

A brief report on “Trends in Management of Academic Libraries in Digital Environment (TMALDEN-2014) Conference

The Learning Resource Centre, Jain University has organized a two days National Conference on “**Trends in Management of Academic Libraries in Digital Environment (TMALDEN 2014)**” on 19th & 20th Dec 2014 at JGI Knowledge Campus, Jayanagar 9th Block, Bangalore.

The main objective of this conference was to provide platform to discuss how technology continues to drive much of the futuristic thinking within academic libraries.

This conference was inaugurated by Dr. V G Talawar, Vice Chancellor, Reva University, Bangalore. He highlighted the growth and decline in the use of traditional and digital library as the change in the utilization of the library.

Dr. T. D. Kemparaju, Professor and Director, Directorate of Distance Education, Bangalore University gave the Keynote Address. In his scholarly keynote address, he enlightened the changing roles of LIS professionals to manage the present and future of academic libraries particularly in digital and networked environment. Dr. N Sundararajan, Vice Chancellor, Jain University delivered the presidential speech. The conference proceedings with ISBN were released by Dr. N G R Iyengar, Pro Vice Chancellor, Jain University & Mentor, IIAEM, Jain University, conference chairman- TMALDEN-2014.

The conference received overwhelming response. Out of 107 research papers submitted, the 78 papers were selected for presentation. Out of 78 papers 3 Best Papers were selected and were honoured with certificates and mementos.

The **kaizen@Library** activity was conducted for delegates, exclusively in the National conference- TMALDEN-2014. 42 delegates have participated. The winners are:

1. Dr. Gopakumar, University Librarian, Goa University, Goa
2. Ms. Jayamma, Librarian, Govt. First Grade College, Bangalore

The Chief Guest of the Valedictory function was Mr. M V Sathyanarayana, Founder and Managing Director, Informatics, Bangalore. Dr. Easwaran Iyer, Dean, Commerce and Management, Jain University delivered the Presidential speech. The prizes for Kaizen winners and Best Papers were given during the valedictory.

Recommendations:

1. The conference therefore recommends that the education departments should become proactive to the needs of the libraries in terms providing adequate infrastructure in all spheres – manpower, finances, technology.
2. A suitable mechanism to maintain their professional competencies biased to the technological advances be created for the continuous professional development with focus on required skill sets in consonance with developments at all levels.
3. Adaptability of technologies should be selective, and for accruing benefits to the users of the libraries.
4. There is need for evolving quality standards as bench marks for the libraries which are long recognized as service oriented organizations.
5. A compendium of best practices should be disseminated through a channel – such as LIS-Forum, Libra links and so on.
6. It is recommended that case studies in these areas be compiled and disseminated among the professionals and in particular among the academic libraries.