

Information Seeking Anxiety among Postgraduate Students of University

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This paper aims to investigate information seeking anxiety in postgraduate students. Data were collected using questionnaire containing Information Seeking Anxiety Scale (Erfanmanesh, Abrizah & Karim, 2012) and demographic information. The sample comprised of 297 students from the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Behavioural Science of one university in Pakistan. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were applied for data analysis. The results indicated that a large majority of the postgraduate students experienced anxiety in the information seeking process. Moreover, no significant relationship was found in age, gender, faculty, publishing experience and information seeking anxiety in students. Conversely, there were significant differences in anxiety scores of students based on the program of study, stage of study, and computer proficiency. The results provide useful insights that could be used as a guide by the information professionals dealing with reference and research services, especially those engaged in designing information literacy curricula and managing information literacy instructions in Pakistan.

Keywords. Information seeking anxiety; ISAS; postgraduate students; Pakistan