



# GOING THE DISTANCE TO RESHAPE LIBRARY SERVICES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

UVic and IITGN librarians conducted a multi-year study, assessing graduate students' information needs for workshops and information literacy (IL) programs through surveys and interviews. The poster presents study findings and emphasizes the essential elements of the train-the-trainer program for librarians.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study are to:

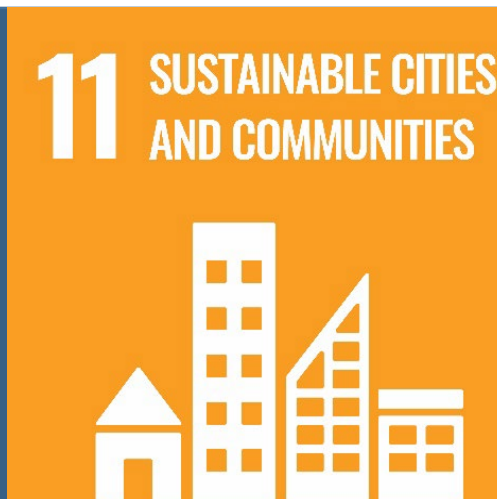
- ❖ assess library usage and analyze the research skills of graduate engineering and science students
- ❖ evaluate the need for and impact of library workshops offered; and
- ❖ use data to implement an information literacy program at IITGN

## METHODOLOGY

The study employed a mixed methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative data collection.

- ❖ Surveys were conducted at IITGN (n=500) and UVic (n=500), with 11% (n=55) and 11.6% (n=58), response rates respectively.
- ❖ Focus group interviews involved 40 graduate students at IITGN and 21 at UVic.

Through this study, librarians overcame challenges related to cross-cultural research practices (UVic) and supported faculty and students by creating workshops and offering access to collections (IITGN).



## LIMITATIONS

- ❖ Meeting over two time zones
- ❖ Cultural differences
- ❖ International travel fatigue
- ❖ Covid-19 pandemic

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

- ❖ Train the Trainer style program (SDG#11)
  - ❑ Full-day workshops or half-day workshops tailored to institutional needs
- ❖ IL program with different components at IITGN (SDG#12)
- ❖ Implementation of asynchronous IL modules at UVic (SDG#4)
- ❖ Cross-collaboration and training at IITGN (SDG#4)

This research ensures inclusive, quality education by promoting lifelong learning for librarians and library staff in India, as well as enhancing the overall impact of education and knowledge dissemination.



## SURVEY RESULTS

- ❖ At IITGN
  - 60% used e-journals and 55% used research databases online
  - 9% consulted a librarian for research needs always, 62% sometimes and 29% never consulted a librarian
- ❖ At UVic:
  - 55% used e-journals frequently and 55% used research databases
  - 55% met with the librarian sometimes for research needs while 45% never consulted a librarian
- ❖ At both institutions, there was a high dependency on Google Scholar and electronic resources

## FOCUS GROUP RESULTS

Themes	UVic	IITGN
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulty accessing e-resources</li> <li>• Limited availability of proprietary software programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited access to select standards, books, and IEEE papers</li> </ul>
Positive Library Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to workshops</li> <li>• Quick turnaround time for assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance in acquiring course textbooks</li> <li>• Quick access to research articles and journals</li> </ul>
Library Exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3D printing workshops, citation management tools, information literacy sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library Orientation sessions and vendor-led database sessions</li> </ul>

The key takeaways from this study are that students at both institutions encountered similar challenges but the library's crucial role in providing equitable access and sustainable knowledge consumption led to academic success, critical thinking, and research skills.



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