

Application of Mobile Based Library Services in Academic Institute's Library

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Abstract:-

Today use of the internet and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have change the applications in library from the traditional to hybrid library, then automated library, digital archives stages, library 2.0, library 3.0 and mobile phone services. Today the most of peoples are use the mobile phone in their daily works, so mobile device has become the essential part of human life for communication and it also helps to student in e-learning. In this paper we have discussed about mobile technology and focused on its application in library services. With help of mobile devices, libraries can produce new concept of library services and provide speedy access to its collection. Use of mobile device for library services has created good opportunities for effective library services in academic libraries.

Keyword:- Mobile Device, Library Services, ICT

1.Introduction:-

In the age of information explosion, it is challenge to provide the necessary information to users at the right time but development of ICT (information communication technology) ,use of the computer application and library web 2.0 and 3.0, it is easy to provide the seeking information to more demanding users whenever, wherever and however they prefer. The development of web technology and use of smart mobile phone, it has made communication and information access very convenient and timely to users from their own homes and office and from wherever they are on move with their cellular phones. Mobile devices are able to access information from the remote source within very short time. In 21st century many college and university libraries have digital collection and it is accessed through computer. However, as mobile phones can be used as good alternative for accessing digital libraries. Digital collections can be made available through digital library on users mobile phones. Mobile devices are truly personal devices. Search histories and

physical locations can be used to produce more accurate, individualized information and services. In the technology age most of the students and faculties have their own cell phone and laptop, so libraries have good opportunity to provide online library services and instant access of information contents.

2. Mobile phones and online library services:-

In the age of cell phone technology, the academic libraries have changed its services and housekeeping operations for providing access to its collection and e-resources. Libraries are deeply interested in channels for dissemination of information, like a mobile phones, cellular networks and internet etc. In academic libraries, the researchers, lecturers, undergraduate and post graduate students are their users and they demands valuable information regarding education and research and library has provide their seeking information through online and off-line services. Use of the Internet and World Wide Web (www) it possible for university teachers, researchers, and students to locate what they need without going to the library. Most of academic libraries need to engage in marketing their products and services through internet. Almost academic libraries are to attract users to the library through mobile and email services and to retain them. Mobile phones and e-mail are important tools to facility for handling and response to the users questions from within and out of the library user community. Short Message Services (SMS) or text facilities available on all mobile phones, can be used to create awareness amongst the academic library users about upcoming events, delay books, circulation details and new arrivals books information. Mobile library service is such a specialized and personalized information services that it can be achieved using the wireless technologies made available to all. As cell phone technology continues to evolve and it will have as significant impact on M Library (M Learning).

3. Advantage of Library Services through Mobile Phone:-

3.1 User-friendly tools -

Most of the peoples are familiar with their own mobile devices and technology and its helps the users in accessing information quickly and does not require any orientation and training program. Mobile users are using the facilities on mobile phones like SMS, instant messaging, web browsing, e-mail etc.

3.2 Location Awareness:-

Mobile communication enables libraries to offer location-based services/content through global positioning system (GPS) capabilities. Libraries can guide the users to the location of specific document or service through maps and navigational tools.

3.3 Time Saving:-

Mobile base library service is very effective and time saving services. Mobile devices offer users to browsing and searching library resources. Users can easily reserve the books without go to the library counter, so users time can saved.

3.4 Personalized Service:-

Mobile library services give the personal or individual to library users, so it is a specialized and personalized service. Mobile services help to inter act library professionals and gain specific references.

3.5 Ability to Access Information-

Use of the mobile web, users can access information to anywhere at any-time and it will be of great help for users who cannot visit library in person and provides a constant link to necessary information resources

3.6 User Participation:-

Libraries can enrich OPAC by allowing users to incorporate user created content like notes or images uploaded by users

4. Mobile base online library services: -

4.1 SMS Services

This is one type of online library services. Through the email library professionals should alert the users for new book notice, informing availability of reserved documents for collection, appraising about which/when books are overdue, library circulars, e-journals subscribed, change in timing, information about important events, etc. Such alert notifications can be generated automatically using integrated library management system/software.

4.2 Instant Messaging (IM) for Reference services:-

Mobile devices can useful for instant answers like definitions, meanings and other information from digital libraries and web. While institution has its own IM network,

library can also use web-based free instant messaging services from Google, America online, Way2sms etc.

4.3 Suggestion for requirement:-

Mobile is very useful devices for the library to receive the new books requirement and other suggestions from the users via mobile phones. In such cases users need not to visit the libraries and write the requirements in a register.

4.4 Mobile as Virtual Library:-

The library users, who have not time to come in library for find out their necessary information. Mobile phone is very helpful them for access the library resources. Mobile device is one type of virtual library because users can access the resources out of library. It can reduce staff time spent helping new users to orient themselves in the library and explaining the services provided by the library.

4.5 OPAC on Mobile phones:-

Now the library management software is available in web base form. So Libraries can provide their catalog on the mobile devices. The Users can access to their owned databases and resources on his/her mobile device out of library. User should just enter search terms and can see results that are designed specifically for mobile viewing.

4.6 Research consultation and instruction:-

It is one type of customer care service. Library staff provides reference and other library services to researchers through mobile phones. Research scholars may have an interaction with the library staff to get the consultation and get suggestions via mobile phones such as specific definitions and information contents.

4.7 Journal finder:-

In the internet technology age, many libraries have subscribed e-resources like e-journals and e-books. The users can access to full text journal, magazine, and newspaper content as well as links to titles held in print. For example, American University library has providing option to search journals through mobile phones.

4.8 News and Events:-

Up coming news and events information like job openings, varieties of scholarly competition, library events such as orientations program, book recall, lectures on special topic, news in relation to scholarly work, awards and so on can be given using mobile devices in order to update the user knowledge. Short messages regarding the library events and news can be sent to the users personally in text form.

4.9 Reference Service:-

Library users can ask librarians anything through the live chat and texting with mobiles. The reference services can be provided with the help of sending and receiving SMS. Immediate feedback is also possible from the user side.

4.10 Wi-Fi Internet Access:-

Mobile phones are available with 3G & 4G facility. Libraries can offer Wi-Fi facility to users. Through the Wi-Fi library users can access e-resources and received the library notification within library campus.

Conclusion:-

In 21st century is call for technology age, the revolution of information and communication technology world become very small. Most of the people used the mobile and cell phone in his /her daily works. Today the libraries can use the ICT and internet technology for housekeeping work, book search catalogue and access the digital resources. Major users are use the mobile device for reserve book, book search and access digital resources from the library. Today M-Learning (M-library) is new concept.

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