



Academics' Use of Scholarly E-Journals: A Case of University of the Punjab

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Highlights

- Theoretical Background
- Research Questions
- Relevant Literature
- Significance of the Study
- Methodology of the Study
- Data Collection and Data Analysis
- Results of Pre-Testing
- Findings and Discussions

Theoretical Background

- Developments in the Later Half of the 20th Century
- Ranganathan's Five Laws Rephrased
- Resources are For Use
- Use of Electronic Information Sources (Tenopir, Wong et al, Nicholas et al)
- Gaps in Studies of Developed World
- Studies in Pakistan

Research Questions

- How do Academic Staff access and search E-Journal articles?
- What kinds of barriers do the academics experience while using E-Journals?
- What are the suggestions to maximize the utilization of HEC E-Journals?

Relevant Literature

- Awareness of E-Journals
- Factors Affecting E-Journals' Use
- Gaps in Studies
- Studies Conducted in Pakistan
- Faculty's Access to E-Journals by Faculty of University of the Punjab

Significance of the Study

- Help to know trends of E-Journals' Use
- Reasons of Less Use of HEC Subscribed E-Journals
- Strategy to maximize the Utilization of E-Journals
- Digital Literacy Skills Assessment
- Findings Important for University of the Punjab Authorities
- Useful for Higher Education Commission E-Journal Subscribers

Methodology of the Study

- Quantitative Study
- Survey Method
- Population of the Study
- Research Instrument
- Pretesting of the Questionnaire

Data Collection and Data Analysis

- Personal Visit to Departments, Institutes and Colleges of PU
- Information Managers as Mediators
- Data Collection in process
- 5 point Likert Scale
- Likert Scale Categories Combined to Three

Results of the Pre Testing

Use of Electronic Information Sources

- Search Engines - 86 % More Frequently
- Discussion with Colleagues / Peers – 79% More Frequently
- Electronic Journals – 50 % More Frequently

Accessing E-Journal Articles

- Articles Through Google Scholar – 86 % More Frequently
- General Search Engines (Google, Alta Vista,...) – 64 % More frequently
- Higher Education Commission E-Journal Collection – 28 % More Frequently

Methods to become Aware of E-Journal Articles

- Through references of publications – 64 % Very Often
- Searching (i.e. by Author or Title) – 57%
- Through e-mail alerts of chosen E-Journals

Web Literacy Skills

- Awareness of search engines to find E-Journals and articles - Very Good 100%
- Accessing e-journals and articles through WWW effectively - Very Good 78%
- Effective Use of Advances Searching Techniques to retrieve relevant articles - Very Good 43 %

Searching Strategies

- Title Words - Most Often 79%
- Keyword Searching – More Often 57 %
- Author Name – More Often 29 %

Barriers to E-Journals Use

- Payment for E-Journals and Articles which are not available through HEC – Extremely 71%
- Lack of training and instruction programmes – 50%
- My subject area is inadequately covered in e-journals Extremely 7 %

Findings and Discussion

- Growing trend of using Electronic Information Sources
- Quite aware of Google Scholar and other search engines
- Use of Open Access Sources
- Ease of Use
- Restricted Use of HEC E-Journals at University Campus