

An Analysis of Open Access E-Newsletters in Library and Information Science

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Abstract

Open Access Electronic Resources are also playing an important role in facilitating access. This study highlights the importance of online open access E-Newsletters with their facilities and features. Last one decade has witnessed a great boom in scholarly E-Information, which in addition to making great impact, has generated enormous debate among researchers and information professionals. The criteria for evaluation of open access E-Newsletters analyzed and list of open access E-Newsletters with their websites and bibliographic details are provided. Author tried to give a detailed introduction and evaluation to Open access online E-Newsletters regarding its scope, coverage, authority, arrangement, treatment, and other features. While doing this exercise, author also tried to bring out some of the significant and useful details of open access online E-Newsletters to evaluate the pattern, scope subject coverage, back files, full text, abstract and to determine type of documents available in these E-Newsletters.

Keywords: E-Resources; E-Newsletters; Open Access E-Resources; Open Access E-Newsletters.

Introduction

A news letter is a tool to share relevant and valuable information with their network of customers and subscribers. The purpose of Newsletters is to give updates in your interested areas. E-Newsletters are part of E-Resources. E-Newsletters are provided to give you direct access to the information in which you are most interested. There are lots of online open access E-Newsletters which are very important in LIS. There are different criteria's for evaluation of open access E-Newsletters. Author tried to give a detailed introduction and evaluation to free online E-Newsletters regarding their scope, authority, arrangement, treatment, subject coverage, back files, full text or abstract etc.

Objectives

- To provide significant and useful details of Open Access online E-Newsletters.

- To evaluate the pattern, scope and coverage in E-Newsletters i.e. subject coverage, back files, full text, abstract etc.
- To determine type of documents available in Open Access online E-Newsletters of library and information science.

List of Free E-Resources in LIS covering various parameters:

- ABAA Newsletter <https://www.abaa.org/about-abaa>
- Abbey Newsletter <https://cool.culturalheritage.org/byorg/abbey/an/>
- Against the grain <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg/>
- Alawon. The ALA Washington Office Electronic Newslite https://www.abbreviationfinder.org/acronyms/alawon_american-library-association-washington-office-newslite.html



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7. Biblia's Warrior Librarian Weekly <https://archive.org/details/bibliasguidetowa0000cred>.
8. Biblio-Tech Review <https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/library-babel-fish/bibliotech-review>.
9. Business and finance division bulletin <https://connect.sla.org/bf/resources/bfbulletin>.
10. Cataloging and Classification Quarterly <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wccq20/current>.
11. CIT Infobits <http://serials.infomotions.com/infobits/>.
12. Conserline <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/conserlin.html>.
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14. Information today and Tomorrow <http://itt.nissat.tripod.com/>
15. Internet on a Disk <https://seltzerbooks.com/ioad.html>
16. Internet Resources Newsletter <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue/6/irn/>
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Table 1: Parameters and Coverage.

Parameters	Coverage
Response time	22
Link	8
periodicity	13
Special features	11
Help, Search Engine, Searching	17
Currency, Current Trends	12
Personalization	6
International	0
Peer Reviewed, Refereed, Indexed	1
ISSN	13
Personalization with Search	5
Other Parameters	24



Fig. 1: Distribution of E-Newsletters by Parameter Coverage.

The table and chart shows that out of 24 E-Newsletters Good Response time 22 (90%), Help, Internal Search Engine, Searching 17 (70%), Periodicity 13 (54%), Currency and current trends 12 (50%), Link 8 (33%), Personalized 6 (25%), Search with Personalization 5 (20%), Refereed, Indexed, Peer Reviewed, Peer Reviewed and Indexed having 1 (4%). Rest Parameters have 24 (100%)

Table 2: Free E-Newsletters having maximum parameters 60% to 90% above.

E-Newsletters & others E-Resources	No
90% E-Newsletter & Others Covering 36-39 Parameters	1
80% E-Newsletter & Others Covering 32-35 Parameters	6
70% E-Newsletter & Others Covering 28-31 Parameters	11
60% E-Newsletter & Others Covering 24-27 Parameters	6
Total	24

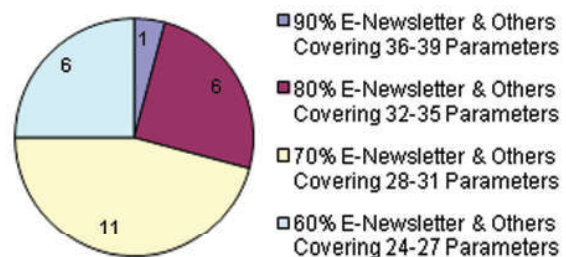


Fig. 2: (E-Newsletters covering Parameters Percentage-wise).

The above table and chart shows that 1 E-Newsletters & Others are covering 90% parameters (36-39 Parameters), 6 E-Newsletters & Others are covering 80% parameters (32-35 Parameters), 11 E-Newsletters & Others are covering 70% (28-21 Parameters), 6 E-Newsletters & Others are covering 60% (24-27 Parameters).

Findings

This study is confined to Open Access E-Newsletters in India and other countries. Various evaluation methods have been proposed, but this study utilizes some of the useful checklists/criteria for evaluating information found on web. A major similarity found that almost E-Newsletters are concentrating towards digital library initiatives, technological, information service developments and information networking issues contains a wide coverage of local library issues ranging from ongoing research day-to-day news from the work place etc.

Out of several searched E-Newsletters it is found that maximum open access E-Newsletters are available in full text form, free of cost and can be received regularly without missing even a single issue. The most notable finding in the study is that it provides effective communication between user and online Open Access E-Newsletters.

Conclusion

There has been a rapid urge of the user community to get more and more Information Online. The Open Access E-Newsletters are available in accepted standards. One can easily get information for total strength of Open access available online E-Newsletters.

The result of the can be utilized by the Students, Teachers, Researchers, Scholars, Philosophers and all other User Community to fulfill their information needs. In general almost open access E-Newsletters are of mixed quality, which was expected, since all of them belong to not for profit ventures.

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