Collection Development and Utility Pattern of Computer Science Books at G.R.Damadoran College of Science Library, Coimbatore: A Study

S.N. Vignesh and S. Jayaraman

[1]*Research Scholar,* [2]*Department of Library and Information Science,*
Karpagam University, Coimbatore - 641 021, Tamil Nadu, India
E-mail: vigneshsn24@gmail.com

Abstract **- This study presents the collection development, usage of reading materials in GRD College with special reference to Computer Science subject. The books on Computer Science dominates the number of collection of books as the college offers various degree in Computer Science and comparatively the intake in computer science normally higher than the other courses offered in the initial years of this institution. It is found that the GRD college Library is well stacked with the support of the management and encouragement. It still needs effort towards the betterment of the Library regarding its adequacy of the collection, improvised reader services and automating the Library's functions.**

Keywords: **Collection Development, GRD College**

I. INTRODUCTION

A need based, balanced and up-to-date collection is the backbone of every academic Library. The collection should support the curriculum of the institution. Collection development is a very important function of a Library that should be given the most careful attention. The usefulness of a library would depend on the quality of its collection as determined by its relevance to the library's purpose. The goal should be the availability qualitatively relevant and quantitatively adequate collection in every library. Library users will be happy and satisfied if the books that they look for in a library are available and their confidence in the library will, consequently, be enhanced. If on the other hand, books are naturally expected to form part of the library's collection are absent, user's confidence in the library will be diminished. If such experience of the non-availability of wanted books occurs frequently, the library will naturally be poor and will tend to be decreasingly used. The librarian and staff should, therefore, be well informed of the requirements of users and endeavor to make available the books of interest and use to them.

A. Role of Librarian

Librarians have a crucial role to play, as they have to submit the budget proposals projecting the needs of the different subjects and at the same time protecting the interests of balanced growth. There is an imperative need for the librarian to be aware of position prevailing in different subject areas the availability of books, nature of publications, fluctuations in prices and the average price. Only then the librarian can ensure a judicious allotment, whether need based or to build a balanced collection.

College libraries vary from small, medium size collections to large collections leading up to fledged research libraries. Some college libraries may have rare book collections, etc. Basically, a college Library should provide books and other reading materials to meet the needs of individual readers, classroom work and also independent study and research of students and teachers.

II. FACTORS INFLUENCING THE COLLECTION DEVELOPMET

There are number of factors which influence the collection development of a Library, such as

1. Policies and principles in allocating the available resources among various heads and subjects.

2. Financial support.

3. Effective acquisition programme.

4. Cost and Exchanges.

According to some Library professionals, factors like the loss of books in the Library every year, and the number of volumes weeded out also sometimes influence the collection development.

III. GRD COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ITS LIBRARY

GRD College of Science was founded in 1987 and affiliated to Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. It is run by GRD trust. A charitable trust, established in the year 1987

rendering service to the lesser-privileged strata of society. The trust comprises of leading businessman and doctors.

To sense the cause of higher education and to open the portals of purposeful education to the student community, the trust started a Science College in 1987 offering various Under Graduate degree courses and Post Graduate degree courses. At present the college has a strength of 2858. The college has full-fledged lab with a/c and Internet facility and it has a well stacked Library centering to the educational trust of the students. It also has hostel facility for both boys and girls.

The college believes in developing the full personality of students, both mental and physical, it offers ample facility for playing cricket, football, volleyball and other games. More than these, the college has fully qualified, capable and dedicated teachers who have succeeded in bringing result in the university examinations.

A.GRD Library

The College Library has a total collection of 25560, covering various disciplines and subjects of interest. In addition to that the Library receives about 245 titles of periodicals including many Indian and foreign journals.

IV. Need For The Study

The Library is the college and the heart of the Library lies in its collection. In view of the collection development in college libraries should be planned systematically and carefully by understanding the mission, objectives, scope, goals and programs of the college and the Library involving analysis of community needs, formulation of collection development policy, selection and acquisition. It should be followed by evaluation, weeding, storage and preservation of collection. Since, what was the best for the past may not always be the best for the present, and what is the best for the present may not always be the best for the future.

The college libraries to meet the future challenges need to face in to account the changes in the educational system, curriculum, teaching and learning methods, assessment methods, medium of instruction and examination, scholarly environment, publishing world and the fiscal realities all of which advocate for continuous reexamination of the collection development polices based on community needs and the goals of the college. So it was felt to have a study on the collection development, usage of reading materials in GRD College with special reference to Computer Science subject.

V. Objectives

The following are the objectives of this study;

1. To analyze the size, nature, scope and significance of the collections;

2. To know the hierarchy of choice of reading materials;

3. To see the average annual growth of collection;

4. To find out the total collection for each subject;

5. To trace the trend of the collection and development in the Library;

6. To know the number of books added per year;

7. To know the fund allocation for acquiring Library materials;

8. To know the computer science materials according to the author hierarchy;

9. To rank the year of the collection in computer science;

10. To bring the different views on usage of computer science collection in terms of author;

11. To know unused books in terms of author.

VI. Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table I Total Collection of Books

S.No.	Subject	Collection	%
1	Computer Science	9217	36.06
2	Management	5041	19.72
3	Commerce	4805	18.80
4	Science	2231	8.73
5	General	4266	16.69

The Table I illustrates the total collection of books in GRD Arts & Science College Library in real and percentage terms. The total collection of the Library is 25560, excluding the journals and bound volumes. On observance, the researcher finds that books on Computer Science dominates with collection of 9217 i.e. 36.06% of the total collection.

The books on Management follow with a share of 19.72%. The books on commerce ranks third with 4805 i.e. 18.80% books on Science share 2231 out of 25560 in total.

In the total collection of books, the books related to languages, religion and others are collectively termed as general books, in this study this "General books" occupies a place of significance with net collection of 4266 book i.e. 16.69%.

The books on Computer Science dominates the number of collection of books as the college offers various degree in Computer Science and comparatively the intake in computer science normally higher than the other courses offered in the initial years of this institution.

TABLE II ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF BOOKS

S.No.	Year	Books Added Per Year	Total Books	Growth
1	2000-2001	-	14715	-
2	2001-2002	5407	20122	26.87
3	2002-2003	1975	22097	8.94
4	2003-2004	1799	23896	7.53
5	2004-2005	1664	25560	6.51

The Table II gives the number of books added per year during 2000-2005. In the year 2000-2001 the Library started to function with the collection of 14715 books. In the next year 2001-2002, the total number of books increased from 14715 to 20122 books with a net increase of 26.87%.

In the year 2002-2003 the collection increased to 22097 with a growth rate of 8.94% (1975 books). In the year 2003-2004 the total collection grew to 23896 with the growth rate of 7.53% (1799 books) and in the year 2004-2005 the growth has reached to 25560 with a increase of rate of 1664 books and growth rate of 6.51%. In spite of the continuous decline in the growth rate from year to year, when compared to total number of books in the initial years, the growth has become more than two fold with an overall growth rate. It is clear that large number of books were purchased in the year 2000-2001, because the college introduced more causes then but on study it is found that there is a sudden fall in the collection building during the year 2002-2003. It is found that a number of reason account for the fall in the addition of books during the year under study. Primarily a drop in the student intake, increase in cost of books and low allocation of funds to the Library.

Table III above clearly pictures the fund allocated for the Library during the period of study (2000-2005). In the year 2000-2001 Rs. 250000 was allocated which was 11.65% of the total expenses met by the college. In the year 2001-2002, Rs.3, 00,000 was invested for the purchases of Library materials. It was 12.00% of the total expenditure of the college for the year. For the year 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, from the total expenditure of the college 12.00% and 12.70% of the fund was allocated for the Library. In the year 2004-2005, allocating Rs.400000 the college has allocated from its total expenditure a percentage of 13.10 for the Library. The table shows a Incline in the status of fund allocated for the Library, hence the Library is not poorly allocated with fund due to the following reasons (i) number of courses offered are more in numbers, (ii) adequate student strength in each class. More over within the three year span all the book required for the particular course were almost purchased and subsequent addition of copies were only needed.

TABLE III FUND ALLOCATION

S.No.	Year	Amount Rs.	% of Total College Expenditure
1	2000-2001	250000	11.65
2	2001-2002	300000	12.00
3	2002-2003	325000	12.00
4	2003-2004	375000	12.70
5	2004-2005	400000	13.10

TABLE IV AUTHOUR WISE COLLECTION IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

S.No.	Author	Year of Publication			Total	%
		1975-85	1986-95	1996-05		
1	Single Author	1375	2629	1972	5976	64.84
2	Double Author	876	714	714	2304	25.00
3	More than two Author	36	270	631	937	10.16

Collection Development and Utility Pattern of Computer Science Books at
G.R.Damadoran College of Science Library, Coimbatore: A Study

The researcher restricts himself to the books on computer science because the number of books on computer science occupies over one third of the total collection of books in the Library under study. Table IV depicts the author wise collection of books in computer science. Author wise collection as per the researcher defines, the books written by the number of authors. Accordingly it is classified into three by the researcher namely,

Single author - books written by only an author

Double author - books written jointly by two authors

More than two author - books written jointly by
many authors

According to the table IV, books with single authors' ranks top with 5976 books out of 9217 available in computer science. This works cut to be 64.84%, roughly two third of the total collection. Books contributed by double authors account for 2304 numbers which is 25% of total books. Books with more than two authors contribute that least with 937 books which is just 10.16% of the total collection.

The same can be classified in table according to the year of publication of books from 1975-2005. The study shows that majority of the authors do not prefer publishing a book jointly, because they prefer to maintain their individuality.

TABLE V Author Wise Use Books

S.No.	Author	No. of Times used						%
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
1	Single Author	208	1412	2134	2552	2416	1474	62.01
2	Double Author	84	520	810	1072	1484	788	28.99
3	More than Two Author	28	174	390	342	308	238	9.00

The table V clearly illustrates the usage of books according to the authors from the year 2000-2005. The table shows that the books written by single author ranks first with 62.01% the books written by double authors occupy 28.99% of usage and books written by more than two authors occupy very usage with just 9%. The sharp decline in the usage of books written by joint authors is mainly due to the fact that single author writes most of the Computer Science books.

TABLE VI Unusedbooks-Author Wise

S.No.	Place	No. of Books unused 2000 - 2005		%
		Used	Un Used	
1	Single Author	5199	777	13
2	Double Author	2235	69	3
3	More than two Author	778	159	17

The researcher here gives emphasis to the word unused to indicate the books, which are not issued to any member of the Library taken for study. The researcher analysis the pattern of unusage of books in two different manners, one according to the author and the second by the publishers.

The Table VI the researcher depicts the unused books according to the authors. Out of a total of 9217 books in Computer Science 10.90% of the total collection remain unused. An in depth analysis of the table further discloses the author wise unused books both in real and in percent terms.

Out of the 5976 books written by single author, 777 books are unused which lead to 13% of the total single author books. The books written by double authors amounts to 2304 out of that only 3% of the books remain unused, whereas the books written by more than two authors occupy an unused percentage 17 out of the total 937.

Though, the numbers of books by single author dominates the stack, the unused book percentage is more when compared to the books of double authors. The highest unused of book is found in books written by more than two authors, even when the collection is the least.

The least unused books are the books written by double authors.

VII. Conclusion

The Library, the heart of any institution should be given prime importance. A Library being a growing organization, the collection should always be updated. In GRD College Library Computer Science books are numbered 9217. But 1007 books (10.90%) remain unused.

To avoid the books being unused, recently published title should be purchased to cater to the need and demand of the reader. Keeping in view the objectives of Library, the outdated, obsolete and unused books should be removed from the stacks. The Library caters to enrich the knowledge of its users. Hence a Library should be rich in knowledge. The development of the Library in self-financing institution depends upon the financial status of each management and according to the number of courses they offer. Self-financing colleges attach much importance to the syllabus of the courses they offer but not much to the reference books, journals and periodicals. The management with its own fund has to cater to all the needs of a college. Hence most of the management is not in a position to allocate more funds to the Library each year. With regards to GRD College, the Library is well stacked with the support of the management and encouragement. It still needs effort towards the betterment of the Library regarding its adequacy of the collection, improvised reader services and automating the Library's functions.

References

[1] G. F. Kurutz , "A Library of Libraries: The Information of the Adolph Sutro Collection and the Library of Woodward's Gardens", *California State Library Foundation Bulletin,* Vol.57, Oct 96, p.9-14.

[2] C. Nicq, "A Remarkable Collection of the Montpellier Interuniversity Library", *Bulletin des Bibliotheques of de France,* Vol. 41, No.3, 1996, pp.42-44.

[3] P. Metz and J. Stemmer, "A reputational study of academic publishers", *College & Research Libraries,* Vol. 57, No.3, May 96, pp. 234-47.

[4] D. Andrade and W. Verguiero, "Collection development in academic libraries: a Brazilian library's experience", *New Library World,* Vol. 97, 1996, pp. 15-24.

[5] G. Sasireka, S. Gopalakrishnan and R. Karpagam, "Availability and Use of E-Journals among Self-Financing Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu: A Select Study, *Indian Journal of Information Sources and Services,* Vol.1, No.1, pp. 39-43, 2011.