

# **GREENFIELD KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE CENTRE (KRC) FOR GREENFIELD UNIVERSITY: CASE STUDY OF MIT VISHWAPRAYAG UNIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE CENTER**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*The Knowledge Resource Center (KRC) at MIT Vishwaprayag University, Solapur, playing a catalytic role in supporting research, promoting lifelong learning, and enhancing academic excellence. This study details the KRC's vision, mission, and its alignment with the university's goals. Key areas include research support through journals and databases, academic resources, and fostering continuous learning. The study also covers the foundational steps of setting up the KRC, including resource acquisition, classification, and library management. A balanced collection of physical and digital resources is emphasized, alongside strategic partnerships and digital tool integration. Additionally, skilled staff, governance policies, and community engagement are crucial to optimizing KRC operations. Continuous monitoring and feedback ensure the centre meets evolving academic needs. The KRC aims to expand its services through digital advancements and resource planning, becoming a hub of knowledge and innovation for the academic community.*

**Keywords:** Awareness and Community Engagement, Knowledge Resource Centre, Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Monitoring and Evaluation, Policy and Governance, Vishwaprayag University

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

A Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) is an integral part of any academic institutions which beats as per the pulses of the learners and plays a vital role in providing the information and information services to the learners. Librarianship is a service-oriented profession. Giving the right information to the right user at the right moment of time is the primary goal. (Ranganathan, 1963). With the help of the best services for the learners in the institution we can surely achieve this. The present study is based on the setting up of the Knowledge Resource Center at MIT Vishwaprayag University Solapur which is an emerging green field university. As a fresh graduate and intern, I got the opportunity to contribute to the setting up of KRC also pen it down in the form of paper which helps the budding professionals who want to establish and set up a Knowledge Resource Centre from scratch.

Prof. Vishwanath D. Karad founder president MAEER's is a visionary man who has put his efforts in giving value-based education from decades. MIT Vishwaprayag University Solapur prioritize the learning environment beyond the classroom which promotes the growth of the students throughout their education journey. The Maharashtra Institute of Technology – Vishwa Prayag's University (Hence forth MIT-VPU) offers courses like B.Des, B.Tech, MBA, BBA, BCA, MCA & Pharmacy.

## **Vision**

To be a beacon of knowledge and creativity, where connecting readers with information transcends service to become a transformative experience. Through our dedication to innovation and the transformative power of information, we aspire to ignite curiosity, stimulate imagination, and cultivate a community of lifelong learners.

## **Mission**

Embodying MIT's cultural ethos by exemplifying compassion, empathy, and the enhancement of an innovative and vibrant learning environment for every learner. As a part of strategic planning and systematic operations the above Vision and Mission statements are aligned with Vishwaprayag Vision and Mission. The KRC is serving as a key hub that supports academic programs, fosters research, and promotes lifelong learning.

With the infrastructure of around 7000 sq. ft. and at present the sitting capacity of KRC is 150 readers with state-of-the-art modern touch. Mere infrastructure does not fulfil the quality of the KRC as a professional it's our duty to create the ambiance for the readers so that readers will always be in the KRC for their study and their professional development.

## **2.0 INITIATING THE PROCESS**

The KRC has received some books from the main branch in Pune as a goodwill to start the KRC. To start processing these books systematically we need the task is being executed. Getting the basic items for KRC (Accession registry magazine register, property label, stamps, and seals due slips). A Library Accession Register serves as a crucial record for documenting the addition of books and other materials to a library's collection. It facilitates organized cataloguing, efficient tracking, and effective management of library resources. The main elements of an accession register include:

**Accession Number** – A unique sequential number assigned to each item upon entry into the library's collection.

**Date of Accession** – The date when the item was added to the library.

**Title and Author** – The name of the book, journal, or material along with the author(s) or editor(s).

**Publisher and Year of Publication** – Details of the publisher and the publication year to track editions and updates.

**Price and Source** – The cost of the book and whether it was purchased, donated, or received through an exchange.

**Subject Classification** – Categorization of the material based on its subject for easy retrieval and reference.

**ISBN / ISSN Number** – The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) or International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) for books and periodicals respectively.

**Supplier or Vendor Information** – Details of the bookstore, publisher, or donor from whom the material was obtained.

**Remarks / Notes** – Additional information such as the condition of the book, any special edition details, or withdrawal/replacement status.

The above elements facilitate accurate record-keeping, ensure accountability, and enable efficient tracking of library resources, making the accession register an essential tool for library management. At Vishwaprayag KRC we have separate Accession register for purchased books, Gifted books. This will help us to give the exact amount which we have spent for the library books.

### **3.0 BOOK PROCESSING**

**Property label:** These are distinct marker placed on books, journals, and other materials to signify ownership and support efficient management. At Vishwaprayag KRC the label features the library's name, and the address of communication.

**Stamps and Seals:** Basically, stamps contain the name and logo of the institution and the Acc. No. and the date of the accession. At the KRC we have Accession Stamp, mini stamp which contains Accession no and date and the round seal which bears Vishwaprayag and the KRC

**Stamping and Sealing process:** The first accession stamp is put on the title page of the book where there is enough space for the visibility. And the second stamping is done on the last page of the book where due slip is pasted and the mini stamp (which contains Accn. no. and date) put in the secret page decided by the KRC head. The round seal is put on the Fore edge.

**Due Slip:** These are used to inform the patrons about the due date and when to return the book and it also acts like a reminder, and it helps to keep the circulation track.

**Classification of Books:** Post stamping and sealing the next step is to be classifying the books. At Vishwaprayag university we use DDC-23 (Dewey Decimal Classification). With the DDC classifications the books were segregated subject wise and sent to maintenance section.

### **Assessing Resource Availability**

**Objective:** - To assess the existing digital and physical resources and identify any shortcomings in the KRC which need attention.

### **Process**

- List all the materials that are now available, such as books, journals, e-resources, and technology tools.
- Inspect the functioning and quality of the infrastructure, including areas for studying, computer laboratories, and internet access.

### **Result:**

- A comprehensive understanding of current capabilities.
- A strategic plan for resource acquisition, prioritizing high-demand and underrepresented areas (Johnson, 2009).

The Vishwaprayag University can guarantee that its KRC is prepared to satisfy the various needs of its academic community by carrying out user-centred needs assessments and resource evaluations. These exercises serve as a foundation of creating an environment which is resource-rich, inclusive, and responsive.

### **Collection Development**

The Vishwarprayag's Knowledge Resource Centre's (KRC) efficacy is depending on having a diverse collection of both digital and physical resources. While having the collaborations with publishers and consortia which will improve resource accessibility, this guarantees that the vishwaprayag's community's varied academic and research needs are satisfied.

### **Developing a Balanced Collection**

- **Physical Resources:**
  - Include books, journals, and research papers relevant to the Vishwarprayag's disciplines.

- Regularly update collections to reflect current academic trends and advancements.
- Allocated space for special collections, archives, or rare materials (Johnson, 2009).
- **Digital Resources proposed:**
  - Investing in databases and e-books tailored to Vishwarprayag's academic programs. Examples include JSTOR, ProQuest, and subject-specific databases.
  - Integrating multimedia tools, such as videos, simulations, and online courses.
  - Ensuring compatibility with multiple devices and platforms for ease of access (Breeding, 2012).
- **Open-Access Repositories:**
  - Leveraging open-access platforms to provide cost-free resources, such as PubMed, DOAJ, and institutional repositories.
  - Facilitating the sharing of student and faculty research outputs through open-access channels (Suber, 2012).

### **Establishing Partnerships**

Strategic partnerships with publishers, interlibrary loan agreements and consortia memberships such as DELNET, INFLIBNET which can provide the Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) with more resources and increase our efficiency. These collaborations increase access to premium products, lower expenses, and foster teamwork and shared knowledge.

- **Publishers:**
  - Collaborating with academic publishers to negotiate with regard to access to high-quality journals, books, and databases.
  - Exploring discounted rates or consortia agreements to reduce costs.
- **Libraries:**
  - Building inter-library loan agreements to expand the range of available resources.
  - Sharing expertise and best practices with partner institutions.
- **Consortia:**
  - Join library consortia for shared access to expensive resources, collective bargaining power, and collaborative initiatives (Ferris, 2004).

By developing a comprehensive collection strategy and establishing strategic partnerships, the KRC at Vishwaprayag University can serve as a foundation for academic excellence and innovation. These efforts will ensure equitable access to high-quality resources for all users.

## **Digital Integration**

Enhancing a Knowledge Resource Centre's (KRC) effectiveness, usability, and accessibility requires technology. The KRC can successfully satisfy the evolving needs of its users by integrating cutting-edge technologies including Library Management Systems (LMS), e-learning platforms, and AI-driven solutions. At Vishwaprayag we use KOHA for the automation.

### **1. Adopting a Library Management System (LMS)**

- **Objective:** A LMS digitizes library functions, streamlining cataloguing, circulation, and user services for greater efficiency.
- **Key Features:**
  - Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) for seamless resource search and retrieval. Also, Acquisition, Cataloguing modules for the data entry of books
  - User account management enabling borrowing, renewals, and reservations.
  - Automated notifications for due date, new resources, and updates.
- **Advantages:** Improves operational workflows, minimizes manual errors, and enhances user experience (Breeding, 2012).

### **2. Providing Access to Digital Platforms**

- **E-learning Platforms:**
  - Facilitate access to Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) like Coursera, edX, and Khan Academy.
  - Support the use of learning management systems (e.g., Moodle, Blackboard) to enhance academic programs.
- **Digital Archives and Institutional Repositories:**
  - Allow users to explore historical documents, theses, dissertations, and faculty publications.
  - Promote contributions from faculty and students to institutional repositories to encourage the sharing of open knowledge.

Institutional membership of DELNET for the additional resources and for the collaboration (Lynch, 2003).

#### **4.0 POLICY AND GOVERNANCE**

Effective management and supervision of a Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) depend on having clear and comprehensive policies. While maintaining legal and ethical compliance, they set rules for digital access, borrowing practices, and resource use.

##### **1. Drafting Policies for Resource Usage and Access at Vishwaprayag KRC**

###### **❖ Resource Usage and Borrowing:**

- Established guidelines for borrowing, including limits, loan periods, and renewal policies for books, journals, and other physical resources.
- Introduced fines or penalties for overdue or lost materials to promote timely returns.
- Offer varying borrowing privileges for students, faculty, and staff based on their specific roles.

###### **❖ Access to Digital Platforms:**

- Setting guidelines for accessing e-books, databases, and online journals, including authentication processes like institutional logins or IP-based access.
- Defining acceptable and restricted uses of digital resources to prevent misuse, such as unauthorized distribution or bulk downloading (Johnson, 2009).

##### **3. Benefits of Policies and Guidelines**

- Encourages equitable and effective resource usage while safeguarding institutional investments.
- Ensures the KRC adheres to legal and ethical standards, reducing the risk of non-compliance.
- Fosters trust and confidence among users, promoting increased interaction with the KRC.

By establishing clear policies and guidelines, the Vishwaprayag University's KRC can create an organized and user-friendly atmosphere that supports academic integrity and encourages collaboration.

#### **5.0 AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Successfully promoting the Knowledge Resource Center (KRC) helps ensure that students, faculty, and staff are informed about its resources and services.

Orientation sessions, events, and online interactions are key to boosting usage and cultivating a learning-focused culture.

### **Launch / Introducing Orientation Programs**

- **Implementation:**

Organize guided tours of the KRC during student and faculty onboarding sessions. Provide interactive demonstrations of tools like the Library Management System (LMS) and institutional repositories. Develop online orientation resources, including instructional videos and detailed guides (McCarthy, 2009).

## **6.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Establishing metrics and feedback systems is essential for the ongoing enhancement of a Knowledge Resource Center (KRC). By assessing resource utilization, user feedback, and educational outcomes, the center can adjust its services to more effectively serve the needs of its academic community.

### **1. Implementing Metrics**

- **Resource Usage:**

Monitor circulation data, database access records, and e-resource download to pinpoint frequently used materials. Examine physical visits and online portal engagement to discern usage trends.

- **User Satisfaction:**

To learn more about user experiences, conduct exit polls and surveys on a regular basis.

- **Learning Outcomes:**

Measure the effect of KRC resources on research quality and academic performance alongside with the faculty (Hernon P. &., 2010).

### **2. Regularly Reviewing Feedback**

- **Feedback Mechanisms:**

- Utilizing suggestion boxes, both physical and digital, to gather continuous feedback from users.
- Organize focus group discussions to gain deeper insights into user needs and challenges.

- Review feedback, including comments and complaints, to pinpoint areas that require improvement.
- The Vishwaprayag KRC provides services like OPAC, Current Awareness, Reprographic Service, E-resource Training, Document Delivery Service, Similarity Services, and Research Support

### **Updating Services**

- Leverage feedback to revise library policies, procure high-demand resources, and launch new services.
- Continuously update digital tools and platforms to stay aligned with technological progress.
- Modify physical spaces, such as adding quiet zones or collaborative areas, based on user (Matthews, 2007)

### **Benefits of Tracking and Reviewing**

- Improves resource distribution by prioritizing areas of high demand.
- Fosters trust and loyalty among users by addressing their concerns and needs.
- Ensures the KRC's services are in line with the university's changing academic and research
- By establishing strong metrics and feedback mechanisms, Greenfield University's KRC can uphold a user-focused approach, guaranteeing that its services continue to meet the evolving needs and have a meaningful impact on the academic community.

## **7.0 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

With the goal to foster academic achievement, contribute research, and advocate lifelong learning, MIT Vishwaprayag University in Solapur established the Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC). This study emphasises the significance an efficient KRC is improving access to academic materials and giving teachers and students the resources they need to innovate and expand their knowledge.

The study's emphasis on developing a comprehensive resource collection, combining digital and physical materials, and establishing collaborative relationships with publishers, libraries, and consortia are important components. Accessibility and operational efficiency are further improved by the use of digital tools like AI-driven services and Library Management Systems (LMS).

In order to maximise KRC operations, the study also highlights the importance of having knowledgeable employees, governance guidelines, and user engagement programs. The results shed light on how ongoing observation and feedback might help services be modified to meet changing academic requirements.

By addressing these important elements, this study offers guidance for creating and running a productive KRC that fosters research, improves academic offerings, and advances the general intellectual development of the university community. The analysis concludes by highlighting the KRC's function as a vibrant knowledge centre that promotes an innovative and learning culture. The focus of this study is to give an idea of how to establish KRC or Library from the scratch. And this is for the budding LIS professionals.

## **8.0 FUTURE PLANS OF KRC**

At MIT Vishwaprayag University in Solapur, the Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) periodically plans events that boost readership, encourage learning, and engage the academic community. The objective of these activities is to enhance the utilisation of library resources while fostering a strong reading culture among researchers, faculty, and students.

### **8.1 Key Initiatives and Events:**

#### **Book Exhibitions and Displays**

- To draw readers, regularly planned displays of rare books, subject-specific collections, and new arrivals. Specialised book displays with a theme for important scholarly occasions, anniversaries, or national holidays. Author Interviews and Literary Conversations.
- Inviting well-known writers, scholars, and researchers to interact with the audience and talk about their work. Arranging panel discussions, book reading events, and Q&A sessions to promote thought-provoking dialogue. Research and Information Literacy Workshops
- Sessions for helping research scholars in academic writing, plagiarism detection, and reference management (Mendeley, Zotero). Practical seminars on open-access resources, efficient search techniques, and journal selection for research publication. Reading Contests and Challenges
- Hosting quiz sessions, essay writing competitions, and book review competitions to make reading interesting and enjoyable. To honour and inspire passionate readers, the "Best Reader of the Month" award is given out. Training in Digital Literacy and E-Resources
- Providing training on how to use open-access libraries like DOAJ and PubMed as well as e-learning platforms like Coursera and edX. special seminars on digital referencing, academic databases (JSTOR, ProQuest), and AI-powered research tools. Initiatives for Community Engagement

- Putting together outreaches initiatives including knowledge-sharing sessions, book drives, and volunteer opportunities at libraries. To encourage literacy outside of the university, public reading events are being held in partnership with nearby schools and organisations.
- Apart from the above initiatives we have the plans for using the latest technology with respect to artificial intelligence and below are some of the initiatives which are planned for the coming years.

## **8.2 Leveraging AI-Driven Tools**

Below are some of the AI tools which we have planned to implement

- **Customized Resource Suggestions:**
  - Utilize AI-based algorithms to assess user behaviour, search history, and borrowing patterns to recommend relevant materials.
  - Example: AI solutions like Ex Libris' Alma or EBSCO Discovery Service provide personalized academic resource recommendations.
- **AI Chatbots and Virtual Assistants:**
  - Implement AI-powered chatbots to offer round-the-clock support for common inquiries.
  - Example: Platforms like LibAnswers or custom-built AI assistants enhance user interaction and accessibility.
- **Predictive Data Analytics:**
  - Evaluate user data to recognize usage patterns, optimize resource procurement, and enhance service efficiency (Singer, 2015).

By implementing these advanced technological solutions, Greenfield University's KRC can offer a streamlined, customized, and resourceful experience, positioning itself as a premier centre for academic and research excellence.

## **Impact of KRC Events**

These programs promote a lively academic culture, boost reading, and promote knowledge exchange. The KRC at MIT Vishwapravag University encourages its members to read, lead and succeed and develop intellectually throughout their lives by consistently planning creative and engaging events.

## **9.0 CONCLUSION**

The Knowledge Resource Center (KRC) at Vishwaprayag University plays a vital role in supporting research, academic programs, and lifelong learning, contributing to the university's goal of fostering academic excellence. By conducting surveys, focus groups, and resource assessments, the KRC tailors its services to meet the evolving needs of the academic community. Its success is driven by a well-rounded collection of physical and digital resources, modern technologies like Library Management Systems and AI solutions, and strategic partnerships.

The KRC's commitment to hiring skilled professionals and providing continuous training ensures high-quality services. Clear policies guide resource usage and ensure legal and ethical compliance. Promotional efforts, including orientation programs, workshops, and digital engagement, raise awareness and promote a learning culture. Metrics and feedback mechanisms help monitor performance and improve services, while a sustainable funding model supports long-term success.

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