

RESEARCH VISIBILITY OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF NAVRACHANA UNIVERSITY ON RESEARCH GATE

Ms. Rucha Pandya 1 Dr. Meghna Vyas 2 🖂 💷

- ¹Research Scholar, Department of Library and Information Science. Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat
- ² Head & Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat





CorrespondingAuthor

Ms. Rucha Pandya, ruchabpandya@gmail.com

DOI

10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i5.2024.492

Funding: This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Copyright: © 2024 The Author(s). This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

With the license CC-BY, authors retain the copyright, allowing anyone to download, reuse, re-print, modify, distribute, and/or copy their contribution. The work must be properly attributed to its author.

ABSTRACT

The Study highlights the function of academic social networking sites in promoting research dissemination and collaboration by looking at the research visibility of Navrachana university faculty members on ResearchGate (RG). By analyzing the profiles of 49 faculty members of Navrachana University across five disciplines such as Science, engineering and technology, Liberal Studies & Education, Business and Law, and Environmental Design and Architecture. The evaluation results shows that Science has highest articles 232 and the RG Score 2173.4, followed by Engineering & Technology. Liberal Studies and education prove notably strong engagement high reads and recommendations, led by Faculty Dr. Rishi Raj Balwaria. However, there is limited involvement and exposure in the Business and Law, Environmental Design and Architecture. The study Emphasizes how ResearchGate (RG) may create a global academic community by overcoming geographical and institutional boundaries.

Keywords: Navrachana University, Research Gate, Research Visibility, Academic Social Networking Site



1. INTRODUCTION

Research Gate is a prominent academic Platform it enhances visibility and impact in Research dissemination. RG Allows researchers to share publications, collaborate and track their works impact through metrics like citations, reads and RG scores. This platform attracts global attention and foster new collaborations, making it a popular tool for both individual researchers and academic institutions.

Academic social networking site like ResearchGate and Academia.edu as well as Mandeley and Zotero that enhance research visibility and impact globally. These platforms enable researchers to create professional profiles, upload publications and connect with scholars from around the world.BY removing institutional and geographic barriers, these platforms provide a more transparent mode of removing institutional and geographic barriers, these platforms provide a more transparent mode of removing institutional and geographic barriers these platforms provide a more transparent mode of academic communication and offer valuable data for evaluating a researchers work. ResearchGate helps

improve visibility within the academic community, attracting more collaborations, citation, recognition and funding. By allowing researchers to upload their work, track engagement and interact with a global network, ResearchGate contributes significantly to enhancing research visibility. This improves academic reputation, attracting talent grants and even collaborations with industry, ultimately enhance prospects of career growth for academicians.

Navrachana University Vadodara (NUV), situated in Vadodara Gujarat, India is committed to fostering academic research and excellence. With a diverse range of disciplines, the university boosts its faculty members to engage in research activities and share their research work on platforms like research gate. Faculty members at NUV like many other academic institutions have gradually utilized RG to enhance their research visibility. However, the extent of engagement and visibility on the platforms differs across disciplines and individual faculty members. Understanding these variations and identifying the improving research dissemination with in the university. The study Investigates the research visibility of NUC faculty members on ResearchGate platform. The Main focus is on understanding the patterns of engagement through Various metrics such as publications, reads, citations RG Score, followers and followings. By evaluating these parameters, the study aims to identify the most active faculty members, their impact on academic visibility and the influence of different disciplines on the overall research profile of the university. Moreover, the research seeks to find the potential gaps in usage across departments and offer insights into how RG can further more utilized to enhance research dissemination and collaboration across the academic community.

The Study provides a comprehensive analysis of faculty engagement on ResearchGate, offering recommendations to boost research visibility and collaboration efforts at NUV. Through this analysis, the study also seeks to highlight the role of academic social networking platforms in shaping the modern research environment. In addition to advancing knowledge of individual and institutional participation on RG, this analysis highlights how ASNSs have shaped the current research ecosystem, dismantled institutional and geographic barriers to communication and died in the development of academic communities around the wold. The study is an attempt to improve the ways in which Navrachana University and similar other institutions can use these platforms to increase research collaboration on a national and worldwide level and to improve their academic reputation.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Debdas Mondal and Debal Chandra Kar (2021) Studied the usage of research gate by researchers of University of Calcutta. They Study 140 researchers and observed that male scholars were more use RG than female Research scholars.

Shannon Mason & Yusuke Sakurai (2021) The study reveals that although ResearchGate (RG) is generally considered beneficial by its users, its usage is skewed towards sharing knowledge. This activity is mostly confined to posting content in English and using the platform to access literature for personal use. Consequently, RG may be seen more as a tool than a community. To foster a true sense of community, a more balanced engagement, especially in networking, is necessary. Zaid Ahmad (2018) investigated impact of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) researchers on the academic social network 'ResearchGate'. Both scientometrics and altmetric approaches were used, the findings reveal that both universities actively use ResearchGate to enhance visibility, relationship, and networking with global researchers. AMU's publications and RG score are notably higher than JNU's, despite similar ResearchGate membership.

Shrivastava and Mahajan (2017) Studied the almetrics analysis of Physcis and Astronomy researchers of University of Delhi on Research gate. They analysis research gate publications, Research gate Score, profile views, citations, reads, RGScore, followers and following, citations etc. in depth.

Míguez-González et al. (2016) demonstrated that ResearchGate (RG) has achieved greater success as a repository for publications compared to Academia.edu, with a higher average number of documents uploaded. Their study revealed that women are more present in Academic Social Networking Sites (ASNSs) than men, but they upload fewer documents, resulting in lower visibility compared to men. It gives detailed insights of researchers on these platforms, documents uploaded, followers & Followings, visits; analysed by male & Female (Gender), department or University.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To categorize top 5 faculty profile according to their publication
- 2. To identify discipline wise top 5 faculty profile
- 3. To recognize top 5 faculty with high h-index on RG platform
- 4. To know discipline wise reads on RG platform
- 5. To identify top 5 faculty reads and top 5 recommendations
- 6. To perceive top 5 faculty following & followers

4. METHODOLOGY

The data were collected manually by visiting the profile pages of all the faculty members who had an account in ResearchGate under Navrachana University during the 2nd week of March, 2024. Total of 49 Faculty members out of Total 123 faculty in ResearchGate from the all school of Navrachana University. Data were collected for publications, reads, citations, RGScore, followers and following from the profile pages of the members.

5. DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

Table No.1. Publication Profile on RG Platform

Discipline	Total RG Score	Publications	Faculty Members
Science	2173.4	232	12
Engineering and Technology	1153.1	140	14
Liberal Studies & Education	210.2	112	5
Business and law	259.6	51	11
Environmental Design and Architecture	21.6	12	7

As per the Table 1 it has been identified that all the five disciplines covered under this study on academic social networking site and its publication analysis shows that faculty members of Science discipline has maximum 232 publications along with 2173.4 RG score, followed by Engineering and Technology with 140 faculty publications with RG score 1153.1, Liberal Studies & Education has rank 3 on faculty publications i.e. 112 with 210.2 RG Score as well as Business and law has rank 4 on faculty publications which is 51 with RG score 259.6 it is also identified with the analysis that faculty members of Environmental Design and Architecture contributed with minimum publications on the research Gate platform.

Research gate score of Science as well as Engineering and Technology is much higher than other 3 disciplines which clearly shows that faculty members in Science accompanied by Engineering and Technology are actively engaged in research activities and are updating their profile /publications frequently on research gate as compared to other disciplines.

Table No.2 Discipline wise Top 5 Faculty profile RG Platform

Faculty Code	Discipline	Research Interest Score	%	Publication	Rank
Dr.Dharmesh Varade	Science	964.1	60.80	55	1
Dr. Payal Desai	Engineering and Technology	327.2	20.64	33	2
Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria	Liberal Studies & Education	157	9.90	59	3
Dr. Sujatha Patil	Business and Law	123.3	7.78	6	4
Dr.Karan Rane	Environmental Design and Architecture	14	0.88	5	5

The research publication data shows faculty member of Science discipline Dr. Dharmesh Varade has maximum 965.1 (60.80 %) RG score with 55 publications, Followed by Engineering and Technology Dr. Payal Desai has 327.2 (20.64 %) RG score with 33 publications, Liberal Studies & Education faculty Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria has rank 3 on RG Score has 157 (9.90 %) with 59 publications, Business and Law faculty Dr. Sujatha Patil has rank 4 123.3 (7.78 %) RG score with 6 publications. It is being observed that the faculty of Environmental Design and Architecture Dr.Karan Rane has ranked 5 and has a minimum contribution on Research gate i.e 14 (0.88 %) RG score with 5 Publications.

Table No.3. Top 5 faculty with high h-index on RG Platform

Faculty Code	Discipline	Research item (Pub)	Citations	H-index	%	Rank
Dr.Dharmesh Varade	Science	55	2056	25	37.88	1
Dr.Payal Desai	Engineering and technology	33	614	12	18.18	2
Dr.Sandeep Patil	Science	20	514	11	16.67	3
Dr.Darshee Baxi	Science	25	241	10	15.15	4
Dr.Denni Mammen	Science	29	277	8	12.12	5

From the above said analysis it has been acknowledged that some disciplines do noticeable research work in their research activities and improve their reputation of the disciplines with their research effort. The analysis of data shows that the Faculty with high h-indexed on the platform is found Dr. Dharmesh Varade from Science discipline had a h-index of 25 (37.88 %) with his total 55 research publications along with 2056 citations and hence occupied the highest position among all faculty. Dr.Payal Desai from engineering and technology discipline having h-index of 12 (18.18 %) with 614 citations and 33 research publications in her credit as per the RG Platform. Likewise: Dr.Sandeep Patil ,Dr.Darshee Baxi and Dr.Denni Mammen have 11(16.67 %), 10 (15.15%), 8 (12.12%) h-index with 20, 25, 29 research publications and 514, 241, 277 citations respectively.

Table No.4. Discipline wise Reads on RG Platform

Discipline	Reads
Science	68698
Liberal Studies & Education	57839
Engineering and technology	36105
Business and law	16240
Environmental Design and Architecture	1342

Read" is a metric offered by ResearchGate that indicates the frequency with which a research work is read online, downloaded, or viewed on the platform. This feature allows researchers to see who has engaged with their work, identify the most frequently read research items, and connect with other researchers who share an interest in their studies. The research data shows that maximum number of reader are from Liberal Studies & Education reads 53927 (35.67 %). Followed by Engineering and Technology, Business and Law, Environmental Design and Architecture have 36105 (20.03 %), 16240 (9.01 %), 1342 (0.7 %) reads.

Table No. 5 Top 5 Faculty Reads

Faculty Code	Discipline	Reads	%	Rank
Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria	Liberal Studies & Education	53927	43.43	1
Dr.Jagruti Rathod	Science	25816	20.79	2
Dr. Denni Mammen	Science	21281	17.14	3
Dr.Salma Pirzada	Engineering and Technology	13622	10.97	4
Dr.Dharmesh Varade	Science	9531	7.68	5

From the above said analysis of data shows that the faculty with maximum reads on the RG platform is found Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria form Liberal Studies & Education had 53927 (43.43%) reads and therefore occupied the highest position among all faculty. Followed by Dr.Jagruti Rathod from Science Discipline has 25816 (20.79 %). Similarly, Dr. Denni Mammen, Dr.Salma Pirzada and Dr.Dharmesh Varade have 21281 (17.14 %), 13622 (10.97%), 9531 (7.68 %) read respectively. These figures indicate the distribution of reads among the mentioned faculty members, highlighting Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria as the most read faculty member on the RG platform.

Table No.6 Top 5 Recommendations

Code	Discipline	Recommend ations	%	Rank
Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria	Liberal Studies & Education	292	53.68	1
Dr.Vaibhavi Gawarikar	Liberal Studies & Education	98	18.01	2
Dr.Jagruti Rathod	Science	61	11.21	3
Dr.Jaideepsinh Raulji	Engineering and Technology	47	8.64	4
Dr.Hiral-Parikh	Engineering and Technology	46	8.46	5

Based on the analysis of the data, it has been found that the faculty member with the highest number of Recommendations on the RG platform is Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria from the Liberal Studies & Education with 292 (53.68 %) recommendations. Followed by Dr.Vaibhavi Gawarikar from Liberal Studies & Education with 98 (18.01 %), Dr.Jagruti Rathod from Science discipline have 61 (11.21%) recommendations, Dr.Jaideepsinh Raulji from Engineering and Technology discipline have 47 (8.64 %) recommendations, Dr.Hiral-Parikh from Engineering and Technology have 46 (8.45 %) recommendations.

This ranking highlight that Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria not only has the highest number of reads but also leads significantly in the number of recommendations, indicating strong engagement and recognition from peers on the platform.

Table No.7 Top 5 faculty Profile (Following)

Tuble No.7 Top 3 Jucuity Trojne (Following)				
Faculty	Following	%	Rank	
Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria	255	41.80	1	
Dr.Jagruti Rathod	152	24.92	2	
Dr.Nikita Mehta	76	12.46	3	
Dr.Saloni Prashant Pandya	64	10.49	4	
Dr.Prakruti Shah	63	10.33	5	

The analysis reveals that Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria has a substantial lead in the following percentage 41.80%, which is almost twice as high as that of Dr.Jagruti Rathod, the second-ranked faculty member 24.92%. This indicates that he is well-liked by both students and peers. The following proportion is more modest but closely clustered for the remaining faculty members, Dr.Nikita Mehta 12.46%, Dr.Saloni Prashant Pandya 10.49%, and Dr.Prakruti Shah 10.33%. This points to a significant engagement difference between the top-ranked faculty and others, emphasizing areas where the lower-ranked faculty may improve their visibility and communication to close the gap.

Table No.8 Top 5 faculty Profile (Following)

Top 5 faculty profile (Follower)					
Name	Follower	%	Rank		
Dr.Dharmesh Varade	566	50.67	1		
Dr.Saloni Prashant Pandya	151	13.52	2		
Dr. Sandeep R. Patil	136	12.18	3		
Dr.Salma Pirzada	133	11.91	4		
Dr.Parth Pandya	131	11.73	5		

The data reveals a significant disparity in distribution of followers among the top 5 faculty members shows a notable difference, according to the data. With 50.67 % of all followers, Dr.Dharmesh Varade is in the lead, demonstrating his extraordinary prominence and sway. Compared to Dr.Saloni Prashant Pandya, the second-ranked faculty member, who has 13.52%, this number is over four times greater. The percentages of the other three Dr. Sandeep R. Patil 12.18 %, Dr.Salma Pirzada 11.91 %, and Dr.Parth Pandya 11.73 are nearly identical, suggesting that their followings are competitive. While the rest have a well-balanced but much smaller percentage of followers, Dr.Dharmesh Varade's glaring lead emphasizes his distinct appeal or possibly a focused strategy that has set him apart. This suggests potential opportunities for these faculty members to explore strategies to enhance their engagement and visibility to bridge the gap with the top performer.

6. MAJOR FINDINGS

The findings reveal that Science leads in research contributions with the highest RG score 2173.4, most publications 232, and significant individual achievements, such **as** Dr. Dharmesh Varade's dominance in RG score 964.1 and h-index 25. Engineering and Technology is second, with notable contributions, particularly by Dr. Payal Desai. While Liberal Studies & Education excels in engagement metrics like reads 57,839 and recommendations 292 for Dr.Rishi Raj Balwaria, its RG scores and publication numbers are relatively lower. Environmental Design & Architecture and Business and Law lag behind across most metrics, indicating less research activity and engagement on ResearchGate. Faculty with higher contributions are more likely to gain recognition, reads, and peer recommendations.

7. CONCLUSION

The study found that there are significant variations in the research visibility of faculty members at Navrachana University across different fields on ResearchGate. Science and engineering faculties are more active on ResearchGate, as evidenced by higher publication numbers, ResearchGate scores, and citation metrics. On the other hand, disciplines such as environmental design and architecture show comparatively lower levels of participation and visibility. The results emphasize the potential of platforms such as ResearchGate to increase faculty members' research visibility and stress the significance of regular platform interaction to improve academic profiles. In addition to raising their own profile, faculty members with more reads, recommendations, and follows also help the university's research standing internationally.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

REFERENCES

- Ahmad, Z. (2018). Profiles of the AMU and JNU researchers on ResearchGate: An altmetric analysis. Kelpro Bulletin, 23(1), 101-112.
- Desai, M., Mehta, R. G., & Rana, D. P. (2022). Anatomising the impact of ResearchGate followers and followings on influence identification. Journal of Information Science. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1177/01655515221100716
- Míguez-González, M. I., Puentes-Rivera, I., & Dafonte-Gómez, A. (2016). Academic social networks and communication researchers from universities in the North of Portugal: An analysis of Academia.edu and ResearchGate. In F. Freire, X. Rúas Araújo, V. Martínez Fernández, & X. García (Eds.), Media and metamedia management (Vol. 503, pp. 405-411). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-46068-0_53
- Mondal, D., & Hadagali, G. S. (2021). Perspectives and use of ResearchGate by the research scholars of the University of Burdwan, Burdwan West Bengal, India: A study. Journal of Indian Library Association, 57(1), 47-59.
- Mondal, D., & Kar, D. C. (2021). Usage of ResearchGate by the research scholars: A study of the University of Calcutta. Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal), 5158. Retrieved from https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5158
- Raffaghelli, J. E., & Manca, S. (2023). Exploring the social activity of open research data on ResearchGate: Implications for

- the data literacy of researchers. Online Information Review, 47(1), 197–217. https://doi.org/10.1108/0IR-05-2021-0255
- Shrivastava, R., & Mahajan, P. (2015). Relationship amongst ResearchGate altmetric indicators and Scopus bibliometric indicators: The case of Panjab University Chandigarh (India). New Library World, 116(9/10), 564–577. https://doi.org/10.1108/NLW-03-2015-0026
- Shrivastava, R., & Mahajan, P. (2017). An altmetric analysis of ResearchGate profiles of physics researchers: A study of University of Delhi (India). Performance Measurement and Metrics, 18(1), 2–12. https://doi.org/10.1108/PMM-07-2016-0033
- Subramani, R. (2015). The academic usage of social networking sites by the university students of Tamil Nadu. Online Journal of Communication and Media Technologies, 5(3), 162–175. https://doi.org/10.29333/ojcmt/2522
- Sulakshana, H. V., Sampath Kumar, B. T., & Basavaraja, M. T. (2021). Use of ResearchGate as a digital repository by the faculty members: An altmetric analysis. Journal of Indian Library Association, 57(1), 47-59.