



Faculties Approach to Internet and Online Information Resources: A Study

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to analyze the use of the Internet. A well structured Google form was distributed among 55 faculty members. An analysis of 50 Google Form was collected from 50 faculties by department of Commerce, Social science and Management of Business Administration of Dhanwate National College, Nagpur, Maharashtra. Majority of the respondents use the Internet for knowledge and preparation of seminar papers. Mostly faculties use internet daily. Respondents have access at the home and departments. The major problem of searching the internet is slow access speed. Google is mostly preferred search engine by respondent. Majority faculties use simple search strategy.

Keywords: Information, Faculties, Commerce, Social Science, Search Engine

Introduction

Information technology is rapidly changing and has a tremendous impact on our day to day life, simultaneously our dependency on Internet connectivity has become permanent nature. Internet is an invention of the 20th century and its communications and information delivery capabilities serve all the sectors of society in a promising way. The rapid development of Internet during the 1990's helped in intensive use of ICT. ICT has significantly led to the global diffusion of knowledge, allowing every control access across the world to reap benefits of its connection. Internet has a live communication channel between computers and the people. Today information is the most vital resources for any kind of activity. The internet has an access to valuable resources scattered in various forms in different parts of the world. An Internet users has access to a wide variety of services basically the internet is used for so many activities such as communication of information ,file transfer, browsing, bulletin board service, WWW (World Wide Web) etc.

Significance of the Study

Internet has entirely changed the style of living work, business and people's way of interacting. Internet is "A network of networks, joining many governments' universities and private computers

together and providing an infrastructure for the use of E-mail, bulletin boards, file archives, hypertext documents, databases and other computational resources. Internet has expanded its scope of telephone sectors, marketing and various entertainment sectors such as sports, magazines, books and journals and several useful fields as well as in all homely needs.

An Internet users has access to a wide variety of services, electronic mail, file transfer vast information resources, interest group membership, interactive collaboration, multimedia displays, real time broadcasting, shopping opportunities, breaking news and much more. The Internet consists primarily that allow users to search for and retrieve materials made available by the protocol.

Statement of Problem

Faculties are the agent to bring right information to the learning students through well designed teaching learning programme using both traditional as well as e-resources either through formal or informal system of education. Hence the problem for the study in entitled as "Faculties approach to Internet and Online Information Resources".

Objectives of the Study

An objective of the present study includes the following:

- To understand the purpose for which the Institution faculties are using the Internet and online information resources.
- To know the frequency of using Internet sources by the Institution Faculties.
- To study the faculties approach to the Internet and online Information resources.
- To analyze the search strategy adopted by the Institution faculties when browsing Internet resources.
- To identify the most preferred search engine used by the faculties when accessing Internet sources.
- To analyze the most preferred format choose by the Institution faculties when browsing Internet resources.



- To analyze the quality awareness among the Institution faculties towards Internet Information sources.
- Examine the usefulness of the Internet based on information sources.
- To a certain whether an orientation programme/Training/Workshop is necessary to educate the users in searching databases.
- To know the extent of the use of online resources.
- To find out the difficulties in browsing the Internet based information resources.
- To find out the factors that influenced on the use of Search Engine.
- To investigate the methods of search strategy by the Institution faculties for locating relevant information resources on the Internet.

Hypothesis

The following hypothesis framed for the study;

- Institution Faculties are depending more than on e-resources rather than traditional resources.
- Institution faculties are well aware of the quality of Internet Information resources.
- Majority of the users are aware of the Internet Services.

Scope and Limitations

- The present study is limited to faculties of Commerce, Social science, MBA

department of Dhanwate National College, Nagpur .Maharashtra.

- The present study is based on total 55 faculties of Commerce, Social science, MBA department i.e. 23 faculties of commerce, 20 of Social Science, and 12 of MBA department.
- Data was collected from the structural Google Form during the lockdown vacation of Covid –19

Methodology

The present study is confined to the faculties of Commerce, Social Sciences and MBA department of Dhanwate National College, Nagpur, and Maharashtra. Total 55 Google form link were send by WhatsApp to 55 faculty members out of which 50 faculties responded, 20 from commerce, 18 Social sciences, and 12 from MBA department.

Population of the Study

55 faculties of Commerce, Social science and MBA departments i.e. commerce 20, Social sciences 18, and MBA department 12 of Dhanwate National College, Nagpur ,Maharashtra were selected for the study.

Tool used for the study

Well structured Google Form consisting of 24 questions was used for the study.

Procedure of the study

The Google Form was filled by the faculties of commerce 20, Social sciences 18, and MBA department 12, Dhanwate National College, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Analysis of Data

The data were analysed using the descriptive Statistics, with following variables.

Table 1: Gender wise analysis of the Respondent

Gender	No. of Respondent	% percentage
Male	30	60
Female	20	40

Table 1 presents the position of respondent, 30(60%) faculties are Male and 20(40%) faculties are female to respond the well structured Google Form.

Table 2: Designation wise analysis of the Respondent

Designation.	No. of .Faculties	% percentage
Asso. Prof.& Head	05	10
Associate Prof.	17	34
Asst. Prof.	17	34
Contributory Lecturer	11	22

Table 2 shows the designation of faculties who filled up the online Google form i .e Associate prof and Head are 5(10%) whereas Associate Prof. are 17(34%) and Asst. Prof are 17(34%) and contributory lecturer are 11 (22%).



**Table 3 Department wise analysis of the Respondent**

Departments	Google form Distributed	Google Received form	% percentage
Commerce	20	18	36
Social Sciences	23	20	40
MBA	12	12	24
Total	55	50	100

Table 3 shows that, 18(36%) faculties are from commerce department, 20(40%) faculties are from Social science department, whereas 12(24%) faculties are MBA department.

Table 4 Purpose of using Internet

Purpose	No. of users	%percentage
For Knowledge	30	60
Individual Learning	20	40
Preparing seminar/paper presentation	21	42
Additional preparation for class room teaching	21	42
All are using Internet, so I am also	02	4
All of the above	21	42

Table No 4, depicted that, the purpose of using Internet was, 30(60%) users are using the Internet for knowledge, 20(40%) are for individual learning, 21(42%) are for preparing seminar and paper presentation, 21(42%) for additional preparation for class room teaching, and 21 (42%) are for using all the above actions, and 2 (4%) users are using Internet all are using so I am used.

Table No. 5 Use of Internet

Use of Internet	No. of Users	%percentage
Less than 1 year	1	02
2-5 year	11	22
More than 5 year	38	76

From the Table No.5,it is clear that most of the Institution faculties i.e. 38(76%) are using Internet from more than 5 years, whereas 11(22%) institution faculties are using internet 2-5 year and only 1 (2%) faculty use less than 1 year.

Table No.6 Frequency of Using Internet

Duration of Internet Use	No. of Users	%percentage
1 to 4 hours	21	42
2-4 hours	19	38
More than 4 hours	10	20

Above Table 6, shows that most of Institution faculties i.e. 21(42%) of the faculties are using Internet for 1 to 4 hours, 19(38%) are using for 2-4 hours and 10(20%) are using more than 4 hours.

Table No.7 Place of searching Internet and Online Information Sources

Place	No .of Users	%percentage
At home	40	80
At Department	29	58
At Library	10	20
At Internet Cafe	06	12
At other Place	07	14

The place of searching Internet and online information sources by the Institution faculties, has been presented in Table 7, it shows that 40(80%) institution faculties use Internet at home, whereas 29(58%) faculties use Internet at department, 10(20%) are use at library, 6(12%) use at Internet cafe and 7(14%) are used at other than place.

Table No.8 Faculties approach to Internet Information Sources

Users approach to Information	No of Users	%percentage
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Abstracts	20	40
Bibliographies	18	36
Judgement about content	18	36
Content Summaries	26	52
Various links provided	29	58

Table 8, shows that most of the Institution teachers preferred various links provided to Internet i.e 29(58%),26(52%) followed by content summaries whereas judgement about content and bibliographies followed by 18(36%) and abstracts followed by 20(40%) of the faculties.

Table No.9 Search Strategy adopted by the Faculties

Search Strategy	No. of Users	%percentage
Simple Search	29	58
Advanced Search	24	48
More Relevant Inf.	24	48
Advanced search option is given	08	16
Don't know	01	02

Table No 9,shows the search strategy adopted by the Institution faculties towards various Internet information resources, majority of the faculties are using simple search i.e. 29(58%) whereas 24(48%) are using for advanced search and more relevant information and the remaining adopted search strategy without a purpose. This shows that quality awareness among the Institution of faculties towards search strategy is Simple.

Table No. 10 Most Preferred Search Engine.

Search Engine	No. of Users	%percentage
Google	50	100
Yahoo	07	14
MSN	2	04
Alta Vista	1	02
Any other	---	---

It is clear from the Table 10, that the most preferred search engine by the Institution faculties to identify the Internet information sources is Google i.e. 50(100%), followed by Yahoo7(14%), MSN 2(4%) and Alta Vista 1(2%).

Table No. 11 Factors influenced on the Use of Search Engine

Factors	No. of Users	%percentage
It is most popular	21	42
User Friendly	31	62
More Information	26	52
Easy to connect on the Internet	17	34
Know the search Strategy	14	28

It is clear from the Table 11 that, majority of the faculties are influenced on user friendly factor search engine i.e. 31(62%) whereas 26(52%) faculties are influenced on more information, 21(42%) influenced on it is most popular, 17(34%) on easy to connect on the internet and 14(28%) know the search strategy on the use of search engine.

Table No.12 Methods of Search Strategy

Methods	No. of Users	%percentage
Using help message	17	34
Help from Library Staff	15	30
Reading Books	28	56
Discussed with friends/colleagues	31	62

Table 12, indicate that institution faculties method towards various Internet information sources are, 28(56%) get help from reading the books,whereas17(34%)are using help messege,15(30%) want help from library staff and majority of institution faculties i.e. 31(62%), discuss with friends and colleagues.

**Table No.13 Searching of Information from different Sources**

Information Sources	No. of Users	%percentage
Printed Materials	39	78
Electronic Books	22	44
Electronic Journals	23	46
General web sources	21	42
Open Archives /E-Prints	16	32

It is noted ,that there are different information sources such as e-books, printed materials, e-journals ,websites and other sources, the response of the university faculties about searching these sources are stated in Table 13, institution faculties use printed materials i.e. 39(78%) for searching of information, whereas 21(42%),22(44%),23(46%) use electronic books ,journals and general web sources, and 16(32%) use open archives and e-prints. It is clear that the majority of the institution faculties use printed materials for searching of information.

Table No.14 Most preferred Format

Factors	No. of Users	%percentage
MS-Word	22	44
PDF	24	48
HTML	24	48
All of the above	01	2

Most preferred format by the institution faculties for accessing Internet sources is, PDF and HTML i.e.24(48%) whereas 22(44%) faculties preferred MS-Word and 1 (2%) prefer all of these.

Table No.15 Online Information service Awareness

Services	No. of Users	%percentage
WWW	34	68
E-mail	28	56
Search Engine	28	56
Chatting	07	14
Telnet	03	06
Any other	04	08

The awareness of the Internet services by Institution faculties has been given in Table 15, Majority of Institution faculties are aware of e-mail, search engines etc. It is clear that 34(68%) of the faculties are aware through WWW, 28(56%) E-mail and search engine,7(14%) chatting, 3(6%)telnet and 4(8%) from any other.

Awareness on various Quality parameters

Awareness of various quality parameters was observed from Google Form, which shows that all institution faculties are aware about URL, Copyright and reliability of information. Some of them are aware about author contact information, filtration of information, currency of information, graphic and multimedia and about additional software like PDF to MS-Word converter, etc.

Table No.16 Problems in using online information resources

Problems	No. of Users	%percentage
Slow access speed	24	48
Difficulty in finding relevant Inf.	20	40
It takes to long to view/download pages	11	22
Privacy problem	14	28

Table 16 mentions that majority faculties have faced the problem of slow access speed on Internet i.e. 24(48%).Whereas 20(40%) faculty faced the problem of difficulty in relevant information finding on the Internet and many faculties i.e. 11(22%)faced the problem to downloading the pages and 14(28%) on privacy problem.

Table No.17 Need of Training

Need	No. of Users	%percentage
Serious need of training	8	16%
No training is needed	14	28%
Some need is needed	28	56%



Majority number of faculties said that there is some need is needed of training for use of Internet and online information resources i.e. 28 (56%) whereas 8(16%) of faculties responded that there is serious need of training and 14(28%) of faculties responded that there is no need of training.

Findings

On the basis of responses received from faculty members on the topic “Faculties approach to Internet and Online Information resources” the following important findings can be listed.

- Majority faculties use Internet for the purpose for knowledge, i.e.30 (60%)
- 38(76%) Institution faculties use Internet from more than 5 years,
- 21(42%) of the faculties spend 1 to 4 hours on searching Internet and online information sources.
- 40(80%) institution faculties search internet and online resources at home.
- Majority faculties approach to search online information sources that are provided by various links on internet i.e. 29(58%).
- Majority of the faculties use simple search strategy when accessing internet information resources, i.e. 29(58%).
- Google is most preferred search engine for 50(100%) faculties.
- User friendly factor on search engines is an influenced factor decided by 31 (62%) faculties.
- 28(56%) institution faculties take help from reading the books.
- Majority institution faculties use printed materials i.e. 39(78%) i.e. traditional sources.
- Majority institution faculties are accessing Internet sources like, PDF and HTML i.e. 24(48%)

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- Majority faculties are aware of various Internet services i.e. WWW, e-mail, chatting, search engine.
- Majority faculties have faced the problem of slow access speed on Internet i.e. 24(48%).
- 28 (56%) institution faculties, need training for use of Internet and online information resources.

Suggestions by the Faculties

Many institution faculties suggested organising a workshop and practical training for access to free online research data, journals available, provide general norms of process for finding real, practical information through internet, social media, educational apps, multimedia in content, e knowledge and e resources. To provide awareness about electronics tools and to make them smart at handling ICT use on computer. New and advance developments in this area are welcomed and they suggested we should bring them into practice. They also told that it is a method of fast learning and suggested that speed of internet really matters with comfortable packages.

Conclusion

Internet is a vast ocean of information pertaining to almost all subjects. The present study indicates that a majority of faculties use internet for searching online information resources. The study also indicates that most faculties says that there is some need of training for searching information on Internet. Thus Internet is an information super highway containing quality of information to be explored and made use of in this context who would be more interested in exploring internet that the information professional. Orientation to what internet has to offer and how we go about achieving our tasks using its potential is the focus. A perspective of the working of the Internet is very desirable if one wants to embark upon the responsibility of producing information services using the Internet.