

Evaluation of Library Collection of Sardar Patel College of Engineering, Andheri

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Abstract: - *This paper presents the evaluation of the entire collection of the library for the year (2013-2017) as per the rules and regulations of AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education). The study also evaluated the use of library services and facilities by the students and other users of SPCE. The study adopted descriptive survey research method and employed a structured questionnaire and observations as instruments for data collection. The study involved 2 sets of questionnaires. One was meant for the Librarian and the other was for the users. The data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics which include percentages. Findings revealed that students mostly use the library for their studies. Observation shows that they use the library most during examination periods. It also revealed that resources currently available are fairly adequate and fairly accessible to the students and are satisfied with the services and facilities provided by the library. Problems going against effective use of the SPCE Library by the students were identified and solutions were proffered.*

Keywords: Engineering college libraries, Evaluation of Book collection, Evaluation of journals, Evaluation of library facilities, Evaluation of library services, Collection Development, User Satisfaction

Introduction

Library evaluation is the assessment of the various aspects of the library viz., book collection, periodicals collection, non- print and electronic documents, processing of books, library services, physical facilities, library staff, ICT infrastructure,

finance, and user education etc., based on certain norms standards or guidelines.

Definitions of the terms as given according to Online Dictionary of Library and Information Science (ODLIS) are as given below:

Library Collection - The total accumulation of books and other materials owned by a library, cataloged and arranged for ease of access, often consisting of several smaller collections (reference, circulating books, serials, government documents, rare books, special collections, etc.).

The process of building a library collection over an extended period of time is called collection development.

Evaluation of library Collection - The systematic evaluation of the quality of a library collection is to determine the extent to which it meets the library's service goals and objectives and the information needs of its clientele. Deficiencies are addressed through collection development.

Doing collection development well involves a variety of information: about the library's mission, the needs of users, strengths and weaknesses of the current collection, and tools for identifying quality resources. An evaluation of a library's collection can be a useful piece of the collection development toolkit, as it helps the library understand whether the collection is adequate and whether, or in what specific areas, it needs to grow.

Three main approaches – drawn from a wide variety of methods such as collection-centered versus client-centered, quantitative versus qualitative, inputs versus outputs, and others

described by Nisonger (2003) – are discussed here.

The three are:

- 1 user-centered evaluation;
- 2 physical assessment; and
- 3 assessment of specific subject support.

These three approaches may not suit every library, but the importance of this article is to encourage librarians to be more informed about the value of collection evaluations.

Sardar Patel College of Engineering (SPCE) is one of the well graded colleges in Mumbai city. It is located in Andheri. It has a library called the SPCE Library. It was established in the year 1962. It is an Academic Library, authority is aided (Semi-government). The SPCE Library is attached to the main College building and has 6000 sq.ft area consisting of different departments for Journals, Reference, Circulation, ICT room etc. It has total seating capacity of 150 students at a time. Working hours of the library are 8.30 am to 8.30 pm (general working days). The most important database used is Science Direct. Name of the website of the library is www.spce.ac.in

The mode of acquisition of books is by purchase. Only English and Marathi newspapers are subscribed. The library collection is classified using DDC classification scheme. Cataloguing scheme used is AACR2. Online form of catalogue is used. Less than one week's time is taken on an

average for a document to reach the shelf from the date of its procurement.

Library staff consists of 1 main Librarian, followed by 1 Assistant Librarian, then 2 Library Clerks and 1 attendant.

Library Budget for reading materials from the year 2013- 2014 till now 2017-18 is above 5lakh rupees.

Table 1: Total Sources of funds of SPCE Library Collection

Sr. No.	Year	Library Fees	Fines
1	2013-14	1800000	15010
2	2014-15	1800000	18183
3	2015-16	2000000	30167
4	2016-17	2400000	45000
5	2017-18	2400000	67000

The SPCE Library is fully automated but there are certain barriers to automation such as ICT trained staff, power and finance. But there is no problem for the space and cooperation of authority.

The ICT infrastructure consists of Computers, Library Automation Software, Internet Connection, LAN, and Databases record, Projectors, Servers and Wi-Fi connectivity. Only ICT trained staff are less.

SPCE Library provides the following services to the users:

Circulation service, Cataloguing, Reference Service, Bibliographic Services, CAS, SDI, Reprographic, Audio/ Visual rooms, Free Wi-Fi, Internet, Inter Library Loan, Library Network Services and Binding.

Table 2: Total Collection of SPCE Library

Sr. No.	Year	Collections of Books	Collections of Periodicals	Collections of Maps	Total Collections of CDs/ DVDs/ Audio Videos
1	2013-14	40011	45	5	176
2	2014-15	40960	48	5	189
3	2015-16	41338	53	7	0
4	2016-17	42631	62	7	0
5	2017-18	43167	62	7	197

Table 3: Total Number of Readers Enrolled in SPCE Library

Sr. No.	Year	Average Daily visitors
1	2013-14	260
2	2014-15	300
3	2015-16	300
4	2016-17	330
5	2017-18	340

Table 4: Library Statistics

Sr. No.	Year	Average Daily visitor	Average daily issue of books
1	2013-14	260	215
2	2014-15	300	260
3	2015-16	300	260
4	2016-17	330	345
	2017-18	340	345

Table 5: Collection of Grey Literature in SPCE Library

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Theses Volumes
1	2013-14	255
2	2014-15	270
3	2015-16	305
4	2016-17	321
5	2017-18	340

Works done by SPCE Library:

- It does not have separate sections for the grey literature and they do not digitize them.
- Weeding out process is done once in 3 years.
- It hosts the institution publications and annual reports in the server and staff can access the server.
- Library staff does consult other engineering college libraries and librarians to know the availability of the current materials.
- It organizes book exhibitions during the month of February.
- It provides library orientation in the form of lecture and Library tour.
- Stock verification is done once in 3 years but only during vacations. Computerized method of Stock verification is used.
- Promotional activities such as Exhibitions and Display of New Arrivals are done.
- They have a policy for writing off books where Approval is got from Library Committee then Principal and then BoG.

Following are the ranking of the sources that are used for selection of documents for library in order of preference:

1. Teacher's suggestions
2. Student's suggestions
3. Books received on approval
4. Book reviews
5. Subject Bibliographies
6. Book seller's list
7. Book exhibitions
8. Publisher's catalogue

Following are the statements made by the library Users:**1. Main Purpose of using the library:**

Sr. No.	Purpose	No of students	% of students
1	Issuing study books	44	86
2	Check Information from varied sources	22	43
3	Read newspapers and magazines	19	37
4	Get access to online databases	29	57
5	Get access to the internet	35	69

2. What does the library consists of?

Sr. no.	Details	No. of Students	% of students
1	Newspapers and Magazines from current publishers	33	65
2	Good stock of books of different kinds	40	78
3	Seating and reading space	21	41
4	Online databases and internet availability	36	71
5	OPAC to know the availability status of books	14	27

3. What is the frequency of use of Online Library Services by the users?

Sr. no	Frequency	No of students	% of students
1	Daily	47	92
2	Weekly	37	73
3	Monthly	4	8
4	Yearly	0	0
5	Never	0	0

4. How many users rate the sentence, Overall the library provides good level of services?

Sr. No	Particulars	No of students	% of students
1	Strongly Agree	32	63
2	Slightly Agree	16	31
3	Slightly Disagree	2	4
4	Strongly Disagree	0	0
5	Don't Know	1	2

5. What facilities should be included in the library?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
1	Additional Computers	8	16
2	More Silent Space for study	24	47
3	Research Carrels for Researchers and PG students	17	33
4	Personal storage facilities e.g. Lockers	30	59
5	Coffee or Tea refreshment Stands	17	33

6. How is the working Pattern of the library staff in SPCE Library?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
1	Encouraging using the library and its services	16	31
2	Polite and Positive towards the Users	42	82
3	Knowledgeable	11	22
4	Not Satisfactory	1	2
5	Don't Know	2	4

7. How do the users do the collection of search matter from the e-resources?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
1	Pen Drive	78	153
2	CD	0	0
3	Floppy	0	0
4	Email	33	65

8. How is the internal environment of the Library?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
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1	Library equipment and furniture	22	43
2	Centrally Located and convenient	31	61
3	Lighting and Ventilation	24	47
4	Mobile charging facility	22	43
5	All of the above	45	88

9. How is the overall Library Management?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
1	Poor	2	4
2	Fair	4	8
3	Average	8	16
4	Good	41	80
5	Excellent	20	39

10. How did the students rate the OPAC facilities in SPCE Library?

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of students	% of students
1	Poor	3	6
2	Fair	4	9
3	Average	6	12
4	Good	22	43
5	Excellent	6	12

11. How did the students rate the Digital Library Website and its services in SPCE Library?

Sr. No.	Particulars	% of students
1	Browsing	28% selected excellent

2	Searching	24% selected excellent
3	Access to e-books	30% selected good
4	Access to e-journals	27% selected good
5	User Interface	22% selected good
6	Digital Reference Services	25% selected good
7	Security and Confidentiality	22% selected good
8	Access to other e-resources	18% selected average and good

12. What are the SPCE Library services and how much are the users satisfied with them?

Sr. No.	Library services	% of students				
		Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
1	Shelving of the books on the rack	0	4	10	55	29
2	Access to computers	0	0	12	57	31
3	Internet Usage	0	0	12	53	35
4	Free Wi-Fi	6	10	25	27	33
5	Usage of Personal laptops	2	2	16	45	33
6	Photo copying/ Printing services	25	12	27	22	4
7	Inter Library Loan	14	10	25	18	4
8	Database access	2	10	22	29	20
9	Library Working hours	0	4	31	47	16
10	Library Orientation Programs	6	14	41	18	10
11	Information Literacy	4	14	39	25	12

	Programs					
12	User Training programs on the library usage	8	12	29	29	10
13	Display of New Arrivals	10	8	25	33	16
14	Screening of Educational films	27	31	20	12	2
15	Book Exhibitions	24	14	25	24	2
16	Sale of Books	25	14	22	18	2
17	Access to digital resources	0	2	29	35	18
18	Ph.D. theses access	0	2	31	25	12
19	Use of Sign boards for proper directions	4	8	22	37	20
20	Enough number of OPAC terminals	8	6	24	20	20
21	Reminder for late return of the books	33	25	14	14	8
22	Answers to the queries made by the users by the Library Staff	0	14	25	27	20
23	Duration taken to answer the queries	0	12	27	29	22
24	Programs held on Teachers Day, Children Day, Reading Day etc.	14	16	25	16	14

Suggestions

It is recommended that the habit of using the Library should be inculcated into students through avenues such as organizing library display, library exhibition and library orientation so as to attract students to the Library.

There should be provision of study/ reading room for reading personal or outside story books. There should be provision for printers and better Wi-Fi facility. Light refreshment should be provided. Books should be kept in abundance during the exams.

Conclusion

The students of SPCE Library get benefit from the library collection because of good stock of books; they visit the library on a daily basis, satisfied with the library staff and also because of ICT facilities. But still some facilities need to be improved such as providing photocopying/ printing services, screening of educational films and reminders for the late return of the books. Also students require personal storage and refreshment stands in the library for more relaxation.

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