

Information Search Habits Of Faculty In University Of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka State

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Abstract:

A study focused on how the Information Technology era influences the information searching process among the different faculty Member of University Agricultural Science, Raichur. Karnataka State. The information searching habit play a vital role to develop the library collections, increase in availability of information, facilities and improving services for meet the information needs of users. World Wide Web has affected information searching habit. 90.48 percent of faculty members visit the library for update their knowledge, 85.71 percent of faculty members visit the library for doing research work, 92.85 percent of faculty members use the text books, 85.71 percent of faculty members use news papers, 82.14 percent of faculty members CAB online abstract, A majority of the respondents i.e. 57.14 percent have lack of time to search information.

Keywords: Information Searching habits, Faculty members, University Agricultural Science Library.

Introduction:

Information searching habits involves reasons for searching information the types of information which are being sought and the ways and sources with which needed information is being sought. Information searching habits is expressed in various forms from reading printed material and online material to research and experimentation scholars and teaching faculties actively search current information from the various media and printed material available in libraries e.g. encyclopedias journals and currently electronic media. Internet has become a powerful medium for access types of information.

Information Seeking Behavior (ISB) varies across user groups. Academic libraries, in order to satisfy such expectations, must first assess the information requirements of library users at various levels. Julien (1996), defined ISB as “that which is concerned with determining a user’s information needs, searching behaviour, and subsequent use of information”. According to Wilson (2000), ISB is defined as “The

purposive seeking for information as a consequence of a need to satisfy a goal. In the course of seeking, the individual may interact with manual information systems such as a newspaper or a library or with computer-based systems such as the World Wide Web (WWW)".

Objectives:

- To examine information searching habits of faculty members in University Agricultural Science in Raichure
- To determine the kind of information are used by faculty members for searching information
- To study the purpose of information searching by faculty members
- To explore the use of information technology and
- To study the problems faced by users of UAS whiling searching and use information

Methodology:

The target populations in the study were faculty members of University Agricultural Science Raichure, Karnataka State. A survey method was used to collect the primary data. A total of 100 were distributed randomly among the faculty members of which 84 duly filled in questionnaire were returned books by the respondents with a response rate of 84%

Data Analysis:

Table -A Designation of respondents

Designation	No of Respondents	Percentage
Assistant professors	64	76.19%
Associate professors	11	13.09%
Professors	09	10.72%
Total	84	100%

The question was asked about the designation by faculty table-A shows that 76.19 percent of assistant professors 13.09 percent of associate professors and 10.72 percent of professors.

Table-B Purpose of information searching

Purpose	No of Respondents	Percentage
General awareness	52	61.90%
For doing Ph.D	18	21.42%
For updating knowledge	76	90.48%
For doing research work	72	85.71%
For writing papers	68	80.95%
For preparing class notes	59	70.23%
For guiding research students	45	53.57%

The question was asked about the purpose of searching information 90.48% percent of faculty for keeping update knowledge, 85.71 percent faculty for doing research work, 80.95 percent of faculty for writing papers, and 70.23 percent of faculty sought information for preparing class notes.

Table-C Types of information

Types of materials	No of Respondents	Percentage
Text books	78	92.85%
Periodicals	64	76.19%
News papers	72	85.71%
Reference books	48	57.14%
General books	50	59.52%
Thesis/Research reports	32	38.09%

Faculty was asked to indicate the types of information source which they used to search information (table-C). For search information, text books were the popular type of information source for all faculty 92.85 percent, 85.71 percent of faculty use news papers, 76.19 percent of faculty use periodicals, and 59.52 percent of faculty use general books

Table-D

Problems faced by faculty members

Problems	No of Respondents	Percentage
Material is not available	55	65.47%
Library staff are unwilling for service	18	21.425
Incomplete information material	45	53.57%
Information sources are so far located	12	14.28%
Lack of time	48	57.145

A table-D show that the majority of faculty 65.47percent faced the same common problem i.e. material is not available, 57.14 percent of faculty faced with a lack of time for searching. 53.75 percent of faculty of them faced incomplete information materials, and 14.28% percent of faculty faced information sources are so far located.

Table-E Use of online information

Online information	No of Respondents	Percentage
C R C e-books	29	34.52%
CAB online abstract	69	82.14%
ARI/Information	48	57.14%
AGRICOLA	49	58.33%
Science Direct	26	30.95%
NTIS	12	14.28%
Ei-Tech index	08	09.52%
Science citation index	18	21.42%
India stat	58	69.04%

A question was asked about the use of online information 82.14 percent of faculty mentioned that they use the CAB online abstract, 69.04 percent of faculty use India stat, 58.33 percent of faculty use AGRICOLA, and 57.14 percent of faculty use ARI/Information.

Findings of the study

- The maximum use of the library is done by the Assistant professor which shows that they are in the habit of reading books and journals
- The users visit the library more to get general awareness purpose and less for other activities
- It is again a problem that most of the respondents are unhappy themselves because they are not happy with the available information
- A good number is responding for the online information use. It is a one of the good service as the library is concerned.

Suggestions

- Other faculty also must visit the library to get the library material utilized and habit of using the library is a best practice
- It is the authority of the university must take action and implement to the library that every user should get the required information from the library. That is possible only when the authority of the university will give maximum budget and preference to the library and its resources.

Conclusion:

The present study on the information search habits: A case study of faculty of University Agricultural Science, Raichur, Karnataka State shows that 90.48 percent of faculty the purpose of information searching for update their knowledge, 85.71 percent of faculty the purpose of information searching for doing research work, 92.85 percent of faculty use the text books, 85.71 percent of faculty use news papers, 82.14 percent of faculty access CAB online abstract. Majority of respondents i.e. 57.14 percent have lack of time to search information.

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