CAREER INFORMATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES AT MYSORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY: AN OVERVIEW

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1. Intrdouction:

Career information is the foundation for the provision of career guidance services. It includes all the information that assists people to make informed education, training and occupational choices throughout their working lives. A Career Resources Center collects, organizes and provides access to as much information on general career guidance as possible and as much information as possible on specific careers. A Career Information Centre itself can range from a minimal collection of career - related resources housed in one section of a single room to a multi - purpose facility housing a large collection of resources in all three formats.

Libraries can be an invaluable source of information. Since most areas have libraries, they can be a convenient place to look for information. Also, for those who do not otherwise have access to the Internet or e-mail, many libraries provide this access. Libraries may have information on job openings, locally and nationally; potential contacts within occupations or industries; colleges and financial aid; vocational training; individual businesses or careers; and writing résumés. Libraries frequently have subscriptions to various trade magazines that can provide information on occupations and industries. These sources often have references to organizations which can provide additional information about training and employment opportunities Career information and guidance services have traditionally been seen as a public service available from educational institutions, government departments and their agencies. Increasingly, in countries competing in the global economy, common notions about career information and career development are emerging:

- It is an individual responsibility – services should help people help themselves manage their career development. This is career self-management;
- It is an ongoing (lifelong) learning process – it is everybody's business and not just something undertaken at a time of crisis;
- It requires worker and learner flexibility and adaptability – changes in the nature of work and employment require that most individuals be prepared to successfully manage several work and learning transitions; and,
- It requires different kinds of tools and services at different points across the life span.

In most countries, there are gaps and overlaps in the career information and guidance services. Availability is uneven. Few countries, it seems, have coherent policies, systems

and delivery structures for career information and guidance that support transitions across the span of life, learning and work. Though career guidance is a century old concept recently it becomes an important issue world wide in view of the changes in the economy brought about by globalization, privatization and emergence of ICT. Information is at the core of career guidance and education; indeed, it tends to prevail over other guidance function.

2. Role of University Libraries in Career Information Guidance:

Libraries can play a much important role in imparting career guidance. In formal education, library is described as 'heart of education'. The library system in higher education is committed to provide independent learning environment to student. From the book houses the libraries have gone to an individual residence to share the shelves of knowledge. Therefore, it can be inferred that the success of career guidance in educational institutions depends upon the efficient library system. Therefore the system of education has to take care of strengthening the library system and thus disseminate career information.

Librarians with their abilities in knowledge organization and dissemination skills can play a profound and enduring role in encouraging and assisting young people to follow their hearts and to pursue their dreams. In developing countries like India college librarians can play a major role in the career development of the youth who comes to the library for guidance and support in their study and to prepare for their future career opportunities.

2.1 Career Guidance Service at Mysore University Library:

Career services, like many other aspects of higher education, are becoming increasingly global and virtual in nature. Although career centers proudly report the number of employers who participate in on-campus interviews and live career fairs, career professionals must be able to serve students, employers, and often alumni who are not able to physically visit campus. The development of more sophisticated career services technology helps to facilitate this global reach. Noting that most career services offices are housed in the division of student affairs, where the focus on student development is paramount, career services professionals must be mindful to balance the need for "high tech" with "high touch"—virtual services with one-to-one connections. As students increasingly use texting to communicate with friends, family, academic professionals, and employers, career centers must not lose sight of the challenge to help students develop communication and interpersonal skills that will be needed while on the job. Career center staff must weigh the advantages of providing virtual services against the need to help students develop critical social skills.

2.2 Career Information Resources Centere (CIRC):

An exclusive CIRC has been set at Mysore University Library, which is attracting a good number of students aspiring careers in various lines.

3. Objectives of CIRC:

1. To identify various types of competitive examinations being conducted various governmental and non-governmental agencies.

2. To identify and acquire useful career related resources both in print and electronic helping the patrons to prepare for their examinations both written and personal interview.
3. To collect sample and previous year question papers of various examinations both print and electronic.
4. To subscribe to career related magazines both in English and Local language.
5. To scan and display job announcements in news papers and Internet on the notice board of CIRC.
6. To organise both books and journals in helpful sequence depending upon type of examination.
7. To set up Career Information Resource Portal giving access to various useful career related information including employing agencies, job announcement resources, guidance in preparing CV, Interview, etc.
8. To organise Lectures, Seminars, Panel Discussions useful for career seeking students.
9. To council the students on the matter concerned to career development.

4. Type of Resources:

- Sources on General Knowledge, General Apitiude, Fuctional English, Numerical Ability, Reasoning, Current Events, Personolity Development and the like
- Question Bank Series opportunitics
- Magazines employment opportunities
- Easy Writing, Precise Writing, English Grammer
- Guide Books and Question Bank Series related to UPSC, KPSC, UGC-NET, K-SLET and so on.
- The CIRC gives access to resources useful for competitive examinations of Banking and Railway Recruitment, SSC, MAT, GMAT, TOEFL, DRDO etc.

4.1 Magazines:

English Magazines
- Employment News
- Competition Success Review
- Competition Success Review
- Competition Affairs Magazine
- Chronicle Magazine
- Success Mirror Magazine
- Yojana Magazine English

4.2 Kannada Magazines

- Sparda Chaitra Magazine
- Sparda Spoorthi Magazine
- Sparda Vijetha Magazine
- Sparda Jagathu Magazine
- Yojana Magazine Kannada

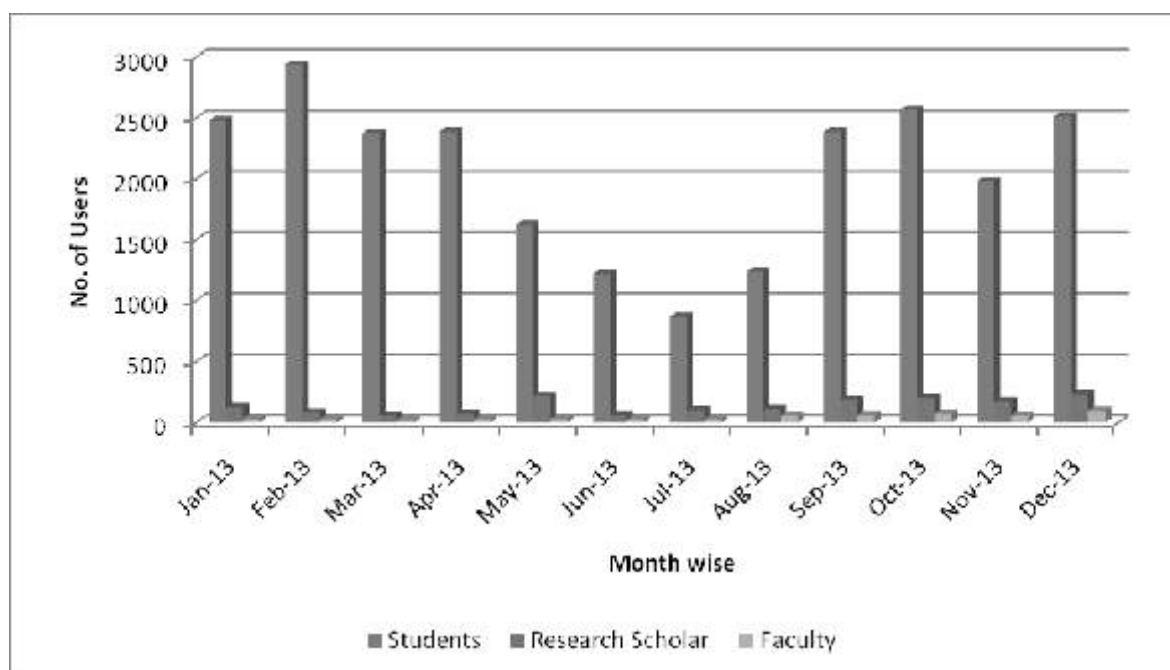## 5. Mysore University Library Career Information Service Portal:

Career Information Resource Centre (CIRC) and the Career Information Service Portal was

inaugurated on Nov 29, 2011 by then KPSC Chairman. The CIRC has collection of 900 career information books, 20 magizines, 200 CD-ROMs, 8 Computers with Internet facility and caters to the needs of career information seeking students. The Career Information Service Portal provides the following information:

- Educational institutions in India and Abroad
- Links to Educational facilities, help Guidance
- Links to Sources on competitive Exams UPSC, KPSC, Banking, UGC-NET, K-SET
- Links to Job Search site like Empolyment News Karnataka Gazette
- Tips for Preparing CV, Links to Virtual Library of Books, Newspaper, Journals, etc.

USE OF CIRC

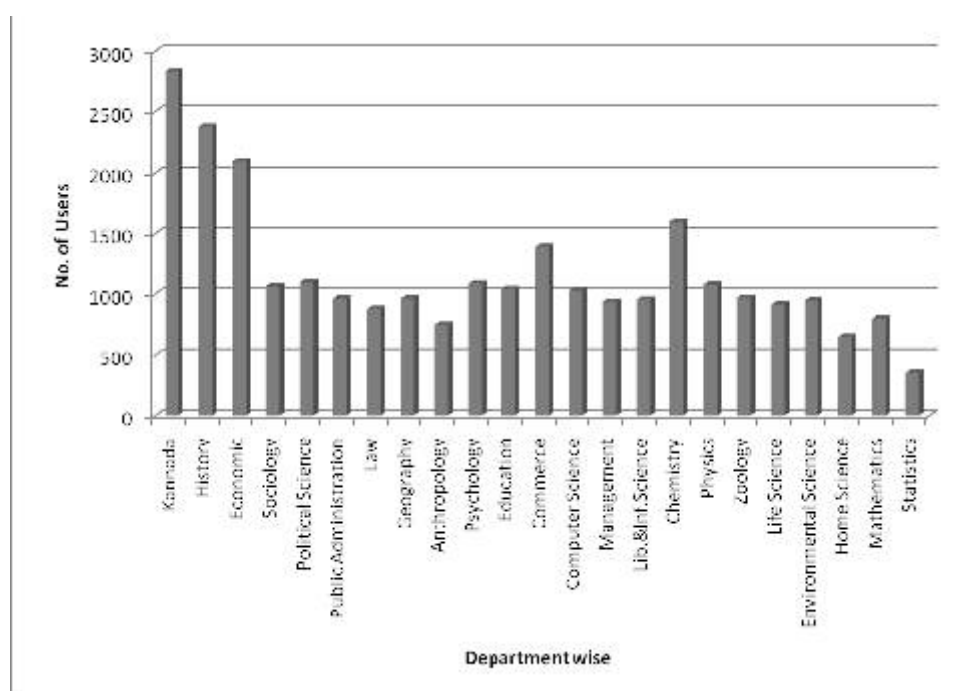| SI NO	Month-Wise Use Pattern	Students	Research Scholar	Faculty	Total
1	December - 2013	2513	233	96	2842
2	November - 2013	1983	172	54	2209
3	October - 2013	2571	204	72	2847
4	September - 2013	2389	187	61	2637
5	August - 2013	1239	115	57	1411
6	July - 2013	871	99	27	997
7	June - 2013	1220	62	29	1311
8	May - 2013	1623	218	33	1874
9	April - 2013	2389	72	24	2485
10	March - 2013	2377	55	18	2450
11	February - 2013	2940	83	29	3052
12	January - 2013	2478	125	34	2637
		24593	**1625**	**534**	**26752**

The above table depicts the number of users of CIRC of the Mysore University Library. It is evident from the table that 26752 users have availed the CIRC facility during the past one year. Among the category of users, Post-Graduate students visited and availed the facility. A small segment of teachers and research Scholars have also availed the facility. Therefore, it can be inferred that a large segment of users constitutes the Post-graduate students.

Among the users, faculty members account for less than 5%. The attendance is comparatively low during examination period and vacation. Above all it can be concluded that students at large is benefited by the CIRC of University of Mysore.

Department wise User Statistics of CIRC

SI.NO.	PG Departments	No of Users	Percentage
1.	Kannada	2837	10.60 %
2.	History	2376	8.882 %
3.	Economics	2096	7.835 %
4.	Sociology	1063	3.974 %
5.	Political Science	1096	4.097 %
6.	Public Administration	962	3.596 %
7.	Law	878	3.282 %
8.	Geography	965	3.607 %
9.	Anthropology	747	2.792 %
10.	Psychology	1085	4.056 %
11.	Education	1038	3.880 %
12.	Commerce	1392	5.203 %
13.	Computer Science	1030	3.850 %
14.	Management	937	3.503 %
15.	Lib.&Inf.Science	954	3.566 %
16.	Chemistry	1598	5.973 %
17.	Physics	1078	4.030 %
18.	Zoology	969	3.622 %
19.	Life Science	911	3.405 %
20.	Environmental Science	946	3.536 %
21.	Home Science	649	2.426 %
22.	Mathematics	797	2.979 %
23.	Statistics	348	1.301 %
	Total	**26752**	**100 %**

The table shows the department wise number of users who have availed CIRC facility during the past one year. From the data depicted in the table, it is evident that 10.6% of the students is from Kannada Department being the largest among the student of all the P.G. Departments. Next in the ranking list occupy the following P.G. Departments: History (8.88%), Economic (7.83%) Chemistry (5.97%), Commerce (5.20%) , Psychology (4.97%) and. Physics (4.03%). Among all the departments, the students of statistics department (1.30%) and Home Science (2.42%) and the least dependents.

Based on the needs and recommendation of the use of CIRC, The library Committee has advised to up-date the information sources on continuous notice.

6. Conclusion:

A number of recruiting agencies conduct competitive examinations, both written test and personal interview. There is need to set up exclusive Career Information Resource Centers both in public libraries and academic institutions, especially the University libraries in the country. The Mysore University Library has set up an exclusive Career Information Service Portal. Apart from counseling the aspiring students, all related material is made available, including the announcements of jobs and related news items. It is welcoming to note that the CIRC has become the hub of many academic activities always filled with students. A good number of students have successfully completed different competitive examinations, including UPSC. The library Career Resource Centre and its programmes has been supported by the activities of University Employment Bureau.

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