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Electronic Resources Collection Development in University Libraries: An Empirical Review of Selected Literature.

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Abstract

Collection development of electronic resources has come to stay in library development to complement the development of prints. But it has its challenges especially in developing countries. In developing libraries with electronic resources, it involves a lot of practices which are slightly different from the collection development of prints. More research has been carried out in the development of prints rather than electronic resources. This study reviewed published articles on electronic resources collection development practices of university libraries and other practices of building electronic resources in libraries. This study was restricted to empirical works on the collection development practices of electronic resources under the subheadings of; types of electronic resources, policies, evaluation of electronic resources, challenges and strategies for overcoming the challenges. The study also found out that there were challenges that discouraged the development of electronic resources especially with the selection of electronic resources are quality, subject coverage, license agreement and vendor support. It also revealed the strategies for overcoming the challenges of developing electronic resources to include constant evaluation of automation facilities, adequate and regular systems upgrade, provision of skilled manpower and periodic and regular training of librarians and paraprofessionals in the use of modern information and communication technology facilities. The study recommended that Librarians are encouraged to apply the necessary policies of building electronic resources for a balance collection and suggested strategies of overcoming the challenges of building electronic resources should be upheld in order to build a balance collection of electronic resources.

Keywords: Collection development, Electronic resources, Empirical review, university libraries

Introduction

In the University system, university libraries are established to continuously support the activities of the university towards the achievement of its goals and mission in teaching, learning, research and community service. University library is defined by Reitz (2004) as cited by Okogwu (2017) as a library or library system established, administered, and funded by a university to meet the information, research, and curriculum needs of its students, faculty, and staff. Some large universities maintain separate undergraduate and graduate libraries. These libraries are the focal point of interest in all institutions of learning across the globe without which the institutions will not stand. University libraries have been widely recognized as indispensable repositories of useful information, and indeed, the ‘heart’ of the university system. Arguably, it is a futile effort to establish a university system without a library, given that the mission and vision of education generally will be a far cry and elusive observed, Okogwu (2017).

University libraries are built to complement mainstream academic exercise and extra curricula activities of the university which include teaching, research and publications, conservation of knowledge and ideas and extension services. They direct their activities towards the actualization of these objectives. One of such activities is the acquisition of information resources. They acquire collections in broad terms of quantity and quality in the form of prints and electronic to support the teaching, learning, research and recreational purposes observed Weber and Flatley (2008). These resources include books, journals, abstracts, audio and video CDs and other electronic resources such as databases, online databases, web resources, e-journal, e-books which have been introduced by the emergence of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). University libraries as service organizations exist to achieve the objectives of

their parent institutions that established them. These objectives can only be achieved through effective provision of information to the right person at the right time especially with the emergence of information and communication technology.

Collection development is defined by Mansur (2012), as the selection, acquisition and processing of library materials in varied formats, meant for users' current needs and their future requirements. The author went further to define electronic resources collection development as the process of planning, selecting, acquiring a balanced collection of library materials in a variety of electronic formats such as e-books, e journals, media and online resources. It involves the act of building the library collection with electronic resources in great depth to meet the demands of the patrons-actual and potential and satisfy their curiosities and aspirations. According to Mansur (2012) these processes involve a lot of steps which include selection and deselection of current and retrospective e-resources based on user needs; planning strategies for continuing acquisition of electronic resources looking into financial constraints and their usage; evaluation of e-resources collections to determine how it serves users need.

The process of developing electronic resources starts with selection decisions which begin with considerations of the user community and long-term mission, goals and priorities of the library and its parent body, observed Johnson (2009). There are two ideas about the best foundation for good collection development; know the collection and know the community. Reitz (2004) defined selection as the process of deciding which materials should be added to a library collection. The selection process can be thought of as four step process which include; identification of the relevant resources, evaluation (is the item worthy of selection and assessment?) (is the item appropriate for the collection?), decision to purchase, and order preparations and sometimes placement (Johnson 2009). Selection decisions are usually made

based on reviews and standard collection development tools by librarians designed as selectors in specific subject areas, based on their interests and fields of specialization. It is the core of collection development function, and the primary objective of the selection decision for any format is fundamentally the same: satisfying users' needs. With the advent of electronic resources, job responsibilities of selectors have changed drastically. Selection of electronic resources outside the guidance of a collection development policy leads to haphazard, unfocused groupings of resources that may not support the mission of the library. In the past, selectors recommended new titles on an individual basis using traditional selection criteria such as quality, relevance, use and cost, observed, (Welch 2002).

Admittedly, the transition from print-based libraries to electronic collections or electronic resources acquisition paved way for easy and faster access to information resources and, more importantly, informed a decisive decision regarding electronic resources. Parker (2007) observes that library has been a collection of informative materials for ages and print media have been the bulk of the library resources. With the emergence of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) libraries have moved with the development of electronic resources and acquired electronic resources to augment the prints. Libraries, especially university libraries are not left out in this development of building their library resources with electronic resources whose interest is on teaching (curriculum support) and research (publication) acquire both prints and electronic resources for better information service delivery to their user. This paper reviews some selected works on collection development practices of electronic resources with a view to x-ray empirical works in collection development of electronic resources and not just the use as is widely researched in literature of librarianship.

Statement of the Problem

Collection development of electronic resources has come to stay in library development to complement the development of prints. But it has its challenges especially in developing countries. The emergence of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has brought some tremendous changes especially in the collection development of electronic resources. Libraries especially university libraries have strived to remain relevant in the provision of information resources to their clientele through the provision of electronic resources in order to keep abreast of the transformational changes that go on in the library and the satisfaction of the information needs of the library users. In developing libraries with electronic resources, it involves a lot of practices which are slightly different from the collection development of prints. More research has been carried out in the development of prints rather than electronic resources. The researcher felt the need to review some empirical works on collection development of electronic resources with a view to exposing published articles on collection development of electronic resources.

Objective of the study

The purpose of the study is to review some empirical works on collection development of electronic resources with a view to exposing published works carried out by scholars on collection development practices of electronic resources and not really the development of prints as is common in literature.

Empirical Review of Literature

Electronic resources collection development practices in libraries have been a new phenomenon in the area of research among libraries. Researchers have widely written development of print resources and not actually the electronic resources collection development practices which are the core of this research.

A study by Igiomoh and Duro (2012) on electronic resources collection development practices in libraries in Nigeria was carried out with a view to investigating the current electronic resources collection development practices in Nigeria; e-collection policy; determining the challenges to identify the tools and techniques for collection development. The research method adopted for the study was social survey method and the instrument used for the study is the questionnaire. The population for the study was the third batch 948 inducted professional librarians by the Librarian Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN). The data collected was analyzed using frequency tables and percentages. The findings showed that 47% of the libraries under study have e-collection policy and 53% has no policy guiding e-collection development. Also revealed are that 33% of the respondents have written e-collection development policy while 67% have unwritten policy. The researchers recommended that there is need to formulate and develop e-collection development and management policy. They studied all types of libraries in all the regions in Nigeria and all librarians irrespective of their departments whether they are knowledgeable in e-resources collection development or not. The study used quantitative approach using questionnaire as its primary instrument for data collection.

Prachi, Lambodara and Sonkar (2016) observed that Information technology and internet have created lot of opportunities and challenges for the library professions. Due to information technology most of the libraries are involved in the sharing of the resources by many ways.

Library users widely depend on the electronic resources which are subscribed by libraries in the world. Electronic resources are having lots of features which make it convenient to access desired information around the world without any chronological and geographical boundaries. Libraries are involved in the subscription of electronic resources from the various publishers, aggregators, consortia etc. which create complexity in the collection development. The libraries should have the collection development policy for the smooth function of the library which helps in the e-resource collection development. This paper deals with the basic concept of the e-resources, type of e-resource, collection development, collection development policy etc.

In another related study, Sambo, Abu-udenyi, and Enite (2014) conducted a study on collection development policy of e-resources in Nigeria libraries: from the perspective of Certified Librarians. The purpose of the study was to investigate certified librarians' perception on collection development policy of e-resources in Nigeria libraries. It also aimed at identifying the tools and techniques for e-collection, as well as makes appropriate recommendations on sustainable e-resources collection in Nigeria libraries. The study was carried out using social survey method. The population of the study was all (1st conference of certified librarians of Nigeria). The sample was 252 respondents, while the instrument for the data collection was structured questionnaire. The data was analyzed using simple descriptive statistics: frequencies, bar chart, tables and percentages. The study revealed that while various forms of e-resources were available in these libraries only 47% of the libraries had an e-collection development policy. Most of the libraries had an unwritten policy or no e-collection development policy. Also, many libraries do not have e-collection selection criteria, evaluation committee and special budget for e-collection development and management. The study recommended that libraries should formulate and develop e-collection development and management policy. Like Igiomoh

and Duro, the study covered all types of libraries throughout the federation which is too broad and used only questionnaire as the primary instrument of data collection.

In a study on the profile and collection development practices of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye in Nigeria, Amisa and Adekunmisi (2003) examined in depth the collection development processes of the university library and the impediments to library collection development practices. The study employed a descriptive survey. All the acquisition and serial librarians were used for the study. The main source for collection of data for the study was through interviews carried out on acquisition librarian was analyzed qualitatively. The study revealed inadequate fund, absence of communication technologies erratic power supply as the impediment to collection development practices. The study recommended adequate funding for the proper functioning of the library.

Similarly, Flatley and Prock (2009) carried out a survey on e-resources collection development practices in academic libraries in Kutztown University Pennsylvania in US State. The focus of the study was on collection development practices and how librarians make decisions on what to purchase and what to cancel. They used the Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc using a list of electronic librarians as their survey sample. 18 university libraries participated in the survey. The research instruments used to generate data for this study is interview. The data were analyzed using thematic analysis. The result of the study showed that 10 libraries had no process for evaluation of resources before purchase while six libraries had an informal process and two had a definite process. The result of the study also showed that two libraries have a specific collection development policy and four libraries have an electronic resources collection development policy as part of the overall library collection development policy. Seven libraries do not have electronic collection development policies and one library has

formal independent policies. The study recommended that libraries should develop a collection development policy for e-collections. It used interview as the primary instrument for data collection and studied libraries in Pennsylvania in United State while this present study used questionnaires, interview and checklist as instruments for data collection and questionnaire were administered to the users to get their assessment of the library e-resources policies.

In another study on collection development practices, Cohen (1988) carried out an empirical study on collection development practices in five Alabama's academic libraries. The researcher employed survey and questionnaires as data collection techniques. A total number of 73 questionnaires were self-administered and the data collected were analyzed using percentage frequency. The study identified various methods of collection building and management that have emerged as a result of different traditions. The study inferred that changing patterns of collection development activities differ as institutions and their associated libraries have different and diverse missions and varying user needs. The study centered mainly on the differences in collection development techniques followed among these five libraries. Building library collections in university libraries is probably the most important and one of the most complicated and difficult activities of library administration.

Similarly, Ameyaw and Entsua-Mensah (2016) carried out a study on the assessment of collection development practices: the case of Valley View University library, Ghana. The focus of the study was on collection development practices at Valley View University (VVU) Library in Ghana. The study was set out to find out if there exists a collection development policy at VVU library. The population of the study was stratified into two main categories namely users of the library and the library staff. In selecting the students, simple random sampling technique was employed to select the students from four departments out of seven. The total population for both

library staff and faculty members were used. The sample size for the study was three hundred and two (302) made up of 210 students, 74 faculty members and 18 library staff. Data for the study was collected through questionnaires. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyze the questionnaire. The findings of this study indicated that VVU library stock both print and non-print materials for their users. The libraries under study have collection development policy which guides them during election and acquisition of materials. The policy covers both print and electronic resources. The interview also revealed that the policy lacks revision because since its implementation it has never been reviewed.

Furthermore, Nwosu and Udo-Anyanwu (2015) carried out a study on collection development in academic libraries in Imo State Nigeria: status analysis and way forward with the aim to investigate the status of collection development in the five academic libraries in Imo State. The specific objectives are to ascertain the types of library resources acquired by the studied libraries; ascertain the status of collection development policy in the studied libraries; determine the category of persons involved in the selection of materials; identify the acquisition methods adopted by the libraries.; ascertain the aspects of collection development carried out in the studied libraries; determine the factors that militates against the effective discharge of the collection development function; recommend ways of enhancing collection development in academic libraries. The study employed the descriptive survey research design. The population of the study was the professional and para-professional staff of the five academic libraries under study. Their number is one hundred and nine (109). The researchers used self-developed questionnaires as instrument for data collection. All questionnaires were returned in usable form, indicating a 100% return rate. Analysis was done using simple statistical tools of frequency counts, percentage and bar chart. The findings revealed that there was an absence of

comprehensive collection development policy, lack of a coordinating unit for collection development activities, low participation of faculty in book selection, inadequate book votes and irregular weeding of stock. The study recommended that a formalized comprehensive collection development policy should be developed and operated in academic libraries; academic libraries should create a collection development department with a mandate to coordinate all collection development activities of selection, acquisition, stock evaluation, weeding and interlibrary cooperation; increased partnership with the faculty should be explored especially in the determination of materials to acquire.

Similarly, Adekambi (2007) conducted a study on the availability and use of collection development policies in Colleges of Education libraries in Botswana, South Africa. The study was carried out to examine the availability and use of policies in these colleges. The senior librarians in the six colleges of Education were the respondents. They were asked nine major questions on collection development policies. Descriptive survey study was used for the study. The study used questionnaires and interview as instruments for data collection. The findings revealed that not all the libraries had policies. Also, majority of those who had it did not involve their users in the formulation, and the policies did not incorporate some of the essentials in a collection development policy. It also revealed that those who had policies do not use them in their collection development practices. The study recommended that College librarians need to equip themselves in the area of collection development. Also, they should be aware of the importance of using collection development policies to develop college collections. This study concentrated on collection development policies.

In a study on the use of e-resources in Hezekiah Oluwasanmi library, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria Oyedapo and Ojo (2013) examined among other things the types of

electronic resources that are available in the Hezekiah Oluwasanmi Library OAU, Ile-Ife. Descriptive survey method was used. The population of the study was the researchers and postgraduate students of OAU. The instrument for the data collection was questionnaire. Out of the 100-questionnaire distributed, 83 were completed and returned, giving a response rate of 83% and a dropout rate of 17%. The data was analyzed using SPSS version 15. The findings revealed that an appreciable number of e-resources were made available for the library patrons. Most of the researchers only make a fair use of electronic resources in the libraries as 49.4% make fair use of electronic libraries. Only 6% use the resources frequently while 33.7% seldom use the resources and 10.8% do not use them at all. The study recommended that all electronic information resources should be adequately organized and made available for easy access.

Isiakpona and Ifijeh (2012) studied the *availability* of electronic resources for service provision in university libraries in Ogun State Nigeria and how they affect the effective provision of electronic information resources in selected university libraries in South West Nigeria. The research design used for the study was the survey (descriptive) research design; the stratified random sampling was used to collect data from the study population which was a total of one thousand and thirty-eight (1038) academic staff and librarians from Federal University of Agriculture, Covenant, and Babcock universities. The instruments used to collect data were questionnaire and structured interview; the retrieved data was also analyzed using frequency distribution and correlation analysis. Findings revealed that the university libraries have electronic databases; however, the most common of the databases was AGORA while IEE was the least common. The study also revealed that majority of the university libraries have adequate basic infrastructure for effective electronic information services. The major challenge involved in the provision of electronic resources among the university libraries was electricity power outage;

Findings further showed that there was no significant relationship between the availability of databases and effective electronic resources provision ($r = .071$, $N= 414$, $P > .05$) and also it revealed that there is a significant relationship between the availability of basic infrastructures and effective electronic resources provision ($r = .523^{**}$, $N= 414$, $P < .01$). The study recommended that the provision of basic infrastructure that support the effective use of electronic resources should therefore be made readily available, this will help to ensure that the electronic resources acquired by the library are put into maximal use by the library clientele, thereby ensuring the achievement of the library's objective which is satisfying the users, information needs.

Similarly, Gwazah (2011) investigated the availability of electronic resources and services and the extent to which these resources were being used in selected tertiary institutions in Kaduna state. The survey research method was used to conduct the study and the instruments used for gathering data were questionnaire, interviews and checklist. The population of the study was users of the libraries of the state-owned tertiary institutions. Stratified purposive random sampling was used to draw a sample size of 1323 respondents from the selected institutions. The data were analyzed using the descriptive statistics. The researcher deployed two statistical tools, the t-test and the PPMC. The t-test was used to test for differences in the provision of electronic resources among the institutions and the PPMC was used to test the relationship in awareness and use of the electronic resources and services in the selected institutions. The findings revealed that all the selected institutions under study had various e-resources which include, computers, VCDs/DVDs, internet access, full-text articles, online databases, e-journals, e-books, multimedia, CD-ROMs and flash drive. The findings also revealed that the institutions under study have electronic services, emails, online references and electronic alerts. The institutions

under study depended on the Education Trust Fund (ETF) intervention to provide their libraries with necessary electronic resources, instead of the government funds which were not consistent. There was a significant difference in the quantity, awareness created and use of electronic resources and services among the selected institutions. The study recommended that government should provide adequate funds for the provision of electronic resources and services to enhance teaching, learning, research and training.

Ashilungu (2017) investigated the collection development practices of electronic resources at the University of Namibia (UNAM) library and its constituent branches. The main aims of the study were: to explore the collection development procedures and policies for electronic resources at the UNAM library; to investigate the factors that influence the collection development of information resources; to assess the extent which teaching staff and subject librarians are involved in collection development at the UNAM library; to discover the barriers to effective collection development of electronic resources at the UNAM library; and to determine the influence of the UNAM library budget allocation on the collection development of electronic resources. The population of the study comprised of 291 teaching staff from all eight faculties of UNAM. A total of 149 faculty members responded to the survey, which gave a response rate of 51.2%, while a total number of 16 library staff were interviewed. The study employed a quantitative approach, and the qualitative approach was applied on the part of the library staff. For quantitative data collection, the study used a self-administered questionnaire, while for qualitative data, the study used an interview schedule with library staff. The data from the interviews were used to complement the data from the survey. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS, while the qualitative data were analyzed using thematic content analysis. The study revealed that not all faculty members are aware of the guideline, procedure, and

policies on the collection development activities. Eighty one percent (81%) of the respondents are aware of the importance of their role in selecting library materials, 72% are aware of acquiring books, and 67% are aware of the budget allocated to their faculty. The majority totaling 94% of the faculty members are not aware of weeding or disposal of library books, followed by 83% who are not aware of collection evaluation, and 81% are not aware of the collection development policy in place at the UNAM library. From the data collected, the study found that a majority (67%) of faculty members are aware of ICTs used in collection development activities. Even though most faculty members are aware of ICTs used in collection development activities, (45%) faculty members are not aware that ICTs can be used in collection development. The major challenge facing the UNAM library is the absence of the collection development policy, which makes it difficult for the teaching staff, students, and library staff to understand all the issues related to the collection development of electronic resources in the library. Another challenge is the inadequacy of funds to cater for the increasing costs of electronic resources in various subject fields.

Kaur and Walia (2016) examined the current practices related to e-resource collection development in management libraries of India with special reference to the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi with some constructive suggestions for improvement in this area. The research employed a well-structured questionnaire administered to the librarians of the nine management libraries under study. The research was exclusively restricted to e-resources as the type of material and the librarians of nine major management institutions of NCR of Delhi as the respondents in its scope of discussion. The study found out among other things that the management libraries are actively involved in building e-resource collection, the budget allocation for purchase of e-resources has increased progressively over the years in majority of

the libraries, the factors that, to a great extent, affect selection of e-resources include quality, subject coverage, license agreements and vendor support and that the libraries associated with management institutions such as ABS, DMS-IITD, FMS, BIMECH and FSM need to add more management-related databases. The study is of great importance to information professionals of similar management institutions in India. The recommendations made could also help solve some of the challenges that are being faced.

Muzamil and Ariba (2020) analyzed the e-resource collection development practices of the engineering college libraries of Aligarh. The research includes budgeting, collection development policy, collection evaluation, sources of funds, modes of procurement, pricing models and other aspects related to collection development activity. The descriptive method was used for conducting the study, in which a well-structured questionnaire was administered followed by interview of the librarians of six engineering college libraries under study. The paper is restricted exclusively to the study of collection development process of e-resources and the librarians of six major engineering colleges of Aligarh as respondents. The study found that these colleges are much more interested in focusing on building a strong e-resource collection in their libraries. During the past few years, the budget has also been increased in majority of libraries for the acquisition of e-resources. The study found that the major factors affecting the selection of electronic resources (e-resources) in these colleges are quality, subject coverage, license agreement and vendor support. It was also revealed that majority of libraries lack proper collection development policy, especially for e-resources. The study suggested that these libraries should build their collections keeping in mind the different areas of specializations of engineering studies and the contemporary changes in the field.

Furthermore, Chimah and Nwokocha (2015) studied the concepts and categories of electronic information resources (EIRs); how much of them are available in Nigerian Libraries especially in the South East federal universities. The research design adopted in the study was a descriptive survey. Two complementary instruments were used for collecting primary data; questionnaire and semi-structured interview. The sample size was 120 made up of 30 people comprising librarians/ICT unit heads and PG students were purposively selected for the study. Data collected were analyzed using percentages. 40 EIRs were identified, out of which University of Nigeria (UNN) has a total number of 28 (70%) of the total electronic information resources available in the universities. Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO) subscribed 13 (32%). Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka (NAUA) has 11 (27%); while Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike (MOUUA) has 6 (15%) of the e-resources in its university library. Though findings revealed that greater number 78 (65%) of postgraduate students from the various universities indicated that they were aware of the available EIRs; whereas the fewer number and percentage 42 (35%) respectively indicated their unawareness; recommendations which include: ICT Infrastructural development, active awareness programme for PG students and Electronic Information literacy programmes are made for improvement.

In evaluating electronic resources, Idiegbeyan-ose and Osazuwa (2014) conducted a study on evaluation of e-resources in academic libraries. The purpose of the study was to find out the availability of e-resources in academic libraries, how the librarian can identify relevant e-resources, methods of evaluating e-resources and the challenges of e-resources. The survey research design was used. The population of the study was all the librarians in the Centre for Learning Resources Covenant University and the Bells University of Technology Library. The sample was 25 respondents. The instruments for the data collection were questionnaires. The

data were analyzed using simple percentage. The findings revealed that the libraries under investigation had availability of e- resources in their collection and that the libraries have some criteria for evaluating e-resources such as authority; cost, relevant, coverage, currency. The study recommended that libraries should take e-resources acquisition and management very seriously.

In a related development, Dhanavandra and Tamizhchelvan (2012) conducted a study on an evaluation of e-resources in academic libraries in Tamil Nadu. The purpose of the study was to identify the evaluation of e-resources and facilities. It also assesses the availability of library e-resources; identify the availability of different e-resources and to assess the type of electronic accessing mode. The instrument used to generate data for this study is questionnaires which were distributed among the library professionals of the engineering institutions library in Tamil Nadu. The data were analyzed using simple percentage analysis, analysis of variable. The result of the study showed that all the 18 (100 long duration institutions, 44 (84%) short duration libraries and 65(92.85) medium duration institution libraries have e-journals in their libraries. For e-books, long duration institutions take the first place with 10 (55.56) and second in medium duration institution libraries representing 37.71%. The 35(50.00) of medium duration libraries have online databases, 21 libraries of short duration institutions libraries but 11(61.11) libraries of long duration institutions libraries have the on-line data bases facility. Out of the 140 sample libraries, 100 (71.43%) libraries have CD ROM databases in their collection. All the long duration institution libraries have CD ROM databases. Out of the 100 libraries, 45 (64.29) belong to medium duration institution libraries. The study found out that a greater number of libraries subscribed to e-journals and e-books and few libraries have internet facility in their premises.

Challenges of selection and acquisition of e-resources in academic libraries under Mumbai University in India was carried out by Benny (2015). The objectives of the study

include to ascertain the major challenges faced by the library while selecting and acquiring e-resources. A well-structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed among 80 undergraduate college librarians under Mumbai University. Out of that 68 college librarians fully completed the questionnaire given to them. The data received from the respondents was tabulated and analyzed using appropriate statistical tools. The survey revealed that the college libraries e-collection is dominated by e-journals. It also revealed that the libraries use multiple tools to select the e-resources. Apparently, the selection of e-resources depends upon the recommendations made by the faculty and the subject relevance of the e-resources. The study also revealed that the librarians use different methods to acquire the e-resources depending upon the types of e-resources. The survey also revealed that the college librarians provide in house training to the library staff to update their skills and recommended among other things that the library should have a clearly defined set of selection criteria that can help the librarian in the selection process of e-resources.

Finally, Mole and Obidike (2016) carried out a study on overcoming challenges of electronic collection development in University Libraries using three Nigerian University Libraries as a case study. The study determined strategies for overcoming the challenges associated with electronic collection development (ECD) in Nigerian university libraries. It employed a descriptive survey design. The total population of library respondents (Professionals and Paraprofessionals) used for this study was 208. The study used questionnaire and interviews as instruments of data collection. The result of the study revealed that ECD is not yet very effective in Nigeria university libraries. The major factors militating against ECD as revealed by this study were inadequate funding for automation, which is also at infancy level, poor technical knowhow, lack of higher bandwidth in Internet connectivity and lack of sound administrative

policies and guidelines. The major strategies for overcoming the challenges include constant evaluation of automation facilities, adequate and regular systems upgrade, provision of skilled manpower and periodic and regular training of librarians and paraprofessionals in the use of modern information and communication technology facilities.

Findings

The researcher found out that very few empirical works have been written on the collection development practices of electronic resources when considered under the following subheadings; types of electronic resources, policies, evaluation of electronic resources, challenges and strategies for overcoming the challenges. The study found out that there are challenges that hindered the development of electronic resources. Also, the review revealed the strategies for overcoming the challenges of developing electronic resources which include constant evaluation of automation facilities, adequate and regular systems upgrade, provision of skilled manpower and periodic and regular training of librarians and paraprofessionals in the use of modern information and communication technology facilities.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Collection development of electronic resources in university libraries is the twenty first century trend that every library should key into to bring a lot of innovations in improving the existing collection of prints. This study has revealed some empirical works conducted in the areas of electronic resources collection development. The study revealed the practices of building electronic resources, types, policies that guide electronic resources collection development. Also, the challenges encountered while building electronic resources collection development were

revealed. In the light of the present study, the following recommendations are made on the practices of developing electronic resources in university libraries.

- Librarians are encouraged to apply the necessary policies of building electronic resources for a balance collection.
- Constant evaluation of automation facilities.
- Periodic and regular training of librarians and paraprofessionals in the use of modern information and communication technology facilities.
- Suggested strategies from the reviewed works should be upheld in order to build a balance collection of electronic resources.

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