



CENTRAL LIBRARY

REPORT ON EBSCO DAY PARTICIPATION

PREPARED BY:

CENTRAL LIBRARY TEAM

Date of Participation: 29th January 2025

Event: EBSCO Day Organized by EBSCO Information Services, India

Venue: Courtyard by Marriott, Ahmedabad

Participants:

Dr. Mahesh Solanki (Librarian)

Mr. Chintan Vasava (Assistant Librarian)

Summary:

On January 29, 2025, Gujarat Technological University participated in EBSCO Day, organized by EBSCO Information Services, India, and held at the Courtyard by Marriott, Ahmedabad. Dr. Mahesh Solanki (Librarian) and Mr. Chintan Vasava (Assistant Librarian) represented the university at the event.

EBSCO Information Services was a significant gathering of library and information professionals, technologists and academic leaders to focused on the transformation of modern libraries through integrated digital platforms and next-generation solutions. The event was structured to facilitate in-depth discussions around emerging technologies, remote access strategies and research support systems with participation from prominent speakers representing both academic institutions and leading technology providers.

The seminar commenced at 9:30 AM with a welcome tea session, creating an informal environment for participants to interact and network before the official proceedings began. Registration followed shortly after, from 9:45 AM to 10:00 AM, during which attendees received their seminar materials.

At 10:00 AM, the formal proceedings were opened with a welcome address and introduction delivered by Mr. Shaji John, Vice President of Sales – South Asia at EBSCO Information Services. In his opening remarks, Mr. John emphasized the pivotal role technology continues to play in shaping the future of libraries and underscored EBSCO's commitment to supporting this transformation across the South Asian academic landscape.

The first keynote session of the day, from 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM, featured Dr. Shantanu Ganguly, Director of Libraries at Ashoka University. Dr. Ganguly delivered a comprehensive presentation titled "Impact of Integrated Knowledge Gateway - Digital Library in Modern Academic Institutions: Why and How." He highlighted the strategic importance of implementing integrated digital libraries in academic environments, citing their role in enhancing research capabilities, improving information access, and fostering a culture of digital literacy within institutions.

Following this, from 11:15 AM to 12:00 PM, Mr. Sanjay Goswami, Director of Sales – South Asia at EBSCO Information Services, introduced the EBSCO Research Suite. His session focused on the suite's end-to-end functionality, demonstrating how it enables seamless discovery, access, and management of scholarly content for institutions and researchers alike. He provided live examples and insights into how institutions have successfully adopted the suite to improve research outcomes.

After a brief tea and coffee break from 12:00 PM to 12:15 PM, the seminar resumed with a session led by Ms. Anna Russo, Senior Business Development Manager for APAC and MENA at OpenAthens (JISC, UK).

Speaking from 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM, Ms. Russo addressed the future of remote access solutions in her talk titled "Equipping Libraries of Tomorrow with OpenAthens." She elaborated on the growing necessity for secure, flexible, and user-centric authentication systems that ensure uninterrupted remote access to digital resources, especially in an increasingly hybrid academic environment.

At 12:45 PM, Mr. Satyajit Baliyan, Director of SaaS Services at EBSCO Information Services, presented "EBSCO Next Generation SaaS Solutions for Libraries 4.0." In his talk, which lasted until 1:30 PM, he explored how Software as a Service (SaaS) models are revolutionizing library infrastructure, offering scalable, cost-effective, and agile systems that adapt to the evolving needs of modern libraries. He underscored the potential of these platforms to drive efficiency and enhance user experience.

To conclude the core sessions of the seminar, a fun and interactive segment titled "Quiz-a-thon: Think Fast, Win Big!" was conducted from 1:30 PM to 1:45 PM by Mr. Gaurav Date, Trainer for West India at EBSCO Information Services. This segment tested attendees' attention and retention from the earlier sessions and rewarded winners with exciting prizes, adding a spirited end to the formal program.

The seminar officially concluded with a networking lunch, followed by the distribution of participation certificates. This final segment provided a relaxed setting for attendees to engage with speakers and peers, exchange ideas, and explore potential collaborations.

Glimpse of the EBSCO Day



Conclusion:

The EBSCO Open Day offered a comprehensive overview of the trends, tools, and strategies shaping the future of academic libraries. It succeeded in fostering meaningful dialogue among key stakeholders and left attendees better equipped to lead digital transformation within their respective institutions.

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