



TO STUDY THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT AMONG THE DEGREE STUDENTS

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Abstract:

This study creates awareness about different careers among the students and librarians towards career development activities programs. This study may help to create responsiveness among the Degree College and librarians to find out how to cater to their students and enhance students' personality, skills, confidence, and students' employability to develop their career. This study assists libraries to study and provide better infrastructure and programs pertaining to student needs. Libraries and librarians are playing a vital role in the education system. This 21st century is known as the information technology era hence career guidance and employment/ job opportunities services provided by these libraries are very important to the student.

Key words: Career Guidance, career development

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Introduction:

The word “career” is taken from the Latin word carrus, cart or chariot, which means to carry you from one point to another. A career is about the life you want to lead, not just a job, occupation or profession. It involves deciding about the possible and preferred future. Career Development is a continuous process which happens throughout life and it will change. It involves job, management, administering, and learning includes changes to progress towards a personally determined and desired future career. It involves making maximum use of training and development programs that enhance job-related skills, and career improvement. In the present scenario, skill based education has created an indispensable position in job, business and society. The type of functions generally performed by them is critical for the success of , decision making, routine work of working place, in field of business etc. A degree may help to achieve a major breakthrough in one’s career path accompanied with a jump in income. The system of education has been changing rapidly in the modern world. Due to the impact of tremendous advancement in computer and communication technologies, the perception, approaches and techniques of teaching and learning has also been altered gradually. Hence, according to the need for timely change, the entire system of education as well as academic libraries have to keep pace to fulfill the standards of quality education and achieve the projected goals. The modification in the academic world is considered essential to carry out further development of the country

Student’s Career Development:

Career development involves a series of activities for developing a student’s career that will change according to situations. Students will have to continuously make career and life decisions. It usually involves managing a



student's career with respect to inter-organizational or intra-organizational circumstances. It basically consists of developing skills by means of appropriate sources, training in order to impart new skills, going for better career opportunities, climbing the career ladder within the organization or moving to another organization, and becoming an entrepreneur. According to Watts, A. G (2006)³ in higher education, the terminology used to convey the meaning of career development learning has changed. Though many conceptual models have been developed, the most popular one is the DOTS model. The increased attention paid for enhancing the student's chances of employment depends on the inspiration within the student. It helps in strengthening the traditional academic morals and ethics.

Objectives:

1. To review and analyze the role of libraries and librarians in degree College student empowerment of career guidance, career counseling, and overall career development.
2. To identify the current position of the college libraries
3. To find out the services offered by libraries.

Scope and Limitations:

The present study is restricted to degree college students and library professionals.

Review of Literature:

Williams & Wiley, (2015) state that the librarians have embraced their roles as academic advisors and expect to continue this responsibility. We have established many positive and lasting relationships with students, who turn to us for research assistance as well as scheduling advice. Our advising work has brought up new and interesting questions about students and unique avenues to learn about their needs. We have discovered a similarity between the needs of students who are unsure about their future career paths and those of students who are unsure about how to begin a research project.

Binder, et al. (2016) state that nearly half the graduating seniors are moving to a surprisingly narrow band of professional options. In Recent decades, this has largely been into the finance and consulting sectors, but it also includes high-tech firms. This study clearly shows how the student cultures and campus structures steer most of the portions of anxious and uncertain students into high-wealth, high-status occupational sectors. 56 students were interviewed, recent alumni of Harvard and Stanford Universities, from this study he found that the majority of the respondents experienced confusion about their career paths when first arriving at college but immediately learned what were considered to be the most distinguished choices, the career important systems built up among peers exacerbation the funneling effect into the job. These processes helped the students to draw a borderline between high-status and ordinary jobs.

Research Methodology:

In this present research paper secondary data is used from various papers, articles, books and journals . Further required information was collected from the internet and college prospectus.

Methods of Disseminating Career Information in Libraries:

Career awareness service: "Career awareness service is a sort of reference service. It provides information regarding a particular job on request. In this sense, career awareness service is a current awareness service. It



alerts the potential candidates to the current employment opportunities in various sectors .” The methods used in providing current awareness service can be useful for providing career awareness service too. Some effective methods for career awareness services are – notification lists, career awareness bulletin, newspaper clipping services, selective dissemination of information, etc. The success of career awareness service depends mainly on the timeliness, since the life span of such advertisements is very short. Considering this as a very responsible job, knowledgeable and efficient persons are to be put in charge of this service. If promptly and efficiently organized, this service would be the most sought after one among the information services in a library. As the modern librarian is well qualified and equipped with all technical knowledge and information he/she can play a major role in providing career awareness service in academic libraries.

Internet as A Source for Career Information:

The different types of career information available on the Internet are the individual company websites, career hubs (web-based job search databases), websites for particular types of jobs, job matching etc. The Internet is useful for career seekers in various areas such as browsing the different web sites devoted for career related information, publishing personal resumes, communicating through e-mail etc. Libraries can sift through important sites and inform specific users about the career/job opportunities available in different companies or institutions.

Career Information Literacy:

There is a need to create awareness among the graduates regarding how to search, evaluate, and select career information from the vast ocean of information. They should be educated about the requirements of the labor market. Those who are involved in career information literacy should have some foresight to learn the future demand in the job market arena. Students, especially the first year students should have an opportunity to attend these classes/seminars to make decisions about the courses to be taken and also in the selection of their future careers. Students have to learn how to search the Internet and also which are the important sites they should look in for career information. It is necessary to conduct courses in soft skills such as oral and written communication skills, resume writing, cover letter writing, web searching, sending emails, sending attachment files, posting of resumes on the net, etc. Present day librarians are information specialists and they are not only store keepers and providers of information but also they are teachers who can guide and direct the youngsters in all the above activities.

The role and importance of the library / librarian in the information service has an increased significance with the recent advent of innovations in the methods by which information can be made available. Modern technology has produced a wide array of mechanical systems for the storage and retrieval of information that may eventually replace many of the materials and techniques of the past. Librarians can make use of computers to collect, to organize, to retrieve and to disseminate career information to students. Multimedia innovation resulted in a rash of projects using many different approaches to career development. It is very easy to prepare PowerPoint presentations. Librarians can make use of this facility to provide career awareness service to the college students. Librarian can conduct seminars or tutorials to help the students to develop self knowledge – i.e. skills to maintain a positive self-concept, effective behaviors etc., to facilitate educational and occupational exploration – skills to



enter and participate in education and training, skills to participate in work and lifelong learning, skills to locate, evaluate and interpret career information, skills to prepare, to seek, obtain, maintain and change jobs etc., and to plan careers in which to develop skills to make decisions, understanding the impact of work on individual and family life, skills to make career transition and also to have leadership skills, teamwork skills, management skills etc., so that they will become productive and efficient members of the workforce.

Conclusion:

In conclusion of all above data it is observed that librarians and libraries are playing a very crucial role in providing information services career guidance to the students. All libraries should keep updating collections relating to the career development of students. It is also noted that libraries should use IT tools like facebook, twitter, and library websites for disseminating career guidance/ job information. It is a need of today's era. In comparison to primary and secondary education, the role of library in higher education is much more important since library is considered a prime requirement in university education. The entire academic and research process is fully dependent on the library network. To facilitate any educational programmes successfully, the library proves the essential part.

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