

## From the Desk of Executive Director



The recently announced "One Nation, One Subscription" initiative by Govt. of India aims to provide affordable and universal access to scholarly resources, including research papers, journals, and databases, for students, researchers, and academic institutions. By pooling resources and negotiating at the national level, the government has secured a better subscription deal from publishers, reducing costs significantly.

Individual colleges and universities no longer need to pay for separate subscriptions, saving them substantial amounts of money. The program ensures that academic resources, which were often accessible only to well-funded institutions, are available to all educational institutions and researchers across the country.

It helps bridge the gap between rural and urban institutions, promoting equitable access to knowledge. Researchers in emerging or underfunded fields gain access to niche journals and publications that may have been unaffordable otherwise and thus promotes interdisciplinary research by making diverse fields accessible to all. Universal access to high-quality research materials will encourage more researchers, students, and faculty to engage in cutting-edge research with a potential to transform India's academic and research ecosystem, fostering a more inclusive and innovative society.

For its strong success, ONOS scheme requires the development of robust digital infrastructure for content delivery, benefiting the education sector, and thus, contribute to India's vision of becoming a knowledge-driven economy by democratizing access to academic resources. As a partnering institution, Balani Infotech, welcomes the initiative and congratulates the Govt. of India for launching the scheme.

***Megha Balani***

## Product Profile:



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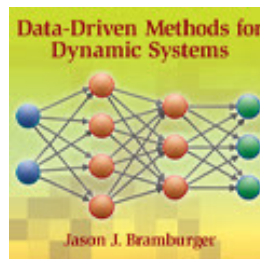
## Publishing News & Notes:

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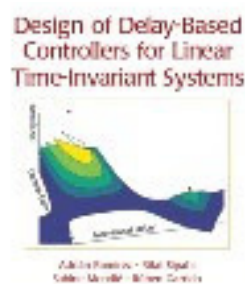
SIAM is exploring ways to improve the accessibility of our online publications. If you have a visual impairment and read SIAM publications, we would appreciate your input! Please fill out this form to join our new Accessibility Advisory Group.

### Data-Driven Methods for Dynamic Systems by Jason J. Bramburger



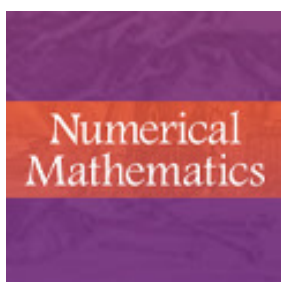
As experimental data sets have grown and computational power has increased, new tools have been developed that have the power to model new systems and fundamentally alter how current systems are analyzed. Learn more.

### Design of Delay-Based Controllers for Linear Time-Invariant Systems



By Adrián Ramírez, Rifat Sipahi, Sabine Mondié, and Rubén Garrido. This book provides the mathematical foundations needed for designing practical controllers for linear time-invariant systems. Learn more.

### Numerical Mathematics by Jeffrey Owall



This textbook introduces key numerical algorithms used for problems arising in three core areas of scientific computing: calculus, differential equations, and linear algebra. Learn more.

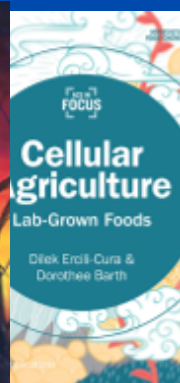
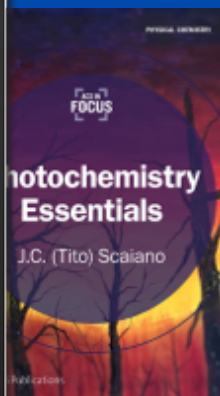
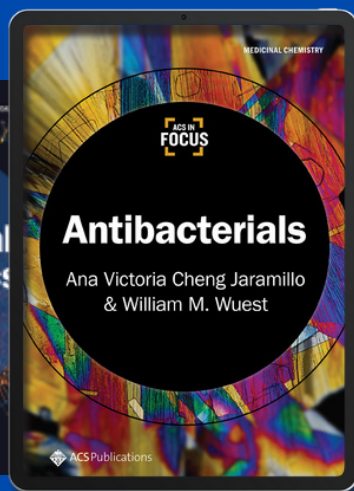
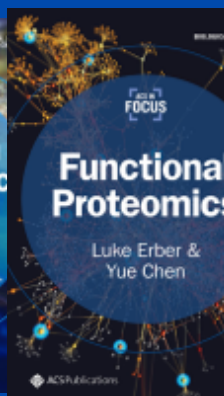
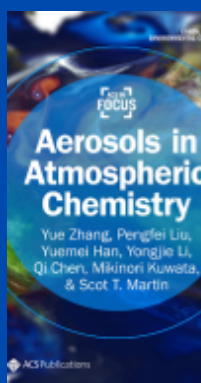
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## LIS Corner

### Creative Common Licenses

Creative Commons (CC) licenses are a set of public licenses that allow creators to share their work with others while retaining some rights. These licenses provide a flexible range of protections and freedoms for authors, artists, educators, and more. Below is a summary of the main Creative Commons licenses:

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- **Use Case:** Allows redistribution, remixing, adaptation, and commercial use as long as attribution is provided.

#### 2. CC BY-SA (Attribution-Share-Alike)

- **Requirements:** Attribution required; derivatives must be licensed under identical terms.
- **Use Case:** Often used for works intended to remain free, such as Wikipedia content.

#### 3. CC BY-ND (Attribution-No-Derivatives)

- **Requirements:** Attribution required; no modifications or derivative works allowed.
- **Use Case:** Used when creators want to allow sharing without alteration.

#### 4. CC BY-NC (Attribution-Non-Commercial)

- **Requirements:** Attribution required; use allowed only for non-commercial purposes.
- **Use Case:** Common for educational or personal projects that prohibit commercial exploitation.

#### 5. CC BY-NC-SA (Attribution-Non-Commercial-ShareAlike)

- **Requirements:** Attribution required; non-commercial use only; derivatives must be licensed under identical terms.
- **Use Case:** Promotes free culture while restricting commercial exploitation.

#### 6. CC BY-NC-ND (Attribution-Non-Commercial-NoDerivatives)

- **Requirements:** Attribution required; non-commercial use only; no derivatives allowed.
- **Use Case:** Most restrictive license, allowing only sharing without alteration or commercial use.

#### 7. Public Domain Dedication (CC0)

- **Requirements:** None. The creator waives all rights, placing the work in the public domain.
- **Use Case:** Allows maximum freedom for use, even without attribution.

### **BigInfo spoke to Dr. Fayaz Lone, University Librarian, University of Kashmir, Kashmir, on professional issues. Some Excerpts:**



**BI: Please describe about your professional journey and important achievements.**

FL: Starting my professional journey in 2007, I am honoured to have served some prestigious universities in the country. My first appointment was as Assistant Librarian at the Panjab University Chandigarh. I also served at the Central University of Kashmir and the University of Kashmir in various capacities, such as Documentation Officer, Assistant Librarian, and Deputy Librarian. In 2022, I was appointed as the University Librarian at the Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir, and later, the University Librarian at the University of Kashmir, where I am serving.

**BI: Please share your professional contribution and innovations in Library and Information Services.**

FL: I have served in four universities in the country in different capacities and played different roles. However, I will stress my professional contribution after taking over as the University Librarian at the Islamic University of Science and Technology and the University of Kashmir. I have introduced innovative concepts in the collection development of libraries and focused on building the Nobel Laureate Collection, Booker Prize Collection, Field Medal Collection, and other award-winning collections. I have also focused on Patron-driven Acquisition (PDA) and introduced the "Recommend Your Books" service for scholars/students. Besides, I also introduced and revived many new services for users like Reading Day, Toppers Talk, Book Talk, Meet the Eminent, Meet the Author, Books on Call, Books on Wheels, Reserve My Book, Recommend Your Books, Book Bell, JTOCs, MTOCs, Research Support Services, Publication Support Services, and Publication Authentication Service.

**BI: Please describe your efforts for developing equitable and inclusive library services specially for economically weaker Sections and girl students?**

FL: I have introduced a few services, especially for PWDs and female students. One of the services is "Books on Call". This service is especially for PWDs and pregnant women. These users have just to call us and our library staff delivers the books to their doorsteps. I have also created a section for PWDs at the Allama Iqbal Library, and the 24/7 Reading Hall for Girls is under process. Further, we have also a "Book Bank" facility for socially and economically backward classes, and strengthening its collection will also be my priority.

**BI: What is your research contribution to the field of Library and Information Science as being University Librarian of the biggest University of Kashmir?**

FL: As far as my research contribution is concerned, I have published almost 80 research articles in reputed library and information science journals like IFLA Journal, The Electronic Library, Library Hi Tech, Performance Measurement and Metrics, Journal of Librarianship and Information Science, Global Knowledge Memory and Communication, Data Technologies and Applications, Information Discovery and Delivery, Serials Review, Collection and Curation, Library Management, Digital Library Perspectives, Annals of Library and Information Studies, DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology and Journal of Indian Library Association, and many others. I have given many innovative concepts to Library and Information Science like the Five Laws of Reading, the

Five Laws of Library Associations and Institutions, the Application of Pareto 80/20 Rule in Serials Selection, and Relative Recall Variants in Information Retrieval. Besides, I have published many books, and book chapters and presented more than 30 papers in conferences and seminars. Due to my humble research contribution, I have received almost 1150 citations around the world, having an h-index of 20 and an i10 index of 27.

**BI: What are your observations on the contribution of schemes like ONOS in the promotion of research?**

**FL:** The One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme is a significant initiative aimed at enhancing research capabilities in India. ONOS offers several potential benefits for research promotion by providing centralized access to more than 13,000 academic journals. ONOS breaks down the barriers of fragmented subscriptions, ensuring researchers across the country have equitable access to crucial research materials, regardless of their institutional affiliation or location. This democratization of knowledge is particularly beneficial for researchers in smaller institutions or those in remote areas. Besides, centralized negotiations for national licenses can lead to significant cost savings compared to individual institutional subscriptions. This frees up valuable resources that can be redirected toward other research-related activities.

Further, by providing researchers with access to the latest research findings and methodologies, ONOS can stimulate innovation and improve the quality of research conducted in India. This can lead to a higher volume of high-quality research publications and a stronger global research presence for the country. However, effective utilization of ONOS requires adequate awareness and training among researchers. This includes training on navigating the platform, identifying relevant resources, and utilizing the information effectively for research purposes. This is where the Librarian has to play a crucial role in optimum utilization of the resources. Overall, the ONOS scheme has the potential to significantly contribute to the promotion of research in India by strengthening India's research ecosystem and fostering a culture of innovation.

**BI: What plan do you have for your library both in terms of resources and services in coming years? Please share your ideas.**

**FL:** I strongly believe that libraries will change with time and technology, and so library resources and services. Libraries have to diversify their collection and expand beyond traditional books to incorporate electronic and digital collections for the smart generation users. We have mushrooming growth of books and other resources, and many predatory publishers have also made their presence in the market. Therefore, my focus is always on quality, not quantity. Therefore, I have started to build the Nobel Laureate Collection, Booker Prize Collection, Field Medal Collection, and other award-winning collections in universities where I serve/served as the Librarian. Besides, my focus shall be to collaborate and share resources with other university libraries as no library is self-sufficient to acquire and archive all collections in the present information explosion.

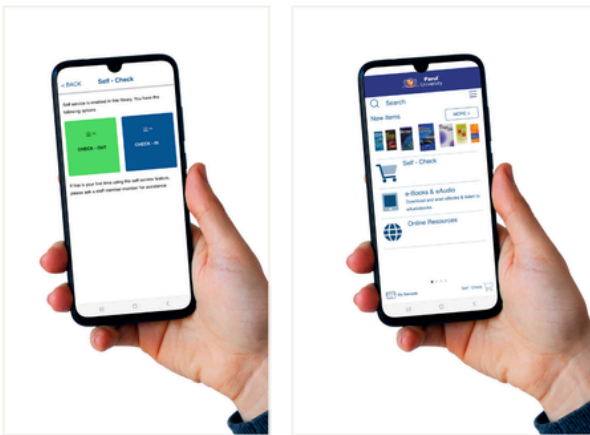
Coming to the service sector, the libraries have to invest in cutting-edge technology to start smart services for smart users. It will be difficult for libraries to satisfy the information and infotainment needs of next-generation users. Therefore, there is a need to expand the basket of library and information services. The smart services like AI-powered recommendation systems, expert systems, information discovery systems, intelligent classification and cataloguing, virtual assistants and chatbots, and predictive analytics for collection management and other smart services using artificial intelligence and machine learning technology will help to serve the digital users in better ways. Besides, the university libraries have to play an active role in building and upgrading the institutional ranking. Research and publication support services can be very vital in this case.

Further, my focus is to organize a wide range of events, including eminent talks, author talks, subject expert talks, toppers talks, book talks, book clubs, film screenings, workshops, and other events to make a library a vibrant institution. Furthermore, to achieve the goal of inclusive education of NEP 2020, inclusive access to information is my priority. The services for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), Socially Backward Classes, Girls Students, and other deprived categories shall also be my priority. I have already taken steps in this regard as mentioned before. Some more services are in the pipeline and will be communicated in due course of time.

## Nexbib RFID and Solus Mobile App: Revolutionizing Library Experiences

Imagine walking into a library where technology greets you at every turn, streamlining your experience while maintaining the charm of browsing through books. This isn't a futuristic dream—it's the reality that RFID systems and the Solus Mobile App bring to libraries. Together, they are transforming how libraries operate and engage with their communities, making them more efficient, secure, and user-friendly.

NEXBIB RFID & SOLUS  
MOBILE APP



### RFID for Libraries: Precision Meets Innovation

Libraries thrive on precision, and RFID technology delivers just that. Unlike other sectors where long-range detection may be crucial, libraries prioritize accuracy to locate items exactly where they belong. Here's how RFID enhances the library ecosystem:

- **High-Frequency Efficiency:** RFID tags in libraries operate on high-frequency technology, ensuring precision over long-range detection—perfect for tracking specific items within stacks or shelves.
- **Smart Security Gates:** With a detection range of up to 160 cm between panels, RFID gates provide robust security. These gates go a step further by identifying items causing alarms, offering librarians detailed insights.
- **Integrated Security:** These gates aren't just about books. They integrate seamlessly with **access control systems and CCTV cameras**, ensuring a secure environment for patrons.

- **Open-Source Integration:** The RFID system connects with LMS platforms using the **SIP2 protocol**, fostering compatibility and adaptability.

### The Solus Mobile App: A Digital Gateway to Libraries

Pairing RFID technology with the Solus Mobile App creates an unparalleled library experience. This app puts the library in the palms of patrons, offering a suite of features that cater to modern needs:

- **Self-Service Made Simple:** Patrons can perform self-check-outs from anywhere in the library, while self-check-ins are restricted to predefined locations within the library, ensuring a smooth operational workflow.
- **Stay Informed with Notifications:** Receive timely updates for overdue items, reservations, and pickups, ensuring you never miss a deadline.
- **Effortless Catalogue Search:** The app provides detailed search results, including FRBRized format rollups, making it easier to find exactly what you're looking for.
- **Manage Your Account:** From registering a new library card to renewing an existing one, everything is just a tap away.

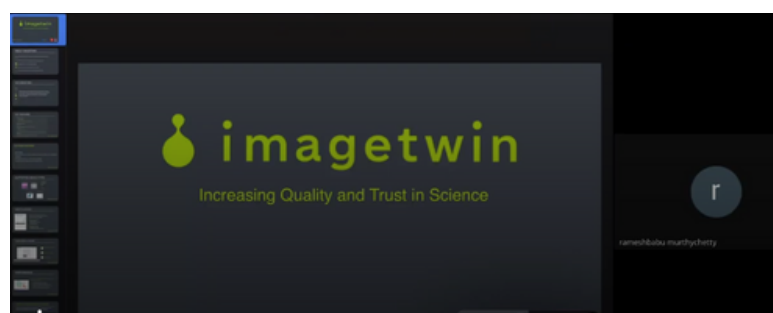
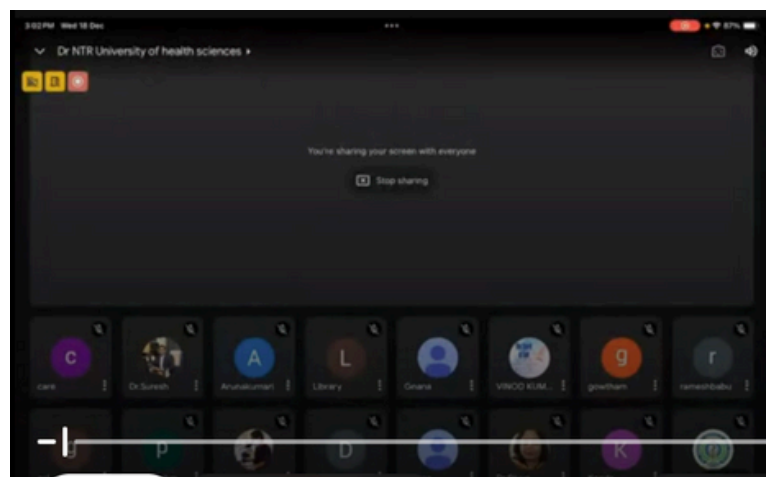
- **Track Your Reading Journey:** A built-in reading tracker helps users monitor their progress and unlock rewards, making reading even more rewarding.
- **Enhanced RFID Tag Support:** Check out multi-part items, like box sets, with ease—the app supports advanced RFID tagging systems.
- **One-Stop Digital Library:** Borrow and read e-books directly within the app, eliminating the need for separate platforms.

With over 100 RFID installations across the country, Nexbib RFID Solutions is a market leader.

## Webinars and Conferences Held

### Following webinars were held in association with Balani Infotech:

1. National Webinar on "Research Ethics and Academic Publishing" organized by SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu on December 9th, 2024.
2. National Webinar on "Research Ethics and Academic Publishing" organized by the Pondicherry University, VBUSS-TN, & NDLI CLUB Pondicherry University on December 16th, 2024.
3. National Webinar on "Research Ethics and Academic Publishing" organized by the Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh on December 18th, 2024.
4. National Webinar on "Research Ethics and Academic Publishing" organized by IQAC, Lakulish Yoga University on December 20th, 2024.
5. National Webinar on "Research Ethics and Academic Publishing" organized by the University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU) on January 10th, 2025.



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- **Responsible AI** - Created in partnership with researchers, the assistant is powered by responsible AI — it respects data privacy and provides reliable research support. By delivering trusted data on more than 120 years of research, it enables researchers to delve into both fundamental research and the latest advancements in their respective fields.

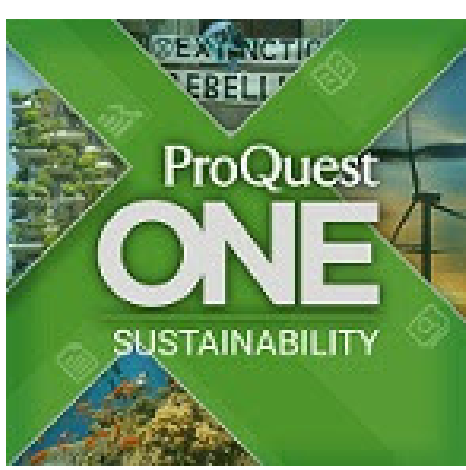
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## Awards & Honours

Congratulations to Dr. Lata Suresh for her groundbreaking book, *Transformative Leadership: Embracing Change in the Dynamic World*, which was recently unveiled at the prestigious ICMBL2024 hosted by KIIT University, Bhubaneswar.



Congratulations to Dr. Akhtar Hussain, Librarian, IMT, Ghaziabad, UP, for receiving AIMS International Outstanding Management Librarian Award for 2024. This recognition is for his significant contributions towards management education at knowledge centres. The award was presented by Dr. Debashis Chatterjee, the Director of IIM Kozhikode, during the AIMS-22 International Conference on Management, which took place at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode, on January 2, 2025.



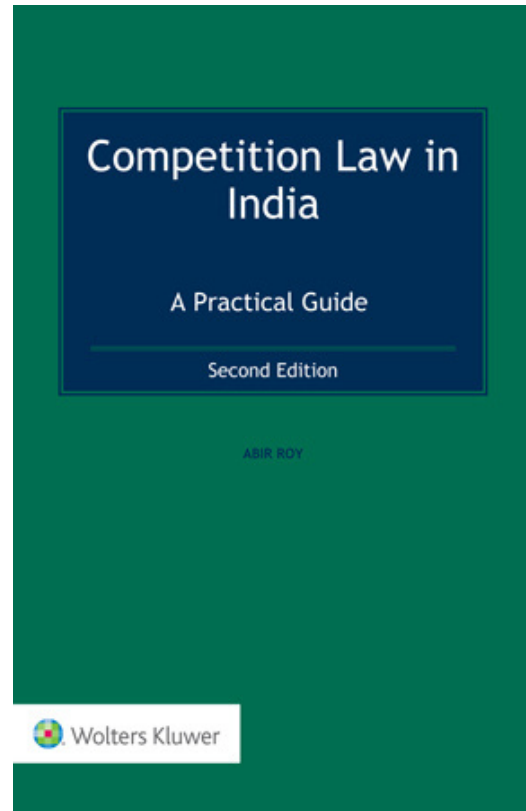
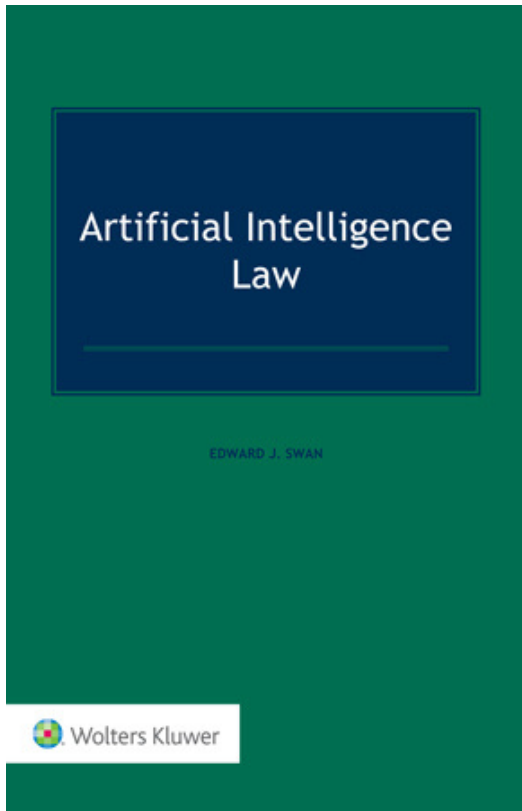
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Warm season's greetings and

Happy New Year 2025



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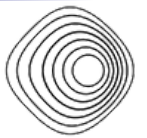


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Share your ideas, observations, news & events related to the libraries, publishing, and information industry on [info@balaniinfotech.com](mailto:info@balaniinfotech.com). We will be happy to publish these in the Newsletter.



*Thank you for reading!*



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