New Opportunities for Students in The Library System in The Current Period of Transition from Traditional Services to Innovative Approaches

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Abstract: This article analyzes the transition of the library system from traditional services to innovative approaches. It explores the new opportunities created for students through the use of electronic resources, mobile applications, online catalogs, and AI-based services. The advantages of remote library services and the modern stage of library development are also discussed. The paper provides an analytical overview of the effectiveness of innovative library services and their impact on the educational process.

Keywords: Library system, innovative services, electronic resources, mobile applications, online catalogs, artificial intelligence, distance learning, students, information technology, academic research.

Introduction: The Library System as an Integral Component of Information-Based Development in Modern Society. The library system holds a distinctive significance as an integral component of information-based development in modern society. It is not only an institution that preserves and disseminates scholarly and educational resources, but also a vital social institution that contributes to the development of culture, education, and science. In particular, within the higher education system, libraries play an invaluable role in supporting students' academic research, fostering independent learning skills, and enhancing information literacy.

Traditionally, library services have maintained a stable and well-established system for many years, providing

users with access to printed materials and supporting the educational process. Key features of the traditional system include the preservation of book collections, search through catalogues, studying in reading rooms, and assistance from qualified librarians.

However, in the digital age of the 21st century, marked by an overwhelming increase in information flow and changing user needs, the transition to an innovative approach in the library system has become a necessity. Modern libraries are now expected to not only store information but also process, analyze, and deliver it to users in a fast and interactive format. This transformation demands the digitization of library activities, engagement with electronic resources, provision of online services, and the integration of artificial intelligence tools.

An innovative approach offers students greater flexibility in their learning processes, rapid access to information, opportunities for independent study, and the development of creative potential. Therefore, the contemporary library system should not remain confined to traditional services but must evolve into an active participant in the fields of education and science through the use of innovative technologies.

For many years, traditional library services have served as the primary means of delivering information to users. These services were primarily based on printed resources and followed classical approaches such as storing books and other publications in the library's collection, lending them to users, using them within reading rooms, and searching for information through catalogues. The manual book lending system was a service method based on direct interaction between the librarian and the user, where the user would locate a specific item with the help of the librarian, register it, and borrow it for a specified period. On one hand, this system allowed for the preservation and monitoring of the library's collection, and on the other hand, it enabled methodical and thematic assistance in book selection tailored to the user's needs.

One of the key advantages of traditional services is that they allow users to physically enter the library environment, actively integrate into the learning process, and engage in in-depth exploration of information. The physical interaction with a book—grasping its structure, content, and style—offers unique educational benefits. Moreover, face-to-face interaction with a librarian helps clarify the user's information needs more accurately, provides appropriate guidance, and ultimately contributes to the enhancement of information literacy. Therefore, although digital librarianship is developing rapidly, the pedagogical and scholarly significance of traditional

services remains relevant, and integrating them with modern technologies has become one of the pressing tasks of today.

Reading rooms and library catalogues, which are key components of the library system, represent essential elements of traditional infrastructure that facilitate information access, especially for students. Reading rooms are specialized spaces designed for quiet, orderly, and supervised use of books, scientific articles, and other information resources. They play an important role in students' independent learning, academic research, and deepening of knowledge. Within these spaces, students have direct access to the book collection, journals, dissertations, and other scholarly materials, which positively influences their learning outcomes. Furthermore, the environment of reading rooms—dedicated to intellectual work, free from distractions, and conducive to scholarly activity—is acknowledged as a motivating factor for academic engagement.

Library catalogues are also crucial informational tools that simplify the process of finding required sources and ensure a systematic approach. Traditional catalogues (alphabetical, systematic, and subject-based) allowed users to search the library's collection by topic, author, or publication date. This, in turn, served as an effective tool for students conducting academic research to locate the necessary sources quickly and accurately.

Overall, services based on reading rooms and catalogues contribute significantly to enhancing the quality of education, developing students' independent information-handling skills, and cultivating a culture of academic inquiry. The effectiveness of such services lies in their dual role: not only do they provide access to existing information, but they also guide users toward searching, analyzing, and applying information in practice. Therefore, within the framework of traditional library services, reading rooms and catalogues continue to remain essential components of academic libraries.

In today's era of globalization and rapid development of digital technologies, the library system is undergoing fundamental transformation through integration with modern information and communication technologies. The widespread implementation of information technologies has ushered libraries into a new stage of development. Whereas libraries in the past relied mainly on printed collections, current priorities include the use of electronic resources, digitization processes, remote information exchange, and automated service systems.

Digitization has made it possible to preserve and disseminate unique and historical materials from library collections to a broader audience, ensuring both their

longevity and accessibility. As a result, users—especially students—can now access necessary information without physically visiting the library, using electronic catalogues, digital repositories, and open-access platforms. In addition, online catalogues, electronic databases, full-text articles, e-books, and scholarly journals have become indispensable tools in students' academic research activities.

With the introduction of information technologies, libraries have entered a new phase of providing interactive services to users. For instance, features such as online book reservations, automated registration systems, information bulletins, and virtual librarian consultations have simplified communication between libraries and users, significantly enhancing the quality of service delivery.

The integration of modern information technologies into librarianship has transformed libraries from institutions that merely store and distribute information into interactive and intellectual service providers. This shift has created substantial convenience and expanded opportunities for students in their learning, research, and independent study processes.

In today's library systems, the importance of online catalogues, search engines, and databases is steadily increasing. Developed on the basis of information technologies, these tools allow users to conduct fast, accurate, and user-friendly information searches, enhancing the interactivity of library services. Online catalogues are structured collections of information about the available books, electronic resources, and other materials in the library's collection. Unlike traditional catalogues, online catalogues provide 24/7 access via the internet, allowing students to quickly find required sources by author, title, subject, or keywords, and, in some cases, access full electronic versions.

Modern libraries also make extensive use of search systems that go beyond simple catalogue browsing. These systems integrate multiple databases, creating a unified search environment. Through integrated search platforms, users can submit a single query and retrieve results from various digital libraries, scientific journals, dissertations, and conference proceedings. This significantly saves time and ensures quicker access to information, which is crucial for students conducting research.

Databases serve as one of the key tools for in-depth academic research. They contain highly specialized, analytical materials, statistical data, scholarly articles, dissertations at doctoral and master's levels, and international scientific publications. Major academic databases like JSTOR, Scopus, Web of Science, and ProQuest are now regarded as core information sources for higher education libraries. Through integration with library systems, students gain access not only to local but also to global scientific resources.

In general, online catalogues, search systems, and databases serve to meet the complex and immediate information needs of modern library users, especially students. These tools significantly enhance students' abilities to engage in independent learning, academic research, and knowledge acquisition, making their role in library infrastructure of strategic importance.

In today's library practice, the service system shaped by innovative approaches is designed to meet the needs of users—particularly students—in a prompt, convenient, and adaptive manner. The integration of traditional services into the digital environment has enabled libraries to evolve from being solely repositories of information to active participants in educational and scientific processes. From this perspective, innovative library services represent a system of delivering, searching, utilizing, and processing information through automated, interactive, and user-centered technologies.

Among these services, access to electronic resources holds a special place. Electronic resources include digitally born or digitized books, articles, reports, dissertations, presentations, multimedia tools, and other academic content, all of which are provided simultaneously in an open and convenient format to multiple users. Digital libraries, archives, and academic repositories serve as the main platforms for accessing such resources. Students benefit from these by gaining access to scholarly information anytime and anywhere, thereby ensuring the continuity and independence of their learning process.

Within the scope of innovative services, remote services are particularly important and are closely linked with the integration of modern education into the digital environment. Webinars, online consultations, remote training sessions, and other types of information-based events conducted through digital platforms enhance the interactive engagement between libraries and users—especially students. These services proved highly relevant during the pandemic and now enable library access without geographical or time limitations.

Through webinars, librarians conduct online sessions on effective use of library collections, navigating electronic catalogues, selecting scholarly resources, preventing plagiarism, and more. Online consultations, organized individually or in groups, aim to address specific user queries, develop search strategies, and assist in the selection of relevant sources. These services not only

support students in their academic endeavors but also reinforce the librarian's role in the educational process.

In addition, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies into librarianship signifies a transition to a new level of service provision. AI tools—particularly virtual librarians, recommendation systems, automated search algorithms, and user-personalized services based on interests, search history, and learning needs—enable libraries to offer tailored experiences. For instance, if a user searches for a book on a specific topic, the AI system can suggest relevant articles, recent scholarly works, or related literature. Moreover, natural language processing (NLP)-based systems are capable of interpreting user queries written in plain language and delivering precise results.

AI-powered services significantly enhance the user experience within libraries by automating service delivery and reducing the workload of librarians. Most importantly, such systems deliver individualized information streams, reinforcing a learner-centered approach to education.

Remote and AI-based services are not only adapting librarianship to the digital environment but also transforming it into an innovative platform focused on user needs. This expands students' opportunities for independent learning and contributes to the development of a culture of open access to information.

Furthermore, the widespread use of mobile technologies has enabled libraries to provide services via mobile devices. Through mobile applications, users can browse library catalogues, download e-books, reserve books online, stay updated with news, and directly interact with the library. Such applications make library services more convenient, rapid, and personalized. For example, features like QR code access to specific books or push notifications for updates help maintain constant user engagement with the library.

Innovative library services, including electronic resources and mobile applications, provide students with the technical and intellectual environment necessary to effectively organize their learning and research activities in the modern information landscape. These services are helping transform libraries from passive repositories into active educational technologies.

The implementation of innovative library services is opening up vast opportunities for students in higher education. These opportunities are characterized by their focus on individualized, fast, and adaptive access to information. Through digital libraries, online

catalogues, databases, mobile applications, remote services, and AI-based systems, students can organize their learning more effectively, conduct independent research, and engage in interdisciplinary studies.

Firstly, innovative services allow students to access information quickly and conveniently. No longer do students need to spend time waiting in line or using physical catalogues to find resources—they can obtain the required materials within seconds via their computers or mobile devices. This not only saves time but also increases the mobility and efficiency of the learning process.

Secondly, the services offered by libraries are adapted to educational curricula, with specialized electronic collections, methodological materials, textbooks, and scientific articles organized by field or discipline. This simplifies the search for relevant and reliable information in students' areas of study. Additionally, electronic resources provide tools necessary to develop skills in academic writing, plagiarism prevention, and citation management.

Thirdly, innovative services contribute to the development of students' creative and scientific potential. Online conferences, webinars, academic community activities, open educational courses, and library-led projects provide students with opportunities not only to learn, but also to express ideas, present research findings, and participate in academic discussions. This positively influences students' personal development, communication skills, and professional preparation.

Overall, innovative library services enhance both the quantity and quality of information students absorb, fostering independent thinking, critical analysis, and a scientific worldview. These opportunities play a vital role in shaping students into competitive professionals in their respective fields.

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