

Blogs and their Role in the Professional Development of Staff of the Information Sector

Hanan Ahmed Farag¹, Islam Babiker Elhassan¹, Emad Mamdouh Abd Alhalem¹, Ghada taha Mohammad Osman¹, Amr fikry Salem², Olaa Azmi Madi³, Amira Mohammed Ahmed⁴

¹Information Science Department, College of Arts, Imam Abdul Rahman bin Faisal University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

²Deanship of Student Affairs, Imam Abdul Rahman bin Faisal University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

³Arabic Language Department, College of Arts, Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University, Saudi Arabia.

⁴Media Department, College of Arts, Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

Abstract

Blogs are considered one of the most important sites for their usefulness as professional development tools. In confirmation of this theory, the study addresses the definition of blogs, their standards and characteristics, the reasons for the popularity and spread of blogs, and the value of blogs as a tool for professional development for workers in the library sector. Finally, the study dealt with models of professional blogs in the field of libraries and information. The content analysis approach consists of analyzing blogs and selecting appropriate ones, which can be used as a tool for professional development. One of the most important results of the study is that there are some obstacles that prevent full benefit from blogs, including that workers in the library and information sector need training on how to use this technology, and the lack of internal desire among teachers to benefit from this technology and resistance to change. The study recommended the need to pay more attention to training workers in the field of libraries and information and develop a forward-looking vision of the possibilities that blogs provide for training librarians.

Keywords: Professional development ; blogs, websites; information institutions.

1. Introduction

The rapid transformation in the sector of information has led to the creation of new libraries and information jobs, which require the appearance of new information jobs and new library

professions which require the availability of information specialists who are capable of following inputs of this technology and its updates of methods, system and tools affecting almost all aspects of the library work. Therefore, the need for continuous professional development and coping with successive developments in library and information techniques is the only effective way to improve and enhance the performance of library specialists.

LFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto requires that the librarian should be prepared professionally and trained continuously moreover it states that academic preparation regardless of its standard and diversified methods does not mean canceling or underrating the dire need for professional development ⁽¹⁾.

Therefore the main objective of the professional development for librarians is ⁽²⁾

1. To qualify them to deal with the rapid changes and cope with recent technology
2. Provide all updates to the community of all beneficiaries.
3. To enable them to occupy vacant positions in their libraries at all levels through proper preparation.

The information application techniques especially the internet have created new methods for training and professional formation of staff of libraries. This has required institutions engaged in the formation and training to update the content of their programs and change their work methods accordingly.

Many internet sites can help in the professional development of staff. This study concentrates on one type of website which are blogs.

The significant fields that affected electronic blogs are in the field of library information.

From this point the library blogs and librarian blogs were created (the blogs developed and managed by library specialists whether they are related or not to be related to information facilitates).

Accordingly, we conclude that the electronic blog can be a good tool for the professional development of librarians as it enables them to maintain updating their information in this field.

Importance of this study:

According to the challenges and rapid developments created by the successive changes occurring in information technology applications, this had a great impact on information technology and also had a great effect on investment requirements and the job market. This study tries to highlight the subject of the technical formation of the staff of the information sector especially amid the rapid and consecutive changes occurring in this field. This environment requires specialists in information technology to be highly skilled in the use of these new developments including new systems programs and techniques affecting all aspects of the library work.

Study Problem:

The study attempts to highlight blogs, which are considered as the second revolution in the field of the internet following the electronic mail, how to use them and adapt them to serve the profession of a library and consider them as tools of professional development of staff in the field. The outcome of the study shall include a number of standards and features to enable determining the worth of blogs as a tool for professional development. This study is a first attempt in this field and an endeavor in this direction.

Study Objectives :

This study attempts to clarify the nature of blogs and use them as a tool for the professional development of staff engaged in the field of library and information as blogs can be used in the field of library to serve and develop this profession.

Through discussing a number of points including:-

1. what are blogs
2. Causes for reputation and spread of blogs
3. Creation and development of blogs
4. Agreement and disagreement between blogs and (websites)
5. Standers and features of blogs
6. Benefit of blogs as a tool for professional development as staff engaged in the library sector
7. Samples of professional blogs in Arabic or foreign languages in the field of library and information.

2. Methodology:

It is reflected in the comprehensive review of recent literature in the field of blogs and professional development printed or available in databases or on the internet for the formation of a theoretical frame for this study.

Many methods were used to achieve the objectives of this study

- ❖ The study used the analytical descriptive method for comprehensive accumulation of information related to the subject aiming to determine blogs and present them as a tool for professional development.
- Review literature to define a number of standards in professional blogs and present them as a tool for professional development for librarians.

❖ Content analysis method

Reflected in an analysis of blogs and choose suitable blogs that can be used as a tool for professional development.

- Selection of Arabic blogs, a survey was made of blogs on the internet their number reached 60 blogs through a number of sites:

1. <http://www.gelapel.com/vb/showthread.php>

2. <http://www.top100arabic.com>

- As for the selection of foreign blogs the best 99 library blogs were registered worldwide from the site of (online college) from these blogs a selection was made of blogs that may be useful in professional development in the field of library.

3. Review of previous literature

The information sector is considered the most affected by information techniques which have a significant impact on the requirements of the development of the job market. As a result of these changes many studies were made to discuss the professional development in the information science sector in a period requiring library specialists to have information skills to perform has job.

A review was made on the subject as new research was very limited due to the recency of the subject most of them were concentrated on:

- The new requirements for librarians in the digital environment, review and evaluate some of the training programs provided in a move to enhance the performance of information and skills necessary to deal with these new developments

- The second aspect of the role of social media sites for enhancing professional cooperation between libraries and studies considering blogs as a tool for the professional development of staff engaged in these fields is rare according to the information of researchers.

A number of these studies are related to the subject as follows:

(Fadul Jameel and Lama Fakher, 2013) this study aims to identify different viewpoints of Arab librarians and the scope of their use of social media, most sites used by them, and their aim of such use, and the scope of satisfaction of users of the content of social media. Sample of the study included 102 librarians from members of the Arab Library Society. This study showed that 84.3% of the respondents use social media sites. The study concluded that most sites are on Facebook followed by YouTube followed by Twitter ⁽³⁾.

A study by (Alsalam, 2009) discussed the phenomenon of the application of information techniques especially the Internet in the professional development of staff engaged in the information sector. The study focused on the recent situation in the central library at Imam

University. Most services available on the internet used by staff were determined and most motivation was found out. The study called for the use of modern technology of the internet in the field of teaching in the section of library and information. It also recommended the importance of qualifying staff engaged in library and information service ⁽⁴⁾.

A study (Alsayed Abdual Al 2009) showed the effect of social media on the community of libraries. Library specialties including professionals academics and students and the effect of that on their relation together through a comprehensive study of their presence and use of most famous the social media (Facebook) diagnosing services and activities provided by a group of libraries for their members and users. The study included many recommendations such as encouragement to study the web and social media to determine methods of gaining the most benefit from those techniques in the field of libraries and information. Also encourages libraries to visit social nets to exchange information and culture in the field ⁽⁵⁾.

Study (Patrick, 2008) The objective of this study is to plan a training program on the cooperative index for academic libraries in a city in East Asia that participates in the training of 8 libraries. The study discussed the objective of training and arrangements followed in the participating libraries to facilitate the process of training. The items of training were evaluated through viewpoints of training. challenges facing libraries participating.

In cooperative index. The study recommended the training should conform to comprehensive university objectives through a long-term plan. Also to satisfy the new needs of students and faculty ⁽⁶⁾.

A study (Susan, 2011) discussed the professional development of the academic library in Kerala state. To survey activities of professional development and educational and professional needs in the central library of a university in Kerala. The goal of the study was to evaluate activities of professional development for librarians in 7 libraries participating in this study. The tool of study used was a questionnaire distributed to 203 of the staff of these libraries ⁽⁷⁾.

A study (Connie,2008) attempted to determine the relationship advantages between training on the Internet and traditional training face to face which requires the physical presence of the trainee in the same place as the trainer. The study also included the relationship between the internet and related variables such as race, gender, age, education, or any impartiality ⁽⁸⁾. A study (Marshall,2009) concluded that social networks create a dimension for the professional development of staff engaged in the sector of libraries and information through the facilitation of participation between libraries and the speed of exchange of information ⁽⁹⁾.

In Mary, (2006) study, an exploratory study to determine the professional development needs for electronic libraries in academic libraries. 35% Of librarians considered blogs as useful and relied on them as a tool for professional development ⁽¹⁰⁾.

Definition of blogging:

A blog in its simplest definition is a web page containing brief posts chronologically arranged in a detailed manner blog is an application of the internet operated through a content management system in its simplest form ia a web page showing posts (Inputs) dated and chronologically

arranged in a progressive order associated with the mechanism for archiving of old inputs each input to have an electronic permanent address (URL) not to be changed since publication on the net so that the users refer to a certain post later when this not available in the first page of the blog ⁽¹¹⁾ the post in English is formed from two words (Weblog) meaning registry of the internet it is abbreviated to blog from its source of blogging which is the process of creation of the blog and its publication bloggers are individuals who carry out blogging blogosphere is a connected world of blogs available on the internet that can be reached through search engines or through blogs indexes ⁽¹²⁾.

If a blog can be translated into Arabic by a registry or Witten forum or a page however blog is the most accepted in Arabic and mostly used to date ⁽¹³⁾.

Blogs in general are sites on the internet for persons or institutions including comments, opinions, and news mostly they include hyperlinks and links to information available on other sites of the net. Blogs have confirmed their presence and usefulness as one of the modern services on the net as they are easy to establish, publish, and update also its accessibility for interaction with users in every subject of the subjects published in it.

Reasons for Reputation and Popularity of Blogs

Blogs are considered the second revolution in the internet after electronic mail. Now together with electronic mail and Wiki, they are considered the most important services of the internet.

Blogs are one of the methods of modern publication and communication in the internet services. It is a mix of a daily journal (In paper environment) website and an online community in the web environment.

The main reason for its reputation and spread may be attributed to its interactivity and direct accessibility by users.

Therefore electronic blogs became one of the basic information sources to provide users with information, access to it, and interact with others whether negatively or positively following news and measuring opinions.

Blogs also are considered a new source of information on the web, featured by continuous increase and speed when compared to traditional methods of information sources this means the presence of infinitive sources of information at the same time this content provides the possibility for participation and civil engagement of news and information of the society ⁽¹⁴⁾.

There are a number of reasons that led to the reputation spread and popularity of blogs most important are the following :

- Its interactivity with users compared with other means.
- Its creation is easy and also it's directly accessible to users.
- It doesn't require high skills in designing.

- The ability to form an electronic community between bloggers and users hence it is more effective than other means of communication ⁽¹⁵⁾.
- It provides free expression of opinions which has led to its increased spread and popularity⁽¹⁶⁾

Creation and Developments.

Blogs appeared for the first time in late 1990 although the term blog was used in 1997 by Jorn Barger the phenomena of blogs spread on the web only in 1999 when hosting services permitted users to create their blogs in a relatively quick and easy manner the first free blogging tool was called Pitas ⁽¹⁷⁾.

The new use of this technology spread due to its appeal and ease of use. Personal blogs preceded professional blogs. Librarians are not an exception as some library blogs appeared; the earliest library blog is librarian.net. ,oss4lib<<http://oss4lib.org/>> ⁽¹⁸⁾.

Variances between Blogs and Websites :

The first difference between them is the use of Blogging software which facilitates the creation of blogs without the need for extensive knowledge of hypertext markup language HTML or working with complicated web templates. Blogging software contrary unlike web editing software such as Front Page is easy to use and is designed to update pages continuously ⁽¹⁹⁾.

The second difference is that the blog is more dynamic compared with the website as it is continuously updated through entries or blogs that usually include the date of updating as for the website its content is usually static. There is no need for regular updating or writing dates of these updates. Moreover, this updating is concentrated on pages not on entries or blogs ⁽²⁰⁾.

The third difference is the content as the blog might be a site for publishing news or transmitting events, experiences, viewpoints, or reviews of books and other sources of information or announcing them, explaining websites, or publishing reports on an activity related to a certain project, etc.. ⁽²¹⁾ As for the blog itself it can include text pictures, short video hyperlinks to other electronic sources on the net, etc...

Blogs are similar to other web pages however there are differences to distinguish the web in terms of its typing form and features.

For example, the content of subjects in posts is independent of their discussion and comments. This is contrary to what happens on internet forums where subjects are mixed with discussions therefore the benefits are not achieved by time passage and increase of forum volume and its discussions.

The last difference in the purpose of these sites, which is similar to other social sites, is the creation of an intracavity between blogger and reader.

Bloggs has many roles and the presence of software-enabled infractions between participants including commenting and even co-authoring etc.. ⁽²²⁾.

Standards and Features of Blogs:

There are no official standards of blogs to date. However, they have all the same features sufficient to define blogs and their sections in a way that may be considered unofficial standards for them.

According to the view position of the users or visitors, the blog is a website providing the following ⁽²³⁾.

- Possibility of classification of blogs according to abroad objective divisions appearing on the front of the blog Therefore they are retrievable as per these objective divisions.
- Possibility to include a chronological calendar in the front of the blog
- Possibility to refer in front of blog hyperlinks for a group of sites related to the subject of blogs or other blogs.
- Possibility to refer to the URL of the page of the blogger on the web.
- Blogs are accompanied by an automated archive of old inputs every input should have a permanent URL and not be changed since the instance of publication on the net to enable users to refer to a specific blog later on when it is not available on the first page of the blog ⁽²⁴⁾
- Each blog should have the following: A vertical header to contain the day and month, the time when the blog was published showing time in hours and seconds, and the address of the blog and main content of the blog name and title author of the blog and comments received on that blog if available.
- Bloggers may create blogs and start publication of blogs once filing for the forum of the blog and even edit.
- Publish audio some of the hosting blog software has the feature to host sound files such as Audbolg Blogger.
- Links: possibility to show in front of the blog to a group of hyperlinks of the sites of the subject of the blog.
- Comments: provide the opportunity for interaction between bloggers and visitors through comments on blog entries.
- Apply software that allows the reading of content for different blogs on one site. There are two main types of RSS, Atom.
- Search engine: This enables research in blogs through a research engine
- Templates: Most blog hosting software provides ready templates of blogs used by the least experienced blogger without the need for comprehensive knowledge of HTML language or work with complicated web templates.
- Address: This feature provides the possibility of giving each blog a distinct address.

- Citation: this feature through linkage between two blogs allows each blog to show the number of citations made in that blog ⁽²⁵⁾.
- Content is organized as an independent entry to include each text and possibly hyperlinks, available to all organized in reverse chronological order (From recent to oldest).

Features of a successful blog concerning written blogs are as follows ⁽²⁶⁾

- Detailed subjects or lengthy subjects should not be written in every blog; it is preferable to write short paragraphs about the subject.
- Continuous updating of the blog so that no one week passes without the publication of at least one blog.
- Activate the feature of commenting on blogs and should not be blocked in front of visitors.
- Originality in writing continuous diversification in subject and sources referred to so that blog shall be a place for publication of news, transmit events, experiences, opinions and information or review of books and other sources of information or announcing about them or explaining websites or publishing a report on an activity related to a certain project, etc...

Value of blogs as a tool for professional development in the staff of the library sector :

(John Rodzilla) ⁽²⁷⁾ considers that librarian blogs are useful for knowing the recent trends and issues related to the field of libraries and information therefore helping librarians to maintain recency of information related to the field in another meaning reading specialist blogs in the field and participation in commenting on maybe considered one of the activities of the professional development of librarians.

Electronic blogs can be utilized and used as a tool for professional development of librarians through:

1. Participation in blogs related to the field of specialization and use them for professional development ⁽²⁸⁾ thorough upgrading of skills to deal with modern equipment and know the mechanism of use and maintenance. Develop skills searching in electronic sources such as journals, databases, and others. Blogs also provide links related to the specialization which enables to follow recent and useful information to achieve the provision of distinctive services to the community of users.
2. To be a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas, information, and experiences between librarians.
3. Inform on current events occurring in the professional development in the field, especially regarding information techniques and related issues.
4. Announce professional meetings and information activity in the field of specialization (conferences, symposiums, etc) before they will be held and inform of their content after completion.

5. To recognize new additions of books journals reports etc and electronic paper or paper publications.
6. To announce available electronic information on the web from all categories.
7. Recognize recent trends and issues in the field of library formation ⁽²⁹⁾.

Samples of professional blogs in the field of libraries and information

The blogs in this part of the study were selected based on considered one of the most important blogs due to their benefit as a tool for professional development, most of them are distinguished with their accuracy they are updated daily they cover many issues especially when they meet users concerns such as author right privacy and control which have a great effect on the professional development of staff of libraries and information.

The best 99 electronic blogs were listed in terms of use worldwide from the site of online college till November 2023 ⁽³⁰⁾ they were chosen as per their great impact on the professional development of staff in this field.

[/http://www.onlinecollege.org/2021/07/10/100-best-blogs-school-librarians](http://www.onlinecollege.org/2021/07/10/100-best-blogs-school-librarians)

1- <http://www.inthelibrarywiththeladpip.org/about> ⁽³¹⁾

This blog was prepared by a team of librarians who covered some issues such as education management and staff of the library sector and more. This blog is considered exemplary in providing service to school librarians who wish to communicate with others in the field.



Figure No. (1) from: <http://www.inthelibrarywiththeladpip.org/about>

The work team introduced itself as a team of librarians working in different types of libraries from all parts of the United States in addition to articles written by its editorial board together with some subjects added to the blog through guests who represent different opinions including teachers administrators, library technical support staff and individuals from the library community.

The work team defined the aim of blogs as follows: assist in our community library or professional organization. In addition to exploring new ideas to document our interests and look

for solutions to some of our professional problems. The additional subjects are reviewed periodically.

Copy and publishing rights

The editorial board has the right to distribute the text electronically, archiving and retrieving it continuously. All contents published in the blog are licensed including comments. Writer has copy and publication rights meaning that subjects appearing may be reused by the author in any form provided the blog is the original place for publishing.

Blog Policy

The blog provides the facility for commenting and discussion about the subjects of the blog. Constructive criticisms are one of the main goals of the blog; however, comments that do not follow blog policy or disregard the subject of the article will be removed.

All comments shall be archived side by side with the accompanying subject shown in chronological order. Links for recent comments and added articles shall be shown in the right bar of the blog using the search box.

2-The Kept-Up Academic Librarian⁽³²⁾

<http://keptup.typepad.com/academic>



Figure No. (2) from: <http://keptup.typepad.com/academic>

This is a relatively new blog started in February 2004 its goal is to assist librarians of academic libraries to follow recent news and professional development in the field of academic libraries. The editor is Steven J Bell, the director of the Gutman Library at the University of Philadelphia. This blog is updated many times weekly in addition to new participations concerning academic affairs, technological and financial issues between librarians.

This blog is distinguished by its effective surfing of the subject of chronological archiving the blog provides a list of recent participation however the blog has no search engine.

It has an effective design easy to be read with visible connections through the use of a series of links to assist professionals information with self guidance to professional development. Such as: <http://staff.philau.edu>.

3. Free Range Librarian⁽³³⁾

<http://freerangelibrarian.com>



Figure No. (3) from <http://freerangelibrarian.com>

The blog indicates that it specializes in the library relationships between librarians and intellectual output published in the specialization to help in the professional development of the staff of the field the blog is managed by blogger K.G. Schneider who is working as a librarian and writer the blog contains articles and pictures and some videos which are reviewed. The blog provides a list of recent and earlier blogs registered in July 2003. The blog may be surfed in two ways by use of chronological surfing the other way through objective links, not alphabetical order. Tags are used in the search through the blog to be shown on the first page of the blog.



Figure No. (4) from <http://freerangelibrarian.com>

The content of the blog shall be easier to find if there is an objective order of inputs as available in that blog the search box also shall additional benefit as the blog shall have a search box and search engine there are no additional links but only a list of subjects included offers and publications.

The blog has specified certain conditions for additional comments as follows :

- To be interesting even if it's controversial.
- Amusing intentionally or unintentionally.
- Historically important.
- Has certain significance.
- For or against included blogs.

4. Libraryman ⁽³⁴⁾ <http://www.libraryman.com/blog>

The blog covers news and announcements of jobs and other information, specifically professional information in science and technology of libraries such as conferences, intellectual output, and news. The blog started as a 2011 participation show at least many times each day. The participation to show the daily date each entry to show brief separate address retained participations may be retrieved through our history.

The blogs provide a list of recent blogs and provide subscriptions through email or RSS. Subjects are archived historically in search tags of the archived subjects through some objective categories the owner of the blog Michael How is a librarian with more than 20 years of experience in library work he was working in OCLC the blog shows some pictures of with flicker.



Figure No. (5) from: <http://www.libraryman.com/blog>

5-Musings about Librarianship ⁽³⁵⁾

<http://munsingsaboutlibrarianship.blogspot.com->

This blog covers a great scope of issues in the field of the library specializing in the professional development of staff in the field of technology and how it can be used by librarians. It includes subjects about the future profession of the librarian in light of new challenges. Covers a wide range of current manual skills such as technical archiving. There are many general participation related to announcements of jobs available in the field.

The blog was designed in a good manner and easy to use. Each blog has a different number of entries. This is beneficial to search the sidebar showing a list of preferred sites the continent has been arranged in chronological order. There are links for librarians on the sidebar of the page. Such as new books societies conferences and journals and some related blogs there are regular updating of blogs weekly. There is a range of 15-20 participants each month.



Figure No. (6) from: <http://munsingsaboutlibrarianship.blogspot.com->

Samples of Arabic Blogs:

Blogging on the internet started in 1999 Arab blogs appeared in 2004 it is spread and have their effect as of 2005 concurring with the start of a political movement in the region Arab Librarians Blog⁽³⁶⁾ which is considered the first Arab blog in the field of libraries and information bloggers played a significant role and participated greatly in the process of change and increase political awareness, especially between the youth⁽³⁷⁾. Blogs were used to inform sources of information, ideas, news Arab and international news in the electronic and paper environment.

The number of Arab blogs according to the report issued by the Center of (Taking of Decision in the Egyptian Council of Ministers) was about 490.00 till the middle of 2008⁽³⁸⁾.

Arab blogs spread on different hosting sites most important being www.blogger.com owned by Google company and site of www.wordpress.com in addition to the site www.maktoobblog.com which is an Arab site to host blogs. By tell middle of 2009 it hosted more than 190.00 blogs from the Arab area. In addition, some other sites that provide services such as the Elaf blog, Neighbor blog, and Kattab blog of the Arab Network for human rights information.

<http://www.gelapal.com/vb/showthead.php?t=3846>

The site for listed Arabic blogs specialized in the field of libraries and information with a total of 60 blogs in 2023. A selection from them was made and samples were displayed of blogs that contain professional considerations

1-Information guardians ⁽³⁹⁾

<http://infoguardians.blogspot.com>



Figure No. (7) from: <http://infoguardians.blogspot.com>

The Arab Blog for Library and Information Specialists determined its aim as to serve new generation leaders in the profession the blog provides reviews of recent foreign books and journals news on technology information in the field of databases software internet applications etc.. the blog also provides news of specialist conferences held aboard.

Blogs are daily dated there is historical archiving of blogs in addition to their retrieval through a number of objective entries, they are provided by tags used in the research does not have a search box that facilitates the process of searching the blog is in Arabic and English it includes some educational videos which is useful in process of professional development for staff in the field.

2. Blog of Dr.Mahmoud Elgendy ⁽⁴⁰⁾

<http://mahmoudelegendy.blogspot.com>

The blog was created by Associate Professor in the library information department at Colleges of Arts Menoufia Prince Nourah bint Abdulrahman University for Girls Riyadh. This blog publishes the scientific opinions of it is a creator in the specialization of libraries and information as news and specialist subjects in the field to enable constructive interaction between specialists and enriched the field through meaningful discussions and progressive thought that takes note of requirements or our present era which shall provide professional assistance for staff in the field.



Figure No. (8) from <http://mahmoudegendy.blogspot.com>

3. Menoufia librarian blog ⁽⁴¹⁾.

<http://librariansinmenofia.blog.com>

The blog contains a number of subjects in the field of library and information. It was created by students of the library department of Menoufia University the blog is concerned with publishing works research and articles in the field of library and information and following all-new occurring events to know ideas of specialists in the field hereby increasing awareness for all who are concerned in this field in addition it enables youth to publish their hobbies and talent to give them opportunity to display their talents to serve their specialization and professional development of concerned and staff of the field.

The blog provides a number of links with some Arab and Egyptian libraries specialized in the field of library and information. Links to some books which are loadable and provide biographies of individuals who are engaged in the field of libraries do not provide a search box or headlines of subjects or search tags. It provides historical archives of blogs.



Figure No. (9) from <http://librariansinmenofia.blog.com>

4-Professional Librarian ⁽⁴²⁾

<http://www.professionallibrarian.blogspot.com>

The blog aims to be abreast of the most recent techniques in all parts of the world in the field library and information to serve staff in the field and attain a better future to achieve this aim the blog displays recent trends in the specialization in a separate link through this address for information and applied all updates in all developments in the field the create of the blog is Mohammed Alside who is a librarian. The blog provides links to some books and electronic journals in the field of libraries and information. The blog is relatively new the earliest blog recorded is on the date of 22/11/2006.

Research in the content of the previous blog is made through history as blogs are historically archived the blog does not provide another way of searching for content of the blog such as a search box our search in content through objective entries also does not provide search tags.



Figure No. (10) from <http://www.professionallibrarian.blogspot.com>

5-Professional Librarian ⁽⁴³⁾

<http://marwaadam1.blogspot.com>

Created by Marwa Adam who is a librarian, the earliest blog made was on 18/11/2007.

The blog has some professional interests related to archiving and processing of dealing with information resources of different types in automated systems for libraries according to MARC 21 format and internationally approved formats, therefore, the blog is concerned with the provision of some subjects such as the Unified Arab Index and the Arab agreement on protection of copyright. However, there are some general participations regarding the Holy Quran, Islamic arts, and the Message of Islam library.

The blogs are chronologically archived to enable readers to review old blogs. Blogs are updated relatively for long periods each month Some blogs are in English. There is no search box in blog content the general design of the front of the blog is easy and simple the blog provides object entries of blogs on the first page of the blog in the right bar however it is not alphabetically ordered.



Figure No. (11) from <http://marwaadam1.blogspot.com>

6-Information Way ⁽⁴⁴⁾

<http://theinformationway.blogspot.com/index.html>

This blog was created by Ahmed Elsayed on Muharram 1431H, In the first page of the blog he stated that it's directed to all staff engaged in libraries and information.

The subject of the blog is historically achieved it provides links to some libraries such as Al-Babtain Library for Arabic Poetry and provides some links to Arab specialist blogs in the field of library and information for example blog for science and information, and blog of librarians in Menoufia, blog of Colleague Mahmoud Sayed - Congress Library, Cairo. The blog also provides links to some specialized websites in the field of library information including Unified Arab Index, Yasser Forum for Libraries, and Information Technologies, and Arab Gate for Libraries and Information. links for some websites of Egyptian and Arab libraries such as Alexandria Library, Egyptian National Library and Archives, King Abdulaziz Public Library Saudi Arabia, and Lebanese National Library. it provides website links for international libraries such as the Global Digital Library, the Library of Congress, and the British Library.

The blog provides international and Arab search engines such as Google, Yahoo, Ayna, and Alta Vista. As research of blog is easy thorough subject headings. a research box is available. the blog provides some news concerning the profession of the library.

The heading is identified historically through the date of day, month, and year but this blog lacks a presence search box so the process of search is difficult inside the blog content.



Figure No. (12) from <http://theinformationway.blogspot.com/index.html>

7-Second Generation of Library (45)

<http://ahelmasry.wordpress.com>

The creator of the blog Dr. Ahmed H Elmasry mentioned in the first page the goal of this blog and the reason for choosing this subject for the blog is its relationship to professional development for staff in the field. He stated that the concept of the second generation of the library (library 2.0) was a subject of discussion in many electronic blogs and specialist social networks as some blogs formulated by library specialists noting that these new developments and principles are not relatively new as they were a part of the philosophy of many of the developers of library serves since early 19th century. some other blogs call to provide more examples for libraries to transform the previous generation into libraries of the second generation.

(Library 2.0) This requires the blog to concentrate on Web 2 applications in libraries, how to use them, and qualify staff to master the use of this technique. Therefore the blog subject generally discusses all forums of Web 2 and forums of its use in libraries. There are many articles discussing some of the professional opinions of the specialization. such as the following article: argument on the second generation of libraries (library 2.5).



Figure No. (13) from: <http://ahelmasry.wordpress.com>

-Links are available for the most recent blogs in this specialization. Recent blogs are recorded. There is historical archiving of the blogs. Blog provides a search box that facilitates search in blog content. The blog also provides several research tags.

4. Conclusion and recommendations:

Blogs are considered one of the most important sites for their usefulness as professional development tools. Most of these blogs are characterized by accuracy, are updated almost daily, and cover many professional issues, especially when they address user concerns such as copyright, privacy, and censorship, which have a significant impact on the professional development of workers in the field of libraries and information.

Blogs are considered one of the most important sites because of their usefulness as tools for professional development. Most of these blogs are characterized by accuracy, are updated almost daily, and cover many professional issues, especially when they meet user concerns such as copyright, privacy, and censorship, which have a significant impact on the professional development of workers in the field of libraries and information. Despite all these advantages However, some obstacles hinder the use of blogs as a tool for professional development, including that workers in the library and information sector need training on how to use this technology and the lack of internal desire among teachers to benefit from this technology and resistance to change. The study recommended the need to pay more attention to training workers in the field of libraries and information and develop a forward-looking vision of the possibilities that blogs provide for training librarians.

The study recommends the following:

1- Professional development for workers in the library and information sector by conducting organized training courses using blogs.

- 2- Spreading awareness among library and information specialists about the role of blogs and their impact on their professional development.
- 3- There are many and varied electronic professional development programs in blogs, which leads to the diversity and multiplicity of opportunities to choose from according to the existing need and the nature of the development program to attract the interest of the largest possible number of workers in the library and information sector.
- 4- Develop future about the possibilities offered by blogs for training librarians.
- 5- Relying on self-learning and emphasizing the principle of continuous learning using blogs.

WORKS CITED

- 1- Grossman , L. K. (2014) . Meet Joe Blog. No. 21, PP 65-69.
- 2- Rebeccz , B. (2006) .Weblogs: A History and Perspective ..Rebecca's pocket. http://www.rebeccablood.net/essays/weblog_history.html> (Accessed on 11/22/2004).
- 3- m Fadi ,Jamil and Lama, Fakher.(2023) . The extent of benefit from electronic social networking sites among Arab librarians in the professional field. In: The Twenty-Fourth Conference of the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information, entitled The Profession and Studies of Library and Information Studies: Reality and Trends. 71-88. P.27-26.
- 4- Al-Salem, M. S. (2019) Using the Internet to develop the skills of information specialists. In: The twentieth conference of the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information, entitled Towards a new generation of information systems and specialists: a future vision. Casablanca (9-11-2019), p. 861-891.
- 5- Adel, Amina, Abdel-Al, El-Sayed, and Khalifa Wahba Muhammad.(2019) Social networks and their impact on the specialist and the library: a comprehensive study of the presence and use of Facebook. In: The Thirteenth Library and Information Specialist Conference entitled Library and Society in Egypt under the slogan "The Library is the Industry of Life." The Egyptian Arabic Republic . Cairo (July 5-7, 2019).
- 6- Patrice , L. (2018) . A case study: cooperative cataloguing training for academic librarians in An East City (City H) A successful story through cooperation .. The international journal of learning. , 14,(12).
- 7- Susan . K.M. (2021). Professional development of academic library professionals in Kerala . .Education for information . ,No28. ,Pp. 215-225.
- 8- Connie . K.H. (2018) . Online workplace training in libraries .. Information Technology and libraries ., (March,2018)
- 9- Marshall .P. (2019) Social networking strategies for professionals . .The systems libraries . 40(12)
- 10- Mary C. , Kate . E. (2016). Assessing the professional development needs of distance libraries in Academic libraries . .Journal of library administration .,Vol.45 (No.1/2) Pp. 81-99.
- 11- Mansour, Essam. (2019) Blogs are a new source of information. Information studies. Verse 5 (May). Available in : http://www.informationstudies.net/issue_list.php?action=getbody&titleid
- 12- Farraj, Abdul Rahman. (2016) Electronic blogs with special reference to the blogs of libraries and librarians. Informatics. P14 is available at : <http://informatics.gov.sa/details.php?id=14>
- 13- Safe, we bark. (2019) Arab electronic blogs between free expression and alternative journalism. Available in : <http://kenanaonline.com/users/mavie/posts>
- 14- Farraj, Abdul Rahman. (2016) previous source
- 15- - Bronze, Rick. (2014) Blog: A powerful tool for gathering market information. In: Webmasters World Conference. Quoted from: Al Jazeera newspaper, 5/9/2004 <http://www.al-jazirah.com.sa/digimag/09052004/maaa35.htm>
- 16- Saleem, Hussein Ahmed. (2017) Electronic blogs. Available in : 26/4/2017. <http://pulpit.alwatanvoice.com/articles>
- 17- Rebecca , B. (2006) Loc .Cit

- 18 - Hane, P. J. (2020) . Blogs Are a Natural for Librarians .. News Link. No. 24 .
- 19- S. A . Coggins (2021) . What is the Difference Between Weblogs and Websites <http://weblogs.about.com/cs/weblogs101/f/blogvswebsite.htm>
- 20- Ismail, Shaima. (2017) Egyptian blogs on the World Wide Web are a source of information. journal Cybrarians . Available in: <http://www.cybrarians.info/journal/no13/blogs.htm>.
- 21- *ibid.*, p. 28.
- 22- Al-Zuhairi, Talal Nazim. (2021) The phenomenon of digital blogs and social motivations. April 12, 2011 AD, available in: <http://alnwaihi.maktooblog.com/1617819/%D8%B8%D8%A7%D>
- 23 - Caliph, Hind Suleiman. (2009) A comparison between blogs and the Jusoor e-learning management system. Availability date: April 23, 2011, available in : ww.abegs.org/sites/Upload/DocLib
- 24- Hussein, Abdul Rahman. (2010) Blogs are new windows for participation and change: an analytical study of the content of a sample of blogs in Egypt during 2009. Available in: <http://abdo2000.maktooblog.com>
- 25 - Clyde , L. A. (2024) . Library Weblogs .. Library Management . Vol. 25(No. 4/5) pp. 183-189.
- 26 - Boyd , S. (2024) . Are You Ready for Social Software? .. Darwin Magazine Accessed (11/22/2004)
- 27 - Rodzilla , J. (2024) We've Got Blog: How Weblogs Are Changing Our Culture . Cambridge, MA: Perseus Publishing .
- 28- Mujahid, Amani (2018) Employing Web 2.0 applications in providing advanced services in the field of libraries and information. At the fifth conference of the Saudi Library and Information Association. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Jeddah, (28 – 29 October 2018)
- 29 - Clyde, L.A. (2024) . *Loc.Cit.*
- 30 - <http://www.onlinecollege.org/2012/07/10/100-best-blogs-school-librarians/>
- 31 - <http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/about>
- 32 - <http://keptup.typepad.com/academic/>
- 33 - <http://freerangelibrarian.com>
- 34 - <http://www.libraryman.com/blog>
- 35 - <http://musingsaboutlibrarianship.blogspot.com>
- 36- Faraj, Abdul Rahman. (2016). *Loc.Cit.*
- 37- Maklad, Diana (2016) Governments' battles with blog owners. The Middle East . Al-Arab International Newspaper, 100(36) . Available in : <http://www.asharqalawsat.com/leader.asp>
- 38- Ismail, Shaima (2017). *Loc.Cit.*
- 39 - <http://infoguardians.blogspot.com>
- 40 - <http://mahmoudelgendy.blogspot.com>
- 41 - <http://librariansinmenofia.blogspot.com>
- 42 - <http://www.professionallibrarian.blogspot.com>
- 43 - <http://marwaadam1.blogspot.com>
- 44 - <http://theinformationway.blogspot.com/index.html>
- 45 - <http://ahelmasry.wordpress.com>