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ELECTRONIC RESOURCES THROUGH ONE NATION ONE SUBSCRIPTION (ONOS): A GREAT BOON TO THE RESEARCH WORLD

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ABSTRACT:

An attempt has been made to highlight the significance of Electronic Resources through One Nation One Subscription for the benefit of students, research scholars and teaching faculty in their learning, teaching and research. Also discusses the prospects and methods of promoting use of One Nation One Subscription consortia.

KEYWORDS: *E.Resources, ONOS, Digital Library.*

INTRODUCTION:

Electronic resource management (**ERM**) is the practices and software systems used by libraries to keep track of important information about electronic information resources, especially internet-based resources such as electronic journals, databases, and electronic books. The development of ERM became necessary in the early 2000s as it became clear that traditional library. The processes of managing and accessing electronic resources involve a number of participants-libraries, subscription agents, content providers, hosting services- and tend to be complex, time-intensive and susceptible to human error-licensing, exchange of acquisition data, research and usage data collection are some of the processes that have been performed manually or poorly implemented best practices or standards.

With the advent of the online environment, however opportunities have arisen for unprecedented data integration and linking, which if used to advantage can lead to a high level of automation and an increase in productivity and discoverability. As the costs for acquisitions have been rising consistently faster than the increases in budgets, academic libraries are struggling to financially manage their subscriptions of electronic resources, including electronic journals, databases, and books. More specifically, the increasing costs of journals, considered crucial for scholarly research, have created "professional anxiety" within libraries. Nonetheless, academic libraries are tasked to supply and manage ever increasing electronic resources in order to sustain and grow the academic enterprise. As budgets are not expected to keep pace with subscription prices, it is clear that resource allocation decisions will only get more difficult.

Currently, library collections are managed by committees of "subject reference" librarians. The librarians are charged with evaluating the requests of faculty and departments and present the worth of



these requests to a larger committee or library director, who makes the final decision about purchasing a subscription or not. Oftentimes it is obligatory to cut a current subscription to make room in the budget for a request. This process can be quite subjective and political in nature, especially when new academic or research programs have been introduced within the university. The library, of course, needs to support fledgling programs that are just getting started, as well as the rest of the university, all within a budget that is not increasing fast enough. Therefore, maximizing the subscriptions used in research is vital to the library's survival in supporting the research of its institution. The question remains as to what value can be used to maximize electronic subscriptions.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

There have been drastic changes to the library journal industry over the past few years, many driven by shrinking budgets. Library dependency on electronic databases and full-text access has increased, journal prices have not decreased (due to the continuation of printing journals), nor has the library's role in providing this access.

The library's role has actually now increased in that users generally expect immediate access. If the library does not own a subscription, a user expects an electronically delivered interlibrary loan (ILL). ILL costs are also increasing due to stricter copyright regulations and a new pay-per-use model. Therefore, further (sometimes untraceable) library overhead costs are required to discern usage data and trends, such as whether ILL per-use and copyright clearance costs exceed an annual subscription cost.

The increases in ILL requests and costs are due to the vast amount of research that is being produced by the academic sector to which the library cannot afford to subscribe. The vast difference in growth is magnified when examining the dual supply and demand relationship between research and the library. The library as a supplier is unable to meet the demand of research. In reverse, the supply of research is greater than the demand of the library based on its relatively shrinking budget. Henderson goes on to comment that if libraries cannot keep up or absorb the results of research, quality of future research and education will suffer.

Presently many libraries and library consortia are attempting to manage electronic resources independently and in different ways. Some universities have attempted to self-produce software to manage electronic resources and subscription costs and to tabulate the different types of statistics received from the subscription vendors. The Digital Library Federation (DLF) is a "consortium of libraries and related agencies that are pioneering the use of electronic-information technologies to extend collections and services" Workflows that involve many different people in separate parts of an organization beg for a systematic communication mechanism. Workflows that have tasks contingent on other tasks beg for a systematic tracking mechanism. Workflows that involve many documents with detailed information pieces beg for a systematic storage mechanism. In short, library initiatives to bring electronic resources into the collection require a systematic way to communicate among groups, track progress, and store data.

FEATURES OF ERM SYSTEMS INCLUDE:

- Supporting acquisition and management of licensed e-resources
- May be integrated into other library system modules or may be a standalone system
- May have a public interface, either separate or integrated into the OPAC
- Providing descriptions of resources at the package (database) level and relate package contents (e.g. e-journals) to the package record
- Encoding and perhaps publicly displaying licensed rights such as e-reserves, course packs, and interlibrary loan

- Tracking electronic resources from point of order through licensing and final access
- Providing information about the data providers, consortia arrangements, access platform
- Providing contact information for all content providers
- Logging problems with resources and providers
- Providing customizable e-mail alerting systems (e.g. notices to managers when actions are expected or required)
- Linking license documents to resource records

ONE NATION ONE SUBSCRIPTION

'Quality and Excellence' has been buzzword of Higher Education Institutions in the country. To support and meet the diversified nascent information needs of Research Scholars and Teaching faculty in the University environment, there is always been a thirst for Quality Journals with high impact factor like Elsevier, IEEE, Springer, Taylor & Francis, Oxford University Press, American Chemical Society etc. In this context, Government of India has launched 'One Nation One Subscription' scheme from 1st January 2025 to provide country-wide access to international high impact scholarly research articles and journal publications to students, faculty and researchers of all Higher Education Institutions in India. This will be a great boon and one stop point to the academic community in India in pursuance of their research endeavour. They will have access to 13,000 plus scientific journals in 27 subject categories of 31 major publishers of the world will enable in making vision of India Atmanirbhar and Viksitbharat@2047.

The Degree colleges of Kalyan Karnataka region including Universities i.e. Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi, Central University of Karnataka and others are beneficiaries of ONOS.

The major 10 library consortia were:

E-ShodhSindhu (ESS) Consortium under Department of Higher Education (DHE)
National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC) of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)
DERCON Consortium under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
CERA Consortium under Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE)
DRDO Consortium under Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D)
Electronic Resources in Medicine (ERMED) Consortium under Department of Health Research (DHR)
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
DeLCON Consortium for Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and North-Eastern Region Institutes
Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) consortium
Department of Space (DoS) consortium

Promoting use of E.Resources - One Nation One Subscription

The best way to optimize the usage of ONOS platform accessible at <https://www.onos.gov.in/> is to integrate in the respective University portal and create displays preferably QR Code and showcase in library, departments and hostels to create awareness in addition to the regular workshops. The challenge for Librarians is of course to ensure optimum utilization of e.resources by the user community with techno-savvy skills and service oriented attitude of librarians. At the same time, the faculty and scholars needs to be hunger of research information for their quality of research.

Besides, the University Library though considered as Heart of the University campus, but in reality, is still a question? The University Library has established IRINS is web-based Research Information Management service accessible at <https://gug.irins.org/> to showcase the rresearch productivity (output) of the teaching faculty of all the departments of the university by integrating with

ORCID ID, Scopus ID, Research ID, Google scholar ID. This is the research temper/ profile of each faculty which reveals his/her publications, number of citations, H-Index, Co-author network and complete publications, awards, patents and fellowships. This portal acts as a authentic tool for the administrators, national agencies, government sectors to support for awards/ fellowships/ recognitions and financial support for research projects.

CONCLUSION

Most libraries are not currently in a position to eliminate their print collections. Most library professionals and staff members have their feet firmly planted in both worlds, the electronic and the print, and we cannot eliminate either the print collections or the tasks associated with them. For this reason, all responsibilities related to the development of electronic-resource collections have become add-on, not replacement, responsibilities. It has not been possible to reassign staff in order to accommodate the new electronic-resource responsibilities. This golden opportunity to access e.resources to the colleges and universities under ONOS has to be popularized and needful orientation and workshops be conducted to ensure its proper utilization.

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