

Availability and Utilization of Electronic Resources by Lecturers of Ibogun Campus of the Olabisi Onabanjo University Ogun State, Nigeria.

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Abstract

The subject of awareness and utilization of e- resources by the academic staff of the Ibogun campus of the Olabisi Onabanjo University Ogun state Nigeria, were the main consideration of this work. The College has thirty (30) lecturers in her nominal roll from seven departments that make up the respondents for the study. E –resources that the lecturers utilized for their work was described showing the constraints that these intellectual faced in utilizing the resources.

They were categorized: Recurrent power outages, limited bandwidth, insufficient funds, inability to download information, facilities and network challenges. The resources serve as a booster to their work were used for more than one purpose either for research or teaching function in assisting the students toward their academic pursuits.

The respondents would have a greater access to these e-resources if the University management should provide an enabling environment like investing its greater part of its fund to the issue of learning resources especially e- resources for a better service delivery. Individual lecturers in their desire to access the e- resources should address the constraints that hindered the effective utilization of e –resources.

Keywords: Academic staff; Internet; CD-ROM; Bibliographic Database; Learning resources

Introduction

Olabisi Onabanjo University was established in 1983 as a non residential institution that provides resources to aid students learning in all branches of knowledge that the school offer. As an institutions that promote research it provide a forum for advancement of knowledge and practical application to social, political, cultural, economic, and scientific and technological problems.

The use of e-resources especially I C T is part of entire academic system, to students and other member of academic community, It is one thing to recognize the importance of aforementioned resources and it is another thing to know if they are effectively utilized by professionals, students and academics. If ICTs are put to effective use, the essence of acquiring them is to a large extent justified vice-versa. This institutions of learning is known as Engineering and environmental studies of the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun state, Nigeria. The college was commissioned on Thursday 27th November 2003 by the then His Excellency Otunba Gbenga Daniel the Governor of Ogun State (The News,2007).In pursuance of the vision of the College as engineering arm of the university, the academic staffs were employed whose duty amongst others is to instruct, carry out research and communicate research findings. These academic staffs otherwise known as lecturers live and interact with their colleagues and other member of the academic community. Other duties of this university teaching staff are on the teaching and provide guidance to students. To perform the above function effectively therefore, they use various e-resources either at their campus or other place of interest for their teaching and research work.

Staff Profile of the College

STATUS	NO OF ACADEMIC STAFF
Professor	01
Reader	01
Senior Lecturer	01
Lecturer 1	02
Lecturer 11	16
Assistant Lecturer	06
Graduate Assistant	03
Total	30

Source: O O .U (CEES) (2011) ACADEMIC STAFF NORMINAL ROLL

Electronic Resources and Academic Staff of Ibogun Campus of the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun State.

E-resources have greatly transform the way academic staff in any institution of learning impart the expected skill to students, e resources has been found to be useful in teaching the students because of its numerous benefits user. It offers greater accessibility to teaching at any time and place. It can be adopted for large and small learners since it allows a reasonable cost to all users in respective of their size either small or large groups who would not have been be able to participate in classroom enrollments. Furthermore, the content of e-resources courses can be centrally developed and updated whenever the need arises; therefore, the cost of replacing outdated course materials and retraining lecturers and instructors drops significantly.

The academic staff of the College is saddled with the duties of human capital

development in the ivory tower, they form the bulk of personnel engaged in institutional services, while the administrative, technical and other staff provide a supporting service to the academic staff.

The adoption of e-resources by lecturers in the University helps in teaching, learning and research of these intellectuals. Giving a description of e resources Oyedun (2007) define it as modern learning resources that assist lecturers to offer quick, adequate and efficient services to their students. While Okoye and Ugwuanyi, (2012) described it as "a package of e-journals or a database of abstracts and indexes that include the full text of some or all articles referenced by the indexes" Making allusion to the need to provide e-resources for those who are in need of it in this age of globalization Wooden, (2006) says that greater access to online services for the people who want to use them should be given a high priority. Therefore, the adoption of e -resources in academic institutions in Nigeria has been found to assists lecturers to performed a dual role, one to the faculty members, and the other to academic community in the provision of national services, Looking at the role of e-resources play in passing instruction to a larger audience or learners Ogunleye, (2008) and Panhwar, (2008) observed that the resources has been seen as the most cost effective means of passing instruction to a large number of users within a short period of time. The utilization of e-resources by the lecturers has open a new realm in information world where they now have electronic books journals, CD ROM databases, OPAC, Online databases that launched the world into a global village. Quadri(2012)

Therefore no lecturers who want to perform as expected of him in the Nigerian academic institution can still rely on only traditional printed information resource to perform effectively and efficiently. To librarians, ICT is a significant development that provides tools for managing the avalanche of information generated by modern society.

Internet

Internet is the acronym for global network of computers joined together by cables optical fiber, telephone lines microwave and satellite link to form a large single information link. Banjo (2006) The most prominent e- resource used in Nigerian academic institutions is World Wide Web Which Omagbemi, Akintola and Olayiwola (2004) saw as the most prominent resources that offered limitless access to global information available on net for those who can annex the benefit that the resources offered. Through the internet, information is being updated regularly which enable users to obtain quick and efficient services at the appropriate time. Making a reference to internets as e- learning resources Oketunji(2004) as cited by Odunewu and Omagbemi (2008) stated that these resources add value to the services that the academic librarians provide for the students and staff within the academic community where the library are found.

Online Library where online resources like E-book, E- journals, E- magazines, E- Newspapers can be read – online. With these devices lecturer or other teaching staff have access to various e-

resources which may be useful for their lectures and for researches purposes. Students can be directed by their lecturers to access relevant resources to their advantage on different courses they offer in the university. Adebimpe,(2012) states that e-resources enables students to learn on their own, and makes learning to be flexible so that students can become independent, self-directed, self –responsible having control over what, how and when they learn. It therefore supplements the traditional forms of learning.

E – Mail: is the acronym for electronic mail. Mails can be sent or received through e-mail without having both the participants at different time. It facilitates easy communication as against the old method of postage system that exists before the evolution of email into the information industry. Referring to the use of e-mail Agbaje, (2000) avers that messages can be sent all over the world in a matter of minutes and the cost in a few seconds. However for any one to use email services it requires that such a users has an e- mail box which is equivalent to a post office address.

CD- Rom: refers to Compact Disk Read Only Memory technology. It can be used to store large data of books, periodicals; dictionaries and encyclopedia. The CD- ROM is found useful for academic institutions globally. One of the reasons why CD-Rom has becomes accepted as a learning resource that the lecturer use is that the information stored in it cannot be changed, or overwritten or erased. They are not susceptible to viruses, as to retrieval of information from it, the software are users friendly than the on-line command language which may be complicated and require technical expertise for effective use. Oguntuase(2004),Oduwole and Sowole (2006) all posited that CD-ROMs enable users to search bibliographical databases on their own with little or no assistance by librarians. Referring to the successful story of information resources like encyclopedias that is available on CD-ROMs devices Okorie, (2010) observed that in future the resources will be more accepted in the library.

Computer

This is an electronic device which is capable of accepting data, stores and retrieves the data when it is needed, Adebimpe,(2012), computer can be seen as the power house where the other e-resources mention above can be put into practical use. A computer in line with the view of Ibijola and Ade-Ibijola (2012) comprises of two main parts Hardware and Software, The former refers to basic electronic part of the device while the later is made up of programmes that control the working of the hardware,

Problem Statement

This study examines the availability and utilization of e-resource by the lecturers in Olabisi Onabanjo University Iboogun Campus. The study sought to found out how these resources has affected the daily academic work of this academic staff in order to access the importance of it to their satisfaction and eventually lead to their job performance.

Objective of the study

The objectives of the study are as follows:-

- Identify the automated e-resources available at the University

- Identify the category of lecturers using the e-resources
- Identify the duration of the usage of the various automated electronic resources of use of the various automated electronic resources
- Identify the challenges with the automated electronic resource
- Determine the extent at which lecturers are satisfied with e-resources of the university

Research Questions

- What are the basic e-resources available at the College?
- What the challenges before lectures in using the e-resources?
- What is the duration of the usage of the various automated electronic resources?
- Do the use of e-resources promote the activities of the lecturers in our institutions routine work and research in the

Methodology

Data was collected through a site visits to the College adopting a survey design for the study. The population of the study consists of thirty five (35) lecturers. The instrument used for the study is a questionnaire which was administered by the researcher to the total population of the lecturers. Thus 30 questionnaires were administered to the respondents in the library. Only 28 copies representing (93%) were returned and found usable.

Table 1: Category of Respondents by Cadre.

Cadre of the respondents	Frequency	Percentages
Lecturer 11	16	53
Lecturer 1	02	08
Senior lecturer	01	03
Reader	01	03
Professor	01	03
Graduate Assistant	03	10
Assistant Lecturer	06	20
Total	30	100

The above table revealed that majority of the respondents are from lecturer 11 (53%) followed by Assistant lecturer (20%), Graduate Assistant (10%), Lecture 1 (08%) while the Senior lecturer, Reader, and Professor (03) respectively.

Research Question 1: What are the basic e-resources available at the College?

Table2: Respondents opinion on the e-resources available in the school

I C T resources	Frequency	Percentages
CD-ROM Resources	02	07
e-books	03	10
e-journals	10	33

Internet/e-mail facility	15	50
TOTAL	30	100

Majority of the respondents from the above table attested to the availability of internet/e-mail facility (50%), e-journal (33%), e-book (10%), CD-ROM and e-Magazine (07%) as the e-resources commonly available for lecture use in Olabisi Onabanjo University Engineering College. This finding was in agreement with the works of Ilorah, Nwofor and Onwudijo, (2007) that identifies the various e-resources available at the higher institutions in Anambra state of Nigeria.

Research Question 2: What the challenges before Lecturers in using the e-resources?

Table 3: Problems lecturers faced in usage of e-resources in the library

Problems	Frequency	Percentages
Service providers inadequacy.	01	03
Recurrent power outages	15	50
Insufficient fund	05	17
Inability to easily download information	02	07
Limited bandwidth	07	23
Total	30	100

The major problems identified by the users of automated electronic resources were categorized. The findings revealed that recurrent power outages with (50%) topping the list of the challenges faced by the lecturers in utilization of e-resource in their university, this is followed by limited Bandwidth, (23%), insufficient funds (17%), inability to download information, (07%) Service Providers problems (3%). The finding from this study corroborate that of Adetoun and Kolawole(2010) where they identified some hindrances that the academic staff faced in using e-resources in South western Nigerian universities.

Research Question 3: What is the duration of the usage of the various electronic resources?

Table 4: Duration of usage of e-resources by the respondents.

Respondents Cadre.	Regularly	Very often	As need arise
Lecturer 11	4 (67%)	2 (23%)	-
Lecturer 1	6(33%)	10(56%)	2 (11)
Senior lecturer	1(20%)	3(60%)	1(20%)
Readers	1(50%)	1(50%)	-
Professor	-	1(100%)	-

From the table 4 all the lectures used the various e-resources available at their disposal regularly or very often in their daily service provision, while the respondents from the cadre of Lectures 11 and lecturers of the cadre of a Professor of the College utilized the e-resources as the need arise. This finding is similar to the finding of Ani, Onasote & Adeniji and Onyeneke (2007) that observed that I C T are used at different times by users in the library to accomplish a variety of functions. The usage of e-resources has transformed library and information centre that provide printed and non printed resources for the library users that include lecturer from

old method of library services to the newly embraces on- line service services that are now common globally.

Research Question 4: Does the lecturer use the e-resources to conduct their research and other academic activities?

Table 5: Respondents viewed on usage of e- resource for research and other academic work in the college.

I C T Resources	Use	Not use	No responses
Article Search	50	39	21
L.C online catalogue	40	35	25
Research topic	45	25	30
Internet(e-mail & charting e t c)	60	25	15
OPAC/electronic theses search	28	22	50

From the table 5 : majority of the respondents used Internet/ e-mail (60%) as the most online resources for their daily routine and research work, article search (50%) Research topic, L.C online catalogue and OPAC/electronic theses search (45%, 40%, and 28%) respectively. The finding from the study revealed that the lecturers makes use of the e-resources for more than one purpose either for in personal assignment or for the assistance of the students who approached the lecturers for guidance on their field of study.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The evolution of e-resources has give way to new method not limited by geographical boundaries. It is imperative therefore, for College management to reinvent its resources access into this digital age. With the installation of the ICT facilities in the College, access to needed information for member of the academic Community at the same time is possible, students and staff of the College now have self-service to replace the unreliable service they might have been receiving from manual information resources. Any Engineering College like that of Ibogun without a functional ICT connectivity will eventually become extinct and obsolete. Ajayi (2003) observes that any industry that sidelines ICT has simply signed a “death warrant” on its continued relevance As a way forward the study recommends that the College management should invest greater part of its yearly allocation into the development of I C T s resources for a better service delivery. They should also address the constraints that hindered the effective utilization of e –resources by the lecturers in Nigerian universities.

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