं।

d) प्रासंगिकता बनाए रखना: तेजी से विकसित हो रहे डिजिटल वातावरण में, मिश्रित पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षता पुस्तकालयाध्यक्षों को उनकी प्रासंगिकता बनाए रखने में मदद करती है। लाइब्रेरियन ग्राहकों को उपयोगी सेवाएं प्रदान करना जारी रख सकते हैं और आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकी और निर्देशात्मक तकनीकों के साथ पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय क्षमताओं को जोड़कर बड़े सूचना विज्ञान समुदाय में योगदान कर सकते हैं।

निष्कर्ष

पेशे का भविष्य मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप है क्योंकि यह लाइब्रेरियन के लिए उपयोगकर्ता की बढ़ती मांगों को पूरा करने के लिए अपने कौशल और विशेषज्ञता को संशोधित करने की आवश्यकता को स्वीकार करता है। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियन नई तकनीक और निर्देशात्मक पद्धतियों को अपनाकर डिजिटल युग में अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने वाली उपयोगकर्ता-केंद्रित सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए बेहतर स्थिति में हैं।

समाज पर मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का प्रभाव

पियुष कुमार मानिकपुरी

ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान अध्ययनशाला,

पं. रविशंकर शुक्ल विश्वविद्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

E-mail: peeyushmanikpuri1102@gmail.com



मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप शब्द 2004 में स्टीवन बेल और जॉन शैंक द्वारा उपयोग किया गया। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप से हमारा तात्पर्य उन लाइब्रेरियन से है जिनके पास न केवल पुस्तकालयों के प्रबंधन के लिए आवश्यक पारंपरिक कौशल हैं, बल्कि तकनीकी कौशल भी हैं जिन्हें वे पुस्तकालय के उपयोगकर्ता को संतोषजनक सेवाएं प्रदान करने में उपयोग में ला रहे हैं। मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप का संबंध लाइब्रेरियनशिप के उन मॉडलों से है जिसमें वर्गीकरण, सूचीकरण, संचालन, जैसे पारंपरिक तरीकों के साथ प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग शामिल है। तकनीकी कौशल को शामिल करके, वे पुस्तकालयों को कुशलतापूर्वक प्रबंध करने के लिए अधिक जिम्मेदार बन सकते हैं। परिवर्तन प्रकृति का नियम है; पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष होने के नाते, हमें विकसित होने और अपने आसपास हो रहे परिवर्तनों के अनुसार खुद को ढालने की आवश्यकता है। एक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष को अपना कौशल बढ़ाना चाहिए और उन सभी तरीकों को सीखना चाहिए जिनके माध्यम से वह उपयोगकर्ताओं को संतोषजनक सेवाएं प्रदान करने में मदद करता है। नई प्रौद्योगिकियों के बारे में अधिक जानने और रोजमर्रा की गतिविधियों में उनके उपयोग को शामिल करके, कोई भी पुस्तकालय को बेहतर और अधिक कुशल तरीके से प्रबंध कर सकता है। एक पुस्तकालय अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं के इर्द-गिर्द घूमता है, वे पुस्तकालय का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा हैं क्योंकि, अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं के बिना, पुस्तकालय केवल ज्ञान का भंडारगृह है जो सूचना संसाधनों को संग्रह करके रखता है। उपयोगकर्ता ही पुस्तकालय को एक सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक संस्थान बनाते हैं। और उपयोगकर्ताओं की मदद करने में पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष को नवीन प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करने में विशेषज्ञ बनना होगा।

कम्प्यूटर, स्मार्टफोन, इंटरनेट और सोशल मीडिया आज विभिन्न आयु वर्ग के लोगों के बीच संचार के महत्वपूर्ण स्रोत बन गए हैं। वे ऐसे उपकरण बन गए हैं जिनका उपयोग अब हर कोई कर रहा है। तेज इंटरनेट और सोशल मीडिया के आगमन के साथ, दुनिया भर में बहुत से लोग डिजिटल रूप से साक्षर हो गए हैं। और लगभग सभी के लिए इंटरनेट उपलब्ध होने से बहुत से लोग अब केवल इंटरनेट पर अपने सूचना/पाठ्य सामग्रियाँ खोज रहे हैं और पुस्तकालयों पर भरोसा कम कर रहे हैं। यह एक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष का कर्तव्य है कि वह उपयोगकर्ताओं को पुस्तकालयों पर अधिक भरोसा कराए और वह पारंपरिक पद्धति को नई प्रौद्योगिकियों के उपयोग के साथ जोड़कर यानी मिश्रित लाइब्रेरियनशिप को अपनाकर ऐसा कर सकता है।

विधियाँ जिनके माध्यम से पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग कर सकते हैं और अपने उपयोगकर्ताओं को सहायता प्रदान कर सकते हैं—

- सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करके उपयोगकर्ता को बेहतर तरीके से उपयोगकर्ता शिक्षा प्रदान की जा सकती है और पुस्तकालयों में उपलब्ध संसाधनों के बारे में उपयोगकर्ताओं को सूचित किया जा सकता है। पुस्तकालय अध्यक्ष पुस्तकालय का वीडियो रिकॉर्ड करके और उसे उपयोगकर्ताओं के पंजीकृत नंबर पर प्रसारित करके भी पुस्तकालय का दिशानिर्देश प्रदान कर सकता है। इस प्रकार, एक नया उपयोगकर्ता बिना पुस्तकालय पहुंचे ही पुस्तकालय की कार्य प्रणाली के बारे में जान सकता है।
- एक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष विषय वस्तु विशेषज्ञों और जानकारी की तलाश कर रहे अन्य लोगों के बीच एक आभासी बैठक भी स्थापित कर सकता है ताकि वे जरूरी जानकारी प्राप्त कर सकें।
- एक पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष उपयोगकर्ताओं का समूह बना सकता है और उन्हें पुस्तकालय में उपलब्ध नवीनतम सूचना संसाधनों के बारे में सूचित कर सकता है ताकि उपयोगकर्ता संसाधनों के बारे में जान सकें कि वे उनके लिए उपयोगी है कि नहीं।
- पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष एक वेबसाइट भी बना सकते हैं जहां कई विचारक बात कर सकते हैं और रुचि के विषयों पर अपनी विचार साझा कर सकते हैं।