

## C210610 : MAJOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
KEY WORD: BOOK LOSS / BOOK LOSS PREVENTION/ STUDENT/ UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

WANNA TAECHAWANICHPONG : STUDENT OPINION ON THE CAUSES AND THE PREVENTION OF BOOK LOSS IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. THESIS ADVISOR : ASST. PROF. NONGLAK MINAIKIT, Ph.D., 196 pp. ISBN 974-582-629-4

The objectives of this research are to study the student opinion of causes, patterns and methods that result in the library book loss, and to prevent the loss. The hypotheses are as follows : 1) The library book loss results from the environment, the teaching methods and the students' attitude to the library. 2) The patterns and methods that cause most of the book loss are that the books are taken out from the library without being borrowed. 3) In the students' opinion the careful checking at the entrance of the library is the best way to prevent book loss. Structured questionnaires were distributed to 884 students who were using the central libraries of eight governmental universities in Bangkok. The returning rate was 100.0 percent.

The results of the research show the three main causes of book loss : inadequacy of books (60.7 %), inconvenience of photocopying (53.8 %) and research for term papers (48.8 %). The results partly agree with the hypothesis, for instance - the book loss results from the environment and students' attitude to the library whereas the cause from the teaching methods does not agree with the hypothesis.

The pattern of library book loss is defacement ( $\bar{x}$ 4.2), while the method of book loss is the underlining of the interesting or wanted item ( $\bar{x}$ 4.3), which do not agree with the hypothesis.

The first three ways to prevent library book loss are as follows : 1) surveying need for book use and supplying books adequately ( $\bar{x}$ 4.7); 2) carrying out a campaign against book defacement and encouraging students to take care of library materials ( $\bar{x}$ 4.5); and 3) reconsidering the number of book loans ( $\bar{x}$ 4.5). Those three ways do not agree with the hypothesis.