Web-based Content Analysis of Gujarat Agricultural University Libraries: A Study

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Abstract

The role of the library web site and the nature of its contents will also evolve. A predominant role of the library is to provide information; the need is to solve problems. One approach to this challenge is to extend the web content of the library from a capture of the record. The paper concludes with a look at how some of the services we networked associate with libraries have been applied within the libraries web site environment. An attempt has been made in this paper to analyze the web site of Agricultural University Libraries of Gujarat State. Library website is become more user friendly and effective use for information access. This paper tries to analyze and compare the content and usability of four Agricultural University Libraries Website of Gujarat State and presents conclusions regarding the basic functions they problem.

Keywords: Agricultural Libraries, Content Analysis, Library Website, World Wide Web, Gujarat

1. Introduction

In the opening years of new century, we are challenged relevance and to justify the confidence in higher education. The revolution of electronic information in particular in internet technology has created enormous tension in the library community. Technology is highly dynamic and changing at very fast pace. [1] What is latest today will become outdated tomorrow. It is changing for libraries to cope with this change.

Agricultural libraries are the intellectual heart and soul of agricultural studies of researcher and scholar students as well as farmer. They have a mission to support students, researcher and farmer expert in their research. In recent years there have been several changes in education models, student profiles and technologies in agricultural society. [2] Simultaneously e-revolution has shown a great demand for remote and online access for learning material in higher education. Agriculture library users require more information access to full text volume, research article, papers, e-database, NPTL services etc. which can be searched, browsed and printed from desktop of library web site.

The emergence of the internet, web and portal as the dominant pathway and repository of electronic information resource has brought great impact on library web services.[3] In an academic environment university libraries act as facilitators to provide right information in right format at the right time to the users. Libraries web sites are being used to process, store, retrieve and disseminate information. [4]

1.1 Library Web Content

Bernard Berelson defined content analysis is "a research techniques for the objective, systematic, and quantitative description of manifest content of communication".[5]

Library web content is describes a variety of web based interfaces, everything from a relative rigid webpage with basic product and contact information to a dynamic one-stop homepage.[6] A library web content/ portal is a single access point combining the library services, library catalogue, subscription databases, subject gateways information, e-resources, NPTL Facility etc. [7]

2. Reviews of Literature

♦ **OCLC White paper (2002)**: This study was conduct on the web based information habits of college students and their use of campus library websites, in particular, finding that college and university student look to campus libraries and library websites for their information needs. The users of college student, which are value access to accurate, up-to-date information with easily identifiable information from electronic resources. [8]

♦ **Kanamadi (2006):** This paper discusses about the library web portals and the web-based library services expected at Management Institutes in Mumbai City. The purpose of the study was the availability of Institute website, importance and extent of the library details hosted on the Institute Website. [9]

♦ **Kumar et al., (2009):** This article tries to analyze and compare the contents and usability of six Indian Institute Management library Web sites. The objectives of the study are to access the content of library websites, to know the existing facilities, to measure the aesthetic value, accuracy etc. Conclusion of the study, content management of the main criteria for quality for library websites can be summarized thus adequate language, clear structure, options for different user groups, all information up-to-date and short, concise information. [10]

♦ **Hasan (2012):** This paper overview of these projects highlighted especially keeping in view of the present scenario of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) Intuitions. The achievement of the objectives has been to develop organize, and sustain knowledge base of Indian Agricultural dissertations in digital form with accessible online database, to develop a standard format for e-theses, to upgrade skills of human resources and to publish a journal in electronic form from the database. [11]

3. Scope of the Study

For this study we have chosen only Agricultural University libraries of Gujarat State. Because of Gujarat State have only Four Agricultural University Libraries.

4. Objectives of the Study

The study aims to determine the information content on the library web pages of Agricultural University web sites of Gujarat state for better accessibility and use.

The study aims are:

♦ To right to use web content of Agricultural libraries website.

♦ To verify the basic information about the library on library web page.

♦ To know the existing services & resources information provided on the websites of Agricultural Libraries.

♦ To know, whether they are provided inter-linked with each other.

♦ To generate library resources and services through a single access and management point for users.

5. Methodology

There are many and various examples of checklists designed to evaluate internet resources, but there are only a few regarding agricultural library web sites. The library web sites of agricultural university in Gujarat have been taken for the study and the contents are analyzed based on the studies conducted by coding system for examining the library websites. The coding system was consisted __ Variables (Content Features) divided into __ categories viz., University information, library general information, library services, library resources, other content related features.

The study and analysis is confined to evaluate the content of four Agricultural library websites of Gujarat State. The hyperlink of library website is listed below:

Code	Name of University	Hyperlink
A	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari [13]	http://www.nau.in/home.php?unit=llc
B	Anand Agricultural Univerisy, Anand [14]	http:/www.aau.in/library
C	Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh [15]	http://www.jau.in/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=27
D	Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada, Palanpur [16]	http://www.sdau.edu.in/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=62&Itemid=1438&lang=en

6. Content Analysis of Data

The library web portals are the content to the world revealing its knowledge information of content. The information contents of Gujarat Agricultural university library websites are analyzed. Analyze of the information contents of library site with respect to essentials about the university primary data, about the library, information of library collection, information of e-database, library services, link and retrieval database and other information on the web page and tabular details with analyzed of agricultural library websites of Gujarat state.

A. Basic Information available on Websites Agricultural University

Table 1: Basic Information available on Websites of Agricultural University of Gujarat State

Sr. No.	Basic Information about University	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	About University	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Mission/Vision of University	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	statement of VC	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Board of Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Information About Library	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	Research & Education	Y	Y	Y	Y
7	Authority of University	Y	Y	N	N
8	Whether Report	Y	N	Y	Y
9	News & Circular	Y	Y	Y	Y
10	Extension Center	Y	Y	Y	Y
11	Useful Link	Y	Y	Y	Y
12	Site map	Y	Y	Y	Y
13	Copy right	Y	Y	Y	Y
14	Date of update	Y	Y	Y	Y
15	RTI	Y	N	Y	Y
16	Feedback	N	Y	N	Y

Table 1 shows that information about of university, Statement of VC, Board of studies, Information about library, Research and Education, Useful link, News & Circular, Extension centre etc. available on agricultural university websites. The entire agricultural university websites has information about library. In case of whether report and RTI details are not available on B University, when other three universities are also given this information on the website.

B. Basic Information about Libraries

Table 2: Basic Information about Libraries

Sr. No.	Information about Libraries	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	About library	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Library Committee	N	Y	N	N
3	Library Rules	N	N	N	N
4	Library staff	N	N	N	N
5	Library Map (with Stack)	N	N	N	N
6	Working Hours	N	Y	Y	Y
7	Individual Library Websites	N	N	N	N
8	Library Membership	N	Y	N	N
9	Collections	Y	Y	Y	Y
10	Library Usage Data	Y	N	Y	N
11	Services	N	Y	Y	Y

Table 2 shows that basic information of library rules, library staff, library map (with stack), and individual library website facilities and information are not available on all four agricultural university library websites. B University has provided information of Library committee, working hours and library membership. A University & C University has been provided data about library usages. A University has not given information about library services.

C. Information about Library Collection

Table 3: Information about Library Collection

Sr. No.	Information about Library Collection	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	Books	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Journals (Research Article)	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Theses/Dissertations	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Bound Volume	Y	N	Y	Y
5	News Paper	N	N	N	N
6	Reference Materials	Y	N	N	Y
7	Annual Reports	Y	Y	Y	Y
8	Projects of Future Plans	N	N	Y	N
9	Conference Proceeding	N	N	N	N
10	Publication of Government	Y	N	N	N
11	Rare Books/Digitized of Rare Books	N	Y	N	N

Table 3 shows that examine the availability of information about library collection on websites of agricultural university of Gujarat state. The entire four library websites under study have given information about books, journals, theses, annual reports. All libraries not given details of newspaper and conference proceeding. In case of B University has given information about digitized of rare books collection. D University has provided online database on their library's desktop. A University has given details on publication of government.

D.   Electronics based Databases/Resources

Table 4: Electronics based Databases/Resources

Sr. No.	Information of E-Databases	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	E-Books	N	Y	N	N
2	E-Journals (Full Text)	N	Y	Y	Y
3	CDs/DVDs	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Video Disk	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Consortium	N	Y	Y	N
6	Archives	N	Y	Y	N

Table 4 All four libraries have provided the information about CDs/DVDs and Video disk. The case of B University has been provided information about e-books. A University has not given details of e-journals on website. B University & C University has provided online services of consortium and archive of journals.

E Library Services

Table 5: Library Services

Sr. No.	Facilitate of Library Services	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	Circulation Services	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Web OPAC	N	Y	N	N
3	Catalogue Card Facility	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Book Bank Services	N	N	Y	N
5	ILL	N	N	N	N
6	SDI	N	N	Y	N

7	CAS	N	Y	N	Y
8	E-Circulation	N	Y	N	N
9	Internet Facility	N	Y	Y	Y
10	CDs, DVD & Video services	Y	Y	Y	Y
11	Indexing Services	N	N	N	N
12	Abstracting Services	N	Y	Y	Y
13	Bibliographic Services	N	Y	N	Y
14	References Services	N	Y	Y	Y
15	Reprographic Services	N	Y	N	Y
16	E-Mail & SMS Alerts	N	N	N	N
17	NPTL Facilities	N	N	N	N

Table 5 shows that illustrate which type library services provided by the libraries. This tabular data informed about the library services. All agricultural university library websites have information on library services viz., circulation services, catalogue card facility, internet facility, CD/DVD & Video services, abstracting services, reference services etc. The entire four libraries have not given services details of newspaper, indexing services, email & SMS alert, book bank services, NPTL facility. C University has facilitated book bank and SDI services.

F. Information of Link to Databases, Search and Retrieval Services

Table 6: Information of Link to Databases, Search and Retrieval Services

Sr. No.	Information of Link to Databases, Search and Retrieval Services	A Code University	B Code University	C Code University	D Code University
1	Link to Database	N	Y	Y	N
2	Link to Important Websites	N	N	Y	Y
3	Link to Search Engines	N	N	N	Y
4	Downloads	N	N	N	N
5	Gallery	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	Blog/ RSS Feeds	N	N	Y	Y
7	Contacts/ Webmail	Y	Y	Y	Y
8	FAQs/Ask a Librarian	N	Y	N	N
9	Help	N	N	N	N

Table 6 shows that clearly indicate the links, search and retrieval database facility available on the websites. All most all library websites have given link to database, link to important websites, gallery, and contact/ webmail. All four university libraries have not given option of download and help. Only B University has given FAQ/Ask a librarian facility.

7. Finding of the Study

♦   All four agricultural universities are very concise of two to three pages information about library. All four libraries database given details on university websites. Library web page is very enormous information of more than two pages.

♦   The finding of the study clearly show that all websites have information about university, about library, statement of VC, news and circular, extension centre, sitemap and copy right etc. Only B University has not given information link about RTI. The case of B University & D University has provided facility of feedback.

♦   B University websites has information about library committee and library membership. The entire libraries have not given details about library rules, staff profile and library map (with stack) etc. In case of A University has not given a data of library working hours and services for user's information.

♦   All four libraries web pages only given data of collection about library resources but not access point on online websites link viz., library membership, web-OPAC, access to online database, e-circulation etc.

♦   It is also found from the study that all four libraries have data information about of books, journals, theses, bound volume, annual report etc. on their websites.

♦   Only B University has not given information about bound volume. In case of A University & D University has provided the information about reference materials. Only C University has provided information about project of future plans. A University has given information about publication of Government collection. B University has provided facility of digitized of rare books.

♦   This Study clearly shows that agricultural university libraries have given contents information about e-journal, CDs, DVDs, video disk etc. B University & C University has provided facilitate online consortium and archives of journals databases.

♦   All four libraries websites have information on library services viz., circulation services, internet facility, catalogue card facility, CDs/ DVDs & Video disk services, abstracting services, references services etc. Only B University has facilitated web OPAC and e-circulation. The entire four libraries have not provided an ILL (Inter Library Loan) services to users. C University has given facilitated about SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information) services. All four libraries have not facilitated e-mail, SMS alerts and NPTL services.

♦   This study analyze clearly indicate all most library have given contacts/webmail, gallery, link to important websites etc. Only B University has provided FAQ/Ask a Librarian services for users. B University & C University has facilitated direct link to database. No one library has given option of download and help. The entire libraries have very less retrieval databases services.

8.   Suggestions and Recommendation

Based on study analyze and finding of the study, in this case of agricultural university library has been made to suggest a few recommendations are given below:

♦   Majority Of The Libraries Web Pages Are Very Concise Of Two To Three Pages Only. This Will Help To Creator And Designer Of The Website To Make Individual Library Website More Interactive, Workable And User Friendly For Easy Usage. Library Web Page Is Very Enormous Information Of More Than Two Pages.

♦   Individual Library Websites Will Also Useful To User For The Evaluate Library Contents About Information And Resources.

♦   Analyzed Of The Study That Majority Of Library Have Not Mentioned About Library Rules And Committee Details On Their Web Page. Since The Library Rules And Committee Is One Of The Important Components Of Library Users.

♦   All Four Libraries Have Not Mentioned The Information About Ill Services, Book Bank Services. These Services Are Very Useful To Students. It Is Recommended To Facilitate Above Mentioned Services.

♦   Almost All The University Libraries Users Except Facility Of Online Searching Database, Web Opac, E-circulation Facility, Previous Year Question Paper Database, Online Link To Direct Databases Etc.

♦   Library Service Will Also Provide Option Of Feedback Form And Ask A Librarian Services For Users Require Of Information.

♦   All Rare Books Materials Have Transfer To Digitize Form For Users.

♦   Update Library Website Services Like That E-circulation, Sdi, Cas, Indexing Services, Email & Sms Alert, Nptl Facility.

♦   Give A Direct Link to online e-resources, e-books, e-journals, bibliography databases etc.

9. Conclusion

This study gives an informative review of the contents and evolution of Agricultural University Libraries of Gujarat State. Library web content is the strongest tool for the information about the services and facility for the users from the library. It will also help to users to know about the offered of services. Library web contents need to play main role of promoting and providing access to resource information from databases.

Library websites are encouraged to expand their promotion of e-resources on their library websites. Libraries should also provide services to access point for e-resources/databases. To facilitate giving out of required information to its users, librarians should take care of these all things and build their own individual library website and connect it to the other college website.

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