Continuing Education Programme of Library and Information Science (LIS) Professional in Universities of West Bengal (India) with Special Reference to the University of Calcutta

Prof. (Dr.) Arjun Dasgupta
DLIS, University of Calcutta
Kolkata – 700073
India
E-mail: adg1945in@yahoo.co.uk
URL: http://www.iaslic.org

Dr. J N Satpathi
Vice-President, IASLIC
Kolkata – 700054
India
E-mail: iaslic@vsnl.net
URL: http://www.iaslic.org

CEP for LIS...the University of Calcutta

Needs of Continuing Education (CE) for LIS:

- CE builds up attitudes develops skills and updates knowledge
- CEP not only refreshes and updates specialized knowledge but also broadens the horizons in related fields
- CEP leads to better job satisfaction
- Encourage creativity
- Provides stimulus to keep professionals intellectually alive
- Assists professionals in keeping aware of the changing Information and Communication (ICT) needs and demands of the users
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Activities of CEPD in a few countries:
- Since 1970 CEPD (Continuing Education & Professional Development) in LIS was considered essential and critical in most of the countries of the world.
- In 1973 NCLIS in USA felt the need for CE not for senior professionals only but also for all levels of personnel in Library & Information Centres (LIC).
- In 1985 “World Conference on Continuing Library & Information Science Education” took place - under the auspices of ALA & IFLA.
- UNESCO & FID’s activities in the field of CE was developing.
- Oxford University development for continuing education started conducting various of workshops, seminars, and short courses in the field of CE.
- Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Poland, Sweden, Australia, South Africa, Latin America, China, Japan, Uganda, Egypt, Singapore all were having various types and levels of CEP.

CEP for LIS in India:
- During 1980s and 1990s of the last century institutions, information centres and academic bodies in India were doing commendable work in the field of CE. These institutions include –
  - ILA
  - IASLIC
  - NASSDOC
  - ACL, GOI
  - INSDOC
  - MALAI
  - IIMs
  - INDAAL
CEP in University Libraries in India:

- No set policy for CEP in university libraries as yet
- Curriculum Development Committee of UGC has recommended short-term courses for LIS teachers – a few refresher courses and orientation programmes are organized by different Library & Information Science schools
- Academic staff colleges are coming forward to organize such types of courses
- Delhi, Mumbai (Bombay), Madras, Utkal, JNTU, Hyderabad are having different Adult and Continuing Education Programmes in the respective universities

CEP in University Libraries of West Bengal:

- University of Calcutta (1857)
- Viswabharati University (1951)
- Jadavpur University (1955)
- University of Burdwan (1960)
- Kalyani University (1960)
- Rabindralaharati University (1962)
- University of North Bengal (1962)
- Vidyasagar University (1981)
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Suggestions:
- The approach and attitude of the librarian should be much more positive
- Library personnel should regularly attend professional meetings
- CEP for LIS should be a joint and shared responsibility of the professionals, the employer, the library schools, and library associations
- Each and every LIS professional should follow the philosophy of ‘Life-long Education’
- The content of the courses in programmes of professional development should be balanced
- Advanced training in CEP should be provided particularly in high-automated libraries which may cover the following areas

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- Library Software Packages
- AACR II
- Library of Congress Subject Heading or the use of any Standard
- MARC/UNIMARC Formats
- Online Databases
- E-Mail/Internet
- CAS/SDI using technology
- Knowledge Management/Content Management in Digital Environment
- Electronic Publishing
- Multimedia
- Open Source Software
- Digital Information Management
THANK YOU