



**THE IMPORTANT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ON
ACADEMIC PRODUCTIVITY OF LIBRARIAN IN FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC BALI
LIBRARY.**

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Abstract:

The objectives of this study was to investigate the important of information and communication technology on academic productivity of librarian in federal polytechnic Bali library, Taraba State. Four objectives were raised to examine the availability of ICT equipment to academic librarian staff in federal polytechnic Bali, to investigate the level of use of ICT facilities in the higher institution of learning in federal polytechnic Bali, to find out the important of ICT on academic librarian performance in federal polytechnic Bali and to investigate the problem encountered by use of ICT on academic performance by librarian in federal polytechnic Bali library. This research adopts survey research techniques or design, and random sampling techniques or method, with well-structured questionnaire, a data were collected from (40) of the respondents comprising of all the librarian or staff that constituted the sample for the study. The study reveals that majority of the librarian or staff indicates that the level of use of ICT facilities in the federal polytechnic Bali Library is very poor, most of the librarian or staff lack the knowledge of ICT in the federal Polytechnic Bali Library, majority of the librarian or staff of the federal polytechnic Bali library states that they doesn't have internet network and majority of the staff or librarian mention that the federal polytechnic library doesn't have constant electricity power (NEPA or Generator). It was recommended that the library management should encourage the librarian in uses of ICT facilities or equipment in the federal polytechnic Bali library, the library management/ polytechnic should send staff or librarian for ICT training and retraining on ICT because is seen as a way of promoting educational changes, the management of the library/ polytechnic management should try and provide constant internet network for the library and finally, the

management should also try and provides uninterrupted power supply to the federal polytechnic Bali library in order to achieve its desire objectives

Background of the study

Information and communication technology it is concerned with the technology used in handling acquiring processing, storing and dissemination of information. Application of ICT will help in library activities such as cataloguing and classification, serial management, collection development, budgeting, circulation management, referencing, indexing and abstracting in order to improve information services to the library users. Aina (2004). According to Ayodele (2002) ICT as electronic based technology generally used to retrieve, store, process and package information as well as provide access to knowledge. The synergy of these is what has come to be known as information and communication technology. Information and communication technology in the 21st century has revolutionized all professions worldwide including the Librarian profession. According to Uzoka (2002), information technology is the harnessing of electronic technology in its various forms to improve operations and profitability of the business as a whole. It provides important improvement with facilities such as word processing, communication facilities in the forms of electronic mail, data bases in relation to filling and data retrieval such advances improve business efficiency, eliminating unnecessary delay in communication between routine filling and correspondence.

Today, ICT reduce labour and saves a lot of time of the staff in the library work these includes: Establishing links to the most frequently used library catalogues, help the librarians for authority work. With the help of OPAC, it is now very convenient for the technical staff to assign call numbers to the newly added books. ICT has reduced the volume of work done in cataloguing card preparation that advantages of online searching over manual include speed, accuracy, convenience, accessibility to combine concepts. The ICT synergy between computers and communication devices. It is a composite term, which embodies three important concepts, i.e. information, communication and technology: information means many things to many people, depending on the context.

Information and communication technology is seen as a way of promoting educational changes, improving the skills of librarian in their academic performance and preparing them for the global economy and information society. Information and communication skills as focused on librarians, tends to

improve the understanding of the librarian practice and functions, increase quality of librarians thereby boosting their performance. The key feature of modern technology is its ability to deal with information in one form or the other. Trend has been towards using ways of interconnecting the various types of equipment's so as to integrate their functions and manage them effectively. Underpinning the definition of (information communication technology) lies on the modern which provides a helpful explanation of the way in which computers process information.

Information communication technology as the broadly based technology needed to support information systems, which many people today refers to as computer equipment, which aids to increase profit margin and enhance planning, and organization by the use of very fast, accurate and flexible devices in the business society (Nancy 2011), Efficiency in the offices many people believe, is a vital factor in the wellbeing of an organization as it can affect productivity.

Librarian, simply means, is education for librarianship which includes the training necessary to develop librarian skills include cataloguing and classification skills, for instance indexing and translating abstracting with computer, knowing how to operate computer both manual and electric and finally being a computer literate. All these skills prepare one for the librarianship functions for which is a good librarian must acquire. Library studies is also part of the business education which many scholars have written on the subject, all have seen it as education that equips the learner with the skills which required for use in business.

Library science is one of the most literate courses one can offer among other related courses. Those who successfully graduated from this course of study are always faced with job opportunities easily. Although information and communication technology has not revolutionized the classmate yet, it is changing the learning experience of librarian by relaxing time and space constraints as well as providing easier access to information online journal or e-books librarian portals e.t.c. in achievement that should not be down played. (Gambari and Okoli 2009).

According to Diesk (2010), academic attainment is a portrait of educational attainment, educational attainment of the adult population by demographic and social characteristics such as age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, and disability status, as well as differences in educational attainment between the native and the foreign. Afe (2009), opined that the issue of academic performance has been

of much concern to all sundry. Teachers have shown an important influence on librarians' academic performance and they also play a crucial role in educational attainment because the teachers are ultimately for translating policy on action and principles based on during interaction with the librarians.

Information technology is the combination of computing telecommunication and video methods for the purpose of acquiring, Processing, storing and disseminating vocal, pictorial, textual and numerical information. According uzoka (2012) defined information technology as the harnessing of electronic technology in its various forms to improve the operation and profitability of the business as a whole. Brightman and Dimesdale (2010) traced the root of the high-tech revolution back to 1828 when Charles Babbage produced the first programmable calculating device, the analytical engine. The introduction of new technology to process and transport data and information has proceeded at exceptional rates for more than three decades. This innovative introduction has significantly affected employees, managers and organizations. It was eighteen years old Frenchman Blaise Pascal that first developed a mechanical adding machine in the year 1642. Later this was improved by Gottfried Belbniza German mathematician who developed a calculating machine that could multiply by a repeated addition and divide by a repeated subtraction in 1694. However, computer technology has undergone series of changes which reflect big size to miniature size of computer with their increasingly high processing speed of data into information for decision making (Nicholas, et al.2009). information technology according to Oliver, chapman and French (2010) is a technology which supports activities involving the creation, storage, manipulation and communication of information together with their related methods, management and applications. It has also created countless opportunities and challenges for millions of persons. In particular, the challenges of managers responsible for introducing this technology have been exceptionally high. In our information and knowledge-based society, management must attempt to capture the advantages offered by information technology, yet they must also avoid the pitfalls along the way toward increasing automations. As information has altered the way many people do their jobs and changed the nature of work in industrialized nations, the practice of management of many firms and their managers must therefore understand the implications of this new information technology revolution which requires substantial future readjustments and quickly learn how to benefit from it (Frenzel, 2013). The explosion in electronic is just one example of the

ways information technology is influencing how people do business and how they account for business financial and economic business concern impacting all industries and is really the latest phase in the ongoing evolution of business infrastructure and change the way to respond more immediately to customer's needs (Grant, 2010).

Ofurum and Ogbonna (2008). Also say information technology is the combination of computing, telecommunication and video techniques for the purpose of acquiring, processing, storing and disseminating vocal, pictorial, textual and numerical information. The computing techniques provide the capacity for processing and storing of information, the telecommunicating techniques provide the capacity for communicating the information to users; and the video techniques, the capacity for high quality display of image. Nemine and Torunarigha (2010) further stressed that technology is the systematic application of scientific knowledge in order to achieve practical results. It entails a combination of different approaches to solve a problem. It implies that technology is all about methods and the way people apply them in order to get results.

Therefore, since we live in a competitive environment where things are changing fast and for the better technologically and due to the growing complexity of modern day management, the librarianship is also changing. Librarian duties such as cataloguing in letter that usually takes minutes or hours can be carried out in seconds with high speed, accuracy and perfection. Information and communication technology is seen as a way to promote educational change, improve the skills of librarians and prepare them for the global economy and information society. Information and communication technology as focused on librarians tends to improve the understanding of the librarianship practice and functions, increase quality of librarian work attitude, thereby increasing the impact on the management of the librarianship. While basically information and communication technology based innovations can occur in librarian functions, their linkage to librarianship studies is essential to achieve the intended outcomes of any library or organization in general.

According to Erumua (2007) "any form of technology (equipment or technique) used by people to handle computer technology storage, processing and communication of information and their related methods management and application known as information system, while information technology deals major with the equipment and techniques for implementing the information

system. Information technology is not limited to hardware and software but acknowledge the importance of man and the goals he sets for his technology, the value employed in making these choices, the assessment criteria used to decide whether he is controlling the technology and enriched by you.

Before the coding of information technology, some other macro-information technology was in use for sending and receiving information, storing, processing and communicating information. These are the various areas used in sending and receiving information. Computer, electronic (E-mail), internet and telecommunication.

Electronic mail; this is a means of using the computer software to send and receive information with the use of internet. According to Agholor (2003) said exchange of message between two computers by telecommunication is known as e-mail. Daves (2003) also said that electronic mail is one the most popular use of the internet. Once you have an American online (AOL) your e-mail address is username@email.com, where username is your aol screen name. contrary to popular believe, not everyone uses AOL using e-mail is rather straight forward once you have an account set up.

The idea of electronic mail whose common feature is to send and receive message of information in the organization uses this facility with internally and externally. For instance, a managing director of an organization or sending e-mail from the managing director of an organization to other managing director of another organization. There is difficulty in sending an acceptable time of meeting through the tax or other means than contribution can be made to such meeting or conference through electronic mail.

Telecommunication: this is way of communication over a long distance by cable, telegraph, telephone or broadcasting or it is seen that tele-communication service is at heart of many application of information technology. The main objective is to transmit representation of information between remote location most tele-communication in operation today employs electrical or electromagnetic media as earlier of signals.

Internet: internet is a computer network providing e-mail and information from computers in educational institutions or it is the collection of inter-connected network. It is a remarkable network with different users. Most business organization are connected to internet so that information of every type will be within their reach. This has made it easier for business to be carried out in the world.

According to Njoku and et tal (2008), the skill in ICT encompasses of computer hardware skills software knowledge. Computer hardware these are the physical component of the machine such as keyboard, visual display unit, central processing unit, mouse including, scanner and printer. Computer software skills and knowledge identified the following as computer software skill required of business. Accuracy in dealing with programme task, ability to use computer to send and receive information that is needed in the organization, good computer knowledge and ability to work in any library or organization and be satisfied. To apply ICT knowledge to librarianship job will be positive in the following ways.

Error correction: with the application of ICT knowledge of librarianship, it will help them to notify any error that is made and to corrected quickly with the use of spell check in the computer. Productivity, information technology improves the collaboration and productivities of work by significantly reducing the time and effort needed to produce, distribute and share business communication (Ojukwu 2006) and Edu (2006) outline some important of ICT as follows. It enables employee librarian to cope with variety of job in the office. It helps librarian to keep in contact with friends and families and making travel arrangement via the internet and phone. It also eliminates time and routine job such as record management proper use of network, computer also help librarians to store relevant information and retrieve when needed with ease. Finally, it reduces the use of paper work and filing, in fact it is a paperless system.

These are some of the problems encountered by librarians in the use of ICT equipment. Lack of computer, lack of qualified librarians to use ICT equipment, lack of constant electricity and lack of internet.

Lack of constant electricity: Nigeria being a developing nation cannot boast of good ten hours' electricity supply to its citizen. The business organization are directly connected to power holding company of Nigeria, yet no electricity of power is supplied to the organization. It is on a sad note that some business organization afford a generating set such that cannot power the entire computer in the organization. Consequently, both the librarians and the management are handicapped and may not be able to offer the computer duties. Electricity in the other has a great important with the use of ICT equipment because without electricity work cannot be carried out.

Lack of internet connectivity; some of the Nigeria business organization are not able to connect to the world wide web, even the universities are not connected,

department of library science librarians are to be thought information and communication technology are not connected due to high cost involve in the connection. Lack of qualified librarian to use ICT equipment; the quest for information and communication technology in Nigeria today is one of the high side and the number of information and communication librarian is on a very low side. Though there are so many business organization technologist willing to be thought computer skills than there are qualified teachers to transfer the skills. Therefore, the lack of knowledge on the part of business technology top work poses a serious problem to the business organization. According to Agbamu (2004) stated that business organization technologist might find it difficult to deliver the appropriate usage of equipment. This is because the more a business organization technologist is able to utilize information and communication to work in his office the more he will impact on the organization.

Lack of computer: desktop and laptops are still very expensive in Nigeria such that more than 90% of business organization utilization. It is unfortunate to note that government agencies, non-governmental agencies, corporate organization and individuals has not in any way been able to assist the country to import more computers for use.

Statement of the Problem.

The Information and communication technology has come of age; it has come to be accepted by all as a means of effective and efficient academic productivity or performance. Library and information science staff are the main staff making use of information and communication technology for academic performance. It therefore, becomes relevant for the researcher to undertake this study in an effort to address the above stated problems and offer possible suggestions to them.

Objective of the Study.

The main aim of this research work were to investigate the important of information commutation technology on academic librarian productivity in federal polytechnic Bali library.

1. To examine the availability of ICT equipment to academic librarian staff in federal polytechnic Bali
2. To investigate the level of use of ICT facilities in the higher institution of learning in federal polytechnic Bali.

3. To find out the important of ICT on academic librarian productivity in federal polytechnic Bali
4. To investigate the problem encountered by use of ICT on academic productivity by librarian in federal polytechnic Bali library.

METHODOLOGY

This research work adopts survey research techniques or design, using a simple randomization techniques or method, where questionnaire was administered to the sample of population all librarian or staff of the Federal Polytechnic Bali academic library was visited by the researcher to collect data from the respondents. Questionnaire were administered to librarian or staff of Federal Polytechnic academic library was filled by them. A total of forty copies (40) of the questionnaire were distributed and forty (40) were filled and returned representing (100%) which 40 respondents comprising of all the staff that constituted the sample for the study. The sample was randomly selected from the librarian or staff of Federal polytechnic Bali academic library, Taraba State. Using descriptive analysis to analyze the data gathered from the questionnaire and also Using descriptive statistics presented in percentage and frequency distributions and simple average calculations and explanation followed below the tables.

RESULT:

Table 1: does your library have all ICT equipment's such as laptop, desktop computer, printer and photocopying machine etc.?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	30	75%
No	10	25%
Total	40	100%

The table above shows that majority of 30(75%) of the librarian or respondent answered yes that they have all the ICT equipment's in the federal polytechnic Bali library, while 10(25%) indicates no they don't have the ICT equipment's in the federal polytechnic Bali library.

Table 2: how do you uses the library ICT facilities?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	12	30%
No	28	70%
Total	40	100%

The table above indicates that majority 28(70%) of the librarian or staff mentions that the level of use of ICT facilities in the federal polytechnic Bali

library is very poor or very low, while 12(30%) of the respondent or librarian say that the level of uses ICT facilities is high.

Table 3: how important of information and communication technology on academic performance of librarian in the federal polytechnic Bali library?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	29	72.5%
No	11	27.5%
Total	40	100%

The table above reveal that majority 29(72.5%) of the staff or librarian mentions that the important of information and communication technology have change the learning, storing of information, sending and receiving of information, retrieving, provide easy access to information, filling, paperless work and above all it reduce cost, save time and constraints.

Table 4. Do you have of qualified librarian to use ICT?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	25%
No	30	75%
Total	40	100%

From the table above shows that majority 30(75%) of the librarian or staff lack the knowledge of ICT in the federal polytechnic Bali library, while 10(25%) of the librarian says that they have the knowledge of ICT in the library.

Table 5: does library have internet network?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	9	22.5%
No	31	77.5%
Total	40	100%

The table above indicates that majority 31 (77.5%) of the librarian or staff mention that the federal polytechnic library doesn't have internet network, while 9 (22.5%) of the staff or librarian state that they have internet network in the federal polytechnic Bali library.

Table 6: Does your library have constant light (NEPA)?

S/No	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	13	32.5%
No	27	67.55

Total	40	100%
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The table above shows that majority 27(67.5%) of the respondent or librarian says that the federal polytechnic Bali library doesn't have constant electricity power, while 13 (32.5%) of the staff or librarian mention that they generator as a sources of power which is not constant.

Major Findings of the Study.

1. Majority of the librarian or staff indicates that the level of use of ICT facilities in the federal polytechnic Bali Library is very poor.
2. Most of the librarian or staff lack the knowledge of ICT in the federal Polytechnic Bali Library.
3. Majority of the librarian or staff of the federal polytechnic Bali library states that they don't have internet network.
4. Majority of the staff or librarian mention that the federal polytechnic library doesn't have constant electricity power supply (NEPA or Generator)

Recommendation.

1. The library management should encourage the librarian in uses of ICT facilities or equipment in the federal polytechnic Bali library.
2. The library management/ polytechnic should send staff or librarian for ICT training and retraining on ICT is seen as a way of promoting educational changes.
3. The management of the library/ polytechnic management should try and provide constant internet network for the library.
4. The management should also try and provides uninterrupted power supply to the federal polytechnic Bali library in order to achieve its desire objectives.

Conclusion.

The aim of this research was to investigates the important of information and communication technology on academic performance of librarian in federal polytechnic Bali library, Taraba state, ICT process and achieve its desire goals.

The Finding of research revealed that the non-use of ICT facilities in the library have contributed to the lack of ICT knowledge among the librarian. The library should aim at satisfying and providing ICT to meet the need of the academic librarian pursuance of the library.

Therefore, it is vital for the library to have internet network because it enhance librarian or staff work in the process of disseminating of information, storing, retrieving and sharing of ideas from one person to another. It is also important in filling of information and in decision making which cannot be emphasis.

Information and communication technology also need in the library in order to effectively and necessary manage the information needed for the library users, so as to create good working condition and foster unity for library staff (librarian) to achieve its desire objectives.

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