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FACTORS INFLUENCING SELECTION AND ACQUISITION OF LEGAL INFORMATION RESOURCES IN UNIVERSITY LAW LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY OF UNIVERSITY OF JOS LAW LIBRARY, JOS, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA.

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FACTORS INFLUENCING SELECTION AND ACQUISITION OF LEGAL
INFORMATION RESOURCES IN UNIVERSITY LAW LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY
OF UNIVERSITY OF JOS LAW LIBRARY, JOS, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA.

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ABSTRACT

The Research was conducted on Factors Influencing Selection and Acquisition of legal information resources in university Law libraries: A case study of University of Jos Law Library, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria. Four (4) objectives were formulated to guide the study which are to: Determine how often University of Jos Law Library acquire Legal Materials; Find out the criteria used in Selection of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library; Find out the methods used in Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library and ascertain the challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring Legal Materials. Survey research design was used for this study; the population of the study was 150 registered users and 18 staff of the University of Jos Law Library. Therefore, the total population of the study is 168. Simple random sampling was used by the researcher to select 35 respondents out of 168 that was used as a sample for the study. The questionnaire was used as the instrument for data collection. Data were analyzed using frequency count and percentage tables. The study revealed that The University of Jos Law Library acquired legal materials very frequently. It was further revealed that there are some criteria used for selection and acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, which includes, authoritativeness of the publishers or producers, significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, importance/reputation of the author, among others. These were few among other findings. In accordance with the findings, the researcher made some recommendations for the Library management which was about the need for ensuring that audiovisual materials and special collection/government publications that were not acquired, to be acquired for the use of all users and for the University Law Library to have a written collection development policy.

Keywords: Information Resources, Selection, Legal Materials, Acquisition,
University of Jos Law Library

INTRODUCTION

The primary objective of establishing library is to provide users with current information resources and specialized services relevant to their needs. The long -established role of libraries has been to expanded access to information resources by acquiring published materials and organizing them for appropriate retrieval (Olorunsola, 2008). The effective provision of these services depends on the availability of balanced collections of information resources which are relevant to the diverse needs of the users.

A special library is a library that is specifically established to cater for a specialized information need of a particular group of people. They are mainly instituted to serve a particular field of knowledge and are organized along subject disciplines because they are limited in scope as they are inclined to a single subject that comprised a field of study.

Acquisition of information resources is one of the key activities of every library. Libraries all over the world still acquire and maintain massive book collections while managing other formats. Despite the prediction of vanishing print collection because of the emergence of digital paradigm, print materials still have a central role in library collections and publishing industries. Acquisition however, is the process of locating and acquiring all types of library materials after they have been selected for a library collection. Magrill & Corbin (1992) are of the view that acquisition is the process of identifying what the library ought to acquire, determining how and from where it can be obtained and actually getting it.

Acquisition works in libraries is the only process not involving the community input. This technical process is exclusively for library staff. It is absolutely essentials for a library to process the resources that will enable it to meet its goals and objectives. Acquisition also embraces all the processes involved in obtaining resources for the library. It includes book selection, ordering or obtaining resources by gift or exchange. Thus, the process of acquiring

library materials includes, purchase, gift, exchange, donations, legal deposit, and the rest (Boss, 1982).

According to Harrods (1977), acquisition is a process of obtaining books and other materials for a library collection. Acquisition embraces all the processes as involved in obtaining resources for the library. However, the concept is increasingly becoming a very complex process as a result of the massive proliferation of printed and non printed materials and it would also be valuable to note that "acquisition is one of the important functions of any library system (Ali, 1989).

Acquisition and the changes of our times are challenges to us all. Acquisition departments are now trying to do more with fewer resources and acquisition librarians are grappling with changing technology by adapting, learning and discussing problem that they all faces (German, 1993). For any library to achieve its goals, be it public, academic or special libraries, it must follow a developed and written policy. This policy determines what materials to be acquired, when it should be acquired and for whom it would be acquired. It also contains the rules and regulation guiding the usage of the library. Acquisition of information resources occupies a central place in the activities of libraries as the effectiveness of libraries in serving their users is greatly determined by their acquisition process. It is also an essential activity which is done painstakingly in order to prevent library collections from being filled with outdated and irrelevant resources (Adesanya, (2015). However, acquisition of information resources in special libraries is faced with so many challenges such as insufficient funds, rising cost of resources, difficulty in acquiring Law Materials due to its expensive nature, no qualified personnel that can carry out a smooth operations of acquisition and classification and the rest. All these challenges make it very difficult for the library to satisfy the information needs of its patrons.

Collection development is one of the fundamental functions of the library and information profession. Magrill & Corbin (1992) described it to include all planning for the systematic and rational building of a collection. In one sense, collection development includes accessing users needs, evaluating the present collection, determining policy, coordinating selection of items, re - evaluating and storing parts of the collection and planning for resources sharing. However, in a broader sense, collection development is not a single activity or a group of activities; it is a planning and decision - making process. In order to play these vital roles effectively, special libraries are supposed to be adequately funded by their parent institutions to procure adequate information resources. A library's collection development efforts cannot be effective unless its acquisition efforts are efficient. This practice is responsible for selecting and acquiring information specialist to perform their myriad function to the users effectively (Aina, 2004).

Libraries must strive to remain competent navigators of acquisition and collection building in order to assist library users. In addition, acquisition practices includes a policy on the conservation and preservation of information materials as well as weeding of information materials. The policy is to provide guidance to staff when selecting and de - selecting resources for the local collection. According to Eguavon & Ochai (2002), collection development is a planned, systematic development of a collection based on the objectives of the library. The process in achieving development in a library's collection as long as the concept is insufficiently operationalized is very difficult to measure. The researcher further asserted that collection development has recently become a very popular term in library and information centers as a need for efficient and balanced collection. It includes everything that goes into acquiring materials, including selection, ordering, and payment. It is a chain of events that includes planning, administration and control. Collection development serves as foundation, upon which other library services are built.

Selection is a necessary first step in the acquisition process. Information materials are selected on the basis of their perceived usefulness to a group of readers. This is because the amount of satisfaction a reader finds in the library depends directly upon the materials the library has available for its use (Carter, Bonk & Magrill, 1974). Hence, the rationale for selection is to get into the collection, a maximum number of desirable titles from a plethora of titles published every year. It is clear that many of the publication cannot be selected for a particular library because they fall outside the scope of the library's collection. A library's scope is approximately equal to its area of interest, determined by the perceived interest of clientele. Clientele interest directed selection will doubtless result to higher library patronage and user satisfaction. It is for this reason that Nwaigwe & Onwuama (2004), opine that selection of library materials should be preceded by a study of the present and future needs of library users to be able to make informed selection.

In agreement, Oparaku, Anyanwu & Amadi (2005), state that ascertaining the needs of users is a necessary prelude to provision of materials relevant to those needs. Ulveling (1974) draws attention to another point of consideration in selection; the researcher explained that the determination of the library's objectives is the most important fundamental in the selection process. Selection of information resources is the core collection development function and the primary objective of the selection decision for any format is fundamentally the same, satisfying user's needs.

According to Esposito (2018), there are several criteria for selecting and acquiring legal materials in Law Libraries, and they include:

- i. Authoritativeness of the publishers or producers
- ii. Significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment.
- iii. Importance/reputation of the author

- iv. Accuracy of the information and data based on reviews, recommendations, evaluations, etc.
- v. Potential for known use by patrons based on faculty research interest, curricular development or use, law students request and other sources.
- vi. Importance to the total collection
- vii. Appearance of the title in important bibliographies, lists and reviewing media
- viii. Current and/or permanent value to the collection
- ix. Scarcity of materials on the subject
- x. Availability of materials elsewhere in the university libraries
- xi. Availability of materials or information resources in order formats in the collection, or available online (Lexis, West law, BNA, CCH, Hein online, etc) or on the internet.
- xii. Price, including initial purchase price and maintenance costs for continuation/updating, equipment, and staff
- xiii. Language
- xiv. Type of issuance, whether monographic or serial
- xv. Physical format or access, method (bound print), loose leaf, microform, network access, internet, etc
- xvi. Duplication in the collection , including in author format
- xvii. Available space
- xviii. Projected longevity of the physical medium
- xix. Research level works and
- xx. Law Faculty requests, purchased whenever possible.

The researcher further added that, the primary selection tools used in Law Libraries includes, Hein's Advance Bibliography of American Law (Green slips) and Ebsco's GOBI (based on a profile to obtain recently published law related items). Other tools include

publisher's catalogues and flyers, book reviews, discussion on Law Library related listservs, and faculty and student's suggestion. Publishers are instructed not to send items for examination or approval without a prior order from the Law Library. We do not do business with telephone salespersons.

Auva (2017), carried out a similar research in Makurdi on the problems of acquisition and provision of library resources and services to users in special libraries: A case study of Benue State House of Assembly Library and these were the objectives of the study; to determine the method used in acquiring library resources in the house of assembly library, to determine the extent to which users of special libraries are satisfied with the library resources, to identify the problems of acquisition of library resources in house of assembly library, to access the problems of provision of library services in house of assembly library, and to suggest possible strategies to overcome the problems of acquisition and provision of library resources and services in house of assembly library. In the course of the research, the researcher was able to find out the following; the problems of poor management of library funds, poor knowledge of ICT infrastructure and utilization, inadequate human resources, lack of acquisition policy, high cost of foreign materials, poor quality of locally published materials, lack of ICT tools and compliance, and based on the findings, it was recommended that formulation of acquisition policy, provision of grants to indigenous publishers, recruitment of qualified personnel and proper management of funds in the library will enhance effective acquisition and provision of library resources and services.

When there is correct collection development policy, correct legal materials will be acquired for the benefit of the users. University of Jos Law Library cannot be left out of this benefits to its users hence the researchers deem it necessary to discuss the background information of the University of Jos Library and University of Jos Law Library. The nucleus of the University of Jos Library was established in February, 1972 when this institution

remained the Jos Campus of the University of Ibadan. It is located along Murtala Mohammed way on the temporary site of the University Township Campus. The library has undergone significant extension to both its building and stock. Today, it has the Medical Science collection and Bindery Section. The Medical Library has seating accommodation for 1,650 readers and a few reading stations reserved for staff and postgraduate students.

In December 1976, a branch library which has also undergone some extensions was opened at the Bauchi Road Campus of the University, some kilometers away from the township campus. It has now become the Main Library housing the administration, support services, Documents Section and serving the Faculties of Natural, Pharmaceutical and Environmental Sciences. It has seating accommodation for 733 readers and some reserved reading areas for staff, postgraduates and handicapped readers. According to Know your Library booklet, the Law Library has been moved to the Faculty of Law, and has seating accommodation for 123 readers. In 1985, construction of the Central University Library building at the permanent site of the university was completed. However, due to general space problem in the University, the building now houses Faculties of Art and Social Sciences. The first floor housing Arts, Social Sciences and Education libraries has seating accommodation for 486 readers. The total stocks in these libraries are 169, 404 volumes of books, 25, 824 bound journals and 20, 263 materials in documents section.

The Law Library is an extension of the University of Jos Main Campus Library. It is a special library which is mainly established to serve Law students, lawyers, judges, lecturers in their field and other users and their materials are specifically selected based on their field. The Law Library has two reading sections; the first section accommodates the book shelves, journal stands, and the photocopying unit, while the second section accommodates only chairs and tables mainly for reading and research purposes. It also has the circulation unit, the law librarian's office, porters' desk and the legal research laboratory. The types of materials

that are used in Law Library, University of Jos includes, Nigerian Law Reviews, Nigerian Weekly Reports, Law of the Federation of Nigeria, Newspapers, Journals, patents, Law books in different areas, Statutes/Acts, Law students projects/thesis, Encyclopedia, etc. So also, their online resources include Hein online foreign, law pavilion local and Legal Pecilia local.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS

In a typical Nigerian library, the availability of information resources influences utilization by users. However, the first call of library functionality demands that the right materials and resources are acquired and users have access to adequate information resources in order to meet their needs. But in a situation where the right materials are not acquired and the ones available are not effectively utilized, it becomes a problem thereby affecting the objectives of the library.

Acquiring law materials and resources are usually very expensive and problematic when compared to other library resources and this is because of the nature of their resources. In a close discussion with the Law Librarian, she was able to outline some of the challenges faced in the Law Library in terms of acquisition and utilization. Thus, such challenges includes, insufficient funds, constant rising cost of Law materials, resources needed by users are not available, no CCTV, poor bibliographic control, no standard acquisition policy. This study therefore seeks to investigate the factors influencing selection and acquisition of library materials and services to users in University of Jos Law Library. The items for investigation are: to determine how often University of Jos Law Library acquire legal materials, to find out the criteria used in selection and acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, and to ascertain the challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring legal materials.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY/OBJECTIVES

The study seeks to:

1. Determine how often University of Jos Law Library acquire Legal Materials.
2. Find out the criteria used in Selection of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library.
3. Find out the methods used in Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library
4. Ascertain the challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring Legal Materials.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions will guide the study:

1. How often does University of Jos Law Library acquire Legal Materials?
2. What are the criteria used in Selection of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library?
3. What are the methods used in Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library?
4. What are the challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring Legal materials?

METHOD AND PROCEDURE

The design adopted for this research is survey. This is because the research focuses mainly on people and their opinions, attitudes, motivations and behavior. This was in line with the assertion of Kerlinger & Lee (2000) who opined that survey research focuses mainly on people and their opinions, attitudes, motivations and behaviors.

The population of this study includes all the registered Law students with the total population of 150, University of Jos Law Library staff with the total population of 12, which comprises of the Law Librarian and 11 staff, and the acquisition staff of the Main Library located at the Bauchi Road Campus of the University with the total population of 6 staff,

which comprises of 1 Acquisition Librarian and 5 other staff. Therefore, the total population of the study is 168. Twenty percent (20%) of the population were used as sample. This was based on the recommendation of Uzoagulu (1998) as cited by Ezeh (2005) that for a population of many hundreds, a sample of 20% should be used.

A sample is a smaller group or sub-group obtained from the accessible population (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). This subgroup is carefully selected so as to be representative of the whole population with the relevant characteristics. Each member or case in the sample is referred to as subject, respondent or interviewees.

Table 1: Population and Sample Table

S/No.	Items	Population	Sample (20%)
1.	Law Library Staff	12	3
2.	Acquisition Staff	6	2
3.	Registered Library users (Law Students)	150	30
	Total	168	35

The data collection instrument that was used in this study was the questionnaire. It was divided into four sections which are Section A - Section D; **Section A** is for demographic information of the respondents and the respondents are required to tick the appropriate option as applicable to them. **Section B** is for Research Question 1 which is “How often does University of Jos Law Library acquire Legal materials?” Respondents are required to tick from the list of options in the table which includes 'Very Often', 'Often', 'Rarely' and Never in order to show the frequency of acquisition of Legal materials in the University of Jos Law Library. **Section C** was for research question 2, which is “What are the criteria used in

Selection of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library?” Respondents are required to tick the options that are applicable in order to show the criteria used for selection of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library. **Section D** is for research question 3, which is “What are the methods used in Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library? Respondents are required to tick the options that are applicable in order to show the methods used in acquiring legal materials in University of Jos Law Library. **Section E** is for research question 4, respondents are required to tick the options that are applicable in order to show the challenges faced when acquiring legal materials in University of Jos Law Library.

DATA PRESENTATION, RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

All the data presented below were gotten from the Survey (field work) carried out by the researcher in the year 2019.

Response Rate

The response rate of 97.1% was recorded for this Study. Out of the 35 Questionnaires administered, 34 were filled, returned and found usable.

Table 2: Response rate

Number of Questionnaire Administered	Number of Questionnaires Retrieved	Percentage Retrieval
35	34	97.1%

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 2 above shows the response rate of the study. Out of the 35 Questionnaires administered, 34 representing 97.1% were filled, returned and found usable. Hence, a response rate of 97.1% was recorded for this research.

Respondent’s General Background Information

Table 3: Gender of the Respondents

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Male	12	35.3

2.	Female	22	64.7
Total		34	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 3 above shows the Gender of the respondents, 12 (35.3%) of the respondents are male, and 22 (64.7%) are female.

Table 4: Category of the Respondents

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Staff	5	14.71
2.	Library Users	29	85.3
Total		34	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 4 above shows the Category of the respondents, 5 (14.7%) of the respondents are staff, and 29 (85.3%) of the respondents are Library Users.

Table 5: Level of Study of the Respondents

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	100 level	1	3.5
2.	200 level	8	27.6
3.	300 level	3	10.3
4.	400 level	12	41.4
5.	500 level	5	17.2
Total		29	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 5 above shows the level of study of the respondents, 1 (3.5%) of the respondents is in 100 level, 8 (27.6%) of the respondents are in 200 level, 3 (10.3%) of the respondents are in 300 level, 12 (41.4%) of the respondents are in 400 level, and 5 (17.2) of the respondents are in 500 level.

Table 6: Age of the Respondents

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Below 20 years	3	9.4
2.	20 - 24 years	13	40.6
3.	25 - 30 years	11	34.4

4.	30 - 40 years	3	9.4
5.	41 - 50 years	2	6.3
6.	50 years and above	0	0.0
Total		32	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 6 above shows the Age of the respondents, 3 (9.4%) of the respondents are below 20 years, 13 (40.6%) of the respondents are between the ages of 20 - 24 years, 11 (34.4%) are between the ages of 25 - 30 years, 3 (9.4%) are between the ages of 30 - 40 years, 2 (6.3%) are between the ages of 41 -50 years and none of the respondents were aged 50 years and above.

Table 7: Respondent's Marital Status

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Single	30	88.2
2.	Married	4	11.8
3.	Divorced	0	0.0
4.	Widowed	0	0.0
Total		34	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 7 above shows the Marital Status of the respondents, 30 (88.2%) of the respondents are single, 4 (11.8%) of the respondents are married; none of the respondents were divorced or widowed.

Table 8: Respondents' Highest Academic Qualifications (Staff only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Ph. D	0	0.0
2.	M.L.I.S	1	20
3.	B.L.I.S	2	40
4.	B.SC.	0	0.0
5.	Diploma in Library and Information Science	0	0.0

6.	Others	2	40
Total		5	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 8 above shows the Respondent's Highest Academic Qualification. None of the respondents has Ph.D, 1 (20%) of the respondents has M.L.I.S, 2 (40%) of the respondents have B.L.I.S, none of the respondents have BSC and none of respondents also have Diploma in Library and Information Science, and 2 (40%) of them were classified as others.

Table 9: Respondents Rank (Staff Only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Assistant Librarian	2	40
2.	Library Officer	1	20
3.	Assistant Library Officer	2	40
Total		5	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 9 above shows the Rank of the respondents; 2 (40%) of the respondents are Assistant Library Officers, 2 (40%) of the respondents are Assistant Librarian and 1 (20%) of the respondents is a Library Officer.

Table 10: Respondent's Section/Unit (Staff Only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Acquisition/Orders	2	40
2.	Law Library	3	60
Total		5	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 10 above shows the Section/Unit of the respondents; 2 (40%) of the respondents are from the Acquisition/Orders Section and 3 (60%) of the respondents are from Law Library.

Table 11: Respondent's Years of Working Experience (Staff Only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	0 - 5 years	0	0.0
2.	6 - 10 years	3	60
3.	11 - 20 years	2	40
4.	21 - 30 years	0	0.0
5.	30 years and above	0	0.0
Total		5	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 11 above shows the Years of Working Experience of the respondents, none of the respondents have working experience of 0- 5 years, 3 (60%) of the respondents have working experience of 6 - 10 years, 2 (40%) have working experience of 11 - 20 years and none of them have working experience of 21- 30 years and 30 years and above.

Table 12: Respondent's Years of Working Experience in the Library (Staff Only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	0 - 5 years	0	0.0
2.	6 - 10 years	5	100
3.	11 - 20 years	0	0.0
4.	21 - 30 years	0	0.0
5.	30 years and above	0	0.0
Total		5	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 12 above shows the Years of Working Experience of the respondents in the library. All 5 (100%) of the respondents have working experience in the library between 6-10 years.

Table 13: Respondent's Mode of Study (Students only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Full time	25	86.2
2.	Part time	2	6.9
3.	No Response	2	6.9
	Total	29	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 13 above shows the Respondent's Mode of Study, 25 (86.2%) of the respondents are full time students, while 2 (6.9%) of them are part time students, and 2 (6.9%) of the respondents did not indicate their mode of study.

Table 14: Respondent's Mode of Entry (Students only)

S/N	Items	Frequency	Percentages
1.	UTME	16	55.2
2.	Direct Entry	10	34.5
3.	Transfer	0	0.0
4.	No Response	3	10.3
	Total	29	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 14 above shows the Respondent's Mode of Entry, 16 (55.2%) of the respondent's, mode of entry were through UTME, 10 (34.5%) of the respondent's mode of entry were through Direct Entry, none of the respondents were transferred students, and 3 (10.3%) of the respondents do not indicate their mode of entry.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Research Question 1: How often does the University of Jos Law Library acquire Legal Materials?

Table 15: Frequency of Acquisition of Legal Materials by University of Jos Law Library.

S/N	Resources	Very Often		Often		Rarely		Never		Total	%
		Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%		
1.	Law Reference Resources	9	26.5	21	61.8	3	8.8	0	0.0	34	100.0
2	Law Textbooks	13	38.2	12	35.3	8	23.5	0	0.0	34	100.0
3	Legal Journals	8	23.5	16	47.1	6	17.6	0	0.0	34	100.0
4	Newspapers/Magazines	14	41.2	12	35.3	4	11.8	2	5.8	34	100.0
5	Special Collection/Government Publications	2	5.8	15	44.11	12	35.3	3	8.8	34	100.0
6	Electronic Online Resources	13	38.2	10	29.4	8	23.5	2	5.8	34	100.0
7	Audiovisual Materials	2	5.8	6	17.6	9	26.5	15	44.11	34	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 15 above shows the frequency of acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, 9 (26.5%) of the respondents indicated that law reference resources are acquired very often, 21 (61.8%) indicated often, 3 (8.8%) indicated Rarely, and none of respondents indicated Never. Similarly, 13 (38.2%) of the respondents indicated that Law Textbooks are acquired Very Often, 12 (35.3%) indicated Often, 8 (23.5%) indicated Rarely, and none of them indicated Never. On the Legal Journals, 8 (23.5%) of the respondents indicated that legal journals are acquired Very Often, 16 (47.1%) indicated Often, 6 (17.6%) indicated Rarely, and none of them indicated Never. On the Newspapers/Magazines, 14 (41.2%) of the respondents indicated that Newspapers/Magazines are acquired Very Often, 12 (35.3%) of the respondents indicated Often, 4 (11.8%) indicated Rarely, while 2 (5.8%) indicated Never. 2 (5.8%) of the respondents indicated that Special collection/government publications are acquired Very Often, 15 (44.11%) indicated Often, 12 (35.3%) indicated Rarely, and 3 (8.8%) indicated Never. Similarly, 13 (38.2%) of the respondents indicated that Electronic online resources are acquired Very Often, 10 (29.4%) indicated Often, 8 (23.5%) indicated Rarely, and 2 (5.8%) indicated Never. Also, 2 (5.8%) of the respondents indicated that Audiovisual materials are acquired Very Often, 6 (17.6%) indicated Often, 9 (26.5%) indicated Rarely, and 15 (44.11%) indicated Never.

The responses shows that law reference resources, law textbooks, legal journals, newspapers/magazines, special collection/government publications, electronic online resources are frequently acquired in University of Jos Law Library. But Special collection/government publications are rarely acquired, and Audiovisual Materials were never acquired in University of Jos Law Library.

Research Question 2: What are the criteria for selection of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library? (Staff only, tick as many as applicable)

Table 16: Criteria for Selection and Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library.

S/No	Items	Freq %		Total	%
1	Authoritativeness of the Publishers or Producers	3	60	5	100.0
2	Significance of the Subject Matter Based on Collection Assessment	4	80	5	100.0
3	Importance/Reputation of the Author	4	80	5	100.0
4	Accuracy of the Information and Data Based on Reviews, Recommendations, and Evaluation	5	100	5	100.0
5	Potential Known use by Patrons Based Faculty Research Interest, Curricular Development or Use, Law Students Request and other Sources	4	80	5	100.0
6	Importance to the Total Collection	4	80	5	100.0
7	Appearance of the Title in Important Bibliographies, Lists and Reviewing Media	4	80	5	100.0
8	Current and/or Permanent Value to the Collection	4	80	5	100.0
9	Law Faculty Request, Purchased Whenever Possible	5	100	5	100.0

10	Physical Format or Access, Method (bound printed), Loose Leaf	4	80	5	100.0
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Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 16 above shows the criteria for selection and acquisition of legal materials in university of Jos Law Library, 3 (60%) of the respondents indicated Authoritativeness of the Publishers or Producers, 4 (80%) indicated Significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, 4 (80%) indicated Importance/reputation of the author, 5 (100%) indicated Accuracy of the information and data based on reviews, recommendations, and evaluation, 4 (80%) indicated Potential known use by patrons based on faculty research interest, curricular development or use, law students request and other sources, 4 (80%) indicated Importance to the total collections, 4 (80%) indicated Appearance of the title in important Bibliographies, lists and reviewing media, 4 (80%) indicated Current and/or permanent value to the collection, 5 (100%) indicated Law faculty request, purchased whenever possible, and 2 (40%) indicated Physical format or access, method (bound printed), loose leaf.

The responses shows some of the criteria used in selection and acquisition of legal materials in Law Library, which includes, authoritativeness of the publishers or producers, significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, importance/reputation of the author, accuracy of the information and database on reviews, recommendations, and evaluation, importance to the total collection, and law faculty request, purchased whenever possible.

Research Question 3: What are the methods used in Acquisition of Legal Materials in University of Jos Law Library?

Table 17: Methods Used in Acquiring Law Library Resources (Staff only, tick as many as applicable)

S/No	Items	Freq %		Total %	
1	Gifts/Donations	5	100	5	100.0
2	By Exchange	2	40	5	100.0
3	By Purchase	5	100	5	100.0

4	Legal Deposits	2	40	5	100.0
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Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 17 above shows the methods used in acquiring Law Library resources, 5 (100%) of the respondents indicated Gifts/Donations, 2 (40%) indicated that Law Library Resources are acquired by exchange, 5 (100%) indicated by purchase and 2 (40%) indicated Legal deposits.

The responses shows the methods used in acquiring Law Library resources, which includes, Gifts/Donation and by purchase but not by exchange or legal deposits.

Research Question 4: What are the challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring Legal materials? (Tick the one that is applicable: Staff only).

Table 18: Challenges of Acquisition of Law Library Resources

S/No	Items	Freq. %		Total %	
1	Inadequate Funds	2	40	5	100.0
2	Poor Management of Library Funds	1	20	5	100.0
3	Lack of Acquisition Policy	3	60	5	100.0
4	High Cost of Foreign Materials	4	80	5	100.0
5	Poor Quality of Locally Published Materials	4	80	5	100.0
6	Poor Communication Services	4	80	5	100.0
7	Poor Bibliographic Control	3	60	5	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 18 above shows the challenges of acquisition of Law Library resources, 2 (40%) of the respondents indicated Inadequate funds, 1 (20%) indicated Poor management of library funds, 3 (60%) indicated Lack of acquisition policy, 4 (80%) indicated High cost of

foreign materials, 4 (80%) indicated Poor quality of locally published materials, 4 (80%) indicated Poor communication services, and 3 (60%) indicated Poor Bibliographic control.

The responses shows some of the challenges faced when acquiring Law Library resources, which includes, Lack of Acquisition Policy, High cost of foreign materials, poor quality of locally published materials, poor communication services and poor bibliographic control. But the challenges does not include inadequate funds and poor management of library funds.

Summary of the Findings.

1. The University of Jos Law Library acquired legal materials very frequently. Those legal materials usually acquired frequently includes law reference resources, law textbooks, legal journals, newspapers/magazines, and electronic online resources, but special collection/government publications are rarely acquired and audiovisual materials were never acquired.
2. There are some criteria used for selection and acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, which includes, authoritativeness of the publishers or producers, significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, importance/reputation of the author, accuracy of the information and database on reviews, recommendations and evaluation, importance to the total collections, and law faculty request, purchased whenever possible.
3. More so, the University of Jos Law Library used certain methods in acquiring legal materials, those methods includes, gifts/donations, and by purchase but not by legal deposits and exchange.
4. The challenges faced by Law Library in acquiring Law Library resources includes, lack of acquisition policy, high cost of foreign materials, poor quality of locally published materials, poor communication services, and poor bibliographic control.

But the challenges do not include inadequate funds and poor management of library funds.

Discussions

The Research was conducted on factors influencing selection and acquisition of legal information resources in University of Jos Law Library. Four (4) objectives were formulated to guide the study which are: to determine how often University of Jos Law Library acquire legal materials; to find out the criteria used for selection and methods used for acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library; and to ascertain the challenges faced by University of Jos Law Library in acquiring legal materials.

The findings from the research indicated that University of Jos Law Library acquired legal materials frequently in order to meet the information needs of users. The legal materials acquired includes, law reference resources, law textbooks, legal journals, newspapers/magazines, and electronic online resources, but not audiovisual materials and special collection/government publication. This was in agreement with Nnadozie (2006), which stated that, the frequency of acquisition of legal materials in Law Library is an essential activity which is done continuously due to the dynamic nature of knowledge and the need for library to meet the diverse information needs of their patrons, and also a means by which books and non- book materials are added to the library collection. It was also in agreement with Onoriode & Ivwighreghweta (2002), who asserted that the frequency of acquisition of legal materials in Law Libraries entails the process of identifying and verifying the information resources needed by Law Library users, placing order for them, making payment for such resources and receiving them accordingly into the library collection for the purpose of building a local collections and to increasingly control access to library materials. The findings was also in agreement with Essien (2007), who asserted that, the frequency of

acquisition of legal materials is a very important aspect of librarianship since the quality and strength of the Law Library collections solely depends on the materials acquired. The findings was also in agreement with Arizona State Library (2011), who asserted that the goals of Law Libraries includes acquiring legal materials as quickly, frequently, and economically as possible and minimizing the amount of paperwork, filling and follow up needed, effective working relationship with vendors are very important as well.

The research further revealed that, there are some criteria used for selection and acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, and those criteria includes, authoritativeness of the publishers or producers, significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, importance/reputation of the author, accuracy of the information and data base on reviews, recommendations and evaluation, potential known use by patrons based on faculty research interest, curricular development, or use, law students request and other sources, importance to the total collections, appearance of the title in important bibliographies, lists, and reviewing media, current and/or permanent value to the collection, law faculty request, purchased whenever possible, and physical format, access, method (bound printed), loose leaf. This was in agreement with Davis (1997), which stated that, the most fundamental criteria for selection and acquisition of legal materials are designed to evaluate the reputation of the authors and publishers, ascertain the level and depth of the content and consider any special format or features that will add value to the title. It was also in agreement with Yu & Breivold (2008) who asserted that selectors must now address new issues as part of the selection and acquisition processes, issues such as easy and quick access to users of Law Library, continuous content evaluation and technological and legal concerns. The researchers further added that, for traditional legal materials, the selectors should make

the decision to acquire an item with only limited consultation with other departments following established policies and guidelines of the Law Libraries.

Furthermore, the researcher revealed that the University of Jos Law Library have certain methods for acquiring Law Library resources, and such methods includes, gifts/donations, and by purchase, but not by legal deposits and by exchange. This was in agreement with Egunjobi & Olanrewaju (2010) which stated that the two methods of legal materials acquisition employed in Law Library are purchase, gifts and donations.

The research further revealed that, the challenges faced by law library in acquiring Law resources includes, lack of acquisition policy, high cost of foreign materials, poor quality of locally published materials, poor communication services, and poor bibliographic control, but not inadequate funds, and poor management of library funds. This was in agreement with Ogbonna (2000), who pointed out some challenges encountered by Law Library in acquiring legal materials, they includes, underdeveloped book industries, government physical measures, poor communication infrastructures, poor funding, lack of written collection development and acquisition policy, and unavailability of standard bibliographies. It was also in agreement with Eze & Eze (2006) who also pointed out that it is usually impossible to procure legal materials published overseas without obtaining the appropriate foreign currency. Presently, getting foreign exchange in a country poses a lot of problems, and when one succeeds, the rate is very high.

CONCLUSION

From the findings on the factors influencing selection and acquisition of legal information resources in University of Jos Law Library and based on the data collected and analyzed, it was concluded that there are various challenges of acquisition and utilization of Library Legal materials and services in University of Jos Law Library. The challenges

include, Lack of Acquisition Policy, High cost of foreign Materials, Poor quality of locally published materials, Poor communication services and Poor bibliographic control. But the challenges does not include inadequate funds and poor management of library funds. There are also some criteria used for selection and acquisition of legal materials in University of Jos Law Library, which includes, authoritativeness of the publishers or producers, significance of the subject matter based on collection assessment, importance/reputation of the author, accuracy of the information and database on reviews, recommendations and evaluation, importance to the total collections, and law faculty request, purchased whenever possible. More so, the University of Jos Law Library used certain methods in acquiring legal materials, those methods includes, gifts/donations, and by purchase but not by legal deposits and exchange.

The selection and acquisition of the right Legal materials in Law Libraries has become the basis for making a Law Library to be relevant to its users. A robust collection development policy is therefore required to achieve this.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings, the researcher recommends that the following measures and actions be taken by stakeholders in order to actualize effective acquisition and utilization of library materials and services in Law Libraries:

1. Concerted efforts should be made by University of Jos Law Library to acquire audiovisual materials and special collection/government publications which it was discovered in the research that it were never acquired in University of Jos Law Library and also ensure increased and frequent acquisition of more law resources in

order to increase patron's access to information in different disciplines and areas of specialization.

2. University of Jos Law Library should also have a written collection development policy that will enhance effective acquisition, selection, weeding, gifts, purchase and exchange of library resources. This will facilitate a consistent and balance growth of the law library collections. The law Librarian and the acquisition committee should always consult the academic staff and law students in order to get the right information that will suits the institution curricular needs and also meet their needs at the appropriate time.
3. The Federal government as the parent body to the University of Jos and the library should therefore make it as a priority or policy in funding the Law Libraries with adequate and timely release of funds, since the Law Library remains the medium for the development and expansion of knowledge of law students and the law faculty at large. The government should also establish a standard local publishing industry in order to compete favourably with foreign publishing companies that will meet all demands of the Law Library.

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