

User's Perspectives of Content Collection and Accessibility: A Case Study of G.Pulla Reddy College of Engineering and Technology, Kurnool.

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Abstract: This article addresses the task and reveals four major presumptions associated with collections: tangibility, ownership, a user community, and an integrated retrieval mechanism. This study explores the concept and functions of collection from the perspective of the user. The digital age has transformed how information is accessed and retrieved. "The library is now a part of a complex and dynamic educational, recreational, and informational infrastructure. The evolution of the library sciences maintains its mission of access equity and community space, as well as, the new means for information retrieval called Information Literacy Skills. All catalogues, databases and a growing number of books are all available on the Internet. To get the perspectives of the user on content collection and the accessibility interview method and also the questionnaires are distributed to users. It is proved that the Library plays a vital role in developing the skills and thoughts of the users and also it makes their dreams come true.

Key words: Content Collection- accessibility- Information seeking- retrieval system- user's perspectives.

1. Introduction:

A thriving national and global culture, economy and democracy will best to be advanced y people able to recognize their need for information and identify, locate access, evaluate and apply the needed information. In this era of changing environments libraries need to examine what their missions have been in the past and how they can concentrate on their core mission. Internet has emerged as a major tool for accessing information and producing new knowledge and this new knowledge can be used with access to Internet from anywhere in the world. This information is enormous and more extensive than any library can offer. As the information overload by Internet is vast, simply accessing Internet is not going to yield good search results because the users sometimes have no knowledge about the internet resources and techniques involved in accessing information. While the role of experts in libraries is essential, yet the Internet alone cannot be sufficient for accessing new knowledge.

2. Need for the study:

Although librarianship is often perceived by outsiders as dull, static profession .Those of use working in this field—at least anytime over the last twenty years- know the truth. Our constantly changing profession battles to keep pace ,both with endlessly shifting external

forces such as Information and communication technology (ICT) and internal forces such as our user community with the information they need(whatever format is needed, wherever they are irrespective of the time).

Need of the present Librarians: To maintain the library’s position as a valued source of information, all librarians must evolve rapidly changing user expectations and to prevent the marginalization that comes from failing to stay in touch. “The future library of the library is that there is no library; the functions that the library performs have been blown up and are scattered throughout the Universe.” –Leigh Watson Healy, Outsell Inc.

3. Objectives:

- To study the content collection in the Library and the services available in it for the users.
- The various ways of accessibility in the library and in the campus.
- To know the user’s perspectives regarding the content collection and accessibility.
- To know the methods to develop the content collection and the accessibility.
- To know the form /format of information the user wants to access – the steps taken to fulfill and satisfy the needs of the users

4. Methodology

There are twelve engineering in and around Kurnool. But the investigator limited the study to the G.PullaReddy Engineering College as it is oldest college and the first of its type in Kurnool District. The data is taken into consideration after taking some interviews and a few questionnaires are distributed to get the information.

5. Data Analysis:

Nearly hundred questionnaires are distributed and 72 are returned. Received sample questionnaires were analyzed statistically. This forms 72% and is highly convenient.

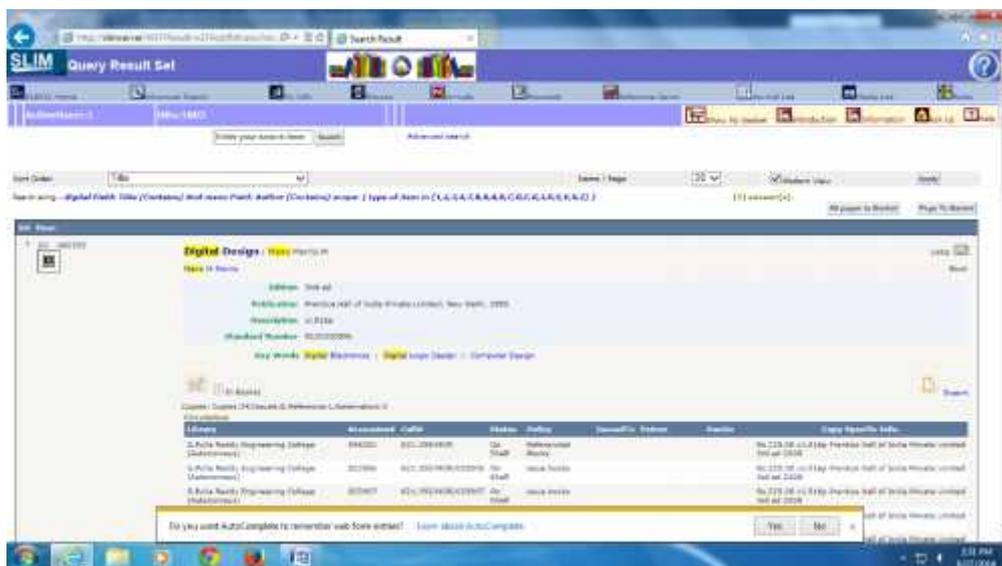
Distribution of Users based on their visit

This table shows that 48.61% of the respondents visit the Library everyday 27.78% of the respondents use the Library once in a week and 1.39 % uses occasionally.

Table No.2

Visit to the Library	No. of respondents	Percent
Every day	35	48.61
Once in a week	20	27.78
More than once in a week	15	20.83
Once in fort night	01	1.39
Occasionally	01	1.39
Never	00	--
Total	72	100.0

The search about a text book is possible either through subject /author /title. The following shows the availability of the book in the shelf:



Distribution Of Users According To Required Formal Documentary Information “Source Evidence Based, Regularly Updated Textbooks

Table No.4

Information Required/ Sought	No. of respondents	Percent
Never	--	-----
Rarely	06	8.33
Occasionally	10	13.89
Frequently	25	34.72
Highly	31	43.06
Total	72	100.0

From the above table it is clearly learnt that 43.06% of the users have the accessibility to the evidenced based text books and 8.33% of them rarely use them.

Distribution of Users According to Required Formal Documentary Information Source “Periodical Use and Journal Review”

The journals and the periodicals may be printed or the on line. They have the accessibility through the on line portal at the campus. It is clearly understood that 38.89% of the users access it highly and 5.56% of them rarely. But 27.78% of them access it frequently and 13.89% of the users access it never and occasionally.

Table No. 03

Information Required/ Sought	No.of respondents	Percent
Never	10	13.89

Rarely	04	5.56
Occasionally	10	13.89
Frequently	20	27.78
Highly	28	38.89
Total	72	100.0

The next important issue of the users is the accessibility though the internet. There is every possibility of using the net either for social networking or to share their feeling or to send the mail or to prepare for the examination/project work/ work shop /seminars for presentation of the paper in the Conferences, or sending the paper for publication work whether in the national or international journal. The accessibility of internet is inevitable for the users of the college. The following table shows the accessibility of internet by the users:

Distribution Of The Users According To Information Accessed Through Internet Sources

Table No.05

Information Required/ Sought	No.of respondents	Percent
Never	--	--
Rarely	03	4.17
Occasionally	06	8.33
Frequently	35	48.61
Highly	28	38.89
Total	72	100.0

From the above table it is known that 48.61% of the users access the internet frequently and 4.17% of them rarely.

User's perspectives on the use of CD and DVD session in the Library or in the Campus of the college are known through this following table No. 06:

It is clearly known from the table that the users prefer CD and DVD accessing as per their need and the situation. 34.72% of the users access it very rare and 13.89% of the users have accessibility both highly and never. 16.67% of the users access it occasionally and 20.83% of the users access it frequently.

It is known that accessing internet is easier and handy for the users than going for the CD and DVD. When the content collection is in the form of CD /DVD then users prefer the information to access direct from the source. Exchange of information is also easy to transfer and access through the CD/DVD.

Table No.06

Information Required/ Sought	No.of respondents	Percent
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Never	10	13.89
Rarely	25	34.72
Occasionally	12	16.67
Frequently	15	20.83
Highly	10	13.89
Total	72	100.0

Distribution Of Users According To Their Levels Of Information Accessing By E-Mail Usage :

It is clearly shown in the above table that the users use e- mail for content collection and also to access the information. 20.83% of them use it highly and 27.78% of them frequently.

Table No.07

Information Required/ Sought	No.of respondents	Percent
Never	10	13.89
Rarely	12	16.67
Occasionally	15	20.83
Frequently	20	27.78
Highly	15	20.83
Total	72	100.0

Distribution Of Users According To Their Levels Of Satisfaction Regarding The Services Available At Library And Its Management:

It is understood that the users 37.14% of them are highly satisfied with the content collection and accessibility in the Library and the campus and 15.71% of them are never satisfied.

Table No.08

Information Required/ Sought	No.of respondents	Percent
Never	05	15.71
Rarely	10	14.28
Occasionally	15	17.85
Frequently	17	15
Highly	25	37.14
Total	72	100.0

6. Methods to develop the Content Collection from the User Perspectives:

- A committee is formed and the needed materials are recommended through it to the management to satisfy the needs of the staff and students.

- Users can send the request either through mail or through writing in the slip to the Librarian.
- If it is emergency, information can be downloaded and circulated among the students.
- The expenditure for the books and the periodicals is increasing year by year as the demands from the users.
- In Electronic source wing the digital accession of the periodical journals from the DELNET, INFLIBNET, ASME, ASCE, IEEE, Science Direct, Elsevier journals are accessed by the staff and students.
- **Use of Budget for developing the content Collection as per the Users Perspectives:**

Table No.09

S.No.	Year	Expenditure for Books	Expenditure for Periodicals
1	2007-08	429394	68843
2	2008-09	4664912	92446
3	2009-10	435049	197000
4	2010-11	493350	397499
5	2011-12	770723	222519

From the above table it is understood that every academic year the expenditure towards the purchase and subscription of periodicals is increasing respectively.

Accessing the information in the format as per wish of the users:

The users depending upon their necessity wants to access the information either in the formal / informal way. It is possible either through the net –WAN in the campus or in the form of book/ or any other form they want to have.

7. Major Findings:

- G.Pulla Reddy Engineering College is one of the prestigious colleges in the Kurnool catering the engineering education to the students since 1982.
- The main motto of the Library is right education to right student y providing right information at the right time.
- 48.61% of the respondents visit the Library everyday 27.78% of the respondents use the Library once in a week and 1.39 % uses occasionally.
- 43.06% of the users have the accessibility to the evidenced based text books and 8.33% of them rarely use them.
- The journals and the periodicals may be printed or the on line. They have the accessibility through the on line portal at the campus. It is clearly understood that 38.89% of the users access it highly and 5.56% of them rarely.
- 48.61% of the users access the internet frequently and 4.17% of them rarely.
- It is clearly known from the table that the users prefer CD and DVD accessing as per their need and the situation. 34.72% of the users access it very rare and 13.89% of the users have accessibility both highly and never. 16.67% of the users access it occasionally and 20.83% of the users access it frequently.
- The users use e- mail for content collection and also to access the information. 20.83% of them use it highly and 27.78% of them frequently.

- The users 37.14% of them are highly satisfied with the content collection and accessibility in the Library and the campus and 15.71% of them are never satisfied.

8. **Suggestions:**

- It is suggested that user studies should be conducted periodically to find out the extent of utilization / non utilization of library services.
- Librarians are given training in handling the new emerging technologies and support of technical assistance is very much necessary.
- The Library profession and professionalism will reflect a new horizon when we spread awareness about the management of libraries is completely changed in this changing information world.

9. **Conclusion:**

The students and staff use the Library and services utmost as per the perspectives are drawn from the users view and they are considered as the most important ones to develop the accessibility and in turn the use of the Library.

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