AWARENESS AND USE OF INTERNET TOOLS AND ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES BY MANAGEMENT STUDENTS IN B – SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF GUJARAT

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Voice of Research
Volume 5, Issue 4
March 2017
ISSN 2277-7733

Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to examine the use of Internet tools and electronic information resources by Management Students in B – School Libraries of Gujarat. In all, 630 students of MBA and PGDM Programs studying in B-Schools in Gujarat were selected and questionnaires were administered to them. Finally, total 567 filled-in questionnaires – questionnaire with responses - were received back. The questionnaire was analyzed statistically. The open-ended questions and options were analyzed using content analysis.A specifically designed questionnaire was administered to gather information about the awareness of resources, the frequency of use, the kind of information sources preferred by students, the main reasons for using the resources, the perceived effectiveness of the searches, the factors encouraging their use and the major obstacles in terms of using them effectively. Results showed that the vast majority of the participants used Internet search engines rather than In order to exploit the full potential of electronic information, library should undertake a more active role in informing, promoting, and educating the members of the academic community.

Keywords: *Internet, Electronic Information, B-School*

Electronic information resources are most valuable tools for study, learning and research. Electronic resources can provide many advantages over outdated print-based resources: they contain current information because they updated regularly, they offer advanced search Patterns, they offer flexibility in the storage and for the retrievals of information, and they allow access to information without the boundaries of time and location. The access to e- resources in Management Students in B – School Libraries is rapidly increasing. The growth of information in electronic format forces students to learn how to find, select and use a wide variety of resources. Higher education must develop these skills, in order to produce qualified individuals, engaged in the lifelong pursuit of knowledge for personal and professional growth. For Management Students in B – School Libraries in particular, the ability to effectively utilize electronic information resources is a key issue, since it may help them to enrich the quality of their teaching when they become manager. In addition, it is expected that amentor comfortable in using e- resources may encourage his/her students to do the same, and thus contribute to their computer and information literacy.

Objectives

To Examine the purpose of using e-resources by Management Students; To studied the respondents' duration and important of time utilization in search of information

Literature review

To review the literature, search was conducted with combination of various key terms such as 'e-resources', 'e-journals' and 'e-journals consortia' in Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA), Emerald database, EBSCO database, J-gate social and management, Science Direct and other databases, including search on the e-journals websites and search engines. In addition searches, bibliographies journals were also reviewed for more sources.

Curtis. Et al. (1997)[1]studied the use of e-resources by health sciences (medicine, nursing, and pharmacy) at the University of Illinois, Chicago, USA. They found that use of the print Index Medicus among faculty was in transition: 86 While 30.50% continued to use the print resources, 68% of faculty accessed Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online (MEDLINE) through electronic means. Faculty preferred accessing electronic databases from their offices for doing so from the library. Health sciences faculty used a wide variety of e-journals and databases. Most faculty did not take advantage of either in-house or electronic training sessions offered by librarians.

Tenopir (2003)[2] identified eight other major research studies carried out between 1995 and 2003 at the UK and the United States on the use of electronic resources. Among other things, these projects indicated that subject area and status of the individuals are significant factors affecting the use of digital resources. Aside from the large projects engaged to the investigation of large populations in different disciplines and institutions, a number of small-scale studies have been conducted to assess the level of use in specific settings. Back in the 1990's, Adams and Bonk (1995) conducted a survey of faculty use of electronic information technologies and resources at the four University Centers of the State University of New York. The campus library online catalog and the abstract/index databases loaded on it found to be the most widely used resources. All other resources, including electronic journals were used rather infrequently. Respondents perceived lack of information about available resources and lack of training as the main barriers to the use of electronic technologies

Tahir, Khalid and Shafique (2010)[3] assessed the use of electronic information resources and facilities by humanities

scholars at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan. The results correspond with previous studies conducted in other countries. The humanists still stick to the printed information sources but they pay good attention to electronic resources. Most of them have access to computer and internet at office and home. They are regular users of a variety of electronic technologies. Although faced with many problems, the humanists perceive that modern technology made their work easier. Keeping in view the positive trend of humanists towards modern technology, universities and libraries should give more funding to provide electronic resources and facilities in the arts and humanities discipline. Special training programmes for humanists should be organized

Dadzie(2005)[4] investigated the use of e-resources by students and faculty of Asheshi University, Ghana, to determine the level of use, the type of information accessed and the effectiveness of the library's communication tools for information research and problems faced in using e-resources. Results indicate that 85 per cent of respondents used the internet to access information, and that respondents mainly accessed information in the library by browsing books on the shelves.

Research Methodology

The study is mainly based on the primary data collected from the management students in Gujarat state besides the secondary data have been collected from the sources available from the collage and the library. The primary data required for this study will be collected through a well-tested questionnaire. The questionnaire will be distributed to management students in the Gujarat state. Sufficient time will be given to the respondents to furnish the information. Suggestions to improve the library service e-resources will also be collected from the respondents. Tentatively the following variables / methods will be considered to accomplish different objectives:Demographic variable like gender age graduation degree etc.; Frequency of use of library especially e-resources to be studied broadly on the following parameters like daily usage, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, once in a semester / quarter, etc.

Type of Research: Descriptive research design will be used to study the information search pattern of management students.

Sources of Data: Primary and Secondary data sources will be used. The secondary data will be collected for generating list of management institutions and reviewing the literature. Magazines, journals, books, internet and newspapers among many will form part of the same. The primary data will be used for analyzing the information search behavior of management students for e-resources.

Data Collection Method: Survey using Questionnaire

Sampling Plan: - Sampling Size: 630

- Sampling Unit: Management student

Data Analysis:For data analyses Ms-Excel and SPSS Software (16.0 Version +) will be used.

Results and Findings

Table 1 - Frequency of Demographic Information

Demographic Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	308	54.30
	Female	259	45.70
	Total	567	100.00
Age	20-25	526	92.80
	26-35	41	07.20
	Total	567	100.0
Qualification	BBA	236	41.60
	B Com	136	24.00
	BCA	20	03.50
	B Sc	66	11.60
	B Tech	95	16.80
	B Pharm	14	02.50
	Total	567	100.0
Present Programme	MBA	498	87.80
	PGDM	69	12.20
	Total	567	100.0
Present Semester	2	406	71.60
	4	161	28.40
	Total	567	100.0

The above table reads that there were 308 (54.3%) male respondents and 259 (45.7%) female respondents. It is also evident from the above table that 526 (92.8%) of management students are from age group of 20-25 and 41 (7.2%) are from age group 26-35. Means, majority of management students belong to the age group of 20-25. Further, it is also found that 236 (41.6%) of management students had BBA as their graduation, 136 (24%) had B.Com, 20 (3.5%) had BCA, 66 (11.6%) had B. Sc, 95 (16.8%) had B. Tech, and 14 (2.5%) had B. Pharm as their graduate studies. In addition, majority of the Management students i.e. 498 (87.8%) were studying in MBA program with only 69 (12.2%) studying in PGDM program. Out of all those who responded, 406 (71.6%) of the students were from second semester and 161 (28.4%) were from fourth semester.

Table 2 - Mean and SD of Frequency of Use of Internet Tools

Internet Tools/ Resources	Classification	Mean	Std. Deviation
Gateways	Fedgate	1.92	1.459
	Knimbus	1.00	0.000
	J-gate	2.08	1.538
	Ebsco Discovery	1.56	1.198
	Focuz Info-Tech	1.00	0.000
Search Engines	Google	4.96	0.202
	Yahoo	4.46	1.217
	Alta Vista	3.35	1.886
	Ebay	1.63	1.293
	AOI Search	1.11	0.406
	Lycos	1.06	0.241
	Webcrawler	1.43	1.133
	HotBot	2.64	1.842
	Infoseek	2.78	1.909
	MetaEureka	3.17	1.878
E-Resources	Ebsco	4.46	1.340
	Emerald Management	4.19	1.610
	J-GATE for Social and Management	4.18	1.506
	Elsevier	2.07	1.573
	Indian Journals.com	2.82	1.712
	Springer	1.90	1.445
	Taylor and Francis	2.24	1.636
	ACE Equity	2.89	1.795
	Capitaline	3.67	1.811
	Proquest Database	3.62	1.796
	CMIE	1.95	1.657

Table 2, represents that Fedgate (1.92) and J-gate (2.08) are mostly used Gateways by the management students. Google (4.96), Yahoo (4.46), and Alta Vista (3.35) are three mostly used search engines by them. In E-resources category, they widely use Ebsco (4.46), Emerald Management (4.19) and J-GATE for Social and Management (4.18).

Table 3 - Mean and SD of Average Time Spent per Week on Use of Internet (In Minutes)

Internet Tools/ Resources	Classification	Mean	Std. Deviation
Gateways	Fedgate	1.58	.940
	Knimbus	1.00	.000
	J-gate	1.68	1.116
	Ebsco Discovery	1.40	.962
	Focuz Info-Tech	1.00	.000
Search Engines	Google	2.76	.473
	Yahoo	2.43	.674
	Alta Vista	1.68	.789
	Ebay	1.20	.587
	AOI Search	1.00	.000
	Lycos	1.05	.217
	Webcrawler	1.09	.291
	HotBot	1.43	.844
	Infoseek	1.49	.941
	MetaEureka	1.61	.875
E-Resources	Ebsco	2.07	1.014
	Emerald Management	2.21	.989
	J-GATE for Social and Management	2.04	.866
	Elsevier	1.52	.772
	Indian Journals.com	1.49	.645
	Springer	1.42	.583
	Taylor and Francis	1.35	.593
	ACE Equity	1.50	.815
	Capitaline	1.45	.610
	Proquest Database	1.47	.540
	CMIE	1.33	.470

Table 3, depicts that management students, on an average, spend about 31-60 minutes on Gateways such as Fedgate (1.58) and J-gate (1.68) on weekly basis. They also spend about 61-120 minutes on Google (2.76) and Yahoo (2.43) on weekly basis. All other search engines are not frequently used by the students more than 30 minutes per week. In E-resources category, the students, on an average, spend between 60 minutes and 120 minutes on Ebsco (2.07), Emrald Management (2.21) and J-GATE for Social and Management (2.04) per week.

Table-4 Relationships between Frequency of Use of Internet Tools and Resourcesand Demographic Variables

		Demographic Variables					
Internet Tools / Resources	**Classifications**	**Gender**	**Age**	**Qualification**	**Present Program**	**Present Semester**	**University / Institute /**
Gateways	Fedgate	0.006 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	J-gate	0.001 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	Ebsco Discovery	0.343 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.804 (4)	0.000 (32)
Search Engines	Google	0.000 (1)	0.162 (1)	0.000 (5)	0.062 (1)	0.002 (1)	0.000 (8)
	Yahoo	0.000 (4)	0.253 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.002 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	Alta Vista	0.000 (3)	0.029 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.028 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Ebay	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	AOI Search	0.000 (2)	0.163 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.040 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Lycos	0.005 (1)	0.752 (1)	0.055 (5)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (8)
	Webcrawler	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.008 (3)	0.004 (3)	0.000 (24)
	HotBot	0.000 (3)	0.339 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Infoseek	0.000 (3)	0.084 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.134 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	MetaEureka	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
E-Resources	Ebsco	0.154 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Emerald Management	0.000 (2)	0.020 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.001 (2)	0.007 (2)	0.000 (16)
	J-GATE	0.758 (1)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (5)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (8)
	Elsevier	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Indian Journals.com	0.000 (3)	0.001 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Springer	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	Taylor and Francis	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	ACE Equity	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	Capitaline	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	Proquest Database	0.000 (4)	0.126 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
	CMIE	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)

Note: Figures indicate Pearson Chi-Square Value & those in the brackets denote degrees of freedom

From table 4, with respect to Frequency of Use of Internet Tools (Gateways, Search Engines and E-Resources), it can be inferred that - Tools like Ebsco Discovery (Gateway), Ebsco (E-Resources), J-Gate for Social and Management (E-Resources) and do not show any significant relationship with Gender as the P-Values are above the significance level (0.05). All other tools are having significant relationship with Gender.; Search engine tools like Google, Yahoo, AOI Search, Lycos, HotBot, Infoseek and E-Resource tool such as Proquest Database show no significant relationship with Age as the P-Values are above the significance level (0.05). All other tools are having significant relationship with Age.; For qualification, there is no significant relationship found for Search Engine tool like Lycos.; There is no significant relationship between Search Engine tools such as Google and Infoseek with Present Program (MBA/ PGDM) as P-Values are above the significance level (0.05).; There is no significant relationship between Gateway tool such as Ebsco Discovery with Present Semester (Semester-II/IV) as P-Values are above the significance level (0.05).; There is significant relationship for frequency of use of internet tools by management student with different institutions.

Table 5 - Relationships between Average Times Spent on per Week on Use of Internet Tools and Resources (In Minutes) and Demographic Variables

Demographic Variables							
Internet Tools / Resources	Classifi-cations	Gender	Age	Qualifi cation	Present Program	Present Semester	University / Institute
Gateways	Fedgate	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.170 (3)	0.000 (24)
	J-gate	0.001 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Ebsco Discovery	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (20)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (4)	0.000 (32)
Search Engines	Google	0.005 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Yahoo	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Alta Vista	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Ebay	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Lycos	0.101 (1)	0.456 (1)	0.001 (5)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (8)
	Webcrawler	0.165 (1)	0.643 (1)	0.000 (5)	0.045 (1)	0.000 (1)	0.000 (8)
	HotBot	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Infoseek	0.009 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	MetaEureka	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
E-Resources	Ebsco	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Emerald Management	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	J-GATE	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Elsevier	0.223 (2)	0.234 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.080 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Indian Journals.com	0.186 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Springer	0.022 (2)	0.002 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.004 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Taylor and Francis	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	ACE Equity	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (15)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (3)	0.000 (24)
	Capitaline	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	Proquest Database	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (10)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (2)	0.000 (16)
	CMIE	0.863 (1)	0.001 (1)	0.000 (5)	0.004 (1)	0.001 (1)	0.000 (8)

Note: Figures indicate Pearson Chi-Square Value & those in the brackets denote degrees of freedom

From table 5, with respect to Average Time Spent on Use of Internet Resources per Week (In Minutes), it can be inferred that - Average time spent on Search Engine Tools like Lycos, WebCrawler and E-Resources tools like Elsevier, Indian Jornals.com and CMIE do not show any significant relationship with Gender as the P-Values are above the significance level (0.05). All other tools are having significant relationship with Gender.; Average time spent on Search engine tools like Lycos and WebCrawler and E-Resources tool such as Elsevier show no significant relationship with Age as the P-Values are above the significance level (0.05). All other tools are having significant relationship with Age.; For qualification and Present Program, there is significant relationship found for average time spent on any of the tools.; There is no significant relationship between average time spent on Gateways tool such as Fedgate and E-Resources tool such as Fedgate with Present Semester (Semester-II/ IV) as P-Values are above the significance level (0.05).; There is significant relationship for average time spent on internet tools/resources by management student with different institutions.

Conclusion

The e-resources are the best means of getting current and up-to-date information. The library environment has currently undergone drastic changes in terms of collections and services. The proliferation of e-resources has had a significant impact on the way the academic community uses, stores, and preserves information. The advantages of e-resources have drawn attention of the library users to a great extent. Accordingly, these resources have occupied a significant place in the collection and budget of almost all libraries. Research scholars' attitudes seem to be very positive towards e-resources for their study and research and the role of libraries as gateways to provide assistance in accessing these resources. The study shows that e-resources have radical impact on the changing higher education environment. It is interesting that e-resources usage among Management student of B-schools libraries is much more than expected. It is broadly used for research purposes.

The use of electronic information sources for study and research purposes must be encouraged and proper training should be organized from time to time. This is the comprehensive study of the use of e-resources by the management students. It is hoped that its findings would help the University and its libraries in framing its policies and programmes related to e-resources to facilitate teaching and research.

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