

Full length Research Paper

Efficient use of departmental libraries with special reference to Narula Institute of Technology, India

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Departmental library tends to be the special area of the department in Narula Institute of Technology. The present paper examines the efficient use of departmental libraries with a special reference to Narula Institute of Technology. The study also highlights frequency of departmental library use, number of books it can borrow user, availability of library in your department, lending duration, and user satisfactions towards departmental library.

Key words: Departmental libraries, user satisfaction, Narula Institute of Technology (NIT).

INTRODUCTION

The word 'Library' derived from the latin 'Librarium' means a 'place in which books, manuscripts, musical scores or other literary and artistic materials are kept, for use not for sale. Library is created to link in the communication system that is essential to any society and culture. Without communication there can be no society. Library preserve cultural heritage of a country. The present study shows the efficient use of departmental libraries with a special reference to Narula Institute of Technology. According to ODLIS, "Departmental library is a type of academic library that serves the information and research needs of the faculty members of a department within an institution of higher learning, usually a large university. Departmental libraries are also used by students enrolled in courses in the discipline(s) taught by the department, especially graduate students. If acquisitions are funded through the department, selection is usually the responsibility of the teaching faculty in collaboration with the departmental librarian." Reitz (Online Dictionary visited on 12.8.2010) Narula Institute of Technology (NIT) has been established by the Narula Educational Trust, under the chairmanship of Sardar Jodh Singh, an eminent industrialist of high repute. NIT was inaugurated on 17th August, 2001 and has been duly approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and is affiliated to West Bengal University of Technology (WBUT). The goal of the Library and Documentation

Centre of the Institute is to create and sustain an information environment that supports the educational and research needs, as well as enables learning and advancement of knowledge of the institution community. Library has been established in 2001. In this college, departmental libraries were found. All faculties, staff and students of final year in every department should use the departmental library for borrowing books for home as well as reference purpose.

Scope and limitations

The present study covers final year students, Staff and Faculty of Narula Institute of Technology Library and Documentation Center, 81 Nilgunj Road Agarpara, Kolkata-700109. The college has almost 3,000 students, with its library having over 56,000 books, journals and other resource materials. The Institution has also seven departmental libraries; however, five of them were taken into consideration.

METHODOLOGY USED FOR DATA COLLECTION

The study was limited to users of Narula Institute of Technology. Total of 300 questionnaires were distributed to collect the primary data. Out of 253 valid questionnaires were collected and then data were analysed, tabulated, interpreted and presented in form of this paper.

Table 1. Is there library in your department?

Respondents	ECE	CES	IT	CIVIL	BA
Faculty	22	19	20	16	15
Staff	10	8	11	8	6
Student	29	20	26	25	18

Table 2. Frequency of departmental library use.

Frequency	Respondents		
	Faculty	Staff	Student
Everyday	52	21	78
Weekly	28	13	10
Monthly	9	7	17
Rarely	3	2	13

Table 3. Number of books the library can borrow user.

Respondents	One	Two	Three	None of these
Faculty	49	31	10	2
Staff	15	26	2	0
Student	55	63	0	0

Table 4. Lending duration.

Respondents	One day	Week	Monthly	None of these
Faculty	50	30	10	2
Staff	20	14	6	3
Student	102	16	0	0

Table 5. User satisfactions towards departmental library.

Respondents	Fully satisfied	Average
Faculty	80	12
Staff	27	16
Student	92	26

Analysis

Out of 253 questionnaires, 92 were from the faculty members, 43 from the staff and 118 from the student community. Collected data were analyzed and tabulated (Siddique, 2001)

Table 1 shows that 22 faculty members, 10 staff and 29 students of ECE; 19 faculty members, 8 staff and 20 students of CSE; 20 faculty members, 11 staff and 26 students of IT, 16 faculty members, 8 staff and 25 students of CIVIL, 15 faculty members, 6 staff and 18 students of BA represents that departmental library available in NIT library (Figure 1). Table 2 reveals that 52 faculty members, 21 staff and 78 students use departmental library daily; 28 faculty members, 13 staff and 10 students use weekly; 9 faculty

members, 7 staff and 17 students use departmental library monthly and 3 faculty members, 2 staff and 13 students use departmental library rarely (Figure 2).

Table 3 represents that 49 faculty members, 15 staff and 55 students borrow one book, 31 faculty members, 26 staff and 63 students borrow two books, 10 faculty members, 2 staff and 0 students borrow three books and so on (Figure 3).

Table 4 reveals that 50 faculty members, 20 staff and 102 students use departmental library daily; 30 faculty members, 14 staff and 16 students use weekly; 10 faculty members, 6 staff and 0 students use departmental library monthly and so on (Figure 4).

Table 5 represents that 80 faculty members, 27 staff and 92 students are fully satisfied to access the departmental libraries. Only 12 faculty members, 16 staff and 26 students feel their use of the departmental library is average (Figure 5).

FINDINGS

According to maximum respondents, NIT have departmental libraries. Maximum faculty members, staff and students everyday comes into departmental library. Maximum faculty members and staff can issue one book at a time from the departmental library, however, on some occasion, they issue two, three books from departmental library. All faculty members and staff are expected to return books in their possession within thirty days. In special cases, they reissue books.

Maximum users were satisfied from Departmental Libraries.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Library should encourage the life long self education to one and all. It should provide one and all with current information on all. Library also disseminates knowledge. Stefanacci et al. (1977) In Narula Institute of Technology, departmental collections play a vital role in providing essential information. Suitable and quick access to heavily used materials is absolutely essential to the provision of adequate patient care, education, and research. Departmental Library Services is a library and information service rendered to the departments. Departmental library tends to become the exclusive field of the department (Sharma, 2009). The collection of departmental library in NIT is very small. It gives user mainly ready reference service. In Narula Institute of Technology, departmental library help user in teaching, research, work etc.

Suggestions for improvement of the departmental library services are listed below:

- i) The inclusion of more journals in the core areas of management and allied areas to support study, teaching research and project work.
- ii) News paper subscription.
- iii) Inter library loan services.
- iv) The provision of a qualified librarian to manage departmental library.

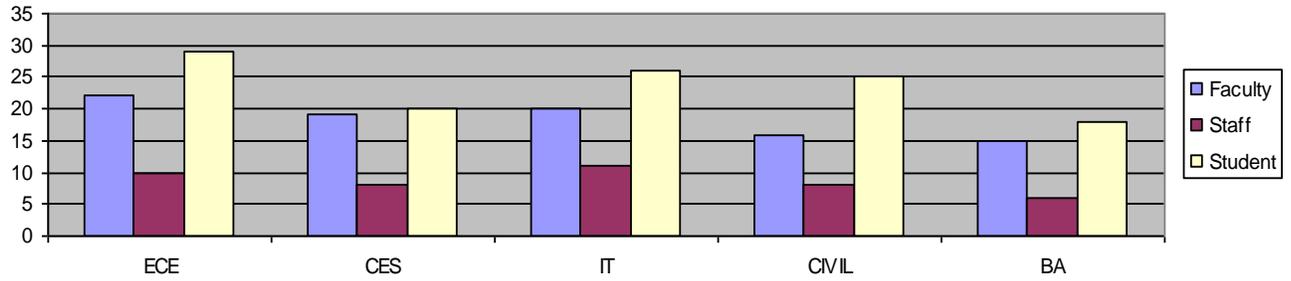


Figure 1. Is there library in your department?

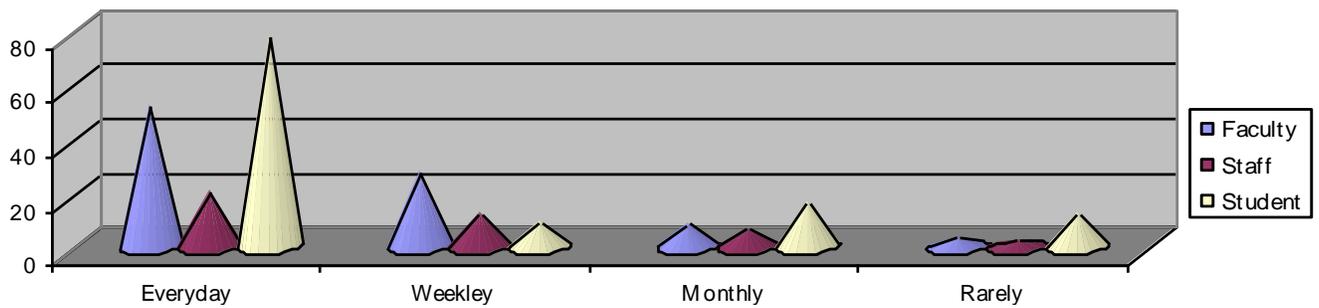


Figure 2. Frequency of departmental library use.

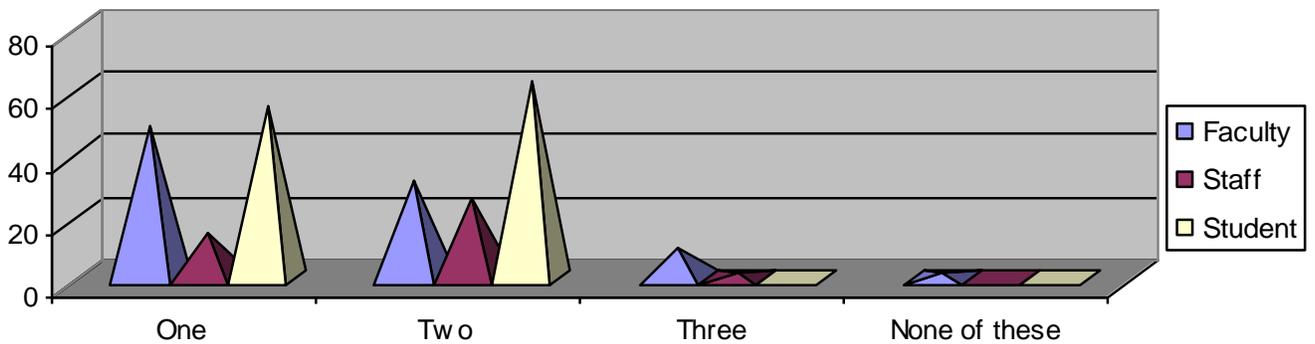


Figure 3. Number of books the library can borrow user.

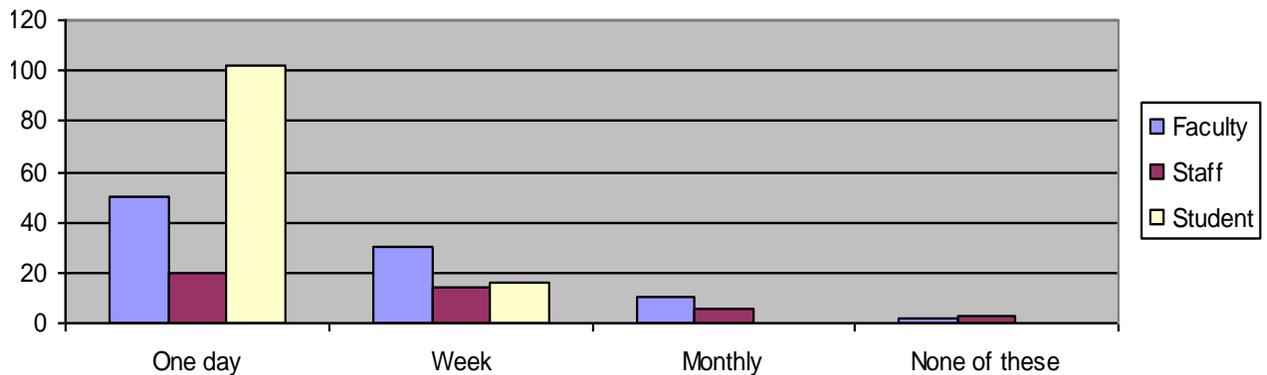


Figure 4. Lending duration.

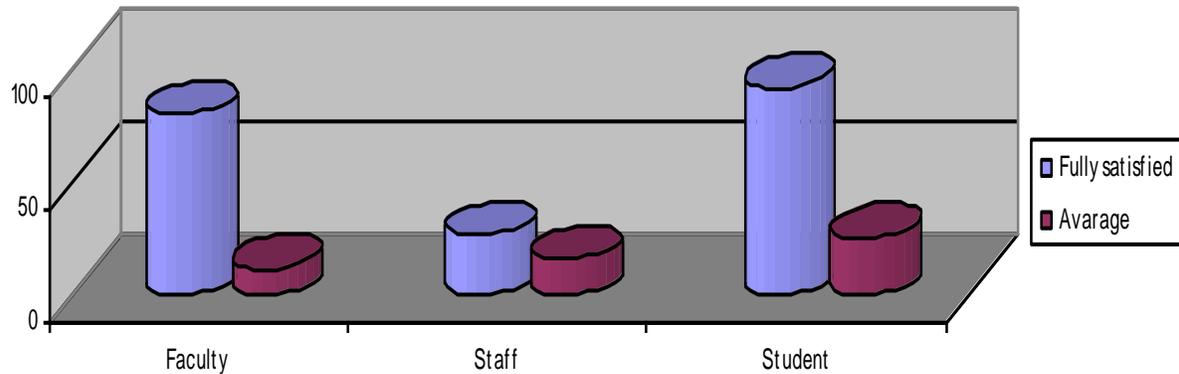


Figure 5. User satisfaction towards departmental library.

v) Computerization of library services.

More focus should be laid on to electronic and online resources that provide rapid access to the users round the clock access and save a lot of storage space.

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