Undergraduates' perception towards the Library of the Faculty of Nursing, University of Colombo

K.I.D.F. Senanayake

Library, Faculty of Nursing, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

The university libraries play an important role in the educational progress, and every library attempts to provide a quality service to meet the information needs of its users. A descriptive survey study was conducted at the Faculty of Nursing premises with the purpose of providing a more subjective picture of undergraduates' perceptions towards the Library, Faculty of Nursing. The nursing undergraduates, who are currently enrolled in the faculty, were recruited purposively to this study. A self-administered google questionnaire was used to collect data. Collected data were analyzed using SPSS version 21. The response rate was 87.7%. Majority of the participants were females (n=159, 74.3%). Most of the students were in their 2nd year of study (n=75, 35%) and slightly more than 75% of the total participants (n=166, 77.6%) stay at the university hostels. The study findings revealed that the nursing undergraduates hold a positive perception (M= 3.7, SD=0.75) towards the Nursing Library staff. For the areas of physical/working condition (M=3.45, SD=0.86), locating materials/information (M= 3.41, SD=0.80), and the book collection (M=2.85, SD=0.71) of the library, they hold a moderate perception. Based on these study findings, it is suggested that the areas in which undergraduates showed a moderate perception have to be further improved to provide more efficient services in the future. Accordingly, it is recommended that the physical/working condition to be arranged in a place with adequate space to sit & read along with adequate lighting and ventilation. In addition, the Nursing Library should pay more attention when placing materials/information in the library, as well as the library book collection should be improved with more copies of lending and reference books of the latest editions.

Keywords: Undergraduates, Perceptions, Library, University of Colombo