



KENYA LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION
SERVICES CONSORTIUM



The 3rd KLISC Annual International Conference
on

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND BEYOND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

Eka Hotel, Eldoret, Kenya • May 25 – 26, 2022



PROGRAMME & ABSTRACTS

Sponsors:



Conference Planning Committee

1. Mr Agava Stanislaus-Chair
2. Dr Sarah Kibugi
3. Mr Arnold Mwanzu
4. Dr Penninah Musangi

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
AND BEYOND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

KENYA LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES CONSORTIUM

The Kenya Libraries and Information Services Consortium was established in 2003 with the main objective of facilitating collective subscription to electronic resources to cope with the increasing costs of information resources. The consortium draws its membership from university libraries, research libraries, as well as public and national libraries.

Our Mission

Facilitating access to knowledge and information resources in Kenya.

Our Vision

Universal access to knowledge and information resources.

Core Values

- **Professionalism:** Integrity and accountability; results-oriented; dependable.
- **Innovativeness:** Visionary and creative.
- **Collaboration:** Working together, networking and creating partnerships.

KLISC Executive Committee

1. Prof. Joseph Kavulya - Chairman
2. Mrs Janegrace Kinyanjui - Vice Chair
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9. Mr Stephen Mau - Member

THE 3RD KLISC ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Theme

Re-imagining Library Services amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities

Objectives

1. To interrogate the role of library and information services in society in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond;
2. To share practical strategies in mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on library services;
3. To deploy new knowledge and technologies in library services to mitigate the impact of COVID-19;
4. To forge collaborative partnerships for sustainable libraries during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Sub-themes

1. Role of libraries in the society in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
2. Library management and service strategies in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
3. Publishing, book trade, and media services in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
4. Information, intellectual property rights, and ethics in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
5. LIS education, continued professional development, job security and alternative sources of income for LIS professionals in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
6. Information needs, information-seeking behaviour, and information retrieval in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
7. Information management, archiving, and curation in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
8. Digital and information literacy in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
9. Library services for PWDs in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND BEYOND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

MESSAGE FROM PROF KAVULYA, KLISC CHAIRMAN



On behalf of the KLISC Executive Committee, I take the opportunity to welcome all participants to the 3rd KLISC International Research Conference being held on 25th and 26th May 2022. The Kenya Libraries and Information Services Consortium (KLISC) is the national library consortium of Kenya established in 2003 with a mandate to catalyze the development of digital libraries in Kenya and improve access to scientific information for teaching and learning, research, innovation and policy-making throughout the country. For nearly 20 years the consortium has members to access quality, peer-reviewed research-generated information in electronic formats from local and global databases at negotiated, affordable prices.

To ensure that its corporate strategy is guided by sound awareness of members’ needs in a rapidly changing globalized, digital technology-driven education and research environment, the consortium holds a biennial international research conference to reflect on current issues and trends in information access, sharing and technology. The theme of this year’s conference is *Re-imagining Library Services in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities*. The main objective is to bring together academicians, researchers, and policy-makers in the library and information sector to reflect on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on library and information services and propose strategies for adaptation and mitigation.

We received an overwhelming number of abstracts and paper proposals for this conference from Kenya and from across the African continent. We greatly appreciate Kenyan participants and to our international presenters, we say *Warm Welcome to Kenya!* We greatly appreciate the many KLISC member institutions who have confirmed participation by sending delegates to this conference. This is a clear manifestation of a strong sense of collaboration among KLISC members to guarantee quality in research, education and policymaking and implementation in Kenya. We also acknowledge and are grateful for the strong partnerships we have with publishers, technology firms and local as well as international development agencies. We salute and register our appreciation for the contribution of our partners in making this conference a success.

We anticipate publishing the full conference papers in form of conference proceedings shortly after the conference. Some of the top quality papers will be published in the upcoming Kenya Libraries and Information Services Consortium (KLISC) journal known as *KLISC Journal of Information Science and Knowledge Management*, which will be launched during the conference and the first-ever call for papers send out at the same time.

We thank all delegates attending the conference and invite them to participate in the variety that will take place during the forum. We are confident that we shall all from this conference get fresh insights inspire one another to scale greater heights in service provision in the post-COVID-19 era and in our contributions towards transforming our various communities into successful participants of the global knowledge society.

Prof. Joseph M. Kavulya

Chair, Executive Committee

Kenya Libraries and Information Services Consortium
& University Librarian, Chuka University

KEYNOTE SPEAKER'S PROFILE: PROF. TERESA A. O. AKENGA



Prof. Teresa A. O. Akenga

Ph.D (UNSW, Australia), M.Sc. (Kenyatta), B.Ed. (Kenyatta), MRSC, MBS, MBA

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Akenga joined the University of Eldoret as Vice-Chancellor on June 10th, 2013. Currently, she is serving her second term as the Vice-Chancellor of this prestigious University.

She is a chemist by training with vast experience in training, mentorship, leadership, and management having worked in various academic and administrative roles in East Africa. She is the founding Vice-Chancellor of the University of Eldoret.

As a trained Graduate Lecturer of Chemistry and Mathematics, Prof. Akenga holds a Ph.D., in (Organic Chemistry: Synthesis) from the University of New South Wales, Australia, Masters of Business Administration (Corporate Governance) from KCA University, Nairobi – Kenya, Masters Qualifying from University of New South Wales, Australia, Masters of Science (Chemistry) from Kenyatta University and Bachelors of Education (Sc., Chemistry major), (1st Class Hons.) from Kenyatta University.

She is a member of various Professional bodies and association among them being the Royal Society of Chemistry (MRSC) based in the United Kingdom, the Kenya Institute of Management (KIM) based in Kenya, the International Interdisciplinary Consortium (ICC)-a consortium of Universities from Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria, the Forum for Women Vice-Chancellors in Africa (FAWoVC) where she is the Vice-Chairperson, a member of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OSWD), a member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Universities Council of East Africa (IUCEA) and a Human Resource Committee Member of the Implementation Committee of the Inter-Public Universities Councils Consultative Forum (IPUCCF) She is also a member of the Ruforum Board Executive Committee.

As an academician, she is credited for publishing over thirty-three (33) journals which are recognized regionally and beyond. She has managed to teach, supervise and mentor PhD, Masters and Undergraduate students. She has also served as a reviewer of articles for several Scientific Journals and she is a member of several editorial boards.

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PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Wednesday 25th MAY 2022

Time: 8:30 am-5:00 pm (East African Time)

Session One		
Master of Ceremony/Moderator: Mr. Agava Stanislaus (Programme Coordinator)		
Time	Activity	Responsible
8:30-9:00am	Registration of conference participants	Dr. Sarah Kibugi Dr. Peninah Musangi
9:00-9:10am	Opening Prayer	Janegrace Kinyajui
9:10-9:30am	Welcome Address and Introduction of Guests by the chair of KLISC	Prof Joseph Kavulya
9:30-10:00am	Keynote Address	Prof Teresa Akenga Vice Chancellor University of Eldoret
10:00-10:20am	Q & A	Agava Stanislaus
10:20-10:50am	Break	Agava Stanislaus
Paper presentations		
Moderator: Prof. Paul Gichohi		
Rapporteur: Janet Nankui		
10:50-11:10am	Rejuvenation of academic libraries in the “New Normal”	Rahab Koech (Maasai Mara University) Nancy Kimile (Maasai Mara University)
11:10-11:30am	Role of librarians in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic: a Nigeria perspective	Abu Ahmed Adamu (Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria) Stephen Adekunle Ajayi (Federal Polytechnic Ede, Osun State Nigeria) Alhassan, Jibril Attahiru (Federal University Kashere Gombe state Nigeria)
11:30-11:50pm	Factors affecting the accessibility and utilization of information resources in the post-Covid-19 era: a case of two university libraries in Kenya	Mercy Shidemburi Musungu (Meru University of Science and Technology)
11:50-12:10pm	Q & A	Prof. Paul Gichohi
12:10-12:30pm	Éclat Engineering Pvt Limited	Sila Too Business Development Manager - Africa
12:30-12:50pm	Access and Information Literacy Committee’s presentation	Dr Peninah Musangi
12:50-1:50 pm	Lunch	

**“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
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Session Two		
Moderator: Dr. Wanyenda Chilimo		
Rapporteur: Ruth Gibendi		
1:50-2:00pm	ELSEVIER	ELSEVIER Representative
2:00-2:20 pm	Equity and inclusivity in library services provision for PWDs in public university libraries: a case study of Kaimosi Friends University College (KAFUCO) Library	Caroline Shikuku (Kaimosi Friends University College)
2:20-2:40 pm	Every “reader” his or her “book”: information services to persons with disabilities in academic libraries in Kenya	Afline Susan Awuor (Tangaza University College) Tom Kwanya (The Technical University of Kenya)
2:40-3:00 pm	The plagiarism conundrum in Kenyan universities and its effects on research quality	Nakitare Joel Wekesa (Rongo University) Fredrick Wawire Otiye (Dedan Kimathi University of Technology) Michael Wanyonyi (Alupe University College)
3:00-3:20 pm	The Quest for Quality in University Education in the Post COVID-19 Era: Do Anti-plagiarism Tools Still Matter?	Joseph M. Kavulya (Chuka University) Vincent Bob Kiilu (Chuka University) Bernadetta N. Kyengo (The Catholic University of Eastern Africa)
3:20-3:50 pm	Q & A	Dr. Wanyenda Chilimo
3:50-4:10 pm	EMERALD	EMERALD Representative
4:10-4:30pm	Wolters Kluwer	Wolters Kluwer Representative
Closing prayer		

DAY 2: Thursday 26th MAY 2022

Time: 8:30 am-4:00 pm (East African Time)

Master of Ceremony: Mr. Stanislaus Agava (Programme Coordinator)

Session Three		
Moderator: Dr Festus Ng’etich		
Rapporteur: James Tutu		
Time	Activity	Responsible
8:30-8:40 am	Opening prayer	Patricia Chebet
8:40-9:00 am	Recap of Day 1	Joel Nakitare
9:00-9:20 am	Remodelling information literacy in academic libraries during the COVID-19 pandemic	Dr. Penninah Musangi (Amref International University) Emily Sawe (Strathmore University)
9:20-9:40 am	Impact of digital information literacy on library usage during covid-19 pandemic in academic libraries in Kenya	Hellen Magut (University of Eastern Africa - Baraton) Lydia Lelon (University of Eldoret)
9:40-10:00 am	Q & A	Dr. Festus Ng’etich
10:00-10:30 am	ODILO Digital Platform	ODILO Representative
10:30-11:00 am	Break	

Moderator: Michael Wanyonyi		
Rapporteur: Agnes Mwai		
11:00-11:20 am	Strategies for sustainable access to electronic resources by the Consortium of Uganda University Libraries in the COVID-19 pandemic era	Jackline Kiwelu (Kampala International University) Jesca Karungi (Aga Khan University) Andrew Mwesigwa (Makerere University)
11:20-11:50 am	Presentation on Publishing	Prof Beatrice Were
11:50-12:10	Q & A	Michael Wanyonyi
12:10-12:40 pm	EBSCO	EBSCO Representative
12:40-1:00 pm	The Role of Nigerian Library Association in Continuous Development of Librarians in Nigeria	Goshie RhodaWusa (Federal University of Technology Library Minna, Niger State Nigeria) Jimada Aisha (Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University) Gwari Williams Habiba (Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University)
1:00-2:00 pm	Lunch	
Session Four		
Moderator: Nancy Kimile		
Rapporteur: Esther Inga		
2:00-2:20 pm	Digital preservation strategies in the federal university libraries in the North-West Nigeria	Aisha Jimada (Kashim Ibrahim Library Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria) Rhoda Wusa Goshie (Federal University of Technology Library, Minna) Jibril Attahiru Alhassan (Federal University of Kashere Library, Gombe)
2:20-2:40 pm	Influence of publishing, copyright and ethical practices on research productivity of academic librarians in a changing society: a case of two universities in Niger State, Nigeria	G. A. Babalola (Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria) Fatima Ladan Yusuf (Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai, Niger State, Nigeria) A. N. Afolabi (National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria) Juliet C. Alex-Nmecha (University of Port Harcourt, Choba, Rivers State)
2:40-3:00 pm	Q & A	Nancy Kimile
3:00-3:10 pm	Goethe Institut	Representative from Goethe Institut
3:10-3:30 pm	Launch of the KLISC Dashboard	ICT Committee and Neoffera Solutions
3:30-3:50 pm	Launch of the KLISC Journal	ICT Committee
3:50-4:00 pm	Recap of Day Two	Mr. Agava Stanislaus
4:00-4:10 pm	Closing Remarks	Representative from Goethe Institut
4:10-4:20 pm	Vote of thanks and Invitation to Cocktail	Angela Mumo
	Closing prayer	Norah Mauti
4:20-5:00 pm	Tea Break and Networking	Mr. Agava Stanislaus
5:30.....	Cocktail	

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ABSTRACTS

1. REJUVENATION OF KENYAN ACADEMIC LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE COVID-19 ERA AND BEYOND

Rahab Koech (Maasai Mara University)

Nancy Kimile (Maasai Mara University)

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected academic institutions unprecedentedly, in some cases leading to closures. Academic libraries, in particular, were equally affected as physical libraries were closed as a measure towards managing the spread of the COVID-19. This limited their capacity to continue providing critical support for teaching, learning and research in their universities. This study reviews secondary data published locally and globally on the interventions available to libraries in rejuvenating their services during and after the COVID-19 era. Additionally, the study explores the challenges faced and how they can be surmounted as a means of rejuvenating library services in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era in Kenya. Kenyan academic libraries have heavily invested in the subscription to access of electronic resources through the Kenya Library Information Services Consortium (KLISC) and relevant technological infrastructure. They have also initiated digital services and resources to meet the needs of their clientele. These notwithstanding, the COVID-19 pandemic led to the closure of physical libraries. Nonetheless, academic libraries were expected to continue providing their services by proactively embracing current technological trends in electronic resources, information access, dissemination, and capacity building of users and library staff. Thus, the need for rejuvenation of libraries in service delivery has become more apparent. A desk-top research was conducted by reviewing papers published online on how libraries coped with the COVID-19 pandemic with a view to identifying opportunities and challenges to help rejuvenate Kenyan libraries in the new normal. This study highlights interventions of services and resources such as use of e-apps, use of online platforms, zoom and webinars for trainings on the use of e-resources, and social media among others. Key insights on the application of varied media were unearthed to help rejuvenate academic libraries. However, the lack of ICT infrastructure and devices, insufficient digital competencies, as well as lack of appropriate legislation and policies were identified as inhibiting the capacity of libraries to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic. Academic libraries need to proactively utilise computers and improve ICT infrastructure, invest in digital information resources and build capacity of users and library staff on digital literacy to reposition themselves appropriately in the new normal.

Keywords: *Academic libraries; COVID-19 pandemic; Digital literacy; Digital library; ICTs in libraries*

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
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2. ROLE OF LIBRARIANS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A NIGERIAN PERSPECTIVE

Abu Ahmed Adamu (Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria)
Stephen Adekunle Ajayi (Federal Polytechnic Ede, Osun State Nigeria)
Alhassan Jibril Attahiru (Federal University Kashere Gombe state Nigeria)

Abstract

The librarians' role goes beyond the delivery of services in libraries. It involves helping people to comprehend and participate in issues of importance through the provision of media and information literacy support. One of the recent issues is curtailing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. This study examined the communication media used by librarians in disseminating information on the COVID-19 pandemic, the roles of librarians in preventing the pandemic, and the challenges in sharing information on COVID-19 pandemic. A descriptive survey and a structured questionnaire were used to collect data for the study through Google forms. The Google form links were sent to the online forum of librarians in Nigeria. A population of 759 was derived from various online library platforms. A convenience sampling method was used to pick the sample size of 250 respondents. The return rate was 127 librarians. The findings revealed that librarians used formal and informal channels to disseminate information to the society in the wake of the pandemic. It further revealed that WhatsApp groups, Facebook, flyers, and mass media were the most used channels. The findings also revealed that librarians play a critical role in preventing the pandemic spread by posting sanitation, safety measures and social distancing information on various WhatsApp groups they belong to and by translating the information on sanitation and safety measures on the COVID-19 pandemic. The study recommends that governmental and international organisations should provide funds to support the provision of more hand sanitisers and washing soap that could help prevent the spread of the pandemic. The study also concludes that when all levels of the adequately tackle the identified issues, the librarians would play their more effectively and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 and any other disease outbreaks in the future.

Keywords: *COVID-19; Information dissemination; Communication channels; Social media; Nigeria*

3. FACTORS AFFECTING THE ACCESSIBILITY AND UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE POST-COVID-19 ERA: A CASE OF TWO UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN KENYA

Mercy Shidemburi Musungu (Meru University of Science and Technology)

Abstract

The core functions of a university library include supporting teaching, learning, research, and innovation and providing information resources which support the university's operations. This study investigated the factors affecting the accessibility and utilisation of information resources in academic libraries, taking the Reuben Marambii Library of Meru University of Science and Technology (MUST) and the Kenyatta University Post-Modern University Library as a case study. The specific objectives of the study were to determine the skills needed by librarians in supporting accessibility and utilisation of information during the pandemic, analyse the innovative methodologies employed by the library staff in facilitating access to library resources and services, examine the challenges faced by library staff and users during the pandemic, and determine the importance of information and communication technology in improving the usability and consumption of information resources. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design with mixed methods. The researcher randomly distributed questionnaires to staff and users identified through purposive sampling. The researcher collected data from 20 library staff and 309 library users out of 26 sampled library staff and 357 sampled library users. This study revealed that 81% of the librarians prefer online search (OPAC and Internet search) information resources. The majority of the users (41%, n=128) prefer physical textbooks to e-resources. Only 16.5%(n=51) of the users preferred e-books and e-journals. Inadequate computers (32%, n=99) and unreliable Internet connection (25.7%, n=85) were the main challenges affecting the library users' access and utilisation of information resources. The librarians identified uncooperative library staff, inadequate digital library skills, understaffing, and poor ICT networks as the main hindrances to facilitating access and utilisation of information resources in the library. The study recommends more capacity building and training for library staff, reengineering of the ICT infrastructure and capacity to better promote access and utilisation of information resources in this post-COVID-19 era.

Key words: *COVID-19 pandemic; Information resources; Information access; Information utilisation*

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
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4. EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY IN LIBRARY SERVICES PROVISION FOR PWDs IN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY OF KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (KAFUCO) LIBRARY

Caroline Shikuku (Kaimosi Friends Univeristy College)

Abstract

This study investigates the preparedness of the library for service provision to PWDs with a view to providing strategies to ensuring equity and inclusivity. The study was anchored on the social model of disability. The study population included users with physical challenges, visual and hearing impairment and service providers. A sample for the study was identified through purposive sampling technique. A qualitative research approach was applied in the study. Data was obtained through face-to-face interviews complemented by the observation methods. The collected data was analysed thematically using the objectives of the study. The findings of the study indicated that the library is inadequately prepared to provide services to the PWDs. It lacks the requisite physical facilities, equipment, amenities, alternative formats of resources and specialised staff to cater for the needs of the PWDs. That notwithstanding, construction of an ultra-modern library is underway. Once complete, it is expected to address these inadequacies. The study recommends advocacy for the enactment of legislation in Parliament to ensure requisite PWD infrastructure is put in place in the universities; lobbying for increased funding to acquire equipment, assistive technologies, acquisition of alternative formats of resources and recruitment of sign language interpreters to ensure equity and inclusivity in service provision.

Keywords: *People with disabilities; Assistive technologies; Virtual services; COVID-19 pandemic; New normal*

5. EVERY “READER” HIS OR HER “BOOK”: INFORMATION SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN TANGAZA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Afline Susan Awuor (Tangaza University College)
Tom Kwanya (The Technical University of Kenya)

Abstract

Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan, an Indian librarian and mathematician, in 1931 developed what has come to be known as the *Five Laws of Librarianship*. Principles drawn from these laws undergird the design and delivery of library services to date. The second law states that “every reader his or her book”. This implies that libraries should deliver services and resources which are customised for the specific needs of unique categories of their users. The degree to which academic libraries in Kenya offer appropriate services to persons with disabilities (PWDs), particularly in the post-COVID 19 era, is unknown. This paper identifies and evaluates the services offered to PWDs by academic libraries in Kenya using Tangaza University College Library as a case study. The specific objectives of the study are to assess the preparedness of academic libraries in Kenya to meet the information needs of PWDs, identify the services and resources offered to PWDs by academic libraries in Kenya, evaluate the suitability and use of the services, and propose a framework for designing and deploying information services to PWDs in academic libraries in Kenya in the post-COVID 19 era. This paper is anchored on mixed methods research through which data was collected from librarians and PWDs using semi-structured questionnaires. The librarians who participated in the study were selected through information-oriented purposive sampling while PWDs were selected using snowballing. The findings show that although Tangaza University College has made significant progress towards addressing the needs of PWDs, the library, like other academic libraries in Kenya are not adequately prepared to offer tailored services to PWDs. There are gaps which need to be addressed to enhance the information experience of PWDs in its user community. Nonetheless, the majority (72.7%) of the PWDs are happy with the services. The challenges PWD library users encounter included tiny font size, which limits the visually impaired; a restricted number of computers for their usage; a lack of information about how the assistive technology provided in the library works; and the lack of braille books. The findings contribute to the discourses on the emerging role of libraries in safeguarding the information and communication rights of PWDs in Kenya and abroad in the post-COVID era.

Keywords: *Persons with disabilities, PWDs, Ranganathan’s Laws, academic libraries, post-COVID, Kenya*

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6. THE PLAGIARISM CONUNDRUM IN KENYAN UNIVERSITIES AND ITS EFFECTS ON RESEARCH QUALITY

Nakitare Joel Wekesa (Rongo University)
Fredrick Wawire Otike (DedanKimathi University of Technology)
Michael Wanyonyi (Alupe University College)

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to review the status of anti-plagiarism practices in various universities in Kenya. The literature review reveals that plagiarism has been amplified mainly because of the increased access to the Internet and digital sources. To counter the plagiarism menace, universities are putting various countermeasures to reduce the practice. These include capacity building, anti-plagiarism policies, and acquisition of anti-plagiarism software. The study adopted a mixed-method approach to collect quantitative and qualitative data by surveying the librarians and graduate school directors or deans. Further, the existing policies and guidelines were reviewed to establish the strength and challenges in implementing plagiarism measures in universities in Kenya. The study established that all universities in Kenya appreciate that plagiarism is an unethical practice in scholarly communication. However, there was no unified understanding and implementation of the antiplagiarism measures executed by universities in Kenya. The different approaches to dealing with the vice do not only make it difficult for practitioners to share best practices but also affects the quality of research. This research provides an opportunity for universities to make an informed choice on the policies, personnel, and software to use in tackling plagiarism. The findings from the study may be used to improve the quality of academic writing and standardise the policies on plagiarism by proposing policy actions needed to maximise the benefits of the investments in this venture. This paper illustrates the gaps and differences in the universities' approaches to tackling plagiarism among their scholars.

Keywords: *Plagiarism; Anti-plagiarism; Academic writing; Copyright; Academic theft*

7. THE QUEST FOR QUALITY IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN THE POST COVID-19 ERA: DO ANTI-PLAGIARISM TOOLS STILL MATTER?

Joseph M. Kavulya (Chuka University)
Vincent Bob Kiilu (Chuka University)
Bernadetta N. Kyengo (The Catholic University of Eastern Africa)

Abstract

Plagiarism is a major global challenge to quality assurance in higher education. Various efforts have been made to overcome the menace including the use of anti-plagiarism tools. At the same time, many questions have been raised about the efficacy of the current generation of tools in detecting, preventing plagiarism and guaranteeing the quality of education. This paper examines the limitations of plagiarism detection tools in enhancing quality in academic outcomes and proposes measures towards improvement. The paper argues that while anti-plagiarism softwares contribute towards promoting quality of academic writing and academic integrity, they are not the panacea to the plagiarism pandemic especially in the COVID-19 era. It proposes that there is need to reform methods of assessment and implement forward looking policies to address the underlying causes of plagiarism, provide students with appropriate information literacy skills training, and above all cultivate a culture of academic integrity in Higher Education institutions (HEIs).

Keywords: *Antiplagiarism softwares; Plagiarism; University Education; Quality; COVID-19*

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8. REMODELLING INFORMATION LITERACY IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Penninah Musangi (Amref International University)
Emily Sawe (Strathmore University)

Abstract

Kenya detected its first COVID-19 case on 19th March, 2020. This led to educational institutions being shut down and their learning activities shifting online. Learning institutions remodelled and transformed their operations. This greatly impacted higher education, including how university libraries operate. Before the pandemic, academic libraries were providing information literacy to their users through various strategies which were mostly physical in nature. Transitioning to online education necessitated libraries to remodel their information literacy strategies. The abrupt shift to digital information literacy posed serious challenges to academic libraries, which were accustomed to face to face teaching and inadequate digital training. The purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of digital information literacy strategies in academic libraries during the COVID-19 period. The objectives are to establish the strategies used by academic libraries and the skills and resources required in the provision of digital information literacy. Additionally, the study seeks to identify the challenges academic libraries faced in an effort to offer digital information literacy during the COVID-19 pandemic period and recommend the best practices towards an effective and sustainable digital information literacy programs during pandemics. The study used a mixed methods systematic review of existing literature to incorporate a range of research and professional commentary on the effectiveness of the digital information literacy strategies during COVID-19. The best practices identified include teaching online sessions of information literacy synchronously and asynchronously, developing research learning objects, creation and design of Libguides for information literacy concepts and developing evaluation plans to assess the effectiveness of the strategies employed for continual improvement.

Keywords: *COVID-19; Digital information literacy; Information literacy; Academic libraries; Systematic reviews; Online learning*

9. IMPACT OF DIGITAL INFORMATION LITERACY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN KENYA

Hellen Magut (University of Eastern Africa - Baraton)
Lydia Lelon (University of Eldoret)

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact not only on people's health but also on how they learn, work and live. Among the most significant effects was depriving library users the chance to access the physical facilities and information resources. It put brakes to academic activities and disrupted learning institutions in Kenya. With the need to continuously provide teaching and learning resources, university libraries took up the task of fulfilling the need. Digital information literacy skills are key in fulfilling the needs. This study analysed the effects of digital information literacy on library usage during the COVID-19 pandemic in the 2020-2021 period. The specific objectives of the research were to establish the effects of library staff's skills and competencies on ICT; the ICT infrastructure; and the range of Web 2.0 platforms applied by academic libraries in Kenya to sustain their services during COVID-19 period. The study sampled six university libraries in Kenya from which data was collected and analysed based on the research questions using qualitative approaches. The study concluded that ICT skills and competencies are core to any librarian as well as putting in place the right infrastructure. The study recommended that universities should enact policies for effective ICT training, develop collaborative mechanisms with mobile service providers for subsidised Internet bundles, adopt Web 2.0 platforms for improved virtual learning, and put in place relevant policies and frameworks for effective response to disasters and pandemics.

Keywords: *Information literacy; COVID-19; Digital information literacy; E-learning; Web 2.0; Kenya*

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND BEYOND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

10. STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC RESOURCES BY THE CONSORTIUM OF UGANDA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN COVID-19 PANDEMIC ERA

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Jesca Karungi (Aga Khan University)
Andrew Mwesigwa (Makerere University)

Abstract

The paper shares the strategies the Consortium of Uganda University Libraries (CUUL) adopted to provide access to electronic resources to its member libraries in COVID-19 pandemic era. The paper examined the challenges, opportunities COVID-19 brought and how CUUL managed to deliver its mandate during the pandemic. The study used a mixed methods approach. The majority of the study questions were qualitative in nature with only one quantitative question that was used to explain the qualitative findings. It employed the questionnaire method to collect the required information from the CUUL executive committee members and the electronic resources functional committee. Content analysis method, with coding and categorisation, was used for data analysis and presentation of findings. This paper creates awareness of the challenges, opportunities COVID-19 brought and strategies the CUUL used to sustain e-resources subscription since the outbreak of COVID-19. Funding and licensing costs are among the challenges mentioned while the opportunities were that the funders' awareness of the need for e-resources and the online learning needs justified the need for e-resources sustainability by the consortium. Embracing open access initiatives, remote access and longer licensing period were among the strategies for e-resources sustainability. This paper provides insights and strategies for responding to global hazards that have the potential to affect consortium's income for sustainable subscription to e-resources. It also adds literature on the impact of COVID-19 on university libraries in developing countries which is minimal. **Keywords:** *CUUL; Electronic resources and services; COVID-19; Academic libraries; Uganda*

11. DIGITAL PRESERVATION STRATEGIES IN THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN THE NORTH-WEST NIGERIA

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Rhoda Wusa Goshie (Federal University of Technology Library, Minna)
Jibril Attahiru Alhassan (Federal University of Kashere Library, Gombe)

Abstract

Digital preservation involves those activities that are carried out in libraries to protect their information resources that are born digital or those converted from analogue to digital form from loss and deterioration and to ensure long-term access despite changes in technology. This paper investigates the types of information resources digitised, the strategies used by the federal university libraries in North-West Nigeria to preserve them so that they remain accessible for use and reuse, and the challenges facing these initiatives. Continuous access to digital information remains difficult even after they are preserved. A qualitative research method was adopted for the study. Purposive sampling technique was used to identify the participants while a structured interview guide was the instrument used to collect data for the study. The responses were analysed descriptively and presented using tables. The findings of this study showed that theses, dissertations, preprint and post-print journals are the common information resources digitised and preserved while refreshing and technology preservation are some of the strategies used. External hard drives are the storage media used. Erratic power is one of the challenges facing digital preservation in academic libraries in North-West Nigeria. Based on the findings, the study concluded that digital preservation of information resources is carried out in the digitisation units of the libraries studied. Digitised resources are preserved in external hard discs, servers and most importantly in institutional repositories. The paper recommended, among others, sensitisation of academic staff on the importance of uploading digital content; normalisation strategy should be adopted; proper maintenance of storage media should be adopted; use of cloud storage; adequate funds should be provided; and relevant policies should be developed.

Keywords: *Digital preservation; Digitisation; Information preservation; North-West Nigeria*

“RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
AND BEYOND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

12. THE ROLE OF NIGERIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IN CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARIANS IN NIGERIA

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Gwari Williams Habiba (Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria)

Abstract

This paper reviews the role of the Nigeria Library Association (NLA) in the continuous development of librarians in Nigeria with a specific focus on library and information profession. NLA has been in the forefront of the development of library profession in Nigeria. The objectives of NLA includes to unite persons interested in libraries, librarianship and information services; safeguard and promote the professional interests of librarians; and promote the establishment and development of libraries and information centre. The paper highlights the factors that have promoted discussions of continuous professional development for librarianship which include the vast growth of new knowledge; introduction of new technology in libraries; and an increasing highly educated populace. The paper also explained the thirteen special interest groups of the NLA currently in existence such as Academics and Research Libraries (ARL), Association of Government Libraries (AGOL), and the Association of News Media Librarians of Nigeria (ANLON), to mention but a few. The paper explains that professional development is a lifelong learning process which is indispensable for professional growth and instrumental for sustaining one's competence. The library can also become more productive with new skills and knowledge acquired through professional development programmes. The paper further highlights the various professional development programmes put in place by librarians such as seminars, workshops, conferences, mentorship, courses, and distance learning programmes with interactive capabilities. The paper also discusses the importance of continuous development programmes which include to update knowledge and skills in existing and new areas of practice; keep professional qualifications up-to-date; raise one's profile through certifications and networking; make oneself more marketable to future employers; and obtain new improved skills-making challenging tasks easier. The paper also highlights the problems associated with attending professional development programmes which include lack of interest, unacceptance of submitted papers, and lack of awareness.

Keywords: *Professional associations; continuous professional development; NLA; Nigeria*

13. PUBLISHING, COPYRIGHT AND ETHICAL PRACTICES AS INFLUENCING FACTORS ON THE RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS IN A CHANGING SOCIETY: A CASE STUDY OF TWO UNIVERSITIES IN NIGER STATE, NIGERIA

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Fatima Ladan Yusuf (Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai, Niger State, Nigeria)
A. N. Afolabi (National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria)
Juliet C. Alex-Nmecha (University of Port Harcourt, Choba, Rivers State)

Abstract

This study investigated publishing, copyright and ethical practices as influencing factors on the research productivity of academic librarians in a changing society. A changing society can aptly be described as the pandemic ravaged epoch; the information revolution age; the age of digital revolution and age that unveils new things in succession. The connecting nexus among publishing, copyright, ethical practices and research productivity of academic librarians was identified. It was premised on the assumption that academic librarians would be delighted to publish more if there is an assurance that what they have published would not be abused by copyright violators. The two universities in Niger State, Nigeria, namely, Federal University of Technology, Minna and Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai were selected for the study. Total enumeration (census) was used to capture all the academic librarians (who have at least first degree in librarianship) in the two universities. Twenty-seven (27) academic librarians from Federal University of Technology, Minna and sixteen (16) academic librarians from Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai participated in the study. Two (2) research questions were asked and answered. The questions were: 1) To what extent does copyright influence the research productivity of academic librarians in the selected universities? 2) To what level do ethical practices influence the research productivity of academic librarians in the selected universities? One (1) null hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance. The hypothesis was stated as: there is no significant composite influence of publishing, copyright and ethical practices on research productivity of academic librarians in the selected universities in Nigeria. Literature germane to the study were reviewed. Descriptive survey of correlational nature was used for the study. Data was analysed and presented using simple statistical tools of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) formula was used to analyse the only hypothesis in the study. Findings from the study showed that copyright coupled with ethical use of copyrighted works influenced the research productivity of academic librarians. Moreover, there was a significant composite influence of publishing, copyright and ethical practices on the research productivity of academic librarians in the two universities selected for the study. It was concluded that adequate enforcement and practice of copyright vis-à-vis ethical use of published work influenced the research productivity of academic librarians to a very high degree. Based on the findings from the study, it was recommended that: copyrighted works should be fully protected; ethical practices must be imbibed while using copyrighted published work so as to boost the morale of academic librarians with hope of willing to publish more in the future since they would be assured that the economic and moral rights on their works are protected.

Keywords: *Research productivity; Publishing; Ethical practices; Changing society; Niger State, Nigeria*

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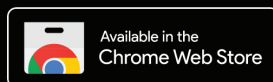
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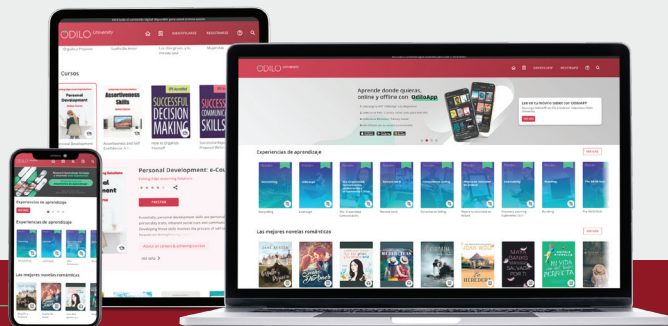


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