Effective Use of Library Resources for the Research Students

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Abstract

Many of the resources that the library buys for our use are accessible through the library's website. These materials include electronic books, article databases, and electronic journals. Electronic books and journals provide exactly the same information as their print forms. However, unlike their print counterparts we don't have to come to the library to use them -- we can access them anywhere we have an internet connection.

When we access any of the electronic materials from any place off the UDC campus, we will be prompted to log in, the same way we log in to MyUDC. Once logged in, we will be able to use the library resources without restriction.

This paper is an attempt to understand the use library facility and resources to research scholar. It further examines in detail access and awareness, the predominant use of information resources and identify the barriers in use of library facilities and resources by research scholars. At the end it also provides suggestions.

Keywords: Library resources, Library facility, research student etc.

Introduction:

The library is the heart of academic endeavor, directly as regards its research activities, and indirectly as regards its teaching activities. The library attached to the University, have a very vital role to play to meet multidimensional demands for information and knowledge of students, teachers and research scholars. The library gives vital support for students, researchers and staff, complementing academic and research activities. Universities are the higher education institutions. As the universities serve as research centers. They have become institutions where knowledge is discovered, intellectuals are bred, scientific manpower is produced and technical know-how is developed. The success of their research depends upon the resources, facilities and services they had in universities. The Libraries are a dynamic instrument of education. It is an axis around which the teaching and research activities revolve. The primary function of a library is to satisfy the intellectual thrust of the readers. The basic function of a library is to build up a collection which is dynamic and capable of meeting the changing needs and demands of the present as well as future users.

Sources:

UDC Search helps to Find Articles, Books, & more…

Research resources are usually thought of as primary sources and secondary sources. Primary sources can be firsthand accounts of actual events written by an eyewitness or original literary or artistic works. They

may be letters, official records, interviews, survey results, or unanalyzed statistical data. These sources contain raw data and information, such as the original work of art or immediate impressions. Secondary sources, on the other hand, are usually discussions, evaluations, syntheses, and analyses of primary- and secondary-source information. There is no doubt of using both primary and secondary sources throughout anyone's academic career. When someone use them, and in what combination, usually depends on what his/her research inquiry is and the discipline for which they are writing. If the research scholars are unclear about which sources to use, it is better to ask instructor for guidance.

The research resources can come from the experiences of individual, print media, such as books, brochures, journals, magazines, newspapers, and books; and CD-ROMs and other electronic sources, such as the Internet and the World Wide Web. They may also come from interviews and surveys someone else designs. The research scholar may develop his/her own field research where he/she can collect data through observation or experimentation. For example, before taking interview of candidates for a study on adolescent girls, we may use library research to get some background information on adolescent girls and their current issues. We may also want to observe them in a school setting, noting certain behaviors, dress, or mannerisms, depending on our focus. We may also want to review other studies on adolescent girls to see how the studies were conducted and the data interpreted. We may even design a survey to collect firsthand information from the girls themselves or from their teachers.

The research question and the kind of research the research scholar do will guide the types of resources he/she will need to complete his/her research. The researchers now have easy access to a wider range of information than ever before. Conducting research today requires that you understand how to locate resources—in libraries and frequently online—and that the researcher has the skill and motivation to work with librarians and library technology. Identifying and managing those resources within the research project is as important as integrating them into his/her own words and their research writing voice.

Primary sources include firsthand accounts, raw data, and other original material.

Secondary sources include material that interprets and analyzes primary sources.

E-books

E-books are books, too! They just happen to be available online. Just like any of the library's databases, these can be used from anywhere with an Internet connection. When prompted, the research scholar has to do is log-in using his/her UDC credentials.

Many e-books may be downloaded (chapter-by-chapter or the entire book) and some can even be printed. E-books are available in many of the library's databases. The Research Scholar can try a few of them in the list below:

Books In Print

Books In Print is the world's largest, unbiased, web-based bibliographic resource, a comprehensive database of almost 20 million book, e-book, audio book, and video titles available from 43 different markets worldwide. It features over 462,000 tables of contents, 3.4 million annotations, and 3.5 million reviews of titles by more than 426,000 publishers, as well as extensive cover images and author biographies. Also included is Fiction Connection, a reader's advisory tool.

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HathiTrust

A collaboration between the members of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation and institutions in the University of California system, Hathi Trust is a repository for the archiving and sharing of digitized collections, which can range from nineteenth-century periodicals to historical bicycling to war to hard-to-find government documents and congressional materials.

JSTOR

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Universal Library

Over 100,000 electronic books available from the Internet Archive.

Library Databases

The library's many databases help you find individual articles, media, e-books, and other items of information that are available from scholarly and reliable resources.

The library buys many different article databases for you to use — to retrieve relevant results you need to pick an appropriate database to search.

Databases are organized around a particular subject area (i.e., Nursing, Art and Architecture, Sociology, etc.) or are organized around an academic area (e.g., Humanities, Sciences, Social Sciences).

Some of the databases provide full-text access to all of the information indexed in the database and some provide a mix of citation and abstract information as well as full-text.

Suggestions:

1. To develop effective user-centered library to understand the information need of the users. The library should conduct user studies at regular intervals, in order to know user's information needs.
2. In this study, we observed that the respondent university libraries do not have exclusive facilities for research scholars. The study recommends the provision of the comfortable physical environment by separate reading space and internet enabled computers, printers and seating facility for research scholars.
3. In order to fully exploit the available resources and facilities library should conduct user awareness

program at the beginning of each academic session. It will encourage research scholars and students to use library facility and resources.

4. Research scholar first preference of choice is e- journals. It is observed the lack of sufficient e-Journals, print journals, reference book and non-availability of its latest edition. It is recommended that latest edition of e-journals, print journals and reference book should be added to the library collection regularly and users should be guided meticulously to use these library resources.

5. The library should subscribe a number of e-resources, such as e-journals, online databases, and print journals in their collection to fulfill the demand of the research scholars in their area of interest.

6. The library should need to take immediate and necessary action to acquire the missing issues/back volumes required for researchers.

Conclusion:

The libraries should provide user-centric services. The libraries being the heart of education system need to provide best facilities, resources and services to satisfy the needs of its users. The libraries which serve the undergraduate, postgraduates, researchers and faculty need to understand their role in the present changing information surroundings. In order to maximize the use of libraries facilities, resources and services library should build their collection online resources as well as print resources keeping in mind present and potential need of users in changing information environment.

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