

**COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL
REFERENCE TO USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES:
A CASE STUDY OF JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY SYSTEM**

*Synopsis submitted to the Faculty of Arts of Jadavpur University in
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Study titled as “**Collection Development with Special Reference to Use of Library Resources: A Case Study of Jadavpur University Library System**”

Chapter - 1: “Introduction” focuses on the role of Jadavpur University in the higher education system and the contributions of Jadavpur University Library in supporting academic activities and achieving excellence. Here the scope of the study is described, the objectives are specified, research questions are formulated based on the problem and methodologies adopted are clearly stated. The reasons for the selection of study areas have been elaborated and the limitations regarding the scope of the research have also been mentioned.

Chapter - 2: Includes a comprehensive overview of existing literature on collection development parameters and use of library resources concerning the research problem of this study with special reference to academic libraries.

Chapter – 3: Describes the origin of Jadavpur University Library System, present practices to develop the library collection and identify the existing status of the collections in the library.

Chapter - 4: This is the main chapter of the study ‘Data Analysis and Interpretation’ where the user survey results have been demonstrated with all the parameters according to the objectives and interpreted with statistical tables and figures.

Chapter – 5: Outlines the summary of findings and conclusions that have emerged from the result of this research work. Suggestions and recommendations are made based on findings in conclusion.

Introduction

Education is the most important prerequisite for achieving the social, economical and technological development of a nation. The success of every nation depends upon the educational level of the people of that nation. Universities are the highest academic institutions of a country that produce scientific and skilled manpower for the nation by imparting education through various academic programmes. These academic programs need informational support to perform their activities and libraries act as a knowledge centre for assisting these programs with their collection of resources and serving its patrons to satisfy their intellectual needs. Thus, libraries are considered the heart of any institution. The main objective of any university library is to support the teaching, learning and research activities

of the parent institution. The objective of the university library is achieved through a systematic acquisition, organization of all forms of recorded and undocumented information in all fields pertinent to the goals of the university.

In the earlier days, the collection of a university library refers to printed books, monographs, printed journals, thesis, dissertations, audio-visual materials, cartographic materials, etc. It depends on the type of the library and the users it serves to decide what types of materials are to be acquired in their collection and in which form. But from the last decade of the 20th-century Information and Communication Technology (ICT) makes a huge change in society. Users' needs are changing day by day; they are demanding new types of information every day. The concept of the university library has changed from the acquisition of documents to access to information. In this scenario, a planned approach is required to develop the collection that assumes significance in the light of the economic recession and financial limitations. Assessment of user needs and use studies are also another part to streamline the university collection to be in tune with the objectives of the library.

In this thesis, a study of collection development in the Jadavpur University Library System has been attempted along with the use of library resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University. The study is taken in consideration to identify the policies, procedures and practices considered for collection development in the University Library System and to understand the nature and use of library resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University.

Statement of the Problem

With the advent of ICT there are huge changes in the form of resources and services in the library. To overcome the problems, the university has to follow certain policies and procedures to balance the collection and to satisfy the needs of the users. The present study "*Collection Development with Special Reference to Use of Library Resources by Faculty Members of Jadavpur University Library System*" is conducted to describe the policies and procedures to develop the collection, identify the problems in the system to balance the collection and to assess the user needs in using the university library resources.

Research Question

To investigate the research problems stated above the following research questions have been formulated to resolve the course of investigation:

1. What are the procedures followed to develop the collection in Jadavpur University Library?
2. What is the existing status of collection in Jadavpur University Library?
3. What are the levels of dependency in using different library resources by the faculty member of Jadavpur University?
4. What are the different purposes of using printed resources and e-resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University?
5. What are the advantages and constraints in using printed resources and e-resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University?

Objectives of the Study:

The main objective of the research is to identify the following aspects of collection development in Jadavpur University Library and use of library resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University:

- To identify the procedures followed for the development of the collection in Jadavpur University Library.
- To reveal the existing status of collection in Jadavpur University Library.
- To assess the level of dependency in the use of printed and e-resources among the faculty members of Jadavpur University.
- To identify different purposes to use the printed and e-resources by the faculty members.
- To identify the advantages and constraints in using printed and e-resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University.

Scope and Coverage of the Study

Jadavpur University has libraries on two campuses one in Jadavpur and the other is in Salt Lake. The Central Library is situated in the Jadavpur campus along with a number of departmental libraries and libraries of schools and centres. There is another campus library in Salt Lake for the five engineering and technology departments and a separate library for the

School of Mobile Computing and Communication. All the libraries of Jadavpur University are controlled and directed by the Central Library of Jadavpur University as it follows a centralized system. The study has focused mainly on the observations of the existing policies, procedures, and practices of collection development in the Jadavpur University Library System and the use of library resources by the faculty members of Jadavpur University.

Limitations of the Study

Collection development is a widespread global phenomenon that has become a major concern in different categories of libraries for both developed and developing countries. In the Indian context, the academic libraries' collection differs according to the form of the collection, level of education and educational background of the users. In this study the development of the collection is restricted within Jadavpur University Library System and the users are limited within the faculty members of Jadavpur University.

Methodology

Two components of the research are there – one is the development of the collection in Jadavpur University and the other is the use of university library resources. To identify the development and present status of the collection documentary sources were consulted. The primary sources were the Purchase Cum Accession Registers from printed books and e-books. The secondary sources consulted were annual Reports and other publications of National Council of Education, Bengal, annual Reports, newsletters and other publications of Jadavpur University, Jadavpur University website and NAAC Self Study Reports. Discussions with the Chief Librarian, Departmental Librarians and the staff members of BKSO section were made to understand the practices and procedures for the development of the collection. To assess the use of library resources a user survey has been conducted among the faculty members of Jadavpur University. Sample size has been determined using Slovin's formula. A structured questionnaire has been prepared as a data collection tool and simple random sampling (lottery method) has been followed to distribute the questionnaire.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

The existing collection books, e-books, printed journals and e-journals of Jadavpur University has been analyzed from 2017-2022 For the user survey the data collected through the questionnaires are analyzed and the needs are assessed individually for the Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors in Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science and

Faculty of Engineering and Technology. The data has been represented through tables and figures.

Major Findings

1. There is a decreasing trend in the procurement of printed books and printed journals in comparison to procurement of e-books and e-journals.
2. It is observed that Jadavpur University Library maintains the information on the attendance of users in various departments but there is no concrete evidence of user opinion or feedback at regular intervals, no circulation study analysis, no Inter-Library Loan records and statistics and no in-house use study analysis is maintained in records.
3. There is no written collection development policy in Jadavpur University Library system. The practices and procedures of developing the collection are followed according to the decisions taken in University Library Sub-Committee resolutions.
4. The user survey revealed the following findings:

Use of Printed Resources

- It is identified from the study that maximum respondents use the printed resources daily. Faculty members of Arts and Engineering and Technology use the printed resources mostly in daily basis whereas the faculty members of Science use the printed resources mostly 2-3 times a week.
- It is found from the study that all categories of three faculties mostly update them about printed resources by browsing or search internet/online bookstores. Only exception is the Associate Professors in Faculty of Science who get the update about printed resources from publishers catalogue/email alerts from publishers, distributors etc. This reveals that most of the respondents depend on online for searching printed resources which determines that searching is comfortable in online mode.
- The study reveals that majority of the faculty members of all categories use Departmental Library to access printed resources. This reflects that the university has Departmental Library with a good collection that can fulfil the demand of the users.
- It is evident from the study that Books and Current Issue Journals are most frequently or frequently used printed resources among all the three categories of respondents in

Faculty of Arts, Science and Engineering and Technology. Standards/Patents/Specifications are never used by the faculty members of Arts. M.Phil. Dissertations are never used by faculty members of Science. M.Phil. Dissertations are rarely or never used by the faculty members of Engineering and Technology.

- The findings revealed that Faculty of Arts use the printed resources for research purpose and teaching learning process. The Faculty of Science use printed resources to know current development, for research purpose and for teaching learning and Faculty of Engineering and Technology use printed resources for updating current developments and teaching learning process.
- The study reveals that in Faculty of Arts of most of the Assistant Professors rarely photocopy the entire document, Associate Professors and Professors most frequently photocopy only the required portion. In Faculty of Science, the maximum number of Assistant Professors most frequently and Associate Professors rarely scan and save the document whereas the Professors frequently photocopy only the required portion of the document. In Faculty of Engineering and Technology, the maximum numbers of Assistant Professors occasionally photocopy the entire document, Associate Professors most frequently photocopy only the required portion and the Professors frequently read and return the document. A variety of activities are observed among all the three faculties.
- It is evident from the study that all the three categories of all Faculties agreed that the printed resource does not require any medium to access and easy to make notes or highlight. It is revealed that printed resources are easy and comfortable for reading.
- It is found that all the three categories of Faculty of Arts agree that the printed resources are not up to date, require storage space, chances of physical damage, cannot have multiple access and may not be always cost-effective. The faculty members of Science agree that printed resources have the chance of physical damage and cannot have multiple access. The faculty members of Engineering and Technology commonly agree that printed resources are not up to date, require storage space and chances of physical damage.
- Among all the Faculties most of the respondents are satisfied on overall collection of Departmental Library which refers that the departmental libraries provide good

support in teaching learning and research. It is the unique feature of this university that every department under each faculty have separate departmental libraries with qualified librarians to fulfil the requirements.

Use of E-resources

- It is evident from the study that maximum respondents use the e-resources daily. The study reflects that e-resources are used more than the printed resources for daily use.
- It is found that the all categories of respondents of three faculties come to know about e-resources by browsing and searching from internet. It can be concluded that the most comfortable search platform is internet.
- It is evident from the study that most of the respondents from all the three categories of faculties follow self learning method to use the e-resources. It can be concluded that university library should provide proper training to use the e-resources.
- It is found that most of the faculty members search online for solution regarding the problem faced in using e-resources. It can be concluded that library can provide a help desk to solve the problems regarding use of e-resources. This can optimize the use of e-resources in the university library.
- It is found that most of the faculties use remote access (beyond campus) facility provide by the university to the faculties and research scholars. This reflects that the remote access facility is popular as the respondents can get any types of e-resources anytime and from anywhere.
- The study finds that the all categories in Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Engineering and Technology either rarely or never get awareness about legal issues. In case of Faculty of Science all categories never get awareness about legal issue. All the categories of three Faculties are most frequently or frequently provided Wi-Fi connections except the Professors of Faculty of Arts who get the facility occasionally.
- It is found that from the study that using search engine is the most frequently used method among all categories of the Faculties. University/Library websites are used occasionally or rarely except among the Assistant Professors in Faculty of Engineering and Technology who use it frequently. Publisher/vendor website are least used for searching e-resources. It may be concluded that promotion and awareness should be

made to increase the use of University or Library website to use the e-resources. Effective utilization of University subscribed library resources could be possible.

- The study finds that Author, Title of the article, Subject, Keyword and DOI are the most frequently or frequently used search strategy among all categories of Faculties. Exception is seen among the Professors of Faculty of Arts who use DOI occasionally. Proximity operator and truncation are rarely or never used by all categories of Faculties for searching e-resources. Workshop on various search techniques can be organized by the library to optimize the use of e-resources.
- It is found from the study that all categories of Faculty of Arts most frequently or frequently use E-journals and E-newspapers whereas Standards/Patents/Specifications are never used by them. The faculty members of Faculty of Science use E-journals and E-newspapers either most frequently or frequently. The faculty members of Engineering and Technology most frequently or frequently used E-books, E-journals, E-conference proceedings, E-newspapers, Open Educational Resources and Open access resources. E-journals are commonly used e-resource among the three faculties of the university.
- It is observed that JSTOR is the most popular database among Faculty of Arts whereas Science Direct and Springer Link are most popular databases among Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering and Technology.
- The study finds that faculty members of Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering and Technology strongly agree or agree that they use e-resources to know current developments, for research purpose, for writing research paper, for guiding researchers, for reading articles, for seminar/conference/workshop and for teaching /lecture purpose. It refers that e-resources are essential resources in the higher education and research.
- The study finds that all the three categories of Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering and Technology most frequently save the e-resources by downloading. They frequently e-mail the e-sources to themselves. It refers that the respondents download or e-mail the e-resources to preserve it in secured storage for easy availability.
- The study finds that the advantages of using e-resources strongly agreed by all categories of Faculties are time saving/24*7 accessibility, space saving, easy to handle,

easy to access, universal/multiple access, file sharing, portable/accessible from anywhere, up to date and cost saving.

- It is found from the study that all the categories of the three Faculties strongly agreed or agreed that subscription based access is the main problem in using e resources.
- The study revealed that the University provides good connectivity of internet but the level of satisfaction among all categories of three Faculties vary on the access to e-resources and infrastructure facilities.
- It is found from the study that all categories of faculty member of Arts fully aware or substantially aware about copyright violation and internet usage policies and the stringency.
- The study revealed that all the Faculties supported the advantages of e-resources but Faculty of Arts and Science agree to read on paper than on computer screen. Faculty of Engineering and Technology prefer e-resources than printed resources but remain neutral that e-resources can replace printed resources.

Conclusions

This is an issue of concern in the present days that E-resources are considered as an enormously important tool for efficient teaching learning and research. They also help to gather knowledge on current developments in the society. The faculty members are confined in use of books and current issue of journals in printed form whereas they get access to wide range of e- resources like e-books, e-journals, e-thesis, e-databases, e-newspapers, e-magazines, e-archives etc. Both the printed resources and e-resources are used to update about current developments, for research purpose and for teaching learning process where it is necessary to keep the resources update in their subjects. The advantages of e-resources are the multiple and remote accessibility saving time and space whereas the printed resources have the advantage on using it comfortably. Thus proper balance is required in the procurement of both the resources which can only achieved with judicious selection and proper evaluation of the collection.

The procurement of resources in each year should be communicated in the form of alert services to the users to inform them about the huge procurements. It helps in future selection of resources. Frequent orientation programmes on the use of e-resources and workshop on awareness about the legal issues in using printed resources and e-resources should be

conducted by the university library for the optimum utilization of the resources. Open educational resources and open access resources can be promoted to fulfil the information needs of the users and overcome the financial limitations. The use statistics of both printed resources and e-resources should be communicated to each department for the judicious selection for the future. In case of printed resources proper discarding methods should be taken to avoid space shortage. Lastly, a structured written collection development policy is necessary to maintain a standardized format that can provide proper guidance to develop the collection to fulfill the library objectives as well as institutional objectives.

Supervisor

Candidate

Dated

Dated