E-books subscription at Bangalore University Library: A Case study

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Abstract - The main objective of the study is to identify the different subscription model followed by the University for the purchase of e-books, processing of e-books, accessing of e-books, usage analysis of e-books in different departments and Pros and Cons of the e-book subscription.

Keywords: E- Book, Bangalore University, Library, E- resources

Introduction

Earlier paper books were using effectively to read, and clay was also used even before Gutenberg. On paper, we can easily highlight the text of interest. The print books are portable, easy to use and mostly resistant to damage. But searching in paper books is difficult as compared to e-books. The aptitude to search, copy and make permanent ideas that were contained in books created a surge in innovation that the world had never seen before. Now, the ability to electronically search millions of documents instantly has made and also continue to make findings all that information easier yet again.(Johnson,2009)

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary defines the term e-book as " a book that is displayed on a computer screen or on an electronic device that is held in hand, instead of being printed on paper. It is in multiple electronic formats" (Anon, 2011). The basic components of the e-books are the Hardware or reader, software and e-book files. Hardware-based e-books are portable electronic devices designed mainly for reading the e-books or any forms of publications. The price varies based on the quality maintained by the vendors. In terms of capacity, the e-book reader can store a huge number of books, which can be accessed virtually from any location.(Wilson,2001) Advanced e-book readers will be able to perform tasks like printing, audio-visual, interactive touch and even wireless communications. Software-based e-book readers are the program that displays data of an e-book on the device (Pereus, 2000).

Software e-books allow the readers to access on personal computers. Microsoft reader, Adobe Reader and Adobe Acrobat e-book readers are three examples of such software. One more advantage of software reader is that it offers extra facilities through a keyboard and wider

screen sizes (Lynch, 2001)..It provides better access to information because, with the keyboard, users can manipulate the display through changing the settings.

A file type reader contains an embedded signature. It notifies the operating system in managing a particular file. A user can notify what type of file an e-books he has by referring to the file extension located at the end of the file name. The most common file types used for e-books are .doc,.pdf, .html, .txt etc.

Defination

e- book is defined as a digital monograph that is searchable, able to be enhanced with cross-references and linked to other sources and multimedia

An e-book is a digital object with textual and/or other content, which arises as a result of integrating the familiar concept of a book with features that can be provided in an electronic environment.

An e-book is becoming more than just a PDF version of the printed book, as digital texts can change and augment the nature of book-like objects in an electronic context.

Purchasing process

Purchase of e books at Bangalore university as follows some procedures

Budget and buying process

Library budget is approved by the state government and University Grant Commission. The Library has to decides how finances will be used for purchase of e-books.

Criteria for selection of e- books

There are many important considerations and criteria for selecting and acquiring e-books in Bangalore university Library
- The cost of e-books,
- High usage, and
- On demand of the User etc.

However, academic librarians have also to consider the library's budget and the collection development policies as well as many restrictions.

E- resources committee

Bangalore university library has formed the e- resources committee for purchase of e-books. The e- resources committee consist of Deans, Principal, syndicate member, Subject experts and Librarian. Senior most dean will be chairman of the committee for select, negotiate and finalize the purchase of E-Resources, e-books publishers, venders and aggregators have attend the e- resources committee meeting for presentation

E-books suppliers in the market place
The following e-books publishers, venders and aggregators supply the e-books
- M/s. Taylor and Francis

- M/s. Cambridge university press(LAW)
- M/s. Pearson
- M/s. Sage
- M/s. Springer Nature
- M/s. Oxford University Press
- M/s. McGraw-Hill Education (Mgt)
- M/s. Emerald
- M/s. Mint Books
- M/s. Elsevier
- M/s. GALE
- M/s. Balani(ACS)

All publishers /venders and aggregators made presentation about their products including pricing copyright, years, Numbers of titles, List price, Discount and offer price. The committee got detailed clarification from each of the publishers. all the publisher were asked to come back again after consulting their head quarters for the best possible price they can offer to Bangalore University and brief the committee again with best possible offer.

The committee had a detailed discussion and negotiation with all the publishers to get maximum discount.
Recommendation for purchase of E-Books and Databases

The committee unanimously decided to purchase e-books from the following publishers.
- Taylor and Francis,
- Sage,
- Macgraw-Hill,
- Emerald,
- Oxford University Press,
- Springer Nature,
- Mint,
- Cambridge University press,
- Balani Infotech

Subscription models for e books at Bangalore University

Whenever the e-books are purchased, it must meet the customer's needs; it should provide the content whenever the user requires it. There are many different suppliers available in the e-book marketplace, and it is difficult to find out which supplier/vendor can offer both the content and value at its best to the user and it should be able to meet the terms and conditions set by the library's parent organization.

E- Books Access Models used in Bangalore University
1. Perpetual Model
2. Annual Subscription Model
3. Demand based Acquisition Model

Perpetual Model:

Perpetual Model means the purchase of an eBook for life long use, without limiting its loans. The eBook goes on to become part of the library's permanent reserve collection and is always available, there being no need to pay new charges to the publisher or the copyright holder

Annual subscription:

It is the most common model for e-books subscription. A subscription provides access for a specific period, if renewal is not done, then the access will be denied. For this reason, subscription prices are usually less than the purchase prices and the pricing model may be simpler as platform fees are usually included.

Demand based acquisition:

This is a demand based acquisition model. If the same title is accessed/downloaded several times by the users, it will send an automatic purchase request. The library will be charged with the full price of the book; later, it will be added to the library collection.

Purchase of e-books at Bangalore University during 2018-19

SL NO	Publisher Name	Subject	No. of Title
1	Taylor and Francis	Science and Computer Science	1342
2	Sage	Social Science and Humanities	895
3	McGraw-Hill Education	Commerce and Management	573
4	Emerald	Library and Information Science and Management	379
5	Oxford University Press	Social Science and English	157
6	Springer Nature	Science and Computer Science	2018
7	Mint Books	Kannada Language subject brooks and competative exam	500
8	Cambridge University Presss	Law	103
9	Balani (ACS)	Chemistry and Allied Science	350

Number of E -Books Available at Bangalore University Library

Year of puchased	Publishers	Collections	Copy right year	No of Titles
2011-12	Springer customes service	10 subject	2005-10	15472
2014-15	Taylor and francis group Collections	Humanities and social sciences	2010-2014	3720
2014-15	Springer customes service	10 subject	2013-2014	9086
2015-16	Taylor and francis group Collections	Humanities and social sciences	2015-2016	3707
2015-16	Springer customes service	11 subject collection	2015	4955
2015-16	Pearson India education	All subject collection	2011-2015	439

2015-16	McGraw Hill Education India	All subject collection	2012-2015	142
2018-19	Springer Nature	Bio medical and Life science(551), Maths and statistics(501), earth science and envirom. Sci.(502)	2018-19	1554
2018-19	Taylor & Francis	History(334), Pol. Sci.(456), Sociology(284), Com. Sci(270)	2018-19	1344
2018-19	McGraw- Hill	Commerce and Management(573)	2018-19	573
2018-19	Oxford University Press	Economics & finance(38), Psychology(30),social work(9) and English(80)	2018-19	157
2018-19	Cambridge University Press	Law(103)	2018-19	103
2018-19	Emerald	Library science(76) Education(303)	2018-19	379
2018-19	Mint book	Kannada language subject book(500)	2018-19	500
2018-19	SAGE Publishing	Social science and Humanities	2018-19	895
2018-19	ACS E-books	Chemistry and allied science	1949-2018	1561

Terms and conditions for supply of e-books

1. No DRM restrictions should be for accessibility of e- books.
2. Access of e-books should be provided through IP address across the
3. Entire campus.
4. The Titles provided by you is for perpetual access.
5. Accessibility should support multiple user access.
6. Please mention provide the special facilities and services offered by you
7. In addition to the e- books.
8. Provide accessibility facility of the e-books off Campus/ Remote accessibility
9. Any MOU or licensed agreement will be made between the concerned publisher and the Bangalore University only
10. Payment will be made in Indian Rupees (INR) only
11. Final price should be inclusive of GST
12. No hidden maintence service charges will be considered.
13. Concerned publishers will be held responsible for any lapses in the process of accessibility of e- books
14. Compatible with widely used access software and tool browser
15. Get usage statistics download statistics from website's website.
16. Download facility should be in PDF format.
17. Accurate downloadable MARC records and DOIs to be available to tag the same records to our library catalogue/OPAC database.
18. Customer support and training should be provided as and when required
19. Query regarding support and maintenance should be attended
20. High quality international content.
21. Citation management
22. TDS amount of 10% or 15% will be deducted.
23. Kindly mention your bank account No. IFSC No. PAN. TIN and other details.
24. Activate the accessibility of e-books within 24 hours of the payment

License terms and conditions

Majority of the vendors/publishers will apply a license to the use of their services. Some suppliers will display a webpage stating the terms and conditions, but the majority of the supplier provide a formal license agreement which describes the usage of e-books. License is a very complex process, so before taking a new supplier, it is essential to ensure that the terms are acceptable.

Advantages of e-books

- E-books due to their electronic format provide a lot of features that are not possible in books and provide flexibility to the Library
- Availability: e-books are available all the time. They don't go out of stock. Purchase and download the e-books from anywhere with a Wifi signal.
- E-book are accessible 24*7 through campus-wide intranet or internet.
- Many readers can use the same text simultaneously.
- Cost saving: They reduce the cost of physical storage and don't require shelving, they don't require replacement since the e-books are updated frequently and with relatively little expensive by the publishers.
- Electronic retrieval increases staff efficiency.
- E-books are immensely helpful for disabled people like those having impaired vision, as they have adjustable font size and text speech facilities of e-books reader and it is also helpful for physically disabled people since e-book can turn the pages with a simple touch.
- E-book readers can hold large numbers of volumes and users can search and manipulate content as they provide customizability.(Jindal & Pant, 2013).
- Many e-books have inbuilt audio features, which reduces stress on the eye.
- Read on multiple devices:
- E-book can search the whole book in a few seconds
- E-books are eco-friendly. There is no need for toxic inks, binding machines etc.
- E-books also save energy in non-existent transportation and packaging costs.(Richardson, David)

Disadvantages:

- E-books are device dependent and require device management technology like frequently updating the software, batteries.
- Licensing issues are complicated. Similarly, standards, intellectual property rights(IPR) and piracy issues are also crucial in e-book management.
- Lack of standards: It does not allow reading of all the e-book titles through a single interface.
- Standardization in cataloguing the e-books is required so that they can be integrated with the library automation system.
- Standardization of reading e-books need to be achieved to enhance the readability of e-book readers.
- Licensing for archival and simultaneously use need to be settled before purchasing the e-books.
- Low diversity of e-book titles is another big disadvantage.

- Resistance by the staff to change in the adoption of e-books causes headaches to the librarians.
- E-book cause's eye strain, from staring at screens for too long, has become quite a health problem.
- Loosing of files: If we forget to backup the files and we lose or delete by accident.
- E-books are harder to read in sunlight: The glare of the sun makes a screen hard to read.
- The device is required for using an e-book. (Leonhardt,2017)

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