Central Library
IIT Mandi

Newsletter

Vol. 3:1, Summer 2019

In this issue

Dear Library Users,

with this third newsletter we are updating you with the happenings in & around the library in spring 2019. Construction of the new library buildings is still in progress, but on 29th September 2018 the make-shift reading room below Pine mess on North Campus moved into its final destination on the second floor of A11 building (the round building behind Pine mess). As you may see on page 4, it has been well received by the student community. Based on students' requests the opening hours were extended to 2 am. We would like to thank the staff members who had to adjust to the new working hours.

The main library building - the largest round building on North Campus - is close to completion now. We hope that from next autumn onwards, it will become operational.

In June we conducted a poll in search for names of the library buildings. Altogether we received 50 proposals, 25 each from students and from faculty/staff. Admittedly, students showed more creativity with the names they suggested. However, since the new names have to be in line with the general naming scheme of campus buildings, the final decision is still pending. We will report on this in the next issue of the newsletter but would like to thank now everybody who participated in the poll.

Wishing everybody a relaxing summer break,   Dr. Astrid Kiehn, LAC, chair.

Visit of the LIS Students from Dr. H. S. Gour University

Participants of the Training Session

Presentation given by Mr. N S Bhandari, Dy. Librarian

Central Library, IIT Mandi conducted a three-day-long training session from 11th-15th April 2019 for students from the Department of Library and Information Science, Dr. Harisingh Gour University (a central university), Sagar, MP. In total there were 29 participants including one faculty member. The main objective of the event was to give hands on training to the future library professionals. Different sessions pertaining to different services were conducted. It also had a session on the ethics and working culture of libraries in a digitized era.

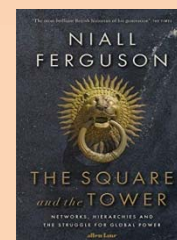## Most Circulated Books during last year with Star Rating

The books mentioned below were the most circulated during year 2018. The ratings were taken from www.goodreads.com.

Sr. No.	Details of Books	Check-outs	Star Rating
1	Jake Vander Plas: Python data science handbook (SPD,2017)	93	4.28/5
2	Michael Dawson: Python programming for the absolute beginners (Cengage learning,2010)	54	3.89/5
3	K. Shankara Rao: Introduction to partial difference education (PHI,2017)	28	NA
4	L. S. Srinath: Advanced mechanics of solids (McGraw-Hill,2010)	24	03.00
5	T. Amarnath: An elementary course in partial differential equations (Narosa, 2003)	17	3.67/5
6	Braja M.Das: Principles of geotechnical engineering (Cengage, 2014)	16	05.00
7	Antonio Gulli: Deep leaning with Keras (Packt Publishing, 2017)	15	4.13/5
8	Braja M.Das: Principles of foundation engineering (Cengage Learning, 2017)	15	3.95/5
9	Antonio Gulli: TensorFlow 1.x deep learning cookbook (Packt Publishing, 2017)	14	3.75/5

Niall Ferguson: The Square and the Tower - Networks, Hierarchies and the Struggle for Global Power (Penguin, 2018)

BOOK REVIEW

Networks, networking and connectedness have been the buzz words in the last decade or so, especially since the emergence of social media as more than a force to reckon with. Network theories have been holding the center stage in applied mathematics, statistics, biology and computer science at least for decades. They have had their spill-over effects now in social sciences too in a time where social networks like Facebook seem to enjoy more clout and influence than the reach of traditional political parties and shape political discourses within and across borders, influencing even the outcomes of national elections.

Prof. Niall Ferguson's latest book The Square and the Tower: Networks, Hierarchies and the Struggle for Global Power, 2018, is perhaps the first one of that kind that employs the framework of network theory to look at some landmark events and trends in world history and sheds some fresh light on the much subtler weaves of networks that came to texture them.

In a world where there are only specialists and micro-specialists, Niall Ferguson has been daring to take up macro historical themes, often in a very provocative fashion, and his oeuvre spans themes ranging from European financial history in the 19th and 20th century, history of the British empire, biography of Henry Kissinger and finally to history of social and political networks. Ferguson's thesis in the The Square and the Tower is simple and sweeping at the same time. Networks are not new in the history of modern world and network theory can/should be drawn upon to look at the micro networks on personal as well as all levels of our collective life to explain the finer undercurrents that form the creative forces behind major historical events, ranging from the protestant reformation and the French Revolution to the recent mobilizations on the Tahrir Square. The metaphors of "square" and "tower" in the title are all about that. History is made not just in ivory towers at the top of power hierarchies, but also at squares on the ground, where common people meet, enter into negotiations, personal relations, contracts and discourses or simply put, form cobweb of networks.
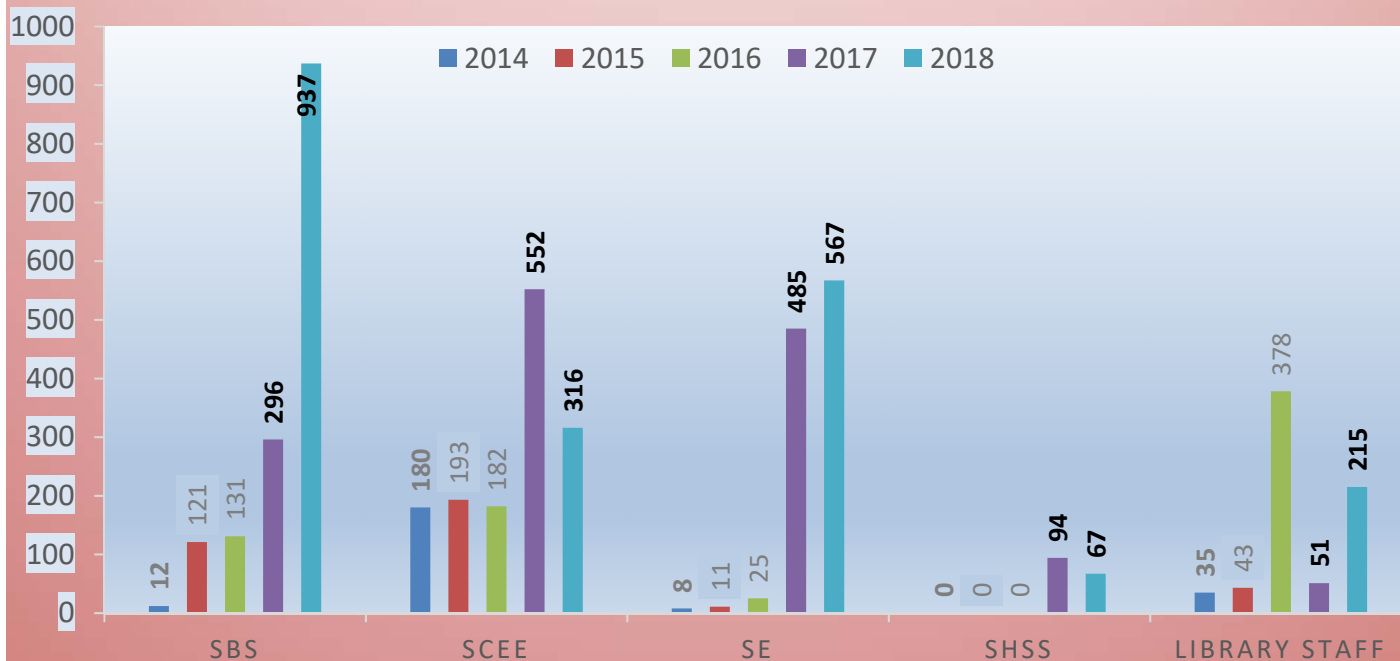
After a lucid introduction to the origin and history of network theory in the initial chapter, a conceptual tour d'horizon, what follows is a historically expositional tour de force in the light of network theory that takes us through some of the water-shed events in world history.

The Square and the Tower offers a breath of fresh air to those who find the classical archival top-down approach to history rather monotonous and one-sided. They discover here a new window opened on to the square outside to watch closely the mesh of networks formed, untied and re-formed, underpinning the major historical events that passed us by as well as that are still burgeoning.

Reviewed by Mr. Gokul Somasekharan

Turnitin – Anti-Plagiarism Tool

IIT Mandi is using the anti-plagiarism tool Turnitin since 2012. The software developed by Turnitin, LLC in Oakland, California is one of the best anti-plagiarism tools available in the market today. It has a big database of scholarly research contents from various publishers and from the internet as well. From 2014 to 2018, we have checked 5330 documents with this software. Usage data for the last five years is given below, divided according to the schools (including both faculty and students). Documents checked by library staff were verified on request of any of the schools.

Collection Development of Print Books

The library builds up its collection of books on the basis of recommendations received from the faculty and staff. School wise data of procured books within the last financial year (April 18 to March 19) is given below:

TITLE WISE

SBSS, 78
SCEE, 57
SE, 42
SHSS, 209

COPY WISE

SBSS, 137
SCEE, 134
SE, 107
SHSS, 234

Satellite Library@ North Campus Library

On 29th September, 2018, the reading room below Pine mess was shifted to A-12 building (North Campus) and became the first satellite library of the institute. More than 300 books on different subjects pertaining to 3rd and 4th year of B.Tech, magazines, newspapers and other reading material are available in this unit.

Features of the Satellite Library

- Circulation facility from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Sitting capacity for more than 50 users
- Two discussion rooms with white boards
- Printing facility
- Wi-fi & LAN connection
- Three PCs for users

Number of visits to the Satellite Library since November 2018

Month	B. Tech	M. Tech	M.Sc.	M.A.	M.S.	PhD	Other	Total
Nov. 18	56	78	146	2	9	5	1	297
Dec. 18	10	34	16	1	2	1	2	66
Jan. -19	0	25	4	1	0	0	0	30
Feb. 19	15	54	55	10	10	33	10	187
Mar. 19	97	192	235	20	12	79	41	676
Apr. 19	105	117	308	22	5	65	109	731
May 19	118	82	386	19	9	103	49	766
Jun. 19	101	81	198	19	8	71	34	512
Total	502	663	1348	94	55	357	246	3265

Staff Views about the Library

Library and its resources are essential for the academic success of any institute and this is also true in case of IIT Mandi. Apart from the collection, the thing which attracts me most is its tranquil ambience. It is a sanctum place for learners and scholars. Our library has very rich collection of General books, text books, reference books, CDs and children collection (stories books) etc. Apart from this, the library also subscribes to a number of print and electronic research journals.

As new three-story building will be handed over to the library department very soon, I hope that our library will grow more and provide the required e-journals and print media and will be one of the modern libraries. I wish great success to all users.

Mr. Vivek Tiwari
A R Acad