
Organization and Management of Kaliabor College Institutional Repository: A Case study

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Abstract

Institutional repository is an important platform of depositing and gathering information for an academic institution. The open access movement pushes the demand for establishing Open repositories. The college libraries preserve and maintain a variety of information resources. In today's context, it is imperative for a college library to have its IR. Kaliabor College has also established its IR in 2023. This paper focus on what are the different technologies implemented in the library before the implementation of IR. The paper also focuses on the challenges met while implementing the IR. It also explores the digitization and other technology support provided for the library users for its access.

Keywords: Digitization, Institutional Repository, NDL, Repositories

Introduction

College libraries are the vital component in a collegiate education. The libraries are the building blocks for enhancing the knowledge component of the users they serve. Today, college libraries are expected to provide a suitable environment as per the need of the user. The libraries need to properly acquire all the reading materials in various formats. Equally, the libraries are also expected to integrate the best of the technology into their existing system. The college libraries are today an amalgamation of traditional library systems, automated library systems, and digital library systems. Further, libraries are also expected to establish their virtual relationship with their users through the help of web 1.0, web 2.0, and web 3.0 technologies.

Need of Institutional Repository

Today, most of the users of the college libraries are the technology-oriented

who always expect better and faster accessibility of the library services. Their expectations in the present context have to be seriously considered by the college libraries. The lockdown period has established another uniform theory for the libraries to manage different collections of digital resources and extend their services virtually too. College libraries have a variety of information sources, starting from general reading materials to rare collections. The college itself is a publishing platform that publishes magazines, books, journals, etc. In other words, the intellectual property of a college needs to be properly preserved and disseminated to the users as per the desired format of its users. IR is the one-stop platform for holding all these resources. It will not only connect the legacy of the institutions in the academic and research fields, but it will also equally connect the institutions with the global communities.

Objectives of the study

- The following are the objectives of the study
- To identify the existing technology implemented by the Kaliabor college library
- To identify the challenges faced by the Kaliabor college library in establishing its IR.
- To identify the technology implemented by the Kaliabor college library in establishing its IR.

Methodology

Personal observation and descriptive analysis is basically followed for the purpose of the study. The technology aspect starting from the automation phase to the digital library phase is been considered for covering the study.

A Brief description of the college library

Kaliabor College was established in the year 1969 in the Kuwaritol area of Kaliabor, Nagaon, Assam. The central library of the college was established in the same year. The library has rich collections of books, journals, magazines, newspapers, local history collections, college publications, rare book collections, and e-resources basically subscribed under the N-LIST consortium. During the lockdown phase, the college library has a set of activities for its college communities, basically an awareness program on the

usage of online e-resources. (The Central Library | Kaliabor College, n.d.).

Automation Phase of the library

The college library has started its journey of automation with the installation of SOUL 1.0 in 2008. Further the SOUL 1.0 was migrated to SOUL 2.0 in 2014 and in 2022 it was further migrated to the latest version of SOUL 3.0.

Following are the housekeeping operations managed through ILMS.

- Book Database creation
- User Database creation
- Barcode generation
- Digital display board.
- Automated Transaction
- Report Management
- Automated Gate Register
- Automated library clearance.
- Live web camera integrated with the facility of ILMS
- OPAC facility.

Further the college library is self-sufficient in its power supply having a 10 KVS online UPS.

Process of implementation of IR

Automation Phase: The central library of the Kaliabor College covers initially the journey of library automation integrating all the basic housekeeping operations and then moves to the next phase of establishing its IR.

Planning: The library has followed a proper roadmap in establishing its IR. It has considered various aspects before the implementation.

Technical challenges: The college library understands the challenges it has experienced while implementing the library automation. Basically, three main technical queries were encountered while planning for the IR. These are

- Whether to implement Cloud model?
- Whether to host the IR server by the library themselves and provide the access globally
- Whether to limit the users of the IR within the library LAN.

Overcoming the challenges: In all three queries, it has its own advantages and disadvantages. The library finally made the decision to establish the IR with

cloud platform based on the first law of library science. It provides better accessibility of the learning materials beyond the four walls of the library.

Approval of the IR: The decision for implementation of IR was taken by the highest decision making body of the college, i.e Governing Body.

Implementation of Institutional Repository:

The college has establishes its IR in the year 2023 using the cloud technology hiring the services from the external vendor. The IR is established using the software D-Space. It can be accessed from the following link <https://kaliaborcollege-dl.bsmlib.com/> (Digital Library of Kaliabor College: Home, n.d.) . Also it can be accessed from the webpage of the central library of the college.



Figure1: A web layout of the IR of the Kaliabor College

Responsibility: Both the Vendor and the libraries have their assign responsibilities.

- The vendors install, customizes, takes backup and continuously maintain the technical works required for the IR.
- The college library focuses on its routine job and follows the process of digitization, metadata description and uploading of the documents.

Selection of Resources:

The library has identified the documents that will be uploaded in the IR in a

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phased manner. These are question papers, college magazines, college other publications, local history collections, rare collections (with prior permission), faculty publications (if permission is provided by the publisher to host in the IR), etc. The IR will host all such learning materials that support the teaching, learning, and research activities of its college with legal jurisdiction.

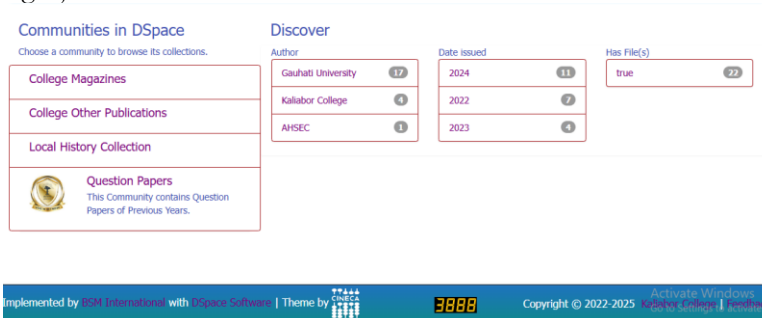


Figure 2: A web layout of the IR reflecting the top level community of the resources

Digitization: The library digitizes the resources using an advanced scanner having the facility of capturing the images from the top with an automatic click facility. It is also integrated with the OCR technology.

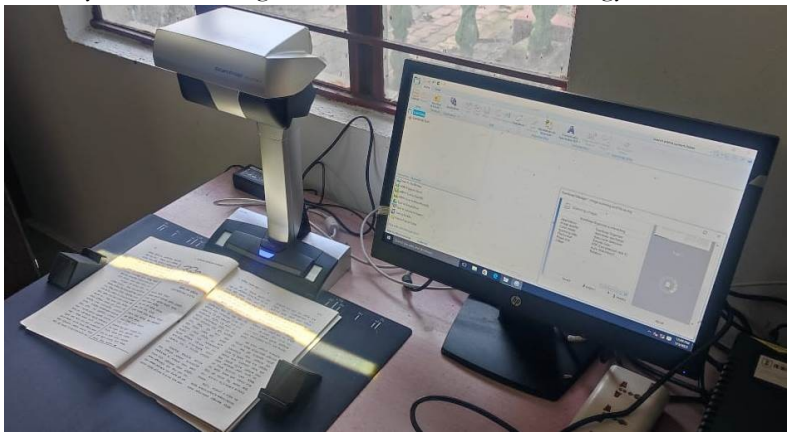


Figure 3: Digitization Process using the Automatic scanner.

Availability of Browsing facility: Although the IR is hosted in the cloud, but the library equally has a browsing facility of e-resources having ten computers. Further, it is connected with the network connectivity of the Assam Knowledge Network (AKN).

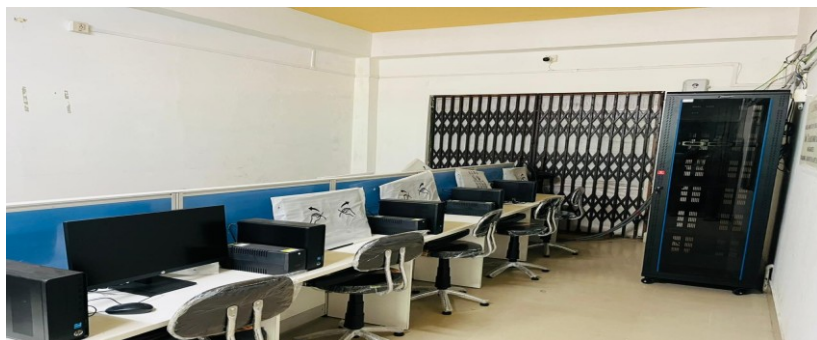


Figure 5: A web layout of the Browsing corner

Future Plan: The IR thus developed has a well perspective future plan. It will focus on enrichment of the digital resources. Further, the IR has also its vision to integrate with the National Digital Library of India through harvesting protocols.

Findings

Following are the findings of the study:

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- The Kaliabor college library has implemented varieties of techniques and technologies in its library starting from the library automation phase.
 - The basic challenge faced for establishing the IR is the hosting platform, and accordingly the college library has been able to meet the challenges as per today's demand.
 - The IR is well connected with the digitization process using an advanced scanner. Further, it is also supplemented by the network connectivity of the Assam Knowledge Network for its access to users. It is also supplemented by the browsing center available in the library.

Conclusion

The IR of the Kaliabor College is a virtual gateway for browsing the learning materials for the college as well as the online community. It is another platform for the college to show its research output. The enrichment of the IR will provide another contribution to the open access movement.

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