

## Building Specialized Academic Library & Information Services in SPM Library, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University

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***Abstract.** Special academic libraries are supposed to support the special information needs of the specialized faculty, researchers and students through specialized and focused library and information services. Obtaining, organising and providing access to the selected and very relevant resources with a currency and authority will be the focus of specialized skilled staff of these centers. Library specialization is very common in India, especially in major disciplines like medicine, law, technology, management and languages. But this is new to the areas like energy management, petroleum management, and renewable energy focused libraries. Starting from staffing, identifying core information resources, managing the collection, finance and marketing the resources requires specialized skills and policies in place from the foundation of such organizations. This paper describes the story of establishing a specialized academic library & information services in Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, a brand new University in India.*

**Keywords:** Special Library, Energy & Petrochemical Library, Special Services, Special Collections

### 1. Introduction

**Fletcher et al. (2009)** reinforced that it is universally essential for special librarians to know the particular needs of the users and align library services with the organisational goals. They have to aggressively market services to be proactive. According to the guidelines from the Australian Library and Information Association (2010) special library staff use information resources and technology to facilitate effective and efficient client access to information that support the goals and business of the organisation. Special libraries provide value adding services such as;

- Building a dynamic collection of information resources based on a deep understanding of clients' information needs
- Training and assisting clients to effectively access information and use relevant technology
- Gathering evidence to support decision making
- Current awareness of emerging technologies and best practice in information and knowledge management
- Competitive intelligence and market research for business development.

It is important to analyse the efforts and investment in supporting services like library services, to gauge the ROI of any new research based academic institutions.

### 2. About the Organisation

Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU) has been promoted by Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) to create a world class University in energy education and research with special focus on the oil and gas sector. The university has further expanded its programs to address the need for training human resource in the domains of engineering, management and humanities. It intends to broaden the opportunities for students and professionals to develop core subject knowledge which is duly complemented by leadership training interventions, thereby helping the

students to make a mark in the global arena. This objective is being further addressed through a number of specialized and well-planned undergraduate, post-graduate and doctoral programs as well as intensive research projects.

**3. School of Petroleum Management (SPM)** has been set up under the Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU) as a centre of excellence in the learning industry to develop human resources to cater to the petroleum and allied energy sectors, improve the knowledge base of policy makers and technologists and provide a competitive edge to leaders to compete in the global arena. It has been promoted by the initiative of Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (GSPC) a Gujarat government undertaking, which is a leader in the energy sector.

Energy and energy infrastructure are critical to any economy for the development and sustainability. India has recognised this fact and has embarked upon a comprehensive strategy to address the concerns of energy security of India. The need for a resource center was anticipated to keep pace with the fast developing and competitive energy industry, to plan for the future and to continuously build requisite intellectual capital and human resource skills.

#### **4. Library & Information Centre at SPM, PDPU**

The Library & Information Centre at SPM aims to facilitate production & dissemination of knowledge, information, insights & intellectual contribution in all areas of Energy & Infrastructure Management. LIC is on its way to becoming an outstanding learning resource centre for the students, faculty, and researchers of PDPU Community. The centre has utilised Information Technology extensively to ensure that resources are accessible from anywhere at any time. Services such as OPAC for checking online availability and reserving online, remote access to e-resources and databases through the library web page make the LIC very user friendly.

The library has been automated using Alice for Windows (AfW) – an international user- friendly library package. The software facilitates automated circulation (issue-return) of books and speedy access to bibliographic, location and availability information about the books in the library. The catalogue is available on the Internet (online catalogue), which is updated and used heavily by the users.

#### **5. Development of collections and services**

CILIP(2007) recognised the role and importance of the physical library as an information access point has been redefined/agreed with the organisation as print becomes superseded by provision of e-resources for many topics; digital resources (journals, databases, books and other content materials).

LIC is providing the following services to help our academic community to enrich their teaching, research and study more efficiently.

- **Regular orientation:** These sessions are compulsory for all new users, conducted by our library team to introduce your user to the library's wealth of resources and to strengthen their academic activities. Sessions cover both print and electronic resources. The library orientations are taught in a computer-classroom environment, providing students with hands-on experience.

<b>PRINT</b>	<b>NON PRINT</b>
Books – 10,180	E-Journal – 3,300
Periodicals - 94	CDs - 980
Newspapers- 17	Databases – 07 *
Reports – 535	Photo Albums - 32

- **Reference / Information Services:** A variety of Reference and Information Services on Energy & Petrochemical subject area are provided by our library team. Library staff at the Reference Desk will

**assist students in the use of the Library's Online Catalogue, remote catalogues, database usage training, indexes and other reference sources whether in print or electronic format.**

The librarians also give answers to specific questions, provide guidance in research work and conduct library orientation tours and subject specific library instruction sessions

- **Current Awareness Services**

It is vital for researchers and academics to keep up-to-date with the most recent published information and developments. A selection of current-awareness services is outlined below.

- News Items on Energy & Petrochemical area (both in electronic & hard copies) circulating among our users.
- Circulating daily newsletter (on line) published by Infraline, one Petro & petrol watch among our user community.
- Table of Contents (TOC) alerts: Table of Contents alerts allow you to be automatically notified when the new issue of a journal and new titles are added.
- Giving updated data published by Ministry of Petroleum (Govt. of India), EIA, IEA & OPAC among our users.

- **Training on Information Search / Online Access**

Special training sessions are arranging for our user to update our recourses, mainly databases and other online services. Executives from different databases used to provide updates of their product periodically to our users.

We also provide

- Reading Facility & Issue / Return
- Inter-Library Loan

## **6. Some Special Features**

As a special library, we provide a client focused library and information service. Our library team tries to obtain, organise and provide access to all the available recourses available in Energy, Infrastructure and Petrochemical area includes current and authoritative information sources.

There is a separate section for Reports and Statistical data on Energy & petrochemical which includes

- Govt. of India Reports and data
- Govt. Act & Rules
- TERI Reports
- OPEC bulletins and latest reports
- EIA & IEA reports and data
- Data monitor reports (from EBSCO)
- CRISIL and CMIE data

Our library staff uses information resources and technology to facilitate effective and efficient client access to information that supports the goals and business of the Institute. Our library team provides value adding services such as:

- Building a dynamic collection of information resources based on a deep understanding of clients' information needs
- Training and assisting clients to effectively access information and use relevant technology
- Gathering evidence to support teaching & research

- Current awareness of emerging technologies and best practice in information and knowledge management

## 7. Conclusion

In this paper, I have tried to highlight the user services and special collection at our SPM Library at PDPU. As a special academic library at PDPU we tried to focus on 'Energy & Petrochemical' subject area and we tried to serve our user at the best, with our available resource and staff. We are developed our library to support the mission of Institute and also our parental organization PDPU with our special collections and services.

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