

# Awareness & usage of e-journals among teaching staff in the faculty of engineering and technology ( FEAT) Annamalai University

\*K. Praveena, \*\*M. Nagarajan

\*Lecturer, \*\*Professor & Head

Department of Library & Inf. Science, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, T.N.

## Abstract

We are living in the age of information which is available in many formats .This article deals with the awareness and usage of e - journals among the teachers of higher education particularly university who are responsible for providing quality education and to provide the current information and latest trends on higher education.

E-Journals are gaining widespread acceptance in most if not all disciplines and fields of study. This article explores the mode and frequency of search adopted by teachers of FEAT\*, the preferred place, purpose of access for information using e- journals adopted by the teachers of FEAT\* and how technologies and the growing acceptance of e - journals offer an opportunity to rethink their form and function as a medium to scholarly communication among teaching staffs in FEAT, Annamalai University .

**Keywords** E-journal, E-journal usage, mode of search, accessing e- journals

---

---

## Introduction

The higher education libraries are becoming digital libraries moving from print based information to an electronic environment.

### FEAT (Faculty of Engineering & Technology)

The application of Information Technology particularly due to internet there has been a shift in comparative growth from traditional print journal to e-journals. Because of this there is a surge in the number of e-journals available to the users which is available through internet. Libraries now need to adopt to technology and initiate changes to keep up with their users changing needs and expectations.

### Need for the study

E-Journals are very important source for scientific research and development. This resource is used for qualitative research, to improve the quality of teaching and to update the knowledge. E-journals are gaining widespread acceptance in most if not all

disciplines and fields of study, therefore it is imperative to find out the awareness and usage of e-journals among university teachers who are responsible for providing quality education and to provide the current information and latest trends on higher education.

### Objectives of the study

1. To find out the awareness and frequency of using e- journals among teachers of FEAT Annamalai University
2. To find out the mode of search for information using e-journals adopted by the teachers of FEAT, Annamalai University.
3. To find out the place of access to information using e-journals among the teachers working in FEAT, Annamalai University.
4. To identify the purpose of using e- journals
5. To find out the most commonly used search engine among the teachers of FEAT\*, Annamalai University

### Hypothesis

1. There is significant difference among teachers of FEAT in their frequency of using e- journals.
2. There is significant difference among teachers of FEAT in their mode of search while accessing information using e- journals.

---

---

## Reprints Requesters: K. Praveena

Lecturer, Department of Library & Information Science, Annamalai University

Annamalai Nagar - 608 002, T.N.

E-mail: praveenakrish07@yahoo.co.in

(Received on 10.4.09, Accepted on 20.6.09)

3. There is significant difference among teachers of FEAT\* in their place of access to e- journals through internet.

### Methodology

The investigator has constructed a questionnaire which contains 2 sections, Section A pertaining to personal data and Section B contain questions regarding the awareness and usage of internet, library and e journals.

Faculty of Engineering and Technology (FEAT), Annamalai University has 8 Departments of various branches of Engineering and has about 500 teachers. The questionnaire were distributed to 100 teachers in FEAT\*, out of which 90 questionnaires were filled and returned which includes 45 lecturers, 25 Readers and 20 Professors. Random sampling technique was adopted. Simple percentage analysis and "f" test are used to analyse the data.

F test is used to find out the significant difference on more than 2 variables. In this study the investigator has used F test to find out the significant difference among Lecturers, Readers and Professors, regarding the frequency and mode of search, and place of access among the teachers of FEAT, Annamalai University

### Analysis and Interpretation

From table-1 the Mean and Standard deviation regarding the mode of search adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be 1.8, 1.72, 1.75, 0.79, 0.79, 0.72 respectively.

The calculated "F" value is 0.09 which is less than table value. So the hypothesis is rejected and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their mode of search for information using e-journals.

Bar diagram-1 shows the preferred mode of search for information was through 'title' among the Lecturers, Readers and Professors, followed by subject mode of search and advance search.

From table-2, the Mean and Standard deviation regarding the frequency of search adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be 1.33, 1.36, 1.40, 0.48, 0.49. 0.50 respectively

The calculated "F" value is 0.13 which is less than table value. So the hypothesis is rejected

and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their frequency of referring e-journals.

Bar diagram-2 shows that almost all the Lecturers, Readers and Professors were regularly searching for information using e-journals, whereas most of the Professors were occasionally use e-journals for searching information.

Table-3.1 indicates the Mean and Standard deviation scores regarding library as the place of access for information adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be 1.93, 2.04, 2.00, 0.81, 0.84, 0.86 respectively

The calculated "F" value is 1.53 which is less than table value, so the hypothesis is rejected and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their place of access for information using e-journals.

Table-3.2 indicates the Mean and Standard deviation scores regarding 'department' as the place of access of information adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be 1.78, 1.80, 2.00, 1.02, 1.08, 1.17 respectively

The calculated "F" value is 0.31 which is less than table value, so the hypothesis is rejected and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their place of access for information using e-journals.

Table-3.3 indicates the Mean and Standard deviation scores regarding 'house' as the place of access of information adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be 2.84, 2.84, 2.45, 0.88, 0.90, 0.89 respectively

The calculated "F" value is 1.53 which is less than table value, so the hypothesis is rejected and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their place of access for information using e-journals.

Table-3.4 indicates the Mean and Standard deviation regarding Internet café the place of access for information adopted by Lecturers, Readers and Professors are found to be : 3.44, 3.32, 3.55, 0.87, 0.99, 0.83 respectively.

The calculated "F" value is 0.38 which is less than table value, so the hypothesis is rejected and is concluded that there is no significant difference among teachers in their place of access

for information using e-journals.

Table - 4 shows the purpose of using e-journals and it could be found that 22

( 24.4%) Lecturers, 7 (7.7%) Readers and 12 (13.3%) Professors use e- journals for research work, 13 (14.3%) Lecturers, 10 (11%) Readers, and 2 (2.2%) Professors use for writing articles, 7 (7.7%) lecturers, 3 (3,3%) Readers and 2 ( 2.2%) Professors use e- journals for teaching purpose, 3 (3.3%) Lecturers, 5 (5.5%) Readers, and 4 (4.4% ) Professors use e- journals for updating information .

Table - 5 shows the commonly used search engine among the teachers of FEAT Annamalai University and it could be found that 24( 26.4%) Lecturers, 15 (16.5 %) Readers and 12 (13.3%) Professors use Google search engine, 10 (11%) Lecturers, 7(7.7%) Readers, and 5 (5.5 %) Professors use Yahoo search engine , 6 (6.6 %) lecturers, and 3 (3,3%) Readers use alta Vista search engine, 5 (5.5%) Lecturers, and 3 (3.3%) Professors use ask.com search engine.

### Findings

The study reveals that there is no significant difference in their mode of search, frequency of search and places of access for information using e- journals among the teaching staff in FEAT, Annamalai University

Most of the Lecturers and Professors use e-journals for research purpose, while Readers use it for writing article, Google is the most commonly used search engine followed by Yahoo among the teachers of FEAT, Annamalai

## University

### Conclusion

The teachers to thrive in the electronic environment in the digital era should embrace with new electronic environment. The new technologies should be made aware to them so that they can make better use of e - resources. It can lessen the burden by reducing their physical visit to the library and can access information using e-journals from their own reading table.

### References

1. C.Busha, S.P. Harter, " Research Methods in Librarianship Techniques and Interpretation" Sandiego Academic Press, 1980.
2. Harly Hahn, "The Internet Complete Reference", New Delhi, Tata McGraw-Hill, 1996.
3. Asok Jambhekar, "Internet For Libraries & Information Centers New Delhi ", Tata McGraw-Hill, 2000.
4. C.L. Borgman, " From acting locally to thinking globally: A Brief history of Library Automation" Library quarterly, vol 67, No.3,1997, pp 215 - 220
5. T A Brooks, Post modern information science and its journal. Journal of the American society for Information Science, 1999; 50(11): 1030-1031.
6. J. Ashling The future of Scholarly e-publishing, Information Today, 2005; 22(6): 33-34.
7. P.Saravanan, A. Lawrence Mary, " Teachers approach to internet and online information rsources"IASLIC bulletin, 2007; 52(3): 150-157.
8. MG Sreekumar, Library Capacity building through E-journal consortia in the Indian scenario" 7th MALIBNET convention proceedings, New Delhi, 2005; 55- 62.