e-Library Science Research Journal
Vol.2 | Issue.10 | Aug. 2014 **ISSN** : 2319-8435

Research Papers **Impact Factor : 2.1703(UIF)**

PROVIDING USEAGE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES AND INTERNET SERVICES OFFERED BY TAMIL NADU THE SELF FINANCE ENGINEERING COLLEGES: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO VILLUPURAM DISTIRICT

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Abstract :

The hypothesis of the paper is to focus on the useage of electronic resources and internet services provided by the Tamil Nadu self finance engineering college libraries. It also highlights the use of e-resources by faculty members and students of self financing engineering colleges in villupuram district. The purpose of seeking information, formal and informal sources used by faculty in searching the relevant information is studied in the paper. It also discuses frequency of their visit to the library and tools used for searching the information.

KEYWORDS :

Internet, Network, Library.

INTRODUCTION:

Users perceive electronic resources in particular electronic journals and, for students, the Internet to hold many advantages. Faculty members at Tamil Nadu Engineering colleges cited convenience, timeliness, and the ability to search text as the most important factors in choosing electronic journals over print (Lenares 1999). Least important to them was animation of graphics, although others sometimes mention that as an important advantage. In other surveys, graduate students said the top reasons for using electronic journals were the ability to link to additional information, the ability to search, and the currency of materials (Liew, Foo, and Chennupati 2000; Woodward et al. 1997). The ability to search across a wide range of journal articles, search within an article, and interact with multiple levels of information objects were listed as the top three significant features sought in future electronic journals (Liew, Foo, and Chennupati 2000).

Many studies have found that users believe the main advantage of electronic journals is convenience of accessing articles any time from their desktop computer (Palmer and Sandler 2003; Woodward et al. 1997; Rusch-Feja and Siebeky 1999; Maughan 1999; Tenner and Yang 1999; Hiller 2002; Nicolaides 2001; Chu 1998; Bishop 1999). Experienced users also liked the ease of skimming and searching, the possibility of downloading or printing the desired document or segment, the currency of information, the speed of access, and the ability to send articles to their colleagues instantly (Palmer and Sandler 2003; Rusch-Feja and Siebeky 1999; Sathe, Grady, and Giuse 2002; Entlich et al. 1996; Chu 1998). Storing articles electronically, then printing out a portable print copy, appeals to frequent e-journal users (Palmer and Sandler 2003).

Convenience and speed of access are mentioned or implied repeatedly. Students reported the top three ways that access to electronic resources has improved their academic careers: access to a wider range of information, faster access to information, and easier access to information (Ray and Day 1998). In England, Tilburg University faculty members cite timely availability, easy access, full text searching, and access from home as factors that promote the use of electronic journals (Roes 1999). Focus groups of engineering faculty members and students wanted to search electronic journals quickly and easily, but they desired interfaces that could be customized and the ability to create personal collections (Bishop 1995), while economics students and faculty want the addition of data sets (Nicolaides 2001).

Information technology enables the users to have greater flexibility in utilization of various Information Technology materials, perhaps the most interesting and encouraging feature of new and emerging technologies being the cost of various devices coming down and making possible for greater exploitation of these devices for education. Information technology enables the users to have greater interactivity through audio conferencing, audiographics, teleconferencing, video

conferencing, computer conferencing etc. Further advances in technology enable one to perform rather a complex problem with relative ease.

OBJECTIVES

i)To analyse the respondent's duration and quantum of time utilization in search of information through internet
ii)To examine the respondent's frequency and purpose of using internet in their academic and research purposes
iii)To find out the gaps in the utilization of E-Resources and internet among the student and faculty and student members of self financing engineering colleges.

HYPOTHESES

i)There is a significant faculty and student wise variation with respect to respondents' internet use behaviour in terms of habit of browsing and internet access.
ii)There is a significant faculty and student wise variation with respect to respondents' frequency of using various databases and web sites.

METHODOLOGY

This study attempts to examine the internet use behaviour among the faculty and student members and students of engineering colleges in villupuram district. It is primarily a fact-finding venture. The identified facts are cross tabulated with the student and faculty and student background, and occupational background of the respondents. Thus it gives an analytical orientation to this study and the design of this study is partly exploratory in nature and partly analytical in nature.

SAMPLING

The investigator has selected six self financing engineering colleges in villupuram district, viz., 1.Dr.Pauls Engineering College, Vanur, 2.IFET Engineering College, Kengarampalayam, 3.Mailam Engineering College, Mailam, 4.VRS Engineering College, Arasur. 5.Surya Engineering College, Vigravandi, 6.ES Engineering College, Kappiyampuliur, From each college 50 respondents are selected as samples. While selecting samples a stratification method is applied with a view to give relative weightage to the students and faculty and student members of different designations. Thus, the sampling of the study comes under stratified random sampling.

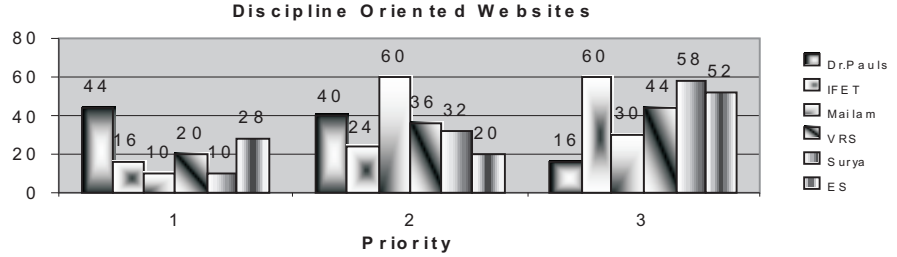
DATA COLLECTION

The investigator has employed a well structured questionnaire for collecting the data from the respondents of the six engineering colleges of villupuram district. The investigator has sent questionnaires to all the selected colleges who work at different student and faculties of self financing colleges of villupuram district. The questionnaires have been designed to elicit background information of the student and staff members, duration and quantum of internet use, nature and type of information required, information sharing behaviour and achievements, database use and so on. The questionnaires have been prepared in such a way that the respondents could easily understand them.

DATA ANALYSIS

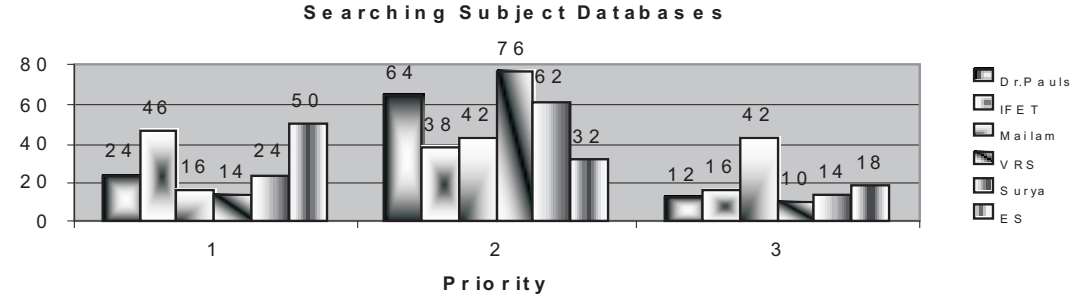
The collected data are classified and tabulated according to the objectives and hypotheses stated. First, the data are recorded on data sheets and then fed to the computer personally.

A study of data in Graphs indicates the college wise respondents' ranking of e-resources and internet service offered by the engineering colleges. It is noted that out of the total 300 respondents 21.33 per cent of them give first rank to discipline oriented web site service offered by the engineering colleges, 35.33 percent of them give second rank and the rest 43.33 percent of the give last rank in this regard.

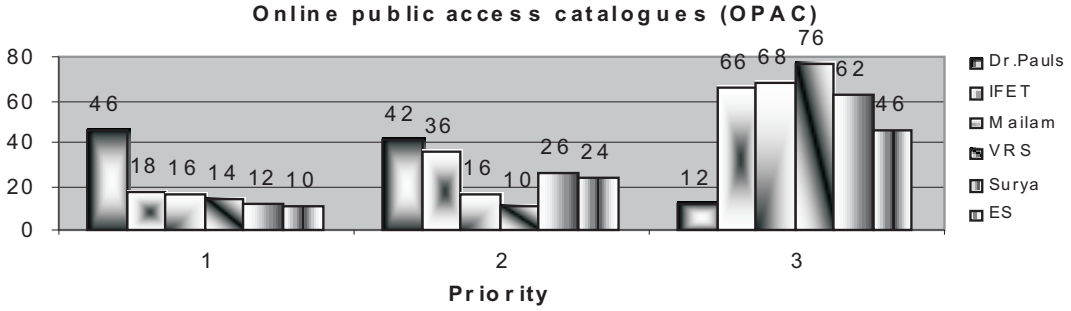


It is observed noted that out of the total 300 respondents 29 per cent of them give first rank to searching subject databases service offered by the engineering colleges, 52.33 percent of them give second rank and the rest 18.67 percent of the

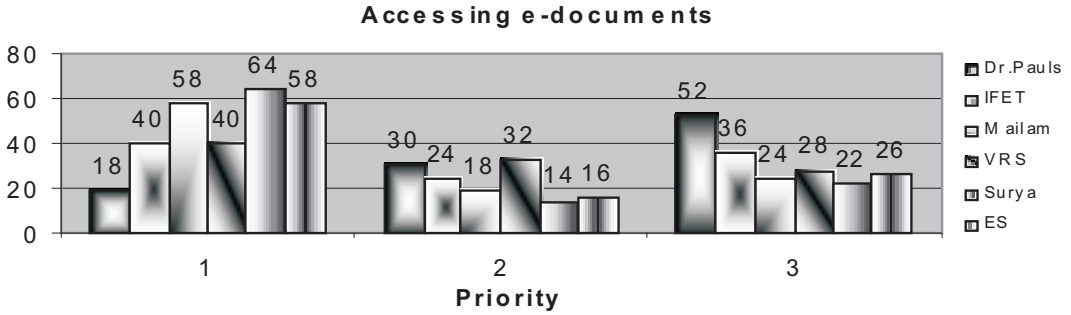
give last rank in this regard.



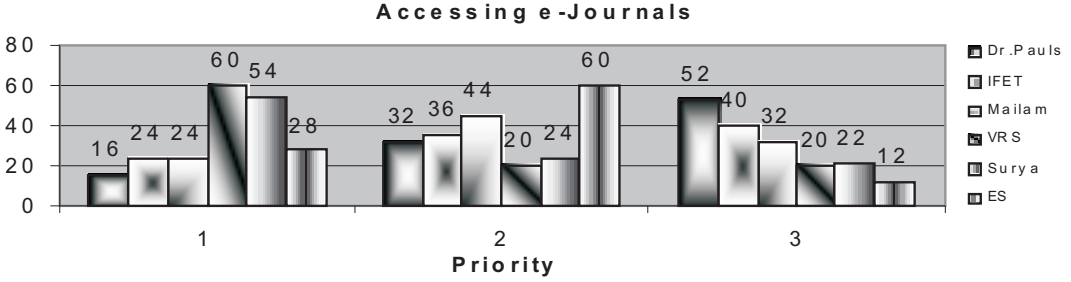
It is significant noted that out of the total 300 respondents 19.33 per cent of them give first rank to online public access catalogues (OPAC) service offered by the engineering colleges, 25.67 percent of them give second rank and the rest 55 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



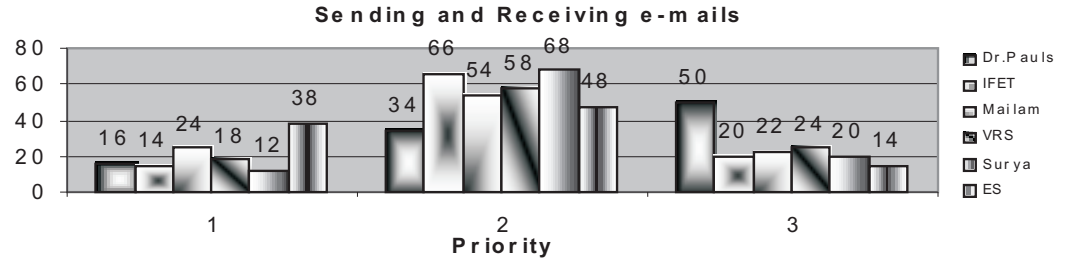
It is noted that out of the total 300 respondents 46.33 per cent of them give first rank to accessing e-documents service offered by the engineering colleges, 22.33 percent of them give second rank and the rest 31.33 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



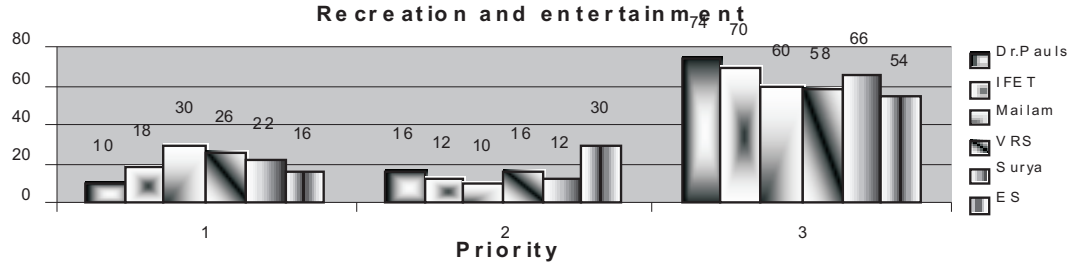
It is noted that out of the total 300 respondents 34.33 per cent of them give first rank to accessing e-journals service offered by the engineering colleges, 36 percent of them give second rank and the rest 29.67 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



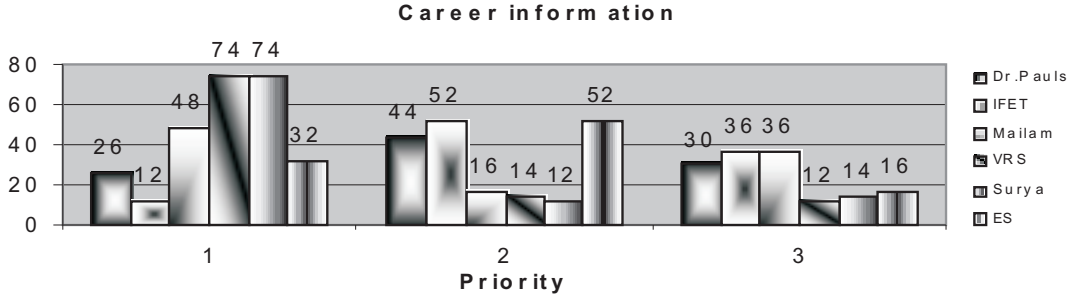
It is observed that out of the total 300 respondents 20.33 per cent of them give first rank to sending and receiving e-mails service offered by the engineering colleges, 54.67 percent of them give second rank and the rest 25.00 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



It is noted that out of the total 300 respondents 20.33 per cent of them give first rank to recreation and entertainment service offered by the engineering colleges, 16 percent of them give second rank and the rest 63.67 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



It is significant that out of the total 300 respondents 44.33 per cent of them give first rank to career information service offered by the engineering colleges, 31.67 percent of them give second rank and the rest 24 percent of the give last rank in this regard.



The findings of faculty members and students wise analysis reveal the following facts. Majority of the respondents Dr.Pauls Engineering College faculty members and students rate first order priority to discipline oriented web site (44%) and on-line public access catalog (46%) in the engineering college. The respondents of IFET Engineering College faculty members and students mainly give third order priority to availability to discipline oriented web sites (60%), on-line public access catalogues (66%) and recreation and entertainment (70%) in the engineering college.

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Rows	202.1667	5	40.43333	0.613113	0.690471	2.485145
Columns	1297.583	7	185.369	2.810853	0.019695	2.285233
Error	2308.167	35	65.94762			
Total	3807.917	47				

Majority of the respondents Mailam Engineering College faculty members and students rate second order priority to availability of discipline oriented web sites in the engineering college. Majority of the respondents education rate first order priority to access to e-documents (64%), access to e-journals(54%) and access to career information (74%).

It is seen clearly from the above discussion that respondents rated mainly first order priority to access to e-documents and career information.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The findings of satisfaction of e-resources and internet service. Majority of the respondents are either fully satisfied

or just satisfied with e-resources and internet. In general, dissatisfied respondents are found more among the faculty members and students of density and faculty members and students of ES engineering college. The finding of the extent of using college computer reveals the following facts. The respondents of frequently use of college computer occupies the first position among college staff, often use the second and occasionally use the last.

A study about the satisfaction on internet resources reveals the following facts. Majority of the respondents are satisfied with e-mail service, voice chatting, bullet board service, document delivery service and discussion forum of internet services.

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