
Editorial: “Community centered digital libraries”

The papers in this issue of “Digital Library Perspectives” illustrate how digital libraries are adapting their services to become community-centered, fostering inclusive environments for learning and collaboration, promoting digital and artificial intelligence (AI) literacy and preserving cultural heritage.

Digital libraries can become community-centered by actively engaging users, adapting services to local needs and fostering inclusive environments that promote digital literacy and cultural preservation. The transformation of libraries from traditional information repositories to dynamic community hubs is essential in the digital age, where access to information and technology is crucial for social equity, inclusion and economic development.

Community-centered digital libraries are evolving to meet the diverse needs of their users by leveraging technology and fostering community engagement and participation. These digital libraries aim to provide accessible, collaborative and user-driven information services. One key way digital libraries can become more community-centric is by tailoring their offerings to the specific needs and characteristics of local populations. By creating environments that facilitate collaboration and interaction, libraries can strengthen community bonds and foster a sense of belonging among users. Digital literacy initiatives are another essential aspect of community-centered digital libraries. In addition to promoting digital literacy, these digital libraries can focus on preserving local culture and heritage.

Increasingly, community-centered digital libraries are integrating AI tools and infrastructure to foster collaborative, user-driven environments. In conclusion, community-centered digital libraries are well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of their communities.

Highlights from this issue:

“It answers questions that I didn’t know I had”: PhD students’ evaluation of an information-sharing knowledge graph.

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Manika Lamba (School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, USA).

Interdisciplinary PhD programs can present significant challenges, as crucial information is often not readily accessible, being dispersed across various university websites. This study aims to introduce a knowledge graph that consolidates essential information on key categories (such as faculty, courses and dissertations) and their interrelationships, extracted from multiple sources, to meet the needs of interdisciplinary PhD students. It evaluates the usability of a participatory-designed knowledge graph, created to enhance information sharing and support decision-making.

Undergraduates’ experiences with library portal services: perceptions of usefulness and satisfaction

Adenike Elizabeth Ajisebutu (Department of Library and Information Science, Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Nigeria).

Adebowale Jeremy Adetayo (Department of Library and Information Science, Adeleke University, Ede, Nigeria).



Mariam Kehinde Alawiye (Nimbe Adedipe Library, Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Abeokuta, Nigeria).

Bosede Olufunmilayo Makinde (College of Medicine, Lagos State University, Ikeja, Nigeria).

This study aims to evaluate undergraduate students' perceived usefulness and satisfaction with university library portal services in selected universities in South-West Nigeria. It contributes to the understanding of how these students perceive the utility and effectiveness of library portal services, emphasizing the need for these services to align with students' academic and research needs to enhance overall satisfaction. Additionally, it offers insights into areas where improvements can be made.

Dynamics of plagiarism among the social sciences students at Kuwait University

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This study investigates the factors contributing to the reduction of plagiarism among social sciences students. It focuses on clarifying the concept of plagiarism, its legal and ethical implications, the punitive measures in place to address it, and the level of awareness regarding plagiarism policies. The findings highlight the importance for universities to increase students' awareness of academic misconduct, helping to develop more effective and comprehensive policies.

Digital information needs and information-seeking behavior among legal practitioners at the Lahore High Court, Punjab, Pakistan

Samreen Junaid (Main Library, Lahore High Court, Lahore, Pakistan).

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Sanila Aslam (Main Library, Rawalpindi Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan).

This study investigates the digital information needs and information-seeking behavior of legal practitioners at the Lahore High Court in Punjab, Pakistan. It highlights the preferred information sources and formats used by legal practitioners, their purposes for using legal resources and the influence of digital media on their information-seeking behavior. Additionally, the study identifies the challenges they face in accessing these resources.

Multimethod digitalization of a large-format school map from the first half of the 20th century

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Digitalization plays a crucial role in the registration, preservation, dissemination and analysis of cultural heritage. However, many available techniques have been underused for graphic and documentary artifacts. The research explores the application of both traditional and advanced digital methods to document large-format cartography, specifically a school

map of the Americas from the early 20th century. This study aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of these techniques for a detailed examination of this specific heritage typology. Digital optimization of the school map enhances its accessibility for remote consultation and reduces the need for direct handling, thereby supporting its long-term preservation. The multimethod digitalization addresses challenges such as the map's multilayer composition – comprising paper, ink and protective varnish on a textile medium – and the difficulties posed by its large format during the digitization process.

Cultural heritage preservation in the digital age, harnessing artificial intelligence for the future: a bibliometric analysis

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Nove E. Variant Anna (Faculty of Vocational Studies, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia).

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This study investigates the performance analysis, science mapping and future directions of AI technologies, applications, tools and software used in the preservation, curation and prediction of the historical value of cultural heritage. A bibliometric research method was employed, using data from the Scopus database. The research spans disciplines including computer science, mathematics, engineering, social sciences and arts and humanities. The primary document types analyzed are articles and conference proceedings. While similar bibliometric studies have been conducted, there remains a gap in research that provides a comprehensive view of AI's contribution to cultural heritage preservation. The significance of this study lies in its focus on the clustering of AI applications used to preserve, curate, present and evaluate cultural heritage.

Preservation of theses and dissertations in the era of digitization: a case study of selected universities in Oyo state, Nigeria

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Oluwatoyin Olukemi Oso (The Library, Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo, Nigeria).

Oludare Adebajji Shorunke (The Library, James Hope Business School, Lagos, Nigeria).

Olawunmi Grace Oyadele (The Library, Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo, Nigeria).

This study provides insight into the digitization of theses and dissertations (TDs) in academic libraries at three selected universities, offering a foundation for further research. The digital preservation of TDs is crucial for the long-term archiving of the intellectual output of undergraduate and postgraduate students. A descriptive survey research design was employed, with questionnaires serving as the primary data collection tool. The findings revealed that digital preservation of TDs in university libraries is still in its developmental phase. Additionally, most participants strongly agreed that the primary motivation for pursuing digital preservation was to improve the institutions' Web rankings.

Are faculty members aware of global university ranking? A study in the context of a developing country

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The purpose of this study is to assess faculty members' awareness of global university rankings and their associated parameters at Dhaka University. The study also identifies challenges related to university rankings and explores potential opportunities to address these challenges. This research represents the first attempt to measure awareness of university rankings by collecting primary data within the context of a public university in Bangladesh.

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Does ChatGPT generate fake results? Challenges in retrieving content through ChatGPT

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Ayesha Gulzar (University of Sargodha, Sargodha, Pakistan).

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Muhammad Ajmal Khan (Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia).

ChatGPT represents a significant advancement in today's technological landscape. This AI-based tool responds to users' queries and generates the requested content within seconds, making it increasingly popular among academics, researchers and library professionals. This study aims to assess the authenticity of the records produced by ChatGPT through direct interaction with the tool. Additionally, the research examines the relevance of the tool's results in relation to users' queries and identifies the challenges encountered when retrieving information through ChatGPT.

Artificial intelligence literacy: a proposed faceted taxonomy

Ali Shiri (School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada).

The purpose of this paper is to propose a taxonomy of AI literacy to enhance AI literacy education and research. This study uses the facet analysis technique and draws upon various disciplines, including computing, information science, education and literary research, to develop a comprehensive taxonomy of AI literacy. The proposed taxonomy serves as a conceptual framework to support the critical understanding, use, application and evaluation of AI-enhanced tools and technologies in diverse educational and organizational contexts.

Artificial intelligence impact on scholars: an interview with Juan Machin-Mastromatteo

Juan D. Machin-Mastromatteo (Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico).

Anna Maria Tamarro (Department of Information Engineering, University of Parma, Parma, Italy).

It is important for digital libraries to understand the change in research behavior for future digital library functionalities. This interview investigates the impact that AI is having on researchers, changing the way knowledge is created, discovered, shared and communicated.

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