

Library Webpage Evaluation of A-Grade Colleges Affiliated to R.T.M Nagpur University

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Abstract: - *The main aim of this paper is to evaluate of websites of Re-accredited College libraries affiliated to R.T.M. Nagpur University, to find out the content and quality of web sites and information posted on web sites of the colleges and their library web pages. It also checks out the authority of website and library web pages because there is no definite standard to design the web sites or which types of information posted on the library web pages.*

Keywords: Academic library, Evaluation, Library web page, Webpage authority

Introduction

Even if you have not a lot of experience with computers, it wouldn't be surprising to learn that you have been on the Internet. In the past few years, millions of people have gone online and some of them probably thought they would never have a use for a computer. Indeed, many Internet enthusiasts buy computers just so that they can go on line, and for no other reason.

Internet is a great learning tool and has got various advantages in the fields of education, information, communication, etc. and therefore has mighty positive impact on the present day society.

Role of an Academic Libraries Web Page

To define the role of an academic library's web page one has to answer the question "What is the academic library user's requirement?" A lot has been expressed about the automation of libraries. Many librarians have emphatically recommended a computer culture for libraries and believed it mandatory for resource sharing. Every library and information Centre of national and international standing wants to make computerized databases available to a wide range of users. The Internet has proved to be a ready platform for the dissemination of such information to people in academic circles or wide users of libraries for academic purposes. A user needs to know what resources, facilities and services are available in the library, to know whether it is worth a visit. An

academic library user needs a ready database of documents that he/she can access remotely, so that search and retrieval time is reduced.

Evaluation

There is enormous growth in websites, including academic websites. Most of the academic websites are static in nature. The updating of information and proper maintenance is the basic requirement of any web sites. The users' satisfaction, on the website can be termed as web credibility. Unfortunately the functionality, design, quality of information, etc. are not properly adopted by the web sites, according to the web credibility standards. Various researchers have conducted studies on web credibility to understand the different factors of users' expectations of websites. Commercial websites are dynamic in nature and will adopt the changes of the user expectation quickly. But service industries like academic institution will take more time to react. The discipline of evaluation is devoted to the systematic purpose of merit, worth or significance. It is separated into field according to the type of object evaluated, for example, program evaluation or personnel evaluation. There are more than twenty of these recognized fields of evaluations. Some specific aspects of evaluation methodology have been developed to solve the problem of evaluation. The underlying logic of the process of evaluation is the difference between merit and worth or between grading and ranking.

Need to Evaluate Web Information

Traditional sources come across different stages of filtering. These sources are evaluated by a referee or an authority or editor, etc. For a journal article to be published, it generally goes through some peer review before it is accepted for publication. Unlike most traditional information sources, no one has to approve the content before putting it on the Internet. This means that the quality of the information found on the Net must be evaluated very carefully. It is the job of the searcher to evaluate the sources before using in order to determine whether the source will meet the need or not.

Anyone who can create their own web page or pay someone to create a web page can put information on the World Wide Web. Each individual not only selects the topic which he/she chooses to write about, but also the way in which the web page is designed and the extent to which the information provided is credible. (Basu, 1999)

Review of Related Literature

Sonwane, S. (2011) conducted a research on "Websites of Scientific and Research Institution in India" The researcher highlighted the need of authentic information through web site for decision makers, research scholars and scientists. The researcher also emphasised to evaluate the information which is available on websites. Alvaro, R. (2012) described aims to propose a high-level structure for a global quality evaluation of a website. This structure is based on the

features, sub-characteristics and attributes of three main dimensions (content, service, and technical quality) that will substantiate the development of broad website and quality evaluation, comparison and improvement procedures, according to specific sectors of activity and evaluator's perspective. In a study by Riddle and Prentiss (1998) the universities were chosen for a variety of reasons, general reputation, status as a "Peer" and suggestions from individuals. The criteria selected were change, structure, content, navigation, links, size, graphics and techniques. They have compared the features of 22 university web sites, relying primarily on features of their top pages. Grassian (2008) has stated that the World Wide Web has a lot to offer, but not all sources are equally valuable or reliable, and hence some points like content, source, date and structure should be considered while evaluating web resources. According to Hannabuss, (2000) in recent years, growing attention appears to have been paid by information professionals to issues of professional negligence and responsibility. Key lawful issues are discussed, and negligence and responsibility is examined in the electronic field. It is advised that the commercialization of the information marketplace and growing awareness of negligence and liability issues are encouraging information professionals to look to the combination of law, ethics, and self-interest for personal and professional effectiveness and security. Masters (2005) explains in detail about website evaluation in his book "Role development in professional library practices". He states that

the web has grown rapidly since the beginning and information publishing is relatively easy and inexpensive. Internet sites can be created by anyone with the ability to create a web page. Many sites can be for a commercial purpose and others can simply be the opinions of the website developers. Websites are under no required guidelines or standards. Additionally no official organization is responsible for website evaluation. As a result a vast amount of information is available on the web, but not all information is reliable. So he suggests several points to evaluate the websites for acquiring reliable information from the web.

Aims and Objectives of the Study

The present study has the following aims and objectives in view

- To navigate the Internet and find out the library web pages A- Grade colleges in Nagpur city affiliated to RTM Nagpur University.
- To search out the home pages of colleges and their library web pages.
- To collect the data regarding the structure and content of the colleges from A- Grade colleges affiliated to RTM Nagpur University.

Research Methodology

In the present study, type of research methodology followed is **Investigative** and **Evaluative**. The data collected by using following data collection methods.

- Review of the Internet posted documentation on the web pages
- Observation and assessment

The entire study was planned systematically. The research work was carried out step wise and finally the conclusions were drawn.

Scope and Limitation of the Study

Scope of the study is restricted to surfing the Internet for the college websites. Library web pages of these colleges were evaluated by using selected evaluation criteria. The researcher has taken only Re-accredited ‘A’ Grade colleges RTM Nagpur University. Total **08** colleges were selected for the study.

The present study has the following limitations:

- Geographical limitation i.e. only the colleges from Nagpur city are studied in this project
- The evaluation study carried out with special reference to Library web pages of colleges Nagpur city only Re-accredited A -Grade by NAAC.
- Total 08 colleges Re-accredited A-grade by NAAC included in the study.

The names of the colleges are as follows.

- Dr. Ambedkar College
- Hislop College
- L.A.D. College
- Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of Social Work
- Sevadal Mahila Mahavidyalaya

- Shivaji Science College
- St. Francis De Sales College
- Tirpude College of Social Work

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table: 1 Indicate “Library Webpage Access” the above table represents the percentage of distribution about library webpage access among the Nagpur City ‘A’- Grade colleges. It is observed that out of 8 colleges within the Nagpur City only 37.5 % colleges have library web page. It is also observed that 50 % colleges within the Nagpur city used separate URL for library.

Table-1: Analysis of Library web page Access

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Library web page available	03	37.5 %
2.	URL of Library Web Page	04	50 %

Table: 2 Shows “Contact Details on Library Webpage” the above table represents the percentage of distribution about contact details on library webpage. It is observed that 14.2 % colleges mentioned the information about library phone number of library webpages. It is also observed that 0 % colleges mentioned postal address and fax number on library webpages. Only 14.2 % colleges provide library e-mail on their library webpages.

Table-2: Analysis of Contact Details on Library Web Page

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Library Phone Number	01	14.2 %
2.	Postal Address of Library	00	0 %
3.	Library Fax Number	00	0 %
4.	Library E-mail	01	14.2 %

Table-3: Library Web Page Authority

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Name of Library Web Page Designer	04	57 %
2.	Contact Details of Designer	01	14.2 %
3.	Who Maintain Library Web Page	00	0 %
4.	Copyright Statement	02	28.5 %

Table: 3 Points out “Authority of Library Webpage” and explains the percentage of library webpage authority in Nagpur city. It is observed that 57 % colleges provides information about name of library webpage designer followed by 14.2 % colleges provide contact details of designer, 0 % colleges mentioned who maintain library webpage and 28.5 % colleges provides the information about copyright statement on their library webpages.

Table-4: Library Web Page Currency

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Date of Last Update	00	0 %
2.	Web Page Update Frequency	00	0 %

Table: 4 Revealed “Library Webpage Currency”. Researcher observed that 0 % colleges mentioned the information about Date of last update and webpage update frequency on their library webpages.

Table-5: Library Web Page Navigation

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Library Link Clearly Label	03	42.8 %
2.	Home Link on Each Page	05	71.4 %
3.	Images used in Library Web Page	03	42.8 %
4.	Images Support Navigation	00	0 %
5.	Back and Forward Link Available	00	0 %
6.	Effective Search Facility Available	00	0 %
7.	Keyword Searching Possible	00	0 %

Table: 5 Revealed “Library Web Page Navigation”. Researcher observed that 42.8 % colleges have library link clearly labelled on their library web pages. 71.4 % colleges provides home link on each page on library webpages. It is also

observed that 0 % colleges mentioned information about images support navigation, back and forward link, effective search facility and keyword searching facility on their library webpages.

Table-6: Library Web Page Appearance

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Multimedia Use on Library Web Page	00	0 %
2.	Sound, Animation, Graphics use	00	0 %
3.	Library Web Page Design-Simple	04	57 %
4.	Library Web Page Design-Attractive	00	0 %
5.	Library Web Page Design-Over Colorful	00	0 %

Table: 6 Indicated “Library Web Page Appearance” It is observed that 0 % colleges provide the information about Multimedia use on library web pages and Sound, Animation, Graphics use. It is found that in 57 % library web pages design is simple.

Table-7: Library Web Page Contents

Sr. No.	Criteria	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1.	Library photographs	04	57.14 %
2.	Library Staff	02	28.57 %
3.	Library Timing	04	57.14 %
4.	Library Rules	00	0 %
5.	Section in the library	01	14.28 %
6.	Library Services	06	85.71 %
7.	Library	06	85.71 %

	Collection		
8.	Library Automation	04	57.14 %
9.	Link to Library OPAC	00	0 %
10.	Link to Library Web OPAC	00	0 %
11.	Search parameter Available	00	0 %
12.	Keyword search	00	0 %
13.	Link to Digital Library	00	0 %
14.	Link to Other Web Sites	00	0 %

Table: 7 Shows “Library Web Page Contents”. Researcher observed that 57.14 % colleges provide library photographs on their library web pages followed by 28.57 % colleges providing information about library staff. 57.14 % colleges mentioned information about library timing. 0 % colleges mentioned library rules, 14.28 % colleges mentioned information about sections in the library and 85.71 % colleges provide the information about library services on their library webpages.

Conclusion

In today’s world, it has become an accepted fact that an organization, association, business or other institution should have a web site. Libraries are no exception to this trend. Web sites can serve a wide range of purposes for an organization and this is also true for libraries and information agencies. Library websites can be used to promote the library and its services to provide current information about the library for library users. It has been observed that despite the effort made by

in house expert or outside agency, most of the library websites are not updated regularly. At the same time, the content and information available on the library websites are also not up to the mark. Many libraries have created websites to serve their patrons and general information community, but how useful are these websites beyond providing information about the library and its collection is yet to be fully explored.

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