

Behavioral Changes Related to Search Information and Resources Among the Members of Medicine and Health Departments of Atılım University During Pandemic

Emre Hasan Akbayrak*

Öznur Selen Kemaloğlu**

Abstract

There have been mandatory changes applied both in social lives and perspectives, of course within all professions due this unexpected events and state of affairs through out the natural sequence of life. Our country, Turkey, was first affected by the Universal COVID-19 Pandemic on May 11th, 2020. As in most areas of life, the situation has brought many difficulties in education system yet it has been monitored that the biggest challenge is being faced by the researchers and the libraries. In order to persevere the ongoing researches therefore to continue the use of academic libraries, it was inevitable to come up with and proceed the steps necessary during the regulatory difficulties and uncertain circumstances raised by COVID-19. Different modalities and ways of actions in both education and research studies had to be found and taken to overcome the hardships. Due to these facts, we have reached an important acceleration in change and conversion.

As a conclusion, unavoidable facts of this Universal Pandemic within this digital century that we are in, in this last year, it has been observed that, the use of libraries as well as education system have reached an important transformational point. Online education instead of one-to-one (regular) education was taken place during pandemic.

Research habits and service demands of each academic area is of course various. Thus, knowing the user's habits and demands besides acknowledging individual preferences has a key role in establishing the library services. The urgent needs of up to date information for health departments in means of sharing instant treatment methods as well as inevitable effective research has binded the library with the health and medicine departments together on an instant, ongoing and mandatory communication level.

* Atılım University Kadriye Zaim Library, Ankara-Türkiye, emre.akbayrak@atilim.edu.tr

** Atılım University Kadriye Zaim Library, Ankara-Türkiye, selen.kemaloglu@atilim.edu.tr

Purpose

Within our studies, based on The Health and Medicine Departments of Atılım University, we are aiming to project both near and far future foresights by evaluating the “Users and Service Demands” and the “Library Staff and Services Provided” before and after pandemic. Hereby, we aim focus to gain present perspectives and future foresights and projections.

Method

Observation method is going to be used in this study. The changes and transformations in the service understanding of our library are going to be expressed by means of observing the information seeking behaviors and service expectations of our users.

Findings

Studies will be evaluated within two sections. The first section will be “Usual/ Ordinary Times” namely, the times before the Pandemic; the second section will be “The Pandemic Times” where will be determining the habitual changes and transformations in the expectations of our users.

Discussion

Possible future changes and transformations among library users on the terms of communication, interaction and expectation besides vision and possible scenerios will be discussed. Unusual life changes have led us to develop different approaches and to plan different services. Systems in libraries should and must be renewable according to the needs of our users. Different systems are being entegrated within library services due to the development of technology and recent phases.

Keywords: User Behaviors, Design of Library Services, Remote Access, Electronic/ Digital Resources, Libraries and COVID-19.