INFORMATION ACCESS PATTERN OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES AT VILLUPURAM

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Abstract

College Library is established with the aim of fulfilling the basic needs of the academic community. This can be achieved, if the facilities and services are provided to the students, research scholars and faculty members of the academic institution

This study reveals the current scenario, related to the function, services offered and the administration of the colleges affiliated to Annamalai University.

Introduction

Information: Information is considered as the first element in the search for wisdom in a human chain process. Thus, documentation produces information which is converted into documentation and again into information. In every country, from the less developed to the most advanced, a large section of scientific and technological information is locally produced (or) information origin is stored in one form or another form for the benefit of the user community.

Today, information center is an important part of our community life. It is essential for the professionals, especially, for faculty members, who are considered as the important agents for communication of knowledge.

Information seeking behavior (or) user study:

User - study mean the systematic examination of characteristics and behaviors of the users of the system (prasad 1992). The term user - study mainly focuses on the users measure, their information use pattern, Information needs and seeking behaviors.

The Study of information seeking behavior comes under the trust area of user-study in library science subject.

Review of literature:

The review of literature is important one to find out the previous by written works related to our study of the several research works carried out in this topic, a few studies have been taken our research study.

Holscherl and strube (2000) have conducted a study on web search-behavior of internet experts and newbie. They found the different and combined effects of both web experience and domain knowledge in their reviews.

Singh (2006) has studied the features of internet research electronic digital resources, subject gateways used in special libraries in India.

Zhang, et al (2019) have studied the domain knowledge, search behavior and search effectives strategy among the science and Engineering students.

Brief History of Arts and Science Colleges in Villupuram.

1. Arignar Anna Goverment Arts College.

AAGAC was established in 1968. It has 13 departments in AAGAC. Which offer 13UG courses and 11 PG courses. More than 100 faculty members work in AAGAC. It offers 9 M.Phil and 9 Ph.D, courses in various departments.

2. Dr.MGR Goverment Arts and Science College for Women

Dr.MGR Goverment Arts and Science College for Woman was established in 2017. It has 11 Departments and more than 30 faculty members work which include Guest faculty members too.

3.Theivanai Ammal College for Women

TACW was Established in 1989 by E.S.Educational charities. TACW has 13 Departments with strength of more than 80 faculty members. It offers 14UG courses, 8PG courses, 8 M.Phil and 7 Ph.D courses in various departments. It is a self-financing and autonomous institution. TACW library has a collection of more than 26 thousand Books.

Objectives:

The objectives of the present study are as follows:

1. To access the gender-wise respondents
2. To identify age-wise respondents
3. To access the library visit by the respondents
4. To know the purpose of library visit
5. To identity the access of information through advanced information technology.

Methodology

The research was carried out only among the faculty members of 3 colleges in Villupuram. The data were collected from 125 respondents in well-structured questionnaire based on the objectives. Totally, 144 faculty members were selected by using random sampling method and the questionnaires were distributed to them. Out of 144 respondents, only 125 questionnaires were received.

The collected data were tabulated and analysed both quantitatively and qualitatively. Simple statistics and calculation were used for analysis purpose.

Data Collecting Tools: The study used questionnaire as the main tool for collecting data.

Limitation of the study:

The three colleges were selected for the study and the other colleges in the district were not taken into consideration

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table - 1
College-wise Distribution of Questionnaire in Villupuram

S.NO	Name of the College	Questionnaire Distributed	Questionnaire Received	Percentage of Respondents
1	Arignar Anna Govt. Arts College	56	46	82.14
2	Dr.MGR Govt. Arts & Science College for Woman	24	21	87.5
3	Theivanai Ammal College for Woman (Autonomous)	64	58	90.6
Total		144	125	86.8

Table 1 shows the college-wise distribution of the questionnaire. Totally, 144 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents, out of which 125 filled questionnaire were received from the three selected colleges in Villupuram.

Table - 2
Gender-wise Distribution of the Questionnaire

S.NO	Sex	No.of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Male	50	40
2	Female	75	60
Total		125	100

From the above table, it is clear that the female respondents were found higher (60%) in number compared to male respondents (40%). The total respondents participated in the study (both male and female) totaled 125

Table - 3
Age-wise Distribution of the Questionnaire

S.NO	Age in Year	No.of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	30 to 40	73	58.53
2	41 to 50	23	18.29
3	51 and Above	29	23.18
Total		125	100

The data in table 3 indicate the age-wise distribution of the questionnaires among the 125 respondents, Totally 73(58.53) of the respondents belong to age group of 30-40 years, 29(23.18) of them belong to the age group of 41-50 years, and 23(18.29) of them belong to the age group of 51 and above. It is found that more than 58% of the respondents belong to the age group of 30-40 years.

Table - 4
Study Sample Distributed by Designation-wise

S.NO	Category	No. of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Guest Faculty	42	33.6
2	Assistant. Professor	78	62.4
3	Associate Professor	5	4.0
Total		125	100

Table 4 shows the designation-wise distribution of the faculty members. Out of 125 respondents, 78(62.4) of the respondents belong to Assistant Professors category, 42(33.6) of the respondents belong to Guest faculty, 5(4.0) of the respondents belong to Associate Professors category. It is found that more than 60% of the respondents belongs to Assistant professors category.

Table - 5
Frequency of Library Visit

S.NO	Frequency	No. of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Daily	27	21.95
2	Weekly	75	59.75
3	Monthly	18	14.63
4	Occasionally	5	3.65
Total		125	100

Table.5 shows the frequency of library visit by the faculty. In this regard weekly visit holds the first position with 75(59.25), daily visit holds the second position with 27(21.95), monthly visit holds the third position with 18(14.63), and occasionally holds the last position with 5(3.65) respondents. It is concluded that weekly visit occupies the first position with the largest number of faculty members.

Table - 6

Purpose of Library Visit

S.NO	Purpose	No. of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Academic	61	48.78
2	Recreational	8	6.09
3	Career Development	44	35.36
4	Research Activities	12	9.75
	Total	125	100

Table 6 shows 61(48.78) of the respondents as visiting their library for Academic propose, 44(35.36) of the respondents visit the library for their career development,12(9.75) of the respondents visit the library for their research activities, and 8(6.09) of the respondents visit the library for recreational purpose. It is found that higher number of 61 respondents visit the library for Academic purpose.

Table - 7

Experience in Accessing E-resources

S.NO	Satisfaction Level	No.of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	1 -5 Years	78	62.19
2	6 to 10 Years	24	19.51
3	11 to 15 Years	12	9.75
4	16 Years & Above	11	8.53
	Total	125	100

Table.7 shows 78(62.19) of the respondents have 1-5 years of experience in accessing the e-resources, 24(19.51) of them have 6-10 years of experience in accessing the e-resources, 12(9.75) of them have 11-15 years of experience in accessing the e-resources, and 11(8-53) of them have 16 and more years of experience in accessing the e-resources. It is found that more than 60% of them have 1-5 years of experience in accessing the e-resource.

Table - 8
Satisfaction of Library Facilities

S.NO	Satisfaction Level	No. of the Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
1	Completely Satisfied	82	65.85
2	Less Satisfied	26	20.73
3	To Some Extent	11	8.53
4	Not Satisfied	6	4.87
Total		125	100

Table.8 shows the level of satisfaction. Out of 125 respondents, 82(65.55) of the respondents feel completely satisfied with library facilities, 26(20.73) of them feel less satisfied, 11(8.53)of them feel satisfied to some extent, and 6(4.87) of them are not satisfied with the library facilities. It is revealed that more than 65% of the respondents are completely satisfied with the library facilities.

Table – 9
Access with Advanced information Technology

S.NO	Category	Yes	No	Total
1	Guest Faculty	25 (41.60)	30 (46.15)	55 (44.00)
2	Assistant Professor	20 (33.30)	25 (38.46)	45 (36.00)
3	Associate Professor	15 (25.00)	10 (15.38)	25 (20.00)
Total		60 (48.00)	65 (52.00)	125 (100.00)

Table 9 shows the faculty members access with the advanced information technology. It indicates that among the various Categories of faculty members, more than 50% of them 65(52.00) do not have access to information technology. Totally 60(48.00) of the respondents have access to the information with Advanced information technology.

Findings and conclusion

- ❖ It is found that the number of female respondents is higher than the male respondents.

- ❖ It is concluded that more than 58% of the respondents belongs to the age group of 30 to 40years.

- ❖ It is found that more than 60% of the respondents belong to Assistant Professor category.

- ❖ It is concluded that weekly visit of the respondents occupy the first positions.

- ❖ It is revealed that more number of respondents (61) visit the library for academic purpose.

- ❖ It is found that more than 60% of them have 1-5 years of experience in accessing the   e-resources

- ❖ It is concluded that 48% of the respondents have access to the information with advanced information technology.

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