International Journal of Advance Studies and Growth Evaluation

Best Practices with NAAC in Academic Libraries

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Abstract
The Twenty first century creates a new environment for education to generate higher education particulars. The progress of any country is strongly linked with the quality of education. College libraries plays indispensable role in the dissemination of information of knowledge, they should be in a position to provide effective teaching-learning information support to its user's communities. Libraries are one of the important components of the assessment through which an impact on the accreditation of the institute is related. To meet the end user's demands effectively. They need to identify and adopt good practices. NAAC has decided to identify the set of Best Practices in library and information services. Libraries are one of the important components of the assessment through which an impact on the accreditation of the institute is related. To meet the end user's demands effectively, they need to identify and adopt good practices. NAAC has decided to identify the set of best practices in Library and Information Services, with the help of a few case presentations from few selected libraries of the accredited Universities and Colleges. Paper also mention IT based best practices like Web page, Blogs, Wikis Virtual library tour, E-alert services, etc. Paper also mentions General Library practices & Library extension services. This paper will be useful guide to other libraries to get an idea about various ways & practices can be adopted in their libraries for creating an effective library management.

Keywords: Best practices, NAAC, libraries, higher education.

Introduction

College form the integral part of higher education, and libraries in colleges are the primary source for learning process. The college library is a connecting link between teaching and learning as well as place which supplement its resources. What is beyond scope of classroom? College libraries play an important role in the educational history of both the students as well as faculty members. It serves the user by providing specific information. NAAC was established for maintaining quality education of the institution for such a huge number of academic organization in India it needs efforts to bring quality in library services immediately. According to Dr. S.R. Rangnathan, "The kind of education given to the library profession is normally reflected in the service given by the profession". Though academic libraries are service oriented the tremendous changes brought out by technical advances in the present information society have an impact on their functioning. The recent development in the field of information, communication and technology has also changed the expectation of the users in many ways. Hence, we have to adopt best and effective practices to meet the demands of the end users.

What is Best Practice

ODLIS (Online dictionary of Library and Information Science) describe best practices as follows:
"In the application of theory to real life situations, procedures that, when properly, applied consistently yield superior results and are therefore used as reference points in evaluation of the effectiveness of alternative methods of accomplishing the same task. Best practices are identified by examining empirical evidence of success. Oxford Advanced learned Dictionary describes best practices as quality of high standard excellence, highly improved, outstanding. Per excellence service. It means way of doing something that is usual or expected way in particular organization or situation".

What is quality? It is customer satisfaction through product or service. In an academic library students and teachers are the customers who are the part of the academic community.
If we look in the history of higher education in India we find

that Radhakrishnan Report have already recognized the role of librarian in higher education. They had recommended the need of first class library for the college and Universities. Moreover UGC Library Committee Report (1965) headed by Dr. S.R. Rangnathan provided firm base to Academic Libraries. INFLIBNET provided financial support to academic libraries automate library operations.

What is Best Practices in Academic Libraries
With the increasing impact of ICT on higher education academic libraries on the way of radical changes. The role of librarian in traditional libraries as custodian of recorded material. In the era of ICT, due to information explosion the needs of the users are changed and the nature of information needs become multidimensional. It has the impact on the overall management of library activities and services.

NAAC in Higher Education with Special Reference to College Libraries
The 21st Century creates a new environment for education in general and higher education in particular. NAAC has realized the important of the 'College Libraries' which were formerly known as the store house of books and the librarian as the custodian of documents. After finalizing the accreditation NAAC provides a report on the evaluated institution where NAAC has focused extremely to the pathetic condition of the college libraries. Which were ignored the most of the college authority. In final report NAAC provides the appreciation on the strength of the colleges as well as the suggestion on the weakness of the colleges. Where college library has been kept in the focal point with that most of the colleges in India started to develop their libraries by appointing a full time professionally qualified librarian. After NAAC initiation library environment has an in depth effect on everyone who comes within its periphery and has a large impact on an organizations performance.

NAAC and Best Practices
UGC created a Higher Education Body in 1994 in Bangalore on the recommendation of National Policy of Education in 1983. This is National Accreditation and [1:22 pm, 05/09/2024] sudhirsangole22@gmail.com: Assessment Council (NAAC) which strives quality and excellence in higher education and advocates for enhancing the role of library and information services in improving academic environment. Documents prepared by NAAC for "Best Practices may be innovative and be a Philosophy. Policy, Strategy, Programme, Process or Practice that solve a problem or create new opportunities and positively impact on organizations.

For College Libraries NAAC has developed the Following Set of Best Practices
- Computerization of Library with standard software.
- Inclusion of sufficient information about the library in the college prospectus.
- Compiling students/Teachers statistic.
- Displaying a Newspaper clippings and a clipping file maintained periodically.
- Career / Employment information services.
- Internet facility to different user groups.
- Suggestion Box
- Displaying New Articles.
- Information Library Programme.
- Conduct Book Exhibition on different occupation

- Organizing Book Talk
- Instituting Annual Best use Award for students
- Organizing Completion Annually.
- Conduct user serve periodically.
- The following set of Practices should have been Included in it
- Making up a path finder in the library.
- Keeping the library premises neat and clean.
- Compiling a list of current serials of Journals.
- Updating and maintaining Library website
- Maintaining useful statistic regarding the use of the library and displaying them on the library walls.
- Compiling checklist on different subject topics as a part of documentation service.
- Library Committee formation.

Conclusion
Rapid developments in the IT has bring a tremendous scope for the libraries to modernize their services for which college authorities should realize the need and importance of their respective libraries and should always be ready to provide the congenital administrative support to their librarian. So that she / he can come forward willingly to reorganize the library services with the changing environment. Because of NAAC scrutiny in college libraries, they try to develop their libraries in an efficient way and able to get attention from both the college authority and college community. With NAAC assessment most of the college has started to develops their libraries.

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