THINKING OF DIFFERENT STRATEGIES FOR SERVING ICHTHYOLOGY USER DEMAND AT THE INSTITUTO DE ICTIOLOGIA DEL NORDESTE (INICNE) LIBRARY, CORRIENTES, ARGENTINA

Lucrecia Felquer
Romina Soledad Medina
Biblioteca del Instituto de Ictiología del Nordeste
Facultad de Ciencias Veterinarias
Universidad Nacional del Nordeste
Sargento Cabral 2139, 3400 Corrientes, Argentina
lucrecia@bib.unne.edu.ar and inicne@vet.unne.edu.ar

Abstract: Developing research, education and extension activities in the ichthyological area is the purpose of the Instituto de Ictiología del Nordeste (INICNE). The specialized library participates through the Library Network sharing bibliographic, human and technological sources and exchanging information for the improvement of the above mentioned activities (teaching, research and extension practice).

Keywords: ichthyology, libraries, library networks, Argentina.

The Library’s activities are divided/shared in three areas:
• Research: involves development projects, scientific production related with publications or papers and human (source) formation.
• Teaching: includes graduate and postgraduate courses.
• Extension: involves the development of projects and paper publication.

Otherwise, the strategies proposed here allow improvement of Quality + Excellence + Relevancy, which are the three main objectives of the academic institution.

With the goal of showing the way, the INICNE Library develops its daily work based on the interest of the specialized users working there, the information unit has developed and implemented the following activities:

• Electronic inputs using the bibliographic software Pérgamo, an Integral Library Management System (ILMS) developed by WalySoft from Argentina, purchased by the UNNE and used by the Library Network of the academic units belonging to the university. This software allows source sharing and information exchange in order to satisfy the increasing demand of informational products and services. INICNE’s Library serves every academic user who demands ichthyological information. So at present we are carrying on exhaustive work to improve the access and availability of bibliographic resources. Thus, we have standardized/normalized the entrance to authorship, analyticals, journals’ titles, inventory, descriptors and book numbers fields, following the Pérgamo instructions. These steps have been regularly checked and corrected if necessary.
• Open Access to electronic documents that are available on line through the Pérgamo OPAC from this URL http://redbiblio.unne.edu.ar/opac
    ➢ The PDFs generated are free access documents that have been sent by their authors or selected from the Revista de Ictiología, and most have been collected for inclusion in the institutional projects. We continue developing this activity on a daily basis.
• Careful identification and selection of documents related to the ichthyology of continental environments useful to the research INICNE and according to user profiles.
  ➢ At present, twelve institutional internal projects and four external research groups are in process. All of them belong to the ichthyology or freshwater fishes of continental waters.
  ➢ The library also assists students writing their theses as well as ten advanced fellows who need either access to old papers and new ones.
• Constant and consistent updates done by using the FAO terms from ASFA and AGROVOC thesauri in order to guarantee adequate search results. These processes are considered of great importance in order to guarantee not only the quality of the electronic inputs, but also the searching and retrieval success. If necessary, proposed terms were also included, even those related to a geographic region. This activity is daily successfully improved, due to the great experience obtained as co-partner of INIDEP in FAO-ASFA methodology. Unfortunately, we had to discontinue participation in this initiative because of the choice of Pérgamo software.
• Two research projects have been presented by INICNE’s library: Commented virtual bibliography of the Iberá Macrosystem, Corrientes (Argentina) and Specialized bibliography of Argentine freshwater fishes. These projects serve as useful bibliographic sources to the INICNE’s research activities. Most of the papers in our database come from these projects that are useful to institutional aims.
• Improvement of the institutional research journal Revista de Ictiología. This was possible because of the library collaboration and participation in the publishing team. Before coming to IAMSLIC, the editor in chief together with the editorial board decided to stop publishing in the Revista de Ictiología due to its thematic limitations - that is, there are not enough ichthyological papers to fulfill the evaluation criteria necessary to maintain visibility. Criteria are those required by CAICYT, LATINDEX, Nucleo Basico de Publicaciones and SCielo.ar) Therefore it was decided to publish papers related to freshwater fishes in Revista Veterinaria, a journal that belongs to the academic institution and is ranked in SCImago index, a SCOPUS product.

The above activities are our main ones and they are complemented by interlibrary loans and exchanges as well as institutional participation in regional and international networks such as SIDALC, AGRIFOR, AIBDA and RECIARIA, and from now on with IAMSLIC.

Finally, since the implementation of these strategies, our users are changing their informational behavior, from dependancy to self service.