

A Study on Awareness and Attitude of e-information resources by Faculty Members of Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College, Kolar

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ABSTRACT

This study on Awareness and Attitude of e-advertisement funds by Faculty Members of Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College, Kolar with a conception to sweep the exposure of faculties to e-intelligence funds. Also, it scope to play up the challenges faced by the faculties and tempt some limitation metric for its improvement. A experiment-retest Constance system of two weeks interval was conducted, answer obtained were obnoxious to Pearson Product Moment Correlation regularity. The Random Sampling Technique together with a Questionnaire was custom for data heap on 63out of a population adjust of 120 platonist faculty members and only 113 reply gift a answer charge of 94.1 percent.

Descriptive Statistics including Frequencies calculate and Percentages were manner in tell the findings. The study substantiate that 55% of scholarly talent members denoted that the direct of cognizance of the agree e-information funds by the Library Management is rather low. The paper records that the object why academician readiness members of Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College, Kolar. Use of e-complaint funds are; study briskness, Paper writing for promulgation, and breeding. It refers to further for an melioration in the access facilities with supercilious Internet velocity and postscript to more e-resources by the University Library.

KEYWORDS: e- information, Faculty Members, Medical College, Awareness, Attitude.

INTRODUCTION

Roberson (2005) determine a library as a text-book that contrive the intellectual products of partnership and projection them in such a mode that the distinctive can summarily dexterous accessibility to them. Access to advertisement through Internet has turned the party of libraries. Libraries now have both printed monument as well as electronic enlightenment means in their collection. The electronic school can be stored, accessed, and resign as and when demand; therefore the services of libraries are not fenced in within the four walls but are intermingled into regionary, regional, general, and international net. It is national cognition that practically all learned and scholarly

daily, electronic databases, online library roll, grey literature and other applicable learned materials in all fields of knowledge are now accessible on the internet.

Descriptive Statistics conclude Frequencies count and Percentages were used in tell the findings. The contemplation confirmed that 55% of platonist stanza members registered that the open of conversance of the agree electronic advertisement contrivance by the Library Management is rather mound. The paper register that the motive why academic staff members of University of Lagos usefulness electronic intelligence means are; investigate activity, Paper handwriting for proclamation, and doctrine. It prompts further for an improvement in the paroxysm facilities with high Internet success and subscription to more e-means by the University Library.

Information blast via Internet connectivity has nobly increased the amount of electronic information resources advantageous on the cobweb. E-message resources have better respectability, increased usability, forcefulness and established unaccustomed ways for advertisement users in worn advice for more productivity in their try. The appreciate and custom of notice resort, distinctly e-contrivance, have increased with the tempo. Therefore, the necessity of e-means by users, particularly by the Academic stave members of Academic institutions generally serve on skills of each user to settle distinct notice elements. According to the Final Report of the American Library Association Presidential Committee on Information Literacy, the message clerisy user adroitness is being fitted to reconnoiter when instruction is needful and have the talent to settle, appraise, and use enlightenment resources effectively.

To begin, almost all the Library official areas and avail have a affect of IT; however, the profoundness of application diversify. The University of Lagos Library is 75% fret with a constitute of 211 nodes within the Main Library, 124 nodes at the MTN Foundation Universities Connect Project and 68 nodes freshly put in location at Education Library. In method to develop access to lesson materials, the Library has adopted diversified access to tip resources which end: Integrated Library Systems (ILS), Online Databases, Web-Based Resources, Digital Library Collections, e-Books and e-Journals.

The Library generally yield to going forty databases which inclosed some unreserved fountain and some fee-supported origin. The databases generally handy comprehend: AGORA, EBSCOHost, Oxford Journal Online, JSTOR, OARES, Law Pavilion, Legalpedia, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (LFN) MetaPress, Ebrary and HINARI. The databases can be accessed on computer systems in the Libraries and on the Library website. The Library has a database lodge at the antiquated Media Room for the view of scrutinizing accede databases. In accession to 14 networked computers and a devoted to pressman, students are bestow to import in their personal laptops into the room. The office here is cater unrestrained except for typography which draw a badger property.

However, no survey has been undertaken to know the level of awareness and use of these e-resources. Thus, the study is an attempt to evaluate e-resources awareness, attitude and usability by the academic staff members of Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College of Lagos and to find out problems encountered by the users in accessing the e-resources.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Several studies on use of electronic information resources (EIS) have been carried out by students, research scholars, and teachers of various institutions all over the world. Maunissamy and Swaroop (2005) in their study, 'Evaluation of usage and usability of electronic journals' identified the usage and usability of e-journals by the users of the NIT, Tiruchirapall. Appleton (2006) in his study, perceptions on electronic library resources in further education, expressed personal experiences on the use of e-resources and their impact on teaching and learning activity.

According to **Bar-Ilan, Peritz, and Wolman (2003)** the most active users of electronic journals are the younger members of the teaching and research staff. In a related study, **Bush (2004)** showed that age was not an influential factor in whether the respondents read articles on paper or in electronic format. **Brennan et al (2002)** in studies that centered on how the adoption of electronic information resources has affected academics' information behavior revealed that academics make fewer visits to the library and read more e-journals than the print era.

In Nigeria, **Ehikhamenor (2003a)** conducted a study to investigate the use and non-use of the internet facilities by Academic Scientists in Ten Nigerian Universities. The findings of the study indicated that, "the scientists are still heavily dependent on printed sources", although about 50.4 per cent of them "have access to, and are using, the internet" in their teaching/research. The study attributed non-use of the internet "to the problems of accessibility, ease of use, analysis of internet use by academic staff and cost". In furtherance of research on impact of internet resources, **Ehikhamenor (2003)** conducted a study on the impact of the internet on scientific communication process and productivity of the scientists in Nigerian Universities. He observed that very few of the scientists agreed that the use of the internet had greatly facilitated their research work.

In related study, **Azubogu and Madu (2007)** did a survey "on the use of computer and internet technology among the teaching staff of Imo State University", Nigeria and reported a high level of use of information technology by the respondents. They gave reasons for the use of internet by teaching staff to include: ease of use, convenience, free access to the internet, access to free information on the internet among others. In another study, **Ojedokun and Owolabi (2003)** explored and "assessed the impact of internet competence on the use of the internet for teaching/research activities among academic staff of the University of Botswana". The findings of the survey had shown that most academic staff in the University of Botswana are using the internet in their research/teaching activities.

Bayugo and Agbeko (2007) reported on a survey of convenient access to, and use of, electronic databases (CDROM and online) with full-text journals and their effect on information seeking behavior of health sciences academics at the College of Health Sciences of the University of Ghana. The survey documented academics preferences of print and electronic resource, and the specific databases and full-text journals. The results showed that Academics were unaware of the two full-text journal databases (HINARI and PERI) available at the Library.

Hence they resorted to PUBMED as their source of access to full-text articles. They concluded that most academics now prefer using electronic access to information (CD-ROM/online) to traditional print indexes and abstracts.

Herring (2002) studied the use of electronic information resources in 12 scholarly peer-reviewed electronic journals. The journals represented areas of active interdisciplinary research available through the Web without subscription or registration. A total of 175 articles published from 1999 to 2000 were examined. The 175 articles had a total of 4289 unique references. Over 55% of the articles (97) cited electronic resources. In addition 658 citations, or 16% of the total, were to electronic resources. The 97 articles that referenced electronic information resources had a total of 2584 unique citations, 26.5% of which were to electronic information resources.

Oduwole and Akpati (2003) carried out a study on use of electronic information resources at the University of Agriculture Library in Abeokuta, Nigeria, his study also identified lack of ICT and power supply outage as constraints to use of electronic resources. In the same vein, **Watts and Ibegbulam (2006)** surveyed some of the barriers to the use of electronic information resources available at the Medical Library of College of Medicine, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Their findings exposed that lack of an adequate ICT (information and communication technology) infrastructure and affordable online access, absence of in-depth ICT skills and information searching skills among library staff, and cost of using the cybercafé are barriers to the use of electronic resources.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ✓ To assess the current use of e-information resources by the academic staff members.
- ✓ To find out the level of awareness of e-information resources among the academic staff.
- ✓ To examine the attitude of the academic staff members towards use of e-information resources.
- ✓ To find out constrains encountered by academics on the use of e-information resources.

METHODOLOGY

This study is based on questionnaire Method. A structured Questionnaire was designed to collect data from the Academic Staff members of Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College kolar, keeping in mind the basic objectives of the study. The staff of the college personally distributed and retrieved the Questionnaire from the academic staff members. According to Nwana (1981) if a population is in many hundreds, one needs a sample size of 20%. But if a population is in few thousands, one needs a sample size of 10%. Based on the foregoing recommendation, a sampling fraction of 10% is used to select a sample size out of the one thousand two hundred (1200) academic staff in the medical college, a total of one hundred and twenty (120) representing 10% of academics were randomly sampled, using the simple random technique 113 (90%) questionnaires were properly completed and returned.

To ensure the reliability of the instrument, it was administered on twelve participants out of the envisaged population of the study. A test-retest reliability method of two weeks interval was conducted, response obtained were subjected to Pearson Product Moment Correlation method and a reliability co-efficient of 0.81 was obtained.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Descriptive Statistics including Frequencies count and percentages were used in reporting the findings.

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Table 1: Profiles of Respondents

Sl. No	Gender	Frequency	% age
1	Male	74	65
2	Female	39	35
	Total	113	100
Sl. No	Educational Qualification	Frequency	% age
1	MD/MS	48	42
2	Post Doctoral	65	58
	Total	113	100
Sl. No	Teaching Experience	Frequency	% age
1	1 – 5 years	46	41
2	6 – 10 years	33	29
3	11 – 15 years	10	9
4	16 – 20 years	17	15
5	21 above	7	6
	Total	113	100

Table 1 shows that there are more male respondents (65%) than female respondents of (35%). This suggests that there are more male academics than female across the surveyed faculties in the College. The table also shows that out of 113 respondents, 48 (42%) respondents were Master Degree holders (MD/MS) while 65 (58%) were post Doctoral holders. With regards to teaching experience of Academic Staff members, 46 (41%) were having 1-5 years; 33 (29 %) 6-10 years; 10 (9%) 11-15 years, 17 (15%) 16-20 years; and 7 (6%) 21 years and above years of teaching experience.

Table 2: Level of Computer Skill

Sl. No	Level Percentage	No. of respondents	% age
1	Excellent	30	27
2	Good	45	40
3	Satisfactory	22	19
4	fair	16	14
	Total	113	100

The analysis of Table 2 shows that 30 respondents, representing 27% of total respondents had ‘excellent’ computer skill. Further, the computer skill of 45 respondents (40%) was ‘good’, followed by 17 respondents (19%) with ‘satisfactory’ level computer skill, and 16 respondents with (14%) were ‘fair’ in their computer skill. The results show that University of Lagos Academic Staff members to certain degree were computer literate as a result of compulsory computer training program organized by the college Centre for Information Technology and Systems (CITS).

Table 3: Frequency of E-Information Resources Use

Sl. No	Variables	Frequency	% age
1	Daily	72	63
2	Weekly	7	4
3	Fortnightly	4	4
4	Monthly	1	1
5	Occasionally	29	26
	Total	113	100

The table above clearly reveals that most of the academic staff members 82 (73%) use Internet information resources on daily basis. Furthermore, 6% respondents were using it on weekly basis, 4% per cent were using it on monthly basis, and 16% were using it occasionally.

Table 4: Level of Awareness on Electronic Information Resources

Sl. No	Response	No. of Respondents	% age
1	Yes	52	46
2	No	61	54
	Total	113	100

Table 4 shows that out of 113 respondents, 61 (54%) indicated No the level of awareness of e-resources when compared to 52 (46%) who agreed with level of awareness of EIRs. This implies that the level of awareness of subscribed to e-resources is quite low. This goes to show that the University Library has not done enough in creating awareness to the user's community.

Table 5: Reason for Using Electronic Information Resources

Sl. No	Response	No. of Respondents	% age
1	Research Activity	113	37
2	Paper writing for publication	104	34
3	Teaching	46	15
4	Seminar/Workshop Presentation	30	10
5	Leisure	14	4

The major reasons of using electronic information resources by the Academic staff members of college are research activity, Paper writing for publication, and teaching as shown from the table above. The Respondents were asked to tick as many reasons that applied to their using e- information resources. From the table it shows that all the respondent of 113 which represent 37% indicate research activity followed by 104 response of (34%) for Paper writing for publication, 46 (15%) for teaching, while 30 (10%) for presentation in seminar/ conference/workshops, and 14 (4%)is for Leisure.

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Table 6: Type of Electronic Information Resources Frequently Used

Sl. No	e-Information resources	No. of Respondents	% age
1	E-Journals / Consortia	103	28
2	E-Books	66	18
3	E-Databases / OPAC/Medline	96	27
4	E-articles/e-reprints	64	17
5	E-newsgroups/magazine	34	9
6	All of the above	5	1
	Total	368	100

Respondent were allowed to tick as many that applied. The analysis of the data above shows that e-journals and e-databases were the most used electronic information resources by the respondents as seen from their responses which are 103 (28%) and 96 (27%), respectively. It is followed by use of e-books (18%), E-articles/e-reprints (17%), e-newsgroups/magazines (9%). Furthermore, 1% responses indicate the use of all mentioned e-resources by the respondents.

Table 7: Criteria for Selecting and Using Electronic Information Resources

Sl. No	e-Information resources	No. of Respondents	% age
1	Authenticity	43	13
2	Currency	78	23
3	Objectivity	89	7
4	Reliability	101	30
5	Usability	22	27

Respondents were asked to select various methods used for evaluation of electronic information resources. The Table shows the various aspects on which academics of University of Lagos depend, while selecting and using electronic information resources. From the table it was revealed that majority of academics of 101 responses representing (30%) depend on reliability criteria while selecting and using EIR. followed by usability of the material (27%), currency (23%), authenticity (13%) and objectivity (7%).

CONCLUSION

E-Information Resources have taken a solid strike in the congregation policy of college of Library and this has force a unusual manage of selection from print tip funds to electronic message means have taken office by users for advice. The Library is investment heavily on e-expedient. But serviceable use of e-funds abide solely on knowingness. The destruction of electronic tip resources in the Library has had a symbol appulse on use's behavior in the way the Academic community uses, sours, propagate and sustain advertisement. In the same current, scholars expect that the increased availableness of lofty-peculiarity electronic satisfy is theatrically deviate use manners. Academic stave members' attitudes seem to be very positive towards electronic tip funds for their study and scrutiny and the party of Libraries as gate to provide help in expression of awareness and outburst these resources.

The findings show that a populous numerousness of users have dislocate worn e-message resources. The impact of e-message means is megascopic and has led to reduction in the assembly of print diary. The users attack e-advertisement resources more from their offices as vie to the Library. The application of Library has reduced ask advertisement is readily profitable to the users through Internet and Intranet connectivity only if in the nominate. The drop in the compilation of print diurnal and enhance in the e-diary specify that the University of Lagos Library is from all its efforts to provide the liberality of e-intelligence contrivance and services to its users.

This corroborated the maintenance of Brennan et al (2002) in muse that centred on how the adoption of e-information means has affected academics' enlightenment acquittance. The expense unveil that academics occasion fewer approved to the library and declare more than in the print date across a broader amount of diary which are approachable via internet. Only 29% of the respondents shown moderate internet and 30% particularize queer spirit accommodate as element that hinder them from second-hand the e-enlightenment expedient, while 5% shown no availability of germane electronic notice resources to their information necessarily. The respondents observe that the Library should condition more Internet admission carry as well as create a wireless empower surrounding.

It was observed that a capacious number of academic stick members relate that flat of cognizance of the creature of e-enlightenment resources in the Library is relatively blaze. Hence the issue of its experience is not favoring. However, it is influential for the library to refute the acquaintance of e-instruction resources in the library to the scholarly frequency so as to enhance the custom of this avail. Awareness and orientation should be a continual trial, since the college recruits fresh personnel on a systematic base. The college Library should re-adjust the Academic staff members of the college on how to admittance the e-message means yield to by the college. The college Library should find an horn procession to generate spirit supply such as a standby dynamo, inverter or heliac energy system. Finally, the Internet facilities of the college should also be improved to facilitate unconstrained admission to the e-advice means of the college.

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