

Information Access Pattern of Faculty Members of Veterinary College and Research Institute in Chennai and Orathanad of Tamil Nadu, India: A Study

S. Karthikeyan¹ and K. Vijayakumar²

¹Research Scholar, ²Assistant Professor (SG)

^{1&2}Department of Library & Information Science, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu, India

E-Mail: keyyesyes@gmail.com, aulisvijayakumar@gmail.com

Abstract - Now a days the academic libraries are universally accepted as a central organ around which all academic activity revolve. It is probably for this reason that library is said to be the heart of an academic institution. Academic Libraries provide additional facilities for higher learning, research and dissemination of knowledge publications. There are great varieties of users, demanding different kinds of library services. All library services such as collection building, processing, stacking and display of the materials, organizing, managing by other related activities are entirely geared to use and the library users. This study analyses the Information Access by Faculty Members in Electronic Environment: A Study at Selected Veterinary Colleges in Tamil Nadu. This study analyses the accessibility of library collections, information and communication technology infrastructure facilities, the user satisfaction on electronic resources and database management, and the services provided to the user through the Internet. This study is to find out the information access by Faculty Members about library resources and services in the electronic environment. Totally 117 questionnaires were distributed and 102 were received. This study provides the information access by Faculty Members of Veterinary College and Research Institute in Chennai and Orathanad. The present study is focused on the Faculty Members from two Veterinary Colleges in Tamil Nadu. The population for this study consists of full time Faculty Members with different departments using the Simple Random Sampling technique was used to choose the sample.

Keywords: Information Access, Veterinary College, Faculty Members, ICT, Database, Questionnaire

I. INTRODUCTION

The phrase 'Information Access Pattern' has been defined variously by different authors. The following definitions of information access pattern, however, make the concept clearer. According to Krikelas, information access pattern refers to "any activity of an individual that is undertaken to identify a message that satisfies a perceived need". Manda defined information access pattern as "a manner in which a user conducts himself in relation to a given information environment. It is, therefore, regarded as essentially, a process of interaction between the user and the rest of the information system".

A. Need for the Study

It is to mention that the information access behavior of the workplace community varies from that general access of the

library system. The work place community needed much pinpointed information in relation with their working environment and day-to-day activities. It is noted that there is no significant studies on assessing information access pattern of Veterinary Colleges and Research Institute library users, particularly in the Chennai and Orathanadu. Hence it is to remember that in deep study on the information seeking behaviors of the work place community will reveal the problems encounter by them to access relevant information and tactics that they are using to get information.

So this study is proposed to have deep analysis on the information access behavior of a particular work place community like faculty members of Veterinary College in the above locations. It is expected that the outcome of the study will have the strong bearing on the minds of future researchers on library user's information access pattern as well as to find new ways and means to solve the information of the workplace community.

B. Statement of the Problem

A large number of web enabled information system are emerged for both uploading and accessing great amount of scholarly content. It is very much viable in the present knowledge society. This has posed lot of challenges and opportunities for both librarians and information generators and also to users in exploiting resources in the various context and formats at faster rate. This is mainly possible when libraries and information centers of higher education's institutions which adopt newer strategies not only in disseminating information, but also in educating end users in exploiting the information to achieve their desires.

In this context the researcher is keen to identify the level of information access pattern among the Veterinary College and Research Institute staff in accessing and observing information and how best the Veterinary College library and information system is enabling them in maximizing the use of Veterinary resources in the study area. Hence, the problem chosen for the study is "Information Access Pattern of Faculty Members of Veterinary College and Research Institute in Chennai and Orathanadu of Tamil Nadu, India—A Study".

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Balasubramanian S. S & SadikBatcha M. (2011) carried out a study under the title of "Users Perception and Satisfaction on the Services of Academic Libraries in Puducherry Region: A Study" to find out the users perception on quality of various types of services provided in academic libraries of Puducherry region. The authors have concluded that lack of IT initiatives, lack of technical knowhow in IT enabled services, lack of subscription of International Journals have considerable impact on library services provided to users[2].

Sarasvathy and Giddaiah (2010) conducted a case study through survey on Internet and its use in University Library at Mysore University, Karnataka. The objectives of the study are to know the purposes for which the Internet is being used by the academic community, to know the relation between prior computer experience and the use of Internet in University Library Internet Centre, to ascertain how far Internet services has been utilized and to find the problem faced by user various Internet services. Data were collected through survey by distributing the questionnaire among 100Internet users of University Library, Internet Centre, and Mysore. Out of100, 88 members have responded the questionnaire. The results revealed that majority of the academic community consisted of Male population (66%) than the female population (34%). The 1/3 of the study population was less than 25 years (87.5%) of age, 12.5% belong to the age group of 30-39, and 12.5% belongs to the age group of 40-49 years. The study indicated that half of the academic communities (50%) have started using the Internet for more than 8 years, whereas 25% of respondents started for more than 5 years [3].

Walmiki (2010) conducted a survey to know the response of the Karnataka State university libraries to the newly evolved electronic environment. The main objectives of the study are to know the university libraries response to, the changes in library resources, the changes in library tools and techniques, the changes in information services and the changes in user education[4].

Manhas (2010) analyzed the patterns of use of Internet and electronic resources, the Internet skills of the dentists, and problems faced by them while using the Internet and electronic resources in dental colleges and hospitals of Punjab, India. The results showed that the most popular method of acquiring the necessary skills to use Internet and electronic resources was via trial and error method [5].

Subbulakshmi and Manivannan (2016) analyzed the availability of college websites, library websites, and availability of online resources in library sites. The study is confined to link college library websites and e-resources of Arts and Science College libraries in Tamil Nadu. This study is limited to 297 colleges from 32 districts, which has been taken by the investigator for this study. The analysis of 260 colleges revealed 174 colleges are holding library webpage and rest 86 colleges does not hold webpage for

their library. The researcher observed that there is a significant difference exist between the provision of college websites and library websites among Government and self-financing colleges, the awareness library facilities by self-financing college students are better than Government college students, this could be due to lack of promotional activity, which needs to be concentrated[6].

Anasuya, V (2017) conducted a study on electronic resources are becoming an integral part of the modern life and of the educational prospect, especially the higher education prospect. Students of all age group, house wife's, technician and professionals of all community like academicians, business, medical professionals, lawyers, technicians are highly dependent on e-resources. A total number of 300 questionnaires were distributed among the faculty members and students of medical, dental and paramedical science professionals. This constitutes 76.66% (230/300) of the total response. This study showed that the uses of e-resources are very common among the professionals of medical, dental and paramedical college/university libraries of Karnataka State. It also showed that majority of medical and dental professionals have followed the medical technology[7].

Karthikeyan *et al.*,(2019) discussed the information access pattern of the respondents studied in encouraging as the faculty of the surveyed town based Veterinary College and Research Institute are adopting the range of search methods and approaches to information. Accessing information through library staff and colleagues are the most preferred mechanism used by the respondents to get the information. This study provides the information access by Faculty Members of Veterinary College and Research Institute in Tirunelveli and Namakkal. The present study is focused on the faculty Members from two Colleges in Tamil Nadu. The population for this study consists of full time Faculty Members with different Departments Simple Random Sampling technique was used to choose the sample [4].

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the Objectives of this study

1. To find out the sample size wise respondents
2. To suggest the suitable measure the Gender wise respondents
3. To analyse designation wise respondents
4. To identify the frequency of respondents using the library
5. To examine the user satisfaction of library services.

IV METHODOLOGY

The present study is descriptive in nature using normative survey. This is an assessment study that describes the extent of status of the parameters prevailed in the study environment. The researcher has chosen data collection methods through structured questionnaire survey and observation. A pilot study was made and the findings were used to modify and refine the data collection tool. The data

collected through the questionnaire was tabulated and statistical tests viz., Chi-square was applied to test the hypotheses using SPSS.

V. AREA OF THE STUDY

A two Veterinary Colleges and Research Institute are surveyed resulting in a large sample numbering 102. The sample comprises of Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Graduate Assistants. They are in (i) Madras Veterinary College - Chennai (ii) Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanadu of Tamil Nadu, India.

VI. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The researcher has collected data only from the faculty members who are available in the libraries and their Departments of the selected institutions during the survey period at the time of i.e., July 2018 to December 2018 by repeated personal visits during the period. The researcher has chosen only two Veterinary Colleges in Tamil Nadu, India.

VII. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

A. Introduction

The previous section provided the state of the art of Madras Veterinary College, Chennai and Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanadu of Tamil Nadu, India. In this section, the data was collected from the faculty members in two select colleges in Tamil Nadu through the questionnaire, have been analysed using statistical techniques and interpreted.

B. Veterinary College Wise Responses by Research Scholars

The present study is focused on the faculty members working in different department in two Veterinary College and Research Institutes in Tamil Nadu. The population for this study consists of full time faculty Members random sampling technique was used to choose sample.

TABLE I SAMPLE SIZE OF THE RESPONDENTS

S. No.	Veterinary College	Questionnaire Distributed	Percentage	Questionnaire Received	Percentage
1.	Madras Veterinary College Chennai	55	100%	52	94.55%
2.	Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanad	62	100%	50	80.65%
	Total	117		102	

The table I provides sample size and questionnaires distributed among the faculty Members of two Veterinary Colleges in Chennai and Orathanadu in Tamil Nadu. Totally 55 questionnaires were distributed and 52(94.55%) received after duly filled from Madras Veterinary College, Chennai and Totally 62 Questionnaire distributed and 50(80.65%) Questionnaires received from Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanadu.

C. Demographic Details of the Respondents

The demographic details of respondents are classified by Gender it is presented in table II and table III.

TABLE II GENDER WISE DETAILS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	83	81.4	81.4
Female	19	18.6	100.0
Total	102	100.0	

TABLE III GENDER STATISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

		Gender	Designation
N	Valid	102	102
	Missing	0	0
Mean		1.1863	1.5000
Median		1.0000	1.0000
Std. Deviation		.39125	.89829
Skewness		1.636	1.505
Std. Error of Skewness		.239	.239
Kurtosis		.689	1.207
Std. Error of Kurtosis		.474	.474

Table IV reveals that 75.49% of the respondents comprised of Assistant Professors. Nearly 21.6% respondents were professors and remaining 2.9% were Associate Professors. Experience of the faculty ranged from six months to 22 years.

TABLE IV DESIGNATION DETAILS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Designation	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Asst Professor	77	75.49	75.49
Associate Professor	3	2.9	78.39
Professor	22	21.6	99.99
Graduate Asst.	0	0	0
			100.0
Total	102	100.0	

TABLE V CROSSTAB COUNT OF DESIGNATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Gender	Designation			Total
	Asst Professor	Associate Professor	Professor	
Male	60	3	21	83
Female	17	0	1	19
Total	76	3	22	102

TABLE VI CHI-SQUARE TESTS OF THE VETERINARY COLLEGE OF THE RESPONDENTS

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.635 ^a	3	.035
Likelihood Ratio	9.150	3	.027
Linear-by-Linear Association	.982	1	.322
N of Valid Cases	102		

a. 5 cells (62.5%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .19.

D. Respondents Frequency of Visit for Library

9(8.82%) of the “Male” Faculty members and 5(4.90%) of the “Female” Faculty members Daily go for Library. 49(48.04%) of the Male faculty members and 8(7.84%) of the Female faculty members are use the library once in a week. 19(18.63%) of the Male Faculty Members and 3(2.94%) of the Female Faculty Members use the Library

once in a month. But 6(5.88%) of the Male Faculty members and 3(2.94%) of the Female faculty members are use the library “Occasionally”.

TABLE VII RESPONDENTS FREQUENCY OF VISIT FOR LIBRARY

Gender	Frequency of visit for Library				Total
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	
Male	9 (8.82%)	49 (48.04%)	19 (18.63%)	6 (5.88%)	83 (81.37%)
Female	5 (4.90%)	8 (7.84%)	3 (2.94%)	3 (2.94%)	19 (18.63%)
Total	14 (13.73%)	57 (55.88%)	22 (21.57%)	9 (8.82%)	102 (100.00%)

TABLE VIII CHI-SQUARE TESTS FREQUENCY OF VISIT FOR LIBRARY

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.135 ^a	3	.162
Likelihood Ratio	4.608	3	.203
Linear-by-Linear Association	.071	1	.790
N of Valid Cases	102		

a. 3 cells (37.5%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 1.68.

This study has been analysed the ‘frequency of visit to the library by the faculty Members in the college library, with which can be measured the reading.

TABLE IX NON PARAMETRIC CORRELATIONS

		Gender	Time Spent in Library per day	The section which you frequently visit in library	
Kendall's tau_b	Gender	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.251*	
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.011	
		N	102	102	
	Time Spent in Library per day	Correlation Coefficient	.251*	1.000	-.168
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.011	.	.075
		N	102	102	102
	The Section Which you frequently visit in library	Correlation Coefficient	-.015	-.168	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.873	.075	.
		N	102	102	102
Spearman's rho	Gender	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.255**	
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.010	
		N	102	102	
	Time Spent in Library per day	Correlation Coefficient	.255**	1.000	-.177
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.010	.	.076
		N	102	102	102
	The Section Which you frequently visit in library	Correlation Coefficient	-.016	-.177	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.874	.076	.
		N	102	102	102

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed), **. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Faculty members’ frequency of visit to the college library was not found satisfactory. Majority of the faculty members comprising 57(55.88%) visited library once in a week.

Nearly 22(21.57%) users visited library once a month. Forlornly, only 14(13.73%) faculty members visit library daily.

E. User Satisfaction of Library Services

Table IX shows that users say very excellent of the respondent's percentage is 40.20 whereas 50.00 of them are excellent of library services by the users.

TABLE IX USER SATISFACTION OF LIBRARY SERVICES

S. No.	Response	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Very excellent	41	40.20
2.	Excellent	51	50.00
3.	Good	6	5.88
4.	Poor	4	3.92
	Total	102	100.00

About 5.88 percent reveals that good at last among them 3.92 persons revealing the library service is poor. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion majority of them opinion about the library services is Excellent.

VIII. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The major findings of the study have been summarized below.

1. It is found that majority of the respondents are belongs to Male Category.
2. From the analysis, it is observed that Assistant Professors occupy the first position.
3. It is found that around 50% of them user satisfaction of the library services is Excellent.
4. It could be found that more than 55% of the respondents visit the library is once in a week.

IX. CONCLUSION

Information access pattern of the respondents studied in encouraging as the faculty of the surveyed town and city based Veterinary Colleges are adopting the range of search methods and approaches to information. Accessing information through library staff and colleagues of same

college are the most preferred mechanism used by the respondents to get the information. The respondents also access information by trial and error, training at work place. To sum up, this study throws light on the various aspects of information access and use pattern of faculty members of the two veterinary colleges in Tamil Nadu. The users depend to some extent on libraries. Google is the commonly used search engine among the users. The study also suggests taking some measures to achieve effective and efficient use of modern equipments and online resources by the faculty members of above two colleges. Each and every Academic Institutes provides different communication Technology and services to the Academic Community for the benefit of Veterinary College user Community. This study also measures the effectiveness of information services and resources available to Veterinary College Faculty Members.

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