



DIGITAL / E LIBRARY RESOURCE



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Abstract

Information Communication Technology has changed the face of library function. Electronic library is a collection of large and diverse repositories of digital objects and electronic information, which can be

accessed by a large number of geographically, distributed users. This paper is focusing digital E-library resources, advantages, challenges and disadvantages.

Keyword

Digital, E –resources

Research Paper

Introduction

Digital library resources are like other library materials in many ways. They are selected, acquired, cataloged, managed, explained and promoted to users, evaluated, preserved, withdrawn and

cancelled. Digital information resources include journals, government documents electronic images etc. Digital information exists in a format (numeric digits) that computer can store, organize, transmit and

display without any intervening conversion process.

The digital resources are available on various digital medias such as CD Rom, DVDS, floppies, online databases, digital archives, etc. Electronic information Resources contain originally published information in digital form information. It is originally published in print form and then made available electronically. Among resources, E-journals and e-books are mostly in demands by the users.

In early 70s most of the electronic resources were available in magnetic tapes and other magnetic media. But today various types of resources are available and accessed are intranet online (locally produced e-resources) and physical media (stored-data on CD-Rom, audio, video cassettes etc) based creation of digital resources with the establishment of digital library is the need of the day. The digital information resources are going to play most vital role in the 21st century. The rapid developments in information technology have facilitated the emergence of new electronic devices, media and formats.

The major function of digital libraries is to facilitate systematic and efficient access to and sharing of information of matters, considered important by the users. Not only does digital libraries promotes resources sharing, but also in the long run

it can help in sharing of knowledge and resources.

Some on line libraries or information centers have started collecting a nominal fee for access their resources. As they are well-connected and networked with provide specialized subject information.

What Are Digital / E- Library Resources ?

An electronic resources means the publication and dissemination of information by electronic means, especially by the use optical disk –formats such as CD ROMs and networking. Other option can include the use of electronic databases, videotexes, e-mail, and electronic newsletter.

A digital library may refer only to electronic resources or means combinations of electronic resources, services that via a network. In simple terms, e-resources are those resources, which require computer access or any electronic product. That delivers a collection of data, be it text referring to full text databases, electronic journals, image collections, other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time-based, as a commercially available little that has been published with an aim to being marketed.

Digital Library resources includes

- Collection in which complete contents documents are created or converted in

machine-readable form for online access

- Scientific data sets
- Scanned images, images of photographic or printed text etc
- Computer storage devices' such as optical disk , CD- ROMs/ DVD- ROMs
- Databases accessible through internet and other networks
- Online databases and CD-Rom information products particularly those with multimedia and interactive video components
- Digital audio video clips or full length movie

Advantages of Digital Library Resources

Electronic resources offer libraries and their uses many advantages. There are several advantages of using e-resources such as ease of – usability, affordability and accessibility. They can increase speed and ease to access and the amount of information available.

They can save library space and staff time. They are not yet, however, the solution to all libraries financial, space, access and service problem. Most libraries continue to operate in a dual environment – print and electronic resources, whether physically located within a library or accessed via a network, are part of the library's collection

and should be evaluated and assessed with the same criteria and rigor applied to all collection decisions.

Why We Need Digital Library Resources ?

Due to the increase in the information generation the task of collection, organization and retrieval of information made the task very difficult. That is why most of the libraries prefer electronic resources to print collection for optimum use. The other reasons are physical space, escalation in journals prices, digital literacy has forced the libraries to opt for electronic resources in order to meet information needs of large community of users.

Digital library can store a large volume of digital information in archival form. A digital library may refer only to electronic resources or mean a combination of electronic resources, services that support using those resources or mean a combination of electronic resources, services that are provided via a network. It provides the users fast search tools, immediate access to the rapidly growing information in multimedia form quickly on the screen in an interactive mode.

Types of Digital Library Resources

- On line e-resources
- E – journals (Full text and Bibliographical)

- E- Book
- Online databases
- Websites

Other types of e-resources

Other e-resources which are available digital media such as;

- CD-Rom
- Diskettes
- Other portable databases

Conclusion

Digital / E- Library Resources represents many challenges at every level of their selection, acquisition, preservation, maintenance and management. The same time the e-resources have advantages giving solution to many professional

problem like space, providing remote access, convenience in use, increased readership with improve services. Recent studies also proved that the e-resources are available especially the optical disk formats. And save the time by researchers, faculties.

In such situation and future trend, library professionals shall have to cope up with new emerging digital environment and devise best possible techniques and method of managing these resources efficiently and effectively for their improved availability and accessibility.

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