

SOURCES AND METHODS OF ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of establishing any libraries is to satisfy the users by meeting their needs in the provision of library materials. There is need for adequate availability of the resources in the library for the users' consumption. Lack of needed and useful materials in the library will discourage the users from using the library as it is expected. It is on this basis that the researcher decided to investigate the sources and methods of acquiring materials in university libraries in Nigeria. It also described the concept of selection and acquisition. It further identified the tools for selection and acquisition of library materials; and finally discovered factors that hinder selection and acquisition of library materials in the university libraries. The population of this study consisted of the acquisition librarians in the university libraries in Nigeria. The sample size was one hundred and eleven librarians who were purposefully distributed accordingly. A self-designed questionnaire was used to collect information from the respondents which were suitable to carry out the research. The study revealed that the libraries under investigation acquired their resources through donation, will, purchase, gift, legal depository, interlibrary loan, exchange and subscription as the sources and methods of acquisition of materials in academic libraries. Findings revealed that sources and methods of acquisition of library materials in academic libraries have become quite necessary for an institution that has the interest of the prospective users at heart. It was concluded that the only department that is responsible for the acquisition of library materials is acquisition department and the acquisition librarian should be in the position to identify the best materials to serve the broad objectives of the academic libraries with the support of other librarians. It was therefore recommended that the library under study should procure materials through the various sources and methods and also the academic library should procure all the library materials especially the most current ones for researchers and students for effective study and research activities.

Keywords: Sources, methods, acquisition, library, library resources

Introduction

Resources can be defined depending on the context of its applications. It can mean different things in different application and to different people or individuals. Library resources comprise of two broad categories of resources. They are human and material resources. The human resources refer to the human element that is the entire staff of the library which comprises of professional and Para- professional staff while the material resources comprises of the building, furniture, equipment and collections that is the books and non books materials. Therefore library resources simply refer to the totality of information materials that consists of a library collection or documents. The basic objective of every library is to provide information to support teaching, learning, research and community services. Base on this objective the library is expected to have the resources that will meet the information needs of its clients within the community where it is situated. The library needs to acquire, organize, process, preserve and disseminate the available resources such as books, e- books databases, e-journals and multimedia resources. The resources should be rich and varied. It should cover all the subject areas of the

school curriculum and the users' interest must be considered.

Acquisition can be define as the process of obtaining library materials to satisfy the needs of users, and its work, it's a means by which books and non-books materials are added to the library. Moreover, the essence of selection and acquisition of library materials in academic libraries is to know the relevance of materials to them. According to Nwalo (2003) revealed that selection of library materials is important because of literature explosion, reduction in library budget, reduction in income of library users. Acquisition is one of the basic functions of the librarians. It is expected of the libraries to have acquisition departments. They are responsible for the ordering of books and non books material for effective performance at the library. This procedure is not done by the acquisition librarian alone, the patrons, other staff and management should also be involved in selecting the resources. The lists or recommended slips from the users must be considered. The acquisition librarians should aim at satisfying existing demand, anticipate future needs of the users and ensure that good quality materials are provided, avoid bias in selection and

ensure that useful materials are provided at the right time.

According to Nwalo (2003), the selection of books is the process of selecting objects that are to be purchased from a catalog of publications in every library of every university. This proposal sets out the kind and number of objects to be chosen and purchased and reflects the goals of the organization of the parent. The system for choosing and acquiring materials for university libraries must take into account the institution's purposes, the number of departments and subject areas or disciplines. The amount of research and educational needs of faculty members and the kind of content needed for books and non-book materials. The purchased resources in the academic library are intended to help a program, which ensures that the teachers' attributes are normally needed in choosing suitable materials for students in most academic libraries. The library committee selects the items of the library.

In academic libraries, however, the materials obtained are collected together in many cases by department representatives in the library, users of the library procure materials to consider equipping the library, which is the only way by which library users have access to library materials. The academic has obtained his materials by donation or direct acquisition, trade and technical organization. According to Emmanuel (2016), the platforms or the methodology used for the procurement, purchasing, donation and sharing of library resources, legal deposits, technical organizations have also been established. Isaac (2015) defined some of the problems faced by some Nigerian vendors who are not able to supply libraries when the materials are on demand by our chosen and acquired materials. The biggest issue with the acquisition is that huge big materials are produced abroad. The purchasing content is manufactured outside the world. The acquisition of international books and other materials exposes the purchase of library content constantly to foreign exchange issues. The library resources must be selected and acquired by experienced librarians as the collection and acquisition of library resource can lead to an insufficient selection of usable resources by non-professional librarians.

The books and other valuable library resources can be used, which include serial newspapers, publications by government, pamphlets, technical and research studies, microforms and microfilms, audiovisual materials, and ICOs. Ademodi and Adepoju (2009) have indicated that ICT has catapulted the world into a culture that is based on ideas and knowledge. This is to promote the notion that acquisition librarians will use ICT facilities to provide content. ICTs are specified as the means of entry, reception, storage, transmission of ideas and information transfers through computers and other communication facilities by Adepoju (2020). It is important to remember that academic libraries often supply library books through publishers, job vendors, and displays.

The university library is an institution that is aimed at. It is the main service infrastructure for higher education, education, science and development. The key purpose of creating any library is to meet its clients' wishes, in order to establish a library in any institution by selecting and acquiring materials. They should be given adequate selection at the right time needed by the users. Choosing the library resources to meet the requirements for use in a library to achieve a healthy rise in stock (Anyanwu, 2006).

According to Oduagwu (2002), the collection and procurement of library resources rely on library type as each library is mainly involved in servicing its clients who may be homogeneous or heterogeneous. The most critical feature is the systemic method of guiding purchasing materials which do not need any replacement on their shelves.

Statement of the Problem

The basic objective of every library is to provide information to support teaching, learning, research and community services. Base on this objective the library is expected to have the resources that will meet the information needs of its clients within the community where it is situated. The library needs to acquire, organize, process, preserve and disseminate the available resources such as books, e- books databases, e-journals and multimedia resources. The resources should be rich and varied. It should cover all the

subject areas of the school curriculum and the users' interest must be considered. It is unfortunate that at times the lecturers and students are not involved in the acquisition of library materials which leads to acquisition and selection of materials that are not relevant to the needs of the users. It has been discovered that most of the libraries acquire their resources through bookshop only not considering other sources of acquisition such as gift, will, library exchange, inter-library loan, subscription and other methods of acquisition. It is on this note that the researcher decided to investigate the methods and sources of acquisition of library resources in University Libraries in Nigeria.

Purpose of the study

The overall purpose of this research is to investigate the processes and origins of the procurement of library services in academic libraries in Nigeria in order to achieve this goal:

- i. Find out the origins and techniques of library services procurement in university libraries
- ii. Identify the kind of resources that library members have acquired?
- iii. Reveal those who participated in the collection and purchase of library materials at the research universities.
- iv. Find guidelines for the acquisition of library services in research universities. iv.
- v. Find out the reasons that prevent library resource collection and acquisition.

Research Questions

To guide the study, the following questions were asked:

- i. What are the materials acquisition origins and approaches of academic libraries?
- ii. What kinds of services have library members acquired?
- iii. Who are others interested with library resource collection and acquisition?
- iv. What are the conditions for library services procurement in university libraries?
- V. What are the factors which inhibit library resource collection and acquisition?

Significance of the Study

The study will be of benefit to university librarians, students, researchers and the university management. The librarian will be able to know the correct source and the methods of acquisition of the library materials in order to make available the needed materials that will encourage library users to make adequate utilization of the available materials and teach them the relevance of library in higher institutions of learning. It will also give the acquisition librarians to know methods to employ on how to source for library materials and to also seek more ways to acquire resources in the library.

The outcome of this research work will help university students to efficiently, effectively and continuously rely on the use of the library for academic purposes and fulfill their academic pursuits since there are methods employed to acquire books and non books materials in the academic libraries.

Other researchers will see the need to make adequate use of the library materials for more research work and the university management will equally see the need to make fund available in order to purchase the materials that will be useful to the users in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the parents' institutions.

Literature Review

Concept of Academic Library

An academic library is an associated library that serves two complementary purposes: supporting the study program and promoting university studies, faculties and students. UNESCO's scholarly and science network connects 3,785 libraries. According to the Education Statistics National Center (2014), the United States has an estimated 3,700 academic libraries. In the past, the curriculum for seminars in the classroom, meant to complement the instructor's lectures, has been named reserves. The reserves were provided as individual books or as photocopies of corresponding journal papers before the introduction of electronic capital. In general, modern university libraries also provide access to electronic content.

Academic libraries must determine a priority on the creation of collections as complete collections are not possible. Librarians accomplish this by recognizing the interests of faculty and student bodies, as well as the college or university mission, vision and academic programs. If there are specialist fields of academic libraries, they are also referred to as niche collections. These collections also form the base of a special collection department and may include original publications, works of art and items written or made by a single author or on a particular subject (Nwalo, 2003).

Academic libraries vary greatly depending on complexity, funding, collections and facilities. The Harvard University Library is regarded as the world's largest strict academic library, while the Danish Royal Library has a greater collection. Another noteworthy example is the South Pacific University which has institutional libraries in its 12 Member States. California University runs the world's largest institutional library system. It manages over 34 million articles in 100 libraries on 10 campuses (Benny, 2015)

The National Center for Statistics on Education defines an academic library as a library affiliated with a higher education degree institution. Academic libraries of the post-secondary institution to which they belong are listed and all the following are provided:

- An organised collection or combination of printed or other materials;
- An organised collection or combination of printed or other materials;
- Staff who are trained to provide and interpret materials as necessary to respond to clientele information, culture, leisure or education needs;
- A fixed schedule of services available to clients; and
- the physical facilities required to support the collection,

Academic Library Types

Various types of university libraries exist. Many institutions distinguish from an exchange or lending library where materials are supposed to be lent to employers, institutions or other libraries as well as a reference library where materials are not lent (Benny, 2015). Modern libraries are also both a combination of a general collection for

circulation and a reference collection exclusive to the premises of the library. In addition, digital archives are also allowing greater access to non-print content and allowing libraries to extend their collections even without creating a wider library. The following are:

- i. College and University Libraries
- ii. Private College Libraries
- iii. Vocational and Technical College Libraries
- iv. Community College Libraries

Their main objective is to support the academic development and performances of the students, researchers, non academic staff and the community at large.

Types of Academic Library Materials

Library materials, also known as library stock, can be grouped under two sub-topics namely: Books and Non-book materials. Library materials are not limited to books as it is assumed in some quarters. The print materials include books which can be categorized as general, reference, fiction and non-fiction and the non print materials.

Print resources

1. Periodicals
2. Newspapers
3. Pamphlets, Brochures, hand bill and ephemeral notices
4. Film materials-slides film or trips, motion picture, films and photographic film
5. Graphics- Art prints, pictures, photographs, maps, charts, and over head transparencies
6. Realia – toys, games, models and actual specimens
7. Microforms: micro-film, micro fiche and micro card.
8. General Book
9. Patents
10. Standards
11. Trade Literature
12. Thesis
13. Manuals
14. Clippings/Cuttings

15. Government Publications
16. Conference Proceedings
17. Reference materials
18. Magazines
19. Journals
20. Reports
21. Pamphlets
22. Reviews:

Government publications can be grouped into three namely:

- a. Executive publication
- b. Judicial publications
- c. Legislative publication

Non Print Resources

The non print resources depending on their formats can be categorized as audio, visual and Audiovisual (A-V) materials. They are the materials used in instructional or learning process.

Audio

Radio, Audio tapes, cassettes, compact disc (CD), Telephone, Public Address System, Disc Recording, Lecture talks, phonographic records and Diskettes

Visual Resources

Maps, Specimen, Graphs, Models, Illustrations, Games, Posters, Puppets, Diagrams, Cine-film, Globes, Toys, Slides, Flash, Microforms, Cartoons, Transparencies, Picture, Charts, Photographs, Realia etc,

Audio Visual

Television, Video Recording, Motion picture films, E-database, Audio records, Digital Versatile Disc, Flash drive, CD- ROM, Video tapes, on reels cassettes, Cartridges and Video disc etc

Characteristics of the Resources

1. The acquisition librarian must know the characteristics of the resources.
 - a. Easy operation of the equipment
 - b. Safety of use of equipment
 - c. The size, weight, design & compactness of the materials.
 - d. The performance of equipment

- e. Easy maintenance.
- f. How versatile the equipment, if it can be able to do what it is expected to do or doing many things.
- g. Establishing the need for the equipment to be purchased
- h. Availability of the spare parts

Procedures for Acquisition of Library Audio Visual Resources

The following procedures need to be followed to have very good library resources in the library.

1. Availability of the materials for the equipments.
2. The librarian must have the knowledge of the existing collection to avoid duplication.
3. The knowledge of the finances of the centre or library to determine what to purchase
4. Knowledge of the community in which the library is situated. The librarian must consider their level of education, age, experience, interest, background and vocabulary of the users.
5. Knowledge of lecturers' characteristics considering the syllabus, the curriculum and users interest.
All the above will help in acquiring the necessary resources.

Selection Procedure

This procedure is not done by the acquisition librarian alone, the patrons, other staff and management should also be involved in selecting the resources. The lists or recommended slips from the users must be considered. The bibliographic search will enable him to make sure that all the recommended materials exist. You have to merge the list and establish priority and select the ones you consider to be very important.

Method and Sources of Acquisition in Academic Libraries

Acquisition is one of the basic functions of the libraries. It is expected of the libraries to have acquisition departments. They are responsible for the ordering of books and non

books material for effective performance at the library. Acquisition or collection development is the process of acquiring books and audio visual resources for library.

1. Gift and Donations
2. Inter Library Loan
3. Readers
4. Purchase
5. Inter Library Exchange
6. Legal deposit
7. Will/Bequeath

1. **Gift and donations-** Librarians have to be very careful while accepting donation in form of books and non-books materials. Nobody will donate what is valuable and useful to him no matter the love he will consider himself first. It should be noted that some of the donors don't care whether the materials will be useful are useless. They just want letter of recommendations or letter of appreciation. Most cases it may be contra bound or government materials. Some use the process to advertise their own government or political ambition. In most cases when you get materials you evaluate them if they are useful you display if not pack them somewhere or you give them out to those that are in need of them. You ensure you put the best in your library.

2. **Inter Library Loan:** Inter library loan means borrowing of library materials between two or more libraries for a specific period of time which needs to be returned at the speculated time. In recent year there has been very large number of increase in the publication of different types of library resources. Therefore the librarian must ensure that the materials on loan should be well kept and to be returned in good condition

3. **Readers-** The users are expected to make their own suggestions towards the procurement of the library resources but the librarians have to be flexible and also needs to look and source for materials that will be of benefit to the library users.

4. **Purchase:** The major source of acquisition of materials in the libraries is through purchase which is complex and it involves vendors and suppliers, subscription agents and aggregators.

Purchase involve some activities such as

- (i.) Bibliographic searching/verification
- (ii.) Order placement
- (iii.) File maintenance
- (iv.) Receipts of materials

The acquisition librarians must be disciplined and guided by the policy for selection because publishers are ready to sell their books no matter how bad the materials are but as a librarian you have to care for the interest of your client when sourcing for materials. The acquisition librarians should not buy the materials because of discount either 10% or 20% in order to buy useless materials. Acquisition librarians must try as much as possible to purchase necessary reading material for library according to libraries annual budgets, for this the librarian orders books to the publisher. But you have to maintain some order routine before ordering. Such as: Who gives the maximum discount? Who supply within a given period? Who gives bill in local account? Who is the most prompt in rectifying mistakes?

5. **Inter Library Exchange:** This is another method of building up the library collection. It comprises of the materials which the library can exchange with some other library. There are some libraries that have their own publication to offer for exchange such as copies of books and journals since they may have more than needed copies. Any journal acquired in large quantity can be exchanged with other journal from any cooperate libraries.

6. **Legal Deposit:** Some libraries are depository libraries such as National Library of Nigeria that are on copyright law. It is a rule that a number of any publication publish in Nigeria should be deposited in the National Library of Nigeria. There use to be a legal deposit law binding on all publishers to deposit some copies of books to the National Libraries of Nigeria. Federal Government is to Publications are to deposit twenty five (25) copies of any publication published in the nation, State Governments are to deposit ten (10) copies, commercial publications and individual are to deposit four (4) copies of the publications to the national library. There are some institutions that also have a legal depository law that any book publish by the lecturers must

deposit some copies to the institutional libraries before it can be considered for promotion.

7. **Will/Bequeath:** This is an act of giving out one's property and holdings before or after death. There are people like Chief Obafemi Awolowo who willed his library resources to a University. Many university libraries get valuable materials through will which can also be regarded as donation.

Book Selection Criteria

There are some criteria's to be considered before a book is purchased for the library. There are different types of books; we have general reading and study or textbooks. The following criteria's should be considered while selecting general books.

1. Relevance of the book to the need of the library.
2. The present financial situation of the library whether it can bear the cost
3. The authenticity of the information contained in the item need to be verified if it is accurate or not
4. Up to datedness, you must consider the year of publication whether it is current or outdated.
5. The authority must be an authoritative person.
6. The qualification of the contributors, authors, editors, compilers must not be doubtful because his reputation can influence the production of the book. Is he competent to write on the subject? Is he well known? Is he a biased writer?
7. The publisher must also be considered because some have built a reputation by producing good books
8. The production of the books if they are of good quality or not, the quality of the paper, printing, ink, type, face, and binding because durability is essential.
9. The arrangement of the book should be in such a way that retrieval will be easy
10. The subject matter must be adequate in scope
11. The topics treated must be appropriate to the users, readers.

12. Children books must be attractive, simple, photographs and coloured.
12. Illustration must be made where necessary
13. The books must have a list of reference which will serve as a guide for further reading for readers.

Acquisitions and Selection of Study Books

1. Does the book start from the known to unknown
2. How is the idea developed and built upon
3. Is the book in chronological order if it is history book
4. Will the information help in further study
5. Is there an exercise for practice that is questions for revision?
6. The original date of publication and the number of edition the books has if it does not it means the book may outdate.
7. Need for the book
8. Content of the book
9. Reputation of Author
10. Reputation of Publishers

Selection of Non Book/ Audio Visual Resources

The word audio visual means possessing both sound and a visual component. It contains aural and visual elements. It could be referred to as materials that could be handled, heard and listened to by individual or group of people. There are criteria for selecting audio visual materials as library resources. They have to be selected with care because they are very expensive and useful to teaching and learning. Therefore the acquisition librarian as a matter of fact must consider the following factors before selecting non book resources.

1. Relevance: Is the audio recording such as records, cassettes and compact discs are the best format for transmitting the particular information.
2. Usefulness: How useful is the medium to the targeted audience
3. User machinery: You consider if the library possess the machinery required for using the software
4. Film and video cassettes: You must consider the relevance of the subject to the library

- (i.) Cost (ii) copy right restrictions and their effect on use (iii) technical quality of film
5. Video: Videos are cheaper than films and video cassettes are mostly for entertainment i. Technical quality ii copyright restriction
6. Still Visuals: These are photographs and reproduction, slides and filmstrips.
(i) Consider their purpose and use in the libraries
(ii) Art reproduction whether other production are like the original ones that is originality.
7. Computer software
(i) Reputation of the manufacturer
(ii.) Durability
(iii.) Compatibility with the machines that is available
(iv.) User friendliness – must be the one that the users will be able to use easily
Generally in selecting audio visual materials the following criteria's must be considered.
1. Appropriateness: Whether the material is appropriate for use.
2. The subject relationship: Consider if the subject is well organized, is it in logical sequence, is there a balance between dialogue and narrative, is the music melodious, is there any balance between music or sound as well as background elements which may be distracting
3. Technical effects: This is to confirm if the illustrations are clear, is the presentation intelligible? Is there clarity of tone and purpose?
4. Physical Characteristics- Is the medium easy to handle, use and store?
5. Is it durable?
6. Will it be easy to repair- Technical know how
7. Special features by discovering if user's guides are provided
8. Cost: can the library afford the payment. With all the above consideration if the librarian now considers that the criteria are positive he can now purchase or buy the materials.

Selection Aids

There are some selection aids which contain information on latest books and other information materials such as:

1. Guides to reviews
2. Current Book Review citations.
3. Publishers Catalogues e.g. British Book in Print, African Book in Print etc
4. News papers (They collect the list and the names of the publishers in the country)
5. Book Review in Journals e. g. Trade Bibliographies
6. National Bibliographies such as British National Bibliography and National Bibliography of Nigeria.
7. Accessions lists of other libraries
8. Visits to Book shops
9. Book Exhibitions: - (process whereby you give room to sellers to display their books e.g seminars and workshop.
10. Publishers representatives / marketers
11. Facilities in Academic Institutions whereby the librarians inform the lecturers what is in existence in the world of books so as to buy recommended ones.
12. British Book News: London: British Council, 1940
13. Book Reviews Digest New York H.W. Wilson 1905. These are for recent books published in USA.
14. The World Wide Web (W.W.W.)
15. Database e.g. Gale Directory of Databases.

Selection aids for non-book materials

1. Audio visual market place New York. Bowker, 1968
2. Guide to Microforms in Print. Westport, Conn: Microform Review. 1961-
3. International Maps and Atlases in Print. New York: Bowkers, 1976
4. Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory. New York Bowker, 1972

Several issues had been reviewed in this study dealing with some of the related literature on book acquisition in academic libraries sources and methods. The concept academic libraries was

reviewed showing many scholars research on the methods of book acquisition in academic libraries, sources of book acquisition, types of academic libraries materials, advantages and disadvantages of books and non-books resources were considered. Modern libraries are often a mixture of both, containing a general collection for circulation, and a reference collection which is restricted to the library premises. Also, increasingly, digital collections enable broader access to material that may not circulate in print and enables libraries to expand their collections online even without building a larger facility.

Methodology

The research design used for this study was descriptive research design of the survey type. This method enables the researcher to collect information from the respondents' sample of the population in order to describe the situation as they exist, the major reason for choosing this type of research design is to enable respondent freely express their opinions on the sources and methods of acquisition of library resources in Nigeria University Libraries.

The population for this study consists of the acquisition librarians in each of the university library in Nigeria. The sample for this study consisted of 111 acquisition librarians from the universities who were purposefully selected. The questionnaires were administered to the respondents who were selected and distributed among the acquisition librarians in the university libraries under study.

Research Instrument

A self-designed questionnaire tagged "Sources and Methods of Library Resources in University Libraries" was used for the study which comprised of two Sections, which are; Section A and Section B. Section A consists of the personal data of respondents which serves as information on the respondents' age, years of experience, department etc. Section B of the questionnaire consisted of twenty-eight (28) items

constructed in accordance to their degree of acceptance and is prepared to solicit information on source and methods of book acquisition in academic libraries. The questionnaire therefore sought information in accordance to how librarians indicated their degree of agreement or disagreement as follows: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD).

The validity of the research instrument was subjected to face and content validity and to determine the reliability of the consistency of the instrument test retest method was used. The scores from the set of questionnaire were subjected to Pearson Product Moment Correlation method using reliability co-efficient of 0.82 was obtained, a degree high enough to determine the reliability.

Administration of the Instrument

The researcher sought the permission of the librarians in the universities library selected to administer the questionnaire. The one hundred and eleven (111) copies of the questionnaire were administered to the librarians with specific questions on their socio-demographic data and agreement on the sources and methods of acquisition of library resources.

Data Analysis

The data obtained were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequency counts, means, standard deviation and simple percentages.

Results and Discussion

This chapter presents the analysis of data and discussion of the findings.

Results

Question 1: What are the sources and methods of acquisition of materials in academic libraries?

Table 1: Mean rating of the Sources and Methods of Acquisition of Materials in Academic Libraries

S/N	Item	N	Agree		Disagree		Mean	SD
			F	%	F	%		
1	Donation/Gift	111	93	83.8	118	16.2	2.84	0.370
2	Membership	111	80	72.1	31	27.9	2.72	0.451
3	Exchange of Material	111	65	58.6	46	41.4	2.59	0.495

4	Purchase	111	70	63.1	41	36.9	2.63	0.485
5	Publisher's Catalogue	111	74	66.7	37	33.3	2.67	0.474
6	Bibliographies	111	68	61.3	43	38.7	2.61	0.489
7	Suggestions from users	110	74	66.7	36	32.4	2.67	0.471
8	Online Search	110	75	67.6	35	31.5	2.68	0.468
9	Vendor list	110	66	59.5	44	39.6	2.60	0.492

Mean Cut-Off = 2.67

The result in Table 1 shows the sources and methods of acquisition of materials in academic libraries. The result shows that 83.8% of the respondents agreed that acquisition of library materials can be through donation and gift. Also, 72.1% of the respondents agreed that, through membership of the organization, materials for academic libraries can be acquired while 58.6% of the respondents agreed that materials for academic libraries can be acquired through exchange of materials. In addition, the table shows that some of the materials for academic libraries can

acquired through purchase as agreed upon by 63.1% of the respondents while 66.7% agreed that publishers' catalogue could be a source of acquisition of material for academic libraries. The results from Table 1 further showed that materials for academic libraries could be acquired through suggestions from users, online search and vendor list as agreed upon by 66.7%, 67.6% and 59.5% of the respondents respectively.

Question 2: What are the types of materials acquired for the library users?

Table 2: Mean rating of the Types of Materials Acquired for the Library Users

S/N	Item	N	Agree		Disagree		Mean	SD
			F	%	F	%		
1	Journals and E-Journals	111	92	82.9	19	17.1	2.83	0.378
2	Books and E-Books	111	88	79.3	23	20.7	2.79	0.407
3	Online Databases	111	76	68.5	35	31.5	2.68	0.467
4	In-house Databases	111	60	54.1	51	45.9	2.54	0.501
5	Audio-visual Material	111	72	64.9	39	35.1	2.65	0.480

Mean Cut-Off = 2.69

Table 2 shows the types of materials acquired for the library users. The result shows that 82.9% of the respondents believed that print journal and e-journal is one of the materials to be acquired for library users. Also, 79.3% of the respondents agreed that books and e-books should be acquired for academic library users, while 68.5% of the respondents believed that online database should be made available for library users. In the same vein, the table shows that

54.1% of the respondents agreed that in-house database should also be acquired for library users and finally, audio-visual materials should be included among the materials that should be acquired for library users as agreed upon by 64.9% of the respondents.

Question 3: Who are involved in the selection and acquisition of library materials?

Table 3: Mean rating of those Involved in the Selection and Acquisition of Library Materials

S/N	Item	N	Agree		Disagree		Mean	SD
			F	%	F	%		
1	University Librarian	111	92	82.9	19	17.1	2.83	0.378
2	The Library Board Committee	111	77	69.4	34	30.6	2.69	0.463
3	The Users	111	61	55	50	45	2.55	0.500
4	The University Management Members	111	69	62.2	42	37.8	2.62	0.487

Mean Cut-Off = 2.67

The result in Table 3 shows those involved in the selection and acquisition of library

materials. The result shows that 82.9% of the respondents agreed that the University Librarians are involved in the selection and acquisition of library materials while 17.1% disagreed. Also, 69.4% agreed that the Library Board Committee were involved in the selection and acquisition of library materials while 30.6% disagreed. It was also revealed that 55% agreed with the fact that the users are involved in the selection and acquisition of library materials while 45% disagreed and finally, 62.2% agreed that the the

University Management Members were involved in the selection and acquisition of library materials while 37.8% of the respondents disagreed.

Question 4: What are the criteria for acquisition of library materials in academic libraries?

Table 4: Mean rating of the Criteria for Acquisition of Library Materials in Academic Libraries

S/N	Item	N	Agree		Disagree		Mean	SD
			F	%	F	%		
1	Frequency of updates	111	97	87.4	14	12.6	2.87	0.333
2	Provision of licensing agreements	110	95	85.6	15	13.5	2.86	0.345
3	The reputation of the provider	111	87	78.4	24	21.6	2.78	0.414
4	Easy access to the content by the users	110	65	58.6	45	40.5	2.59	0.494
5	Search capability and functionality of the interface	110	66	59.5	44	39.6	2.60	0.492
6	Quality of technical support	111	74	66.7	37	33.3	2.67	0.474
7	Dates of coverage	111	74	66.7	37	33.3	2.67	0.474
8	Archiving availability	111	59	53.2	52	46.8	2.53	0.501
9	Up datedness	111	66	59.5	45	40.5	2.59	0.493
10	The financial situation of the library	111	92	82.7	19	17.1	2.83	0.378

Mean Cut-Off = 2.68

Table 4 shows the criteria for the acquisition of library materials in academic libraries. The result shows that 87.4% of the respondents agreed that the frequency of updates of the material should be considered before acquiring it for academic libraries. Also, 85.6% of the respondents agreed that the provision of licensing agreement should be considered while acquiring materials for academic libraries while 78.4% of the respondents believed that the reputation of the provider should be one of the criteria to be considered in the acquisition of material for libraries. In addition, the table shows that easy access to the content by the user should be given consideration in the purchase of materials for the libraries as agreed upon by 58.6% of the respondents while 66.7% of the respondents agreed that the quality of the

technical supports should be given priority while acquiring materials for academic libraries. In the same vein, dates of coverage and archiving availability for materials to be acquired are factors to be considered while acquiring materials for academic libraries as agreed upon by 66.7% and 53.2% of the respondents respectively. The table also shows that 59.5% of the respondents agreed that up datedness should be considered while acquiring materials for academic libraries. Finally, the table shows that 82.7% agreed that the financial situation of the library should be considered while acquiring materials for academic libraries while 17.1% disagreed.

Question 5: What are the factors that inhibit selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries?

Table 5: Mean rating of the Factors that Inhibits Selection and Acquisition of Library Resources in Academic Libraries

S/ N	Item	N	Agree		Disagree		Mean	SD
			f	%	F	%		
1	Inadequate Fund	111	92	82.9	19	17.1	2.83	0.378

2	High cost of library materials	111	80	72.1	31	27.9	2.72	0.451
3	Problems of foreign exchange	111	60	51.1	51	45.9	2.54	0.501
4	Delay in ordering of library materials	111	75	67.6	35	31.5	2.68	0.468
5	Supplier's negative attitude	111	65	58.6	45	40.5	2.59	0.494
6	Management's negative attitude	111	24	21.6	87	78.4	2.78	0.414

Table 5 above shows the factors that inhibits selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries. The result shows that 82.9% of the respondents agreed that inadequate fund is one of the factors that inhibit selection and acquisition of materials in academic libraries while 17.1% disagreed. 72.1% of the respondents also agreed that high cost of library materials is one of the factors that inhibit selection and acquisition of materials in academic libraries while 27.9% disagreed. The result also revealed that 51.1% agreed that problems of foreign exchange inhibits selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries while 45.9% disagreed and 67.6% agreed that delay in ordering of library materials inhibits selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries while 31.5% disagreed. The study also revealed that 58.6% of the respondents agreed that supplier's negative attitude inhibits selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries while 40.5% disagreed. Finally, 21.6% agreed that management's negative attitude inhibits selection and acquisition of library resources in academic libraries while 78.4% disagreed that the negative attitude of the management does not affect the selection and acquisition of library resources in Nigeria University Libraries. The researcher is of the opinion that the librarians that are responsible for sources and acquisition of the library resources should not allow the any factors claimed that serves as hindrances to affect their professional assignment.

Summary

This research was carried out to know the sources and methods of book acquisition in university libraries in Nigeria. Four research questions were raised in this study. Relevant literature was reviewed. The acquisition librarians of the university libraries in Nigeria constituted the population for the study. The study showed

that acquisition is the process of obtaining library materials to satisfy the needs of users and its work. It is a means by which books and non-books materials are added to the library. The essence of selection and acquisition of library materials in academic libraries is to know the relevance of the library materials. The method of selection and acquisition of library materials for academic libraries must consider the mission and vision of the institution that established the libraries, the department and subject areas.

The literature review on this research work based on concept of library, concept of academic library, types of academic library materials, general functions of academic libraries, method of book acquisition in academic libraries and acquisition of library materials. The research method used was the descriptive survey type. A total number of one hundred and eleven (111) acquisition librarians in university libraries in Nigeria were used as respondents. Questionnaire was the research instrument used to collect relevant data for the study. The data collected were analyzed using frequency counts, simple percentages, means and standard deviation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is obvious that sources and methods of acquisition of library materials in academic libraries have become quite necessary for an institution that wants to serve its users effectively and wish to achieve its aims and objectives. In the course of the research work, the researcher discovered that the acquisition librarians in academic libraries have various methods and sources of acquiring library materials which includes gift, purchase, exchange, interlibrary loan and exchange, local purchase and legal deposits.

It is observed that the only department that is responsible for the acquisition of the library materials is acquisition department but in some of the university it was agreed that there are others

that were involved in the acquisition and selection of the library resources such as the University Librarian, the University Management members, the Library Board's Committee and the users which comprises of the students and researchers.

Recommendations

- i. The libraries under study should procure materials through the various sources and methods.
- ii. The academic library should procure all the library materials especially the most current for researchers and students.
- iii. The acquisition librarian should be in the position to identify the best materials to serve the broad objectives of the academic libraries.
- iv. The acquisition librarians should be allowed to perform their duties diligently.
- v. The parent institution should make it a point of duty to provide enough funds for the acquisition of the library materials.

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