



AWARENESS AND USAGE OF E-RESOURCES BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENTS IN ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY: A STUDY

Dr.K. Vijayakumar* **Mohanadevi.R****

*Assistant professor (SG). DLIS, Annamalai University.

** Ph.D Research Scholar, DLIS, Annamalai University.

Abstract

This paper aims at analyzing the use of e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai university. From this study the investigator is able to find out that most of the faculty members of the agricultural departments prefer electronic journals as the first sources of the information for their Teaching and Research. This study reveals that majority of the faculty members are using e-resources more than once in a week.

Keywords: E-Resources, OPAC, E-mail, Wireless, Print and demand etc.

Introduction

E-resources are resources in which information is stored electronically and which are accessible through electronic systems and networks. e-resources is a very broad term that includes a variety of different publishing models, including OPACs, CD-ROMs, online database, e-journals, e-books, internet resource, print – on – demand (POD), e-mail publishing, wireless publishing, electronic link and web publishing etc. In this context the term means “any electronic product that delivers collection of data be it in text, numerical, graphical, or time based, as a commercially available resource.” There is a need to study the usage of electronic resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.

Objectives

The following objectives of this study

1. To identify the frequency of using e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.
2. To study frequently used e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.
3. To study the purpose of using e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.

Hypothesis

There is a significance association between status frequency of using e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.

There is a significance association between status frequency of e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.

There is no significance association between status purpose of using e-resources by the faculty members of agricultural departments in Annamalai University.

Methodology

There have been many methods and techniques are available for data collection. Among them questionnaire survey is formed to be very useful techniques for collecting data. The researcher has distributed 150 questionnaires to the faculty members of the agricultural departments. However, the investigator received responses from the 136 faculty members only.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table- 1College-wise Distribution of Respondents Frequency of Accessing E-Resources

Departments	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Less than once in a month	Once in a fortnight	Total
Agronomy	12 (46.15)	6 (23.07)	3 (11.53)	3 (11.53)	2 (7.69)	26 (19.11)
Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry	4 (40)	2 (20)	2 (20)	1 (10)	1 (10)	10 (7.35)



Genetics and Plant Breeding	7 (35)	6 (30)	4 (20)	2 (10)	1 (5)	20 (14.70)
Microbiology	6 (50)	2 (16.66)	2 (16.66)	1 (8.33)	1 (8.33)	12 (8.82)
Plant Pathology	6 (42.85)	3 (21.42)	2 (14.28)	1 (7.14)	2 (14.28)	14 (10.29)
Entomology	5 (38.46)	3 (23.07)	2 (15.38)	2 (15.38)	1 (7.69)	13 (9.55)
Agricultural Economics	3 (37.5)	2 (25)	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	8 (5.88)
Horticulture	7 (43.75)	4 (25)	2 (12.5)	2 (12.5)	1 (6.25)	16 (11.76)
Animal Husbandry	2 (40)	1 (20)	1 (20)	1 (20)	-	5 (3.67)
Agricultural Extension	4 (33.33)	3 (25)	3 (25)	1 (8.33)	1 (8.33)	12 (8.82)
Total	56 (41.17)	32 (23.52)	22 (16.17)	15 (11.02)	11 (8.08)	136 (100.00)

The distribution of faculty members according to their frequency of using the e-resources shown in table 1. It is evident from table 1 that 41.17 percent of the faculty members are using the e-resources more than once in a week. 23.52 percent once in a week, 16.17 percent once in a month ; 11.02 percent less than once in a month and the remaining 8.08 percent once in a fortnight. Hence it can be concluded that most of the faculty are using the e-resources more than once in a week.

Table- 2 Designation -wise Distribution of Respondents Frequency of Accessing E-Resources

Designation	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Less than once in a month	Once in a fortnight	Total
Professor	11 (42.30)	6 (23.07)	4 (15.38)	3 (11.53)	2 (7.69)	26 (19.11)
Associate Professor	23 (44.23)	12 (23.07)	8 (15.38)	5 (9.61)	4 (7.69)	52 (38.23)
Assistant Professor	27 (46.55)	18 (31.03)	6 (10.34)	4 (6.89)	3 (5.17)	58 (42.64)
Total	61 (44.85)	36 (26.47)	18 (13.23)	12 (8.82)	9 (6.61)	136 (100.00)

Data presented in the table 2 shows that the designation wise distribution of respondents frequency of accessing e-resources. With regard to 11 professors, 42.30 percent of them using more than once in a week and 5.17 percent of them using e-resources once in a fortnight. Among 52 associate professor, 44.23 percent of them using more than once in a week and 4.00 percent of them using e-resources once in a fortnight. From the total of 27 Assistant Professor, 46.55 percent of them using more than once in a week and 5.17 percent of them uses e-resources once in a fortnight. It could be concluded that most of the faculty members are accessing E-resources more than once in a week.

Fig.1.College-wise Distribution of Respondents Frequency of Accessing E- Resources

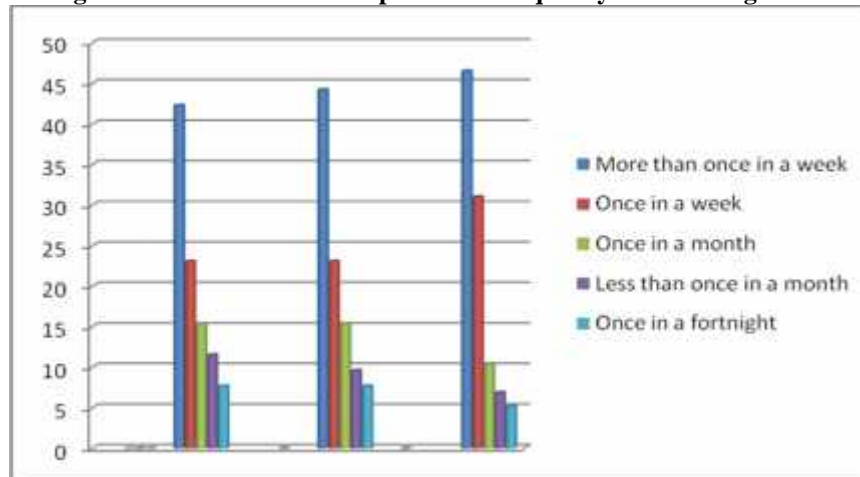


Table- 3 Gender wise distribution of Respondents frequency of Accessing E-Resources

Gender	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Less than once in a month	Once in a fortnight	Total
Male	36 (34.95)	28 (27.18)	17 (16.50)	12 (11.65)	10 (9.70)	103 (75.73)
Female	14 (42.42)	7 (21.21)	6 (18.18)	3 (9.09)	3 (9.09)	33 (24.26)
Total	50 (36.76)	35 (25.73)	23 (16.91)	15 (11.02)	13 (9.55)	136 (100.00)

A study data in the table 3 indicates the gender wise respondents frequency of using e-resources. It could be noted that out of 103 male and 33 female respondents, the majority of the male 34.95% and the female respondents 42.42% make using of resources move than once in a week, A considerable number of male 27.18% and 21.21% female respondents make using e-resources once in a week. 17(16.50%) male and 6(18.18%) female respondents make using of e-resources once in a month: 12(11.65%) male 3(9.09%) female respondents make using e-resources less than once in a month and 10(9.70%) male and 3 (9.09%) female respondents make using of e-resources once in a fortnight. It is concluded that more than 75% of the respondents frequency of accessing e-resources.

Fig.2.Gender wise distribution of Respondents frequency of Accessing E-Resources

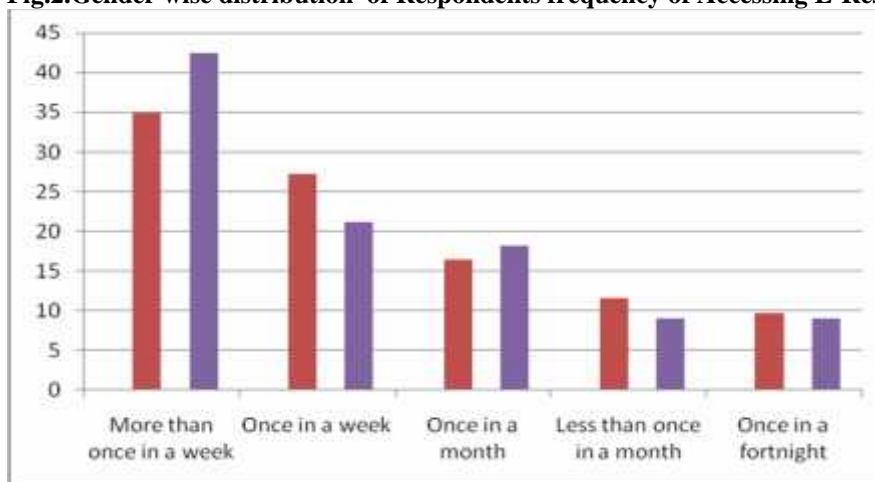


Table- 4 Designation wise Distribution of Respondents Purpose of Accessing E-Resources

Designation	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Less than once in a month	Once in a fortnight	Total
Professor	22 (34.92)	12 (19.04)	16 (25.39)	8 (12.69)	5 (7.93)	63 (46.32)
Associate Professor	9 (30)	4 (13.33)	8 (26.66)	5 (16.66)	4 (13.33)	30 (22.05)
Assistant Professor	16 (37.20)	8 (18.60)	13 (30.23)	4 (9.30)	2 (4.65)	43 (31.61)
Total	47 (34.55)	24 (17.64)	35 (25.73)	17 (12.5)	11 (8.08)	136 (100.00)

Data presented in the table 4 shows that opinion about the purpose of accessing e-resources. With regard to 63 Professor, 34.92 % of them have used research purpose and 7.93% of them have used e-resources for finding relevant information. Among 30 Associate Professor, 22.05% of them have used research purpose and 13.33% of them have used e-resources for finding relevant information. Out of 43 Assistant Professors, 18.60% of them have used teaching purpose and 4.65% of them have used e-resources for finding relevant information. Hence it can be concluded that 34.92% of Professors have used research purpose and 18.60% of Assistant Professors have used e-resources for teaching purpose. It is concluded that more than 60% of the professor accessing e-resources frequency.

Fig :3.Designation wise Distribution of Respondents Purpose of Accessing E-Resources

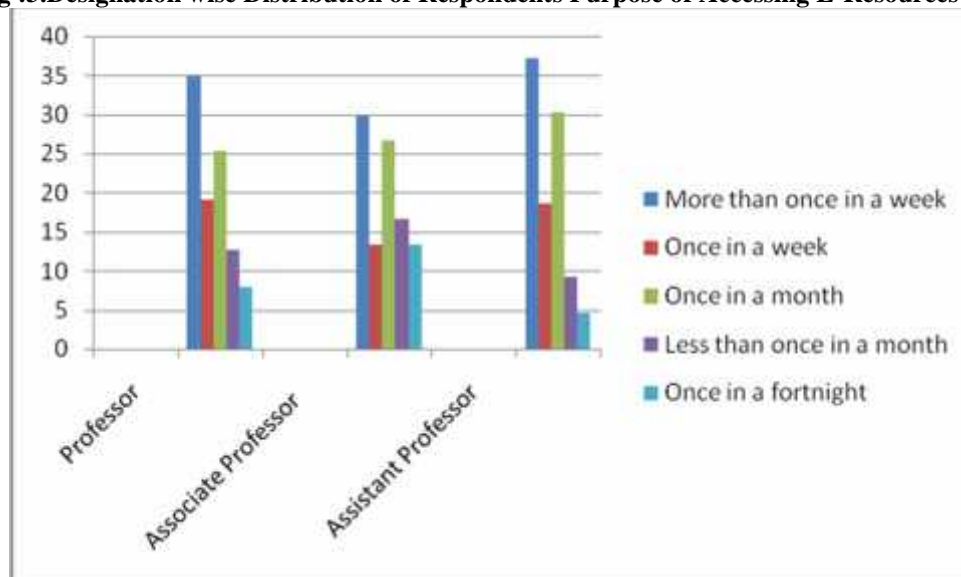


Table- 5 Gender wise Distribution of Respondents Purpose of Accessing E- Resources

Gender	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Less than once in a month	Once in a fortnight	Total
Male	32 (32.98)	18 (18.55)	28 (28.86)	12 (12.37)	7 (7.21)	97 (71.32)
Female	12 (30.76)	7 (17.94)	10 (25.64)	7 (17.94)	3 (7.69)	39 (28.67)
Total	44 (32.35)	25 (18.38)	38 (27.94)	19 (13.97)	10 (7.35)	136 (100.00)



Data presented in the table 5 indicates the gender wise respondents purpose of using e-resources, it is observed that out of the total 97 male 39 female respondents 32.98% of the male and 30.76% of the female respondents were used e-resources for their research purposes, 28.86% of the male and 25.64% of the female respondents were used e-resources for publishing article, 18.55% of the male and 17.94% of the female respondents were used e-resources for their teaching purpose, 12.37% of the male and 17.94% of the female respondents were used e-resources keeping up to date and 7.21% of the male and 7.69% of the female respondents were used e-resources finding relevant information. It is concluded that more than 40 respondents accessing e-resources more than once in a week.

Findings

1. Most of the faculty are using the e-resources more than once in a week.
2. More than 60% of the frequency accessing e-resources.
3. Majority of the male respondents frequency accessing e-resources.
4. Among the all category of the respondents 60% of the professor category occupying the dominant role of the access the electronic information.
5. Purpose of gathering information in gender wise access more than once in usage is more number compare to others.

Conclusion

E-Resources are playing a very important role in the present day environment, so also in the library too. It is the prime duty of the concern authorities to select and access the relevant e-resources for the benefits of the user community especially in students, research scholars and young faculty of our Nation.

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