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AWARENESS ABOUT SUBJECT GATEWAYS ON WEB RESOURCES AMONG FACULTIES& DIRECTORS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT THANJAVUR DISTRICT - A SURVEY

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Abstract - *This paper describes the awareness about subject gateways on web resources among faculties and directors in physical education at Thanjavur District. The usages of electronic journals and electronic books have been increased rapidly. The study focused on the use of different types of electronic information resources, awareness of users, access and use of digital resources freely available by the Faculty Members. This study evaluates awareness about the faculties through access subject gateways in physical education department.*

1.INTRODUCTION

Changes in technology in recent years have dramatically altered how information is accessed, stored and disseminated. Whereas information provision in academic libraries was previously based upon the collection of physical library materials, it is now increasingly the case that academic libraries are moving into the virtual arena like subject gateways. With advances in technology and e-publishing access to information on a local, regional, National and International basis, by overcoming the traditional barriers of time and space has become easy. Large amount of scholarly literature in the form of full-text journals, books, reports, etc., are published in electronic medium. Recognizing the fact that the use of ICT opens new avenues for better services in new found digital environment, the libraries in higher education are adapting to new technologies 'Subject gateway' as a term was popularized in the UK Electronic Libraries Programme (eLib), and it has been given currency by initiatives which have been influenced by the eLib gateways. It tends to be used by services in the research, educational or cultural domains, which sometimes have a significant R&D or project-based focus. In several cases, subject gateway activity has been conceived and carried forward as a part of academic or research information infrastructure initiatives, as has happened in the UK and more recently in Denmark for example. The R&D aspect means that there is a considerable pool of literature on subject services, some of it with an evangelical tinge. It also means that, in some cases, there are relatively high levels of interaction between developers in different countries, as services have been developed within collaborative projects, or by people who have been concerned to keep in touch with centers of activity. Finally, it means that a major issue for many of these services is how to transition into sustainable, persistent components of the emerging information landscape.

2.REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The subject gateways emerged in response to the challenge of 'resource discovery' in a rapidly developing Internet environment in the early and mid-nineties. It might be useful to briefly contextualize the emergence of the subject gateways within a rather schematic account of Internet development. I have elsewhere suggested that we can identify four very approximate phases, or emphases, in the growth of Internet and information infrastructure which have emerged successively but whose characteristic user and service orientations continue to exist modified within later phases (Dempsey, 1993; Dempsey, 1994):

The subject gateways began operations in 1995, launching services at different times. However, as noted above, SOSIG had been established in advance of eLib funding. It was supported by the Economic and Social Research Council who since the summer of 1992 had been funding Nicky Ferguson to assist UK social scientists in the use of networked information (Ferguson, 1995). It went live in July 1994 with descriptions for about 300 Internet resources (Hiom, 1999), and in many ways provided the model that some of the others followed. ADAM, EEVL and OMNI followed, as did History. Biz/Ed received funding to enhance its existing service with gateway activity.

3.ABOUT SUBJECT GATEWAYS

The subject gateways can be seen to be very much part of an academic and research information infrastructure emphasis, still funded in many cases as part of educational or research provision. In some cases, their developers also owe something, at least in ethos, to the collaborative, precompetitive aspects of the community emphasis. Their historical trajectory has very much coincided with the rapid rise of public information infrastructure, and several trends are apparent while they have been developing: The Internet becomes an increasingly pervasive resource for the learner, the consumer, and the citizen. There is a move from scarcity to profusion of network information resources and network information resource and service types.

There is a gradual rising of the level of infrastructure - the web was the significant development here, providing the URL and pervasive navigation and file transfer services. We will increasingly see other services, authentication for example, provided across applications and split out into infrastructure.

There is a diversification of funding patterns, and exploration of business and economic models to support services. These together contribute to the greatest change we have seen in this time: the network and network information services are increasingly central to how we organize our affairs. While it continues to be the case that network information resources are one resource available in our 'hybrid' information environments, it is also the case that those environments themselves are being transformed by the network. So, for example, consider the potential impact on higher education of new modes of teaching and learning, of the related trends towards globalization and regionalization, of the need to support lifelong learning and continuing professional development, all strongly influenced by network delivery.

4.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study was an attempt to find out the awareness and utilization of subject gateways in web resources by the faculty members of physical education department in Thanjavur district. The study was designed and conducted during the year 2016 to achieve the following objectives.

1. To find out the awareness and uses of Subject Gateways by faculty;
2. To observe the type of subject gateways by the faculty;
3. To find out the purpose of utilization of subject gateways;
4. To find out the frequency of access to internet;
5. To explore the impact of subject gateways;
6. To find out the problems faced by the respondents while using resources.
7. To suggest improvement measures based on the inferences drawn from the study.

5.METHODOLOGY

The study conducted among the Faculty members and directors of Physical education department in Thanjavur District. Survey method of data collection followed. Data mainly collected using a pre structured interview schedule. 67 copies of questionnaire were distributed and 55 filled in copies of questionnaire were received. The data collected from tabulated, critically analyzed and expected in percentage.

Distribution of questionnaires to various categories of users

S.No	Categories	Questionnaire Distributed	Response Received
1	Faculty	22	16
2.	Physical Education Directors	35	31
3.	Research Scholar's	10	8
	Total	**67**	**55**

6.DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The Female faculties of the district are far in excess of Male faculty in Physical education. Therefore, data received from faculty members are taken together for this paper. The study was conducted at Thanjavur A.Y.A Sports and Family Club in 2015. 67 faculties were selected from this study and they were requested to fill up the questionnaire. 67 questionnaires had been distributed but 55 questionnaires were returned duly filled in.

Table - 1 Gender- wise Distribution

S.No	Male	Female
1	48	7

Table number 1 is indicates that 48 (87.27%) of the respondents are Male and the remaining are Female 7 (12.73%)

6.1.Based on awareness about Subject Gateways

Table – 2 Awareness about Subject Gateways

S.No	Status	No. of response	Percentage
1	Yes	28	50.9%
2.	No	27	49.1%
	Total	**55**	**100**

Table 2 indicates that almost 28 respondents (50.9 %) are aware of subject gateways but whereas only 27 respondents (49.1 %) are not aware of them

6.2.Based on type of subject gateways

Table -3 Types of Subject Gateways used by faculty

S.No	Resources	No. of response	Percentage
1.	Search Engine	48 (55)	87.27%
2.	Mata Search Engine	21 (55)	38.18%
3.	Online Dictionary	26 (55)	47.27%
4.	Website related to Physical Education	55 (55)	100%
5	Reference and information services on the web	45 (55)	81.81%
6.	Online abstracting & indexing	16 (55)	29.09%

The data of analysis in Table.3 reveals that type of subject gateways were the most used resources by the respondents as seen from their responses which are 48 (87.27%) Search Engine and 55 (100%) respectively of website related to physical education. It is followed by reference and information services on the web 45 (81.81%); Mata Search Engine 21 (38.18%), Online Dictionary 26 (47.27%) and Online abstracting & indexing aware 16 (29.09%) responses indicates the use of all resources used by the respondents.

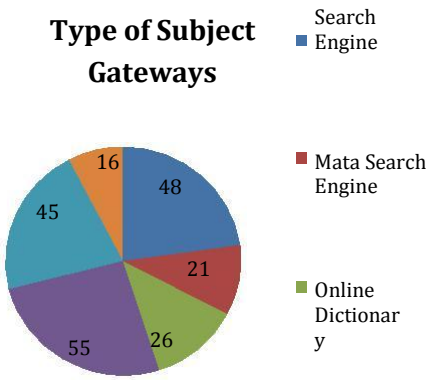

Figure -1 Type of Subject Gateways used by faculty

6.3.Based on frequency of Internet use

S.No	Frequency	No. of response	Percentage
1	Daily	29	52.72%
2.	Once in a week	16	29.09%
3.	Weekly twice	5	9.09%
4.	Monthly once	2	3.63%
5	Occasionally	3	5.47%
	Total	**55**	**100**

Table -4 Frequency of Internet Use

The Table number 4 indicates that 29 (52.72%) of respondents are browsing the Internet Daily whereas only 2 (3.63%) of respondents are browsing the net monthly once

6.4.Based on frequency of visit subject gateway websites

Table -5 Frequencies of visit subject gateways websites

S.No	Frequency	No. of response	Percentage
1	Daily	2	3.64
2.	Once in a week	6	10.91
3.	Weekly twice	14	25.45
4.	Monthly once	15	27.27
5	Occasionally	18	32.73
	Total	**55**	**100**

The Table number 5 indicates that 18 (32.73%) of respondents are Occasionally visiting subject gateways websites followed by 15 (27.27%) monthly once , Weekly twice 14 (25.45%), and Daily whereas only 2 (3.64%) of respondents are visiting subject gateways website at once.

6.5.Based on level of satisfaction on using subject gateways

Table – 6 User satisfactions on using subject gateways

S.No	Frequency	No. of response	Percentage
1	Fully Satisfied	6	10.91
2.	Satisfied	2	3.64
3.	Less Satisfied	20	36.36
4.	Dissatisfied	27	49.09
	Total	**55**	**100**

Table 6 shows the results that most of the staff members 27 respondents (49.09%) are dissatisfied with all resources they are getting from the identified sources. Furthermore, 20 (36.36%) indicated they were fully Less satisfied while 6 (10.91%) and 2 (3.64%) indicated less fully satisfied and satisfied respectively.

6.6.Based on problems faced by the faculty

Table -7 Problems faced by the faculty

S.No	Type of Problems	No. of response	Percentage
1	Slow access Speed	15	27.27
2.	Difficulty in finding relevant information	19	34.55
3.	More Filters are required	8	14.55
4.	Filters are required	13	23.64
	Total	**55**	**100**

It can be inferred from Table 7 that using the Internet is not free from problems. The most common problem faced by the users is that more no of respondents 15 (27.27%) of slow Internet access speed which takes a lot of their slot time to retrieve the relevant Information 19 (34.55%) and followed by Searching filters are required by 13 (23.64%) and 8 (14.55%) More filters are required from Subject gateways websites.

6.7.Based on frequency of visit subject gateway websites

Table -8 Frequency of visit subject gateway website (Types)

S.No	Website Names	No. of response	Percentage
1	PINAKES	1	1.82
2.	INFLIBNET	14	25.45
3.	BIOMEDNET	2	3.64
4.	GALAXY	1	1.82
5.	ACADEMIC INFO	5	9.09
6.	BVBL	2	3.64
7.	SOSIG	3	5.45
8.	OTHERS	27	49.09
	Total	**55**	**100**

The data of analysis in Table.8 reveals that type of subject gateways were the most used websites by the respondents as seen from their responses which are 14 (25.45%) INFLIBNET website and 27 (49.09%) respectively of other website related to physical education. It is followed by PINAKES 1 (1.82%), BIOMEDNET 2 (3.64%), GALAXY 1 (1.82%), ACADEMIC INFO 5 (9.09%), BVBL 2 (3.64%) and SOSIG 3 (5.45%), responses indicates the use of subject gateway websites used by the respondents.

7.FINDINGS & CONCLUSION

The study concluded that almost all respondents have fully awareness about the available resources, such as freely available through subject gateways website, Search engine, Related to Physical education website and online dictionary.

It has been found that all Faculty members were using mainly e-resources freely available through internet search website like INFLIBNET, Academic Info and Others websites

The faculty members have knowledge about subject gateways are very less Only 28 members. Many users need to know the complete potential of the subject gateways. Accordingly, concern Institution has to evolve more scientific methods to develop and create a subject gateways workshops and seminars along with print documents assessing the requirements of the users' community. It is concluded that subject gateways which are being used effectively.

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