

KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES BY ENGINEERING COLLEGES LIBRARIES IN PANRUTI TALUK TAMILNADU

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Abstract

Today the engineering institutions are investing huge amount for digital resources because the quality of engineering institutions is measured in terms of digital collections, e-resources, networking component, ICT tools etc. This study aimed at finding the awareness of librarians about the various e-resources existing in Engineering Education sector and the availability of these e-resources in engineering college libraries in Tamilnadu. A well-structured questionnaire was distributed among the librarians of engineering colleges in Tamilnadu. The result of this study provided information about the librarians' awareness about library consortia and e-resources, availability of e-resources and membership of engineering college libraries in these consortia, Infrastructural facilities available for utilizing the e-resources, etc. Some suggestions have been set forth to make the service more beneficial for the academic community of the engineering colleges under study.

Keywords: E-Resources, Library consortia, e-journals, Engineering College Libraries

INTRODUCTION

Advances in computer applications during the past few decades have brought radical changes in the way information is gathered, store, organized, accessed, retrieved and consumed. The application of computers in information processing has brought several products and services to the scene. The Internet and the Web are constantly influencing the development of new modes of scholarly communication; their potential for delivering goods is quite vast, as they overcome successfully the geographical limitations associated with the print media. Further, the distribution time between product publication and its delivery has been drastically reduced. The Internet can be used for efficient retrieval and meeting

information needs. This is very important for university libraries since most of them call for more and more research work. This important fact is convincing many libraries to move towards digital e-resources, which are found to be less expensive and more useful for easy access. This is especially helpful to distant learners who have limited time to access the libraries from outside by dial-up access to commonly available electronic resources, mainly CD-ROM, OPACs and Internet, which are replacing the print media.

Libraries have witnessed a great metamorphosis in recent years both in their collection development and in their service structure. Over the last several years, a significant transformation has been noticed in collection development policies and practices. Print medium is increasingly giving way to the electronic form of materials.

Meaning of E- Resources :

An **electronic resource** is any information source that the library provides access to in an **electronic** format. The library has purchased subscriptions to many **electronic information resources** in order to provide you with access to them free of charge Aug 17, 2011

Definition of E-Resources:

E-resources in which information is stored which are accessible are accessible through electronic systems and networks. E-resources is a very broad team that includes a variety of different publishing models, including OPACs, online database, e-journal, e-books internet resource, print – on – demand (POD), E-mail publishing, wireless publishing, electronic link and web publishing etc. In this context the term means “any electronic product that delivers collection of data de it in text, numerical, graphical, or time based, as a commercially available resource.

According to IFLA ISBD (ER) 1: An electronic resource consists of materials that are computer – controlled, including materials that required the use of a peripheral (e.g. CD – ROM player) attached to a computer: the items may or not be used in the interactive mode.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

VivekPatkarHome (2009)¹ Support of the library has always been raditionally considered imperative for the completeness of education. Even in the current electronic technology mediated e-learning, the evolving form of the library is considered necessary. It

is remarkable that the same technology means are driving both the e-learning and library transformation process. A library professional having acquired such technological skills can therefore add value to the e-learning process. The paper discusses the impacts of e-learning on the learner, teacher, and library using the framework of the laws of media enunciated by Marshall McLuhan. It further discusses how e-learning and new form of the library fit well in the emerging concept of self-service society. To spread the modern education to the remote corners of India, a strategy of promoting the e-learning aided by the advanced library and technology is recommended.

Gowda, Vasappa Shivalingaiah, D. (2009)² Questionnaire method was employed to gather data from researchers of humanities, social science and science disciplines in six universities in Karnataka. Responses received from 845 research scholars shows that in general the research scholars prefer print resources and there exists significant differences in the preference of print and electronic resources among various disciplines. Identifies the gaps in the need and availability of electronic resources like online journals and databases in the university libraries. Reveals that the electronic resources have created a positive hope among the research community in searching the information.

Mishra, R.Kumar, Rajesh Tripathi, D P(2008)³ The advent of CD-ROM technology has made profound impact on library services with its unique features of large storage capacity and iterative search facility. The P K Kelkar Library of IIT Kanpur had started procuring CD-ROMs and other multimedia resources to overcome the ever growing need of space, as also to provide fast and iterative search facility to its user since 1990s. The purpose of this paper is to describe the processes involved in managing the CD-ROM collection at P. K. Kelkar Library. The paper discusses the importance of CD-ROM in relation to de-stressing library collection. It outlines the planning and processes involved in organizing CD-ROM collection on shelves and development of a user interface through open-source software, i.e., Winisis and GenisisWeb

Need for the study

To value the study relates to the utilization of e-resource in teaching, learning research, collaborative activity is increasingly viewed as a vital component in the tertiary and research sector of the undergraduate students of engineering college located in Panrutitaluk. This has led to the collaborative, access to and use of electronic resources and improvement in research and development activity in the college and is also beneficial to the librarian of the engineering colleges located in Panrutitaluk. In view this the present study is an attempt to show the use pattern of resources by the students of engineering colleges in Panrutitaluk.

Objectives of the study

The following objectives have been framed for this study;

- To find out the e-resource and their availability in the library of engineering colleges.
- To find out users purpose of using electronic resources , and timer spend by the respondents.
- To find out the gender wise respondent used e-resource in engineering colleges.

Limitations and statistical tool

The finding of this study will be applicable only to the engineering colleges libraries in Panrutitaluk district and they will not applicable in other institute. Only three engineering colleges libraries have been taken for present study. The study is concerned with attitude of the student towards usage of electronic resource.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1

Institution wise states of response from Faculty members and PG students

| S.NO | Institution | No. Of Respondents | Percentage |
|------|--|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Anna university college of Engg.&Tech. | 118 | 35 |
| 2 | Annaivelankani college of Engg.&Tech. | 109 | 33 |
| 3 | St.annes college of engineering & tech | 106 | 32 |
| | Total | 333 | 100 |

Table 1 shows the institution wise distribution of respondents. Among the respondents 118(35%) of them belongs to AUCET college. 109(33%) of them belongs to AVCET college. 106(32%) of them belongs to ST.ACET, totally 333 Respondents are taken for the present study.

Table 2

Distribution of respondent According to face qualification

| S.NO | distribution of respondents | Distribution of questioners | Received the questioners | Percentage |
|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Faculty | 258 | 258 | 100 |
| 2 | PG | 80 | 75 | 93.75 |
| | Total | 338 | 333 | 98.52 |

Table 2 shows that category wise response's. Among the 333 total respondents, 258(76%) faculty the distribution of questionnaire and 80(24%) PG the distribution of questionnaire, 258(100%) faculty received the questionnaire and 75(93.75%) PG received the questionnaire.

It is seen form the above table among the three engineering colleges located in panrutitaluk, 98.52% of questionnaire are received from the respondents

Figure1

Distribution of respondent According to face qualification

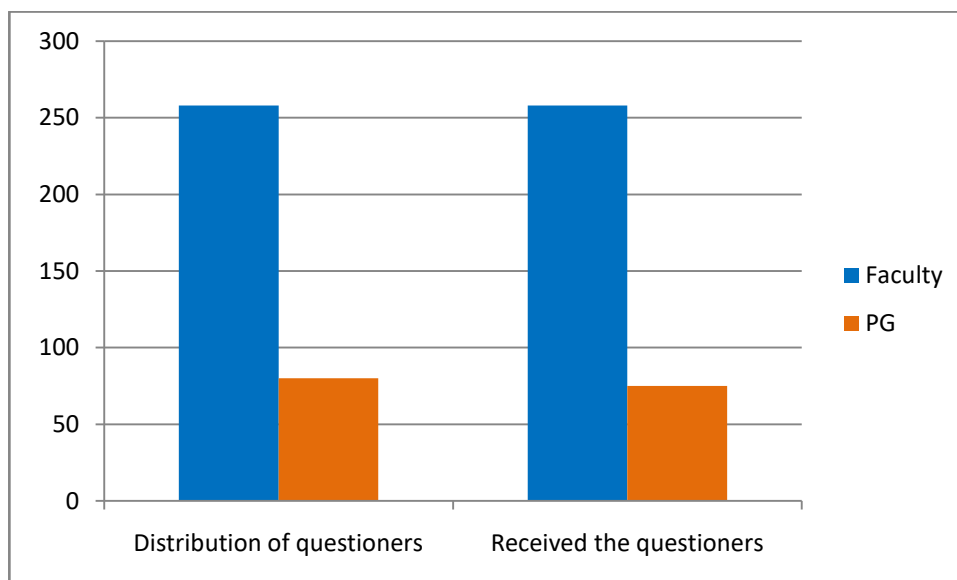


Table 3

Distribution of respondent's According to face gender wise

| S.NO | Distribution of respondents | Faculty | PG | TOTAL |
|------|-----------------------------|---------|----|-------|
| | | | | |

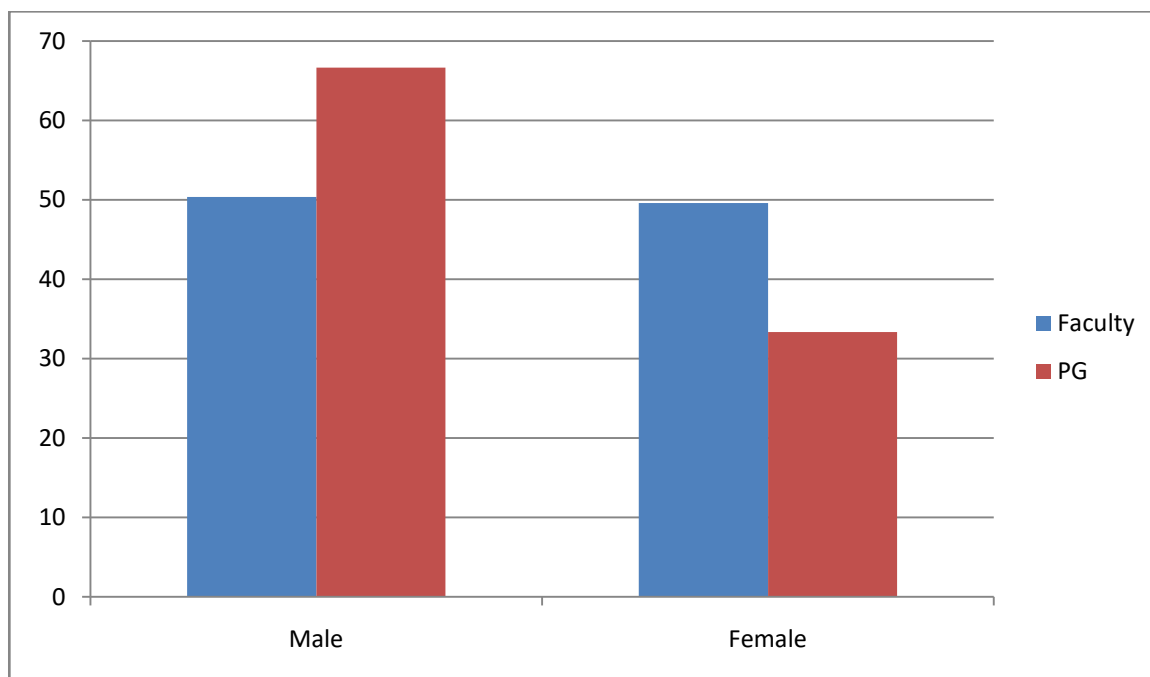
| | | | | |
|---|--------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | Male | 130 (50.38) | 50 (66.66) | 180 (54.05) |
| 2 | Female | 128 (49.61) | 25 (33.33) | 153 (45.94) |
| | Total | 258 (99.99) | 75 (99.99) | 333 (99.99) |

Table 3 shows sex wise distribution of category. Among the 333 total respondents, 130(50.38%) male and 128(49.61%) female sex wise faculty respondents. 50(66.66%) male and 25(33.33%) female sex wise PG respondents.

It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that more than 50.38% of male and 49.61% female respondents the questionnaire.

Figure 2

Distribution of respondent's According to face gender wise



CONCLUSION

The study investigated the awareness and availability of electronic resources and related issues in Engineering College Libraries in Tamilnadu. This is a matter of concern, as presently, electronic information sources and the Internet are considered extremely important tools for effective teaching and research. Based on the findings of this study, we would like

put forward some suggestions. More funds should be allocated for e-resources; Library consortia should have collective bargaining with publishers and make available more e-resources at less cost. That will attract and motivate colleges to take membership and join hands with library consortia. Subscription of patents, standards, technical reports and multimedia products should be amplified. These resources are very informative and needed in the present engineering scenario. For all the above, effective communication is needed in micro level and macro level. Infrastructure is the backbone of all communications, so excellent infrastructure is also needed to make use the available e-resources.

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