RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROVISION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES AND USE OF DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARIES IN UNIVERSITIES IN NIGERIA

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Abstract
The paper examined the relationship between resources provision and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities. A descriptive survey was the research design adopted for the study while the undergraduates and academic staff constituted the study population. Stratified sampling method was used to select six conventional federal universities in Nigeria. A systematic random sampling method was further adopted to select a sample size of 2,534. Questionnaire was the research instrument used to collect data. Descriptive statistics was employed to analyse the research questions while Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to test the hypotheses. From 2,534 copies of questionnaire distributed to the respondents, 2,157 were returned and found usable showing a response rate of 85.1%. The study revealed that availability of information materials can significantly influence the use of the materials in the departmental libraries of Nigerian universities. Provision of competent and adequate personnel can contribute to the use of the departmental libraries. There was inadequate provision of information resources in the departmental libraries in terms of variety and currency of the collection. Departmental libraries experienced inadequacy of staff. The paper recommended that the university library management should endeavour to provide adequate information resources with adequate collection in order to meet user expectation. For effective patronage of the libraries, there should be provision for electronic resources which can enhance resource sharing with minimum cost.

Key words: Departmental Libraries, Relationship, Resources, Universities, Use

Introduction
Information has been adjudged as a vital tool for the success of any organization (Adetiminrin, 2007; Emerole and Ogugua, 2007; and Popoola, 2008). Universities in Nigeria require information to function effectively. Specifically, the quality of teaching, research and community service of social scientists in any university system depends on information sources and services (Popoola, 2008). To satisfy the information needs of lecturers and students, well stocked and adequately staffed libraries are required in the universities. The quality of academic programmes in a university can be determined by the quality of its library resources and particularly in a departmental library.

According to Prytherch (2000), a departmental library can also be called branch library, faculty library, laboratory collection or office collection. It is a library in a college or university which is apart from the main library and restricted to one subject or group of subjects. In another perspective, a departmental library is referred to as a special library which renders library and information service to a department or component of a department requiring a full-time specialized service on a daily basis. In Nigerian universities in essence, a branch library is a library situated in departments or faculties/schools for the benefit of their immediate community (students and staff).

It has been observed that the establishment of departmental libraries in universities has become a norm especially for the departments offering professional courses. This is usually evident during the accreditation exercise where, the accreditation team also assesses the departmental library immediately after that of the main library. It is therefore a matter of note that the departmental libraries are becoming more important. The quality of departmental library services to a great extent depends on the availability of essential resources. The most significant factor in the provision of resources for the use of departmental libraries is finance. Ahmed and Nwalo (2013) while quoting Kumar describe finance as an essential factor for running a library and that the amount of funds made available towards library resources would determine to a large extent the quality of the resources and services provided by it.

In a departmental library, like the central library, staff occupies an indispensable position in the achievement of set objectives. In this regard, Joseph and Urhiewhu (2016) observes that staffing is one of the determinant factors for a successful accreditation in any university. In addition, a major responsibility of a library to its parent body is the supply of information resources for effective utilization by its clientele. It is the primary duty of librarians to ensure that current, adequate and relevant information resources are made available and accessible for user satisfaction (Onwukanjo and Men, 2017). In essence, availability of adequate information resource (print, non-print and electronic) is *sine qua-non* in every academic library. Consequently, a well selected, acquired and organized collection can effectively encourage its maximum use.

A departmental library is meant to bring information services to the door steps of the users. It is, therefore, expected to enjoy high patronage especially if it is well equipped and adequately staffed. In an academic community, students, lecturers and researchers are always encouraged to visit the library frequently if materials that can satisfy their information needs are available and the library staff are user friendly. Abubakar (2007) avers that the adequacy of information will normally prompt a reaction to its use particularly by the academia. This will stimulate progress and development in the overall system.

For effective learning, teaching and research in the university, the library's information resources should be relevant, current and in a variety of formats such as text books, journals, magazines, indexes and abstracts, encyclopedia, government publications, publications of international organisations, theses and dissertations, research and technical reports, microforms and electronic databases. However, Gbaje (2007) reveals that the inability of a library to stock relevant books and other literature has a great implication on the activities of academic institutions. There is no doubt that the decline in information resources can result to low library patronage.

From the fore-going, it is pertinent to note that provision of information materials and staffing of departmental libraries will significantly influence their use. Consequently, this study examines the relationship between provision of resources and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities.

Research Questions
The following research questions were answered in the study:
1.   What are the resources available in the departmental/faculty libraries of Nigerian universitiesΩ
2.   How adequate are the resources and services of the departmental/faculty librariesΩ
3.   What factors affect the effective use of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universitiesΩ

Hypotheses
The following null hypotheses were tested in the study at 0.05 level of significance:
1.   There is no significant relationship between availability of information resources and use of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universities.
2.   There is no significant relationship between staffing and use of   departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universities.

Review of Related Literature
Joseph and Urhiewhu (2016) describe academic libraries as the heart or nerve centres of institutions of higher learning where all academic activities revolved. It was further noted that these libraries are at the forefront of providing information resources and services to their respective communities which comprises of students, lecturers and researchers in order to support their learning, teaching and research needs.

Abubakar and Ibrahim (2017) affirm that information resources provision is a fundamental to effective functioning of any library and it entails selecting, organizing and disseminating the available and relevant information resources both in print and non – print media for easy accessibility and use of the materials by the target library clientele. It is believed that in an establishment, no significant research, training and administrative services delivery can be attained without the provision and efficient use of information resources and particularly in a special library.

Kumar (2009) observes that libraries in tertiary institutions are aggressively changing by adopting new technology in all activities of print to digital environment where various traditional techniques are replaced by electronic devices which provide opportunity for online accessibility. To Ogunniyi etal (2011), a well stocked collection and organized library is a pride to any educational institution which will definitely help in meeting its learning, teaching and research needs.

Singh and Kaur (2009) affirm that preservation, access to and use of knowledge and information are the main mandate of academic libraries alongside supporting the mission of their parent institutions which is teaching and research. To Onwurah and Infeka (2012), academic libraries are meant to cater for the research activities of both students and researchers.

Joseph and Urhiewhu (2016) note that manpower or personnel is one of the major factors or determinants require to the success of a university and particularly academic libraries during the period of accreditation. They however observed that in recent times, many academic libraries are understaffed and lack basic skills needed in the smooth running of a standard academic library.

Abdulrahman, Asongo and Adie (2017) believe that adequate funds must be provided for academic libraries in Nigeria to possess require resources and render effective service to their target users. They noted with dismay that in Nigeria, most of the academic libraries receive far less funding than the percentage usually approved for them by both control government ministry/agency and the parent institutions under which these libraries operate.

The determination of resources needs for specific activities according to Alan in Abdulrahman, Asongo and Adie (2017) is integrated with process of defining and initiating the activity. This may takes personnel responsibilities, space allocation, staff training, procurement decision, budget etc. Resources provision as perceived by Ahmed and Nwalo (2013) entails all plans and efforts geared toward making available the right personnel and information resources that can facilitate effective service delivery and encourage users' patronage of the libraries. To them, quality staff and materials will always attract high library use. This is in agreement with Abubakar (2007) who notes that availability of adequate information material in this modern society will normally prompt a reaction to its utilization.

Mustapha (2017) asserts that information resources utilization in academic libraries depends on the provision of adequate and relevant information resources and their access by patrons as well as the consideration of their information needs. To this effect, he proposed that librarians should take adequate current information materials for easy access by the patrons. For information resources to satisfy the requirement of utilization according to Indiegbeyan and Idahosa (2012), they must have three attributes namely; accuracy, timeliness and relevance.

Research Methods
A descriptive survey design was adopted in the study. The study population comprised the undergraduates and academic staff in five faculties of the six selected conventional federal universities in Nigeria. Stratified sampling technique was adopted for the selection of the six universities which include: University of Maiduguri (UNIMAID); University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN); University of Benin (UNIBEN); University of Ilorin (UNILORIN); University of Ibadan (UI) and Ahmadu Bello University Zaria (ABU). Systematic random sampling method was further used to select a sample size of 2534. The main instrument adopted to collect data was the questionnaire which was validated by pre-test and expert advice. The research questions were analysed using descriptive statistics while the hypotheses were tested using Pearson Product Moment Correlation.

Table1: Distribution of questionnaire and response rate

Universities	Number of questionnaire (user) distributed			Number of questionnaire returned		Usable number	
	Student	Academic staff	Total	F	%	F	%
UNIMAID	553	50	602	563	93.4	507	84.1
UNN	525	57	582	527	91.0	448	77.0
UNIBEN	372	53	425	371	87.3	356	83.8
UNILORIN	285	40	325	315	96.9	304	93.5
U.I	259	53	312	298	92.3	275	88.1
A.B.U	236	51	287	276	96.2	267	93.0
TOTAL	**2230**	**304**	**2534**	**2340**	**92.3**	**2157**	**85.1**

Table 1 reveals that out of 2,534 copies of the questionnaire administered to departmental library users, 2,157 were retrieved and found usable for the analysis, giving a response rate of 85.1%.

Results and Discussion
The results of the data analysis have been presented and discussed in order of research questions and hypotheses

Research question 1: **What type information resources are available in the departmental libraries in Nigerian universities?**
To determine the available information resources in the departmental/faculty libraries of the Nigerian universities, types of information materials and discovery tools were listed for the respondents to indicate whether or not they are available. The result is presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Availability of information resources in the departmental libraries

S/N	Information resources	Available		Not available	
		Responses	Percent	Reponses	Percent
1.	Textbooks	2157	100.0	-	--
2.	Journals – Print	348	16.1	1809	84
3.	Journals – Electronic	-	-	2157	100.0
4.	Newspapers and magazines	271	12.6	1886	87
5.	Encyclopedia	1905	88.3	252	12
6.	Dictionaries	1964	91.1	193	9
7.	Manual catalogue	2157	100.0	-	-
8.	Electronic resources (Databases)		-	2157	100.0
9.	OPAC	-	-	2157	100.0
10.	Internet connectivity	-	-	2157	100.0-
11.	Government publications	284	13.2	1873	87
12.	Grey literature {theses, projects}	697	32.3	1460	68

Table 2 shows that textbooks and manual catalogue were the most available information resources in the departmental libraries in Nigerian universities. This was closely followed by dictionaries and encyclopaedia while the most unavailable information resources were electronic journals, electronic databases, Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), and the internet connectivity. This implies that apart from textbooks, manual catalogue, dictionaries and encyclopaedia, the departmental/faculty libraries lack most of the important information resources. The finding showed that most of the faculty libraries did not possess variety of information materials required for the use of faculty members and students. This situation falls short of expectation as expressed by writers on the subject like Gbaje (2007), Idiegbeyan and Idahosa (2012) and Mustapha (2017). To Mustapha (2017) for instance, information resources

availability in academic libraries are necessary tool that make library services to be effective, sufficient and interesting to user communities. Availability of relevant information materials according to Nwalo (2000) is the hallmark of a library.

Research Question 2: How adequate are the resources and services provided in the departmental libraries?

To determine the adequacy of information resources, staff, services, and the recency of the materials in the departmental/faculty libraries of the Nigerian universities, the users' respondents were presented with some items to tick the most appropriate options. The result is presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Mean and standard deviation of the adequacy of resources, staff, recency and services provided in the departmental libraries (N= 2157)

Information Resources	Very Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Inadequate.	Mean	Stand Dev.
	204	469	797	687	2.08	0.95
Services	Very Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Inadequate	Mean	Stand Dev.
	472	487	613	585	2.44	1.09
Recency of collection	Very Recent	Recent	Outdated	Very out - dated	Mean	Stand Dev
	318	471	840	528	2.36	1.05
Staff Adequacy	Very Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Inadequate	Mean	Stand Dev.
	428	487	644	598	2.48	1.11

From Table 3, majority of the respondents (N=1484; 68.8%) indicated that the information resources of the departmental/faculty libraries were inadequate while 673 (31.2%) of them indicated that the information resources were adequate. This finding is in agreement with that of Okonofua, (2008) who revealed that inadequacy of current and relevant information for learning, teaching and research had been the bane of university education in Nigeria. Similarly, Popoola and Haliso (2009) in their findings also reported that deficiencies in library stock have extreme implication on the academic programme of that institution.

The table also shows that majority of the respondents 1368 (63.4%) indicated that the information materials in the departmental/faculty libraries were not recent. This result is in line with the findings of Okonofua, (2008) who revealed that inadequacy of current and relevant information for learning, teaching and research had been the bane of university education in Nigeria. On staff adequacy, 1242 (57.6%) of the respondents indicated that the departmental/faculty library personnel were inadequate while 915 (42.4%) indicated the staff were adequate. Joseph and Urhiewhu (2016) noted that manpower or personnel is one of the major factors or determinants require to the success of a university and particularly academic libraries. Majority of the users' responses further revealed the inadequacy of services provided in the departmental/faculty libraries and which perhaps can result to dissatisfaction of users. In her study, Fabunmi (2004) disclosed that the quality of library services depends to a large extent on the quality and quantity of its collection and the staff who provide the service.

Research question 3: What are the challenges to the use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universitiesΩ

To identify the obstacles to the use of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universities, a list of possible challenges was provided for the respondents to tick as may be appropriate. The results from their responses are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Mean and standard deviation of the challenges to the use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities in descending order (N=2,157)

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
1. Proximity of the faculty/departmental library affects my frequency of library use	2.54	1.11
2. The use of faculty/departmental library influences my academic performance	2.50	1.11
3. The attitude of faculty/departmental library staff influences the use of the library	2.49	1.11
4. I am satisfied with the use of faculty/departmental library with particular reference to the services provided	2.49	1.11
5. I am satisfied with the use of information resources in the faculty/departmental library	2.32	1.07

From Table 4, the users' responses show that out of the five items listed on challenges to the use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities, only item 1 had high mean score which was above the 2.50 mark on the Likert type, 4 point scale. The item is; proximity of departmental library affects my frequency of library use (mean=2.54, SD=1.11). This is closely followed by item 2: the use of departmental library influences my academic performance (mean=2.50, SD=1.11); item 3: the attitude of departmental library staff influences the use of the library (mean=2.49, SD=1.11) and item 4: I am satisfied with the use of departmental library with particular reference to the services provided (mean=2.49; SD=1.11). The lowest mean value is item 5: I am satisfied with the use of information resources in the departmental library (mean=2.32, SD=1.07). Thus, this implies that the information resources available in the departmental libraries have not encouraged effective patronage by users. (particularly the electronic resources) needed for studies and research.

From the findings, it can be deduced that the inadequacy of human and information resources provision has adversely affected service provision in the departmental libraries of the Nigerian universities and which also affect the use of such libraries negatively. This is similar to the findings of Abubakar (2007), Anaema (2007) and Gbaje (2007) who revealed that inadequate information resources and services with poor attitude of staff have a great implication on the activities of the libraries.

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant relationship between availability of information resources and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities.

Table 5: Correlation coefficient (r) for the relationship between availability of information resource and use

Variables	N	Mean	SD	df	Calculated r-value	Critical r-value	Decision
Information resources provision	2157	12.69	4.2210	2156	0.9560	0. 195	H_0: rejected
Use of departmental libraries	2157	10.28	4.5966				

As shown in Table 5, the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient calculated was 0.9560 which is greater than the critical r-value of 0.195 at 0.05 level of significance and for 2,156 degrees of freedom. Thus, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, there is significant relationship between information resource availability and use of departmental/faculty libraries. There is very high positive correlation

relationship between availability of information resources and use. This means that provision of information resources is a determinant of the use of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universities. It is obvious that users would be motivated to patronize a library with a well organised and relevant collection. To support this view, Abubakar (2007) affirmed that availability of adequate information material in this modern society will normally prompt a reaction to its utilization.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant relationship between staffing and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities.
Table 6: Correlation coefficient (r) for the relationship between staffing and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities

Variables	N	Mean	SD	df	Calculated r-value	Critical r - value	Decision
Staffing	2157	14.12	6.2671				
Use of Departmental Libraries	2157	12.22	5.7942	2156	0.9120	0.195	H_0: Rejected

Table 6 shows that the calculated r-value of 0.9120 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.195 at 0.05 level of significance and for 2,156 degrees of freedom. Based on this, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, there is very strong relationship between staffing and use of the departmental libraries. This implies that the provision of required staff will significantly influence the use of departmental/faculty libraries in the Nigerian universities. In other words, users will be motivated to patronize a particular library if it recruited competent personnel who are also motivated to provide effective services. A library without qualified and adequate number of staff can discourage patrons from its use and thus, the objective of establishing such a library is defeated. In fact, poor attitude of staff can also discourage the use of departmental/faculty libraries. This is contrary to the views of Malumfashi (2008) who noted that the use of information to a great extent depends on the efforts devoted by information professionals in organizing information resources at the right time for the timely use.

Conclusion
This study has revealed that there is a significant relationship between provision of resources and use of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigerian universities. Furthermore, the study has shown that availability of information resources can significantly influence the use of the materials in the departmental libraries. Also, provision of competent and adequate personnel can contribute significantly to the use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities. The study, however, has disclosed that there have not been adequate provision of information resources in the departmental libraries in terms of variety and currency of the collection. In addition, it has shown that the departmental libraries are also experiencing staff inadequacy.

In the light of the foregoing, it is imperative that the use of the departmental libraries will be adversely affected .The use of any library is fundamental to the success of an establishment's goals. The study, has therefore explored the essential variables that can promote significant relationship between resources provision and use of departmental libraries in Nigerian universities.

Recommendations
Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are hereby made:
i. Effective use of departmental libraries is fundamental to the learning, teaching and research process in Nigerian universities. To encourage the use of such libraries, their managements should ensure that adequate information materials are provided and particularly in departmental libraries.

ii. The university library management should also endeavour to update the collection regularly to meet user expectations. It is believed that current information resources provision will attract their effective use. In addition, this should be facilitated with variety of materials.

iii. In this modern period, electronic resources provision is a necessity in departmental libraries in Nigerian universities, more so that some materials are no longer in printed format. For effective patronage of the libraries, there should be provision for electronic resources which can enhance resource sharing or networking with minimum cost. The absence of electronic databases in the departmental libraries as revealed in the study is a matter of great concern and so should be urgently addressed. The university library management should provide electronic resources to departmental library in order to promote effective information service delivery.

iv. Based on the result of the first tested hypotheses which was rejected, the authority of the university libraries is hereby implored to provide or make information resources available as this has a direct impact on users. Availability of these various information resources stands as determinant to their actual utilizations among users.

v. From the outcome of the second hypotheses which tested the relationship between staffing and use of departmental libraries, the management of Nigerian university libraries should employ adequate qualified and skilled personnel that will significantly improve the use of the departmental libraries.

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