



Cairo University



Faculty of Mass Communication  
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## **Egyptian Faculty Members and Students Internet Usage as a Resource of Academic and Research Information**

A Thesis submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Master Degree  
in Mass Communication

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### **Abstract**

This study was designed to investigate the status of the internet usage by faculty members and students of Egyptian public and private universities. It determined the percentage and degree of faculty members and students use of internet applications and services, and the gratifications they get and their attitudes towards it.

It also determines social media uses among faculty members and students for academic activities and their attitudes towards it, and finally the obstacles facing them, restricting the increase and development of their utility.

It also examined the manner of faculty use of the internet and the differences in the previous issues with respect to: the university type, specialization, academic rank for faculty members and students' level, beside some demographic characteristics such as: age and gender.

A questionnaire was distributed to a purposive sample of 200 faculty members and 400 students in Alexandria university and Pharos university.

The most important results were:

-The results showed that the most important difficulties faced by faculty members are the problem of confidentiality, participation in some specialized sites and lack of confidence in some information. The students expressed confidence in the information they receive from the Internet. The students agreed with their professors regarding the problem of lack of specialized sites in Arabic.

-The results showed statistically significant differences in usage ratios between the Alexandria University and Pharos University for faculty members and students.

-The results showed a statistically significant relationship between the Alexandria University and the Pharos University in the rate of use of faculty members of the Internet in the research and academic purposes in favor Pharos University, the students explained a relationship of statistical significance for the benefit of Alexandria University.

- The most important motivation of the faculty members: Pursuing developments in areas of interest, while students were at the forefront of their motivation: dialogue and communication with colleagues and agreed with students and their teachers in satisfying the field of access to new and valuable information in the field of specialization.

-The faculty members and students in Egyptian universities agreed on the importance of balancing the internet and paper resources as sources of research and academic information. There was a neutral tendency by students and faculty members to dispense with the traditional library.

-The results indicated positive attitudes of faculty members towards communication with students by 60%. The students were neutral in their attitudes towards academic communication with their teachers by 80% through social networking sites.

-The results of faculty members and students showed a statistically significant relationship between the Alexandria University and the Pharos University in providing a good technological environment to benefit from the Internet in the research and academic process in favor of the Pharos University.

Recommendations for raising the level of internet utilization among faculty members and students were suggested.