

Creating Global Relevance from Local Space

By

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Some critical thoughts

- “ Introducing the topic
- “ The Mission of the University
- “ The Mission of the Library
- “ The Library: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
- “ The Librarian: Yesterday, today, and Tomorrow
- “ Relationships - the Library and:
 - . Information Communication Technology Centre
 - . Bursary
 - . Library and Information Professional Bodies
- “ What next?

Preliminary remarks

- “ Libraries continue to remain at the centre of learning in all aspects



Source:
http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSYSFO2uru9_YWfClOb_mnqCoyx2URoa_qODjy_70jUnujprLTHZg

Preliminary remarks (*contd.*)

- “ Libraries of universities have given orientation to their institutions, e.g. Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Ibadan, Ife, Zaria, Nsukka, and Jos
- “ Libraries can create global impact and dictate pace of development, e.g. the United States of America Library of Congress
 - . Adoption of its Classification Scheme (LC) and Subject Headings (LCSH) world-wide, especially by University Libraries

Generic mission of Universities

- “ Impart knowledge
- “ Affect communities
- “ Enhance transformation of lives and the environment
- “ All three accomplished through systematic and sustained research

Mission of the Library

” ‘hands’ and ‘legs’ of the university



Mission of the Library (*contd.*)

- “ in accomplishing its mission by providing access to:
 - . Relevant
 - . Current
 - . Usable resources in all formats
- “ Access could be physical or virtual

Being relevant

- “ Organisation of the library for service can affect its relevance and effectiveness:
 - . Subject Libraries
 - “ Emphasis on use of resources
 - “ **preferred** in order to create a working relationship between librarians and patrons in the development and use of the collection
 - “ It is a global trend

or

- . Technical support services
 - “ Emphasis on preparing resources for use
 - “ The *traditional* library service approach

Being current

- “ The library must be a step ahead:
 - . Provide access to up-to-date, real-time online resources
 - . Library staff must be so trained that they are a step ahead of the more dynamic students and staff in information searching and mining today

Usable resources

- “ Library resources should be usable
 - . Not obscure
 - “ Well catalogued and classified
 - “ In good form
 - . Texture should be usable and not brittle
 - . ‘Dying’ resources should be revived through binding and/or re-design/formatting

Compare



with



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Accessed April 15, 2012

The Library Yesterday

- “ House of knowledge
- “ You walk into it
 - . So, access restricted to
 - . ‘opening hours’
 - . Availability of library staff



The Library Today

- “ Centre of knowledge
- “ At your finger tips
- “ The keyword is:
 - . **“Access”**
- “ **from any point**
- “ **with any device**
- “ **at anytime**



<http://t1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRKHHYM8Rgpx8Yj9wgbDzs-apElHNA9WTWpZXe1cmR6eu6XnbAA> Accessed April 15, 2012

Libraries reach out today

“ Institutional Repository:

- . Collecting in one place, the intellectual output of the institution and making it available to the public through open access, e.g.
- . <http://dspace.unijos.edu.ng>

OPAC

“ Online public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

Library websites

- “ Dynamic library websites
 - . Provide links to relevant resources in other websites

Consortium building

- “ Enlists in consortia to gain competitive advantage of costs of books, journals, and access to other library resources, e.g. Nigerian University Libraries Consortium

Social media: not only . . .





The Library Today

- “ Increasingly promotes ‘open access’
- “ Cuts across local boundaries
- “ Relies heavily on information and communications technology (ICT)
- “ Harnesses the vast social networking media to interact with patrons both synchronously and asynchronously

Why?

“ A living dog is . . .



<http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTjQyWn5Ljz88ISBMDEUGX9b32SHhwTclL7jn15EUxn7HbU0nhw>

Accessed April 15, 2012

. . . better than a dead lion!



<http://t3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcT1tW-rFp7QVzc1d2f1a8U48uigDGDHkjq-hOsOJwixGG93gcKC> Accessed April 15, 2012

The Library Tomorrow

“ Who knows?

The Librarian Yesterday

- “ The sage
 - . All-knowing



The Librarian Today

“ The guide by the side



The Librarian of Tomorrow has the world in perspective



Necessary Relationships to build

“ The Library and

- . Patrons

 - “ Staff

 - “ Students

 - “ Other Researchers

- . Information and Communications Technology Centre

- . Management

- . Library and Information professional bodies

What next?

- “ Count the cost
- “ Get involved!
- “ Improve your institutional visibility through effective and interactive library services

A click away

Thank you!

