

GUEST EDITORIAL

Collection Development is not any single activity or group of activities but a planning and decision making process. Its key functions are planning and policy making, collection analysis, materials selection, maintenance, resource sharing, etc. Each one of these functions involves several activities and they are interrelated. The impact of information technology (IT) on collection development is related to several issues such as ownership vs access, co-operative efforts and evaluation. In the context of IT, librarians are now giving importance to accessing the other libraries' collection rather than trying to possess almost all documents. Recent advances in IT have resulted into bringing together the libraries all over the world and thus the librarians have opportunities to use the available collections world over for providing a variety of services to users. This requires several initiatives on the part of librarians and there are several challenging issues discussed in this issue. Some of the following topics are discussed:

- Collection development in an information technology environment
- Impact of recent advances in IT on collection development
- Implications of Internet
- Electronic publication and its impact on collection development
- Collection development in university and special libraries

In the context of IT, the challenge for the librarians face is to maintain, nurture and optimise the resources of the libraries with the help of technology.

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