



ACHARYA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Soldevanahalli, Bengaluru – 560 107

Learning Resource Centre (Central Library)

INTRODUCTION

Acharya Institute of Technology was established in the year 2000 and offers 13 undergraduate programmes, 11 postgraduate programmes and 11 research programmes. The Library was established in the same year and now located in an independent spacious building with state-of-the-art infrastructure.

The Learning Resource Centre (Central Library) has State-of-the-Art ICTs, LMS, e-resources, which was inaugurated by Dr. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE on 26.11.2017. Care has been taken to meet the requirements of the Learners, users, Faculty and Research scholars. The newly built facility with an estimated investment of about Rs. 32.00 crores provides much needed facilities in an ideal learning environment. Efforts have been made to access e-learning resources, data management and research analytical tools and make the Library as a “Social Space” that supports present learning styles and expectations of the new generation users.

WORKING HOURS:

8.00 am to 10.00 pm on all working days,
9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Sundays and Holidays.

INNOVATIVE SERVICES AND FACILITIES IN LRC

Services	Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Books Issue/Return, Reference Service• Reprographic, ILL, Literature Search• Printing and Scanning,• Book Bank Service• OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue)• Information Literacy - User Instruction/Orientation Programs• Remote Access – E-Resources of LRC 24x7• Question Point Service – Ask the Librarian 24x7• Research and Publishing Support• Publications, Research Productivity, and Impact Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hall of Fame• Virtual Learning Resource Lab (VLRL)• Institutional Repositories (IR)• Internet/Wi-Fi to access e-Resources• Maker Spaces and Creative Commons and Collaborative workspaces• 3D Printing Facilities• Digital Lending and Smart e-Reading Zone• National Digital Library E-Books Access• Institutional Membership with DELNET, IIMB, CMTI etc.• Library Website• Special Facilities/Services for Differently-abled Users

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications Originality/Anti Plagiarism Check Tools • Document Delivery Services • Consultancy and Research Advisory • Previous Years Exams Question Papers access 24x7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-Resources from VTU, HELINET, N-LIST Consortia • Digital Repository (IR) and access of Acharya Institutes Publications and Non-traditional Resources 24x7 accessible • RFID Technologies
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BORROWING FACILITY

S.N	Member Categories	Loan duration	No.of Books	Over-due charges
1	Teaching Staff	1 semester	10	Rs. 1 per day per book
2	Non-Teaching Staff	1 semester	02	Rs. 1 per day per book
3	Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Books • Book Bank Books • Top5 Students • SC/ST Book Bank 	14 days 1 semester 14 days 1 semester	03 03 03 03	Rs. 1 per day per book

BEST PRACTICES AND INNOVATIVE SERVICES

Following are a few Best Practices and Best Innovative Services introduced with the support of Technology.

1. KOHA “Single Instance - Multiple Libraries” for Networking of Acharya Institutes Libraries has been adopted to provide improved services to the Learners. Following are a few improved facilities using KOHA

- KOHA on Cloud by Amazon Web Services (AWS).
- KOHA integrated with IR.
- ‘Single Instance - Multiple Libraries’ KOHA used for establishing Acharya Libraries Network (ALIBNET) supports resource sharing
- Users can borrow/return books from any Libraries.
- Entry/Exit integrated with KOHA and Users swipe ID cards while entering/leaving.
- Increased transactions and timely return.
- Auto-mailing of transactions, over-dues etc. have been appreciated.
- KOHA has been integrated with ERP of Acharya Institutes.

2. OPAC - LCD Touch Screen Kiosk and LCD Digital Signage Spectrum: LCD Touch Screen OPAC Kiosks have been established to provide Library users to check availability of books on shelves.

Users can reserve, renew books and suggest new books. Digital Signage Spectrum provides information about Library services split in three units.

3. Remote Access of e-resources: EZproxy for remote access has been installed wherein over 20,000 full text e-journals (Current and Archival) and other e-resources from VTU, HELINET, N-LIST (E-ShohdhSindhu) consortia, MANUPATRA, DELNET, etc. can be accessed 24x7 (<https://www.acharyainstitutes.in:4443/login>).

4. IR – Digital Repository of Publications and Nontraditional Resources: Digital repository using DSpace has been created wherein Scientific and Academic staff can upload their publications using web-interface. Architecture portfolios, Designs, Paintings, Art and Artifacts, Models, Reports, Ph.D. Theses and Dissertations are also kept on IR. <http://13.232.72.61:8080/jspui/> IR linked to KOHA and accessible on OPAC / Online.

5. Virtual Learning Resource Lab for e-Resources Use and Training: Seventy five (75) Apple Computers kept in Lab. Audio Visual Unit has 10 Apple Computers and Sony on-ear head phones to watch video lessons/lectures from NPTEL, VTU e-learning, SWAYAM Prabha, Khan Academy, MIT, Stanford and access provided for MOOCS, SWAYAM etc. Multi Operating Systems (Mac OS, Windows and Linux) use promoted. MATLAB, MASM, Turbo C and other software, recommended by AICTE installed for data analysis, design, architecture, animation etc. High-speed Internet bandwidth (1 GB) dedicated leased lines from BSNL and RailTel facility has helped to provide excellent support for curriculum enrichment and Online courses access and to work with different software.

6. ‘Hall of Fame’ to ‘Preserve History, Honor Excellence and Connect the Generations’: Hall of Fame, a unique digital archival facility to Preserve History, Honor Excellence and Connect the Generations has been established. Archiving growth, excellence, models, creativity, influential personalities, Founding members of Acharya Institutes, Academic and Research achievers, Alumni excellence and other important events have been digitized and projected on 7’x12’ HD wall mounted video screen. Videoconferencing facility is being arranged.

7. Maker Spaces, Creative Commons and Collaborative Workspace: Maker Spaces, Creative Commons, Collaborative Workspace have been established helps to turn knowledge into action and for intellectual inquiry, self-directed learning and to acquire life-long learning skills. Apple Computers, Internet and power lines are provided in Study Carrel/Reading Zone. Efforts have been on to make the LRC as a Collaborative learning work space and also to transform Library spaces into learning commons and Social space.

8. RFID Technology has been integrated with KOHA to provide-

- Self Check-in/Check-out Kiosk
- To issue RFID Smart Cards to all Users

- RFID Handheld Reader to find out missing book
- RFID Staff Work stations (Readers)
- Error free easy Transactions and to save User/Staff Time
- Self Check-in/out. More than one book Charged-in/Out at a single transaction

9. Copier facilities: High end Scanners have been kept in all floors, allowing users to scan and copy reading material and attach to their e-mails. This facility is offered free of cost. Also 3D Printing machine kept for developing designs/models.

10. Programs on ICTs in Teaching, Learning and Research skills etc to promote use of e-resources and to sensitize users to access, programs on ICTs in Teaching, Learning and Research, and FDPs are organized at regular intervals. Topics on print and e-resources, communication strategies, teaching effectiveness, Instructional Material Development, ICTs, databases, and new technological/information products are broadly covered.

11. Research Skills and Publication Support: Innovative approaches to support faculty and researchers in their research, information search strategies/skills, instructional material development, developing course packs, e-content development, publishing and communication strategies and reference (Citation) management tools like Mendeley, Zotero etc. have been adopted. One-to-one counseling, identifying gaps and thrust areas of research, emerging research front specialties, plagiarism check, and software training are supported.

12. Question Point Service: 'Online Question Point Service' – 'Ask the Librarian' Asklibrarian@acharya.ac.in has been customized for users of LRC. This is a complete real time online reference helps reference management system that is integrated with e-mail, reference knowledge bank, reports and analytic tools.

13. Playing Music for Reading Effectiveness and Concentration and other users' facilities: To create a healthy reading/learning atmosphere, speakers fixed in all reading spaces, common areas, and service zones to play soothing music. This aims to provide reading effectiveness and helps for sound (Auditory) masking, noise distraction, and also energizes and refreshes boredom, tired mind and increases concentration. This is also used for emergency alerts and announcements.

14. User Friendly Dynamic Library Website: User-friendly dynamic website for increased use and awareness. A 'Single Window' to access all resources including Video Lessons/ Instructional material. Websites of Acharya Institutes Libraries linked to the LRC Website. Library Information folder and user feedback forms linked. It is linked to Social Media - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Linked-In. Users' visits to Library website increased steadily over the period. Users interact with the Web-master with suggestions and appreciations (<https://sites.google.com/site/acharyalrc/>).

15. Library Hour and Future Plans

All efforts have been made to meet the Learners needs. The Library (Learning Resource Centre) is kept open between 8.00 am and 10.00 pm on all working days and 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on all Holidays. Free transportation for about 10 kms is arranged at 10.00 pm for the benefit of users. The Library has plans to introduce following new innovative ideas and service models to the information workplace.

- Drop Box and Collection Units at important locations on Campus, Halls of Residences.
- App for LRC and mobile library applications.
- Google Voice to implement text reference.
- Curation data and develop more sites for research and to promote discoverability.
- Integrating Library Guides into Drupal.
- Library Tools for Teaching, Learning and Training.
- Assistive technologies for differently abled learners and users