RECOVERY OF BAUCHI ROAD CAMPUS LIBRARY OF UNIVERSITY OF JOS

A
Presentation
by
Recovery team coordinators:

[DATTI A.YUNUS; SUNDAY A. MALAN and GABRIEL ARUMONA ; ]

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF JOS, NIGERIA

2nd library seminar presented on the 27th of February, 2014@ ICT Directorate laboratory
PROJECT: REHABILITATION OF BAUCHI ROAD CAMPUS LIBRARY
SPONSOR: TERTIARY EDUCATION TRUST FUND (2010 SIP)
BENEFICIARY: UNIVERSITY OF JOS
CONTRACTOR: PLACE OF PEACE INVESTMENT LIMITED JOS
CONSULTANT: DIRECTORATE PHYSICAL FACILITIES
WHY THE RENOVATION

- Leakages of Water in the Library whenever it rained.
- The need to make the Library more conducive for reading and research for both staff and students.
- To create enabling environment for staff working in the technical sections of the library to operate.
On a number of occasions several attempts were made by library management to renovate the library.

Meetings were held with the Physical Facilities, and the Building Department to facilitate to the renovation but no positive result was achieved.
AWARD OF THE RENOVATION CONTRACT BY TETFUND

The contract to renovate the Library was finally awarded by TETFUND in December, 2012. The work was to last for six months.

GENERAL MEETING

The Library Management held a meeting with all the staff in December 2012 to inform them about the impending renovation work and to discuss the modality for the evacuation of the Library materials, among others in the various units.
The Committees

Four committees were set up by the Library Management to look into the following:

- The modality of evacuating the Library materials.

- Deployment of staff from the main Library where the renovation was to be carried out to the three branch Libraries pending when the renovation would be completed.
The Committees Contd..

- Security of the Library materials: a committee of three people was in charge of this. Some security personnel and porters were instructed to report to work at the Library everyday until the work was completed.

- Committee to evacuate the Library materials: This included the packaging of books, Journals, Govt. Publications, Computer systems and other things safely in the Library while the renovation work continued.
Library Management had an interaction with the Contractor to consider the modality of the renovation work and also to know how long the work was expected to last.
The Library Management also held a meeting with the students’ union leaders to inform them about the renovation plan and also to tell them that the renovation work would last for six months. The students were pleased with the Library Management for the noble plan.
Every staff was involved in the evacuation and packaging of the Library materials, computer systems among others.
DEPLOYMENT OF STAFF

Some staff were deployed to the branch Libraries while others commenced their pending annual leave.

Also, some porters and security staff were left to keep vigil of the Library while the renovation continued.
VACATION OF THE LIBRARY

The Library was finally vacated on Monday, 4th February 2013 to create room for the proper commencement of the renovation work.

THE RENOVATION OF THE LIBRARY

The renovation work properly began on 4th February, 2013 after the Library was vacated.
FIRE INCIDENT IN THE LIBRARY

During the renovation there was a fire outbreak in the Library which affected mostly the Circulation Unit and the computer Laboratories 1 and 2. The fire incident destroyed all the reserve collections, the public catalogues, the computer systems and the server. This halted the renovation for sometimes while the Physical Facilities who were the consultant for the renovation were assessing the general damage.
LIBRARY FIRE
EVACUATION OF TETFUND BOOKS TO PERMANENT SITE LIBRARY

After the fire incident, TETFUND books purchased for the Library use but were yet to be inspected were evacuated to the Permanent Site Library for safety.

RENOVATION WORK RESUMED

After the assessment of the damage was done, the renovation resumed.
The renovation work was finally completed and the Library was handed over to the Vice-Chancellor on 19th December, 2013.

RENovation Work Concluded

The VC, Library Overseer and the Registrar on the handing over day

The Library Overseer explaining something to the VC and the Registrar
GENERAL STAFF MEETING

The then Library Overseer summoned a general staff meeting at the Faculty of Law Lecture Room where he announced the formal handing over of the Library and directed all staff to report to the Main Library on 3rd January, 2014.
On resumption of duty on 3rd January, 2014, the then Library Overseer directed Mallam Datti Yunus A., Sunday A. Malan and Gabriel Arumona to coordinate the recovery of the Library.
THE MODALITY OF RECOVERY

We planned to execute the work in 12 (twelve) weeks but as a result of the strong commitment of the staff and the motivational attitude of the then Library Overseer we were able to accomplish the work in six weeks.
The then Library Overseer, Dr. Stephen Akintunde in trying to get staff adequately motivated on his own volition generously gave out money to the tune of N73,300 to the staff involved in the work.

Library Overseer motivating both financially and physically
SOME PART OF THE LIBRARY AFTER RENOVATION
SOME STAFF SHELVING READING
THE LIBRARY NOW!
CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED

a) Lack of space in the branch libraries, or even elsewhere on the campus to keep the materials,

b) The difficulty in handling the books from the library and returning them without tampering with the way they were arranged according to their classification marks and shelving procedure,

c) Another serious challenge for us was when we were told to come back and re-arrange some books which we had initially packaged to enable the painters to paint the walls. In the process of this, some of the books with different classification marks were mixed-up.
a) We observed that while most of the staff were willing to do the work with strong zeal, others were reluctant and it took the grace of God for them before they finally joined us to do the work. We also noted that there was another group of staff who felt that it was the responsibility of only the junior staff or the para-professionals to do the work there by negating the spirit of togetherness as one family that has been the culture in the library.
b) We also observed that the shelves, reading tables, and chairs were applied as instruments thereby damaging them in the process
SUGGESTIONS

• It is a wrong notion to say that government work is no man’s work.

• We therefore suggest that whenever there is such work as this in the Library every staff should endeavor to join hands with others.

• We also suggest that the Library Management should continue to demonstrate the spirit of motivating staff not only in cash but also in kind as witnessed in this work.
CONCLUSION

• We thank the University Librarian for finding us worthy to coordinate the recovery of the Library.

• We also thank the entire staff who worked tirelessly with us to speed up the completion of the work, noting that our initial work plan was twelve weeks but we finished it in six weeks instead.
We cannot conclude this presentation without expressing our innermost gratitude to some senior staff who had assisted us in cash or kind, or even both, especially

- Mrs Nankyer
- Mrs Nanlop Bibot Sule
- Miss Anita Amando
- Mrs Akanni
- Mr Darling
- Mrs Deborah Enna
- Miss Precious Amali and
- The Head of Systems and the entire systems unit crew
Having said this, we strongly advise that Heads of Units, especially, the Subject Librarians should always ensure proper supervision of the shelving in their units.
Thank you