

Design and Development of LIS Subject Portal using Bluevoda

Vinay Kumar, DLIS, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, India

B. Sujatha, DLIS, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, India

H. S. Sunitha, DLIS, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, India

H. B. Vinutha, DLIS, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, India

ABSTRACT

World Wide Web has become an inevitable tool for searching, retrieving and storing the need based data. Students, teachers, researchers, librarians, and even layman all are dependents on the Internet. It has produced so many user friendly tools in order to access the information quickly. Option of the web portal or subject portals is the one. Present paper is about the practical work done in LIS (Library and Information Science) department of the Kuvempu University. It explains the methods and strategies adopted in the creation of LIS subject portal with special reference to the UGC-NET syllabus.

Keywords: Bluevoda, Library and Information Science (LIS), Subject Portal, UGC-NET, Web-Design

INTRODUCTION

Internet is gaining momentum (Cramer, 2012). Every sphere of human activities are influenced by the Internet and its applications (Bughin et al., 2011). The use of Internet in academics also made a greater impact on the search and retrieval behavior of the students, teachers, and research scholars (Kumar & Kaur, 2009). Even though information processing and dissemination is synchronizing with libraries, they do not able to get all kinds of information. Because the cost of printed journals and books are so high

meanwhile library can't meet all the demands of the research community. Apart from this the information available on the Internet is bulk. It takes more time to search and retrieve the need based information from the WWW. Many search engines are available like Yahoo, Google, Altavista, Info seek, and many more to extract the information from the web. Search engines create index for all relevant and irrelevant information when the keyword is given by the information seeker. Even the best search strategies cannot make information seeker to locate relevant information. To overcome this

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problem the web portals are considered as the best tools for retrieve the relevant information in personalized web environment.

Numerous portals have been emerged with the purpose of providing an open & effective communication forum for the users. A subject portal collects & presents relevant information for the users. It also provides facilities for users to locating the required information in a single platform according to their personal interest towards the subject (Zala & Patel, 2006). A portal is not a single technology, but it brings together a range of technologies & enables them to work together for the benefit of the user. Thus, the subject portals act as a single interface for accessing a huge amount of information in a single window (Dharani & Gayathri, 2011). Anyone having the knowledge of Internet and Markup languages markup languages like HTML, XML, etc. can design and upload a portal to the web. Those who are unaware of markup languages can depend upon the web designing software. Bluevoda is a web building software available free of cost (www.bluevoda.com)¹. This paper is an attempt to know the steps involved in designing and development of a web portal in the field of Library and Information Science with special reference to UGC-NET syllabus. We have designed and developed a subject portal in this subject area. This effort has a view of assisting the Library science subject learners.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To create a subject portal in Library Science subject using BlueVoda web design tool;
- To provide the UGC-NET syllabus oriented information in Library Science discipline to LIS community on a single platform;
- To bring out related information in library science in a single portal.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is focusing on creating of subject portal in Library and Information Science

with special concentration on UGC-NET syllabus using BlueVoda web designing software. The scope is limited to Library Science subject. The syllabus was downloaded from UGC-NET website (www.ugcnetonline.in) which has 10 units of coverage. For the convenience of the study we considered the syllabus structure of the subject as a limitation to browse the information. The subject portal included the relevant sources assembled through the web resources. The information gathered through the web was organized in a single portal and links were given to the full text web resources. The webpages were designed using BlueVoda application software. The subject portal is hosted in webs.com a free web space provider by accepting the terms and condition posed by the web host. After hosting the URL of the subject portal is submitted to the Google search engine.

STEPS INVOLVED IN DESIGNING A WEB PORTAL

The following steps were undertaken in designing the selected subject portal:

- In the first step topic have been selected in the subject area of Library and Information Science. In this the UGC-NET (National Eligibility Test) syllabus was taken into the consideration;
- Information was collected by browsing the search engines like Google, Yahoo, Altavista etc. and the URLs of the websites which containing accurate information were collected;
- While designing the web pages BlueVoda-free web site builder was selected as the web designing software;
- The designing process start from selecting the template for the portal & ends with providing links to the related topics covered in the web site;
- After the selection of the template content of the subject portal is selected related to the theme. The titles for the pages were

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