

Digital Library Empowerment in Information Fulfillment at The State Islamic University of North Sumatra

Mucklis, Suwardi Lubis, Rubino

Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara Medan

mucklis@uinsu.ac.id

suwardilubis@uinsu.ac.id

rubino@uinsu.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This article discusses the transformation of a traditional library into a digital library at the State Islamic University of North Sumatra (UINSU). This shift in library function is a demand for technological advancements, so that the scientific world evolves in tandem with technology. The goal of this article is to learn about the features of the UINSU digital library and how to use them. This article's methodology is descriptive qualitative, with data collected through interviews, observations, and documentation. In order to highlight the process and meaning in qualitative research, the authors process the data using narrative analysis to describe the phenomena that occur. UINSU digital library empowerment has been available since November 16, 2021 via the library.uinsu.ac.id website, which includes opac, electronic journals, electronic books, archives of scientific works by the UINSU academic community, and classic books on the ideas of Middle Eastern scholars.

Keywords: North Sumatra State Islamic University, Digital Library

A. INTRODUCTION

In both everyday speech and literature, digital libraries are referred to as libraries without walls (libraries without walls), virtual libraries (virtual libraries), and virtual catalogs (virtual catalogs). These were previously only foreign terms, and they may have no bearing on the librarian. However, some librarians are becoming acquainted with the term. This is due to the fact that in recent years, information and telecommunications technology (ICT), also known as ICT (Information and Communication Technology), and more specifically the internet network, have increasingly permeated all aspects of activity, including the library sector.

At this time, it is critical for all campus libraries to have one, because the challenges of traditional libraries are increasing in today's digital era. Libraries are not only proud of their many piles of collections in the closet, but also because the information seeking behavior of the users served has changed as information technology has advanced. Libraries will continue to exist if technological advances continue, and thus libraries must be able to develop more. One method is to create a digital library, also known as an e-library.

Digital libraries have numerous advantages, and when combined with digital formats, information dissemination becomes easier and faster. Ease of use of digital library applications that can help with information access. Digital libraries are becoming the norm in colleges and universities in today's technological era. Digital libraries attempt to combine technology and information resources to enable remote access via educational content, thereby breaking down existing distance barriers.

In this day and age, as technology advances, the community's need for the satisfaction of cognitive needs through libraries has undergone a metamorphosis. The role of the library in meeting the need for knowledge has shifted based on its efficiency of use. Rapid technological advancements compel libraries to play a role in the transition from a traditional library pattern to a technology-based library.

As one of the largest educational institutions in North Sumatra, the State Islamic University of North Sumatra (UINSU) requires a variety of elements,

including facilities and infrastructure, to support the learning and teaching process. The library is one of the supporting facilities that plays an important role. The State Islamic University of North Sumatra Library is a repository for sources of information, science, technology, arts, culture, and religion. Furthermore, the State Islamic University of North Sumatra's library is an important component in the development and realization of an information society based on information and communication technology

The existence of digital libraries at UINSU has not been able to completely replace the existence of conventional libraries. Building a digital library at UINSU is not an easy job. Technical, economic and social planning and feasibility studies must be carried out. However, if you succeed in building a digital library well, surely the image of the library will increase. A good image must be pursued continuously, so that the library at UINSU can increase the trust of interested parties. If the level of trust from interested parties in the library is high, then any proposed program will be easily approved.

The existence of a library at UINSU is very much needed to support student education. The UINSU library is an information system in which there are activities of collecting, processing, preserving, presenting and disseminating information. The library at UINSU as it exists and is developing has now been used as a center for information, a source of knowledge, research, recreation, preservation of the nation's cultural treasures, as well as providing various other services.

Through the explanation above, the author draws a question that becomes the formulation of the problem, namely: How is the empowerment and features of digital libraries in fulfilling information for the academic community at UINSU?

B. RESEARCH METHODE

Digital Library Literature Review

A digital library is a library that stores data on books (writing), images, and sounds in electronic form and distributes it via computer networks using electronic

protocols. The term "digital library" or "digital library" itself has the same meaning as the terms "electronic library" and "virtual library."The above definition's keyword is "a comprehensive digital for information seekers," which has a comprehensive digital meaning for information seekers. So, in the context of a library, what is digitized includes not only bibliographic data and services, but also all aspects of the library, including its contents (full text).

Four conditions must be met by modern libraries in the future. These four criteria, which must be met in order for libraries to compete in the information age, are as follows:

- a. Effective and efficient use of information technology.

Libraries must evolve to keep up with the times. The services offered are no different. It is not surprising that several types of libraries have begun to pioneer electronic clippings, online catalogs, building library websites, and a variety of other activities. This activity is expected to grow in tandem with other forms of creativity. Because activities will be more effective and efficient with the use of information technology. Effective because information will be generated correctly and accurately thanks to information technology. Efficient because information technology solves the problem of time in producing, packaging, and "selling" information quickly and easily.

- b. Around-the-clock service.

It should be noted that the banking industry has adopted this strategy. What about the library, which provides the same service as the bank, namely services? Aren't they both places to make "investments"? Isn't the library an investment in knowledge, if the bank is in the form of money? But why are banks becoming more popular and used by customers? Although services (transactions/money withdrawals) are not performed physically, the bank employs an ATM (Automated Teller Machine) strategy. Because it has become the philosophy of the service world – particularly banking – that whoever

provides services continuously and continuously will win. Customers who require bank services will be able to use ATMs at any time and from any location, though not face to face. It is actually possible for libraries to adopt it in the form of ready-to-deliver services. This service can immediately fulfill collection orders received via e-mail or mail. This activity (service) will be lighter and can be carried out continuously if staff are hired according to the division of work time.

c. Creative Librarians are available.

Librarians who are creative can create, package, and "sell" information. A basic education in library science is insufficient for librarians. However, one of the most important requirements for transitioning to a modern library that still maintains customer satisfaction is information technology expertise and skills. Creative librarians should also be able to increase public awareness of libraries. As a result, without the effort to "sell themselves" and be creative, the library will continue to go unnoticed by the public.

d. Create products that are useful and have the potential to improve the lives of its customers.

Digital libraries should be able to create products based on customer requests. Furthermore, the information presented has the potential to provide benefits and improve the lives of its customers. In other words, after using the library (services and products), the customer's attitude will change. The finished product has the potential to expand library activities. As a result, library products cannot be separated from copyright issues. Thus, modern libraries are not only limited to managing collections, but also contracts, collaboration with book authors and publishers, royalties distribution, and other management activities, resulting in a broader and more diverse range of activities.

As is widely known, information technology is becoming increasingly advanced, with extremely fast processing speeds and extremely large data storage

capacities. This is an opportunity for libraries to capitalize on. Libraries, particularly in Indonesia, must adapt to these challenges. First and foremost, the library must immediately automate. This library automation is concerned with the library administration system (library housekeeping), including cataloging. At this stage of development, the automated catalog is essentially a catalog, or a list of library collections. The circulation control system is not integrated (borrows, returns, fines, transaction statistics and others).

Furthermore, libraries must be able to further integrate library automation functions. Computers that previously only provided electronic catalogs must now be able to display circulation transactions. At this level, it is referred to as an integrated system (integrated system). The library displays an online catalog in this integrated system, whose data can also be used as a data source for borrowing transactions, returns, recording fine payments, billing late loans, circulation statistics, and other purposes. As a result, the librarian can closely monitor lending activities in order to meet the needs of users. The library must then be able to use information technology to communicate with other libraries, such as online catalogs that can be accessed from outside the library, among other things. Libraries can use this network to send and receive electronic mail as well as communicate with one another for borrowing purposes.

The next step is for libraries to provide information in formats other than library catalogs, such as full text, especially for information that has entered the public domain or is not protected by copyright law. Many documents of this type exist, such as gray literature or gray literature. To display a document protected by copyright law, you must, of course, follow the rules of the game.

Usage and Satisfaction Theory

The use and satisfaction theory focuses on the audience as mass media consumers rather than the message conveyed. According to this theory, the audience who uses

media is goal-oriented, active, and discriminatory. Audiences are judged on their knowledge of their own needs, as well as their knowledge of and responsibility for the media that can meet those needs.

Because the communicant is able to examine and evaluate various types of media to achieve their goals, this theory sees people as people who actively choose and use media. As a result, the communicant can decide for himself how much use he will get. The Uses and Gratifications Theory is based on five fundamental assumptions:

- a. The audience employs goal-oriented media.
- b. Initiative in selecting media to meet needs
- c. The media competes with other media in terms of satisfying the communicant's wants and needs.
- d. Audiences choose media based on their own interests and motivations.
- e. Only the communicant can judge media content.

Denis McQuail and his colleagues base the fulfillment of needs and communicant satisfaction on four factors:

- a. Diversion involves escaping from routines and problems by diverting a category of gratifications from using media.
- b. Personal connections personal connections A type of gratification stems from the use of media; it involves a replacement medium for friendship.
- c. Individual identity Self-identity is a type of gratification derived from media use; it entails methods of reinforcing individual values.
- d. surveillance Surveillance is a type of gratuity derived from media use; it entails gathering the information an individual requires to accomplish something.

The qualitative approach was used in UINSU's research on the use of digital libraries. This article employs data collection methods such as interviews, observations, and documentation. In order to highlight the process and meaning in

qualitative research, the authors process the data using narrative analysis to describe the phenomena that occur. The author uses a phenomenological technique to sharpen the analysis by observing events and conditions in the field. Furthermore, thinking is developed through an appropriate interpretation of the facts discovered.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Today, the use of information technology in libraries is frequently used as a barometer to determine the extent to which the library's level of progress is no longer determined by the size of the building used, the number of bookshelves, or the number of users, but by the increasingly sophisticated and automatic library performance. The reason for this is that with the advancement of information technology, more will be accomplished and served.

Recent developments show that the speed of library development has been greatly influenced by a technological touch, because the use of technology can improve the function and role of the library as a medium for disseminating knowledge and information. The existence of a "database" or database using computers and digital libraries is one thing that is very useful with the presence of information technology (digital libraries both online and offline).

North Sumatra State Islamic University has empowered its digital library through the website library. North Sumatra State Islamic University.ac.id as of November 16, 2021. North Sumatra State Islamic University understands the importance of digitizing the library so that students and lecturers can access scientific information online. In addition to providing information, the purpose of empowering digital libraries is to improve literacy culture so that the State Islamic University of North Sumatra can produce students who can think critically and understand problems contextually.

The transition from traditional to digital library access necessitates socialization in order for the entire academic community and the wider community to be aware of it. Literally, effective use of digital libraries enables people to consume information at all times. This efficiency also influences people's proximity

to gadgets; nowadays, few people want to consume information by going to the library, while digital libraries are being implemented.

UINSU provided several features as a service to website visitors, one of which is opac. The opac feature is an application that allows you to check the availability of collections before visiting the UINSU library. This feature is extremely useful for students, especially when it comes to finding books that correspond to their respective study programs. Book searches also assist students and professors in adapting literature review searches for scientific work.

UINSU, in addition to opac, provides another feature, namely a repository. This feature is a program that collects the work of the UINSU academic community, such as theses, dissertations, books, journals, and research reports. The repository can assist final semester students in locating title references related to the study program and adapting them to their specific needs.

UINSU's digital library also has an e-journal feature that allows you to access journals published by various study programs. Anyone in the UINSU environment can access this journal without having to log in through the website. Although limited access without logging in is only available within the UINSU environment, the UINSU digital library provides easy access outside of the environment by contacting personal contacts via the WhatsApp application.

E-books, or electronic books, are the final feature provided by UINSU's digital library. One of the draws for people who want easy access is the use of electronic books. People's proximity to gadgets has resulted in a shift in habits, to the point where turning the pages of a book appears archaic and inefficient. In addition to scientific electronic books, UINSU has classic books written by Middle Eastern scholars. The classic books in the digital library demonstrate how, as a religion-based campus, UINSU must preserve contemporary scholars' scientific thinking so that it can be accessed. Classic books have been translated into Indonesian, making it easier for students and lecturers to find information.

In this article, it is assumed that, while digital libraries perform the same functions as traditional libraries, the implementation and efficiency of digital library access is much more popular and convenient for the community, particularly the academic

community. It is undeniable that libraries must keep up with technological developments in order for scientific research to be carried out properly. However, the existence of digital libraries has yet to be widely publicized. More widespread socialization is required before digital libraries can be properly empowered as sources of information.

D. CONCLUSION

The use of digital libraries in fulfilling religious information for academic community students at UINSU is that UINSU's digital libraries are learning facilities whose existence is critical, particularly in the rapidly expanding information age. Furthermore, UINSU's digital library as a source of knowledge in the age of globalization is becoming increasingly important to users, given that the price of books is quite high on the one hand, and user purchasing power is still low on the other. UINSU's digital library must be a channel for educational advancement, complementing reading materials such as general books, journals, repositories, and opacs. UINSU's digital library must serve as a source of learning in the teaching process, as well as an information source that meets the demands and needs of the world of education, particularly UINSU students. Fulfilling information needs for students through digital libraries includes the availability of features such as opacs, repositories, electronic journals, electronic books, and classic books by Middle Eastern scholars.

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