Information Usage of Career Information Resource Centre (CIRC) by the Students and Research Scholars of University of Mysore: A Study

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Abstract

The researchers have made an attempt to study the information usage of career information resource center (CIRC) at University of Mysuru by the students and research scholars of University of Mysore, Mysuru. For the collection of data a structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed randomly. Overall 130 questionnaires were distributed, out of which 93 duly completed questionnaire were returned with the response rate of 72 percent. Later the collected data was entered in excel, presented in tabular form and analyzed by using a simple statistical technique. The results shows that about 61 users (65.59) are male and remaining 32 users (34.41) are female. Majority 75(80.65%) of respondents are students. More 45(48.39%) number of respondents said they came to know about CIRC through 'library staff'. About 51(54.84%) respondents visit CIRC 'daily' and majority of respondents are satisfied with availability of resources of career information resource centre (CIRC) at University Library of Mysuru

Keywords

Career Information; Resource Centre; Information; Resource; University of Mysore; Research Scholars; Students.

Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in

Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science
ISSN: 2277-2219 Vol. 7. No.2. 2018. pp.153-156

1. INTRODUCTION

Career Information is used to support all areas of the career development process. It includes occupational, educational and employment related resources. Materials can be print, audiovisual or electronic format. A Career Information Centre itself can range from a minimal collection of career-related resources housed in one section of a single room to a multipurpose facility housing a large collection of resources in all three formats. Libraries can be an invaluable source of information. Since most areas have libraries, they can be a convenient place to look for information on job openings, locally and nationally; potential contacts within occupations or industries; colleges and 'Finical aid; vocational training; individual businesses or careers; and writing résumés.

Libraries havesubscribed various trade magazines that can provide information on occupations and industries. These sources often have references to organizations which can provide additional information about training and employment opportunities. Career information and guidance services have traditionally been seen as a public service available from educational institutions, government departments and their agencies. The Career Information Resource Center in the University Library provides good services tograduates, post graduate and research students in the career development process. It helps tofind and fill career opportunities that impart meaningful contributions to their communities.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Anderson (1996)has statedthat Internet as a source of information for librarians, career planning and job search professionals. The Internet is becoming a key player in the provision of career, job, and employment information.He also reported that in libraries, career and job services are in a transitional phase that is leading to common use of the Internet. While there is a sense of urgency to jump on the Internet bandwagon, professionals have time to learn and assimilate this new electronic culture. King, C. E. (2004) had made a report on Ferguson's Career Guidance Center, which provides information on a number of jobs and resources for selecting, planning, or advancing careers.Adio & Popoola (2010) examined the dissatisfaction of library users and the manager of each federal university library the complaint of the librarians working in those libraries.

The study reveals that inadequate funding, lack of promotion, poor condition of service and lack of recognition which affected their career commitment. Davis & Pope (2012)presented the job and career resources services at Georgia College. It was library employee Katherine Pope who suggested to the committee that they should help students in all areas of career preparation, and specifically to use social media and networking techniques.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the major objectives of the study:

1. To identify the purpose and utilization of career information resources by students and researchscholars.
2. To study the frequency of visit to CIRC by students and research scholars.
3. To identify the Preferred Version of Information Resources by the users of CIRC.
4. To know the satisfaction level of the users with the resources of CIRC.

4. METHODOLOGY ADOPTED

For the purpose of data collection well structured questionnaire was designed and distributed to 130 respondents identified as Students and Research Scholars who visited the CIRC, Mysore University Library out of which 93 filled-up questionnaires were received back consisting of 75.84% responses. The filled questionnaires were organized, coded and analyzed using excel, presented in tabular form and analyzed by using a simple statistical technique.

5. SCOPE AND LIMITATION

The scope of the study is Carrier Information Resource Centre (CIRC) of Mysore University Library and the study was limited to students and research scholars and it excludes faculty members.

6. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

6.1 Gender Wise distribution of respondents:

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Table 1: Gender of Respondents

Sl. No	Gender	No. of Respondents	%
1	Male	61	65.59
2	Female	32	34.41
	Total	93	100

The gender wise distribution of respondents is shown in table 1. It is clear from the table that, Out of 93 respondents 61 users (65.59%) are 'male'and remaining 32(34.41%) of the respondents are 'female'

6.2 Status/category of the Respondents

Table 2: Status/category of the Respondents

Sl. No.	Status of user	No. of respondents	%
1	Research scholar	18	19.35
2	Student	75	80.65

The table 2 depicts that the status/category of users. The table shows that majority 75(80.65%) of respondents are students and remaining 18 (19.35%)respondents are research scholars.

6.3 Awareness about Carrier Information Resource Center (CIRC).

It can be observed from the table (3)that, 45(48.39%) respondents opined awareness through 'library staff', followed by 27(29.03%) respondents indicated' through friends' and 21(22.58%) respondents indicated 'through faculty members'.

Table 3: Awareness about Carrier Information Resource Center

Sl. No.	Source of information	No of respondents	%
1	Through the library Staff	45	48.39
2	Through Faculty members	21	22.58
3	Through friends	27	29.03
	Total	**93**	**100**

6.4 Frequency of visit to Carrier Information Resource Center (CIRC)

The frequency of visit to the CIRC is presented in table 4. We can observe from the table that, majority 51(54.84%) of respondents visit the CIRC 'daily' followed by 15(16.12%) respondents 'twice in a week', 11 respondents 'once in a month', 10(10.75%) respondents 'rarely', and remaining 6 (6.45%) respondents visit 'once in a week'.

Table 4: Frequency of visit to CIRC

Sl. No.	Period	No of respondents	%
1	Daily	51	54.84
2	Once in a week	6	6.45
3	Twice in a week	15	16.12
4	Once in a month	11	11.84
5	occasionally	10	10.75

6.5 Average Time Spent in the 'CIRC' by the library users.

It is seen from the table that, 36 (38.71%) respondents spend'two to three hours'in CIRC, about 28(30.11) respondents spend 'less than one hour', 18 respondents mention they spend 'two hours', remaining 11 of them spend more than 'three hours' in CIRC.

Table 5: How many hours you spend in CIRC?

Sl. No.	Time	No of respondents	%
1	Less than one hour	28	30.11
2	Two hours	18	19.35
3	Two to three hour	36	38.71
4	More than three hour	11	11.83

Further, on the whole, the average Time Spent in the carrier information resource centre by users. On the whole we find that 38.71%of the respondents indicated that they Time Spent in the 'CIRC' 'Two to Three hour'.

6.6 Purpose of visit to the CIRC

Table 6: Purpose of visit to the CIRC

Sl. No.	Purposes	No of responses	%
1	Gaining general knowledge	82	88.17
2	To prepare for competitive exams	76	81.72
3	For preparing NET/SET/CSIR exams	75	80.65
4	For preparing quizzes	39	41.94
5	To get career information		
6	For academic purpose	56	60.22

Table 6 reveals that, the purpose of visiting the CIRC, it is clear from the table that, a large majority 82 (88.17%) of the respondents opined they visit CIRC for 'gaining general knowledge'remaining76 (81.72%) of the respondents visit 'to prepare for competitive exams', about 75 (80.65%) respondents visit for 'preparing NET/ SET/ CSIR exams', 39 (41.94%) respondents mention for 'preparing for quiz', and 56 (60.22%) respondents visit for 'academic purpose'.

6.7 Preferred Version of Information Resources

The information resources needed for the students and research scholars are available in print as well as in electronic version. The researcher tried to find out preferred version of information resources used by the users to fulfil their information needs. The data collected has been summarized in the form of Table-(7).

Table 7: Preferred Version of Information Resources

Sl. No.	Form of information	No of respondents	%
1	Print	43	46.24
2	Electronic	12	12.90
3	Both	38	40.86
	Total	93	100

On the whole find that 43(46.24%) of the respondents preferred 'Print version' of information resources, 12(12.90%) of respondents preferred 'Electronic version' of information resources and 38(40.86%)of the respondents preferred 'Both print and electronic version' of information resources.

6.8 Visiting Behaviour to Carrier Information Resource Centre.

The investigator to understand the variables behaviour aspect towards resource centre usages asked the respondents to furnish their opinion on why, how and the frequency of their visit based on the parameters set the responses are presented below.

Table 8: Which factor motivated to visit CIRC

Sl. No.	Motivating factor	No of respondents	%
1	Habit	16	17.20
2	Motivated from faculty	21	22.58
3	Library opening hours	15	16.13
4	Awareness created by librarians	13	13.98
5	Library conducive environment	28	30.11

The table-(8)depicts that the Visiting Behaviour to CIRC is driven by the users.28(30.11%) respondents indicated that they visiting behaviour to Resource Centre / Library is driven by 'Library conducive environment'followed by 21(22.58%) respondents indicated that 'Awareness through faculty members', further 16(17.20%)of the users opined 'habit', followed by 15(16.13%)'library opening hours' and remaining 13(13.98%) indicated'awareness created by librarians'.

6.9 Satisfied with the availability of resources in the CIRC

Users' opinion about the satisfaction level of availability of resources in the CIRC is given in below table(9). It is shown from the table that, majority 60(64.52%) of respondents are satisfied and remaining 33(35.48%) of respondents opined 'no' they need more collections.

Table 9: Are you satisfied with the availability of resources in the CIRC?

Sl. No.	Responses	No of respondents	%
1	Yes	60	64.52
2	No	33	35.48
	Total	93	100

7. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Some of the major findings of the study are listed below:

1. About 61 users (65.59%) are 'male' and remaining 32 users (34.41) are 'female'.
2. Majority 75(80.65%) of respondents are students.
3. More 45(48.39%) number of respondents said they came to know about CIRC through 'library staff'.
4. More number 51(54.84%) of respondents visit the CIRC 'daily'.
5. 36 (38.71%) respondents spend at CIRC 'two to three hours'.
6. Majority 82 (88.17%) of the respondents mention they visit CIRC for 'gaining general knowledge'
7. Out of 93 respondents 43 respondents preferred 'print resources'.

7. SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

Now a day's Career Information is very important for younger generation to know about job opportunities. The University Library of Mysuru has taken an initiative to setup Carrier Information Resource Centre (CIRC) in the library to provide career information and also help students and research scholars to prepare for competitive examinations. To conclude, the library may set up separate wing for females to attract more female users to CIRC; it may extent the library opening hours for maximum utilization of resources. The library should add more reference books along with competitive examination books to attract research scholars for optimum use of collections in Career Information Resource Centre at University Library of Mysuru.

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