
Quality of E-Resources and Services in the Dr. Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi: A Case Study

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Abstract

An information necessity illuminates a gap in knowledge, In this study, an attempt is being made to highlight the awareness and access to eminent E-Resources and Services of Digital Library in Dr.Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi. Academic Libraries, particularly in recent past are providing some of the noteworthy E-Resources. Lack of consensus among students and faculties are a major hindrance to the awareness of the e-resources services available via the College library websites. Services such as Web OPAC, access to full-text databases, online document delivery, access to institutional repository and open access resources, databases, remote access and so on can be accessed and be utilized as quality sources of information for the academic community if proper awareness is ensured.

Keywords

E-Resources and Services, Web based Services,
Digital Literacy

Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in



Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science
ISSN: 2277-2219 Vol. 8. No.2. 2019. pp.42-45

INTRODUCTION

Patra & Chand (2006) says Over the past 20 years, reference librarianship in India has changed dramatically. A fundamental shift has taken place throughout the process of finding information. Print resources gave way to Web-hosted electronic resources. You can find materials rapidly and effortlessly. Preedip (2016) says However, finding quality information from reliable sources in the oceans of information that we have at our disposal takes awareness of the E-Resources

Wysoki, A. (1989) denotes the rise of libraries and information centers have been employing E-Resource resources and service system to satisfy the diverse information needs of their users. Library services, CD-ROM databases, online databases, web-based services, and a variety of other electronic media are replacing the traditional services of libraries. It also points out the need for assessing the impact of the Web based E-Services in Dr. Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi, Library on the users of the libraries.

METHODOLOGY

The survey is also a systematic analysis in terms of collecting the details of the use of E-Resource and services in Dr. Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi. This covers descriptors such as objectives of the quality of information services, the process, the impact of user's practices, e-resources required, and the data have been collected using structured Questionnaire. The Questionnaire is refined and modified based on the pilot study carried out in the above with the consultation of experts. Rimm (1992) says Self-administered questionnaires, whether on paper or on the Web, allow respondents flexibility in deciding when, where, and at what pace to complete the survey. Web-based surveys have become increasingly popular because of their lower costs compared with other approaches to survey administration

ABOUT THE COLLEGE AND LIBRARY

Nestled in a Serene Campus in the heart of Karaikudi, Dr .Umayal Ramanathan College for Women is steeped in rich heritage. As an integral part of the Alagappa Group of Institutions founded by Dr.RM.Alagappa Chettiar who transformed the landscape of a shrub jungle of 1,000 acres into a galaxy of educational institutions in the 1950's, it emanated from his vision to bring higher education to

women in the community. In perhaps his crowning piece of philanthropy he gave away his own residence in Kottaiyur to start a Women's College. That dream was not fully realized as he died shortly thereafter. The college has library with 12931 Books, 139 Journals with e-library and book bank facility. The library has rich collection of textbooks, reference books and national and international journals.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To find Total Number of Users Selected as sample among the College Libraries Surveyed.
- To identify the Gender wise Information in the Dr.Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi.
- To usage of Web Based Information E-Resources.
- To analyze the routine of Access to E-Resources in Springer Link.
- To examine the of Access to E-Resources in Sage Journals Online.
- To evaluate of Access to E-Resources in Web of Science.
- To identify the Purpose of Using E-Resources in Gender Wise.
- To know the Benefit of Web Based E-Resources Access in Gender wise.

ANALYSIS

Table 1: Total Number of Users Selected as sample among the College Libraries

College	Questionnaire Distributed	Responses Received	%
Dr.Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi	200	130	65.00

Czaja(2005) says Web-based and e-mail surveys require that your respondents have easy access to this technology and are comfortable using it. Solomon (2001) & Sills, S. J., et al (2002) says, a Web-based survey may be an effective method for a sample of college students, but a paper-based printed questionnaire survey may be more appropriate for a sample comprising of faculties and senior citizens. Printed questionnaire has been distributed in person to the respondents of Dr.Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi, with regard to the users, 100 questionnaires are distributed. Of which, 55 were filled in and received. A Google form was used to collect data as a web survey, the link was sent to 100 students, 70 responses were received, and therefore the overall paper and web service response rate is 65.00 percent.

Table 2: Gender wise – Information

Respondents		Gender		Total	%
		Male	Female		
Students	UG	51	37	88	67.69
Staff	Assistant Professor	18	07	25	19.23
	Associate Professor	10	02	12	9.23
	Professor	04	01	5	3.85
Total		83 (63.85)	47 (36.15)	130	100.00

It is found from the above table that male respondents are dominated with 83 (63.85 percent) respondents while the rest is of female 47 (6.15 percent) respondents. Between the categories of the respondents, UG Students are major group with 88 (67.69 percent) respondents, which is followed by 25 Assistant Professors (19.23 percent), 12 Associate Professors (9.23 percent) and 5 respondents (3.85 percent) in the Professors.

Table 3: Web Based Information E-Resources Used

Information Resources	Students	Staff			Total (130)	%
	UG (88)	Assistant Professor (25)	Associate Professor (12)	Professor (5)		
Research Articles	67	24	12	05	108	83.07
e-Journals	50	22	10	04	86	66.15
e-Books	44	21	09	03	77	59.23
Research Reports	39	20	07	03	69	53.07
Funding sites	32	16	06	03	57	43.84

Fellowships/Scholarships	27	14	05	02	48	36.92
Protocols/Lab manuals	22	11	01	02	36	27.69

The trend of accessing web based information resources between the categories of respondents has been analyses. It is found that a majority of the respondents preferred Research Articles (83.07 percent), e-journals (66.15 percent), e-books (59.23

percent), and Research Reports (53.07 percent); comparatively a minor group of respondents used the web based access to Fellowships/Scholarships (36.92 percent), Protocols and Lab manuals (27.69 percent).

Table 4: Access to E-Resources - Springer Link

Web Databases		Students	Staff			Total (130)	%
		UG (88)	Assistant Professor (25)	Associate Professor (12)	Professor (5)		
Springer Link	Regularly	38	13	5	3	59	45.38
	Occasionally	27	7	4	1	39	30.00
	Not at all	23	5	3	1	32	24.62

It is found from the table that Springer link 59 respondents (45.38 percent) has the highest stake among the usage regularly between the categories of respondents, 39 respondents (30.00 percent) among

the usage of occasionally. 13 Assistant Professors were regularly using in Springer Link E-Resource databases.

Table 5: Access to E-Resources - Sage Journals Online

Web Databases		Students	Staff			Total (130)	Percent
		UG (88)	Assistant Professor (25)	Associate Professor (12)	Professor (5)		
Sage Journals Online	Regularly	43	15	06	02	66	50.77
	Occasionally	27	05	06	03	41	31.54
	Not at all	18	05	00	00	23	17.69

The above table reveals that Sage Journals Online 66 respondents (50.77 percent) have the highest stake among the usage regularly between the categories of respondents, 41 respondents (31.54 percent) among

the usage of occasionally. 43 UG Students were regularly using in Sage Journals Online E-Resources.

Table 6: Access to E-Resources - Web of Science

Web Databases		Students	Staff			Total (130)	Percent
		UG (88)	Assistant Professor (25)	Associate Professor (12)	Professor (5)		
Web of Science	Regularly	24	07	00	01	32	24.62
	Occasionally	46	13	06	03	68	52.31
	Not at all	18	05	06	01	30	23.07

It is found from the table that Web of Science (52.31 percent) has the highest stake among the usage occasionally between the categories of respondents,

regularly 32 respondents (24.62 percent) among the usage of E-Resources.

Table 7: Purpose of Using E-Resources in Gender Wise

Search Strategy	Male N=83	%	Female N=47	%
To Education purpose	45	34.61	36	24.61
To Entertainment purpose	38	29.23	32	18.46
To Research purpose	29	22.31	24	15.38
For Communication purpose	22	16.92	20	13.84
For Business purpose	19	14.61	18	24.61

The Gender wise distribution on the purpose of use of internet revealed that Male are dominating in terms of using internet for the purpose Education purpose (34.61 percent), for entertainment purpose (29.23 percent), Research purpose (22.31 percent) and for Communication purpose (16.92 percent), while the Female respondents were preferred internet for the purpose of Education purpose (24.61 percent) and Research purpose (22.31 percent). Hence the Male and Female are differed in terms of purposes of accessing the internet.

Table – 8: Benefit of Web Based E-Resources Access in Gender wise

Web Based Access over Services	Male N=83	%	Female N=47	%
More Informative	70	53.84	41	31.53
Time Saving	64	49.23	37	28.46
Easy to Use	59	45.38	37	28.46
Easy to Update	55	42.30	33	25.38
Quick Access	53	40.76	32	24.61
Less Expensive	48	36.92	29	22.30
Global Sources at One Place	43	33.07	29	22.30
Effective Communication	39	30.00	28	21.53

E-resources access behaviour in terms of gender revealed that a larger group of 53.84 percent of Male respondents more informative in accessing e-resources while 31.53 percent of Female respondents are higher within the group in terms of more informative and time saving (28.46 percent) towards accessing web based e-resources.

CONCLUSION

Awareness of E-Resources and Services among the Dr.Umayal Ramanathan College for Women, Karaikudi are encouraging and at optimum use and consumption of time towards accessing e-resources and web based library services were needed to be addressed to enhance the exploitation of web environment. The study also could observe that there are significant differences exist between the respondents in terms of research experience and no significant difference among library users towards gender wise research experience, use of electronic sources of information, and frequency of accessing e-resources.

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