

Use of Web Search Engines and Facebook by the Post Graduate Students of Government College of Engineering, Trivandrum

Anilkumar R, Usman koya P T
Research Scholar
Research and Development Centre
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore
Tamilnadu – 641046
anilmisc@gmail.com, kptusman@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: *The study is aimed to identify the use of web search engines and facebook by the post graduate students in Government College of Engineering, Trivandrum. To identify most popular search engines, reasons of preference and use and purpose of facebook. Questionnaire and direct personnel interview are used for collection of data. For data analysis percentage analysis is used for data analysis to get result. the study reveals that most of the post graduate students using Google as preferred search engines and facebook as social media.*

Keywords: Internet, Search Engines, Facebook, Post Graduate Students, Google

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1. Introduction

The main mission of a library is to provide the right resources in front of its users at the right time. These days, the right resources often consist of databases, electronic books, e journals, ETD's etc. The databases and e-collections that are housed on data supplier's website. Library users discover the e resource availability through one of the discovery tools such as library online catalogues or by using search engines.

The internet data is increasing enormously due to the world wide move to migrate information to online sources. In the field of engineering most of the publication are online, most of the Engineering publishers publishing e journals, eBooks, ETD's etc. The use of internet, search engines and facebook are very important in the discovery of resources [1] and communication.

According to Biradar and Kumar "Search engine is a tool, which helps in retrieving information from internet. it is programmed in such a way that it indexes the web and accordingly builds their databases. When a query has entered in the search engine, it checks its index with the query. Then relevant matches are retrieved and returned as "hit" or search results. In other words search engines and facebook acts as a searchable index of Web pages of the world".[2]

According to Wikipedia "A web search engine is a software system that is designed to search for information on the World wide web The search results are generally presented in a line of results often referred to as search engines and facebook pages (SERPs). The information may be a mix of web pages images, and other types of files. Some search engines and facebook also mine data available in databases or open directories. Unlike web directories which are maintained only by human editors, search engines and facebook also maintain real time information by running an algorithms on a web crawler."[3]

Facebook is defined as an online social networking website where people can create profiles, share information such as photos and quotes about themselves, and respond or link to the information posted by others.

2. Methodology

The study conducted to identify the use of search engines and Facebook, the most preferred search engine by the Post Graduate students of College of Engineering, Trivandrum. Random sampling method is used to collect data. Questionnaire and personal interview are done among 80 Post Graduate engineering students for data collection .Percentage analysis is used for analysis of data.

3. Objectives

1. To examine/identify the reason for using search engines by the PG students.
2. To know the frequency of using search engines and facebook by the PG students.
3. To identify the most preferred search engines by the PG students.
4. To study the level of satisfaction of using search engine and facebook by the PG students.
5. To find out the problems/barriers facing by the PG students while using search engine and facebook.

3.1. Use of search engines and facebook by the PG students

The question aimed to identify use of the search engines and facebook by PG students.

Use of Search engine &facebook	No. of PG students	Percentage
Using	76	95
Not using	4	5

Table 1

Table 1 shows that 95% of Post Graduate Engineering students are using search engines and facebook and 5% of students are not using search engines and facebook.

3.2. Reason for using Search Engines & Facebook

This question is aimed to identify the reason of using search engines and facebook by the PG students.

Reason for using search engines and facebook	No. of PG students	Percentage
Easy access	72	90
Time saving	68	85
Lack of documents	48	60
More useful	60	75
More informative	44	55
Any other	12	15

Table 2

Table 2 shows that 90% of students using search engines and facebook because of its easy access ,85%, as time saving ,75 % more usefully etc.

3.3. Frequency of use of search engines and facebook.

This question is aimed to identify the frequency of using search engines and facebook by the PG students.

Frequency	No. of PG students	Percentage
Daily	48	60
2 – 5 time in a week	12	15
Once in a week	12	15
Occasionally	4	5

Table 3

Table 3 shows Majority of students (60%) using search engines and facebook daily.

3.4. Preference of use of search engines

This question is aimed to identify preferred search engines by the PG students.

Preference of search engines	No. of PG students	Percentage
Yahoo	48	60
Google	68	85
AltaVista	4	5
Any other	4	5

Table 4

Table 4 shows that majority of PG students using Google as preferred search engines among them 60% also using Yahoo search engines and facebook.

3.5. Satisfaction Level of Search Engines and Facebook

This question aimed to identify the opinion about the search engines and facebook using by the PG students.

Satisfaction Level	No. of PG students	Percentage
Very satisfied	-	-
Moderately satisfied	76	95
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	4	5
Moderately dissatisfied	-	-
Unable to judge	-	-

Table 5

Table 5 shows that Majority of PG students are satisfied with the present condition of using search engines and facebook.

3.6. Problem or Barriers Facing during using Search Engines and Facebook

This question aimed to identify the problems while using internet/search engines and facebook by the PG students.

Problem or barrier	No. of PG students	Percentage
Difficulty in access computer	-	-
Lack of computer knowledge	2	2.5
Lack of internet access	-	-
Lack of time	4	5
Any other	-	-

Table 6

Table 6 shows that only 5% of PG students facing lack of time and only 2.5% of PG students without computer knowledge.

4. Findings

1. Most of the Engineering PG students are using Search engines and facebook .
2. Most of the PG students using search engines and facebook because of its usefulness and time saving
3. Majority of PG students using search engines and facebook daily.
4. Majority of PG students using Google as preferred search engines, among them some students also using Yahoo search engines
5. Most of the PG students are satisfied with present search engines and facebook and facilities.
6. Majority students are using facebook
7. Only 5% of PG students facing lack of time and only 2.5% of PG students without computer knowledge as barriers.

Suggestions for Improvement

1. Provide computer literacy programmes for new students.
2. Provide user education programmes effectively.
3. Provide wireless connectivity within the campus.

5. Conclusion

The overall objectives of this study are to make a comprehensive study of use of search engines and facebook by the post graduate students of College of Engineering, Trivandrum. The outcome of the investigation helps to improve the present internet facilities and training.

References

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