

Editorial

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One of the key issues that comes up in this issue of *World Digital Libraries* is training for librarians. Keeping up with the various technologies is only one of the many factors in training. In an environment that has become increasingly interconnected, both in terms of international resources and in terms of disciplinary interaction, the tasks that librarians must fulfill go well beyond what any standard programme can fulfill. One of the current solutions internationally is online webinars and seminars. Webinars tend to have a lecture format which makes them inexpensive and easy to prepare. They are popular and anyone with a web browser can use them, but because they allow little interaction, they do not always meet the needs of librarians. Online seminars are a good alternative because they more resemble face-to-face courses but they require interactive tools that remain stable over long connection periods. Such interactive seminars are likely the future for short term training.¹

The article by Vijendra Kumar and Dinesh K Gupta on the “Role of NISCAIR in Professional Development on Digital Libraries” discusses “the role of CSIR-NISCAIR (Council of Scientific

¹ The HEADT Centre in Berlin offers online seminars on Research Integrity issues.

and Industrial Research - National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources) in education and training for library and information management with special reference to professional development activities on digital libraries.” (p. 133). NISCAIR offers short-term training courses that have played a “vital role” for library professionals (p. 135). Likewise, the article by Dr Anna Kaushik on “Perceptions of LIS Professionals about Data Curation” highlights the need for “all LIS professionals to get adequate skills and in-depth knowledge about data curation...” (p. 97). Many libraries lack a data curation policy. Addressing data curation issues will be “a huge challenge for libraries, and library and information science (LIS) schools and professionals.” (p. 89). A second theme in this issue is the importance of online resources, especially online resources that are freely available. Part of the challenge for librarians is to find the right sources that contain reliable and up-to-date material. Two articles assist with this, one that looks at open access resources and another that examines what the national libraries in Asia are doing to provide access.

Abhijit Chakrabarti wrote about “Growth and Development of Indian Institutional Digital

Repositories in OpenDOAR: A Bird's Eye View". The author carried out a detail qualitative and quantitative analysis after consulting the various repositories available in OpenDOAR(p. 75). The article was not limited to this resource, but looked broadly at the "existing Indian IDRs registered in OpenDOAR." A goal was to "analyse the generic and technical features ..." in Indian Digital Repositories and to consider their ranking.

The article by Monika Gupta presents an "Analysis of WISER Value of National Libraries' Websites in Asia". The author explains that WISER is "a combined web indicator which use[s] number of web indicators such as in-links, webpages, rich content files, and scholar[ly] data." (p. 109) The National Library of Japan came in first in the ranking, but the National Library of India had a respectable seventh place ranking. The author concludes that "... a sound

web presence replete with information resources should be maintained by all the national libraries."

The Internet does not just provide content. Online citation tools play an increasing role in academic work, and the article on "Online Citation Tools: A Comparative Study" by Paojangul Misao and Margam Madhusudhan uses a structured checklist to evaluate sixteen widely available citation tools. The result was "that EasyBib online citation tool has the highest score..." The study also concluded that the "tools under study are lagging behind in exploiting the optimum potential of mobile apps and social networking site features and also lack information guides for effective use of online citation tools." (p. 113).

I hope you will enjoy reading this issue and will learn from the articles.