



## Availability and Challenges with Journals on Library and Information Profession for First Hand Acquisition of Information: Study of Kogi State University Library, Anyigba, Nigeria

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**ABSTRACT:-** Journals on library and information profession support scholarly communication and update of knowledge among the library and information professionals both in practice and in training. The purpose of the study is to know the available and challenges with journals on library and information profession in Kogi State University Library, Anyigba, Nigeria. Descriptive survey design was adopted. The instruments of data collection are questionnaire and personal observation. The questionnaire comprises of two (2) Tables. Simple percentage were used to analyzed Table 1; while criterion Mean ( $\bar{X}$ ) weight of 2.50 were used for Table 2 where,  $\geq 2.50$  is significant (considerable response) and  $< 2.50$  is not significant (inconsiderable response). Data analyzed in Table 1 which is availability of Journals on Library and Information Profession shows that library understudy has 16 (12.1%) and do not have 116 (87.9%) out of 132 itemized journals of local and foreign, peer reviewed, academic and professional journals on library and information profession. Data analyzed in Table 2 which is challenges associated with availability of journals on library and information profession indicate the following: lack of gift of journals, poor budget allocation to the library, poor donation of the journals, absence of library policy on professionals journals acquisition, inadequate fund, theft and mutilation of the journals, just among others. Recommendations were proffered to ensure there is very great extent of availability of journals on library and information profession in the Kogi State University Library.

**Keywords:-** Information profession, Journal, Library, University, Kogi state, Nigeria,

### I. INTRODUCTION

Journals are research publication. It is a road that leads to development in every profession. Journals create awareness, and update knowledge that can improve professionals' practice. Precisely, in university environment where a particular course of study and discipline are offered and established; having access to its professional journals publication in the university library is of great important. This is because, university library is to ensure learning, teaching and research [1]. Therefore, the availability of journals both local and foreign in the field of library and information profession will be of great value to library schools and practice librarians in the university library. However, journals availability can be hinder by misappropriate use of library funds; lack/inadequate gift of journals; and poor donation of journals [1]. It is worth noting that, journals on library and information profession is a primary source of information where library and information professionals published their first hand research works and results of both empirical and theoretical to create awareness on new ideas, and development as well as problems solving on issues in the profession. In the same vein, library professionals' journals are publication where librarians publish their papers and expected to be consulted more frequently by the authors and their colleagues for development [2]. Journals on library and information profession are academic journals that are used to publish

results of academic and professional research work [3]. So, it's very imperative that such journals should be available in the university library. However, factors that can affect its availability are theft and mutilation; poor budgeting to the library; and inadequate funds [3]. Hence, examining Kogi State University Library is essential. Kogi State University Library was established and named after Dr. Aliyu Obaje as of the time the Kogi State University was officially opened in April 2000 [4]. Its objectives is to ensure teaching, learning, and research. More to these, Kogi State University has added department of library and information science in the year 2013 to others departments in the university.

## **II. BRIEF REVIEW OF LITERATURES**

Generally, journals contain combination of articles usually referred to as first hand information in every profession. It's published in volume with distinct frequency: monthly, annually these depend on the policy of editorial board. Journals are use by professionals in the field of study to publish the outcome of their research. Journals is a professional publication devoted to disseminate original research and commentary on current developments within a special discipline, sub-discipline or field of study. It is usually published quarterly, bimonthly or monthly issues sold by subscription [5]. That is; to say, journals is a mechanism that stimulate scholarly information communication. In its; latest development and research can be discussed, reviewed and disseminated by others in the same field of profession. Journal is a publication that comes out at periodic intervals. Its communication research result based on latest development in a given field. Journals are important for carrying out scholarly research; find out what has been studied on one's topic and to find bibliographic that point to other relevant research [6]. In another view, journals are publication instrument for dissemination of various aspects of information and knowledge [2]. So, one cannot but agreed that journals helps to acquired first hand information on knowledge and new development in the professions.

Precisely, journals on library and information profession can be referring to as academic journals, peer review published in successive parts with International Standard Serials Number (ISSN) often published by universities and professional bodies. Academic journals are peer-reviewed periodical issues by institutions, corporation or professional or scholarly society in which researchers publishes current news or reports in the form of articles [7]. Journals on library and information profession can also be refer to as academic and scholarly publication that are written by researchers and, or experts in the field of library and information profession to keep abreast of research and means of disseminating research findings in librarianship. It is also observed that journals on library and information profession is a medium of creating awareness as fast as possible among the librarians while, it main objective is to provide leadership in the practice of librarianship [8]. More to these journals on library and information profession is a central force in scholarly communication, because researchers prefer it for publication of their research results and for retrospective scholarly review [9]. In the same vein, journals on library and information profession are used for supporting and resolving specific research projects, and teaching for administrative purpose while, the librarians use it to keep current in their discipline [10]. Hence, one cannot but agreed that, the importance of availability of journals on library and information profession cannot be over emphasis in creating awareness on new innovation, development in libraries and library schools, as well as practicing librarians and library teachers. It's also imperative to note that, journals on library and information profession are purposed for scholarly communication, visibility and aid in making the authors in the profession known to the world.

## **III. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The study is limited to availability and challenges with Journals on library and information profession for first hand acquisition of information in Kogi State University Library, Anyigba. The study has it central focus on the staff that works in collection development and serial units of the university library.

## **IV. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The findings of the study will be of benefit to a number of people such as serial librarians and library management, university management, librarians, and students of library and information profession. To serial librarians and library management, it will help them to know different types of local and foreign journals on library and information profession which should be provided in their university library. To university management, it will help them to know challenges associated with availability of journals on library and information profession; thereby overcome the challenges and make the journals available. To librarians, it will help them to get acquainted with the new practice in the library, update their knowledge and also help them to know precise journals where they can publish their research articles. To students of library and information profession, it will serve as reference point.

## **V. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The following objectives guide the study;

1. To identify the available journals on library and information profession in university library understudy.
2. To identify the extent of challenges associated with availability of journals on library and information profession in university library understudy.

## **VI. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Descriptive survey design was employed. Questionnaire and personal observation were used as instruments of data collection. Nine copies of questionnaire were administered to library staff that works in collection development and serial units; that is, the units that acquire journals and kept them for used in the Kogi State University Library, Anyigba. The questionnaire consists of two tables. Table 1 was designed to know the types of journals on library and information profession that are available. While, Table 2 were designed to determine the challenges associated with the availability of journals on library and information profession. The researchers make personal observation to confirm the availability of named journals on the shelves. Simple percentage was used to analyze data in Table 1. While, Likert Mean response rate were used to determine the challenges on availability of named journal. Hence, the acceptable Mean is 2.50 and above. Where,  $\geq 2.50$  is Significant (considerable response) and  $< 2.50$  is not Significant (inconsiderable response). Specifically, for each items in Table 2 real limit of numbers was used to determine the decision level as follows: Strongly Agree: 3.50 and above; Agree: 2.50 – 3.49; Disagree: 1.50 – 2.49; Strongly Disagree: 0.00- 1.49.

## **VII. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Journals on library and information profession are first hand vital information resources that help effective communication among the professionals in the field of library and information profession. Very great extent of its availability will help the professionals to get acquitted with new knowledge and development in their profession thereby, help to improve on their services. On a contrary, if there is null or it available is very low it will affect the knowledge update of the library and information professionals both in practice and training- library school and this will result to poor practice in the library and graduating of half bake library and information professionals from library school. This justifies the present study and the problem of the study put in question form is: what is the extent of availability and challenges with journals on library and information profession in Kogi State University Library, Anyigba, Kogi State, Nigeria?

## **VIII. DATA ANALYSIS**

### **a. Availability of Journals on Library and Information Profession in University Library Understudy**

From table 1, “Yes” option is 16 (12.1%) while, “No” option is 116 (87.9%). It can be concluded that, there is very low extent of availability of journals on library and information profession.

### **b. Challenges Associated with Availability of Journals on Library and Information profession in University Library Understudy**

From table 2, “lack of gift of journals on library and information profession to the library” has mean weight of 3.78, “poor budget allocation to the library”, “poor donation of journals on library and information profession to the library”, and “absence of library policy on professionals’ journals acquisition” has equal mean weight of 3.67. “Inadequate funds”, “theft and mutilation of journals on library and information profession” and “misappropriate use of library funds”, has mean weight of 3.44, 2.78 and 2.56 respectively. “University management not respond to library needs” has mean weight of 2.00 and while, “library and information professionals do not request for journals in their field” has mean weight of 1.67. Hence, it can be concluded that, all the challenges are considered agreed because their mean weight are above 2.50 as the criterion mean except university management not respond to library needs and library, and information professionals do not request for journals in their field that has below 2.50 as the criterion mean, hereby considered disagreed.

## **IX. DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS**

Journals on library and information profession which can be regarded as scholarly vehicle for effective communication for acquisition of first hand information among the library and information professionals both in practice and in training are not available in good numbers in the university library understudy. The findings from the study revealed that, out of 132 itemized journals on library and information profession only 16 are available..

Despite the importance and values scholars attached to such category of journals [8], [9], [10]. The challenges that led to this are in agreement with the opinions of [1], [3]. Hence, for the university library to overcome the challenges the proffered recommendations must be adherent to.

## **X. SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR FINDINGS**

From the analysis of the data, the following findings were derived:

1. It was discovered that, the university library understudy has very low number of journals on library and information profession. Out of 132 journals listed only 16 were available. These includes African Journal of Library; Archives and Information Science; COMMUNICATE: Journal of Library and Information Science; Gateway Library Journal; Global Review of Library and Information Science; Heart Land Journal of Library and Information Science (H-JOLIS); Informatics; Information Technologist; Journal of Library and Information Science; Journal of the American Society for Information Science; Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology; Nigerian Libraries; Omoku Journal of Library and Information Science; Owena Journal of Library and Information Science; Samaru Journal of Information Studies; Special library; Zaria Journal of Librarianship.
2. The discovered challenges with availability of journals on library and information profession in the university library understudy are lack of gift of journals on library and information profession to the library; poor budget allocation to the library; poor donation of journals on library and information profession to the library; absence of library policy on professionals journals acquisition; inadequate funds; theft and mutilation of journals on library and information profession; misappropriate use of library funds. While, university management not respond to library needs and library and information professionals do not request for journals in their field are not considered as challenge.

## **XI. IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY**

Journals on library and information profession are important publication to publish and disseminate first hand research work; and result in the field of library and information profession. Such journals can also support the standard of the university. Having low numbers of it in university library it will have negative effect on leadership in the practice as against its' objective as reflected [8]. Because, creating of fast awareness on new research works among librarians will be limited. It is also, imperative to note that the objective of established university library which are teaching, learning and research as mentioned by [1] will be affected. Specially, in the named university where there is library school. It will also affect the information dissemination among the librarians and other information professionals; and this will be against the observation of [9] regarded journals as a central force in scholarly communication. Hence, these call for more available of journals in the field of library and information profession in university library, Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria.

## **XII. CONCLUSION**

Journals on library and information profession are primary sources of information. It provides first hand information which can help the professionals to acquire new knowledge and get acquainted with latest development in their profession. It is revealed from the study that, the university community that has both university library and library school did not have commendable journals on library and information profession in their university library. Hitherto; there are challenges associated with this. Hence, this category of library resource is vital and need to be made available in the university library in very great extent where it will be of advantageous to both library and information professionals in training and in practice.

## **XIII. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the findings the following recommendations are proffered.

1. There should good budget allocation to the university library so that they can procure the needed journals on library and information profession.
2. There should be critical monitoring of library funds. That is; when the funds has been allocated to the university library the spending should be properly monitor for priority of information resources of which journals on library and information profession is essential.
3. Both local and foreign publishers that can donate journals on library and information profession should be consulted.
4. The State government, philanthropists, and other library friends both within and outside the country should be consulted to donate named journals or, and, to raise fund hereby, journals on library and information profession can be purchase.

5. There should be good security measure in the library. Such as at the exit, good lighting, installation of electronic security camera, burglarized the windows to avoid losing out the available named journals to theft and mutilation.
6. The university management needs more orientation on the importance of journals on library and information profession in university library in support learning, teaching and research of library profession.
7. There should be provision of library policy on professionals' journals acquisition.
8. The library and information professionals both in training and practice need more orientation on the importance of journals in their profession.
9. There should be follow up on library budget allocation in favor of journals on library and information profession.

**Table 1: Available of Journals on Library and Information Profession in University Library Understudy**

S/N	List of Journals	Yes	No
1	African Journal of Library, Archives and Information Science	√	
2	COMMUNICATE: Journal of Library and Information Science	√	
3	Gateway Library Journal	√	
4	Heart Land Journal of Library and Information Science (H-JOLIS)	√	
5	Informatics	√	
6	Information Technologist	√	
7	Journal of Library and Information Science	√	
8	Journal of the American Society for Information Science	√	
9	Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology	√	
10	Nigerian Libraries	√	
11	Nigerian Library and Information Science Review.	√	
12	Omoku Journal of Library and Information Science	√	
13	Owena Journal of Library and Information Science	√	
14	Samaru Journal of Information Studies	√	
15	Special library	√	
16	Zaria Journal of Librarianship	√	
17	Adriadne		√
18	American Libraries		√
19	Annals of Library and Information Studies.		√
20	Annals of Library Science & Documentation`		√
21	Archival Science		√
22	Asian Libraries		√
23	Aslib Proceedings		√
24	Australian Academic & Research Libraries		√
25	Australian Library Journal		√
26	BID:Texts universitaris of librarianship and Documentation		√
27	Biomedical Digital Libraries		√
28	Brazilian Journal of Information Science		√
29	Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology.		√
30	Chinese Librarianship		√
31	CLIS Observer		√
32	Collection Building		√
33	D.Lib Magazine		√

34	DESIDOC Bulletin		√
35	DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology		√
36	D-Lib Magazine		√
37	Electronic British Library Journal		√
38	Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship		√
39	Electronic Library		√
40	Evidence Based Library and Information Practice		√
41	Global Review of Library and Information Science		√
42	Grantha: Indian Journal of Library Studies		√
43	Herald of Library Science		√
44	Huntington Library Quarterly		√
45	IASLIC Bulletin		√
46	IFLA Journal		√
47	ILA Bulletin		√
48	Indian Journal of Information Library and Society		√
49	Information Bulletin for Librarians		√
50	Information manager		√
51	Information Research: An International Electronic Journal		√
52	Information Retrieval		√
53	Information Science		√
54	Information Technology and Libraries		√
55	Information Technology Journal		√
56	Interdisciplinary Journal of Information, Knowledge & and Management		√
57	International Information and Library Review		√
58	International Information Communication & Education		√
59	International Journal of Digital Curation.		√
60	International Journal of Educational Technology		√
61	International Journal of Library and Information Science.		√
62	International Journal of Special Libraries		√
63	International Journal on Digital Libraries		√
64	International Journal on E-Learning		√
65	International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science.		√
66	International Review of Information Ethics		√
67	International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning		√
68	Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship		√
69	Italian Journal of Library and Information Science.		√
70	Journal of Academic Librarianship		√
72	Journal of Business and Finance Librarianship		√
73	Journal of Digital Information.		√
74	Journal of Documentation		√
75	Journal of information Age		√
76	Journal of Information Science.		√
77	Journal of Informetrics		√
78	Journal of Knowledge Management Practice		√
79	Journal of Librarianship and Information Science		√
80	Journal of Library Administration		√
81	Journal of the Medical Library Association		√
82	Journal of University Librarians Association of Sri Lanka		√
83	Knowledge Organization		√
84	Law Library Journal		√
85	Library		√
86	Library & Information Research: Research onto Practice for information & Library		√

	Services.		
87	Library & Information Science Research		√
88	Library and Information Practitioner		√
89	Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services		√
90	Library Consortium Management		√
91	Library Herald		√
92	Library Hi Tech News		√
93	Library Hi Tech.		√
94	Library Journal		√
95	Library Leadership and Management.		√
96	Library Management		√
97	Library Philosophy and Practice		√
98	Library Practice.		√
99	Library Quarterly		√
100	Library Review.		√
101	Library Trends		√
102	Libres		√
103	LIBRES: Library and Information Science Research		√
104	Libri: International Journal of Libraries and Information Services		√
105	Malaysian Journal of Library & Information Science		√
106	Malaysian Journal of Library and Information Science		√
107	Marketing Library Services		√
108	New Library World		√
109	New Review of Children Literature and Librarianship		√
110	New Reviewed of Academic librarianship		√
111	Perspectives in International Librarianship		√
112	Portal: Libraries and the Academy		√
113	Program		√
114	Progressive Librarian		√
115	Publishing Research Quarterly		√
116	Records Management Journal		√
117	School Libraries in Canada		√
118	School Libraries Media Research		√
119	Science & Technology Libraries		√
120	Scientometrics		√
121	Serial Librarian		√
122	Singapore Journal of Library & Information Science		√
123	SRELS Journal of Information Management		√
124	Srels Journal of Information Management		√
125	Studies in Media & Information Science		√
126	Texas Library Journal		√
127	Transformations: Liberal Arts in the Digital Age.		√
128	UNESCO Journal of Information Science librarianship and Archives Administration		√
129	Urban Library Journal		√
130	Virginia Libraries		√
131	Webolog		√
132	World Libraries		√

**Source:** Authors' experience and field survey

**Response:** √



**Table 2: Challenges with Availability of Journals on Library and Information Profession**

S/no	Challenges	4	3	2	1	$\bar{X}$	Rnk	Dec
		SA	A	D	SD			
1	Lack of gift of journals on library and information profession to the library	7	2	-	-	3.78	1 <sup>st</sup>	SA
2	Poor budget allocation to the library	7	1	1	-	3.67	2 <sup>nd</sup>	SA
3	Poor donation of journals on library and information profession to the library	6	3	-	-	3.67	2 <sup>nd</sup>	SA
4	Absence of library policy on professionals journals acquisition	6	3	-	-	3.67	2 <sup>nd</sup>	SA
5	Inadequate funds	6	2	-	-	3.44	3 <sup>rd</sup>	A
6	Theft and mutilation of journals on library and information profession	-	7	2	-	2.78	4 <sup>th</sup>	A
7	Misappropriate use of library funds	-	5	4	-	2.56	5 <sup>th</sup>	A
8	University management not respond to library needs	-	1	7	1	2.00	6 <sup>th</sup>	D
9	Library and information professionals do not request for journals in their field.	1	-	3	5	1.67	7 <sup>th</sup>	D

Source: Field Survey

Key: SA- Strongly Agree; A- Agree; D- Disagree; SD- Strongly Disagree; X- Mean; Rnk- Rank; Dec- Decision

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