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VOLUME

A NEW VISION: SMART EDUCATION AND E-LEARNING

(A Peer-reviewed Research Papers of Second International Conference of Teacher Educators)



Christian College of Education

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Kanniyakumari Academy of Arts and Sciences

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E-LEARNING IN LIBRARIES

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ABSTRACT

E-learning is the process of learning the materials in an electronic environment. Today's libraries are equipped to handle the e-learning according to the need of users through various media. Modern libraries are capable of handling various types of electronic media to satisfy the user needs. This paper discusses the role of e-learning in the modern context of knowledge acquisition and dissemination.

Keywords: E-learning, Knowledge Management, Library Services

Introduction

E-learning is an absolutely free learning system without any borders. Even materials available in foreign libraries can be easily accessed through electronic media at low cost. E-learning gives freedom from any fixed location. One can choose one's own environment for the learning process. Moreover one can get access to the materials at one's own time and place of convenience. Nevertheless, working in a library surrounded with lot of reading materials in comparatively a tiresome task. To ease this problem, there are having wide range of mediums for learning and also experts to solve the related doubts.

E- Learning

E-learning includes a range of activities, from the effective use of electronic resources and learning technologies in the classroom, to a personal learning experience enabled through individual access at home or elsewhere. E-learning denotes information and communication

technology enhanced learning by delivering learning contents and activities via internet, intranet/extranet, audio/video tape, satellite broadcast interactive TV and CD-ROM. The library supporting e learning should identify usable learning resources and services and provide them to the users. Learning is a continuous process when the learner is unable to attend the traditional methods of learning. Internet has shown new paths to learning.

Need for E-learning

E-learning provides materials at low cost when compared with that of the traditional printed materials. The publishers from various countries have their e-version also. It is easy to download and use the latest cost effective manner. Virtual classrooms are gaining more importance now-a-days wherein the students can seek their studies even from distant places. The portability and searching facilities in eresources make the user easy to handle the process. Apart from this, sharing the resources are easy when compared with that of traditional materials.

Knowledge management in e-learning

Knowledge management is vital for sharing the knowledge and retrieve it for effective use. Information professionals have become a resource sharing librarian at international level. Latest trends in the respective disciplines are available in the finger tip of users due to e-resource sharing. The researchers are able to get the latest developments and strategies through e-learning. em gailest le 301 dans leicear-réal Fair

E-learning and libraries

it assistons and season less approxi-E-learning has provided the way for developing and updating the resources in the libraries apart from the traditional printed materials. Now the libraries are equipped with latest electronic gadgets to handle the e-learning and e-resource management. The required hardware and software are updated by the libraries immediately to tackle the latest trends in e-learning. Today's libraries are having a vide range of e-resources collection to satisfy the user needs.

Librarians as knowledge managers

E-learning is widening the profession of librarians. Traditional knowledge techniques such as cataloguing and classification are no longer effective and useful for dissemination of information. The libraries are giving more importance to the latest developments and applications of information technology skills. It is the need of the library and information technology professionals to reorient their skills. Libraries and librarians are very important for e-learning. Library professionals need to understand the mechanics and concepts of e-learning to provide effective distance library services. In research level library services, it is very difficult to satisfy the user needs with the repackaged reading and information.

Library Services in e-learning environment.

Access to information resources should be provided to students for supporting their learning. Library should provide full text documents. The library can set up a digital library to break all the barriers of data transfer. Learners can easily search and download the materials into their system. Consultation can be conducted through various electronic mediums.

Reference services on the internet is gaining more popularity now-a-days. Reference librarian can provide range of information services. The frequently asked questions services will be an added advantage for the learners.

Inter library loan and sharing of resources provide the effective utilization of the resources.

Limitation of e-learning

Even if there is widespread computer literacy, it has been observed that students do not feel comfortable in online collaborative learning environments when compared with that of classroom settings, especially adult learners. Moreover some novice computer users may experience difficulties as a result of anxiety when using new online applications.

Conclusion

Modern libraries should be equipped with all the necessary electronic equipment to handle the need of e-learning environment. Librarians should update their skills to handle these equipment and various services available for the dissemination of knowledge. They should be well aware of the latest trends in libraries and librarianship, otherwise they will be outdated.

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