'Learning Chamber' in academic library: an Innovation

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Abstract:

One of the most useable information sources is human sources. In academic world teachers are being acted as super human sources. Teachers are useful resources for learning as well as knowledge. In this aspect library can take the opportunity for the betterment of students, scholars, researchers. Here in this paper a new initiative has been introduced. It is "Learning Chamber". From this initiative pupil can acquire information as well as knowledge from the experts i.e. teachers. The concept is evolved from the notion of doctors' chamber. Here teachers would suggest the remedies for the enrichment of student. The features of learning chamber have been discussed with its objectives, procedures, benefits, etc.

Keywords: Library and Information Science; Libraries; innovative services; user services, information services; learning chamber

1. Introduction

Everybody needs information for some purposes or the other. When someone wants to travel, he or she needs information about routes, timings of the transport services, hotel facilities, and the like. Someone may gather this information from a friend or from a travel agency. Someone may also go to a library and collect this information from some formal reference sources like tourist guides and railway time-tables.the same situation is seen in academic atmosphere. Basically students need information about their learning subjects. They use library for information for their academic purposes. But library staff or the librarian is not expert of all subjects. Teachers are expert of subjects. They help us to solve the academic problems, research problems, and other learning crisis. Students, scholars, researchers always want to get in touch with knowledgeable persons for gathering knowledge. In academic session a student can get a class on a subject or topic in a day for 40 minutes to 2 hours. But a library is open for all day for all students beyond the subject. To provide more effective learning, a library can organize a subject specific or subject specialist arrangements within library premises. So a student can get more knowledge from subject specialist in time.

2. Objectives

Main objective of this article is to introduce the innovation service, i.e. learning chamber. Besides this the features of learning chamber have been conferred with its objectives, purposes, procedures, benefits and demerits.

3. Learning chamber

Society has different services for people. One of the most essential services is medical service. People go to hospital for treatment. Besides this they also go to specialist doctor for best medical advices and treatments. In society the specialist doctors are found in doctor's chamber. With this thought the concept of 'Learning Chamber' has come out. Basically, accommodation is needed in teaching or tuition centre for student and teachers. A learning chamber in a library can be a designated area or room that is specifically designed to support and enhance the learning experience of library patrons. It can be a quiet and comfortable space with access to various learning resources, such as books, e-books, online databases, educational videos, and interactive learning tools.

The learning chamber can be equipped with technology such as computers, printers, and scanners to enable users to access digital resources and complete their learning activities. It can also have a dedicated staff member who can provide assistance and guidance to users who need help navigating the resources available in the learning chamber.

In addition to providing access to learning resources, a learning chamber can offer workshops, seminars, and training sessions on various topics, such as research skills, academic writing, digital literacy, and language learning. The chamber can also host study groups, tutoring sessions, and peer-to-peer learning activities to facilitate collaborative learning.

Overall, a learning chamber in a library can serve as a hub for learning and education, providing a supportive and collaborative environment that fosters intellectual growth and development.

4. Purposes of Learning Chamber

Learning chamber is area in library where teacher as well as subject experts and students as well as learners can meet to discuss or share knowledge about student's academic requirements. Basic purposes are

- To share more effective learning for students
- To save time for students to solve the academic problems.
- To help to find out the way of self orientation from subject expert.
- To enlighten students with exhaustive knowledge with their requirements

5.   Objectives of Learning Chamber

Objectives are core ideas of a system. Any system is known by its objectives. Here following objectives of learning chamber can be sketched.

To provide learning along with the schedule routine.

To buildup sound relation with teachers or subject expert.

To extent effective services towards student from library along with circulation service.

In brief, whatever may be the approach of a library user, the learning chamber should communicate full information regarding the needs of the students specific interest.

6. Hamber Instruments

- Reference books
- Register of pupil
- Files and writing pads
- Computer
- Printer
- Speakers
- Projector
- Internet connection

7. Procedures to run learning chamber

Step 1: Teachers are invited

Request the teacher to participate as expert at learning chamber. Find out the free time schedule of the willing teachers. And make a suitable routine for them.

Step 2: Students are informed

A notification towards students is circulated to participate to gather knowledge or discuss academic topic with subject expert at learning chamber.

Step 3: Registration of pupil

A register should be maintained for the students with mentioning their basic area of question. Student may choose their subject expert or library staff may assign the best subject expert according their queries.

Step 4: Seating arrangement for both in learning chamber

Learning chamber is setup in specific place at library premises. Library staff must arrange the seating capacity for the students as well as subject expert with learning materials and instruments.

Step 5: Observation of suggestion slip

A slip is used with brief of discussion by the student. Expert suggests some books or links for the queries too. This suggestion slip is observed by the library staff.

Step 6: Provided information as suggested by teachers

Library provides suitable and exact information or resources to the user as well as student. The suggestion made by the expert has been offered to student.

Step 7: Use of reference / referral services

If the suggested resources are not available in library, librarian may provide reference as well as referral services to the student. For these purpose library also introduces inter-library loan with other libraries for the students. In the present era library can also manage information or resources from online databases and others for the students.

Step 8: Feedback of pupil

A form will be distributed to the students for their feedback about the subject experts and the services from the library. This opinion is needed to betterment the procedures of learning chamber. Students can again seat or talk with experts if they needed.

Step 9: Reply to teacher

These feedbacks are sent to experts. If they find any lack in feedback forms, they again can discuss with respective students for advanced learning.
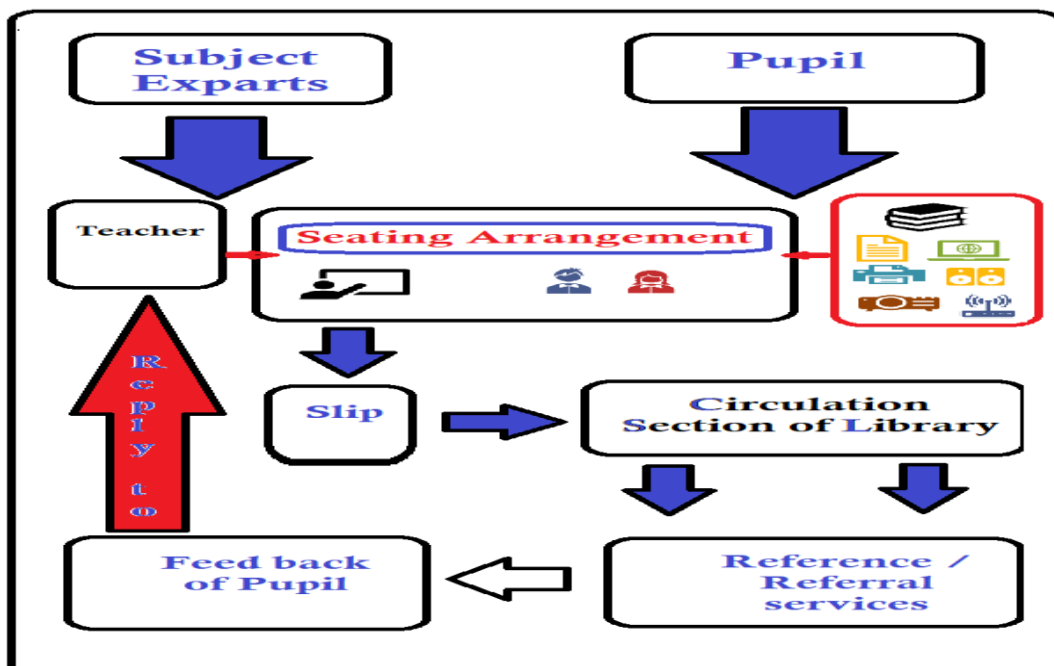
Fig.1: Workflow of Learning Chamber

8. Benefits of Learning Chamber

The innovation of Learning Chamber in library specifically in academic library is much effective.

1. A learning chamber provides easy access to a range of learning resources, such as books, e-books, journals, databases, and online learning tools. This can be especially helpful for individuals who may not have access to these resources otherwise, such as those who are not enrolled in an educational institution.

2. Supportive environment: A learning chamber provides a supportive and quiet environment for learning, which can help individuals focus and be more productive. It can also offer a sense of community and belonging, as individuals come together to learn and share their knowledge.

3. Technology-enabled learning: A learning chamber can be equipped with technology such as computers, printers, and scanners, which can enhance the learning experience and enable individuals to access digital resources and complete their learning activities.

4. Learning programs and events: A learning chamber can offer a range of learning programs and events, such as workshops, seminars, training sessions, and study groups, which can help individuals develop new skills and knowledge in a structured and supportive environment.

5. Collaboration: A learning chamber can facilitate collaboration and peer-to-peer learning, as individuals come together to share their knowledge and expertise. This can create a dynamic and interactive learning environment that can be more engaging and effective than learning in isolation.

Besides these a learning chamber is also benefited towards its user in following manners.

- It helps students to know the particular suggestion from teachers.
- Student can express his/her problems about learning to teachers.
- Class may be recap with highlight
- Inter discipline learning process may increase
- Teachers get extra honored.
- It creates harmony in student- teacher relationship.
- Increases employee and staff engagement of Library as well institute
- Develops individual performance
- Research and development

A learning chamber in a library can provide a range of benefits and advantages to individuals who are seeking to learn and develop their skills and knowledge. It can be a valuable resource for individuals of all ages and backgrounds, and can help to promote lifelong learning and education.

9. **Problems**

Demerits are the negative parts of a system. But in this initiative there is no negative piece. Although as social being there are some barriers to run this process. It is possible to face following situations.

Student may not attend the classes: As teachers are available beyond the schedule class routine, students may think to bunk the class regularly. This situation may be seen.

*Teachers timing***:** Teachers are busy person and well social being. They have many attachments to the society beyond the schedule routine. So it is quite impossible to get their time and patience. This situation may occur.

Limited resources: Depending on the size and funding of the library, the learning chamber may have limited resources, such as computers or access to certain learning materials. This can limit the effectiveness of the learning chamber in supporting individual learning needs.

Limited access: The learning chamber may not be accessible to everyone, particularly those who are not able to physically access the library due to distance or mobility issues. This can limit the potential reach and impact of the learning chamber.

Noise levels: Despite efforts to maintain a quiet and focused learning environment, there may still be noise levels that can be distracting for some individuals. This can make it difficult to concentrate on learning activities.

Limited staffing: Depending on the size and staffing of the library, the learning chamber may have limited staff members available to provide support and assistance to users. This can limit the effectiveness of the learning chamber in helping individuals who need additional guidance or support.

Limited program offerings: While a learning chamber may offer a range of learning programs and events, the library may not have the resources to offer a comprehensive range of programs and events to meet the diverse learning needs of all users.

In general, while the potential disadvantages of a learning chamber should be considered, it is important to note that many of these issues can be addressed through careful planning, resource allocation, and user feedback. By addressing these issues, libraries can create effective and impactful learning chambers that support the lifelong learning needs of their communities.

10. Initiatives

There are several ways in which a learning chamber in a library can be supported:

1. Funding: The learning chamber can be supported through funding from the library's operating budget, as well as through grants and donations from individuals, organizations, and foundations. This funding can be used to purchase learning resources, technology, and equipment, as well as to support staffing and program offerings.

2. Volunteer support: The learning chamber can be supported through volunteer assistance, such as individuals who are willing to help with tutoring, program planning, or technical support. This can help to supplement the staffing resources of the library and increase the effectiveness of the learning chamber.

3. User feedback: The learning chamber can be supported through user feedback and engagement, such as surveys, focus groups, and user testing. This feedback can be used to inform the development of learning programs and resources, as well as to identify areas for improvement and refinement.

4. Partnerships: The learning chamber can be supported through partnerships with other organizations and institutions, such as local schools, universities, and community groups. These partnerships can help to increase the reach and impact of the learning chamber, as well as to provide additional resources and support for users.

5. Promotion: The learning chamber can be supported through promotion and marketing efforts, such as social media outreach, newsletters, and public events. These efforts can help to increase awareness of the learning chamber and its offerings, as well as to attract new users and supporters.

Besides above ways the following initiatives should taken by

- Government

- Library legislations
- UGC
- Library Committees
- Library Authorities
- Librarian

Supporting a learning chamber in a library requires a combination of funding, resources, staffing, and community engagement. By investing in these areas, libraries can create effective and impactful learning chambers that serve the needs of their communities and promote lifelong learning and education.

11. Learning Chamber and Fifth laws of library science

The Five Laws of Library Science are a set of central guiding principles for designing and operating a library or a library system. In fact, each one of the activities of a library may be presumed from these Five Laws. Here learning chamber is justified in the light of five laws.

The First Law `Books are for use' shows the essential of organizing the collections of a library for maximum use. Learning chamber is one of the useful service by which students can use the entire collections of a library. Subject expert also be aware about the collection of the library. They would suggest student the books and other library collections. The possibilities to use the library collections will generally growing. Therefore, learning chamber is a must to satisfy the first law of library science.

The Second and Third Laws `Every reader his book'; `Every book its reader' imply the way a library catalogue should provide access to the collections of a library, to meet the requirements of users as children, specialist users, physically handicapped persons. All students are user of library chamber. Special kinds of analytical entries of documents are to be prepared to reveal the basic contents of documents. For instance, an excellent chapter on information storage and retrieval, forming part of Handbook in Special Librarianship is likely to be missed by a student of library science, if there are no analytical entries for the document. Students who come to Library chamber can be benefited with required answers as well as documents.

The Fourth Law `Save the time of the reader' places great emphasis on time. A catalogue should not only be simple in its design and construction but also should save the time of a reader. Every approach to a document, that is author, title, subject, series, etc. must be provided in a catalogue. Cross-reference entries (i.e., see and see also entries) should be provided for change of names of persons, countries, subjects and institutions. Similarly guidance in the use of library catalogue should be provided by organising orientation courses for newcomers in the., library. Speed is the essence of

service. Library chamber can save the time of students by providing accurate answer of their questions. All cross reference connections of their requirement can be sought by the teachers as well as subject experts.

The Fifth Law `A library is a growing organism' enjoins a library to view the catalogue in its widest perspective, keeping in view changes and growth in the nature and variety of publications, other forms of documents, needs of users, and such other environmental factors. The advent of the computer and communication technologies has introduced far-reaching changes both in the physical forms of library catalogues and in their internal structure. Terminals of computers are located at distant parts of the library. Only one main entry is adequate to access the documents and added entries are replaced by access points. Library networks provide access to resources of other libraries. Change is inevitable and a library should always remain alive to changes. Library chamber is newly associated with libraries. It is the evident of fifth law. Library is growing with the aims to help students. Students are engaged with learning chamber and get their needs regarding information.

12. Conclusion

The changing features of library are mentioned the fifth law of library science. Besides the changing of readers, collections, staffs, the modes of library services also in changing paradigm. Basic principle of a learning institute is to teach students much and effective. Academic library is also aimed to do so. With the use of learning chamber a library can be more useful to the students as well as teachers. Hopefully the use of learning chamber may be adapted to the entire academic libraries to overcome the difficulties of students about their learning.

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