Utilization of E- Resources by Faculty and Students of Universal College of Engineering and Technology, Vallioor, Tamil Nadu: A Study

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Abstract

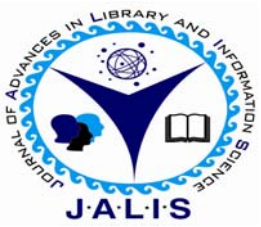
This article presents the study of e-resources users by Universal College of Engineering and Technology Faculty and Students in Vallioor, Tamil Nadu region. Survey method questionnaire tool were adopted together data for the study. Among the 80 respondents, 62.50 percent of students and 37.50 % of faculty members were assessing E- resources. It is concluded that 14(54.00%) respondents E-journals are using faculty, 16(50.00%) are using students,

Keywords

Information and Communication Technology; User Study; E- resources and Internet
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Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in



Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science
ISSN: 2277-2219 Vol. 4. No.1. 2015. pp. 73-76

INTRODUCTION

Our lives are being transformed by technology. The World Wide Web are has created new ways to gain information and communicate. In education and everyday life, people are using personal computers, notebook computers, handheld computers, DVDs, Online databases, online resources and other technologies. An online resource has altered the ways in which the academic activities - teaching learning research and extension activities are carried out at higher education level.

In view of the increasing impact of Information and Communication Technology(ICT) on education all those concerned with higher education today are attempting to grasp how ICT could help in modernizing the process of teaching, learning and doing research. Electronic services have made tremendous impact on the academic activities of the faculty, researchers and students. With the introduction of electronic services, significant transition could be seen in their approach and the way in which they seek information and the methods they employ for research and learning activities.

E-JOURNALS

Libraries have been exploring easy methods to cope with the problems of ever increasing prices of the journals, space requirements and decreasing level of usage as the journals get older. Nevertheless, libraries are required to maintain back issue of the journals, usually in bound form. Electronic journal helps the librarians in addressing these problems to a great extent without significantly affecting the service levels. Electronic journals can be accessed via Internet from any web enabled PC.Depending upon the type of subscription, one or more users can access the service simultaneously, either directly from an independent web enabled PC or in a local area network through a proxy server. Electronic Journals also offer the benefit of full-text searching and downloading articles. Many publishers of electronic journals offer their journals through consortia of libraries at much lower rates.

Universal College of Engineering and Technology Profile

The College is located in green wide campus of about 100 acres at Anbagam Campus, Radhapuram Road, Vallioor, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu. The College is run by Universal Educational and

Charitable Trust. The College is approved by AICTE New Delhi and affiliated to Anna University. The founders of the Trust are Chairman H.Shajahan, Secretary M.H.Zaheer Hussain and Treasurer S. Sam Gnana Dhas. The College is administered by Er.A. Peer Mohamed. This was started in the year 2008.

Universal College of Engg.& Technology Library

The library is spread in more than 5000 sq.feet and has a very rich collection of 9,100 books from top publishers of engineering books. Completely automated with Auto Lib. Also the college subscribes to 30 National journals, 15 International journals, 15 e-journals and 10 relevant magazines. Digital library with internet e-learning facilities is also provided so that students inculcate the habit of doing project work/research. It has DELNET Membership with more than 600 Online Journals and IEEE Online Journals.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The purpose of the study is to find out the scope of utilization of E- resources by Faculty and Students of Universal College of Engineering and Technology, Vallioor, Tamil Nadu: An Analytical Study.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Hariharan (2006) wrote a research article entitled "Enhancing the Usage of Library Resources at Structural Engineering and Research Centre Library with Particular Reference to E-resources". The SERC library has an excellent collection of literature in the field of civil and structural engineering and related subjects covering large number of books, journals, technical reports, conference proceedings, back volumes, standards, microfilm, theses and CD's collection building both in terms of print and e-resources in one of the prime objectives of the library to meet the growing information demand and also the requirements of the centre. As a result since 2002 to subscribe e-journal through CSIR consortia and search facilities through Web OPAC were made. Parameshwar (2009) analyzed "The Electronic Resources and their use by the faculty members and research scholars in the Gulbarga University". The data are collected through a questionnaire to study the information needs of the faculty members and researchers in various PG departments in Gulbarga University. The study reveals that the electronic resources available in the Gulbarga university library are much helpful in fulfilling their information needs. There is a need to train the faculty members and the research scholars have to use the electronic resources. There is a need to include more number of journals in the UGC-INFONET Consortium.

Velmurugan, Chandran (2012) has conducted a study on "Awareness and utilization of e-resources by faculty members with special reference to an engineering college, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India: A case study". The scope of the study is limited to SKR Engineering College in Chennai. Survey method was used to collected data. Data obtained was analyzed using Simple Percentile analysis to generate tables and to arrive at conclusions. The findings revealed that 62.8 percentage of faculty are aware of online resources. 26.67% use E- Journals and E- Books, 15.4 % uses of E- Databases, 13.33% e- thesis and dissertations; and 12.38% e- magazines regularly. 51.43 % of respondents are found to be visiting library to access E- resources twice a week. 17.14% were fully satisfied with the e-resources. But 56.19 % of respondents faced problem of slow Internet access speed, which takes a lot of their time to retrieve the relevant information'. Prabakaran, T (2013) has studied "Use of E-Resources among 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

OBJECTIVES

1. To know the awareness about E-resources of the users.
2. To study the utilization of the E- resources.
3. To identify the purposes of E-resources
4. To know the frequency of the users.
5. To identify the satisfaction of the DELNET and IEEE Users.
6. To ascertain the method of searching the users.
7. To study the time spent for the library users.

METHODOLOGY

As the present study consists of Faculty and Students at Universal College of Engineering and Technology, Vallioor, Tamil Nadu State. The

descriptive in nature the data collected through the questionnaire were subjected to descriptive statistical analysis. The responses to the item of the questionnaire were analyzed through descriptive analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1: Distribution of Questionnaire and respondents

Category	Questionnaire Distributed	Questionnaire Replied	%
Faculty	40	30	75.00
Students	60	50	83.33
Total	100	80	80.00

Table .1 gives the response rate of the Faculty and Students of Universal College of Engineering and Technology, Vallioor, Tamil Nadu questionnaires were distributed to 100. 80 (80.00 per cent) responded to the survey.

Table 2:Awareness about E- resources

Opinion	Faculty Members		Students		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Yes	25	83.33	37	74.00	62	77.50
No	5	16.67	13	26.00	18	22.50
Total	30	37.50	50	62.50	80	100.00

Table.2 shows that 62.50 per cent of students and 37.50 % of faculty members were assessing E-resources that are available in Universal College of Engineering and Technology Library. Only small per cent of Faculty members and Student (16.67 & 22.20) said that it is not assess the E- resources in UCET library.

Table 3:Usage of E- resources

E-Resources	Faculty	Students	No	Total
E -journals	14 (56.00)	16 (50.00)	8 (34.79)	38 (47.50)
E-books	5 (20.00)	7 (21.88)	5 (21.74)	17 (21.25)
E-theses	4 (16.00)	2 (6.25)	3 (13.04)	9 (11.25)
E-magazines	1 (4.00)	1 (3.12)	2 (8.69)	4 (5.00)
Others	1	6	5	12
	(4.00)	(18.75)	(21.74)	(15.00)
Total	25 (31.25)	32 (40.00)	23 (28.75)	80 (100.00)

Note: Figures in Parenthesis denote percentages

Table.3 reveals usage of E- resources by the faculty members and students. A good number of faculty members (56.00%) and students (50.00%) preferred usage of E- resources. While a majority of the faculty members used E – resources like E- journals (56%).

Table 4:. Purposes of E- Resources

Options	Faculty	students	Not using	Total
To update Knowledge	8 (32.00)	27 (72.97)	2 (11.12)	37 (46.25)
To prepare for class work	12 (48.00)	0 (0.00)	5 (27.78)	17 (21.25)
Self Improvement	2 (8.00)	10 (27.03)	7 (38.88)	19 (23.75)
Publishing Journal article	3 (12.00)	0 (0.00)	4 (22.22)	7 (8.75)
Total	25 (31.25)	37 (46.25)	18 (22.50)	80 (100.00)

Note: Figures in Parenthesis denote percentages

Data in Table.4 reveal the purposes of E- resources out of 80 respondents, Faculty members' purpose of E- resources to prepare for class work (48%) and students' purpose of E- resources to update Knowledge (72.97%).

Table 5: Frequency of Using E- resources

Options	Faculty		Students		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Daily	16	53.33	27	54.00	43	53.75
Weekly	7	23.33	14	28	21	26.25
Monthly	3	10	4	8	7	8.75
Occasionally	4	13.34	5	10	9	11.25
Total	30	37.5	50	62.5	80	100

Data in Table.5 reveal the frequency of using E-resources. Out of 80 respondents, Faculty a member to frequency of using E- resources daily (53.33%) and (54%) student frequency of using E- resources daily.

Table 6: User's satisfaction on DELNET and IEEE

Respondents	Satisfied	To some extent	Not satisfied	Total
Faculty	20 (41.66)	5 (35.71)	5 (27.77)	30 (37.50)
Students	28 (58.34)	9 (64.29)	13 (72.22)	50 (62.50)
Total	48 (60.00)	14 (17.50)	18 (22.50)	80 (100.00)

Note: Figures in Parenthesis denote percentages

Data in Table.6 reveal the User's satisfaction on DELNET and IEEE. Out of 80 respondents, Faculty a member users satisfaction on DELNET and IEEE are satisfied (41.66%) and (64.29%) students are user satisfaction on DELNET and IEEE are to some extent.

Table 7: Methods of searching E- resources

Respon-dents	Search Engine	Websites	Library portal	No	Total
Faculty	12 (40.00)	8 (44.44)	5 (35.71)	5 (27.77)	30 (37.50)
Students	18 (60.00)	10 (55.56)	9 (64.29)	13 (72.23)	50 62.50)
Total	30 (37.50)	18 (22.50)	14 (17.50)	18 (22.50)	80 (100.00)

Note: Figures in Parenthesis denote percentages

Data in Table.7 reveal the methods of searching E-resources. Out of 80 respondents, Faculty members are using Websites (44.44%) and (64.29%) students are using methods of searching E- resources are library portal.

Table 8: Time spent for E-resources

Respondents	½ an hour	1 hour	More than 1 hour	No	Total
Faculty	8 (42.10)	12 (44.44)	5 (31.25)	5 (27.77)	30 (37.50)
Students	11 (57.90)	15 (55.56)	11 (68.75)	13 (72.23)	50 (62.50)
Total	19 (23.75)	27 (33.75)	16 (20.00)	18 (22.50)	80 (100.00)

Note: Figures in Parenthesis denote percentages

Data in Table.8 reveal the time spent for E-resources. Out of 80 respondents, Faculty members are time spent for E- resources are 1 hour (44.44%) and (68.75%) students are time spent for E- resources are more than 1 hour.

CONCLUSION

The E- resources are available in the electronic form and can be accessed using Information and Communication Technologies. They provide users faster, more convenient in all time desktop accesses from home, college, and library anywhere in the world. E- resources have demonstrated advantages in the area of accessibility, functionality and cost effectiveness. The study reveals that the academic community in the academic institutions prefers to use most the E- resources available in present digital era.

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