



The Availability and Utilization of Print Information Resources for Research by Final Year Library and Information Science Students in University of Jos Library

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ABSTRACT

This study is aimed at investigating the availability and utilization of print information resources for research by final year library and information science (LIS) students in university of Jos library. The specific objectives of the study are to: investigate the types of print information resources available, determine the frequency of utilization, the adequacy, the level of satisfaction and the challenges encountered by final year LIS students with the availability and utilization of print information resources for research in university of Jos library.

The study adopted the survey descriptive method. The research instrument used in data collection was the questionnaire. The population size of final year LIS students was 154. The sample size of 111 respondents was drawn from the population size 154 using Yamane (1976) formula where $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$. The collected data was analyzed using simple percentage. The major findings revealed that the different types of print information resources available for research by final year LIS student's utilization was inadequate. LIS students reported that they face challenges of Inadequate print information resources, Outdated or obsolete information print resources, lack of photocopier for me to photocopy pages of my choice from consulted print information resources Books are out of my reach as they are not quickly shelved after students had consulted them, most print information resources are not relevant in my field of study, Some pages of print information materials are mutilated and Uncordial Librarian-Student Relationship. The LIS students were moderately satisfied.

Keywords: print information resources, utilization, research, academic library, LIS students, Nigeria.

INTRODUCTION

Diverse information seekers in institutions of learning irrespective of their background depend to a great extent on the university libraries to satisfy their information needs. These information resources contain intellectual contents which are received by different categories of information seekers with different information needs and the information are either used immediately or after in decision making. Mole (2003) avers that information is an important tool in decision making. In the same vein, Olowu (2004) submits that information as a critical economic resource help improve the knowledge of an individual to take rational decision.

The academic library of any parent institution controls all academic activities of the institution through provision of library information resources in diverse formats to cater for her information users. These information resources are of two main formats: print and non-print (electronic/digital) formats which support the parent institution in teaching, learning, research and all other academic functions of the university. Abubakar (2011) posits that academic libraries are at the forefront of providing information services to their respective communities which comprise of students (e.g. Final year LIS students, Postgraduate students), lecturers, and researchers to support teaching, learning and research. While, Ogunsola (2004) states that the university libraries have long been recognized as the hearts of their universities to fulfill their mission of supporting the educational objectives of the parent bodies, which include; teaching, learning, research and cultural development. Mason (2010), explains that an academic library has the mission to build and maintain a collection that will support and enhance the instructional needs of the institution. He also posited that academic libraries are to provide access to all sources of information. There is a positive correlation between the mission of different types of libraries and the institution or



organization that they are designed to serve. Library information resources are materials which convey, carry or contain information for use by the students (Ugwuanyi, 2007). These information resources as identified by Glenor (2006) includes: almanacs, dictionaries, encyclopedias, directories and legal databases; she further stated the general collections as fiction and non-fiction, home grown newspapers and magazines.

Since information is of great importance to the society because it is essential for individual or organization in planning, decision making and growth; information resources must be available, accessible, adequate, accurate, relevant, genuine and provided on time to the information seekers. Availability of library resources means ensuring their presence in the library for immediate use (Ugah, 2007). The available information resources are not user bound as they can be utilized by all categories of students, lecturers and many others in the host community. If print information resources are unavailable for final year LIS student's utilization for research will have a negative attitude towards the library as they will begin to move further away. Maram and Ogun Rowbi (2008) confirm that high unavailability of library resources in most universities' libraries have a negative effect on the use of library facilities in the university. Okeh (2008) in a similar vein state that there is unavailability of library resources rate of 70% in most Nigerian libraries.

On the other hand, Ugwuanyi (2012) asserts that utilization of information resources is making use of the available resources by the students through adequate access where the library ensures that the resources are acquired and processed as well as making them readily available and utilized at the right time through the right medium through which students would be able to make use of such resources. They cannot be utilization of library print information resources without its availability; but they can be availability of print information resources without it being utilized or under-utilized due to several factors such as: lack of awareness, poor access, poor knowledge on how to use the library and so on. Thus, utilization of the available information resources is paramount to every academic library management as it determines the user's satisfaction goal of the library. It is the knowledge from the fact that the designated information resources are available that will prompt final year students to come to the library and use such resources or not. The two are inseparable. It is similar to the library and library patrons. Even the library staff cannot render their services properly if the necessary print library information resources are not available for utilization. Thus, the print information resources in university of Jos library is expected to be available, adequate for utilization by final year LIS students' research, learning and study. To this, Awana (2000) explains that reading materials, no doubt, are one of the essentials or important resources needed for effective learning of any course or subject. They will continue to be one of the main sources of information and knowledge to both students and teachers.

Research is a prerequisite for library and information science (LIS) final year students for the completion of their undergraduate Degree Programme for the award of Bachelor in Library and Information Science (BLIS) Degree in the University of Jos. This crop of students needs print information resources to carry out their final year thesis.

In Nigeria, Oyewusi and Oyeboade (2009) reported that academic libraries face problems of ever-increasing population growth, inadequate library facilities, resources and insufficient funding. Print information resources availability, and utilization are important factors in knowledge acquisition, learning and research. The library is significant to the academic performance from both student-learner and faculty-teacher perspectives (Popoola and Haliso, 2009). Therefore, for the library to be relevant to higher education objectives, its functions of information delivery must be executed efficiently and timely (Nwachukwu, Abdulsalami and Salami, 2014).

In line with the afore-mentioned facts, this study seeks to investigate the availability and utilization of print information resources by final year LIS students in university of Jos library.

Statement of the problem

The university of Jos Library being an academic library has the responsibility of providing final year library and information science (LIS) students with different relevant print information resources for research utilization and other purposes. Due to the important contents of print information resources, the university library acquired, catalogued and classified them into their respective subject areas, displayed appropriate through shelving for utilization by final year students. All these processes are geared towards making the print information resources available, adequate, easy consultation and retrieval by this category of students. If final year LIS students utilize the available resources as supposed, they will visit the library more and the users' satisfaction goal of the library will be met.

However, in recent time, due to the introduction of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), which gave birth to the internet, the availability and utilization of print information resources is under threat as most library administrators are now focusing on digital libraries rather than acquiring more print information resources for final year students and other



library patrons utilization. The few available ones are either inadequate or obsolete. Space constraints is another problem. Print information resources are usually displayed on different shelves according to their subject areas and these wooden or iron shelves usually take much spaces in the library and thus most of them are converted into digital format and accessed electronically by library patrons. The cut in budgets/poor funding and rising cost of print information resources all affect the availability and utilization by final year students., over population of students which lead to increasing demands of print information resources, untimely shelving, lack of photocopiers to enhance photocopying vital pages needed by LIS students, poor knowledge of the library organization by the students and many others have led to the decline in the availability and utilization of print information resources. This study therefore seeks to investigate the availability of print information resources and its utilization by final year students for research in university of Jos, Nigeria.

Purpose of the Study

The general purpose of the study is to investigate the availability and utilization of library print information resources for research by final year library and information science students at university of Jos.

The specific objectives were to:

1. investigate the types of print information resources available for research by final year students of library and information science at university of Jos library.
2. determine the frequency of utilization of print information resources for research by final year students at university of Jos library
3. find out the adequacy of print information resources for research by final year students. in university of Jos library
4. determine the level of final year student's satisfaction with the availability and utilization of print information resources for research in university of Jos library.
5. determine the challenges encountered by final year students with the utilization of print information resources for research in university of Jos library.

Questions were posed along the stated objectives as follows:

Research questions

1. What are the types of print information resources available for final year students of library and information science utilization for research at university of Jos library?
2. What is the frequency of utilization of print information resources for research by final year students at university of Jos library?
3. What is the adequacy of print information resources for research by final year students in university of Jos?
4. determine the level of final year student's satisfaction with the availability and utilization of library print information resources in university of Jos?
5. determine the challenges encountered by final year students with the utilization of library print information resources in university of Jos?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Yamson, Appiah, and Tsegah(2018) in their study on Electronic vs. Print Resources: A Survey of Perception, Usage and Preferences Among Central University Undergraduate Students attempted to discern why respondents used their preferred information resources. Among the answer choices included on the survey were: accessibility, completeness, ease of use, accuracy and currency. Majority of the respondents 118(50.2%) preferred print resources because of its accessibility, 107(45.3%) agreed that print resources was complete in itself, while 147(63.6%) asserted that they found it easy to use their preferred resources. In terms of accuracy majority of the respondents 115(48.9%) agreed print resources were more accurate than its counterpart. On information resource format that the respondents preferred to use for their academic work, majority 134(57.0%) of the respondents always preferred print resource formats for their academic work while 101(43%) occasionally preferred the electronic resource formats for academic work. The findings revealed that the demand for print resources format is very high among central university undergraduate students.

Udo-Anyanwu, Jeff-Okafor and Mbagwu (2012) compared the use of library resources between students at Imo State University and Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education. They grouped library materials into three broad categories namely: oral information; printed information and digitized information. The study established that in both libraries, students utilized printed information more than digitized information and oral information were never used in any of the libraries. The study also identified insufficient library space as the greatest problem facing the use of both libraries.

Hammed and Osunrinade (2010) also found out that 64.8% of undergraduate students who responded in their study preferred to use textbooks against 22.1% who used journal. This implied that students perceive textbook and online search engines as the best options to access information for their research work.

Quigley, Peck, Rutter and Williams (2002) study on factors in the selection of information resources among science faculty at the University of Michigan reveals that 67.3% of the respondents preferred print journal resource among the four most frequently selected resources.

Theoretical Framework

This study is supported by the **Expectation Confirmation Theory (ECT)** by [21]. This theory takes its root from the marketing field and it is widely used in consumer behaviour literature to study consumer satisfaction, post-purchase behaviour and service marketing in general [21,22]. The theory is based on five (5) constructs namely: expectation, performance, confirmation, satisfaction and repurchase intention. It suggests that expectations, alongside perceived performance, results in post-purchase satisfaction [22]. This outcome is intermediated via positive or negative confirmation of expectations by performance. If a product/service beats expectation (positive confirmation), post-purchase gratification will take form. On the contrary, if a product/service fails to meet expectations (negative confirmation), consumers' dissatisfaction is probable [22,23]. According to ECT, perceptions based on the performance of a product are directly prejudiced by pre-use expectations, and consequently directly impact confirmation or otherwise of opinions and post-use satisfaction of library information resources. Applying this to our study, final year LIS undergraduate students' expectation represented what their prospects are about the university of Jos library and library print information resources. A final year LIS student library user will form preconceived perceptions about print library information resources before he/she comes to use it. After interactions with library print information resources, confirmation or otherwise of the preconceived perception is arrived at. These assessments or conclusions are arrived at in comparison to the user's initial expectations. When the service of university of Jos Library or print information, resources beat the user's preconceived expectations, the confirmation is positive, which is theorized to increase post-use satisfaction of library information resources by final year LIS students. When the outcome is different from the final year LIS students' user's initial expectations, the confirmation is negative, which is results in decrease of post-use or post-adoption satisfaction of library print information resources.

Conceptual Framework

The model below presents the interconnection between print information resources availability and utilization by final year students of Library and information Science at university of Jos. It shows that the utilization of print information resources for research among final year LIS students in University of Jos Library depends to a large extent on the availability of print information resources in the library. Furthermore, the model reveals that the diverse print information resources available for final year LIS Students is used for research purpose, assignment, supplement lecture notes, obtain up-to-date information in my subject discipline, leisure and other uses.

CONCEPTUAL MODEL

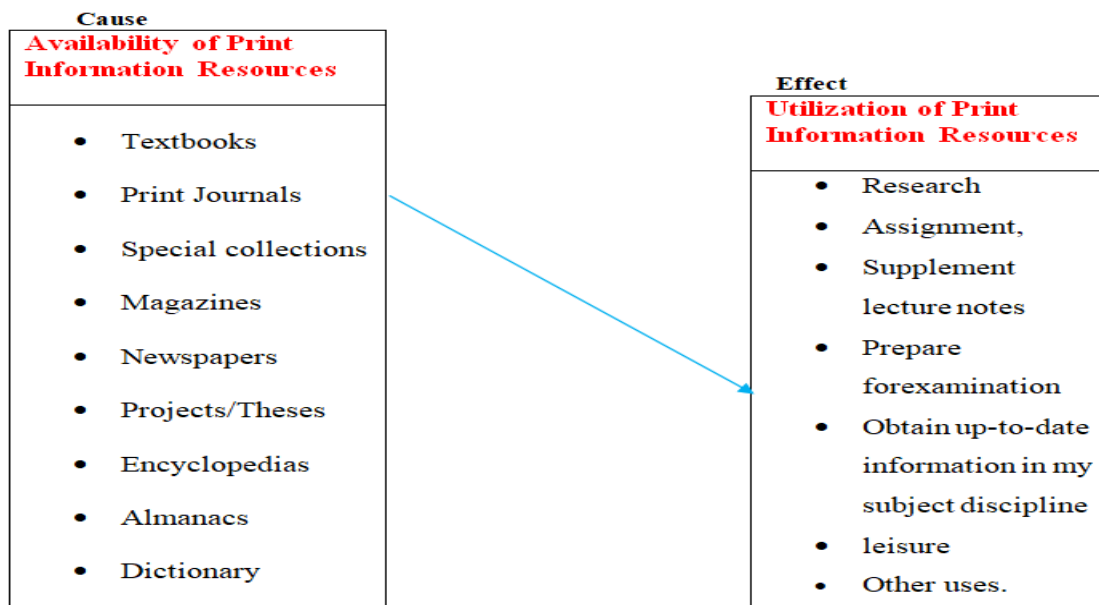


Figure 1 shows the Conceptual Model on Availability and Utilization of Print information Resources for Research by final year library and information science students

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study adopted a survey research design that involved the collection of data using self-constructed and self-administered questionnaire. The study population was 154 final year library and information science students of the University of Jos. The sample size was 111.

Sampling technique

The questionnaire had 2 sections of which section A deals with the demographic information of the respondents and Section B deals with open ended questions with Likert scales to measure the respondent's opinions on the stated variables. each with a 4-point Likert type scale with a binary option of yes or no in some instances.

Population and Sampling Techniques

The entire population of the study comprised of registered 154 Final year students in Faculty of Education, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Jos during the 2018/2019 academic session. Sample size of 111 was drawn from the entire population size of 154 using (Yamane, 1976) formula given as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

where n = Population under study,

e = margin of error (0.05) at 95% confidence limit.

Data collection instrument

The research instrument used was structured questionnaire and it comprises of two main sections namely: Section A aimed at gathering data on the demographic information of the respondents such as gender, age group and marital status. This forms the background information of the study. While Section B consists of five sub-sections (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) aimed at measuring the variables in the study.

Data Analysis and Presentation

Data collected from the primary survey were analyzed using a Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20. Both descriptive and inferential statistics such as simple percentage was to answer the research questions. The data were presented in the form of tables.

Table 1: Demographic variable of respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender		
Male	69	62.16
Female	42	37.84
TOTAL	111	100.0
Age (Years)		
21-25	56	50.45
26-30	32	28.83
31 & above	23	20.72
TOTAL	111	100.0
Single	81	72.97
Married	24	21.62
Others	6	5.41
TOTAL	111	100.0

Researchers' field work, 2017/18

Table 1 reveals that 69 (62.16%) of the respondents were male while 42 (37.84%) were female. 56(50.45) indicated age range of 21-25, 32(28.83%) indicated 26-30 years, and 23(20.72%) indicated age range of 31 & above. On marital status, 81(72.97%) stated they are single, 24(21.62%) are married and 6(5.41%) indicated others.

Answering Of Research Questions

Research Question 1: What are the types of print information resources available for final year students of library and information science utilization for research at university of Jos library?

Table 2: Types of print information resources for final year LIS students' utilization for research

S/No.	Variable	Yes		No	
		Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Print Journals	87	78.38	24	21.62
2.	Old Project/Theses	102	91.89	9	8.11
3.	Textbooks	98	88.29	13	11.71
4.	Newspaper	79	71.17	32	28.83
5.	Magazines	70	63.06	41	36.94
6.	Encyclopedias	75	67.57	36	32.43

The table above shows that old project thesis is available with 102(91.89%): followed by textbooks with 98(91.89%) print journal with 87(78.38%), Newspapers scored 79(71.17%), magazine 70(63.06%) and encyclopedias scored 75(67.57%).

Research Question 2: What is the frequency of utilization of print information resources for research by final year students at university of Jos library?

Table 3: Frequency of utilization of print information resources for research

S/No.	Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Daily	89	80.18
2.	Once a week	10	9.0
3.	Once in two weeks	6	5.4
4.	Occasionally	3	2.70
5.	Never	3	2.70

Table 3 shows that 89(80.18%) respondents used the print resources daily,10(9.0%)stated once a week, 6(5.4%) indicated once in two weeks,3(2.70%) stated occasionally and never respectively.

Research Question 3. What is the adequacy of print information resources for research by final year students' in university of Jos?

Table 4: Adequacy of print information resources for research

S/No.	Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Very adequate	18	16.22
2.	Adequate	6	5.41
3.	Fairly adequate	7	6.31
4.	Inadequate	75	67.56
5.	Very inadequate	5	4.50

The above table 4 shows the opinions of final year library and information science students on the adequacy of print information resources as follows:18(16.22%) indicated very adequate,6(5.41%) statedadequate,7(6.31%) indicated fairly adequate,75(67.56%) indicated inadequate and 5(4.50%) stated very inadequate.

Research Question 4. What is the level of final year student's satisfaction with the availability and utilization of library print information resources in university of Jos.?

Table 5: Level of satisfaction

S/No.	Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Very satisfied	32	28.83
2.	Satisfied	8	7.20
3.	Moderately satisfied	68	61.26

4.	Dissatisfied	3	2.70
5.	Very Dissatisfied	0	0

The table reveals that more than half 68(61.26%) were moderately satisfied; 32(28.83%) satisfied, 3(2.70%) were dissatisfied and none indicated very dissatisfied.

Research Question 5: What are the challenges encountered by final year students with the utilization of library print information resources in university of Jos?

Table 6: Challenges associated with print information resources for research by final year students

S/No.	Challenges	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	Outdated or obsolete information print resources	85(76.58%)	14(12.61%)	8(7.21%)	4(3.60%)
2.	Lack of photocopier for me to photocopy pages of my choice from consulted print information resources	73(65.77%)	26(23.42%)	8(7.21%)	4(3.60%)
3.	Uncordial Librarian-Student Relationship	30(27.03%)	26(23.42%)	15(13.51%)	40(36.04%)
4.	Inadequate print information resources	94(84.68%)	9(8.11%)	6(5.41%)	2(1.80%)
5.	Some pages of print information materials are mutilated	50(45.04%)	36(32.43%)	17(15.32%)	8(7.21%)
6.	Books are out of my reach as they are not quickly shelved after students had consulted them	65(58.56%)	38(34.23%)	2(1.80%)	6(5.41%)
7.	Most print information resources are not relevant in my field of study	57(51.35%)	45(40.54%)	6(5.41%)	3(2.70%)

Table 6 shows Inadequate print information resources as a challenge was scored 94(84.68%), Outdated or obsolete information print resources with 85(76.58%), Lack of photocopier for me to photocopy pages of my choice from consulted print information resources indicated by 73(65.77%), Books are out of my reach as they are not quickly shelved after students had consulted them scored 65(58.56%), Most print information resources are not relevant in my field of study scored 57(51.35%), Some pages of print information materials are mutilated scored 50(45.04%) and least Uncordial Librarian-Student Relationship as indicated by 30(27.03%).

INTERPRETATION OF RESULT

Table 1 reveals that 69 (62.16%) of the respondents were male while 42 (37.84%) were female. Majority 56(50.45) indicated age range of 21-25 and 81(72.97%) stated they are single. This means that more male participated in the study as compared to their female counterpart. Also, large number of final year LIS students are single and in the age range of 21-25.

The types of print information resources available for final year students use for research is presented on table 2 and shows that: old project thesis is available with 102(91.89%): followed by textbooks with 98(91.89%) print journal with 87(78.38%), Newspapers scored 79(71.17%), magazine 70(63.06%) and encyclopedias scored 75(67.57%). Also, old projects/thesis was ranked highest and the reasons may be that the respondents are in the last lapse of degree program and research mandatory for award of BLIS certificate. This means that all the listed types of print information resources are available for final year library and information science(LIS) students' utilization for research.

Table 3 shows that 89(80.18%) respondents used the print resources daily and only few 3(2.70%) indicated they it occasionally and never respectively. This conforms with the findings of [24]while accessing the frequency of use of library information resources found that 436 (64%) respondents indicate that information resources are often utilized.



Table 4 shows the opinions of final year library and information science students on the adequacy of print information resources as follows: 75(67.56%) respondents stated that Print information resources is inadequate. Only 18(16.22%) indicated very adequate. This fact conforms with the assertion of [25] that the library is judged adequate by the quantity and quality of its physical stock

Table 5 reveals that 68(61.26%) were moderately satisfied. Surprisingly, none indicated very dissatisfied. This conforms with the findings of [13] on Availability of infrastructural materials in some colleges of Education in Delta State, Nigeria, with findings showed that 180 (60%) of the 300 respondents disagree while 120(40%) agree that the institution's library has adequate and relevant textbooks to satisfy their academic needs.

Table 6 shows that of all the 7 listed items as challenges associated with utilization of print information resources for research by final year LIS students; Inadequate print information resources was ranked highest with 94(84.68%), followed by Outdated or obsolete information print resources with 85(76.58%), Lack of photocopier for me to photocopy pages of my choice from consulted print information resources was scored by 73(65.77%), Books are out of my reach as they are not quickly shelved after students had consulted them scored 65(58.56%), Most print information resources are not relevant in my field of study scored 57(51.35%), Some pages of print information materials are mutilated scored 50(45.04%) and least Uncordial Librarian-Student Relationship as indicated by 30(27.03%).

This means that all 6 items out of 7 were strongly agreed by final LIS students to be challenges. This is in line with the findings of [9] that high unavailability of library resources in most universities' libraries have a negative effect on the use of library facilities in the university.

CONCLUSION

The study reveals that the library has some print information resources available to support final year Library and Information Science (LIS) students research purpose. This category of students is fully aware of the availability of library print information resources such as: old projects, textbooks, print journals, newspapers, magazine and encyclopedias. They utilize them daily for research purpose. The old projects/thesis was the most utilized and this is a clear sign that the respondents are in the last lapse of the Degree Program and they are mandatorily required to conduct research for the award of Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS). Final year LIS students are majorly faced with inadequacy of print information resources. In addition, outdated or obsolete print information resources, lack of photocopier for me to photocopy pages of my choice from consulted print information resources, books are out of my reach as they are not quickly shelved by library staff after consultation, most print information resources are not relevant in my field of study and some pages of print information materials are mutilated were revealed as challenges associated with print information resources utilization for final year LIS students' research utilization. Although none of the respondent was very dissatisfied but majority indicated they were moderately satisfied with the availability and utilization of print information resources in university of Jos library. Final Year LIS students would utilize the library print information resources for research more if the above mentioned were to be absent. In line with the above findings, we offer the following recommendation to enhance maximum utilization of print information resources for research by final year LIS students in university of Jos library

RECOMMENDATION

- (1). The University of Jos Library Management need to provide adequate and relevant print information resources in Library and Information Science(LIS) for final year students research utilization
- (2.). Consulted print information resources must be promptly shelved according to their designated subject disciplines so final year LIS students can have access to them on time.
- (3). Mutilated print information resources should be withdrawn from the shelves with new ones replaced for final year LIS student's utilization for research purpose.
- (4). Since print information resources available in University of Jos Library for final year LIS student's utilization are inadequate, the Library Management should as a matter of urgency provide Photocopiers for this category of students to photocopy pages of consulted print information resources. This would prompt users' satisfaction on the student's parts and library management part as well.

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