



INFORMATION ACCESS PATTERN OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, ANGUCHETTIPALAYAM, PANRUTI

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ABSTRACT

Engineering Library aims to provide wide and efficient information sources and services to the Engineering Faculty Members, Professionals as well as the users. The present study probes how adequately the needs and requirements of the faculty towards reading, study and research are fulfilled. This can be achieved, if the facilities and services are made available to the needy. The study analyses the knowledge and information sources and services available at St. Anne's College of Engineering and Technology.

Keywords:-

Engineering College, Information Services, Users.

INTRODUCTION

Information is the product of human brain in action. It may be abstract or concrete. When an individual begins to think, a variety of images and sensations flash across his mind. This marks the accumulation of information in his mind and his memory retains some pieces of knowledge.

INFORMATION ACCESS PATTERN

Information access pattern is defined as any activity of an individual that is undertaken to identify a message that satisfies a perceived-need.

Information access pattern is an area of active interest among the librarians and information scientists. It results from the recognition of some need perceived by the user, who, as a consequence, makes demand upon formal system such as libraries, information centres.

St. Anne's Engineering College: A brief history

St. Anne's Engineering College is located in Anguchettipalayam, Panruti in Cuddalore District. This college was started in the year of 2009. Recently, the management established Annaivelanganni Polytechnic College in this group. It also serves the people at large without distinction of caste and creed.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

Need for the study

Every information centre or library is user-oriented and no single information centre is likely to meet the entire information requirements of its user community. Academic libraries comprise the libraries of Schools, College, Universities and similar educational institutions, which cater to the needs of different levels of academic community and supplement academic institution. They play an indispensable role in the dissemination of information and knowledge. Academic library is concerned with library service to lecture and students which arise from the academic course studied in an engineering college.

Objectives of the study

The present study aims,

1. To Examine the quantum and desire of the information access behaviour of the faculty members of St Anne's college of Engineering and Technology.
2. To understand the nature and level of the faculty members who really use the Engineering College Library.
3. To understand the purpose for which the faculty members visit to the library.
4. To suggest improvement measures based on the findings of the study.

Methodology

Stratified random sampling technique was adopted to survey the St. Anne's college of Engineering and Technology. This method was chosen, because it allows representatives in all categories. The questionnaire contains a total of 25 questions.

Sample

The questionnaire was administrated on 50(87%) faculty members. The total strength of the faculty numbers is 57. The course of study -wise and year of study- wise distribution of the faculty body and those who took part in this study are shown in the following tables.

Scope and Limitation

The present study includes only the faculty member of St Anne's Engineering College, Anguchettipalayam, Panruti. The target of population comprised more than 90% of the faculty members of the total strength 57 of the faculty members of St Anne's Engineering College, Anguchettipalayam, Panruti.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table-1

Distribution of questionnaires

S.No	Questionnaire & Distributed	Received back
1	57	50

Table 1 shows that distribution of the questionnaires. Totally, 57 questionnaire were distributed to the faculty members, of which 57, 50 questionnaires were received from the faculty members.

Table-2**Gender wise Distribution**

S.No	Sex	No. of respondents	Percentage of respondents
1	Male	32	64%
2	Female	18	36%
	Total	50	100%

Table 2 Indicates gender wise distribution of the questionnaire among the 50 faculty members, which include 32(64%) males, 18(36%) females. More than 50% of the respondents comprise males.

Table-3**Department wise faculty strength**

S.No	Department	Guest lecturer	Assistant. Professor	Associate Professor	Total
1	Mechanical Eng.	3	5	1	9
2	ECE	4	4	2	10
3	EEE	3	7	2	12
4	CSE	2	5	2	9
5	Maths	1	3	1	5
6	Physics	-	3	-	3
7	Chemistry	-	2	-	2
	Total	13	29	8	50

Table 3 shows the distribution of faculty members of the various departments of the college, the department of EEE consists more faculty members. Among the various departments, the ECE department holds second position with 10 faculty members. The department of mechanical and CSE consist 9 and rank third position, the department of Maths rank 5 position, Chemistry and Physics consist 3 and 2 respectively. It could be seen clearly, from the above discussion, the department of EEE has more faculty members.

Table-4

Designation wise faculty strength

S.No	Designations	No. of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Guest faculty	13	26.00
2	Assistant Professor	29	58.00
3	Associate Professor	8	16.00
	Total	50	100.00

Table 4 shows that designation-wise distribution of the respondents. The table shows the Assistant Professors as holding the first position with 29(58%), Guest Faculty is found holding second position with 13(26%), the Associate Professors rank third position with 8(16%). The above discussion indicates Assistant Professors category as topping the list of faculty members.

Table-5

Frequency of visit to the library

S. No	Designations	Daily	Once in a week	Twice in a week	Thrice in a week	Once in a month	Total
1	Guest faculty	10	2	1	1	-	14
2	Assistant Professor	20	5	-	2	1	28
3	Associate Professor	-	-	2	4	2	8
	Total	30 (60)	7 (14)	3 (6)	7 (14)	3 (6)	50 (100)

From the above **Table 5**, it is understood that exactly 30(60%) of the faculty members (30 faculty among 50 samples) visit the library daily. Further, it is noted that among the faculty members, more Assistant professor visit the library daily and 7(14%) of the faculty members visit the library once in a week, and 7(14%) of the faculty members visit the library thrice a week.

Totally 3(6%) of the faculty members visit the library thrice a week and 3 faculty members visit the library once in a month. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that mostly Assistant Professors visit the library daily

Table-6**Quantum of time spent by faculty members**

S.No	Category	Below 1 Hour	2 Hours	3 Hours	Total
1	Guest faculty	4	10	-	14
2	Assistant Professor	20	8	-	28
3	Associate Professor	4	3	1	8
	Total	28	21	1	50

The quantum of time spend by the faculty members during the hours of library is shown in table 6. Time spent in the libraries is Classified under 3 categories viz., Below 1 hour, 2 hours and 3hours. It is noted that 28 teaching faculty utilize below 1 hour, 21 faculty members spend 2 hours, and 1 faculty member spend 3 hours in a day. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that more than 50% of the faculty members spend below 1 hour, in a day, in the library.

Table-7**Satisfaction about the library facilities**

S.No	Category	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
1	Guest faculty	20	6	-	2	28
2	Assistant Professor	-	4	3	1	8
3	Associate Professor	7	3	2	2	14
	Total	27	13	5	5	50
	%	54	26	10	10	100

Table 7 shows the satisfaction level about the library facilities. Totally, 4 scales are used to indicate the satisfaction level about the library facilities namely, v good , good, fair, poor. Among the total respondents 27(54%) select very good, 13(26%) select good, and 5(10%) faculty members select fair and poor option. It is found that more than 50% of the faculty members select the very good option.

Table-8**Satisfaction about library system and services**

S. No	Faculty members	Yes	%	No	%	Total
1	Guest Faculty	13	92.85	1	7.14	14
2	Assistant Professor	26	92.85	2	12.5	28
3	Associate Professor	7	58.33	1	12.5	8
	Total	46	92	4	7.70	50

Table 8 shows the satisfaction about library system and services. Out of 50 respondents, 46(92%) faculty members answer 'Yes' and 4 (7.70%) faculty members answer 'No' with regard to library service. The library may try to improve the collection and service facilities. However, majority of the faculty members totally 46(92%) feel satisfied with the library systems and service.

Findings and conclusion

- ❖ Majority of 64% faculty members are male.
- ❖ The EEE and ECE department faculty members occupy the first and second position.
- ❖ Among the different category of respondents, majority of 57.69% respondents belong to assistant professors category.
- ❖ Most of the faculty members visit the library daily and the library authorities can motivate the faculty members to visit the library twice a day.
- ❖ More than 50% of the faculty members spend less than one hour. So the library authorities may provide more infrastructure facilities and make the faculty members to spend more time in the library.
- ❖ Most of the faculty members prefer books, when compared to other reading materials.
- ❖ Majority of the faculty members are interested in reading books.
- ❖ Few faculty members have expressed there this dissatisfaction over the library facilities this may identified and proper measure can be taken to satisfy the faculty members.

- ❖ Most of the faculty members understand and answer about the advanced information technology, the rest of the faculty members do not answer about advanced information technology. It is evident that majority of the faculty members are familiar with the advanced information technologies.
- ❖ Majority of the faculty members express their satisfaction over the library system and service.

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