“Grey Literature in Engineering Sciences and Technology and its Use Pattern in the Research Institutions in India : The Case Study of Karnataka State

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Objectives

- To understand the use pattern of GL by the research supervisors (Faculty Guides) and research scholars
- To know the extent of sharing of GL among the regional libraries
- To comprehend training requirements of librarians and the users
- To suggest measures for facilitating access to GL

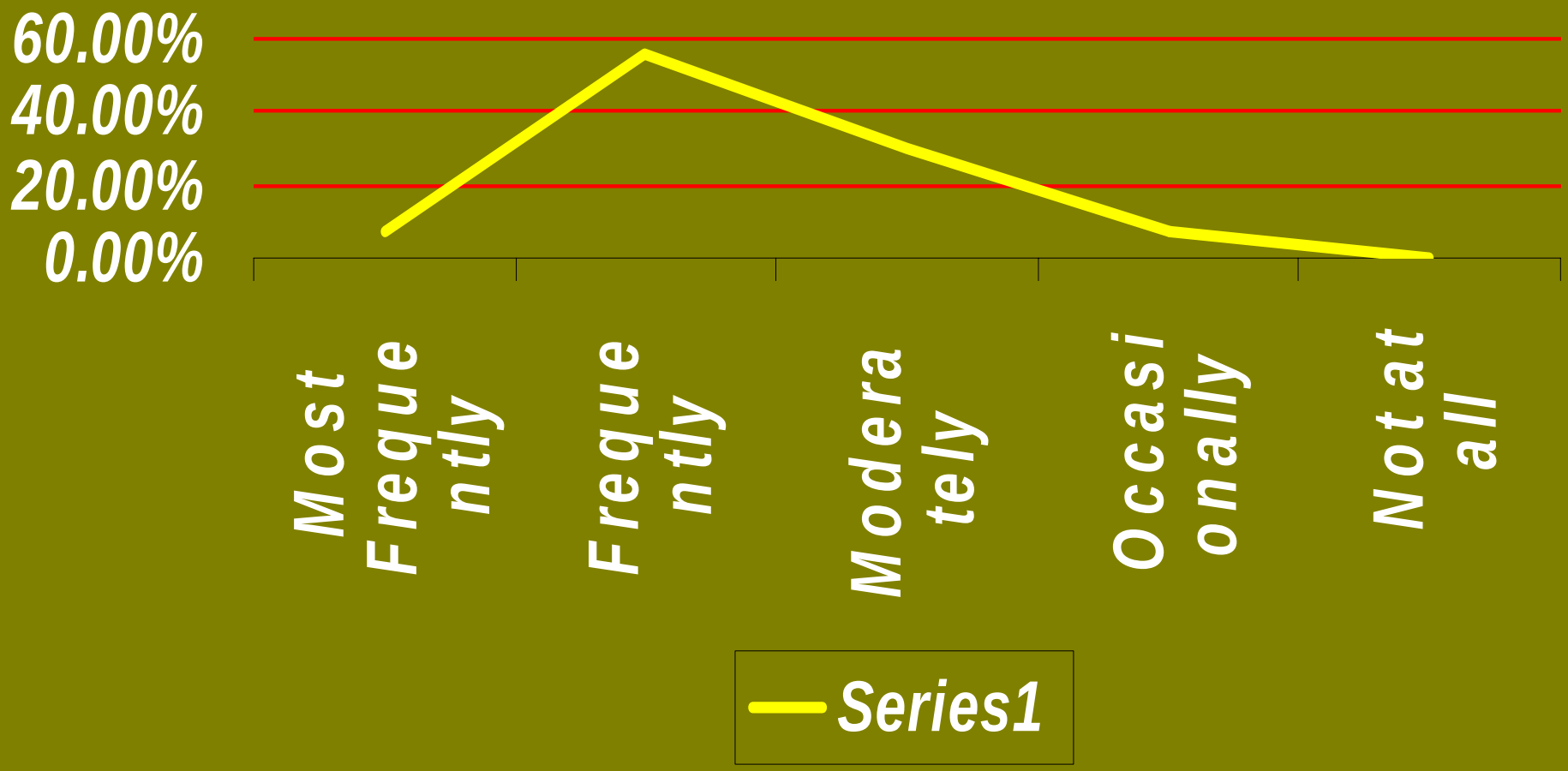
Scope

- Restricted to 6 categories of printed Grey Sources: Thesis, Dissertations, Institutional Publications, Trade Literature, Technical Reports and Proceedings of Conferences, Seminars and Workshops. (CSW): **Total GL Collection : 131795**

Methodology

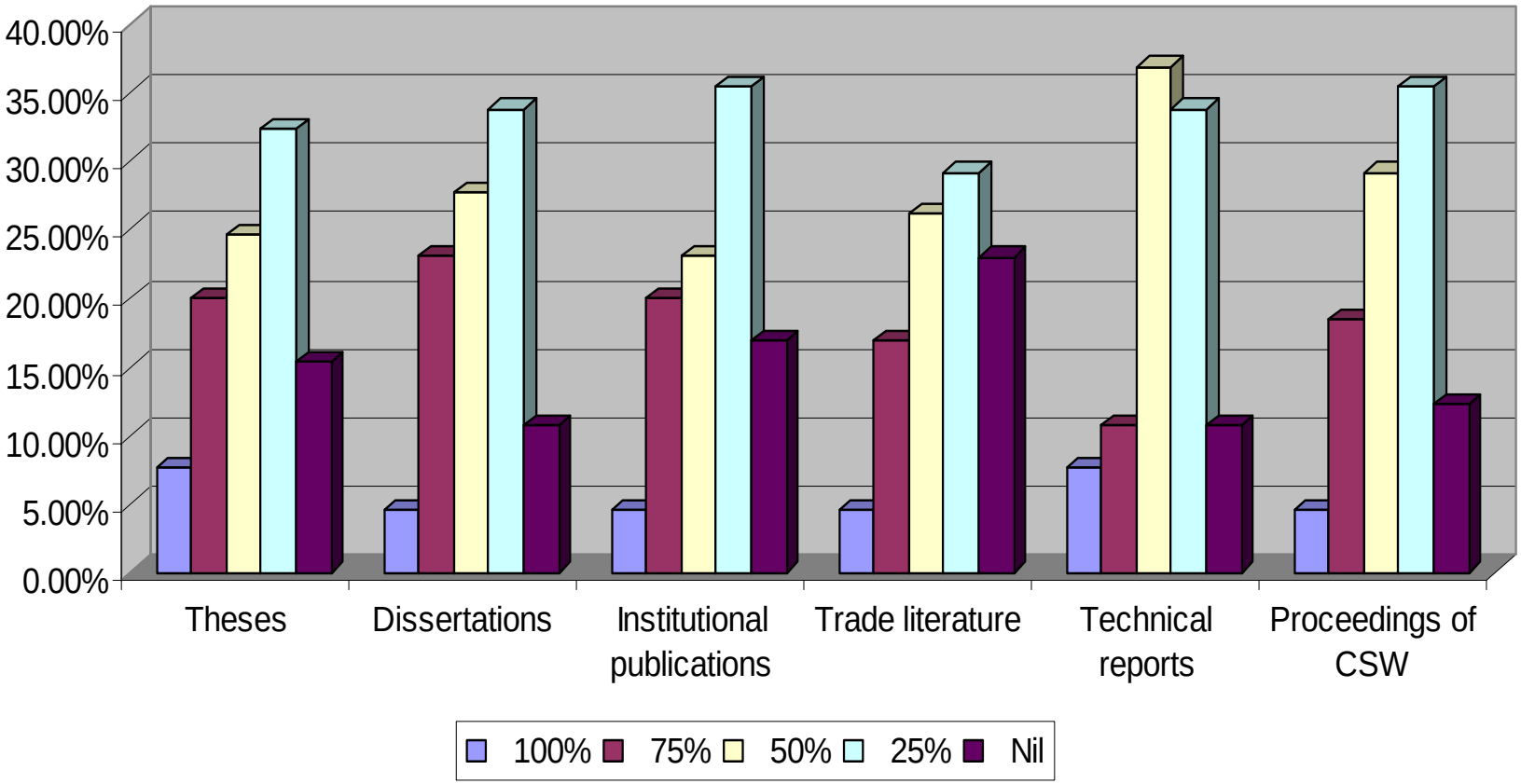
- Questionnaire was used to capture the responses from the librarians, as well as, the users.
- Category of Users: 340 Faculty Guides and 930 Research Scholars.
- The percentage of total users covered in the study is 84.6.
- Out of 172 engineering colleges in Karnataka, 65 are recognized as research centres.

Frequency of Access to GL



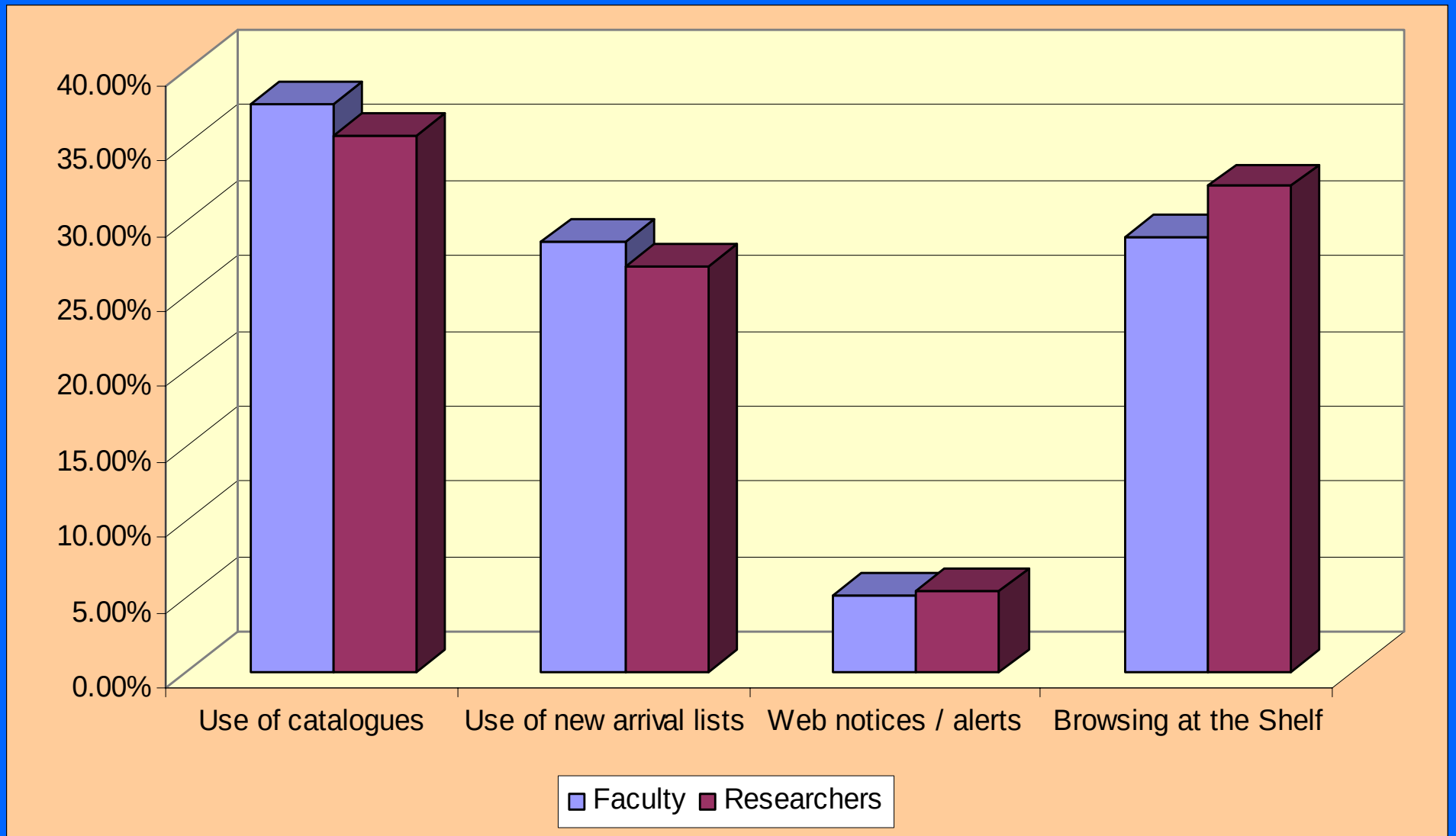
61.5% of faculty guides and 63% of the research scholars frequently or most frequently access GL

Extent of Dependency on Regional Libraries for GL



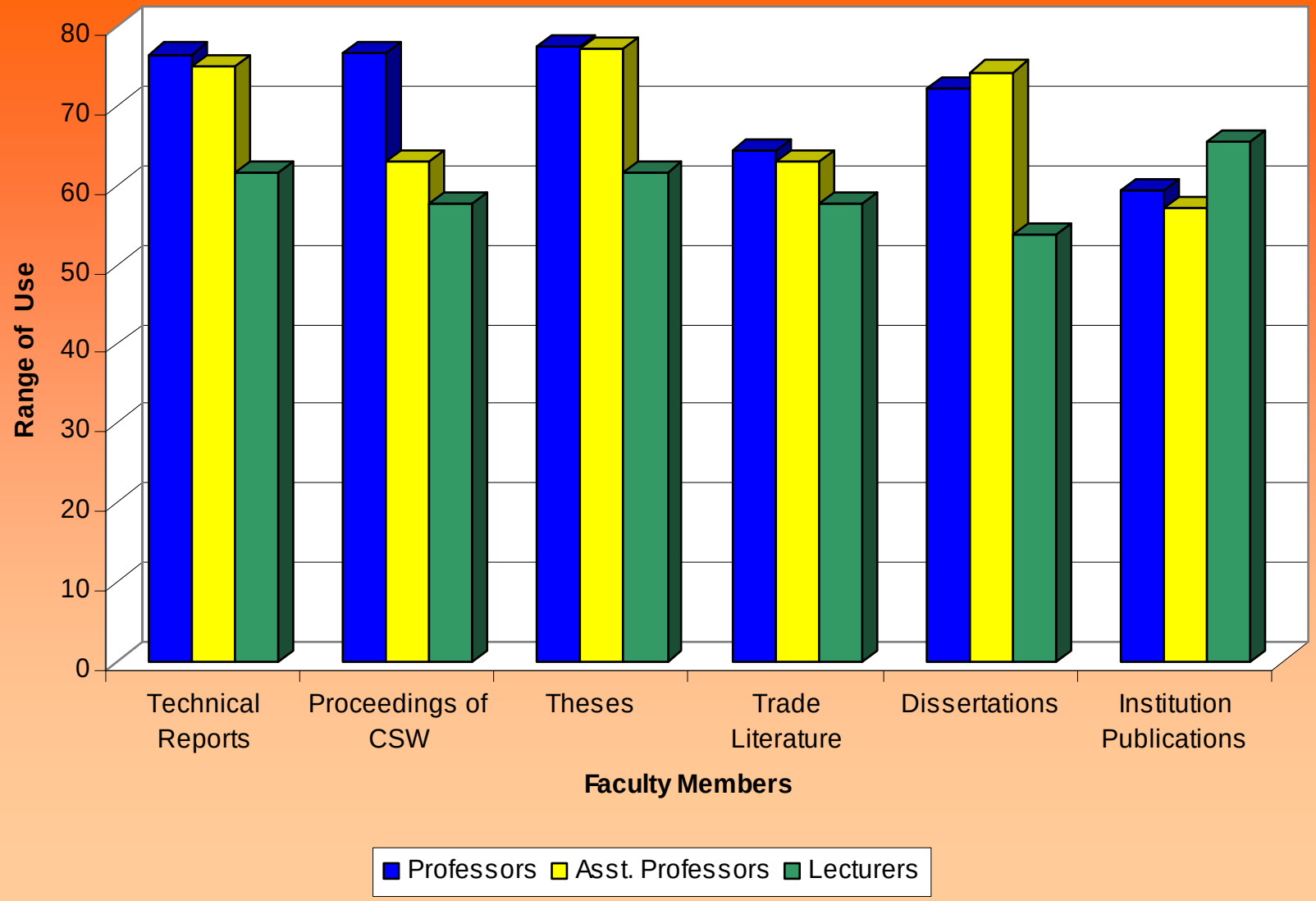
- Large segment of users depend to a moderate extent of 25% to 50%
- Users mainly seek technical reports and proceedings
- Users need to be educated about the resources and services of regional libraries

Method of locating GL in the libraries



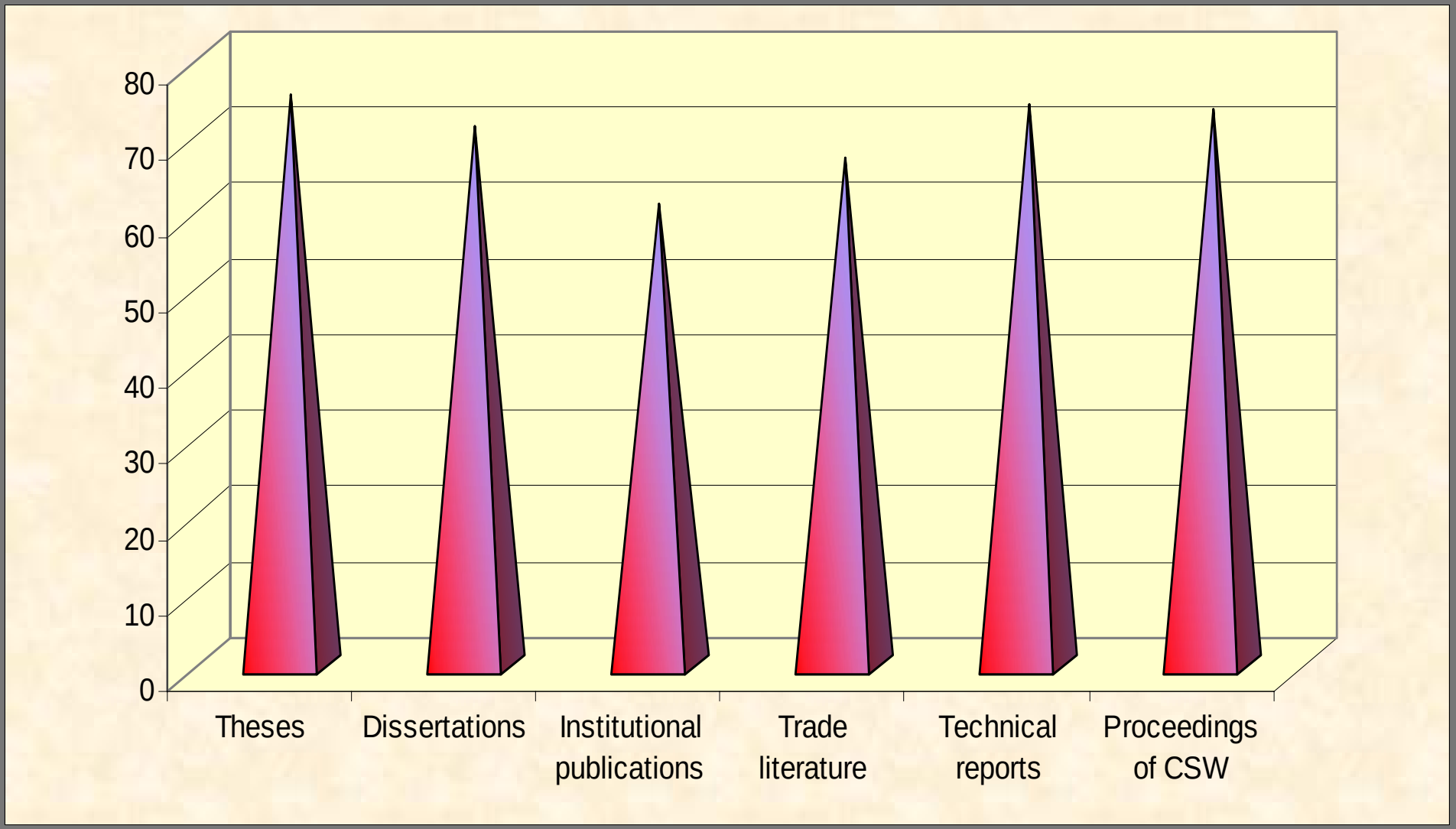
- 36.1% rely upon catalogues
- 27.3% refer new arrival lists
- 31.3% browse at the shelf

Category-wise faculty guides who rely upon GL for research purpose



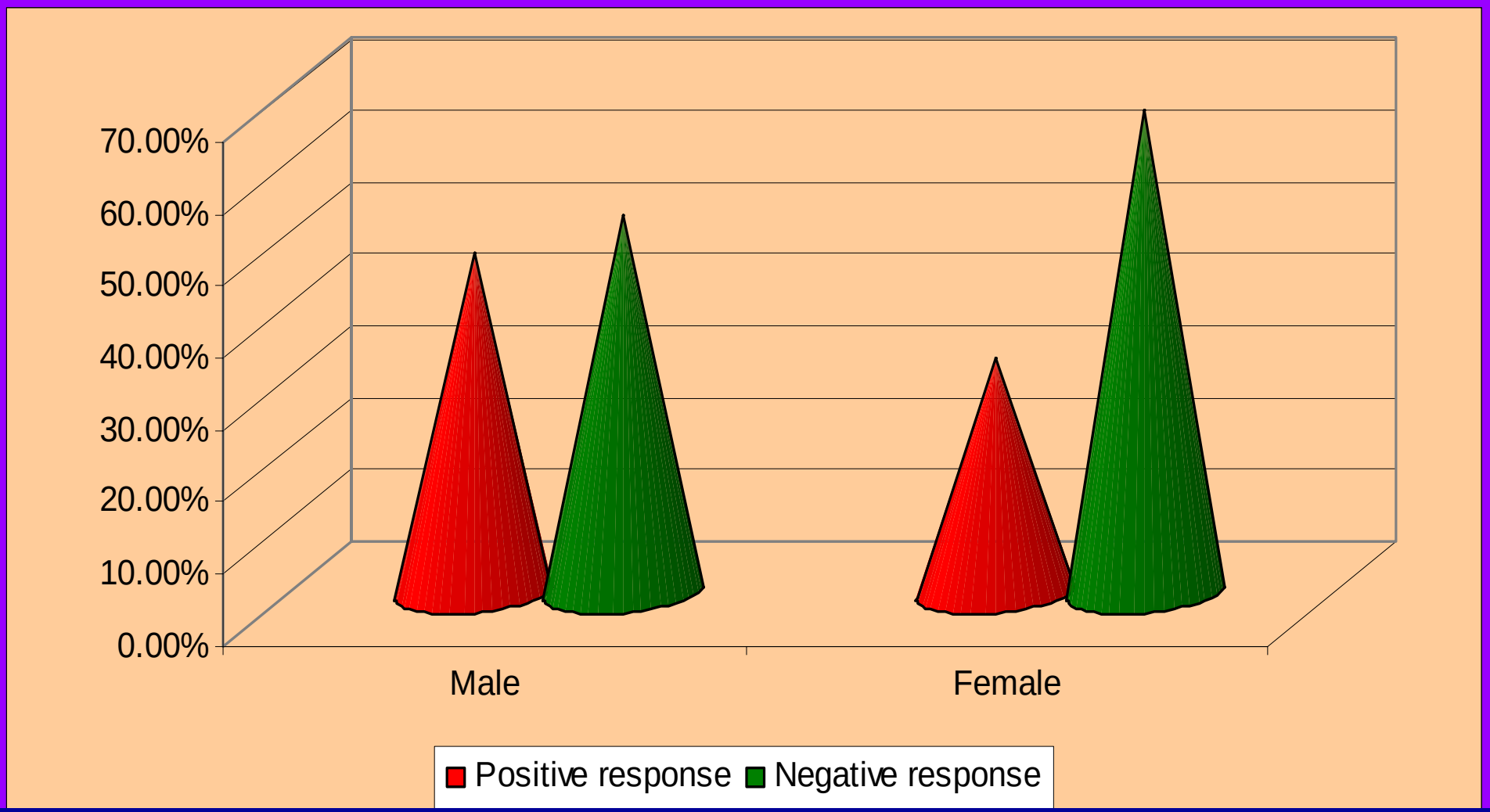
Professors and Associate Professors with long experience use GL frequently than the Lecturers. Theses, Dissertations, Tech. Reports and Proceedings are useful in the Highest Range of 75% to 100%.

Range of use of GL by the Research Scholars



Large majority of researchers rely upon theses, dissertations, tech. reports and proceedings of CSW in the highest range of 75% to 100% for research endevour.

Gender-wise Response on Knowledge of GL Collection of Regional Libraries



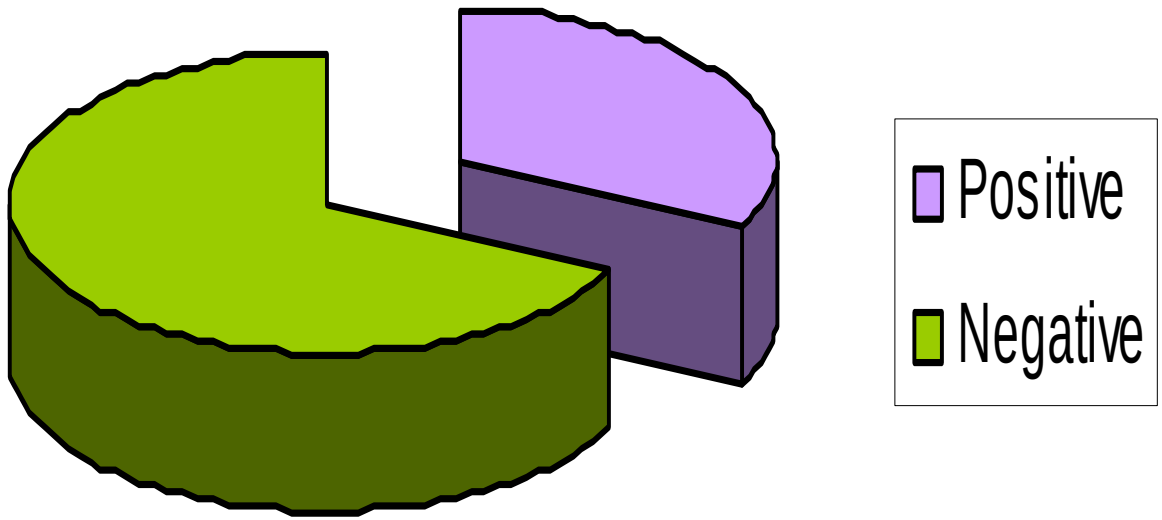
- Large segment of female users are unaware of GL collections of Regional Libraries.
- They need union lists / on-line catalogues / Orientation.

TOTAL GL COLLECTION: 131795

Theses:0.6%
Dissertations: 60.6%
Inst. Pubn.: 7.2%
Trade Lit.: 2.6%
Tech. Rep.: 16.8%
Proceedings: 12.5%

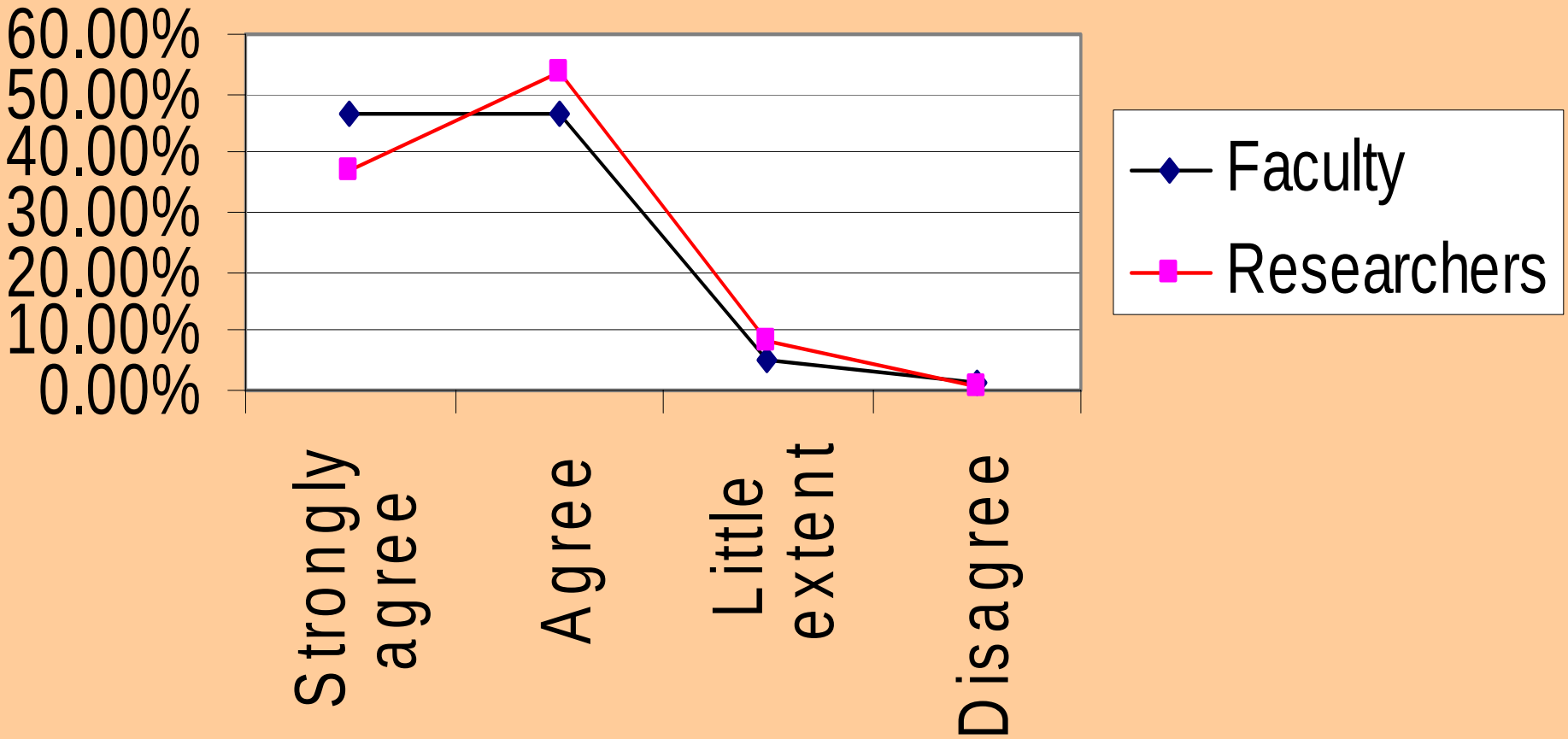
Users: 1260

Response on Weeding-out of Old GL Collection



67% of the respondents prefer to retain the old collection of GL

Response of users on O.P.



The large majority of the faculty and researchers need orientation / training.

Extent of Training Needs of Librarians

The large majority of the working librarians need orientation / training to a Higher Extent.

Conclusions / Recommendations

1. Maintain Institutional Publications and Trade Literature in coloured box files, arranged in the chronological order.
2. Irrespective of cadre, every faculty and researcher be encouraged to participate, recommend and provide feed-back for collection development.
3. Organise O.P. periodically to facilitate access to GL.
4. Augment resource sharing of GL in the network environment. Cooperative programmes be encouraged and nurtured.
5. Vidyanidhi Project of Indian digital theses may also cover theses available with VTU
7. Creation of open repository by VTU is recommended. Digitization of Proceedings to be taken-up on feed back of users :
    - ❖Digitise entire collection of proceedings
    - ❖Digitise only the recent ones of 3 to 5 years
    - ❖Digitise only the active collection / those that are in demand
    - ❖Digitise considering areas of research interest / thrust areas of research

Digital repositories facilitating on-line access is recommended. VTU has to venture in this direction to augment quality research.