Use of E-Resources Among Faculty Members of Engineering Colleges in Cuddalore District : A Study

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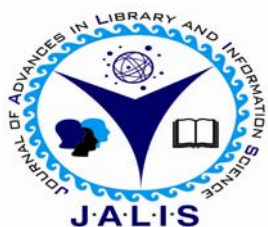Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar

Abstract

The present study deals with the e-resources use among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district. A total of 198 respondents data were analyzed for assessing various factors like institution wise distribution of respondents using e-resources, sex- wise distribution of respondents using e-resources, institution wise respondents frequency of access e-resources, institution wise respondents purpose of using e-resources, institution wise respondents access search engines and institution wise respondents preferable format for getting information.
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Keywords

E-resources; faculty members; engineering colleges
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Electronic access

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Introduction

Today information technologies play a vital role for tremendous changes in the library. Advance information technology urge for information provides to repackage separate alternate products, demand of users to have easy search, browse, retrieve revise mode of facture rich non print information sources all lead to the present trend of hybrid libraries. E-resources are those resources which include documents in electronic or e-format that can be accessed via internet in digital library environment. E-resources are that electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it text, image collection, other multimedia products like numerical, graphical mode for commercially available for library and information centre's. These may be delivered on CD-ROM / DVD, over the Internet and so on.Electronic resources can be classified into two types-online and offline. Online resources are e-books e-journal, multimedia facilities, email, chat etc., Offline resources are CD-ROM, Floppy disk, Magnetic tape.

Review of Literature

Ron Houlihan (2005)[1] has discussed to the critical importance of providing a comfortable and stimulating environment for students and the rewards for doing so are confirmed, with reference to various Canadian and US schools. Some of the almost – universal characteristics of today's academic research and communication. Haneefa K (2007)[2] presented the results of an investigation in the study "Use of ICT Based Resources and Services in Special Libraries in Kerala, India. The email service was used by the largest percentage of the users. WWW was being used by 60 per cent of the library users. A good no. of users was not satisfied with the application of ICT in the libraries and indicated 'inadequate ICT infrastructure' as their reason for dissatisfaction. Users proposed a variety of measures of formal orientation and training in ICT based resources and services. Dhanavandan (2011)[3] paper highlighted that a large portion of librarians are aware of the internet, but they do not know all of its techniques and applications. Further, the librarians still do not have knowledge about the internet and related applications. For this purpose, there is need for effective user education, to develop awareness and knowledge to the users. More efforts by librarian are needed to educate users to effectively use the internet and its techniques and applications. Dhanavandan (2012)[4] describes the Use of Digital Library

Resources by the engineering professionals in the engineering colleges at Cuddalore District, and investigates the current state-of-the art information through the digital library resources. The 33.7% of users feel that lack of information is the problems with access of digital library resources. The findings of this study would assist the internet browsers to improve their level.

Objectives

The objectives of the study are as follows **,**
1.   To study the respondents institution wise distribution of respondents using e-resources among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district
2.   To study the respondents sex-wise using e-resources among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district
3.   To find out the frequency of using e--resources among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district
4.   To study the purpose of using e-resources among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district.
5.   To identify the search engines among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district.

Methodology

The questionnaire have been developed and distributed to the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district. The data have been collected through questionnaire. This study primarily an exploratory method of analysing the e-resources use among the faculty members of engineering colleges in cuddalore district.

Limitation of the Study
This study is made among the faculty members of the engineering colleges in cuddalore district only. Only five engineering colleges have been selected for this study, .1. C.K. College of Engineering & Technology(C.K.CET), 2. Anna University, (Panruti Campus), 3. St.Anne College of Engineering & Technology (St.Annes CET), 4. MRK Institute of Technology(MRK IT) and 5.Krishnasamy College of Engineering & Technology,(KCET). Since study of all colleges would not be possible for an individual researcher due to constraints imposed by money, time, energy and efforts.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Distribution of Institution wise Sample Respondents

S.No.	Institution	Respondents	%
1	C.K.CET	45	22.73
2	Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	28	14.14
3	St.Annes CET	35	17.68
4	MRK IT	38	19.19
5	KCET	52	26.26
	Total	**198**	**100**

The table 1 indicates institution wise respondentent taken for this study. The 210 questionnaires was distributed to the respondents among Engineering Colleges in Cuddalore Dt. Out 210, 198 respondents were replied and followed by 52(26.26%) from Krishnasamy College of Engineering and Technology, 45(22.73%) from CK Engineering College, 38(19.19%) from M.R.K. Institute of Technology, 35(17.68%) from St. Anne's College of Engineering and Technology and 28 (22.73%) from Anna University Thiruchirappali Panruti campus. It is concluded the maximum no. of faculty members from Krishnasamy College of Engineering & Technology.

Table 2: Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents

Colleges	Male	Female	Total
C.K.CET	38(19.19)	7(3.54)	45(22.73)
Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	20(10.10)	8(4.04)	28(14.14)
St.Annes CET	24(12.12)	11(5.56)	35(17.68)
MRK IT	21(10.61)	17(8.59)	38(19.19)
KCET	39(19.70)	13(6.57)	52(25.26)
Total	142(71.72)	56(28.28)	**198(100)**

A study of data in table 2 indicates gender-wise distribution of respondents using e-resources among the 198 respondents, 142 (71.72%) respondents are male and 79 (40%) respondents are female. It concludes that the majority of respondents are male.

Table 3: Institution wise respondents' frequency of access e-resources

S. No.	Institution	Daily	Once in a week	Once in a month	Occasio nally	Total
1	C.K.CET	21(10.61)	17(8.59)	4(2.02)	3(1.51)	45(22.73)
2	Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	18(9.09)	5(2.53)	2(1.01)	3(1.51)	28(14.14)
3	St.Annes CET	14(7.07)	4(2.02)	2(1.01)	15(7.58)	35(17.68)
4	MRK IT	23(11.62)	11(5.55)	4(2.02)	-	38(19.19)
5	KCET	29(14.65)	12(6.06)	7(3.53)	4(2.02)	52(26.26)
	Total	**105(53.03)**	**49(24.75)**	**19(9.59)**	**25(12.63)**	**198(100)**

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Rows	85.3	4	21.325	0.835455	0.528279	3.259167
Columns	922.2	3	307.4	12.0431	0.000625	3.490295
Error	306.3	12	25.525			
Total	1313.8	19				

Ho: There is no significant difference among the institution wise respondent's frequency of accessing e-resources.

Table 3 shows the institution wise respondents' frequency of access e-resources. It includes daily, once in a week, once in a month and occasionally. Out of 198 respondents 105(53.03%) are accessing e-resources daily, 49(24.75%) are accessing e-resources once in a week, 25(12.63%) are accessing occasionally and 19(9.59%) are accessing e-resources once in a month.

From the obtained result that the p-value is not significant $P>0.05$. So, the stated hypothesis is accepted and there is no significant difference among the institution wise respondents frequency of accessing e-resources.

4: Institution wise respondents' purpose of using e-resources

S. No.	Institution	For Research Work	Lecturer Notes	Career Development	Current Information	Update Knowledge	Total
1	C.K.CET	18(9.09)	11 (5.56)	5(2.53)	3(1.51)	8(4.04)	45(22.73)
2	Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	13 (6.57)	8 (4.04)	2 (1.01)	3 (1.51)	2 (1.01)	28(14.14)
3	St.Annes CET	-	2 (1.01)	3 (1.51)	13 (6.57)	17 (8.59)	35(17.68)
4	MRK IT	17 (8.59)	12(6.06)	-	3(1.51)	6(3.03)	38(19.19)
5	KCET	13(6.57)	16(8.08)	6(3.03)	8(4.04)	9(4.54)	52(26.26)
	Total	**61(30.81)**	**49(24.75)**	**16(8.08)**	**3015.15)**	**42(21.21)**	**198(100)**

Table 5: Institution wise respondents' access search engines

S. No.	Institution	Google	Yahoo	Info – seek	MSN	You tube	Total
1	C.K.CET	25(12.63)	14(7.07)	-	2(1.01)	4(2.02)	45(22.73)
2	Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	12(6.06)	7(3.54)	4(2.02)	3(1.51)	2(1.01)	28(14.14)
3	St.Annes CET	24(12.12)	9(4.55)	-	-	2(1.01)	35(17.68)
4	MRK IT	23(11.62)	9(4.55)	2(1.01)	4(2.02)	-	38(19.19)
5	KCET	33(16.67)	12(6.06)	2(1.01)	-	5(2.52)	52(26.26)
	Total	**118(59.60)**	**50(25.25)**	**8(4.04)**	**9(4.54)**	**13(6.57)**	**198(100)**

A study of data in table 4 indicates institution wise respondents purpose of using e-resources. It could be noted that the out of 198 respondents, 61 (30.81%) of them purpose of using e-resources for research work, 49 (24.75%) of them purpose of using e-resources for lecture notes, 42(21.21%) of them purpose of using e-resources for update knowledge, 30(15.15%) of them purpose of using e-resources for current information and 16(8.08%) of them purpose of using e-resources for career development.

A study of data in table 5 institution wise respondents access search engines. It could be noted that out of 198 respondents 118(59.60%) respondents are using Google, 50(25.25%) respondents are using yahoo, 13(6.57%) respondents are using you tube, 9(4.54%) respondents are using MSN and 8 (4.04%) respondents are using Info – seek.

Table 6: Institution wise respondents' preferable format for getting information

S.No.	Institution	Print	Electronic	Both	Total
1	C.K.CET	3 (1.51)	11(5.56)	31(15.66)	45(22.73)
2	Anna University, (Panruti Campus)	13(6.56)	10 (5.05)	5 (2.53)	28(14.14)
3	St.Annes CET	9(4.55)	4(2.02)	22(11.11)	35(17.68)
4	MRK IT	19(9.60)	11(5.55)	8(4.04)	38(19.19)
5	KCET	16(8.08)	11(5.56)	25(12.62)	52(26.26)
	Total	60(30.30)	47(23.74)	91(45.96)	198(100)

From the above table 6 indicate institution wise respondent's preferable format for getting information. It could be noted that out of 198 respondents 91(45.96%) of them are preferable for getting information from both format, 60(30.30%) of them are preferable for getting information from print format and 47(23.74%) of them are preferable for getting information from electronic format.

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Rows	113.7333	4	28.43333	0.390657	0.810012	3.837853
Columns	204.4	2	102.2	1.404168	0.300141	4.45897
Error	582.2667	8	72.78333			
Total	900.4	14				

Ho: There is no signficant difference among the institution wise respondent's peferable format for getting information.

It is evident from the obtained result that P- Value is not significant P>0.05. So the stated null hypothesis is accepted and it is concluded that there is no significant difference institution wise respondents' preferable format for getting information.

Conclusion

E-resources are directly impacting the nature and quality of learning, teaching and research across the globe. They are constraint by the limited availability to the users. They are facing numerous problems such as insufficient number of terminals, inadequate electricity supply, lack of information retrieval skills for exploit electronic resources, thus making the level of usage of resources by the users very less. It is the responsibility of the library has to provide facilities to the users.

Based on the above study throws light on the various aspects of e-resources usage among the faculty members of Engineering Colleges in cuddalore district. Among various resources for learning, the faculty members can retrieve seemingly endless volumes of information from all over the globe in a short span of time with the help of new technologies. So users are dependent to some extent on libraries with new technologies such as e-resources. Frequency of using e-resources daily is the first preference Purpose of using e-resources is the best use for research work. Google is the most commonly used search engine among the users. Both format (Print and electronic format) are most preferable for getting information. Necessary training facilities are to be provided to the users, so libraries need to organize the effective training programmes on how to use e-resources. This study also suggests some measures to achieve effective and efficient use of e-resources by the faculty members of Engineering college.

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