

Institutional Library Websites Affiliated to National Universities in Sri Lanka: a Content Analysis

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Abstract

The main objectives of this study are to evaluate the content of websites in institutional libraries affiliated to national universities in Sri Lanka and identify the shortcomings of library websites. A total of nine libraries were selected for the study but three institutions were rejected due to non-availability of separate library websites. Observation was the primary data collection method and a checklist was designed to collect data. The study mainly corresponds to four categories; Library Management, Library Services, Resources and Other information. Five items were included under the segment of library management. All of the selected libraries were provided the introduction to their libraries opening hours, staff information and contact information. Eight items were considered with regard to library services. Three institutes totally neglected to include their library services to their sites. Four items were located under the segment of library resources and PGIM have completed all four items in check-list. Results of the study showed that out of twenty items, none of the libraries hit all the items in the check-list. The findings of this study revealed that the institutional library websites affiliated to universities in Sri Lanka have not setup at satisfactory level.

Keywords: *Content analysis, Institutional libraries, Library websites, Sri Lanka, Academic libraries*

Introduction

New generation utilize internet extensively and attracting their attention to the virtual environment is easy. Adapting this particular behavior to library environment is foremost. The library website can be used by means of providing better impression to the library as well as a marketing tool. An effective library website facilitates not only to library patrons but also to library staff. There are number of local studies (Shi and Ranaweera (2016) and Wickrmanayake (2012) have been conducted to analyze the university library web sites with different perspectives. But none of the studies have conducted related to institute libraries affiliated to universities in Sri Lanka.

Objectives

- To determine the status of contents of institutional library websites
- To identify the shortcomings of institutional library websites