

REPORT

INFLIBNET-Sponsored User Awareness Programme **on** **Access to E-resources under UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium** **at the University of Kalyani during February 02-03, 2009**

Department of Library and Information Science in association with the Central Library of the University of Kalyani organized a 2-day User Awareness Programme on *Access to E-resources* under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium during February 02-03, 2009 at the University of Kalyani. This program was sponsored by the INFLIBNET centre, Ahmedabad. 110 participants consisting of faculty members, research scholars, students, library professionals of the University of Kalyani and its affiliated colleges along with neighboring academic and research libraries have registered and attended this programme.

Inaugural Session

Prior to the inaugural session, Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director of the INFLIBNET Centre inaugurated the Automated Circulation System developed by the Central Library of the University of Kalyani on February 02, 2009 at 10.30 AM. The inaugural session of the above noted User Awareness Programme was held at the Vidyasagar Sabhagriha, Administrative Building of the University of Kalyani on February 02, 2009 at 11.00 AM. It was presided over by Professor Arabinda Kumar Das, Vice-Chancellor of this university. The dignitaries were received with flower bouquet on the dais and it was followed by the opening song presented by the students of the Department of Library and Information Science. Welcoming the dignitaries on the dais as well as guests and the participants of this programme, Professor Juran Krishna Sarkhel, Joint Coordinator of the programme and Head of the Department of LIS said that it was certainly a great pleasure as well as a great honor for the University of Kalyani to have been chosen by the INFLIBNET to host the Users Awareness Programme on access to E-Resources under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. This choice enabled this university to be in the centre of the digital scholarly communication. Professor Sarkhel narrated the objectives and details courseware of the programme. He also pointed out that this User Awareness Programme will enable the participants to get access to E-resources under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium in the new environment. The User Awareness Programme was formally inaugurated by Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director of the UGC-INFONET Centre by lighting the lamp. In his inaugural address, Dr Arora mentioned the role played by the INFLIBNET Centre in providing a channel to the academicians for exchange of information from sources within the country and abroad. Dr. Himangshu Ghosh, Chairman of the West Bengal College Service Commission who was the Chief Guest in the inaugural session spoke on the importance of electronic resources to the academic community and emphasized more about recent advances in the field of LIS and how best the LIS professionals take this opportunity to provide better services to user community. Professor Subhas Chandra Sarkar, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Commerce reiterated the need for conducting such awareness programme to promote the use of e-resources among the potential users. He thanked the INFLIBNET Centre for sponsoring this programme and the Department of Library and Information Science as well as the Central Library of this university for organizing this programme. Professor Padma Chatterjee, Dean of the Faculty of Science in her address thankfully acknowledged that today's programme could not have been organized without the active patronage of the INFLIBNET Centre and she hoped that this programme will bring more awareness among

users about the E-resources which is being offered through the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. Professor Arabinda Kumar Das, Vice-Chancellor of the University in his presidential address mentioned that libraries today are part of a worldwide network, which makes it feasible to exchange and enrich information and knowledge on unprecedented scale. He also mentioned that the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium has emerged as a new strategy for supporting the use of networked information available to the world of scholarship and scholarly communication. While highlighting the importance of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, Professor Das pointed out that the explosion of information resources on the one hand and diminishing access-base in Indian libraries due to budgetary constraints on the other hand has necessitated the pooling of resources and sharing of information among the libraries through the development of consortia models world over. Professor Das thanked the INFLIBNET Centre for providing the required support in organizing this user awareness programme and hopefully ensured that the participants will be benefited from their interaction with the resource persons and the varieties of E-resources which are being offered through the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. At the end of the inaugural session, the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Asitabha Das, Joint Coordinator and the Deputy Librarian of this university.

Technical Sessions

The technical session of the user awareness programme began immediately after the inaugural session. Each participant was provided with printed course material on Access to E-resources under the UGC- INFONET Digital Library Consortium as supplied by the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad. The technical session was initiated with a presentation on the multidimensional activities of the INFLIBNET Centre by its Director, Dr. Jagdish Arora. Dr. Arora gave an overview of the varieties of electronic resources and acquainted the participants with the different aspects of the use of electronic journals subscribed under UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. Dr. Arora informed the participants that the benefit of subscription to e-resources would also be extended to the colleges. He also spoke on the INFLIBNET's "Associate Membership Programme" wherein private universities and other research organizations would be welcomed to join the Consortium for selected e-resources. On behalf of the INFLIBNET Centre, Dr Arora ensured all sort of cooperation to the University of Kalyani in promoting access to e-resources, developing manpower with necessary knowledge and skills for automating the university library and handling e-resources, and establishing collaborative research programme with the Department of Library and Information Science. At the end, he thanked the Department of Library and Information Science and the Central Library of this university for organizing the user awareness programme. After product presentation by the Oxford University Press, Dr Bablu Sutradhar, Librarian of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur made a technical presentation on '*Access Management of E-resources in UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium*' with reference to an array of electronic information resources available in libraries today. The first day of the user awareness programme was ended with the product presentation by Informatics (India) Ltd: IOP & RSC Products and Cambridge University Press. The second day of the programme was initiated by a presentation on the '*University Library Automation with reference to INFLIBNET: Issues and perspective*' by Sri Tarun Mondal, a faculty member of the Department of Library and Information Science of Jadavpur University. It was followed by another technical presentation by Dr. Dibyendu Paul, a faculty member of the Department of Library and Information Science of the University of Kalyani on '*Access to Electronic Theses and Dissertations in India with reference to INFLIBNET's contribution*'. Taylor & Francis, Balani Infotech Pvt. Ltd., and Wiley & Blackwell made the presentation of their products with live discussion on the access, search and delivery of their products.

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session was held on the second day after the lunch at 3 PM. This session was chaired by Professor Padma Chatterjee, Dean of the Faculty of Science of this university. At the outset, Professor Juran Krishna Sarkhel, Joint Coordinator and Head of the Department of LIS expressed his happiness for successful completion of the users awareness programme and for this, he thanked all the persons associated with the programme. While presenting the observations regarding the different aspects of this programme, five representatives of the participants expressed their satisfaction over the effectiveness of this programme and praised the Department of LIS and the Central Library for successful organization of the programme. Professor Padma Chatterjee, Dean of the Faculty of Science of this university in her valedictory address expressed her gratitude to the INFLIBNET Centre for sponsoring this much needed programme. She acknowledged the painstaking efforts made by the Department of Library and Information Science as well as the Central Library in coordinating the different tasks associated with the organization of this Workshop. She hoped that the experiences gained in this programme would throw up lights on the new role to be played by the Central Library of this university in promoting the use of electronic resources among the academic community. She requested the participants to make more use of e-resources of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. At the end, the certificate of participation was handed over to each participant by Professor Chatterjee. The valedictory session was ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Biswas, a faculty member of the Dept of LIS.