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**INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBERS AT  
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

BY

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## ABSTRACT

The study investigated the information seeking behaviour of academic staff members at NUST. Wilson's first information-seeking behaviour model (1981) was adopted as the theoretical framework. The study sought to identify the academic staff members' information needs, preferred information sources and services, information seeking methods, challenges faced in seeking information and suggest possible ways of curbing the challenges. Both quantitative and qualitative research approaches were employed. The quantitative research design was the dominating paradigm. A cross sectional survey research methodology was employed with the use of questionnaires and interviews to gather data. The population was largely academic staff members; however the faculty librarians were included in the study to validate results from academic staff members. 138 respondents out of the targeted sample size of 207 academic staff members and 5 out of the 6 faculty librarians participated. Academic staff members were sampled using the stratified random sampling method. From the strata, respondents were then randomly selected. Purposive sampling was used to select faculty librarians. The results revealed multifarious needs of academic staff members regardless of faculty. Academic staff members from all the faculties preferred using the Internet, books and journals. However, it could not be ruled out that other academic staff members still relied on other library sources such as reference works. Reference and circulation services were the most sought after services by academic staff members who did visit the library. Common challenges when seeking information included lack of latest/current information, the library's location being far away, and poor library facilities. Recommendations were that the library should organise workshops/seminars on accessing information resources. To curb the crippled budgets libraries face, the NUST library should purchase latest books on behalf of academic staff members using funds from the academic staff members' academic accounts without the academic staff members individually going through the process themselves.