

THESIS TITLE : THE USE OF INTERNET FOR INFORMATION ACCESS OF
KHON KAEN UNIVERSITY'S FACULTY MEMBERS

AUTHOR : MR. SAKDA CHANPRASERT

THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE :

Kulthida Tuamsuk Chairman

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kulthida Tuamsuk)

L. Manmart Member

(Assoc. Prof. Lampang Manmart)

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to study the using, problems, opinions and recommendations on the internet for information access of Khon Kaen University's members, by a survey method. The instrument used consisted of questionnaires distributed to 914 lecturers who were internet members of the university. After sending electronic mails through the internet and the questionnaires to the faculties, 657 questionnaires, which were 71.9% of the total subjects, were returned. The data were analysed with SPSS for windows - a software program of statistics for social sciences - for descriptive statistics: percentage, average, and standard deviation.

The findings indicated that there were more male than female members and most of them were between 41-50 years old. For their educational background, most of the members have master degrees. If considering their fields of teaching, it was found that there were more members who got involved with information technology than those who did not. If considering the subjects they were teaching, most of them did not teach about computer and the internet. Moreover, it was found that most of them had experiences using computers for more than 6 years and the internet for 1-3 years.

For the use of the internet, 87.8% of the subjects connected the system through the university network, and only 12.2% did not.

In term of the purposes, 95.8% of the subjects used the internet for communications, 91.3% for research study, 84.1% for teaching, 82.3% for searching information, and 74.2% for introducing their students to the internet. Most of them connected to the internet from their office every day. Each connection lasted about an hour during 8.30-12.00 a.m. and 1.00-4.30 p.m. The internet information was used most for e-mail information by 97.2% of all subjects respectively followed by 88.2% for hypertext information, 68.3% for library catalog information, 54.6% for mailing list information, and 52.2% for e-journal information. For the internet tools, 96.2% of the subjects used e-mail program; 89.3% used web browser program; and 77.3% used telnet program.

Concerning the attitudes toward teaching and learning, the subjects agreed that the internet was useful and should be used, especially the hypertext information. In terms of problems with the information access, the subjects stated that the internet system was slow and time consuming. They were disconnected with the system frequently. Computers for internet connection were not sufficient. There were not enough university officers who could help with the use of the internet. There were no such officers in the faculties and departments. Connecting to the university internet was difficult and complicated. They did not know the internet information resources. They also gave recommendations that the university internet system be increased in speed, more computers be provided in each faculty, information resources of each field be collected and published in the university internet, and training in the internet for information access be provided.

For those who never used the internet, it was found that they did not need information from the internet. Computers in the departments/faculties were not enough. Computers connected to the internet system were in uncomfortable places for them. Though some of them were trained, they could not remember what they had learned.