“Lessons learned for libraries during the pandemic: A review”

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Introduction

Critical roles of libraries and librarians in pandemic:
1) Promote public health awareness by creating and disseminating information relating to preventive measures;
2) Support research teams, researchers and faculty by providing information regarding the latest developments, research and literature;
3) Meet the core needs of regular library users
Ali & Gatiti (2020).
Literature Review

Landoy, (2020) University of Bergen Library in Norway,
Walsh, (2020) University of Toronto Libraries Canada,
Bakti (2020), Social networking services in Indonesia,
Chewe (2020), Social media role in academic libraries in
Zambia,
Yap (2020), libraries in Kazakhstan,
Moat (2020), Library of Congress: The Boccaccio Project,
the USA,
Franca (2021), Edge Hill University libraries in the Uk,
Harris (2021), Academic libraries in Jamaica,
Othman (2021), (LIS) postgraduate students of
Bangladesh.
Methodology:
LIBRARY REOPENING MODEL
Apollo Project method:

(Boardley, R. 2020)
First Step
- Define requirements

Second Step
- Create the relevant committees and assign responsibilities.

Third Step
- Create the relevant subcommittees and assign responsibilities

Forth Step
- Work and plan

Fifth Step
- Evaluate the solution against the subcommittee’s requirements

Sixth Step
- Support rollout
Define requirements: students, instructors, researchers and librarians, itemize the key benefits in addition to training and services.

Create the relevant committees and assign responsibilities: on-site librarian committee, a remote service committee and a medical committee.

Create the relevant subcommittees and assign responsibilities: the on-site library committee might break off into smaller groups that address safety enforcement, design and building ventilation and sanitation.
Work and plan: For example, if the safety subcommittee concludes that some members will not keep masks on in library, the coordinator might create more aggressive requirements for those working on library design and ventilation.

Evaluate the solution against the subcommittee’s requirements:
Integrate proposals from every committee, The committee solution is then evaluated against the committee’s requirements.

Support rollout: Maintenance and adaptation is needed to deal with unforeseen events such as running out of masks or patrons and library staff getting sick.
“Five key values of libraries in pandemic and post pandemic period” (IFLA, 2020)
Lessons learned from pandemic for post pandemic period

Library leaders
Equipment
Library staff
Reference services
Library instruction programs
Interlibrary loan services
CONCLUSION:

As predicting the ending time for pandemic is still unknown and libraries are still in their infancy of experiencing unforeseeable problems, it is necessary to plan a unified integrated model for library reopening programs. Apollo project method with regard to library values and goals are the key factors in managing and providing better services for potential library users and researchers; however, practical lessons learned from libraries experiences around the world are also adaptable to post pandemic period and should not be neglected.
References:


Boardley, R. 2020. Deciding how and whether to reopen schools is complex – here’s how rocket scientists would develop a plan.


França, Anna. 2021. Transforming Library Collections in a Pandemic: The Perspective from Edge Hill University”. Insights Vol. 34, no.1


IFLA policy and advocacy blog. 2020. Five Library Values that Should Matter in a Post-Pandemic World


