REPORT ON THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL CALIBER-2009
25-27 February 2009, Pondicherry University, Puduchery

The 7th International CALIBER-2009 was organised by the Ananda Ranga Pillai Memorial library of Pondicherry University during 25-27 February 2009. The convention received 240 papers and after careful screening, 70 papers besides 3 theme papers and 110 abstracts were selected for publication in the proceedings. The topics covered under the main theme are: e-content management, e-resources, Web 2.0, Library 2.0, content aggregation and application of ICT in libraries.

A total of 275 delegates have registered for the conference including 36 students and retired LIS professionals. Around 20 major publishing companies and IT companies have sponsored the convention in one way or the other. These were given space to put up their stalls outside the convention venue.

All the author presentations were grouped into four different sub-themes and were presented in four technical sessions spread over three days. The vendor presentations were included in between the technical sessions on all the three days.

Day-I - 25th February 2009 - Morning

Tutorial Sessions:

The CALIBER 2009 convention proceeded by two pre-conference tutorials on morning of 25th February 2009 under the chairmanship of Shri K. Manoj Kumar of INFLIBNET. These tutorials were conducted on two topics - Web Content Management by Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM Kozhikode, and Access Management by Mr. John Paschoud from London School of Economics. Altogether there were 70 participants from various parts of the country who attended these tutorials. All the participants were also given hands-on training in the installation and use of SOUL software Ver. 2.0 as part of the common tutorial.

Day-I - 25th February 2009 - Evening

Inauguration:

The 7th International Convention on Automation of Libraries in Education and Research - CALIBER 2009 was inaugurated by Dr. Gulshan Rai, Director General CERT-India, Ministry of Communication & IT Govt of India on 25th February at the University Convention Centre, Puduchery. Padmashri Prof. J.A.K Tareen, Vice Chancellor Pondicherry University presided over the function.

Dr. Samyuktha, Librarian and the Organizing Secretary of CALIBER 2009 welcomed the special invitees & delegates and explained the purpose in selecting the theme of the convention – e-content management: challenges and strategies.

Prof. A. Amudhavalli, Head, Dept. of Information Sciences, University of Madras and Conference Director congratulated the Pondicherry University for hosting the convention and explained the importance and need to discuss various issues of digitization in the present context and evolve suitable strategies.
Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director INFLIBNET, explained the objectives of INFLIBNET and the initiatives taken for modernising the university libraries through library automation and software development. He observed that there is a visible growth in the research output of many universities ever since the e-journals were provided under the UGC-INFONET Consortium.

In his presidential address, Prof. J.A.K. Tareen, Vice Chancellor Pondicherry University stated that without books and good reading habits, we cannot aspire to become a knowledge society. Libraries should motivate and attract users, by implementing innovative services in a holistic approach. He stressed the need for implementing modern technologies in libraries for the benefit of all its users.

Later, the Proceedings of CALIBER 2009 Convention and the Souvenir were released by the Dignitaries.

Prof. G. Sivakumar, Dept. Of Computer Science IIT Mumbai delivered the keynote address on the usefulness of Web 2.0 and Library 2.0. He is of the opinion that these new tools of social networking are collaborative in nature and are very essential to enable libraries to move into the next generation.

Dr. Gulshan Rai, Director General, CERT-India in his Inaugural address gave a brief history of ERNET and INFLIBNET and the technological developments which have taken place since their inception. He pointed out that along with new and useful technologies we are also flooded with negative technologies such as computer viruses & SPYWARE which pass-on information from our systems or destroy data in our computers. He suggests that librarians should be careful about the security threat posed by hosting digital content on the open Internet.

Shri. Prem Chand, Convener of CALIBER 2009 conference proposed a vote of thanks in the end.

Later in the evening, a cultural programme was arranged by various cultural teams from the Pondicherry University, followed by a dinner.

Day- II - 26th February 2009

Chairman: Dr. Ishwar Bhat
Rapporteur: Dr. V. Chandra Kumar

Dr. Ravinder Kumar Chadha presented a theme paper on “Digital Preservation: Strategies for Indian Libraries”.

Dr. R.K. Chadha is his presentation explained the on-going efforts in the area of digitization in many Indian Libraries and pointed out various issues that need to be looked into. He also cautioned that it is very difficult to catch up with the technological advances that are taking place. He stressed on the need for a concerted effort in evolving policies at National and International level to bring in the required change in this direction.

Later, Prof. Shalini R, Urs presented an Invited paper on “Managing the content and engaging the Nation in its content management: The WikiGyan experience”.

Prof. Shalini Urs in her presentation explained the importance of Web 2.0 and in creating and maintaining Digital content. She proposes a new process model of content management based on open source software with the required authentication and security.

Mr. Bhaskar Karne presented a paper on "Digital content generation and their management at AIR" in which he explained the various tools and techniques involved in creating digital content of audio and video material.

Mr. Sanjay Dongare in his paper on " Powerful utilization of open source software in digital preservation, maintenance and utilization: an example of the creation of union catalogues of serials for Astronomy libraries in India. He suggests that on-line union catalogues can be best created using open source software.

Dr. Raman Nair in his paper on “Open access to public funded research: a discussion in the context of MG University digital archives and doctoral dissertations”, presented their efforts in creating a database of theses in digital format. He said that putting the theses information on the Web gives visibility and avoids plagiarism. He argued that UGC and INFLIBNET should make digital theses mandatory for students.

Mr. Yogesh R. Parekh in their paper on “Planning for digital preservation of special collection in Gujarat University” stress the need for immediate digitization of rare and out-of-print documents and presented the work done by them in this direction.

Dr. Alan Hopkinson in his paper on “Challenges for the digital libraries and the standards to solve them” explained the changes happening in the publishing tradition from print to electronic. He points out the inherent dangers of digitization activity, unless we understand the whole process of creation and maintenance of digital content.

Mr. Rathinasabapathi in his paper on “Digital archiving in the tuberculosis research centre: a case study” suggests that open source software is best suited for archiving since it is based on standards and can be implemented by everyone.

Technical session-II - Web Content Management (Parallel session)
Chairman: Dr. T.R Kem
Rapporteurs: Ms. Jayaja Krishnan

The Chairman of the Session was Dr. T R Kem, Director, CEC, New Delhi and Former Secretary of UGC. The Rapporteur for the session was Ms. Jayeja Krishnan, Media Tape Librarian, CEC, and New Delhi.

The first Paper “Transforming Libraries into Learning Centres using Open Source Technologies” was presented by Dr. P V Konnur. Dr Konnur emphasised the need for libraries to use Open Source technologies for transforming libraries into learning Centres. He also mentioned the advantages and some of the challenges in using Open Source technologies and about FOSS.

In the product presentation on Lexis-Nexis, Mr Nirmal spoke about the use of Lexis-Nexis especially for the law libraries and how its implementation can provide seamless access to law information. He mentioned that Lexis-Nexis have been used by 90% of the academic institutions in the US.

“Library Microsite and E-Resource Search” was presented by Mr. Anantha Rao Kumar. Mr Rao spoke about the necessity of designing and developing Intranet Microsite or Campus Network of the institutional library connected by LAN. He spoke with reference to
Mr. Potharaju gave the next presentation on “An Innovative Approach to Content Search across P2P Internet-Networks”. In the presentation Peer to Peer (P2P), architecture was emphasised as a model for utilising the Internet Information and resources.

“Developing an Institutional Repository using Greenstone Digital Library Software (GSDL)” was presented by Mr. O Seshaih. In the presentation, he mentioned about building digital depositories using the Open Source Software especially for creating the Institutional Repositories. He explained the process of digitisation using scanners, OCR Software for creating electronics collections and also the steps for installations of the GSDL.

The next paper was presented on collaborative contents by Mr. Ajazur Rahman. The paper focussed on collaborative web content development. He spoke about the new concepts like Scholarpedia, Wiktionary, Learning Management Systems (LMS), ThinkQuest, Sakai and the advantages and limitations of collaborative web content.

Out of the nine papers scheduled for presentation in this technical session, only four papers were presented.

The session ended with the concluding remarks by the Chairman, Dr. Kem and thanking all the presenters for enriching the delegates with their presentation which were of highly informative in nature.

Technical Session - II: Web Content Management (parallel session) Continuation.
Chairman: Professor Allen Hopkinson
Rapporteur: Dr. T. Temjen

Mr. Anil Kumar Dhiman in his paper on “Ontology and ontological systems for semantic web in digital libraries” described the changes that are taking place in web technologies. He discussed various semantic tools and techniques which used to make the Web more meaningful.

Mr. Sainul Abidin in his presentation on “Online tutorials for information services: a case study of IITM-K” had shown how the Internet can be used to provide on-line tutorials using web-based tools and techniques. The author demonstrated the work done at IITM-K.

Mr. Anil Goud and Lalith Krishna in their presentation on “Personalizing the Web for multilingual Web sources” examine the possibility of providing a single-point access to information by integrating different Web resources using software tools.

Mrs. Ravija Srivasthava in her presentation on “Web 2.0 in LIS curriculum: A preliminary study” describe the outcome of a study conducted on some libraries. She observed that many LIS professionals are not aware or use Web 2.0 in their libraries.

The author felt that the LIS curriculum should include these new concepts/topics to help the LIS professionals to use these technologies in their day-to-day work.

Technical Session – III: Web 2.0 and Library 2.0 (Parallel session)
Chairman: Dr. Bhavakutty
Rapporteur: Ms Jyoti Bhat
Dr. S. Venkadesan, Librarian IISc. Bangalore has presented a theme paper on “Trends in scholarly communication: Challenges and opportunities to libraries”.

Dr. Venkadesan in his presentation pointed out the changes taking place in the traditional scholarly communication practices due to the emergence of e-journals. The speaker examined the changes from the point of view of libraries, publishers and users, and suggests that the barriers should be brought down in order to make the scholarly communication process effective and retain its original goal.

Ms. Pegah Tajer in her paper on “Reference service 2.0 - A proposed model for reference services in libraries” explains the advantages of Web 2.0 and its application to Reference service in a library. She proposes a new model for reference service – RS 2.0 for libraries which is similar and based on Web 2.0 tools.

Mr. Thippeswamy in their paper on “An approach for generic information query retrieval in Web 2.0” explained the use of Web 2.0 tools in creating a search and retrieval interface.

The remaining papers of Technical session-II were presented in this session.

Dr. Graham Camfield in his presentation on “Resource discovery services at London School of Economics Library” explained the work done by the library in creating an integrated search interface to locate material from various sources. The author described the LASSIE project and its outcome including the new OPAC interface and other library services.

Mr. Manoj Sigh in his presentation on “RSS 2.0: Experience with implementation in a closed Intranet” compared the difference between Web 1.0 and Web 2.0. He explained the work done at BARC Mumbai by using open source Web 2.0 tools and creating an Intranet service LAKSHYA.

Day- III - 27th February 2009 - Morning

Technical session - IV: E-Publishing
Chairman: Dr. S.K. Patil
Rapporteurs: Mr. Hosaman and Ms. Nalini Raja

Dr. Usha Munshi, Librarian, IIPA, New Delhi presented a theme paper on “Web Content Management”.

Dr. Usha Munshi in her presentation highlighted the importance of Web content management and the use of various tools and technologies in creating digital content. The author narrated various processes involved in web content management and explained the various stages of content creation, management, delivery and also copyright and security issues.

Later, Mr. E.R. Prakasan had presented a paper on “Impact of e-print archives: A case study of Physics archives uploaded in arXive.org”.

This was followed by a paper on “e-resources in university libraries of Karnataka: A study” by R.H. Walminki. The author in this presentation gave a comparative account of ICT infrastructure and e-resources available in selected universities in Karnataka.
Mr. Rajeev Vij presented a paper on “Encouraging academic honesty through anti-plagiarism software”. In his presentation the author described the software available to detect plagiarism and the role of the Society of Scientific Value.

This was followed by a presentation on “Digital Rights Management in digital libraries: an introduction to technology, effects and available open source tools”. In this paper the author described various techniques such as watermarks, digital signatures, metadata and content decoding, etc.

Later, Dr. V. Chandrakumar presented a paper on “Use and usefulness of e-journals: A case study of research scholars”. The paper is based on a survey on the use of e-journals by the research scholars of Madras University. The survey revealed that science students in general are more conversant with e-journals than social science students.

This was followed by a paper on “Teachers approach to electronic information resources” by Mr. Sivaprasad and others. The author observes that the frequency of use of e-resources vary from person to person depending upon the subject.

Mr. Nagaraj Vaidya presented a paper on “Open access journals publishing in India: A case study with OJS software”. In this paper the author explained the various features of one open-source software that is used for publishing journals. He cited the example of an Indian journal and argued that by this method the visibility of a journal is increased.

Mr. Pushpaanjali Jena in his paper on “Is digital rights management is a means to an end?” emphasizes the importance of Digital Rights Management and the role of libraries.

Mr. Mallikarjun Angadi in their paper on “ICT facilities and Services at M.K. Tata Memorial Learning Centre for Visually-challenged” described all the special equipment and tools including software that has been installed for the visually-challenged students.

Later, Richa Tripathi in a paper on “Plagiarism: a Plague” narrated various plagiarism cases by faculty and students from India and stressed the need to arrest such acts by way of free flow of information.

Dr. Ishwar Bhat in his paper on “Increasing the discovery and use of e-resources in University libraries” explained the importance of e-resources and the inherent direct and indirect costs.

Dr. R.Guruprasad has presented a paper on “E-journal usage and scholarly communication – using transaction log analysis: A case study of e-journal (full text) download patterns of NAL scientists and engineers”. The author described a novel technique to analyse the usage statistics using deep log analysis of weblog transactions.

Mrs. Jyoti Bhat in her paper on “Impact of UGC Infonet Digital Library consortium to academic community: A case study of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda” described how the research output of their students and faculty had improved with the awareness created about the e-journals provided by the UGC-Infonet.

Mrs. Lucy Tedd in her paper on “Open access publishing and Institutional Repositories: an overview” emphasized the new publishing models – Gold and Green
Publishing. She described the difference between IR and Digital collection and the existing online publishing initiatives in UK like SHERPA and ROMEO.

27 February 2009 - Afternoon

Combined Panel Discussion:

As part of the concluding session, a panel discussion was organised with the following team of eminent scientists and library and information professionals:

- Prof. Ashok Raina
- Prof. Ajit Kembhavi
- Dr. Dinesh Gupta
- Dr. Jagtar Singh
- Dr. R. Gaddagimath
- Dr. Pawan Gupta
- Dr. Usha Munshi

The session was moderated by Prof. Ajit Kembhavi, Dean, Visitor – Academic Programmes and Chairman, National Steering Committee - UGC INFONET, IUCAA, Pune. Dr. Usha Munshi initiated the discussion by highlighting the evaluation features and functions of Web. 2.0.

Dr. Gaddagimath shared his views on Scholarly communication and Open access. He also spoke about e-publishing in Academic Institutions. Further, he stated that the new communication technologies are changing the way academic institutions are accessing information. He emphasized the need for training users in using e-resources for accessing information.

Dr. Jagtar Singh spoke about the preservation issues and for libraries to sustain the preservation, policies have to be in place. Libraries will have to more and more for preserving the knowledge for posterity.

Dr. Dinesh emphasized on the need for transferring information to the future generation. Dr. Pawan Gupta spoke about the rights to law by the people and therefore the need or rights for the libraries to preserve.

The panel discussion was later open to the delegates on the floor, and many interesting questions were answered.

Major recommendations resolved during the Convention that need to be address are:

1. The generation of e-content and its availability is an important activity for all academic institutions. All institutions should pay attentions to the aspect of e-content creation and creation of inter-operable digital repositories;

2. Many academic institutions are generating textual as well as multimedia content in analogue format. They should make efforts to convert such content into e-content.

3. The increased bandwidth is a necessity for the universities / institutes and their libraries for optimal use of free or fee-based digital resources. Institutions should work towards getting additional bandwidth and necessary infrastructure.
4. Considering the high rates of techno-obsolescence, migration of digital objects from one media of storage to another, from one computer hardware to another, and from one format to another is a necessity to ensure that the digital objects are used. The digital library projects should provide for such migrations of digital content created under the project;

5. India should have National Digital Preservation Policy. The Committees set-up by the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology should prepare a white paper on the subject and draw implementation strategies for various stakeholders.

6. Ministry of Culture should review the existing Delivery of Books Act so as to incorporate delivery of digital publications.

7. The library and information professionals should be well aware of IPR laws and policies, and continue to update themselves regularly. They should ensure that they are not violating any IPR laws and policies knowingly or unknowingly. The parent institutions should organize training programmes on IPR issues for LIS professionals and other users. The IPR Laws and Policies as applicable in libraries should also be covered in LIS curriculum;

8. Copyright laws of India should be appropriately amended to incorporate provision of digitizing rare & important publications by a library so as to make it accessible to its users.

9. The new technology has given opportunities to Librarians to create contents. The Libraries should concentrate on developing skills required for content creation. Universities and institutions have several documents that are "borne digital", for example Ph.D thesis and M.Tech dissertations; Progress and technical Reports, etc. The Universities should make it mandatory for the Ph.D / M.Tech students to make their submission in digital format to strengthen their digital collections.

10. Development of a digital library is a collaborative effort. It requires a nodal agency to lay guidelines on standards and formats to be used to ensure compatibility and interoperability of digital objects for better resource sharing in digital environment and to avoid duplication in developing digital collection. The UGC / INFLIBNET, through appropriate committees, may provide guidelines, standards and formats to universities.

Valedictory function

The panel discussion was immediately followed by a Valedictory function presided over by Prof. A. Balasubramanian, Director (C&CR) Pondicherry University. In his presidential address titled “E-content: Digital Information Packets” narrated the technological advances taking place in the information and communication technologies which have a direct bearing on the Library professionals. He advised the LIS community to take advantage of this situation and lead the libraries into the future.

Dated: 28-02-2009

Dr. M. Koteswara Rao
(Librarian, University of Hyderabad)
Rapporteur General