

USAGE OF E- RESOURCES AMONG RESEARCH SCHOLAR'S IN BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY-A STUDY

Ms. T.R. Deivanai¹, Dr.A. Ganesan²

¹Research Scholars, Bharathidasan University, Trichy

²Driector, Library, PRIST University, Thanjavur

Abstract - *The present paper explains about the E-Resources and their use by the Research Scholar's in the Bharathidasan University, Trichy. The data is collected through a questionnaire to study the information needs of the students in various PG departments in BDU. The paper has revealed that the electronic resources available in the BDU Library are much helpful in fulfilling their information needs. There is a need to train the Research Scholar's have to use the electronic resources. Further, there is a need to include more number of journals in the UGC-INFONET, Springer E Books, EBSCO Database, LISTA Database, Sage Publication, NISCAIR Journals, IAS Journals and Science Direct.*

Key Words: E- Resources, Search Engines, UGC-INFONET, EBSCO, LISTA, IAS and PG Dept.

1.INTRODUCTION

Internet and its most used component WWW has turned into a biggest source of information with widest coverage and the fastest access. It is the most powerful tool for global communication and exchange of information.

Koch, Golub and Ardo (2006) in their study explore the navigation behavior of all users of a large web service, Renardus, using web log analysis. Renardus provides integrated searching and browsing access to quality-controlled web resources from major individual subject gateway services. The main navigation feature is subject browsing through the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) based on mapping of classes of resources from the distributed gateways to the DDC structure.

2.Resources Developments at Bharathidasan University

The University Library is the heart of any University. The Bharathidasan University Library established in February 1982. The present magnificent library building started functioning since 29th May 1997 with a carpet area of 6215.56 Sq meters. The building is used to accommodate sections such as Stack, Reference, Circulation, Periodicals, Technical section, Digital Library, Audio Visual Centre, Smart Classroom, Shodhganga Lab, ICT Lab for Rural Women and Reprography. The library has more than 83000 books, subscribes to 600 journals and more than 8000 CD- ROM databases, free of charge for browsing e-resources. Use and awareness of internet resources by faculty members and

research scholars must be investigated so that the findings of such a study may be taken into consideration in the University plans for effective and efficient use of Internet for research work and simultaneous improvement of web resources of its libraries.

3.Objectives

This paper is to explore the usage of subject gateways on web resources among 360 research scholars in Bharathidasan University, Trichy.

- ✓ To identify usage of the E- resources
- ✓ Usage of E Journal by the Research Scholar's
- ✓ To find out Purpose for using E – resources
- ✓ To discover problems faced by the PG Students
- ✓ TO find user satisfaction on E – resources
- ✓ To suggest way to improve the E – resources

4.Review of Literature

Zeeman and Turner (2006) in their paper has discussed that Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has capitalized on the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) potential for organizing Web resources in two projects. Since 1995, LAC has been providing a service that offers links to authoritative Web resources about Canada categorized according to the DDC via its Web site. More recently, LAC has partnered with the federal government Department of Canadian Heritage to manage Web content related to Canadian culture in a DDC-based subject tree. Although the DDC works well to organize a broadly-based collection, challenges have been encountered in adapting it for a specific subject domain specific questions were investigated: 1) Are terms used as tags in folksonomies included in the UDC; and, 2) Which facets of UDC match the characteristics of documents or information objects that are tagged in folksonomies? A collection of the most popular tags from Amazon, LibraryThing, Delicious, and 43Things was investigated. The universal nature of UDC was examined through the universality of topics and facets covering diverse human interests which are at the same time interconnected and form a rich and intricate semantic structure. The results suggest that UDC-supported folksonomies could be implemented in resource discovery, in particular in library portals and catalogues.

5. Methodology

Data was collected using a questionnaire method. The collection covers only PG Students. There are several departments in the University, of which questionnaires were distributed to departments of Tamil, Commerce, LIS, Computer science and more...

A total of 90 questionnaires were distributed in meeting point. A total of 85 valid questionnaires were collected from PG Students. The response rate was 94%.

6. Data Analysis & interpretation

Electronic resources are invaluable research tools which complement print-based resources in any traditional library, Dadzie (2005). A total of 90 questionnaires were distributed among research scholar's and 85 dully filled in questionnaires were received back, thus resulting into response rate of 94 %. The highest response has Ph.D Scholar's in BDU 69 (81 %), followed by M.Phil Scholar's 16 (19 %). The data is presented in table 1.

Table 1. Category of Research Scholar's

Sources	Research Scholar's	%
Ph.D	69	81
M.Phil	16	19
Total	85	100

A study of data in Table 2 indicates the sex distribution of respondents. It could be noted that out of the total 85 respondents, majority of the respondents 46 (55 %) belonged to the Male 39 (45%).

Table 2. Distribution of Male & Female

Sex	Research Scholar's	%
Male	39	45
Female	46	55
Total	85	100

6.1. Searching of Information from BDU Library sources

It is noted that there are different information sources such as Electronic Books, Printed Journals, Electronic Journals, Websites and Other sources. The response of the research scholars about searching these sources is stated in Table 3.

Table 3. Information from BDU Library Sources

Sources	Research Scholar's	%
E- Books	2	2.35
E- Journals	9	10.59
Journals	7	8.24
Library Site	12	14.12
Others	55	64.7
Total	85	100

6.2. Usage of Different Utilities of the Internet

Internet is a major milestone in sharing, storing and communicating the electronic information. Internet has many utilities such as search engines, portals of organizations / institutes, electronic libraries, open archives, access to institutional repositories, discussion forums, groups of special interest, web logs etc. To a question about whether the respondents use these kinds of utilities, the response is represented in Table 4.

Table 4. Usage of Different utilities of internet

Sources	Research Scholar's	%
Search Engines	58	68.24
E- Mail	12	14.12
Forum	2	2.35
Other Library Portal	6	7.06
Institutional Repositories	7	8.24
Total	85	100

6.3.Purpose of using e-resources

The e-resources are used for various purposes, such as for Research, self study, journal publication, e- journals, e-books, job related searching, general information, E-mail checking , etc., which also differs from user to user. The data collected also have been summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. Purpose of using e-resources

Sources	Research Scholar's / 85	%
Research	49	57.65
Self Study	56	65.88
Journal Publication	16	18.82
E- journals	9	10.59
E- books	2	2.35
Job related	15	17.65
General Information	20	23.53
E- mail check up	12	14.12
Others	16	18.82

6.4.Frequency of used Internet

To access internet center frequency of use, respondents were asked to indicate any of Daily, 2-3 times per week, once a week, fortnightly and Monthly wise. In Table 6.

Table 6. Frequency of used Internet

Academic Status	Daily	2-3 times per week	Once a week	Fortnightly	Monthly	Total
Research Scholar's	6	15	42	18	4	85
%	7.06	17.65	49.41	21.18	4.7	100

To access library frequency of use, respondents were asked to indicate any of Daily, 2-3 times per week, once a week, fortnightly and Monthly wise. In Table 7.

Table 7. Frequency of used Library

Academic Status	Daily	2-3 times per week	Once a week	Fortnightly	Monthly	Total
Research Scholar's	2	19	8	10	46	85
%	2.35	22.35	9.41	11.76	54.12	100

6.5.Knowledge about Consortium's

It is noted that electronic resources subscribed are the major information source for the Research Scholar's in BDU Library for their information requirements. A question was asked to the Research Scholar's about whether they knew about Journals & E- Journals subscribed under the consortium and directly. The response of the Research Scholar's is given in Table 8.

Table 8. Knowledge about consortium's

Sources	Know About	Do not Know About	Total
Do you know Consortium	72 (84%)	13 (16%)	85
Do you know E- Journal Consortium	56 (65%)	29 (35%)	85

6.6.Knowledge about Digital Resources

It is interesting to note that among the research scholars, who responded, 10 (11.76%) only have responded that they know the Springer E- books through the library, followed by 6 (7.06%) of the researchers know the same by EBSCO Database, about 8 (9.41%) of the research scholars know the LISTA Database by another i have put the table number 9.

Table 9. Knowledge about digital resources

Sources	Know About	Do not Know About	Total
Springer E- Books	10 (11.76%)	75 (88.24%)	85
EBSCO Database	6 (7.06%)	79 (92.94%)	85
LISTA Database	8 (9.41%)	77 (90.59%)	85
Sage Publication	6 (7.06%)	79 (92.94%)	85
NISCAIR Journals	2 (2.35%)	83 (97.65%)	85
IAS Journals	16 (18.82%)	69 (81.18%)	85
Science Direct	8 (9.41%)	77 (90.59%)	85

6.7.Various factors of Problems of accessing E-resources

The study then sought to find out the main problems research scholar's had with accessing and using e-resources. Table 10 shows problems faced by research scholars while accessing and using electronic information resources. It clearly indicates that the majority of respondents, that is, 45 (52.94 %) find problems due to lack of time. About 42 (49.41 %) respondents find problems due to slow net connection, whereas about 6 (7.06 %) respondents indicate that they face problems due to power shutdown to use electronic information resource.

Table 10. Problems of accessing E- resources

Problems	Research Scholar's / 85	%
Power shutdown	6	7.06
Net connection slow	12	14.12
Lack of System knowledge	42	49.41
Computer in Demand	0	0.00
Lack of time	45	52.94
Lack of Assistance	2	2.35
Website block	4	4.71
Need Subject Gateways	16	18.82
Virus & Hanging System	4	4.71

7.FINDING & CONCLUSION

- i. Research Scholar's have huge experience using library sources
- ii. Wifi Campus and free internet access is provided by the BDU University
- iii. BDU Digital Library for most comfortable place for accessing web resources
- iv. Many E- resources available in University Library
- v. Subject Gateways Awareness need to research scholars
- vi. Search engines are the most common way of web resources
- vii. Downloading problems, slow net connection are the major problems faced by research scholars
- viii. In Tamil Department faced problem by how to search information in Tamil letters

The usage of e- resources is a major source of communication and information in present world. Libraries in India are fast transforming into digital libraries and virtual learning resource centers. It is important that BDU University maintain the library web page with all necessary technology with e resources for the effective use of information in higher education and research. A large portion of user is aware about subject gateways, but they do not know all its techniques and applications. Further a few scholars the university still have no knowledge about the consortiums journals. They develop awareness and knowledge of the users.

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