

Editorial

We present the final issue of the seventeenth volume of the *International Journal of Information Studies*, featuring the research described below.

In the opening paper, “**URL Decay in Library and Information Science E-Learning Content: An Analysis of URL Persistence and Recovery in e-PG Pathshala,**” the authors assessed URL accessibility, HTTP error distributions, and the effectiveness of the Internet Archive’s Wayback Machine. The study aimed to investigate the prevalence, persistence, and recovery of URL citations within the Library and Information Science (LIS) e-learning modules of the e-PG Pathshala platform. The authors concluded that while web archiving serves as a highly effective safety net for rescuing lost digital resources, mitigating link rot requires proactive, systemic measures.

In the next paper, “**Awareness and Understanding of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Among Research Scholars: A Study at Kuvempu University,**” the authors examined research scholars’ awareness, understanding, and practices regarding IPR at Kuvempu University. Using a descriptive survey design, the authors collected data from 135 research scholars across various disciplines through a structured questionnaire. The findings reveal a significant “awareness competence disparity”: while nominal awareness of IPR is exceptionally high (98.5%), deep conceptual mastery remains limited, with only 17.78% of scholars reporting substantive proficiency.

In the following paper, “**Artificial Intelligence and Digital Maturity in Asia-Pacific Higher Education: A Co-occurrence Analysis and Evidence-Informed Research Agenda,**” the authors synthesised the supplied analysis of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital maturity in Asia Pacific (APAC) higher education and reorganised the findings into a coherent research framework. The analysis combines a conceptual map, keyword co-occurrence networks, a co-occurrence strength matrix, a staged research agenda, an impact feasibility prioritisation matrix, a gap to agenda mapping, a thematic coverage assessment, and an illustrative latent growth model (LGM) framework for institutional AI-DMI trajectories.

In the final paper, “**Exploring E-Resource Usage Trends in Engineering Libraries across Selected Divisions,**” the authors evaluated the usage trends, user preferences, and operational challenges associated with electronic resources (e-resources) in private engineering libraries. Using a quantitative survey design, the study employed a multistage stratified random sampling technique. The findings highlight an urgent need for academic libraries to upgrade digital infrastructure, implement targeted information literacy programmes, and enhance the digital promotion of library services to optimise e-resource utilisation.

The papers published in this issue are based on extensive, in-depth research in information sciences.

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