

Emerald teams with the Gates Foundation's Global Libraries initiative to promote research

Emerald Group Publishing set up an informal arrangement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries initiative, which aimed to provide public access to information through computers in public libraries. Under this arrangement, Emerald publishes the findings of the Global Libraries initiative on Impact Planning and Assessment and makes them freely accessible nine months post official publication. Global Libraries initiative are now hosting easy to read summaries of the eleven articles published in a special issue of Emerald's journal Performance Measurement and Metrics.

Source: <http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/about/news/story.htm?id=5088>

Open Government Data Platform in India

Open Government Data Platform India is a joint initiative of the Government of India and the US Government. Open Government Data Platform India is packaged as a product and made available in open source for implementation by countries globally.

This platform supports Open Data initiative of the Government of India and is intended

to be used by the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India to publish datasets, documents, services, tools and applications collected by them for public use. It intends to increase transparency in the functioning of Government and also open avenues for many more innovative uses of Government Data to give different perspective. The entire product is available for download at the Open Source Code Sharing Platform "GitHub".

Open Government Data Platform India has 4 (four) major modules, Data Management System (DMS) – Module for contributing data catalogs by various government agencies for making those available on the front end website after a due approval process through a defined workflow; Content Management System (CMS) – Module for managing and updating various functionalities and content types of the Open Government Data Platform India Platform; Visitor Relationship Management (VRM) – Module for collating and disseminating viewer feedback on various data catalogs; and Communities – Module for community users to interact and share their zeal and views with others, who share common interests as that of theirs. All are implemented on a single Drupal instance – An Open Source based Content Framework Solution.

Source: <http://data.gov.in/>

Pranab Mukherjee Launches National Mission on Libraries

The National Mission on Libraries (NML) was set up by the Government of India at the Ministry of Culture in 2012, in pursuance of National Knowledge Commission's recommendations for sustained attention for development of Libraries and Information Science Sector in India. In continuation of this initiative, the President of India launched the website of the National Mission on Libraries on 3rd February, 2014 at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. He stated that libraries are social institutions which are repositories of knowledge and information and its goal is to improve the society by helping individuals to access knowledge and understand the world of which he or she is a part. He expressed that the project of National Mission on Libraries would contribute substantially to quickening the pace of social and economic development of the people and extended his best wishes for the effective implementation of the project as also of the new scheme of "Upgradation of libraries providing services to the public."

Source: http://rrrlf.nic.in/nml_launch.asp

UGC initiates e-PG Pathshala Project

The MHRD, under its National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT), has assigned work to the UGC for development of e-contents in 77 different subjects at postgraduate level. The content and its quality is the key component of education system. A high quality, curriculum-based, interactive content in different subjects across all disciplines of social sciences, arts, fine arts & humanities, natural & mathematical sciences, linguistics and languages is being developed under this initiative named e-PG Pathshala.

Source: <http://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/about.php>

NISO releases draft open access and Metadata indicators recommended practice for comments

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) is seeking comments on the draft recommended practice Open Access Metadata and Indicators (NISO RP-22-201x). In January 2013, the NISO launched Open Access Metadata and Indicators Working Group to develop protocols and mechanisms for transmitting the access status of scholarly works, particularly to indicate whether a specific work is openly accessible and what re-use rights might be available. This draft recommended practice proposes the adoption of two core pieces of metadata and associated tags: <free_to_read> and <license_ref>. The first tag would indicate that the work is freely accessible during the specified timeframe and second tag would contain a reference to a URI that carries the license terms specifying how a work may be used. The draft recommended practice is open for public comment and one can download the draft or submit online comments, for this visit the Open Access Metadata and Indicators webpage at: <http://www.niso.org/workrooms/oami/>.

Source: <http://www.dlib.org>

International Conference on Digital Libraries: ICDL 2013

The International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL) 2013 was the fourth edition of ICDL, and its theme was 'Vision 2020: Looking Back 10 Years and Forging New Frontiers'. The Conference received an overwhelming response globally and was a huge success. The conference was attended by more than 600 professionals, including librarians, computer science

professionals, academicians, policy makers, and students from across the globe. The conference witnessed participation from more than 23 countries.

ICDL 2013 was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri M Hamid Ansari. Dr M M Pallam Raju, the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India was also present on the occasion. Dr Ansari emphasized that knowledge creation and use will be the driving force in the 21st century for India's socio-economic development. In this endeavour digital libraries will be a critical instrument as they would enable people to access, share and apply knowledge in a more efficient manner. The first day of the conference had six tutorials running parallel. On the next two days, the conference had several parallel Technical Sessions, nine Thematic Workshops-cum-Panel Discussions, poster presentations, exhibitions,



and interviews sponsored by the government, and multilateral and bilateral organizations. The major recommendations of the ICADL2013 conference were as follows:

- National digital library platform that nations can adopt
- Digital deposit legislation
- Commission a national survey to assess the status of digital libraries development in developing countries
- Capacity and capability building through public and private sector partnership
- Harness digital library technologies for e-learning and open and distance learning
- National governments should fund and support policies, programmes for digital library development

International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries: ICADL 2013

ICADL 2013 brought a truly interdisciplinary group of researchers and practitioners of digital libraries with a focus on the theme of "Social Media and Community Networks". The interdisciplinary group of professionals such as Library and Information Science; Computer Science; and Historians presented their papers covering areas like ontologies, mining, social networks, document classifications, information retrieval and so on. Out of total 87 entries, 21 papers and 10 posters were accepted for publication.



The event provided unique opportunities to participate in various innovative events like Talk a DL, where participants shared their success stories on DL; showcased Innovative Indian Digital Library Initiative IIDLI ; took part in International level quiz Programme 'Infoquiz 2013' and many more.

Prof. Rangappa, Vice Chancellor of Mysore University, emphasized the paradigm shift happened from print technology to digital

which leads to information revolution. He also highlighted the importance of metadata, information retrieval and Interoperability.

Dr Hansraj Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka, and Honourable minister, H K Patil, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, were also present on the occasion. Mr H K Patil launched i-scholar platform developed for wider research community.