Rethinking of Resource Sharing in India: An Initiative

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Abstract

This article explore the possibilities of rethink about resource sharing find the information, user need, delivery format and the newly format model which is simply find and get. The purpose of this article is to invite and excite librarians and vendors to help rethink and remake resource sharing in our country and globally for the twenty-first century.

Keywords: Rethinking, Resource Sharing, Consortium, ILL, Networks, Patrons, Digitization, Catalogue, Standard, Automation

1. Introduction:

Libraries are the centre of learning where knowledge and information is preserved in the form of documents. Since the inception of library movement, librarians have been interested in co operative librarianship and fascinated with the comparative aspects of the profession. Due to uncontrolled growth of information and financial constraints none of the library or information center can claim to be self sufficient in terms of finance and collections.

Library Resource sharing , Inter Library Loan, Network, Consortium are various terms given to the same activity which means that group of libraries have come together and entered into kind of formal understating for the purpose of sharing the resources of each other materials, functions, services and staffs to their mutual benefit realizing only through resource sharing the greatest amount of the best information can be provided to most of the users at the most reasonable cost..

Rethinking means everything should be set up to make the live users easier when they need information. It is clear that convenience is of driving factor and can be a more important factor than either turnaround or quality.

2. Historical Representation:

The rethinking resource sharing started in February 2005 with the publication of it is time again think about resource sharing a white paper. It is aim to discussion in the library community of issues

surrounding access information and the future resource sharing. It has challenged many way of us to think about resource sharing in a totally new way. What can we learn from the technologies available in other industries such as radio frequency identification (RFID) users in our libraries to access information? What opportunities does digitizing our print collections provide? The discussions have concluded that the focus for all decisions should be on the user rather than internal processes in the library. In the past, much of the emphasis in resource sharing discussions has been on problems – technical, mechanical, staff, interoperability. The services we deliver should be provided in a way that meets actual user's needs and expectations.

3. Need for Rethinking Resource Sharing:

1. Library resources are for sharing
2. Documents in standard database form are the dynamics resources for global sharing
3. Every resources are use
4. Every users his or her share of the resources
5. Minimize the non-use period of documents in demand
6. Automated delivery mechanisms of resources progressively grow
7. Resource sharing in global phenomena

4. Objectives of Rethinking Resource Sharing:

1. Creation of awareness among libraries for realization of the need for resource sharing
2. Improve access and exchange of information available in different libraries
3. Explore various options for application of information technology in networking libraries.

5. How Libraries are Rethinking Resource Sharing:

i) Rethink Policies

- Pay all reasonable ILL fees for patrons.
- Lend to countries around the world.
- Digitize items that you cannot lend.
- Allow audio-visual material and new items to circulate to non-patrons.
- Negotiate license language so that e-serials can be lent and borrowed, subject to the same copyright guidelines as print material.

ii) Rethink Procedures

- Set up open URL revolvers so patrons can make requests for articles or books easily.
- Use WorldCat Direct Request and custom holdings so that ILL requests can be unmediated.
- Use ILL management software.
- PostILL articles online.

- Consider keeping basic services free and charging for quicker delivery.

iii) Rethink Services

- Join a consortium of libraries that have a shared circulation system for book borrowing.
- Provide online request forms.
- Buy items from booksellers or document suppliers. It may be cheaper and faster or the only way to get an item. Then consider keeping the book for your library or letting the patron keep it.
- Pay for scanning of rare items from research libraries.
- Consider home delivery of ILL material.
- Provide document delivery of local holdings for patrons.
- Publicize plug-ins that allows people to search library catalogs when they are searching online bookstores.

6. Manifesto for Rethinking Resource Sharing:

We believe that the user should be able to get what s/he wants on the terms that s/he choice without undue hurdles from the library community. As libraries are making their collections visible on a global scale, so should they provide an international resource delivery system or a service model that combines the strengths of all participating libraries. Toward that end, we believe the following principles embraced by libraries and librarians will encourage the sort of resource sharing and delivery that will enhance the role of libraries in the expanding information environment while maintaining the integrity of the institution's mandate and collections:

1. Restrictions shall only be imposed as necessary by individual institutions with the goal that the lowest-possible-barriers-to-fulfillment are presented to the user.

2. Library users shall be given appropriate options for delivery format, method of delivery, and fulfillment type, including loan, copy, digital copy, and purchase.

3. Global access to sharable resources shall be encouraged through formal and informal networking agreements with the goal towards lowest-barrier-to-fulfillment.

4. Sharable resources shall include those held in cultural institutions of all sorts: libraries, archives, museums, and the expertise of those employed in such places.

5. Reference services are a vital component to resource sharing and delivery and shall be made readily accessible from any initial "can't supply this" response. No material that is findable should be totally unattainable.

6. Libraries should offer service at a fair price rather than refuse but should strive to achieve services that are not more expensive than commercial services, e.g. bookshops.

7. Library registration should be as easy as signing up for commercial web based services. Everyone can be a library user.

Each of these general principles is being implemented today to various degrees by various institutions in concrete ways, from floating stock to digitization on demand, from revised circulation policies to fee-for-personalized-service, from unmediated request to unmediated delivery.

7. Resources Sharing in India:

Library networks have grown mostly during the last thirty years in different geographical environment in order to cater the specific need of the users. The developing countries like India are lagging behind in library co-operation. The reasons for the same are poor funding and the non-existence of the sprit of give and take or exchange is delaying the prospects of resource sharing programmes.   In 1986 NISSAT had initated the established of CALIBNET in Calcutta and other networks started various places in Indiasuch as DELNT, PUNENET,ADINET, BONET,INSDOC, MALIBNET, BALNET. The national policy on library and information systems has recommended to set up INFLIBNET was initiated by UGC, INDEST has initiated by AICTE.

8. Major Initiatives:

1. Consortia
2. Networks – Local, National, International
3. Document Delivery Systems
4. Borrowing Facility Arrangement
5. Union Catalogue
6. Database services

9. Barriers of Resources Sharing:

1. Interoperability within a given library industry standard is often challenging and   time-consuming to achieve. .

2. Interoperability between library industry standards is even more elusive and frustrating.

3. Automation system vendors pick and choose the standards they support and may interpret them in unique ways that can hinder interoperability.

4. Library standards are generally not compatible with commercial standards, even   those of the publishing world.

10. Interface of Rethinking Resource Sharing:

An overwhelming majority of people (students, library users and non-users) begin information searches in a web-based commercial search engine like Google, so efforts to expose resource sharing services as such to web users now need to be re-focused. Library resources must appear integrated into non-library web services, meeting users at the place where they find resources. Thus the real challenge for resource sharing is to improve the get function for users by making libraries more visible and relevant as sources of information. By shifting to the find and get model and by using new technologies, it is possible to design a new framework that would solve the existing interoperability issues by default. We are also moving away from a model where all requests are handled by staff at the user's own library. Users expect torequest materials from libraries in the same way they order books, clothes and other items online. They want a simple interface that shows them their options:

- Place a hold at my own library;
- Request the item through my library's resource sharing service
- Contact another library directly to obtain an item or a copy of an article.
- Purchase the item from an online bookstore or commercial vendor

11. Rethinking Resource Sharing in Future:

Work internationally to make policies and technology interact seamlessly. In today's information rich world, resource sharing policies typically reflect an earlier era when information was a rare commodity. The future will be user centered and rich with options. This phenomenon means that suppliers can afford to offer many more items for which there is limited demand, instead of focusing on current popular items, since there is no need to stock these items physically in storefronts. The transformation will undoubtedly occur through a series of evolutionary steps, with a period of experimentation before libraries and information industry vendors arrive at a common understanding of best practices. From a library perspective, that will mean changing some long-held policies about interlibrary borrowing and lending. For vendors, it will mean supporting a continuum of services and standards that blended together become a full-service resource sharing bundle. What will resource sharing look like in 5, 10 or 15 years from now? Stick around and see. Make changes in your library that help better serve today's patrons. Better yet, join the Rethinking Resource Sharing initiative and help shape a future in which library services are seamlessly accessible from standard web tools and people who need information encounter fewer barriers

- Continual rethinking for ILL practitioners for fast & easy access to materials
- Rethinking cost efficiencies of access to obscure materials and loans

- Blurring of lines between the acquisitions and ILL librarians

- ILL requests – user driven examples?

i) Challenges for the future!

- Simplify 'Getting'

- Review systems and processes

- How are we providing the pathways?

- Lets think about those global citizens　with no affiliation to a Library!

12. Conclusion:

Rethinkingof resource sharing right book, right reader, at right time and right way to get their information. Remaking library services in our country with in few years to adopting new technology for provide user friendly access to any information any time any where to any user or non users of the individual library. Library professional should be aware about remake library servicesto needs of the global user's demands.

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