

E-Visibility of Research Output by LIS Professionals of SNDT Women’s University on Google Scholar

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Abstract: - *The study examines visibility of Google Scholar Citations (GSC) by LIS professionals in SNDT Women’s University, to determine e-visibility and output of research. Data was obtained from faculty members of SHPT School of Library Science and Library officers of Knowledge Resource Centre, SNDT Women’s University through GSC profiles. The results showed that almost half of LIS professionals of SNDTWU have created profile on Google Scholar. The study showed that GSC is a veritable tool to assess productivity of LIS professionals of SNDT Women’s University.*

Keywords: Research productivity, Google Scholar, Google Scholar Citation, LIS professionals, SNDT Women’s University.

Introduction

Metrics on research output provide an easy way for authors to quickly gauge the visibility and influence of recent articles in scholarly publications. As a matter of fact, many researchers and institutions have registered with academic websites for the visibility of research activities. In the current university setup, well measured criteria of research performance establishes the authenticity as researching academics at both institutional and personal levels, thereby providing capital for the purchase of increasingly scarce resources (time, money) needed for further research and confirmation of prestige (Archer, 2008). There are many academic social networking sites, which are connecting

researchers with other researchers with same interest, which shows the academic visibility of research. Google Scholar is one of the widely accepted bibliographic databases that has provided an opportunity to the researcher to show the research productivity of any individuals or institutions. This paper presents the metrics of LIS professionals in SNDT Women’s University available on Google Scholar to assess authorship of individual, h-index (Hirsch 2005) and the number of citations per paper. Scholar Metrics summarize recent citations to many publications, to help authors as they consider where to publish their new research.

Google Scholar

Launched on November 18, 2004, Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com>) is a very large free bibliographic database, which covers full-text journal articles, technical reports, conference proceedings, preprints, theses, books, and other documents, including selected Web pages that are deemed to be scholarly or academic (Payne, 2004). Google Scholar is a useful source for bibliometric purposes as it provides the number of citations received by the items included. Its current size is over 200 million unique documents. These resources are made available freely, and even for subscription based publications, the search for information would yield at least an abstract of the article (Lateef, Ogunkunle, and Adigun, 2016).

Google Scholar Citation (GSC)

Google Scholar Citation is a tool for setting up author profiles of individuals and their publications as covered by Google Scholar. There are many advantages in generating your own profile using GSC. It is a free alternative or a complement to other citation indexes. It is very easy to use, as you only need a Google account to start collecting your publications and the associated metrics. Any person, the author, should voluntarily create GSC profile or if he/she is already dead by another individual wishing to make an homage by recording his/her scientific publications. GSC provides a simple way for authors to keep track of citations to their articles. You can check who is citing your publications,

graph citations over time, and compute several citation metrics. You can also make your profile public, so that it may appear in Google Scholar results when people search for your name. However, some studies have reported conflicting metrics while evaluating major citation indexes such as Google Scholar, Web of Science and Scopus, and others have indicated that GSC could be prone to dubious manipulation by individuals to influence citation metrics in their profiles (Noruzi, 2005).

Objectives

1. To assess e-visibility the research output of LIS professionals from SNTD Women's University on the platform of Google Scholar using selected parameters namely,
 - a. Profiles of authors
 - b. Topics covered,
 - c. Number of papers listed,
 - d. Total citation counts,
 - e. H-index of the authors,
 - f. Number of articles with at least 10 citation counts and
2. To suggest registering LIS professionals into Google Scholar for better e-visibility of their research output on Internet.

Methods:

Scope of study:

This study was carried out to assess e-visibility of the metrics of research output of LIS professionals from SNTD Women's University on the platform of Google Scholar. These profiles were evaluated

using criteria i.e. topic covered, number of articles listed, citation counts and h-index of highest rated researchers, and number of faculty members with at least one or 100 citations. Data obtained from Google Scholar profiles of existing faculty members of SHPT School of Library Science and LIS officers of Knowledge Resource Centre, Churchgate, Juhu and Pune branch of SNDT women's University. The study did not cover LIS professionals from the conducted colleges, autonomous colleges and colleges affiliated to the SNDT Women's University.

Data collection and analysis:

Data of LIS professionals working in SNDT Women's University were manually obtained from GSC using the web domain (www.sndt.ac.in) in the month of December 2017. Efforts were made to screen multiple entries of LIS professionals covered under the study. The h-index, citation counts and i10-index of the best rated scholars/users were collected. Furthermore, the citation counts of the top research productivity under the domain of SNDT Women's University were also collected. Descriptive statistic was adopted to determine the relative visibility/productivity of researchers.

Results and Discussion

General information

General information about LIS professionals is derived from the respective departments of SNDT Women's University. Total eleven LIS professionals were listed out. Following table no.

1 shows the details about existing faculty members and library officers those who are contributing in the field of Library and Information Science.

Table 1: LIS Professionals in SNDT WU

Sr. No.	Department	No of LIS Professionals	Profile on Google Scholar
1.	SHPT School of Library Science	3	3
2.	Knowledge Resource Centre, Churchgate	4	1
3.	Knowledge Resource Centre, Pune	2	1
4.	Knowledge Resource Centre, Juhu	2	1
	Total	11	6

Table no. 1 shows that out of eleven more than half of the LIS professionals (6) have created their profile on the Google Scholar. It is a very positive sign that all faculty members of SHPT School of Library Science have profile on the Google Scholar.

It also noticed that Google Scholar indexes research papers of almost all LIS professionals covered in the study, but some of them have not created their profile on Google Scholar. This may be because they are unaware about the Google Scholar profile.

Metrics of LIS Professionals on Google Scholar

Metrics Individuals of LIS professionals for e-visibility on Google Scholar Citation Platform was derived from the Google Scholar website. The results of visibility of GSC by LIS

professionals in SNTD Women’s University are as presented in Table 2.

It is evident from the above Table no. 2 that adoption of GSC by LIS professionals of SNTD Women’s University varies widely (0-124) amongst the six members that were considered. The topics covered by the researchers are: Reference Service, Digital Libraries, Disaster Management, Institutional repositories, Open Access initiatives, Embedded Librarianship, User studies, Open Access Journals, Web 2.0, Descriptive Cataloguing, Library Services, Digital Reference Services, E-publishing etc. which shows the trend of LIS research.

It is observed that, Dr. Sarika Sawant is on rank one with her credit 20 research papers and 124 cited papers listed on GSC. Followed by Dr. Jyoti Bhabal with 12 research papers and one paper cited by 14 researchers.

The top-rated researchers had h-index of 8, 2 and 1 and were found associated with Dr. Sarika Sawant, Mr. Vilas Jadhav and Dr. Parul Zaveri, Dr. Jyoti Bhabal and Dr. Durga Murari respectively. Dr. Sawant enjoyed i10 counts of 6 and Dr. Jyoti Bhabal counts of 1. These data have shown disproportionate nature of use of GSC by LIS professionals

Table 2: Metrics available on Google Scholar

Authors name	Topic covered	No. of papers listed on GSC	Citation	H Index	i10
Dr. Parul Zaveri	Reference Service, Digital Libraries, Disaster Management	12	3	1	0
Dr. Sarika Sawant	Institutional repositories, Open Access initiatives, Open Access Journals, Web 2.0, Descriptive Cataloguing	20	124	8	6
Dr. Jyoti Bhabal	LIS Education, E-Learning, Information needs, Grey Literature	9	14	1	1
Dr. Durga Murari	Information seeking behaviour, Information needs, User studies, Embedded Librarianship	4	3	1	0
Mr. Vilas Jadhav	Library Services, Digital Reference Services, E-publishing	5	7	2	0
Ms. Vrushali Rane	Case study, User study, Library Marketing	3	0	0	0

Conclusion and Suggestions

This study has evaluated Google Scholar metrics of LIS professionals of SNTD Women’s University. Google Scholar Citation is a veritable tool to assess productivity of LIS professionals of SNTD Women’s University. Google Scholar has

provided an opportunity to explore publications in research areas of interest, browse publications, view h-index number and view the list of articles as well as the citations and so on. It is really a positive side that research output of many LIS professionals of SNTD Women's University is visible on Google Scholar. Finally it is suggested that for more visibility of research output LIS professionals in SNTD Women's University needs to create Google Scholar profile and publish paper in electronic media. This will help to build a strong network in the field of Library and Information Science research in future.

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