COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY NIGERIA, ABUJA AND USEN POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY IN EDO STATE.

BY

EKOH, NICHOLAS. A
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA ABUJA

AND

UDUEBOR EHIS
USEN POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY, EDO STATE.

ABSTRACT

Collection development is the process of building or improving library collections. It involves selection and acquisition of library resources that will satisfy users' information needs

The paper examines collection development processes in the National Library of Nigeria, Abuja and Usen Polytechnic Library in Edo State. Data were distributed through questionnaires and surveys of documentary source. Fifty (50) questionnaires were sent out, fourty five (45) were completed and returned in usable form.

The findings show that both libraries adopt different processes in their bid to develop and enrich their collection development**.**

KEYWORDS: Collection Development, NLN, Usen Polytechnic, Edo, Library.

INTRODUCTION

Libraries, generally, are institutions established to cater for the information needs of the people. A library is a collection of information, resources and services organized for easy retrieval of information. The ability of the library to meet the diverse information needs of its clientele depend on the availability of information materials in the library. According to Chuma (2006), an excellent library and information service cannot be given without rich collections. The assemblage of book and non-book information purveyors in the required quality and quality depends on collection development activities.

Collection development, as one of the core functions of librarys' services, has attracted diverse interpretations from librarians and other information professionals. However, in the context of this study, collection development is defined as the act of shocking information resources, taking into consideration the functions, aims and objectives as well as the collection policy of the society which the library is suppose to serve. It consists of specific library operations such as selection, acquisition, receiving, bibliograghic checking, records keeping, weeding and collection evaluation.

Ezema (2004:32) explained that stock or collection refers to the size of materials in terms of volumes a library has in its possession at a time, noting that the collection may include books in various subjects and recreation, such as fiction and non-fiction books, reference books, periodicals, pamphlets etc. Ononogbo and Akanwa (2004) added that non-phonographic records and computer diskettes are essentials components of library collection. Nwalo ,(2004:43) posited "that polytechnic or college of technology library has the primary objectives of providing literature support for the entire academic, research and extension

programmes of the parent institutions" Omolayole (2004) opined that though an increasing number of students in Nigerian tertiary institutions seek information through the web, this is so because   most Nigerian

libraries do not have resources in electronic formats but rather in books, since most institution have stopped subscriptions to journals and have drastically cut down on theirs. Serials budget. According to Omolayde (2004:4) "this situation is as a result of inadequate funding, rising cost of library materials and high exchange rate of local currency. The aftermath of this unfortunate situation is hydra-headed including the unavailability syndrome in academic libraries."

Ifidon (2006) recorded that direct purchase, legal deposit, exchange of publications, donations, bequeaths and photocopying are the most popular strategies adopted by Nigerian libraries to develop their collection.

METHODS OF ACQUIRING MATERIALS.

There are various methods through which materials can be acquired into both libraries. These are:

1. purchase/subscriptions
2. Gifts and exchanges
3. Through donations from well meaning individuals and organization
4. Endowment.
5. Bequeath and co-operative acquisitions
6. Collecting legal deposit materials from Private/ Commercial Publishers, federal and State Government Ministries, Parastatals/Agencies. This is only applicable to the National Library of Nigeria being the apex library of the Nation.

ACQUSITIN POLCY OF THE LIBRARIES.

The acquisition policies of both libraries are basically the same. The policy does not include textbooks for primary and secondary schools, but only tertiary institution materials.

Both libraries don't procure specialized subjects like medicine and law hence procurement of expensive or specialized materials are avoided.

SELECTION TOOLS

The following selection tools are used in the acquisition of materials in both libraries.

1. Publisher's catalogues
2. Books in –print
3. British Books in-print
4. Publication Weekly
5. National Bibliography of Nigeria (NBN)
6. British National Bibliography (BNB)
7. Cumulative Book Index
8. Newspapers review.
9. African Books in Print.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study covers National Library of Nigeria, Abuja and Usen Polytechnic Library in Edo State. The target respondents were the acquisition librarians in collection development section of both libraries.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To identify the factors that influence acquisition of materials in the libraries
2. To establish the methods of collection development adopted by the libraries under study
3. To indicate the sources of materials in the selection of materials to the libraries
4. To identify the problems militating against regular acquisition of information materials under study

Based on the objectives outlined above, the following research questions have been formulated to guide this study

1. What are the factors that influence acquisition of materials?
2. What are the methods of collection development used by librarians under study?
3. Who participate in the selection of the materials?
4. What are the sources of materials in these libraries?
5. What problems impede acquisition of materials in this library?

METHODOLGY

This paper is a survey. The target populations are collection acquisition librarians in collection development section. Data was collected through a combination of questionnaires and documentary sources. The questionnaire which was structured comprises ten items. However, forty five administered data were completed and returned and were found usable for the analysis's. The interpretation is presented in frequency tables below.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION.

Forty five (45) data that were returned shows 90% response rate.

Table 1: Factors that influence acquisition of materials.

Factors	Frequency	percentages
Affordability	12	26.7
Author's credibility	12	26.7
Publishers, competence	7	15.6
Currency of the materials	8	17.6
Choice of the materials	6	13.3
Total	45	100

Table 1 above shows that affordability and author's credibility are the most influencing factors to be considered for acquisition of materials into the library.

Table 2: Methods of collection development by librarians.

Methods	Frequency	percentages
Purchase	20	44.4
Legal deposit	15	33.3
Gift & exchange	10	22.2
Total	45	100.

Table 2 shows that procurement through purchase, legal deposit, and gifts and exchanges are mainly used.
From the above table it can be deduced that purchase of materials received the highest method of collection.

Table 3: Who recommends and select materials for the libraries

Table 3 shows that professional librarians, lectures are actively involved in the selection of materials.

Selectors	Frequency	percentages
Professional Librarians	30	66.7
Lectures	15	33.3
Total	45	100

From the above, it is observe that the numbers of professional librarians who select materials are recommended.

INFORMATION SOURCES ACQUIRED

The researcher sought to know the type of information sources acquired by both libraries. The results are presented in table 4.

Table 4: Information materials acquired.

Items	Frequency	percentages
Textbooks/monographs	16	35.6
Periodicals	12	26.7
Pamphlets, Reference materials	10	22.2
Archival materials	2	4.4
Non book materials	4	8.9
Total	45	100

Table 4 shows that all the libraries acquired basic textbooks, periodicals, reference, pamphlets materials, archival materials and non book materials into their libraries.

Table 5: Problems militating against regular acquisition of materials.

Problems	Frequency	percentages
Inadequate book vote	15	33.5
Scarcity of books	5	11.1
High cost of Material	10	22.2
Incompetent vendors	5	11.1
High import duties	7	15.6
Distance	3	6.6
Total	45	100

Table 5 shows that inadequate book vote is a major problem in the collection development.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following recommendations would entrench qualitative and quantitative adequacies in the both libraries.

1. Increase funding: There should be an improvement in the funding of libraries. This can be achieve by ensuring that a specified percentage of the library budget should be used for procurement of books.
2. Non book information materials such as computers and internet facilities should be integral components of the library collections. This will supplement for books collections.
3. The libraries should embrace bequests; donations method of collection development.Teritiary institutions should device their own legal deposit provision which could mandate lectures to donate copies of their publications to their institution libraries.
4. Professionals, especially librarians, who are knowledgeable in collection development, should be allowed to acquire materials for their libraries.
5. Selection tools should be made available and updated..

CONLCLUSION

This investigation yielded important findings from which the following conclusions have been drawn. Though price remains a factor, other major determinants of acquisition of materials in the libraries are relevance to school curriculum and collection policy, currency of materials and competence of author's credibility.

A consortium of stakeholders makes the selection of materials in the libraries studied, while procurement of selected materials is an all comers affair. The libraries still concentrated on the traditional methods of collection development like purchase, gift and exchange, leaving out potentially beneficial methods like bequeaths, endowment and donations. The above scenario is responsible for the selection in which the collection of books and other materials fell short of expectation. The job of collection development is crucial to the relevance of libraries and therefore should not be used to settle or rehabilitate cronies of the powers that be in the library profession.

REFERENCE:

1. Adedeji,O.O (2002): Managing use of electronic services in libraries .CD-ROM technology and database: A paper presented at the National Workshop of Ogun State Chapter of Nigerian Library assoicationApril,20-27

2. Attama,O.R (2005)"Polytechnic Education Library Resources and Technological development in Nigeria" Global Review of Library and Information Service 1(1):9-18

3. Ezema, J. (2004)"Library Statistics as a tool for library Management". The Nigerian Library Link 2(2): 30-36

4. Ifidon (2006): Modern Theory and Practice of Library Collection Development. Benin City: Justice Jeco press and Pub.Ltd.pg 25.

5. Nnadozie, C.O (2006) Collection development activities in selected academic libraries. Journal of the Nigerbiblios Vol 17 No 1&2, pg 22-36.

6. Omolayole,O.O (2004) "Nigerian Libraries and Information Service Centres:The challenges of socio-econominc/Technolgyical development of the 31st Century, Nigerbiblios 15(1):1-9

7. Ononogbo, R.U and Akanwa, P, C (2204) Library and information requirements in the achievements of sustainable development. The Nigerian Library Link 2(2):1-10

8. Pradham, M.R (2004) "Developing digital Libraries: Technologies and challenges"Libray Herald, Journal of the Delhi Library Association.42 (2):108.

QUESTINNAIRE

INSTRUCTION:

Some questions in this questionnaire require you to make a choice out of multiple answers provided. You will not be held accountable for any answer given.

Please tick in the appropriate box and comment where required, where there is no response leave blank.

Questions.

1. **Name of your library:**
2. Sex: Male ( )   Female ( )
3. Age: 18-30, 31-43, 44-56, 57-above
4. How long have you been in the service of the library: (a) 1-3 (b)4-6 (c) 7-above
5. Educational attainment (a) Diploma in Library Sc. (b) BLIS (c) PHD in Library Sc. (d) Others.
6. What is collection Development? (a) Planning the collection of information (b) shocking of information (c) acquiring book and non Materials to the library (d) other specify.
7. Who does the selection of materials? (a) professional (b) Para-professional (c) Others specify them
8. What are the methods of acquiring materials in the library? (a) Purchase (b) Gift (c) Exchange (d) Donation (e) other specify

9. Are you satisfied with the methods of acquiring materials in your library? Yes( ) Nom ( )

10. What factors that could influence the acquisition of materials in your library? (a) affordability (b) Author's credibility (c) currency of the materials (d) choice of the materials

11. What are the sources of information acquired?(a) Books-Monographs (b) Non-Books (c) periodicals (d) Reference materials (e) Others.

12. What is your collection development policy? (a) to acquire materials for higher institution (b) for school library (c) specialized libraries (d) others

13. Which tools do you used for selection? (a) publisher's catalogue (b) Book-in –print (c) Newspapers review (d) others specify.

14. Do you belong to any of collection development committee Yes( ) No m( )

15. Do you think that access to information enhanced educational attainment Yes ( ) No ( )

16. What other suggestion do you think that will enhance collection development in your library? Itemized them below.