

A STUDY ON USAGE OF AUTOMATED AND DIGITAL LIBRARY RESOURCES BY STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS OF CONSTITUENT COLLEGES, ERA UNIVERSITY LUCKNOW

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ABSTRACT

Information is an essential for students everyone in their learning process. The present study done to use of automated and digital library resources by the students and faculty members of the constituent colleges of Era University Lucknow. In this regards a survey was conducted to gathered data from students and faculty on the various types of information sources they use, because this study on usage of automation and digital resources then just escape print material from the study. No doubt print materials are the major information resource in comparison to other resources (E-resources)

KEYWORDS: Information resources, usage of Information, sources Library usage

INTRODUCTION

Libraries are responsible for acquiring, preserving and providing access to books, periodicals and other media of information. Knowledge expansion is depends on information. Students enrolled in institutions for the purpose of getting knowledge, which is rendered to them through different sources of information. The library is central source of information for students, that why every institution maintained an excellent stocked library. Usage of information is very important than their availability, because when information is used by students then it will transform into their knowledge and expertise. Appropriate use and processing within the mind combined with the already available knowledge of the user can lead to the synthesis of new knowledge. Information as a process which occurs in the mind when a problem is united with data that can help solves it. Information is part of a process of converting messages received into knowledge. Popoola (2008%) stated that productivity in academia is linked to information richness. The richness goes beyond

availability to usage and assimilation. The information sources available in any institution must be accessed thoroughly by the users.

The essence of every information resources is in its use and impact on the patrons. This study intends to explore the use of Information Resources by students through the following questions:

- How often students use the library?
- For what purpose do students use the library?
- What are the major information resources used by the students?
- What are the factors considered while using information resources?
- What are the major sources of searching for information used by the student?
- What are the challenges faced in the process of accessing information resources in library?
- What is their level of ease with the library staff?

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to examine the usage of library resources available in Era University library. The main objective is to know the purpose of visit to the library, familiarity with Information resources availability and internet use, satisfaction and awareness library resources and factors that discourage students from using library resources. The result may help to the librarian to know the extent of degree of level of satisfaction and awareness about available resources and suggestions to improve the library services and their usage.

METHODOLOGY

The targeted sample group was the collected from the students and faculty members of Era University libraries to check their frequency and usage of library and information sources, their purpose of using the library and the factors considered in using information sources. A total number of 300 questionnaires were distributed out of which 236 responses were received.

The questionnaire was both type, paper based and online and it was electronically analyzed,

ANALYSIS

The results were analyzed as per following table 1 describes the response rate by group of Medical, Physiotherapy Pharmacy, Nursing, Paramedical colleges students, and faculty members. Response rate of 78.66% shows across all six groups.

Table 1: Distribution of the respondent by category

| Groups | No of distributed Questionnaire | No. of returned | Response rate |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Faculty Members ERA University | 50 | 35 | 70% |
| Medical College Students | 50 | 40 | 80% |
| Physiotherapy College Students | 50 | 43 | 86% |
| Pharmacy College Students | 50 | 35 | 70% |
| Nursing College Students | 50 | 40 | 80% |
| Paramedical College Students | 50 | 43 | 86% |
| Total Responses | 300 | 236 | 78.66 |

Table 2: Frequency of periodicity to using Library Automation and Digital Resource by response

| periodicity | Frequency | percentage |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Daily | 87 | 36.86 |
| 2-4 times a week | 77 | 32.62 |
| Once a week | 50 | 21.18 |
| Fortnightly | 10 | 4.23 |
| Once in a month | 6 | 2.54 |
| Occasionally | 6 | 2.54 |
| Total | 236 | 100 |

Table 2 shows frequency of use of library automation and digital resource by response daily (N=87, 36.86%) or between two and 4 times a week (N=77, 32.62%). once in a week (N=50, 21.18%). fortnightly (N=10, 4.23%). monthly (N=6, 2.54%) and occasionally (N=6, 2.54%) visited. The finding of the study shows that periodicity to using library automation and digital resource by response y often.

Table 3: Purpose to visit Library by response

| Purpose to visit | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| To do self study | 189 | 80.08 |
| To complete assignments | 165 | 69.91 |
| to access online/e-journals, e-books | 145 | 61.44 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| To borrow Library Book | 130 | 55.08 |
| To Internet surfing | 128 | 54.23 |
| To down loading | 112 | 47.45 |
| To copying in pen drive/other drive | 108 | 45.76 |
| To read newspapers/magazines | 104 | 44.06 |
| To socialized with friends | 98 | 41.52 |
| To do group discussion/tutorials | 89 | 37.71 |
| To relax | 76 | 32.20 |

Table 3 present the purpose to visited the library by respondents. The study show that to read the notes top to bottom listed (N=198, 80.08%%) and it is followed by for the purpose of to complete assignments with (N=165, 69.91%%). Some of the respondents also used the library to get information about to access online/e-journals, e-books (N=145, 61.44%) and other may be seen in the table.

Table 4: Frequency to use information resources

| S.No. | Information resources | Frequency used | |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | | Frequency | percentage |
| 1. | Online / e-Books | 145 | 61.44068 |
| 2. | Online / e-Journals | 104 | 44.0678 |
| 3. | Recorded Lectures | 117 | 49.57627 |
| 4. | Newspapers/Magazines | 108 | 45.76271 |
| 5. | Internet resources | 123 | 52.11864 |
| 6. | Online data bases | 120 | 50.84746 |
| 7. | Medical Records/Case notes | 96 | 40.67797 |
| 8. | Manuals | 88 | 37.28814 |
| 9. | Online workshop/conferences | 94 | 39.83051 |
| 10. | Handbooks | 86 | 36.44068 |
| 11. | Reports | 84 | 35.59322 |
| 12. | Abstracts/Index | 83 | 35.16949 |
| 13. | Biographies | 82 | 34.74576 |
| 14. | CD-ROM Database | 80 | 33.89831 |

The above table shows the various information resources used by students and faculty members. The frequently used Online/ e-Books (N=145, 61.44%), Online/ e-journals (N=104, 44.06%), Recorded Lectures (N=117, 49.57%) and other may be seen in the list table no. 4

Table 5: Factors considered in using information resources

| Factors | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Ease of Access | 214 | 90.67797 |
| Availability in the library | 210 | 88.98305 |
| Availability of computer and Internet to access e-resources | 186 | 78.81356 |
| Up to date information sources | 184 | 77.9661 |
| Timings/duration require to access | 130 | 55.08475 |
| Colleagues comment/suggestions | 165 | 69.91525 |

Table 5 shows the factors when using information resources. (N=214, 90.67%), respondents considered ease of access as the first factor to consider in using information resources. This was followed by (N=210, 88.98%), and (N=186, 76.5%), respondent who considered availability of information resources and availability of computer and Internet to access e-resources as an important factor.

Table 6: Relationship with the library staff

| Options | frequency | Percentage |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Excellent | 95 | 40.25424 |
| Very good | 78 | 33.05085 |
| Good | 56 | 23.72881 |
| Poor | 07 | 2.966102 |
| Total | 236 | 100 |

Table 6 represents the level of satisfaction with the services of library staff and librarian. Table 7 shows the relationship between the librarian/staff and students is shown very good (N=95, 40.25%), (N=78, 33.05%) good, very poor and poor, the results indicates that (N=56, 23.72%), (N=07, 2.66%) respectively.

Table 7: Major sources of information

| Major Sources | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Ask from colleague | 178 | 75.42373 |
| Help from Library staff | 170 | 72.0339 |
| Use library catalogue(OPAC%) | 168 | 71.18644 |
| Check for alternative material | 152 | 64.40678 |
| abandon the search | 124 | 52.54237 |

Table 7 shows the major sources of searching used by the students and staff. Respondent frequently ask colleagues (N=178, 75.42%). Asking library staff (N=170, 72.03%), or using the library catalogue (N=168, 71.18%) rated almost similarly. (N=152, 64.40%), (N=52.54%)

Table 8: Challenges faced in accessing information sources

| Challenges | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Location of the library is too far from hostel | 168 | 71.18644 |
| Some of information sources are not relevant to my study | 114 | 48.30508 |
| Information sources are difficult to access | 112 | 47.45763 |
| Lack of training on how to effectively used the information resources | 87 | 36.86441 |
| Lack of Internet access to access online information resources | 86 | 36.44068 |
| Lack of time | 25 | 10.59322 |
| Location of the library is too far from Academic Block | 02 | 0.847458 |
| The atmosphere is not conducive for studying | 02 | 0.847458 |
| Attitude library staff | 02 | 0.847458 |

Table 8 shows that challenges to get the information resources by the users Location of the library is too far from hostel (N=168, 71.18%), Some of information sources are not relevant to my study (N=114, 48.30%), Information sources are difficult to access (N=112, 47.45%), Lack of training on how to effectively used the information resources (N=87, 36.86%), Lack of Internet access to access online information resources (N=86, 36.44%), Lack of time(N=25, 10.47%), Location of the library is too far from Academic Block (N=02, 0.84%), The atmosphere is not conducive for studying (N=02, 0.84%), Attitude library staff (N=02, 0.84%).

Discussion

This study results that the most frequently used resources from the Faculty and students of the constituent colleges of Era University, (Medical College, Physiotherapy College, Pharmacy, Nursing College, Paramedical College and found maximum users take benefits from the library periodically as table 2. As per table 3 the users use the library for the purpose of to do self study found 80.08%, to complete assignments 69.91%, to access online/e-journals, e-books 61.44% Internet surfing 54.23%, Down loading 47.45%, to copying the data in drive 45.76%. Maximum users shown his/her interest to access e-books 61.44%, e-journals 44.06%, 49.57%, Internet resources 52.11%, online data bases 50.84%, Medical record/case notes 40.67% online workshop/conferences 39.83%, CD-ROM 33.89%. as per factor consider in using information resources 90.67% user are satisfy from the factor of easy to access other factor available in table 5. As per table 6 relationship with library staff of the user excellent 40.25%, very good 33.05%, good 23.72%, poor 2.96%, Major source of information was used by the user to get the information like ask from colleague 75.42% help from library staff 72.03%, use library catalogue (OPAC) 71.18% lastly but not least table 8 shown challenges faced in accessing information sources 71.86% students shown challenges as complain location of the library is too far from the hostel.

Recommendations and Conclusion

The present study done to usage of automation and digital library resources by the students and faculty members of the constituent colleges of Era University, Lucknow. In this regards a survey was conducted to gather data from students and faculty on the various types of information sources they use, because this study on usage of automation and digital resources then just escape print material resource from the study, no doubt print materials are the major information resource in comparison to other resources (E-resources), The findings of this study demands increasing of information sources, From the above study following are some suggestions and recommendations:

- Information resources should be available on the internet as online information resources are more up to date .
- Virtual platforms should be available.
- Library orientation program should be developed for personal skill because colleagues may not be fully aware about the best resources available in the library.

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