

Chapter 51

Utilization of ICT–Based Resources and Services in Engineering College Libraries

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ABSTRACT

Application of ICT in libraries has helped librarians and information specialists and researchers improve their information products and services through enhanced search outcomes in terms of specificities of documents retrieval, provision/dissemination, and use of requisite information retrieved or generated. The study shows the gender distribution of respondents' frequency of using ICT-based resources and services. It is evident that 57.43% male and 42.57% female respondents using ICT-based resources and services on a daily basis, and 54.67% male and 45.33% female respondents were using 2-3 times in a week.

INTRODUCTION

The application of ICT has drastically transformed the way of collection, storage and retrieval of information in libraries. Particularly, the internet has completely transformed the traditional libraries into digital libraries. “Using the internet information may be accessed from anywhere of the universe. The arrival and proliferation of electronic resources and digital libraries have already influenced the way users use print resources and traditional libraries. It has also sparked a new wave of literature on the perception and preference of print and electronic resources” (Ziming Liu, 2006). Digital age has a tremendous change in the way of information is stored and accessed. “Many new terms viz., „digital libraries“, „libraries without walls“, „virtual libraries“ are emerging to describe the libraries of present day age. A digital library is popularly viewed as an electronic version of library where storage is in digital form, allowing direct communication to obtain material and copyright it from a master version” (Burns, 1984).

As the world is growing technologically, library operations in various locations in the world are no longer how they use to be. Libraries in India since the beginning of the 21st century have started

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making efforts to metamorphose from being institutions driven by manual processes into modern ones where operations are in part or wholly dependent on ICT applications. The versatility of ICT driven library operations that would adequately and efficiently meet the information needs of patrons has been widely acknowledged in extant literature to the extent that most academic libraries in India are positively inclined towards computerizing their operations. Although none of the academic libraries in the country has completely been automated or computerized, many are at varied and deferring stages of adaptation in having their operations ICT driven or ICT dependent. Academic libraries are libraries that are attached to post secondary institutions and they are as varied and distinctive as the institutions they are established to serve providing information services to faculty members, students, researchers and other scholarly inclined persons. Academic libraries can be categorized into university libraries and non-university libraries (Aina, 2004). Universities libraries are the best developed type of academic libraries in India; they are better funded compared with other types of libraries, they provide the type of information services that could be found elsewhere in the world.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Bellary, Shivanand and Ramesh (2015) carried a survey entitled Impact of ICT on job satisfaction among Library Professionals working in NMIMS Deemed University, Mumbai. We are very happy to quote that NMIMS Deemed University libraries has well experienced library professionals in ICT field. Table shows that 53.85% of library professionals have 5 to 10 years of experience in ICT field, 23.08% professionals have less than 5 years of experience, 15.38% of professionals they don't have any experience in ICT and 7.69% of library professionals have more than 16 years of experience in ICT. WOW 53.85% of library professionals participated in training course and conference / seminar related to ICT, 46.16% of library professionals attended workshops, 38.16% of library professionals submitted papers related to ICT followed by 7.69% of library professionals attended other mode of activity related to ICT professional activity.

Isabella and Dhanavanthan (2015) examined Perception of Web-Based Tools and Services by College Library Professionals in South Tamil Nadu, India. This paper focuses on the perception of web technology tools by library professionals in various engineering colleges in the South Tamil Nadu, India. The purpose of the study is to determine to what extent the library professionals there are familiar with web-based tools and use them in library operations. 140 copies of a questionnaire were distributed to library professionals in that region, of which 123 were completed and returned. Simple percentage and weighted average maturity (WAM) were used to analyze the data collected. The findings show that of the 123 college library professionals participated in the survey, a large percentage of them are expert users of many web-based tools such as digital library software, e-learning management systems, and content management systems. shows how frequently the respondents used web resources. 43 (34.96%) male respondents and 17 (13.82%) female respondents used web resources on a daily basis. 21 (17.07%) male respondents and 8 (6.50%) female respondents used web resources twice a week. It is worth pointing out that 48.78% of the respondents used web resources daily. The familiarities of blogs are measured under a five-point scale (No Idea, Aware, Leaning, Fair, and Expert). Based on the WAM (weighted average maturity) calculation, blogs "By genre" ranks first, followed by "Corporate and organizational blogs". It is worth pointing out that there were more expert users of blogs than other categories.

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