

# Modern Trends and Problems in Learning and Accessing E-Journals: A Review

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**Abstract**— There have been nonstop flow of information effective by the emerging of new information communication technology and explosion of publication of electronic journals and their impact on reading and access in University libraries. It also effected operational cost and subscribing e-journals effected the library budget. Such collection had an effect on the quantity and quality of e-journals reading and its outcome. Key findings of the reading remain high and encouraging. Faculty and research scholars have mostly preferred journals for their reading and research purpose as it occupies less time and space saving.

**Key words:** Journals, Questionnaire, Access Etc.

## I. INTRODUCTION

There have been dissimilar among the publishers and the librarians on subscription of electronic journals. But they are of similar vision about the significance of electronic journals and their beneficial use to user society. Furthermore, they are also have similar attitude that the process place speedily as possible. There have been other different of opinion about the finances to be sent on e-journals. Publishers forces for more investment on e-journals have been a permanent stand, while librarian always considered the required budget within limits. Librarian are also facing space problem for print journals and long preservation with staff resources required.

Electronic journals have been cost saving with no printing expenses. But the migration is not a one night job. It is a long planning to aware the users and enrich the library infrastructure. Publishers continued to distribute both formats for many years to come to encourage the users with benefit of e-journals because many reasons leaving aside small saving benefits. There are financial inferences in migration from print to electronic and the function of vendors is efficiently serve the society. The conversion of library journals is digital format ultimately develop library service and lower cost as many more are supporters of print version. Libraries go in front with a framework for assessing the shifts in personnel and cost that can be planned and giving and guidance.

Libraries also facing a duty of maintaining both print and electronic journals and modernize their catalogue and WebPages with brief. Libraries also though and take decisions whether to accept the offer of the publishers to use an collective service for much the volume of the journals subscribed to print and electronic journals.

University Libraries(1in number) of Bharathidasan University subscribe journals through vendors. In a survey of faculty and research scholars. More than three hundred faculties, and 626 Ph.D. Scholars and 1000 students in campus, a self-administered questionnaire was distributed to 10% of faculty, Research scholars and students and responses made by 60 Faculty, 60 Research scholars and 180 students which were made with efforts by researchers. The responded percentage has been 100% (300 Total

respondents) out of which 20% Faculty, 20% Research scholars, and 60% students.

### A. Respondents

| Universities             | Faculty | R.S | Students | Total |
|--------------------------|---------|-----|----------|-------|
| Universities (100%)N=300 | 20%     | 20% | 60%      | 100%  |

The survey included:

- Reading of scholarly articles.
- Time spent on accessing the reading materials.
- Online access mode.

|  | Faculty N=60 | Reserch scholars N=60 | Students N=180 |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Average reading of articles per month              | 33.47        | 38.29                 | 36.24          |
| Average access per month                           | 26.48        | 34.35                 | 39.17          |
| Average time spent (in hours per person per month) | 31.40        | 33.93                 | 34.66          |

Table 1: Average number of articles read

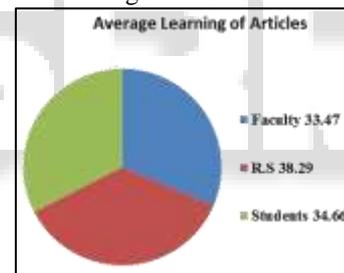


Fig. 1: Average learning of articles per month

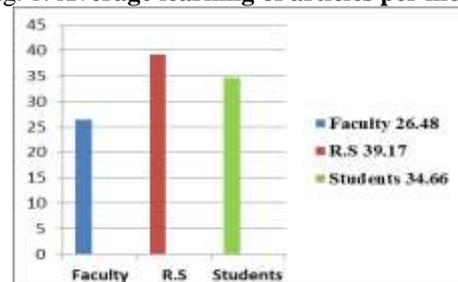


Fig. 2: Average access of articles per month

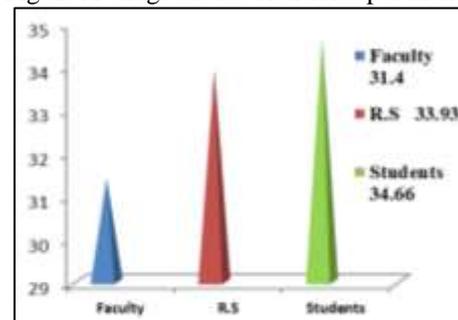


Fig. 3: Average time spent in hours per person per month

Table 1 and the figures shows that average learning of articles has been more by reserch scholars ( 38.29%) and students by 36.24% but less by Faculty 33.47% . The average access of articles per month has been highest by students (39.17%) , and reserch scholars (34.35) but faculty 26.48%. So far time spent in hours by the responders in concerned, has been highest by students (34.66%), reserch scholars (33.93%) and faculty(31.40%).

The main purpose of learning and access to information has been achieve as under.

| Main purpose         | Faculty N=111 | Reserch scholars n=111 | Students N=330 | Tot al |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Research             | 20.00         | 65.45                  | -              | 17.09  |
| Class teaching       | 59.09         | 06.37                  | -              | 13.09  |
| knowledge enrichment | 11.82         | 19.09                  | 56.97          | 40.36  |
| Higher studies       | 9.09          | 9.09                   | 43.03          | 29.46  |
|                      | 100           | 100                    | 100            | 100    |

Table 2: The position of learning and access information

Table 2 shows that over view of the position of learning and access information have been the faculty being 20% in research , 59.09% in class teaching,11.82% in knowledge enrichment and 9.09% to higher studies, while Reserch scholars 65.45% for research, 6.37% for teaching, 19.09% for knowledge enrichment and 9.09% for higher studies. But students have no purpose for research and class teaching but 56.97% for knowledge enrichment and 43.03% for higher studies . If we compare the position Faculty research 20% but R.S. 65.45% , for teaching faculty 59.09% but R.S. 6.37%. If we go for overview the faculty's main purpose has been 7.09% to research , 13.09% for class teaching , 40.36% for knowledge enrichment and 29.46% for higher studies.

| Form             | Faculty % | Reserch scholars % | Students % | Total % |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|---------|
| 1.Print journals | 38.18     | 42.73              | 06.67      | 20.18   |
| 2.Xerox          | 10.91     | 04.27              | 01.52      | 45.45   |
| 3.E-journals     | 46.36     | 44.55              | 01.21      | 18.91   |
| 4.Printout       | 04.55     | 05.45              | 00.60      | 02.36   |
| 5.Not interest   | -         | -                  | 90.00      | 54.00   |
|                  | 100%      | 100%               | 100%       | 100%    |

Table 3: The percentage of reading of articles

Table 3 shows the percentage of reading of articles by the respondents. The overview has been 20.18% print journals, 45.45% through Xerox, 18.91% e-journals by accessing, 2.36% printout and 54% did not interest any form of reading.

However, if we go by category of users, print journals are more read by Reserch scholars Category of users, Faculty (38.18%) but not by students. Xerox used more by faculty but not more by Reserch scholars and students faculty (46.36%) and Reserch scholars (44.55%) but not by students (1.21%). But print and used to read articles more by R.S.(5.45%) and faculty (4.55%) by few students (00.60%) only 90 students did not read journals.

## II. CONCLUSION

The readership review shows whether migration from print to electronic collection had any effect on learning and accessing and information seeking pattern. It is suggested that the quantity of reading of electronic resource has been some how little low than print journals. Faculty generally consulted the articles available in libraries. Research Scholars also depended on libraries. The faculty and Research Scholars preferred e-articles but students preferred print articles. The product of reading journals continue to favorable consideration as users spent time and energy to read and access e-journals. However, libraries should create awareness to the users and conduct orientation programmes for more reading and accessing e-journals which are the upcoming of a library and benefitted timely and economically.

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