

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)

Libraries at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2023

Bibliometric studies of NLA papers from 2019-2021

Suwaiba Hussaini

Bayero University Kano Nigeria, suhussaini2@gmail.com

Prof. Yahya Ibrahim Harande

Bayero University Kano, Nigeria, yaibrahimh@yahoo.com

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac>



Part of the [Scholarly Communication Commons](#)

Hussaini, Suwaiba and Harande, Prof. Yahya Ibrahim, "Bibliometric studies of NLA papers from 2019-2021" (2023). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 7888.

<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/7888>

**NIGERIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED
DURING THE YEAR 2019_2021.**

A BIBLIOMETRICS STUDY

PROF. YAHYA IBRAHIM HARANDE

**Department of Library and Information Sciences, Bayero University Kano, Kano State,
Nigeria**

yaibrahimh@yahoo.com

09030835535

SUWAIBA HUSSAINI,

**Department of Library and Information Sciences, Bayero University Kano, Kano State,
Nigeria**

Suhassini2@gmail.com

08058880993

Abstract

The study intends to presents a Bibliometric analysis of articles presented at the Nigerian Library Association's (NLA's) National Conferences/ AGMs, 2019-2021, it will find out the distribution of articles that were presented in NLA's conferences from 2019_2021, the degree of collaboration among the authors, and collaborative index of articles presented at NLA's National conferences from the year 2019_2021. Data were collected from the NLA's journals. To achieve the purpose of the study, three objectives guided the study .The study adopted descriptive survey design. The data were analyzed using frequency table and simple percentage. The findings of the study reveal that 29 articles were presented of which 17 of the number is multiple authors, and that of single authors is 12. The degree of collaboration of articles presented at NLA's National conferences 2019 to 2021 is 0.59, this indicates that degree of collaboration was positive; this reveals that NLA is presenting high quality articles. And the collaborative index of articles presented at NLA's conference in the year 2019 is 0.25 and in 2021 is 0.54. This indicates that the collaboration among the authors is positive. This indicates that NLA journals are publishing collaborative articles of high quality. The study recommended that measures should be taken to ensure that the invitations for papers reach every nooks and crannies of Nigeria; this can increase the number of contributors. More authors should be motivated to produce collaborative articles. More authors need orientation.

Introduction

Professional associations are considered one of the bodies that contributes toward translating, practicalizing, sharing, transforming, managing, providing, educating, emphasizing and brainstorming what has been learned in the school environment through conferences. Professional organizations play a great role to develop the professional efficiencies from time to time by organizing seminars, workshop, and hand on trainings and refresher courses on new technologies professional organizations can keep up with changes. Smbly (2019).

Gathering of professionals and scholars to discuss on issues that relates to both theory and practice of a given discipline enhance sharing of information , knowledge and findings of researches conducted as well as innovative efforts towards the growth and development of such a discipline. According to Choi (2018) professional associations aim to promote, develop and safeguard a particular profession or occupation. In addition, they can represent the interest of those working in the profession or field.

One of such these associations is the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) which is not left in a vacuum. This is because it yearly organizes conference in which many facets, aspects, and segments of LIS are discussed by both the academics and professionals.

BRIEF HISTORY OF NLA

The Nigerian Library Association (NLA) was established in 1962 to bring together all Nigerian practicing and intending librarians, book vendors, publishers and friends of the library (Eke, 2011). One of the major objectives of the NLA has been to promote and encourage bibliographical study, research and library co-operations. To achieve these, the NLA organizes Annual Conferences/General Meetings, where members are encouraged to contribute to knowledge through the presentation of well researched conference articles revolving around the Annual Conference themes. NLA started as a division of the West African Library Association (WALA). WALA was established in 1954 as an off-shoot of a UNESCO Seminar on the Development of Public Libraries in Africa held in Ibadan in 1953. With the political independence from colonial rule of Anglophone West African countries in the late 1950s, WALA national divisions transformed into National Library Associations of their respective countries, thus giving birth to the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) in 1962 (Okojie, 2007). According to the Association's website <http://www.nla-ng.org/aboutus.htm>. The objectives of NLA are:

- a. Unite persons interested in libraries, librarianship and information services;
- b. Safeguard and promote the professional interests of librarians;
- c. Promote the establishment and development of libraries and information centres;
- d. Watch legislations affecting libraries and assist in the promotion of such legislation, as may be considered necessary for the establishment, regulation and management of libraries within Nigeria;
- e. Promote and encourage bibliographical study, research and library cooperation and

f. Do all lawful things as are incidental and conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

In line with its first and fifth objectives, the NLA organizes Annual Conferences/AGMs and each Annual Conference usually has a theme and librarians are expected to research and present conference papers, which must usually revolve around the annual theme. Since inception of the association in 1962, a total number of 59 conferences have taken place and each conference records a large number of attendees and article presenters. Articles presented at these conferences have looked at various issues and themes covering all aspects of library and information science activities in practice, education and services. This study therefore, focuses on the bibliometrics analysis of all the articles presented at the NLA Conferences/AGMs from 2019-2021.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were to:

1. To find out the distribution of articles presented at NLA National Conference (2019 to 2022)
2. To ascertain the degree of collaboration among authors that presented articles at the NLA National conferences (2019_2022).
3. To find out the collaborative index of research articles published in the NLA journals at their National Conferences (2019_2022).

Literature Review

Bibliometrics is derived from two different words: *biblion*, the Greek word for ‘book’, (which can be any literature) and *metrics*, the use of mathematical and statistical concepts, models and laws to analyze quantities (Hussain and Fatima,2011). Thus, bibliometrics is a type of research methods that uses quantitative analysis and statistics to describe pattern of publication within a given field or body of literature (Chuang et al,2011). Bibliometrics is the statistical analysis of texts and information. In a research environment, a common example of bibliometrics is the use of citation analysis to determine how many times a researcher's work has been cited in key literature.

The term bibliometrics was coined by Alan Pritchard in a paper published in 1969, titled “statistical Bibliography or Bibliometrics. He defined the term as “the application of mathematics and statistical methods to books and other media of communication, (Broadus, 1987) provides a more comprehensive definition of bibliometrics as put forward by the American Library Association. According to him, bibliometrics is the use of statistical tools in the analysis body of literature; reveals the historical tools and the historical development of subject fields and patterns of authorship, publication and use.

According to Ravichandra-Rao (2003), in every aspect, bibliometrics involves the application of quantitative techniques, mathematics or statistics to study a body of publications whether books, bibliography or even archival records (Uhegbu, 2009). Citation analysis and content analysis are commonly used in bibliographic methods. While bibliographic methods are most often used in the field of Library and Information Science, Many scholars have conducted bibliometric analyses on print and electronic journals. The studies cut across all fields such as

science and technology, social sciences, health, library and information science, agriculture among others. Using bibliometrics studies for instance, Inazu (2012) conducted bibliometrics analysis of Niger biblios Journal (2005-2010). The study reported that a total of 64 articles were published from 2005-2010. The study further reveals that single authors were 45 and more than two authors were 19, while the 2005 volume of the journal had no two authors. On sources of information resources cited, majority of the authors cited journals (227), followed by books with (155) citations.

Regarding collaboration of authors from same institution (CASI) and collaboration of authors from different institutions (CADI), the study revealed that a total of 11 authors teamed up from same institutions and 7 from different institutions. On the ranking of LIS journals cited, African Journal of Library, Archival and Information Science came first with 17 points, followed by Niger biblios, with 11 points, while Nigerian Libraries came third with 10 points. Others that ranked among the first ten are: IFLA Journal, Lagos Librarian, Library Review, Nigerian Library and Information Science Review, Bomo Library, Archival and Information Science Journal, Gateway Library Journal and International Information and Library Review.

Warraich & Ahmed (2011) studied the research trends of the Pakistan LIS sector, using the Pakistan Journal of Library and Information Science (PJLIS) from 1995-2010. The analysis indicated that a total of 111 articles were published and most of the papers were from single authors. The journal also attracted twelve foreign authors, showing that the journal has gained international acceptance and circulation. The bibliometrics study of the NLA Conference/AGM papers from 2015 - 2021 will be an added impetus to the growing interest in the bibliometric studies locally and internationally.

Bibliometrics is the quantitative research analysis of written documents. It is frequently used to analyze scientific and scholarly publications (Ludo and Ed, 2018). Bibliometrics counts and measures things, bibliometrics is a quantitative method of studying scientific research using publications as proxy for research. Researchers used bibliometrics to determine the growth of literature. In a bibliometrics analysis, we are often interested in obtaining quantitative measurements of concepts such as scientific output, scientific impact, scientific collaboration or growth. Bibliometrics techniques are now being consistently discussed to get factual and accurate data for information handling and transfers. Bibliometrics is also used to study quantitative growth of a discipline and its quantitatively (Atiya, 2018). It also helps in library resources management and planning strategies for documentation services of the user community of that literary discipline B (2015).

Furthermore, bibliometrics is a research method used in LIS, it is a quantitative study of various aspects of literature on a topic and is used to identify the pattern of publication, authorship, and secondary journal coverage to gain insight into dynamic of knowledge in the area under consideration. Behavior of information can be studied through bibliometrics.

Methodology

The methodology applied in the present study is bibliometric analysis, which is used to study in detail the bibliographic features of the articles presented in NLA National Conferences/AGMs from 2019 – 2022. The number of authors was gotten from the journals of the Nigerian Library Association. Data were presented using frequency tables and then analyzed by descriptive statistics.

This research studied papers presented for the period of four (4) years (2019_2022) using bibliometrics approach. In line with first and fifth objectives, the NLA organizes annual

conference/ AGMs. It is hoped that at end of the research some important and salient knowledge and information are going to be visible for the benefit of all and sundry.

Subramaniyani's (1983) law is one of the laws used to measure the degree of research collaboration of scholars and scientists. The law has been widely used in many bibliometrics researches globally, it tries to measures the degree of collaboration of authors mathematically, and thus the law reads:

$$DC = \frac{Nm}{Nm + Ns}$$

DC= Degree of collaboration in a discipline or subject,

Nm =Number of Multiple authors,

Ns=Number of Single author

Moreover, Lawani (1980) attempted to measure the collaboration of authors quantitatively in the event of doing that he introduced the term collaborative index to describe the average number of authors per paper for a given set of papers or discipline, he noted that "the greater the collaborative index of a set of papers the higher the proportion of quality paper in the set, and that the collaborative index can be use to the quality in aggregate".

Data presentation, analysis and discussion

Year	2019	2020	2021	Total
Paper presented	16	0	13	29

Table 1: Distribution of articles Presented at NLA Conferences (2019_2021)

Year	Frequency	Percentage (%)
2019	16	55.1
2020	0	0
2021	13	44.9
Total	29	100

Source: journal of Nigerian Library Association

Table 1 shows the distribution of articles presented from 2019 - 2021. From the analysis above, a total of 29 articles were presented in 3 years. The table shows that in 2019, 16 papers which represent 55.1% were presented. In 2020, no any paper was presented, because NLA conference was not held and this could be due to corona virus pandemic, and in the year 2021, 13 (44.9%) papers were represented.

Table 2. Degree of collaboration of articles Presented at NLA Conferences (2010-2022)

Year	Single Author (Ns)	Multiple author (Nm)
2019	6	10
2020	0	0
2021	6	7
Total	12	17

Source: journal of Nigerian Library Association

By using the formula

$$DC = \frac{Nm}{Nm + Ns} = \frac{17}{17 + 12} = 0.59$$

$$DC = 0.59$$

The above analysis reveals that degree of collaboration of papers presented at NLA conferences (2019_2021) is 0.59. This indicates that degree of collaboration among the authors is positive. NLA journal is publishing collaborative articles of high quality.

Table 3. Collaborative index of articles Presented at NLA Conferences (2019_2021)

Year	Single Author	Multiple author	Total	Collaborative index
2019	6	10	16	0.625
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	6	7	13	0.538

source: journal of Nigerian Library Association

Table 3 above shows the collaborative index of articles presented at NLA National conference in the year 2019 as 0.625. And in the year 2021, the collaborative index decreased slightly to 0.538 and this could be contributed to the post corona pandemic which disrupted almost every aspects of our life. Form the above data, the researcher can conclude that the collaborative indexes of articles presented at NLA National conferences from 2019 to 2021 were positive.

Conclusion

The three research questions were answered by data analysis and revealed that, in 2019, NLA presented 16 articles which representing 55.17%. In 2020, no any article was presented, because NLA conference was not held and this could be due to corona virus pandemic, and in the

year 2021, 13 (4%) articles were represented. Degree of collaboration among the authors is positive. NLA journal is publishing collaborative articles, and collaborative indexes of articles presented at NLA National conferences from 2019 to 2021 were positive.

Recommendations

In line with the results of the study, the researcher therefore recommends as follows:

1. Measures should be taken to ensure that the invitations for papers reach every nooks and crannies of Nigeria; this can increase the number of contributors.
2. More authors should be motivated to produce collaborative articles.
3. More authors need orientation on the importance of collaboration.

REFERENCES

- Atiya Masood (2018). Literature On Information Technology in Library (2007_2017). An informetric study. A Dissertation .Department of Library and Information Science. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (Indian).
- Choi, HengTan(2018). Professional Bodies , Roles, Functions and Responsibilities.
- Chuang K, Chuang Y, Ho M, Ho Y (2016). Bibliometrics Analysis of Public Health Research in Africa: The Overall Trend and Regional Comparisons. *South Afr. J. Sci.*107 (6):309_315. Delhi: New Age International Limited Publishers.
- Hussain A, Fatima N(2017). A bibliometrics analysis of the Chinese Librarianship: *an International Electronic Journal* (2010_2016). Chinese Librarianship: an International electronic journal,31
- Inazu, I. O. (2012). Bibliometric analysis of Nigerbiblios Journal 2005-2010. Nigerbiblios,
- Lawani, S.M(1981). Quality, Collaboration and Citation in Cancer Research: A bibliometric study
- Ludo Waltman and Ed Noyons (2018). Bibliometrics for Research Management and Research Evaluation: A brief introduction. 2300AX Leiden, The Netherlands
- Baby Shabena (2015). Research Productivity of Library and Information Science in Indian Organizations (2002_2011). Dissertation. Department of Library and Information Science. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (Indian).
- Okojie, V. (2007). Programme of the 45th National Conference/
Owerri: Barloz Publishers Inc. AGM of the Nigerian Library Association. Abuja: Nigerian Library Association.
- Ravichandra-Rao, I. K. (2003). Quantitative methods for library and information science. New Delhi: New Age International Limited Publishers.
- Sambhu, Nath Halder (2019). Multimodal Roles of Library and Information Science Professional in Present Era. *International Journal of Library and Information Science. Vol. 1(6),pp* 092_099. <http://www.academicjournals.org/ijlis>
- Subramanya, K. Bibliometric Studies of Research Collaboration : A review, *Journal of Information Science*, 1983,6(1),33_38, <https://doi.org/10.1177/016555158300600105> (accessed on 10 March,2021)
- Uhegbu, A. N. (2009). Research and statistical methods in library and information science.
- Usman, M.K and Ewulum, O(2019). A bibliometric analysis of Nigeria’s Library and Information Science Literature: A study of Applied Information Science and Technology, *COLLNET Journal of Scientometrics and Information Management* , 3(1), 3_64