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The Utilisation of Information Technology in Increasing Reading Interest in the Library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam

Sunyianto[1]*, Diana Mulida Zakiah[2], Ose Dao[3], Kerisman[4]
[1234]Universitas Sari Mutiara Indonesia; Indonesia
correspondence sunylpp34@gmail.com[1]*

| **Abstract** | This study aims to determine the utilisation of information technology in increasing reading interest in the Library of Imanuel College (SETITEL) Telukdalam. The research method used is qualitative research. Data were collected using triangulation techniques, namely observation, interviews and documentation. Furthermore, the informants in this study were students of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam with the characteristics of informants, namely 4th semester, 6th semester and 8th semester students totalling 6 people. The technique of taking informants using purposive sampling technique. The results of this study indicate that with the use of information technology in the Library of "SETITEL" Imanuel Telukdalam College, which plays an important role in supporting the management and planning of automated library development in order to improve the quality of library services effectively and efficiently, meet the information needs of the academic community and support the teaching and learning process, one of which is the OPAC service which can be used as a medium for finding the required information sources. In addition, with the existence of information technology as a strategy or effort to increase student interest in reading at the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam through the use of library services such as: special reading rooms, provision of digital services, interior design, exhibitions and provision of information retrieval systems or OPAC (Online public access catalog). |

| **Keywords** | Information Technology; Library; Reading Interest |

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of information technology has impacted most aspects of human life, including libraries. With the influence of information technology, libraries are required to modernize themselves to meet the increasingly complex information needs of their users[1].

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[1] Fahrizandi Fahrizandi, "Pemanfaatan Teknologi Informasi Di Perpustakaan," *Tik Ilmeu: Jurnal Ilmu Perpustakaan Dan Informasi* 4, no. 1 (2020): 63–76.

A college library is one type of library that has good facilities and infrastructure to provide services for users to support the achievement of the Vision and Mission and Tri Dharma of Higher Education. In this case is education, research, and community service. Thus making this library an effective means of support for the fulfillment of information in the educational process[2]. The presence of this library is expected to fulfill the information needs of users through library services. Library service is the fulfillment of library users' needs and requirements, one of which is by providing adequate book collections and other facilities[3].

Books are the windows to the world, perhaps it does not feel familiar to us because we often hear this term in mass media such as television, radio, and other mass media that call for the importance of books. At least we have known and heard it since we entered school or in the outside environment where we are. Because of its familiarity, we may not realize that we will continue to remember it even though we don't know what the real meaning of books is.

Argues that "interest in reading is an individual's awareness of reading which starts from the encouragement of each - supported by the environment[4]." Many countries still have a low level of interest in reading, one of which is Indonesia. From the world ranking, Indonesia's reading interest level in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) report (2019) states that out of 70 countries that are members around the world Indonesia is ranked 62nd[5]. Students as an academic community are expected to have a high interest in reading to explore as much information as possible to gain knowledge. With the information obtained through reading activities, it is hoped that it can support the teaching and learning process because students already have an initial understanding of a concept[6].

The library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam was established in 2007 along with the establishment of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam. With the establishment of this library, it functions as an information resource center for the academic community as well as to support the Vision and Mission and Tridarma of Higher Education. As in other libraries, this library has various types of library services to meet the needs of the academic

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[2] Reza Fauzan, "PERAN PERPUSTAKAAN DAN PUSAT DOKUMENTASI DI UNIVERSITAS SABURAI DALAM MENUNJANG PROSES PEMBELAJARAN," 2023.

[3] Lailatus Sa'diyah and M Furqon Adli, "Perpustakaan Di Era Teknologi Informasi," *Al Maktabah* 4, no. 2 (2019): 142–49.

[4] Umar Mansyur, "Korelasi Minat Baca Dengan Kemampuan Menulis Karya Tulis Ilmiah Mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Indonesia UMI," *Multilingual: Jurnal Kebahasaan Dan Kesastraan* 17, no. 1 (2018): 11–22.

[5] Endah Tri Wahyuningsih, Hesti Putri Setianingsih, and Muhammad Zainal Abidin, "Krisis Literasi: Menumbuhkan Minat Baca Melalui Pemberian Pengalaman Bahasa Sejak Dini," in *ICIE: International Conference on Islamic Education*, vol. 2, 2022, 275–92.

[6] Priyeti Priyeti, "Usaha Meningkatkan Minat Baca Mahasiswa," *Jurnal Pustaka Budaya* 4, no. 1 (2017): 55–67.

community, one of which is by providing reading collections as teaching and learning support materials at the strata level (S1) of the Theology of Clergy and Christian Religious Education Study Programme.

The number of collections owned is around 3,635 titles with around 11,500 copies and this is predicted to continue to increase. The type of collection includes theology books with around 1,200 titles, Christian religious education books with around 1,900 titles, general knowledge books with around 150 titles, theses 350 titles, bulletins / local magazines with around 35 titles and journals, scientific works with around 25 titles[7]. From this type of collection, it can be seen that the majority of the types of books are theology books and Christian religious education books.

The software used in the library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam is slimmed. With this software, one of them functions as an online catalog that can be accessed by users whenever and wherever they are. Other forms of utilization with this software such as: simplifying the management of library materials, facilitating and accelerating circulation services (borrowing, returning, and fines), and improving the quality of library services as a source of information through the use of OPAC (Online Access Public Catalog) services.

The use of information technology in the library of the Immanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam is currently still not fully realized due to inadequate facilities and infrastructure such as computers. Therefore, the utilization of information technology is only limited to OPAC (Online Access Public Catalog) services carried out through devices such as laptops or gadgets as a medium for searching for information sources.

The results of observations conducted by researchers to obtain related data about the Library of the Immanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam in 2022, showed that the level of student interest in reading was very poor before the application of information technology was carried out.

METHOD

Type of Research

This type of research uses qualitative methods. The qualitative method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism or enterpretetif, used to research natural object conditions, where researchers are key instruments, and data collection techniques are carried out

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[7] Leslie Turner, Andrea B Weickgenannt, and Mary Kay Copeland, *Accounting Information Systems: Controls and Processes* (John Wiley & Sons, 2022).

in triangulation (a combination of observation, interviews, and documentation)[8], the data obtained tends to be qualitative, data analysis is inductive/qualitative, and the results of the research are to understand the meaning, understand the uniqueness, construct phenomena, and find hypotheses[9].

The qualitative method in this research is used to find data based on relevant data and provide an overview of the use of information technology on reading interest in the Library of the Immanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam.

Research Location

This research was conducted at the Immanuel Telukdalam Theological College (SETITEL) Library, which is located on Jl. Sudirman, Kel. Pasar Teluk Dalam, Kec. Telukdalam, Kab. South Nias. Data collection is carried out in natural conditions, primary data sources and more on participatory observation as well as in-depth interviews and documentation[10]. There are 3 data collection techniques in this research, namely,

a) Observation

b) Interview

c) Documentation

The data analysis used in this research is the data analysis of Miles, Huberman and Saldana (2014: 10-11) who say that qualitative data analysis consists of:

a) Data Reduction (data reduction)

Data reduction is the process of selecting or selecting, sharpening, classifying, directing, discarding unnecessary data and organising it.

b) Data Display (presentation of data)

Data presentation is a set of information arranged to draw conclusions and take action. Therefore, by looking at the presentation of data, it is easier for researchers to understand what is happening and what to do. The forms of data presented include; charts, brief descriptions or narratives, graphs and or in tabular form.

c) Conclusion Drawing

Based on the data that has been reduced and presented, the next step is for researchers to make conclusions that are supported by strong evidence at the data collection stage. Where the conclusion is the answer to the formulation of problems and questions that have been made by researchers from the start.

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[8] P D Sugiyono, "Statistika Untuk Penelitian (Ke-27)," *Bandung: Alfabeta Bandung*, 2016.
[9] Suharsimi Arikunto, "Proses Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik," *Jakarta: PT Rineka Cipta*, 2017.
[10] Sugiyono, "Statistika Untuk Penelitian (Ke-27)."

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A Brief History of the Library of Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam

The library of Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam or abbreviated as SETITEL, was built in 2007 along with the establishment of the college, namely Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam. As the role of the library is very important in the college environment, it is no wonder that the library is nicknamed the heart of a college, because without a library, the world of education and knowledge will not advance. Such is the case with the library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam, where this library plays an important role in fulfilling the needs of the academic community at the strata level (S1) of Theological Education and Christian Religious Education.

The presence of the Library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam can support teaching and learning activities, as well as accelerate the realisation of the Tridarma of Higher Education in the Akadamik environment of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam. The area of this library building is approximately 225 m2, which consists of 6 rooms, namely the circulation service room, library material shelving room, reference room, reading room, library head room and photocopy room.

The library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam plays an important role as an information resource centre that can be utilised by users through the library services provided. This library has a total of approximately 11,500 copies of reading material. This collection consists of the book Theology of Clergy with a total of 1200 book titles, while the number of copies is around 2500, then when compared to the number of Christian Religious Education book collections, the number is much greater, which is around 1900 book titles, while the number of copies reaches 4250.

Furthermore, the number of general knowledge books is around 150 titles, while the number of copies is 350. Finally, the number of student thesis in the last 5 years is around 350 titles, while the number of copies reaches 950. The number of collections of local bulletins/magazines is around 35 and journals/scientific works are around 25.

The library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam has a vision and mission, namely:

a) Vision

Realising an Innovative and Creative Library in the Digitalisation Era, in providing

Information to advance Education, Research and Community Service in accordance with Christian values and Pancasila.

b) Mission

    1. Providing Library Services in providing information services that are fast and easy to access, by applying information technology according to the needs of the Academic Community in realising the Vision - Mission of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam.

    2. Improve the function and service of the Library as an Information Centre, which can be used by the Academic Community to support the teaching and learning process activities within the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam.

c) Library Activities of Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam

    1. Procurement of Library Materials

    This procurement activity is carried out as a collection development in the Library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam through a consideration stage based on the needs of the academic community within the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam, namely: Theology Books, Christian Religious Education Books and General Knowledge Books.

    1) Purchasing

    Purchases of library materials will be made by the Library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam directly to the publisher through an order.

    2) Donations

    One of the sources of procurement in the Library of the Theological College "SETITEL" Imanuel Teluk Dalam, comes from final students where each of these students is required to submit 5 books on Theology / Christian Religious Education, where this is a requirement for students to complete their studies.

    3) Gifts

    The addition of the reading collection in the library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam, which comes from gifts obtained either from lecturers or students.

    2. Processing of Library Materials

    The total number of collections owned by the Library of the Imanuel Theological

College (SETITEL) Telukdalam is around 11,500 copies, which is a combination of theology books, Christian Religious Education books, general knowledge books, thesis, local magazines and scientific works.

This processing activity is carried out when the book has been received and the work is carried out by library employees manually before the application of information technology, the management of this library material includes;

1) Stamp on new books

2) Giving iventarisation numbers to books

3) Recording collection data into a master book or iventarisation book

4) Library Services

The library of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam, provides various library services that can be utilised by the academic community, including:

3. Circulation Services

Circulation services or services that function as a process of borrowing books, extending and returning books, and in this service are only intended for members who have registered at the SETITEL Imanuel Telukdalam library and already have a library membership card.

1) Membership Service

This service functions as a new member registration room, where for members who have completed registration, library staff will manually print the library card as a requirement to be allowed to lend books. Then, this service also serves as an extension of library member cards whose active period has expired.

2) Reference Service

In the reference service, users can utilise this service as a search for information sources related to the existing reference collection.

3) Photo copy service

The photo copy service is intended for users who want to take limited copies of the collection for research purposes.

4. Library service schedule of Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Imanuel (SETITEL) Telukdalam activities

1) Open (Monday - Friday, 01.00 PM - 05.00 PM)

2) Closed (Saturday - Sunday).

CONCLUSION

Utilisation of Information Technology in Increasing Reading Interest in the Library of the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam, which plays an important role in supporting the management and planning of automated library development in order to improve the quality of library services effectively and efficiently, meet the information needs of the academic community and support the teaching and learning process, one of which is the OPAC service which can be used as a medium for finding the required information sources. In addition, with the existence of information technology as a strategy or effort in increasing students' reading interest in the Imanuel Theological College (SETITEL) Telukdalam through the use of library services such as: special reading rooms, provision of digital services, interior design, exhibitions and provision of information retrieval systems or OPAC (Online public access catalog).

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