



Funding and Sustainability of Faculty Libraries in Universities in South-West, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigated funding, and sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria. Descriptive research method was adopted for this study. The sampling technique used for the study was total 104 enumerations of 104 faculty librarians. A total number of 104 copies of questionnaire were administered and returned, thus constituting 100% response rate. The instrument for data collection was questionnaire. The data collected were subjected to analysis, using descriptive statistics such as frequency to analyse the bio-data of the respondents. Frequencies and statistical mean (\bar{x}) were used to answer the research questions. Hypothesis was tested using Pearson's correlation coefficient statistics. The hypotheses were tested at 0.5 of significance. Findings revealed that government allocation, internally generated revenue and individual gifts are the major sources of funding for faculty libraries. This study shows that the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria is low. There is a significant relationship between funding and sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria. The study recommended that faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria should be well funded to ensure their sustainability.

Keywords: Funding, Sustainability, Faculty libraries, Librarians, Nigeria

Background to the study

University libraries are libraries established to cater for the academic and research needs of the university communities. Their collection is tailored toward achievement of the institution goals of teaching, learning and research. The major function of University libraries is to provide resources to meet the need of users. Their materials are diversified to support teaching and programmes that take place within them. Therefore, the University library has to build a strong collection of information resources in physical and digital formats to cater for the knowledge requirement of undergraduates, faculty members and research scholars of the institution. University Library is the central focus of any educational institution. It is the basic and central bibliographical organ of support to the academic programmes in the university through the use of different faculty libraries to carry out its function.

Sustainability of faculty libraries requires adequate provision of information resources. Faculty libraries bring information services to the door step of undergraduates in their various faculties. It is the responsibility of the faculty librarians to promote optimal use of faculties' library.

According to Mamman Nwokedi (2019), there is poor availability of information resources in the libraries due to inadequate funding. The study recommended several incomes generating ventures and coping strategies to generate fund for academic libraries to include application for grants from reputable donors(Foundations); organize appeal launchings to develop their library services amongst others. Despite these identified strategies, research reports coupled with the experiences of many faculty library managers show that internally generated revenue is negligible to finance the faculty libraries of the universities in South-west, Nigeria.

Funds are required for infrastructure, personnel, equipment, books, journals, media and electronic resources. Effective faculty libraries require provision of information resource for study and research. Competent staff at all levels, generous space provision, functional building, furniture and equipment. For without adequate funding there can be no resources for teaching and research, good staff cannot be provided to house the resources, staff, render furniture, equipment and other physical facilities cannot be acquired.

Other source of funding faculty libraries can also be in form of library acquisition funds programme. It is a means of funds that was design to provide faculty libraries

with various information resources. There are various sources of funding faculty libraries with information resources through qualitative and quantitative data which can be collected through web-based surveys in funding faculty library. The funds assist to equip and argument the library information resources. In funding educational sector such as university there will be an assistant that will be given, which various faculty libraries will benefit from it and these will allow the faculty library to be sustained.

Academic libraries function to provide adequate and current information resources to satisfy information needs of patrons and rendering services necessary for community development, this requires that academic libraries are adequately funded. Irenoa, Emilian & Eru, (2019) observed that the backbone of library services is hinged to a large extent on the level of fund at its disposal and the creative use of the funds. University libraries help to fulfil the mandate of teaching, research, learning, cultural development through their collections, visual materials, print, non-print materials and computer databases (Ntui & Wiche, 2015), The relevance of university libraries largely depends on relevant and current information resources. This study focuses on sustainability of faculties' library in twelve universities in South-west, Nigeria. These universities are established and funded by the states government that owns the university and the federal university that will be used for this study were owns by federal government of Nigeria. South-west is one of the six geo-political zones in Nigeria. It comprises six States: Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo. South-west is considered as the cradle of western education in Nigeria. Although South-west states comprise of private and government own universities, the researcher will limit herself to federal and states universities as a case study. They are federal university of technology Akure, Adekunle Ajasin university Akugba Akoko, federal university Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti state university Ado-Ekiti, Obafemi Awolowo university Ile-Ife, Osun state university Osogbo, University of Lagos Akoka Yaba, Lagos state university Egbeda, Federal university of technology Abeokuta, Olabisi Onabanjo university Ago-iwoye, University of Ibadan, Ibadan and Ladoko Akintola university Ogbomoshu.

Statement of the Problem

Sustainability of the faculty libraries in university in south-west, Nigeria has become challenging. Many faculty libraries find it difficult to sustain their services to users. The researcher observation has shown that the major source of funding of faculty

libraries has been reported to be grossly inadequate and has adversely affected the sustainability of faculty libraries in South-west, Nigeria. Library patrons in university hardly make use of faculty libraries, may be due to lack of information resources or underfunding that may lead to the provision of necessary amenities that will make the library conducive for reading.

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are to investigate funding, and sustainability of faculty libraries in university in South-west, Nigeria.

- (i) investigate the source of funding of faculty libraries in the universities in South-west Nigeria;
- (ii) find out the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria.
- (iii) Investigate the relationship between sustainability and funding of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria

Hypothesis

- i. There is no significant relationship between funding and sustainability of Faculty Libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria.

Research Questions

The following research questions were formulated to guide the study

- (i) What is the source of funding for faculty libraries in the universities in South-west Nigerian?
- (ii) What is the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria?
- (iii) What is the relationship between sustainability and funding of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria

Significance of the Study

The study will benefit library users by improving the sustainability of faculty libraries in University in South-west, Nigeria, and boost the performance of faculty libraries.

The study will be of importance to faculty librarians by identifying the source of funding for faculty libraries.

Literature Review

Conceptual Framework

The study proposes that these factors (Funding and provision of information resources) could affect the sustainability of faculty libraries in South-west, Nigeria. This implies that fund and information resources could affect the sustainability negatively. The source of funds for the faculty libraries could affect the sustainability, for instance, if there are enough funds in keeping the sustainability all the runnings of the faculty libraries such as purchases of all furniture and other equipment the faculty libraries will be sustained. Provision of information resources could help in sustaining the running of the faculty libraries. Thus, for faculty library not to have enough funds and adequate information resources might reduce it sustainability. The study therefore considers the combined and individual influence of funding and provision of information resources on the sustainability of faculty libraries.

Funding of Faculty Libraries

Funding of faculty libraries greatly enriched and improved the collection development. In the study carried out by Ntui and Wiche (2015) titled “Funding and Library Resources in Government Owned University Libraries in Nigeria revealed that funding significantly influenced library resources in university libraries in Nigeria in terms of provision of information resources, library provision of facilities and maintenance, human resources provision and availability of library services

Larger academic libraries are the most hit in terms of inadequate funding of libraries, while fewer libraries operate relatively on little funding. Grant and income supposed to be giving to faculty libraries in order to increase the value of resources to faculty members for conducting their research or teaching. The grant would be useful to expand the model to include other factors in the complete system of inputs (e.g., library resources, faculty, staff, and students).Mamman and Nwokedi (2019) opined that there is poor availability of information resources in the libraries due to inadequate funding. Although Universities receive money from the federal government as overhead allowances on research contracts and grants,

most university administrators doubt that these sums are adequate to cover all indirect costs incurred by the fulfilment of provision of information resources in the library. It is rather assumed that library costs of a contract are indirect and should be met out of overhead, and library administrators have frequently felt that the portion of university overhead income ultimately to reach the library has been inadequate to meet the information needs of the library users

Government funding has been poor, requiring libraries to look for alternative sources of income in order to meet the increasingly sophisticated demand of library users for electronic information services. Several methods for generating income have been identified, explored by many libraries, and discussed in library literature, but have yielded little in the way of additional funding.

Relationship between Funding and Sustainability of Faculty Libraries

Odili (2021) observed fund allocation as a correlate of sustainability of departmental libraries in Nigeria universities, they found that there is a significant strong relationship between fund allocation and sustainability of departmental/faculty libraries in Nigeria universities. From the foregoing, this implies that an improvement in the funding of faculty libraries will positively enhance the sustainability of the libraries.

Methodology

This study used the descriptive survey research design. It was used to investigate funding, and sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria. The research design is adopted for this study because it allows a population to be studied by collecting and analyzing data from only a sample that will represent the whole population of the study.

Population of the Study

The population of the study is 104 respondents (as shown in Table 1) who are the faculty librarians from the faculties library of Federal university of technology Akure, Adekunle Ajasin university Akugba Akoko, Federal university Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti state university Ado-Ekiti, Obafemi Awolowo university Ile-Ife, Osun state university Osogbo, university of Lagos, Lagos state university, Federal university of technology Abeokuta, Olabisi Onabanjo university Ago-Iwoye, university of Ibadan and Ladoke

Akintola university Ogbomosho in South-west, Nigeria. The data were collected in University establishment office.:

Table 1: Name of Institutions

S/NO	NAME OF INSTITUTION	NO. OF FACULTY	NO. OF FACULTY LIBRARIANS
1	Federal University Of Technology, Akure	6	6
2	Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko	6	6
3	Federal University, Oye-Ekiti	6	6
4	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Osun State,	11	11
5	Osun State University, Osogbo	7	7
6	University Of Lagos Yaba Lagos	11	11
7	Lagos State University, Lagos	6	6
8	Federal University Of Agriculture Abeokuta	11	11
9	Olabisi Onabanjo University Ago-Iwoye	10	10
10	University Of Ibadan, Ibadan Oyo State	13	13
11	Ladoke Akintola University, Ogbomosho	7	7
12	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti	10	10
	Total	104	104

Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample size is 104 faculty librarians. The entire population of the study was used as the sample because it is not large. The sampling technique used for the study was total enumeration of 104 librarians in universities in South-west, Nigeria.

Research Instrument

In this study, questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection. The questionnaire titled, “Funding, provision of information resources and sustainability of faculty libraries in university in South-west, Nigeria” (**FPIRSFLQ**) was adopted.

Validity of the Research Instrument

To ensure the face and content validity of the instrument, the questionnaire was given to the dissertation supervisor for criticisms and certification. Corrections were made on the use of appropriate punctuation marks, spellings and appropriate paraphrasing in the research questions.

Data Collection

The research instrument was administered to the respondents who are the faculty librarians of Federal university of technology Akure, Adekunle Ajasin university Akugba Akoko, Federal university Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti state university Ado-Ekiti, Obafemi Awolowo university Ile-Ife, Osun state university Osogbo, university of Lagos, Lagos state university, Federal university of technology Abeokuta, Olabisi Onabanjo university Ago-iwoye, university of Ibadan and Ladoke Akintola university Ogbomosho in South-west, Nigeria

Data Analysis

Data was analysed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies which was used to analyze the section A of the instrument. Frequencies and statistical mean was used to answer the research questions. Hypothesis was tested using Pearson's correlation coefficient statistics.

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS.

Table 2: Questionnaire Response Rate

Number of Questionnaire Administered	Number of Questionnaire Returned	Percentage of Questionnaire Returned
104	104	100%

The table 2 shows that out of the 104 questionnaire distributed, 100% were returned and found useful. The response rate of 100% is considered adequate for the study.

Analysis of the Respondents' Bio Data

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents By Institution

Name of Institution	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Federal University of Technology, Akure.	6	5.8
AdekunleAjasin University, Akungba-Akoko.	6	5.8
Federal University, Oye-Ekiti.	6	5.8
ObafemiAwolowo University, Ile-Ife.	11	10.6
Osun State University, Osogbo.	7	6.7
University of Lagos, Yaba Lagos.	11	10.6
Lagos State University Egbeda Lagos	6	5.8

Name of Institution	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Federal University of Technology, Akure.	6	5.8
AdekunleAjasin University, Akungba-Akoko.	6	5.8
Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.	11	10.6
OlabisiOnabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye.	10	9.6
University of Ibadan, Ibadan.	13	12.5
LadokeAkintola University, Ogbomosho	7	6.7
Ekiti State University Ado-Ekiti	10	9.6
Total	104	100.0

Table 3 shows the number of universities that participated in the study. It can be observed that 13(12.5%) of the respondents are from University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo state, 11(10.6%) of them are from Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife, Osun state, University of Lagos, Yaba, Lagos state and Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta respectively. Also, 10(9.6%) of them are from Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye and Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti respectively. There are 7(6.7%) of them from Osun State University, Osogbo and Ladoke Akintola University, Ogbomosho respectively while there are 6(5.8%) of them from Federal University of Technology, Akure, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti and Lagos State University, Egbeda Lagos respectively. This implies that there are more faculty library patrons in University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Osun State, Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife, Osun State, University of Lagos, Yaba, Lagos State and Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

Table 4: Designation of Faculty Librarian

Designation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Librarian I	14	13.5
Librarian II	30	28.8
Library officers	24	23.1
Higher library officers	26	25.0
Senior librarian	10	9.6
Total	104	100.0

From Table 4 there are 30 (28.8%) of the librarians who are Librarian II, 26 (25%) of them are higher library officers, 24 (23.1%) of them are Library officers, 14 (13.5%) of them are Librarian I and 10 (9.6%) of them are Senior Librarians. This

implies that majority of the librarians in faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria are designated Librarian II.

Answering Research Questions

Research Question 1: What is the source of funding for faculty libraries in the universities in South-west Nigeria?

Table 5: Source of Funding

Source of Funding	Agree		Disagree		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Donation from other organisations (such as NGOs)	24	23.1	80	76.9	104	100.0
Tertiary Education Trust Funds	9	8.7	95	91.3	104	100.0
Internally generated funds	94	90.4	10	9.6	104	100.0
Through government allocations	104	100.0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Individual gift	84	80.8	29	19.2	104	100.0

The table 5 shows that government allocation 104(100%), internally generated funds 94(90.4%) and individual gifts 84(80.8%) are the source of funding for faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria. It can be concluded that government allocation, internally generated funds and individual gifts are the major source of funding for faculty libraries in the universities in South-west Nigeria.

Research question 2. What is the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria?

Table 6: Sustainability of Faculty Libraries

Sustainability of Faculty Libraries	High		Low		Mean
	No.	%	No.	%	
Automation of the library services	4	3.8	100	96.2	1.96
Digitization of the information resources	2	1.9	102	98.1	1.98
Support from the head of department	4	3.8	100	96.2	1.96
Support from a professional body	24	23.1	80	76.9	1.77
Evaluation through accreditation	104	100.0	0	0.00	1.00
Technical support from management	1	1.0	103	99.0	1.99
Support from dean of faculty	14	13.5	90	86.5	1.87
Library dues	10	9.6	94	90.4	1.90
Aggregate Mean					1.81

It can be seen, from Table 6, that the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria is low. All constructs for sustainability of faculty libraries were low except evaluation through accreditation which was high 104(100%).

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant relationship between funding and sustainability of faculty libraries in university.
2. Research question 3: What is the relationship between funding and sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria?

Table 7: Relationship between funding and sustainability of faculty libraries

		Information Resources used by Patrons	Level of sustainability of faculty libraries
Information Resources used by Patrons	Pearson Correlation	1	.867
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	104	104
Level of sustainability of faculty libraries	Pearson Correlation	.867	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	104	104

Pearson correlation coefficient $r (=0.867)$. Since the significant value (Sig.2-tailed) is 0.000 (which is less than 0.05), it can be concluded that there is a significant relationship between funding and sustainability of faculty libraries in university. The null hypothesis is therefore rejected implying that an increase/decrease in funding may lead to a corresponding increase/decrease in the sustainability of the faculty libraries in university in South West Nigeria. According to Odili (2021), research libraries operate on at a level of mediocrity due to poor funding which have impacted negatively on their collection growth and the nature of information delivered to users.

Discussion of Findings

The findings of the study will be discussed in line with the formulated research questions and hypothesis. On the source of funding for faculty libraries in the universities in South-west Nigeria, the study revealed that government allocation 104(100%), internally generated funds 94(90.4%) and individual gifts 84(80.8%) are the source of funding for faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria.

Funding of Faculty Libraries

Faculty Librarians indicated that government allocation, internally generated funds and individual gifts are the major source of funding for faculty libraries. Funding for libraries and information centres in Nigeria is largely through government allocations. The main source of funding in the libraries is government subvention. This may be due to the compulsory 10% allocation of university allocation to the library, activities that generate fund in the library such as photocopy and some very vital information resources that some philanthropist preferred to keep in the library for their remembrance.

Sustainability of Faculty Libraries

Faculty librarian indicated that the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria is low. All constructs for sustainability of faculty libraries were low except evaluation through accreditation which was high. Sustainability of faculty libraries could be determined by the level of digitization of information resources. Whenever there is low digitization of information resources in faculty libraries, it can reduce the level at which it could be continuously used. Good planning is one of the vital tools in sustaining academic libraries as it reduces daily task activities. The strategies for academic libraries could involve structured communication templates for stakeholders, pre-planned daily programming, and regularized, self-sustaining staff development Cmor (2015). According to Andrea (2016), the study found that sustainability of library services is aided by developing a service blueprint that provides direction and structure yet is dynamic and responsive. The success of this assertion anchors on the availability of information resources which encourages scalability where possible and addresses the values and needs of key stakeholders.

Conclusion

The study concluded that source of funding such as provision of information resources influences sustainability of faculty libraries in Universities in South-west, Nigeria. The study also shows that the level of sustainability of faculty libraries in universities in South-west Nigeria is low.

Recommendations

Having studied funding of faculty libraries in universities in South-west, Nigeria as predictor of their sustainability, the following are recommended:

1. Faculty librarian should identify the source of funding for faculty libraries that will sustain its continuous existence by providing excellent services to patron which can attract gift and donations from philanthropist.
2. Faculty librarian should create good condition for using the faculty libraries for faculty staffs and lecturers by organizing seminars and workshop on the sustainability of faculty library.
3. University librarians should support the faculty librarian financially by allocating substantial amount of fund from the university library allocation to run the various faculty libraries.
4. University management should allow the new students to know the importance of faculty libraries in their discipline by organizing orientation programme related to their faculty libraries in their first week on campus.
5. Faculty librarian should always acquire information resources in the faculty library by acquiring relevant information resources that are relevant to the discipline in the faculty.

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