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DIGITAL LIBRARY: AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Now a day development in information technologies have changed the role of libraries and librarians in all ways. As a result, libraries and librarians are facing new challenges, demand, competitors and expatiations. So the library demands are increase to satisfied users demand and provide better library service the concept of digital library come out. In digital library all the information is stored in the digital form. With the advancement and new technology in the field of information librarians need to improve new skill of using the new technology.

KEYWORDS:Digital library.

INTRODUCTION :

We live in an environment in which digital information may substitute for much print based information. Now a day's development of information

technologies have changed. A library existence do not depend on the physical form of document. Now a day, the digital library is very popular word. It is new raising perspective in the modern world and its future. Its mission is to link the past and the present, and help shape the future by persevering the record of human culture. Digital libraries is provide easy and fast access of information in multimedia format. Digital libraries is updated regular basic i.e. the greatest assets of this emerging technology

DEFINITION OF DIGITAL LIBRARY?

Collection of digital objects like video and audio, including images and text with the methods of access and retrieval and for the selection, creation, organization, maintenance and sharing of collection.

The partner institutions in the Digital Library Federation (DLF) realized in the course of developing their program that they needed a common understanding of what digital libraries are if they were to achieve the goal of effectively "federating" them. So they crafted the following definition, Digital Libraries are organization that provide the resources, including the specialized staff to select, structure, offer intellectual access to interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities. (DLF, 2001)

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including the specialized staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to, interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities (Waters, 1998).

Arms, 1995; Graham, 1995a; Chepesuik, 1997; Lynch and Garcia-Molina, 1995) define digital libraries as the digital face of traditional libraries that include both digital collections and traditional, fixed media collections. So they encompass both electronic and paper materials. Digital libraries will include all the processes and services that are the backbone and nervous system of libraries. However, such traditional processes, though forming the basis digital library work, will have to be revised and enhanced to accommodate the differences between new digital media and traditional fixed media.

CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital libraries require undoubtedly digital technologies. The digital library is a heterogeneous library which contains hard copy to online system. The full-fledged digital library is one in which all the information is available in the digital form. This may however be difficult to achieve until recently, the digital library consisted of mostly electronic documents which are of reference type. Now a days, most of the documents are primary in nature. Further, queries received and processed are again of reference type in nature.

NEED OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

With the arrival of computers, the concept centred on large bibliographic databases, the now familiar online retrieval and public access systems that are part of any contemporary library. Increasing number of and their different needs have made modern libraries to apply new information and communication technology. As a result of this there is a worldwide need and trend to collect organize manage, protect and distribute information in digital form. When computers were connected into large network forming the internet, the concept evolved again, and research turned to creating libraries of digital information that could be accessed by anyone from anywhere in the world. Phrases like virtual library and electronic library, library without walls and most recently, digital library all have been used interchangeably to describe this broad concept.

REQUIREMENT FOR DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital libraries well tested and proven information technologies including the multimedia kit. Much of the work of digital libraries is achieved through e mail services by the participating in user net, by accessing the database of server through networks, like internet local developed databases will contribute a lot to develop digital libraries in other words, the components of digital libraries are Local library system, with adequate PCs having LAN, local databases in Machine readable form, CDROM, printer, scanner, different storage device and software etc. provision to provide e mail services, access to servers, and to remote database etc. Networks, including the network of networks. A variety of system function to coordinate, manage the entry and to retrieve data and most of important element is well trained manpower.

ADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

The advantage of digital library are:

- ✦ No physical boundary: To access and use digital library need not to go to the library physically, users from all over the world could gain access to the same information, as long as an Internet connection is available.

- ✦ Round the clock availability: Traditional library has a fixed timing to open on the other hand Digital libraries easily accessed at any time with the help of internet.
- ✦ Multiple accesses: at the time and same resources used by different number of users.
- ✦ Structured approach: Digital library provides better access to resources i.e. index, keywords, content etc.
- ✦ Information retrieval: The user is able to use any search term like title, author, subject, and publisher etc. to access their resource.
- ✦ Preservation and conservation: An exact copy of the original can be made any number of times without any degradation in quality.
- ✦ Space: Whereas traditional libraries are limited by storage space, whereas digital libraries have not any types of space problem because digital information requires very little physical space to contain them.
- ✦ Networking: A particular digital library can provide the link to any other resources of other digital library very easily thus the interlibrary loan and resources sharing facility can be achieved at the same time and one place.
- ✦ Cost - The cost of maintaining a digital library is much lower than that of a traditional library.

DISADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

Like traditional library digital libraries are not free from their limitation. Digital library face many problems in current environment due to fund, staff and rapidly change of technology. There are some below:

- ✦ Compatibility and standardization problems are likely to be faced due to the use of a variety of hardware, software, information collection and storage and retrieval methods.
- ✦ Most of users like printed material in library instead of digital.
- ✦ A problem frequently encountered and difficult to overcome will be the one of copyright and intellectual property issues.
- ✦ As more and more computer are connected to the Internet its speed of access reasonably decreasing.
- ✦ Unsustainability of technology hardware, software; leasing communication circuit etc. has become quickly outdate and library has limited fun cannot afford them.

CONCLUSION

There will be containing expansion of digital library activity. LIS and computer scientist professionals facing new challenges that may led to improve systems. Digital library built upon work being done in the information and data management area. Digital library provide an effective means to distribute learning resources to students and other users. Digital library is an emerging field and an exciting development for libraries. Digital library have tremendous potential to transform teaching learning research and scholarly information. Priority should be given to locally produced material for which copyright permission can be obtained that in high demand by users. Academic libraries in the digital age have a great opportunity to provide easy access to electronic resources and offer great user satisfaction, offer solution to problems of storage and maintained cost.

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