

Report of the TEQIP-II Sponsored
National Conference on “Reaching the Unreached:
Connecting the Library Users and Resources through
Innovative Services and Technologies”
(SALIS 2014)

Inaugural Function

The Inaugural function of the TEQIP-II Sponsored National Conference on “Reaching the Unreached: Connecting the Library Users and Resources through Innovative Services and Technologies” (SALIS 2014) organized by the Department of Library, Coimbatore Institute of Technology (CIT) and the Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science (SALIS) held at CIT, Coimbatore on 8^h August, 2014 at 9.30 am in the Library Block A/C Conference Hall, CIT, Coimbatore. 268 delegates from all parts of India participated in the conference.

The inaugural function started with the prayer followed by lighting of ‘Kuthuvilakku’. **Dr.V.Selladurai**, Principal, CIT and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the conference welcomed the gathering and introduced the dignitaries to the participants.

Dr.S.Surianarayanan, President, SALIS explained the ‘Role of SALIS in Professional Development’ by explaining the structure and chapters of SALIS and the various activities of SALIS in promoting LIS profession by conducting conferences, awards, scholarships and its information services to the members through e-group.

Dr.K.Elavazhagan, Librarian and Chief Knowledge Officer, IIM Trichy & Conference Director reported the current scenario of library services in the developed as well as developing countries and the need of providing the services at the doorsteps of unreached. He also briefed about the number of papers received and accepted, review process and technical sessions of the conference.

Dr.R.Prabhakar, Secretary of CIT institutions released the conference souvenir and delivered the presidential address. He stated that the trend of library users switched from using printed resources to electronic information resources that too through social media. He urged the librarians to provide innovative web based library services to their mobile devices and to attract them towards library services.

Dr.B.K.Krishnaraj Vanavarayar, Chairman, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore Kendra released the conference proceedings and delivered the inaugural address. He expressed his deep concern about the unreached users and urged the librarians' community to follow five important principles in their profession ie. be the popular man in the campus, enjoy and take pride in the job, deeply committed to the profession, , marketing man of library services and must be a good motivator and student friendly to address the issues of library users particularly the unreached group.

Dr.M.Mandhirasalam, Librarian, CIT and Organizing Secretary of the conference proposed the vote of thanks.

Technical Sessions

The Technical Sessions were held under the guidance of **Dr. K. Elavazhagan**, Conference Director and Librarian and Chief Knowledge Officer, IIM Trichy, **Dr. J. Dominic**, Rapporteur General and Chief Librarian, Karunya University, Coimbatore and **Dr. K. Mahalakshmi**, Associate Rapporteur General and Assistant Librarian, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore.

The **first technical session** was held on the theme on 'Information Literacy to Reach the Unreached' was chaired by Mr.T.Stephen, Head, DLIS, Vellalar College for Women, Erode, Mr.S.Manikandan, Anna Centenary Library, Chennai and Mr.S.S.Sivakumaar, District Central Librarian, District Central Library, Karur. Dr.K.Murugan, Librarian, Universal College of Engineering & Technology, Tirunelveli and Mr.A.Joseph Anburaj, Librarian, KCG College of Technology, Chennai acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr.V.Sakthi Regha, Librarian, Madras School

of Social Work, Chennai delivered the invited talk on 'Information Literacy for Lifelong Learning'. 11 papers were presented in this session.

The **second technical session** on 'Innovative Library Services using Web Technology' was chaired by Mr.K.Karunai Raghavan, Librarian, National Engineering College, Kovilpatti and Dr.T.R.Sridevi, Librarian, R.V.College of Engineering, Bangalore, Karnataka. Mr.V.Rajendran, Asst. University Librarian, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Mrs.L.Radha @ Nagalakshmi, Librarian, Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai and Dr.S.Saravanan, Librarian, V.V.College of Engineering & Technology, Tirunelveli acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr.S.Srinivasa Ragavan, Prof. & Head, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Trichirappalli delivered the invited talk on 'Innovative Library Services using Web Technology' followed by Industrial Presentations on 'RFID' by 2CQR, Chennai and 'Proquest'. 10 papers were presented in this session.

The **third technical session** on 'Application of ICT for Library Services' was chaired by Mr.A.Sankaran, Librarian, The Hindu, Chennai and Dr.S.Kamatchi, Library & Information Officer, Anna Centenary Library, Chennai. Dr.M.Sankar, Asst. University Librarian, TNAU, Coimbatore acted as the Rapporteur. Dr.J.Panneerselvam, Former Consultant for Content, Anna Centenary Library, Chennai delivered the invited talk on 'Reaching the Unreached through Technology'. 8 papers were presented in this session.

The **fourth technical session** on 'E-Resources and Usage' was chaired by Dr.P.Pannerselvam, Librarian, B.S.Abdur Rahman Crescent University, Chennai and Dr.K.Vinitha, Librarian, St.Mary's College, Tuticorin. Dr.A.P.Shanmugam, Chief Librarian, CIET, Coimbatore and Rekha J.Rao, DGM, Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd., Kopri, Thane acted as the Rapporteurs. 9 papers were presented in this session.

The **second day** proceedings of the conference started with the **fifth technical session** on 'Bibliometrics and Scientometrics for Evaluation of Research Output' chaired by Dr.R.Balasubramani, Asst. Professor, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Trichirappalli and Mr.O.Seshaiah, Librarian, PBR VITS, Kavali, Andhra Pradesh. Mr.V.Krishnamurthy, Asst.

Librarian, Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore, Mr.G.Saravanan, Librarian, French Institute of Pondicherry and Jyoti Chitale, Librarian, MKSSS' Cummins College of Engineering for Women, Pune acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr.R.Sevugan, Prof. & Head, DLIS, Pondicherry University, Puducherry delivered the invited talk on 'Bibliometrics and Scientometrics for Evaluation of Research Output' followed by Industrial Presentations on 'RFID' by Rapid Radio Solutions P. Ltd., Ahmedabad. 7 papers were presented in this session.

The **sixth technical session** on 'Management and Marketing of Library Services' was chaired by Dr.B.Jeyapragash, Asst. Professor, DLIS, Bharathidasan University, Trichirappalli and Dr.M.Leeladharan, Asst. Professor, DLIS, Pondicherry University. Mr.H.Kalilur Rahman, Librarian, Higher College of Technology, Sultanate of Oman and Ms.B.Srilakshmi, Librarian, SSSS Jain College, Chennai acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr.S.Ravi, Prof. & Head, DLIS, DDE Wing, Annamalai University, Chidambaram delivered the invited talk on 'Connecting Distance Learners and Resources'. 11 papers were presented in this session.

The **seventh and final technical session** on 'User Studies to Connect Users and Resources' was chaired by Mr.S.Radhakrishnan, Librarian, NPOL, Ernakulam, Kerala and Dr.S.A.Fazlur Rahman, Librarian, SKCET, Coimbatore. Dr.S.Dhanavandan, Assistant Librarian, Gandhigram University, Gandhigram and Dr.K.Susan Mathew, Assistant Librarian (S.S), CUSAT, Cochin, Kerala acted as the Rapporteurs. Dr.M.Sadik Batcha, Prof. & Head, DLIS, Periyar University, Salem delivered the invited talk on 'Extension Services to Reach the Unreached'. 10 papers were presented in this session.

Totally, 130 papers were accepted out of 150 received papers and published after the rigorous review process in the conference proceedings with ISBN. Totally 66 papers were presented in all the 7 technical sessions.

Public / Panel discussion

Public / Panel discussion was held on the theme on 'Expectation of the User from Library'. Dr.M.Nagarajan, Dr.S.Srinivasaragavan, Dr.R.Sevagan, Dr.M.Sadik Batcha and

Dr.R.Sarangapani acted as experts. The panelists answered the questions raised by the librarians and students and discussed the various issues related to the panel theme.

Valedictory Function

The valedictory function of the conference was held on 9th August, 2014 at 4.15 pm in the Library Block A/C Conference Hall, CIT, Coimbatore. The valedictory function started with the prayer.

Dr.M.Mandhirasalam, Librarian, CIT and Organizing Secretary welcomed the gathering.

Dr.J.Dominic, Rapporteur General and Chief Librarian, Karunya University, Coimbatore presented a report of the proceedings of the conference followed by feedback from few participants.

Dr.S.Shanmugam, Administrative Officer and Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, CIT delivered the presidential address. He pointed out that the Media and IT gadgets are the priorities of today's generation and he urged the librarians to attract the non-users to library and turn the average user into regular user by providing innovative online services.

Dr.S.Surianarayanan, President, SALIS delivered the valedictory address. He narrated the various mobile library services of the past to reach the unreached. He also explained the struggles of librarians in getting the equal status on par with college and university teachers.

Dr.S.Swaminathan, General Secretary, SALIS proposed the vote of thanks.

Best Librarian Awards

The best librarian awards to LIS professionals were presented during the inaugural function of the conference.

‘Dr.Harish Chandra Susila Chandra National Best Librarian Award’ was presented to Dr.Jesudoss Manalan, Librarian, Bishop Heber College, Trichy for the year 2012 and to Dr.H.R.Sujatha, Librarian, Sri Venkataramanasamy College, Bantwal, Karnataka for the year 2013.

‘Autolib-Tamilnadu Best Librarian Award’ was presented to Mr.A.N.Ganesan, Librarian, KLN College of Information Technology, Madurai for the year 2012 and jointly to Dr.A.Lawrence Mary, Librarian, TDMNS College, Tirunelveli and Mrs.M.Jannath Najeemunnisa Beegum, Librarian, JBAS College for Women, Chennai for the year 2013.

‘Autolib-Tamilnadu Best Young Librarian Award’ was presented to Dr.T.Raja, Librarian, St. Xavier’s College of Education, Palyamkottai for the year 2013.

‘A.N.Marappan Memorial National Best Young Librarian Award’ was presented to Dr.A.Chitra Dhavaputhalvi, Librarian, Chikkanna Government Arts College, Tiruppur for the year 2012 and Dr.M.Surulinathi, Asst. Librarian, Bharathidasan University, Trichy for the year 2013.

Best Paper Awards

The best paper awards to LIS professionals and students were presented separately during the valedictory function of the conference.

The best paper award for **LIS professional** category was presented to O.Seshaiah, Librarian, PBR Visvodaya Institute of Technology and Science, Kavali, Andhra Pradesh for his paper titled ‘Building a Library Website using WordPress’. The second best paper award for LIS professionals was presented to P.Annadurai, Librarian, Kongu Arts and Science College, Erode for his paper titled ‘Outreach Program of Kongu Arts and Science College Library, Erode: A Study’.

The best paper award for **LIS student** category was presented to Swetha Elizabeth Raju, PG Student, DLIS, Pondicherry University for her paper titled ‘Creation of E-Tutorials using Wink: A Practical Experience’. The second best paper award for LIS student was presented to

D.Jabaselvijuliyet, PG Student, DLIS, Vellalar College for Women, Erode for her paper titled 'Information Needs of Rural Women: A Study of Sivagiri Village, Erode'.

The best paper award for **LIS woman professional** category was presented to K.Sangeetha, Librarian, Highways Research Station, Highways Department, Chennai for her paper titled 'Bibliotherapy: An Innovative Service by Library in Modern Trend'.

Conference Resolutions

- National knowledge Networking Connectivity to be provided to all types of libraries free of cost or at nominal rate to access e-resources by end users.
- MHRD to extend the access provision of UGC INFONET to all types of colleges. AICTE to re-launch the INDEST-AICTE consortium to access e-resources at a nominal cost by the technical institutions.
- Central and state governments to support financially to design and implement suitable modules by using ICT to deliver information service to the needy remote users in association with public libraries and library associations.
- Information Literacy Embedded curriculum to be implemented for all UG and PG courses in colleges and universities.
- A subject on 'Library Resources' for enhancing knowledge among students to be introduced in schools.
- Librarian to be appointed in schools to inculcate and promote reading habits among students to enhance their learning skills.
- Librarians in academic institutions are engaged / involved directly or indirectly in teaching the students about how to use the resources in their libraries or elsewhere in various formats and media using ICT. Therefore, it is appropriate now to change the name of the 'Library' to 'Dept. of Library and Information Science' and the designation of the Librarian to 'Asst. Professor, Library and Information Science'.
- Central and state governments to modernize public libraries and to take suitable steps in developing resources including e-resources.

Dr.M.Mandhirasalam,
Organizing Secretary, SALIS 2014 &
Librarian,
Coimbatore Institute of Technology