

Technologies learned from the Internet Application course and Innovation in Library and Information Services

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There is no doubt that changes that are driven by new technologies profoundly shape the way libraries manage content and deliver services. To help patrons navigate through the digital age, libraries are adapting by deploying innovations and librarians are evolving in their roles as well. Apart from learning about the necessary skills of a librarian, such as collection development, cataloguing, and reference, library professionals are demanded to develop technology skills and catch up with cutting-edge-technology to utilize them in the library's content management and service delivery effectively. Internet application development is an example of these skills that allow librarians to use programming concepts, languages (i.e. HTML, CSS, and JavaScript), and version control system (i.e. GitHub) to implement innovations in libraries.

One of the most important innovations in libraries is digital transformation. Libraries house a wide range of collections, so it is no wonder that digital transformation is the vital strategy for libraries to shift their material and service deliveries from traditional models to electronic and web-based approaches. Librarians, who have Internet Application development skills, can get involved in developing websites to digitalize the collection and make it available online. This form of digitization not only help libraries better manage collections but also promote the value of libraries to patrons. JavaScript is a client-side language allowing to generate a fast, responsive, and dynamic web content which is definitely a strategy for libraries

to unleash the power of digitalization to make digitized collections in libraries act as face-out displays and to generate interests of physical visits.

Another effective idea that libraries can implement to promote their services is a blog. While libraries do not have a budget for service advertisements, a blog is a useful interactive platform for libraries to communicate with patrons, engage communities, and market their programs and services. Library staff can use their HTML, CSS, and JavaScript knowledge to make their own blog or customize open source website builders (i.e. WordPress), personalize the blog theme as well as design relevant features for posting a book review, book award, opening for discussion, alerting about the new collection or introducing reading maps, etc.

In addition, library professionals can utilize GitHub as a version control system to manage, store, and share revisions of their projects in libraries. This repository can be used to manage not only coding files, but also any other types of documents, and as such, it can help libraries cut costs and save time. It is my belief that what we learned from the Internet Application course are important skills for us to be able to play an active role in the workplace in the data-driven age.