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- Information Literacy and Information-Seeking Pattern
- URL Persistence and Recovery in Research Journal
- Social Media Literacy in Learning Opportunities
- Awareness and Use of Public Libraries
- Research Output of LIS Faculty Members of Central Universities
- Book Review
- IASLIC Publication Policy and Authorship Mannual



Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres

Kolkata - 700054

IASLIC Bulletin

A Peer-Reviewed Quarterly Journal

of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

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Information Literacy and Information-Seeking Pattern: A study with a Special Reference to Media Literacy among the students of Select Colleges in Shillong

Gervasius Nongkseh^a, Moses M Naga^b and Kamaljit Chirom^c

Abstract

Purpose: This study is an attempt at finding out information literacy and information seeking behaviour of college students in Shillong.

Methodology: Three objectives were formulated for this survey research to know the information and media literacy level of college students, information consumption habits and to assess the purpose of information-seeking of the college students. The data was collected using the structured-questionnaire from undergraduate students of three colleges of Shillong city through random sampling.

Findings: This study has been able to come up with very significant indicators. College students were aware of the various forms of information sources but lack healthy information-seeking behaviour. They mostly seek popular information sources without judicious choices. It was also found that college students under study lack the ability to find the appropriate information for educational purposes.

Originality/Value: The study is an original work and has the potentiality to impact further research in the field of information literacy in India and around the world. With the ever growing information and the innumerable impact it has on people, the study will have a huge impact in shaping the information-seeking behaviour of the college students in particular.

Key words: Information literacy; Information source; Media literacy; Information-seeking behaviour; College student; Shillong; India.

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URL Persistence and Recovery in any Research Journal: An Illustrative Study

Niveditha Ba and Mallinath Kumbarb

Abstract

Purpose: The study is to examine the persistence and recovery of URLs cited in any Journal. The Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST) has been taken here as illustration. It is also intended to determine the characteristic features of the URLs.

Methodology: A total of 1744 articles were downloaded, 87,468 references were extracted and 10,301 web references were checked for their availability. A PHP script was used to check for availability and to document the error. Further, the characteristics of URLs like file extension, path depth, character length and the top-level domain was determined.

Findings: The research findings indicated that out of 10301 web references, 7537 contained URLs, DOIs were found in 2677 references and 87 references contained arXiv and WOS identifiers. It was found that 8929 URLs were accessible, and the remaining 1372 URLs were inaccessible. Most errors indicated the HTTP 404 error code (Not found). The domains .org and .net were more stable than domains .info and .edu. Further, the missing URLs were recovered through TimeTravel.

Originality: This study is on the persistence and recovery of URLs cited in articles published in JASIST spanning a period of 10 years (2008-2017). The findings will be helpful to authors, publishers, and editorial staff to ensure that web references are accessible in the future.

Keywords: Web reference; URL; DOI; PHP script; Persistence; Recovery; TimeTravel; JASIST

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Social Media Literacy in Enhancing Learning Opportunities : A Case Study in Mizoram University

Rohlupuii Pachuau^a and Lallaisangzuali^b

Abstract

Purpose: The present paper is to discuss social media as an effective means of communication for academic growth and development of post graduate (PG) students.

Methodology: A structured questionnaire is distributed among sampled PG students of Mizoram University which are analysed using spread-sheets for understanding the usage of social media by the PG students for their learning opportunities and enhancement of academic performance.

Findings: The study explores the purpose of using social media in the academic endeavors of the PG students by different means such as sharing, communicating and updating on current trends which enhanced their learning activities. Social media tools both online platform and online resources are a boon for PG students of Mizoram University in learning opportunities.

Originality/Value: Many educational resources available in social media platform are beneficial to PG students for academic enrichment and career growth. The paper significantly proposes the opportunities of the PG students as well as the teachers in connecting themselves for collaborative learning which will positively enhance the learning and academic performance. Majority of the respondents have stated that they would consider using social media tools to interact for collaborative learning.

Keywords: Social media literacy; Learning opportunity; Post-graduate student; Mizoram University,

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Awareness and Use of Public Libraries among the Rural Population : A Study in Tamil Nadu

P Balasubramanian^a, Sankha Subhra Das^b and E Santhana Kumar^c

Abstract

Purpose: Libraries in their present form emerged as an inalienable element of the present educational system and that of the society as well. Success of rural development programs depend on effective usage of information in daily activities. Hence, the present paper is to study the impact of public libraries in rural development with reference to Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu.

Methodology: A convenient, stratified random sampling method was adopted to obtain valuable inputs from 350 respondents of seven library administrative taluks. Primary and first hand information was collected using a structured, close-ended questionnaire schedule. Secondary data was collected from library records available at government departments, useful publications and from knowledgeable persons of the locality. Applying chi-square test the result is validated.

Findings: The obtained data reveals that diverse nature of users utilising the library comes from rural, semi-urban places. The wide variety of users range from employed persons to job seekers. The rate of awareness among men is higher than that of women. Respondents who are between 21 to 30 years have higher awareness than other groups. Rural users are more aware of the libraries than their counterparts. Most visitors are more concerned about the facilities and services available in the library.

Value: Due to the dawn of information technology and its applications, enormous changes took place in the field of media and library practices. In present context, it is necessary to identify the impact of media and rural libraries on information dissemination. Hence, this study is necessary to find out the information need of the user community.

Keywords: Information era; Information dissemination; Rural library; Rural development; Tamil Nadu; India.

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Research Output of LIS Faculty Members of Central Universities of India: An Assessment

Sanjay Kumar Maurya^a, Akhandanand Shukla^b and R K Ngurtinkhuma^c

Abstract

Purpose: The study is to explore the research output of LIS faculty members working in Central Universities of India. After teaching-learning, research is the prime focus of every faculty, and this study is aimed to know the dimensions and depth of the scholarly activities of LIS faculties.

Methodology: Data are collected using a structured questionnaire and personal bio-data shared by the faculties. The scope covered LIS departments of Central Universities of India. Total 81 LIS faculty were found working in LIS departments during data collection. The analysis is drawn from more than 77% of LIS faculties who responded for the purpose.

Findings: From the study, it has been observed that the number of "Assistant Professor" are more than Professor and Associate Professor; higher number of faculties have service experience of up to 10 years; Professors are more interested in Major Research Projects; journal papers were found as a most significant mode of publication; there was increased collaborative research than solo research among faculty members; the University of Delhi emerged as the highest producer of research output in LIS.

Originality: The research paper is original and based on the data collected from LIS faculty members of Central Universities of India and has not been published anywhere. This paper would benefit the LIS professionals in understanding the research output of the faculty members and improving upon the areas where pitfalls exist.

Keywords: Research output; Research productivity; Scholarly research; Scholarly communication; Co-authorship pattern; Faculty research performance; LIS Faculty.

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