

TOUR REPORT OF DR. RAMESH C. GAUR, DIRECTOR (LIB. & INF.) & HEAD OF DIVISION, KALA NIDHI TO ATTEND THE 2019 ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING, HELD ON 14 MARCH, 2019 AT DUBAI, UNITED STATES EMIRATES.

With the kind approval of the Member Secretary, IGNC, I visited Dubai, United States of Emirates to attend the 2019 Academic Advisory Board Meeting held on 14 March, 2019 at Dubai. All the expenses related to the tour were borne by the Organizers and that there was no financial implication on part of the IGNC in this regard.

I reached Dubai on 13 March, 2019 and returned to Headquarters on 16 March, 2019.

The meeting was attended by Librarians & Library Directors from about 22 countries in Asia Pacific Region.

The meeting had two Sessions, one in the forenoon and the other in the afternoon.

The Vice President, Mr. KyungSoo Yi of the EBSCO Information Services welcomed the members of the meeting and made introductions thereafter.

The first Session mainly devoted to open discussions, challenges, goals, and future of higher market. The following topics were discussed:-

- Library Automation/User journey: SaaS, usability testing, discovery, open integrations

- Evidence Based Decision Making: data, analytics, library impact – student outcomes, collection development based
- Collection Development: needs, pain points, new programs, working through budget constraints, source types
- Community: FOLIO, DRM-free, Open Dissertations
- Future Vision of Library: resources, staffing, workflows
- Books: print, electronic, requirements, local content, publisher eCollections

During the above two Sessions, the issues and challenges, goals and the future of the Library Market and also future vision of Library, like resources, staffing, workflows and also working through budgetary constraints, etc., were raised at length. Mr. Mike MacKinnon, Director of Software as Service Innovation, EBSCO Information Services spoke at length on the topics Repositories, Preservation and Education Workflows & also Software as a Service Update.

The discussions in the meeting were very fruitful and also useful in context of the growth of Libraries across the world. The meeting was beneficial to me both as a Library professional and also in discharge of my day-to-day functioning in the IGNCA.

During the Concluding Session, Open Discussions on various issues concerning emerging Library and Technologies were discussed.

(Ramesh C. Gaur)

HOD(KN)