

## Role of Libraries in Education

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### Abstract

Education can be defined as the process acquiring knowledge or habit through instruction or study. Education is the process of bringing desirable change in the behavior of human beings. The behavioral changes must be directed towards a desirable and the role of the library is necessarily dependent upon educational objectives of the institution. Frequently, these are unstated or inadequate. References are made to some definitions of objectives for higher education, and the consequences for libraries are discussed. The view is urged that libraries and therefore librarians, should be treated as integral and active parts of the educational process, and the latter be involved in course planning and development. The role identified for libraries in traditional higher education has not been transferred to the thinking about the external mode of study. The problems of providing any library service to external students in a country as vast and sparsely peopled as Australian are enormous. To extend services and opportunities equivalent to those available on campus may be impossible, but great effort should be made. Otherwise it may be impossible to match the educational experiences of external and internal students, in which case the equivalence of their qualifications is in serious question.

### Public Library Role in Education:

The Public of professional, also sometimes called a “people’s university” plays the role of nodal point in assimilating informal or formal information of local learning content and correlating it to knowledge and information from global resources. Public libraries therefore will wear the mantle of an important constituent in the future of the lifelong continuous process and education by donning their contemporary thinking cap on how to improve evolving talks. They will also have bring about change in the perception of the responsibilities of the librarian in pursuit of a more useful library system in tune with the new demands of the users. The public libraries and their expert’s libraries offer not only wild access to information from a global network. Thanks to the development of the networks as a result of the advancement in technology and communication. But also offer their expertise in areas of information sourcing and their quality rating. In other words, a public library is an indispensable pillar of democratic knowledge.

### Functions of Public Library:

Public Library functions as an intellectual powerhouse aspiring to meet the intellectual, educational, recreational, informational and cultural requirements of the people. The various objectives and functions enumerated above by individuals and institutions could easily be summed up in following functions:

- Self education centre
- Centre for life long learning
- Community Information Centre
- Recreation centre
- Cultural centre for society
- Centre to support economic development
- Centre for community skills development
- Centre for strengthening democratic spirit.
- To make available all of the information, entertainment (within limits), and resources possible to every patron, regardless of age, financial status, or any others factors.
- To provide a quiet safe place for study, research, reading and learning.
- To educated, inform, and entertain its patrons through programming for all age groups.
- To keep a collection for materials, such as newspapers archives, genealogical records historic notification, and fiction by local authors, which may not exist anywhere else.

- Providing study space
- Providing study assistance
- Providing newspaper to read and free
- Providing copy scanning assistance
- Providing adult programs
- Landing books
- Providing databases of journal articles
- Providing meeting spaces for library- related groups

**The Academic Library:**

Academic libraries specifically to the educational needs of a school, college or university where it is located, for the convenience of the students and teachers. However, in the case of a university they will have more focus also on information related to research and projects. The academic library is the trump card is that notwithstanding the situation, it supports a powerful educational system. And this facet of its identify is often relegated to the realms of the ignored of the forgotten. The academic library has the most potential to develop into the control of academic libraries must appreciate that, through the educational fabric of these institutions are inextricably tied to their parent institution.

**Need For Academic Libraries:**

According to professor D.S. Kothari, chairman of Indian education commission (1964-1966) "A library should provide facilities and service that are necessary for formal education and which open the vast world of books to readers beyond their area of specialization so that, reading habits are encouraged among the students and researchers for entertaining self awareness, personal development and mental curiosity also encouraged among them. Employees of a library should present the workshop as mental workshop and they should in association with teachers to impart education and knowledge.

Academic libraries classified into three different types: School, College and university with this aim in view, management of all educational institution need to re-engineer libraries to their respective institutions so that, librarians and teachers enhance the academic functions of libraries and adequately contribute to the complete academic program. University grant commission, while sanctioning grants to colleges and universities ensure that libraries at these places are the centers of learning and teaching are used to acquire knowledge in the related areas of interest.

**Types of academic libraries:**

- School Library
- College library
- University library

**School library in education:**

A school library (or a school library media centre) is a library within a school where students, staff, and often, parents of a public or private school have access to a variety of resources. The goal of the school library media centre is to ensure that all members of the school community have equitable access "to books and reading, to information, and to information technology." A school library media centre "uses all types of media... is automated, and utilizes the Internet [as well as books] for information gathering." School libraries are distinct from public libraries because they serve as "learner-oriented laboratories which support, extend, and individualize the school's curriculum... A school library serves as the centre and coordinating agency for all material used in the school."

The school library is integral to the teaching and learning process. The school library facilities the work of the classroom teachers and ensure each students has access to resources.

**School library services:**

create and develop motivating, flexible physical and digital learning spaces.

- Run in depending learning programs, which integrate information resources and technologies.
- Create and develop motivating, flexible physical and digital learning spaces.
- Provide teachers with access to relevant curriculum information and professional development materials within and outside the school; and opportunities to cooperatively plan, implement and evaluate learning programs.
- Provide and promote quality fiction to develop and sustain in students the habit and enjoyment of reading for pleasure and to enrich students' intellectual, aesthetic, cultural and emotional growth.
- Collaborate with classroom teachers to plan, implement and evaluate inquiry-based programs that will ensure students acquire skills to collect, critically analyse and organise information, problem-solve and communicate their findings.
- Cater to differences in learning and teaching styles through the provision of and equality of access to, a wide range of curriculum resources fiction and nonfiction- digital print, audio and video.
- Equip students with the skills necessary to succeed in constantly changing technologies.

**College library in Education:**

In general a college is regarded as an institution of higher education learning which usually offers three years of four years courses offer school leading to be bachelor degrees. Some of the learner colleges also courses learning to a master degree. Usually research takes place at universities. An important element of making higher education decisions, however, is the education factor, that is, the background content that assists academic administrators in understanding the critical mission, value and goals of the library, the role of library and information services in student outcomes, and the key role libraries and librarians play in curriculum delivery through the provision of supporting resources and teaching faculty partnerships in the design and delivery of general and discipline-specific information literacy.

**Services of college library:**

- Landing services.
- Instructions of the use of the library.
- Assistance in the location of searching of documents or use of library catalogue or reference books etc.
- Reader's advisory services.
- Provision of general or specific information.
- Inter library loan.
- Competition of bibliographies/indexing/abstracting list of additions.
- Reservation of additions.
- Reprographics services.

**Objectives:**

- Provide current library materials and databases that support the academic curriculum.
- Provide access to information resources, regardless of location.
- Collect library materials in all formats, broaden and update all collections to meet the needs of AUST programs and support the various aspects of the institution: teaching, training, research and services.
- Continue to strength and update all collection to meet the needs of AU program.
- Provide access to library resources and services via web pages and online resources.
- Work closely with users: know their needs and interest.

- Put into practice the motto that building libraries recourse is continues process.
- Ensure that resources available are currently appropriate and accessible 24/7.

**University library in education:**

The academic library has traditionally been seen as the heart of the university searching the academic community of its parent institution. However, grimes notes that (cited in brophy.2001) “students and faculty alike fail to involve library recourse and services in regular learning and instruction, turning to the library primarily as an undergraduate study hall or recourse book room national initiatives fail to mention, much less to plan, improvement of library recourse a disheartening decrease in academic library share of institutional funding they remain, for the most part, on the periphery of decision-making and innovating process. Librarians are often not involved in information policy development. The modern university with a large facility, tremendous enrolment and huge recourse is in a position to make significant contributions in the area of the social sciences, the humanities and science and technology. University has become complex organizations. In a developing country like India, it is expected that universities should produce people committed to development of the nation and its service.

**Objectives in university library:**

- Teaching, Research, publication, conversation of knowledge and ideas, extension and services and interpretation.
- The greater emphasis on research function distinguishes an university from a college.
- Through the publication programme, a university aims to dissemination the result of investigation.
- Teaching is done at different levels extending to post graduate and professional levels. In some of the universities, under graduate teaching in the responsibility of the colleges.
- The aim of university should be to promote intellectual adventures
- Universities should be the organs of civilization. They should train the intellectual pioneers of civilization.
- Universities should produce such wise persons who may disseminate learning to make democracy successful and who may make an incessant search for new knowledge, and unceasing efforts to plumb the meaning of life.
- We are engaged in quest for democracy through the realization of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. Hence it is necessary that our universities should be the emblems and protectors of these ideals.”
- Literature deepens and enlarges the human feelings. Hence universities should give the most important place to the mother tongues in the general education.
- A healthy mind is found in a healthy body. Hence, in the universities attention should be paid not only to the mental, but also to the physical development of students.
- The content of education must accept the best of what modern advancement has to offer, but without neglecting our cultural heritage from the past.

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