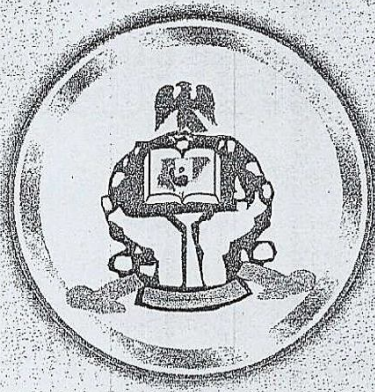


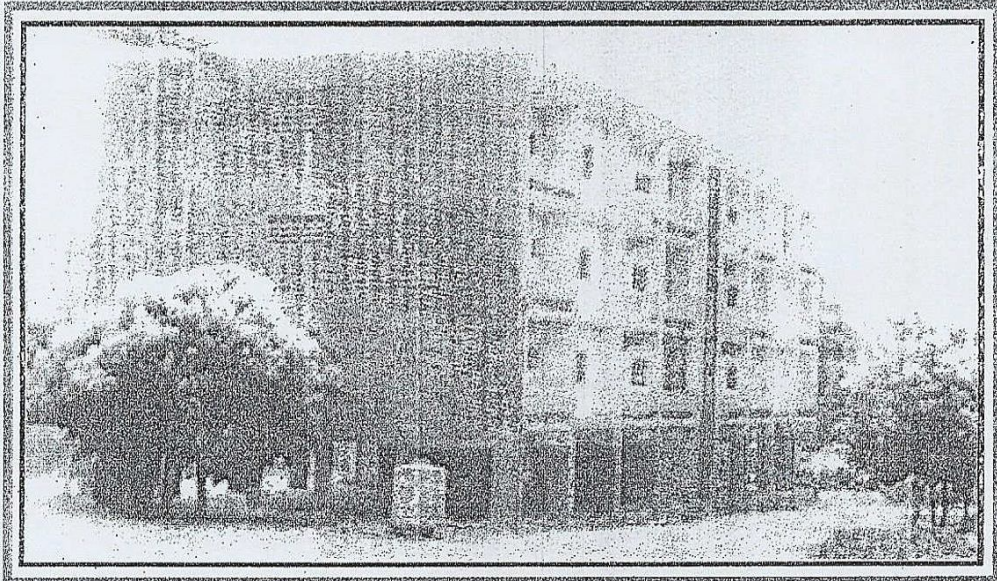
23) Pg 1-16

24) Pg 1-14



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT



Centre for Advance Library and Information Management (CALIM)

2012 Training Calendar



Mallam H. A. Jato
Director/CEO
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA PLANNING, RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ADVANCED LIBRARY SERVICES PROPOSED 2012 TRAINING PROGRAMME

S/N	WORKSHOP TITLE	TARGET GROUP	FEES (N)
1.	Internet & Personnel Productivity Software Application to Library Technical Services	Librarians, Information Specialists, Archivists, Documentalist & Information Providers.	40,000
2.	Resource Development and Allocation strategies to Library Management Improvements	Librarians, Senior Library Officers etc	40,000
3.	Online Electronic Resource sharing Using web 2.0 in the Context of Modern Library Management	Librarians, Archivists Documentalists etc	40,000
4.	Management Skills: Imperative for Modern Library Development in Nigeria	Librarians, Library Officers, Teacher Librarians, Principals, Headmasters and Head of School Services in the State Universal Basic Education Boards.	30,000
5.	Library Operations Management Skills Library Officers	All categories of Library Officers/Library Assistants	20,000
6.	Leadership retreat for top Executives of Libraries	State Directors of Libraries and Heads of Libraries	50,000

N/B: In case of Inquiry contact the following:

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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA
PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
CENTRE FOR ADVANCED LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (CALIM)

A COMPENDIUM OF PAPERS
FOR
NATIONAL WORKSHOP
ON

**INTERNET AND PERSONAL
PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE APPLICATION TO
LIBRARY TECHNICAL SERVICES**

DATE

27th - 31st September 2012

VENUE

Michale Imuodu National Institute for Labour Studies
Ilorin, Kwara State
Nigeria

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-by Toyin Dina
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Dynamic Web Environment
-by Dr. E. C. Madu
3. The Implication of ICT and Role of Knowledge Managers
-by Toyin Dina
4. Library Materials Selection and Acquisition Techniques
-by Isaac Olubisi Ajibola
5. Cataloging/Classification Efficiency Management Through on-line
Technical Services Techniques
-by Dr. E. C. Madu
6. Reference Services Optimization Through Effective Use of Information
and Communication Technology (ICT)
-by D. E. Olalere (CLN, ACIPM)
7. E-Learning as a Tool for Capacity Development and Knowledge Sharing
Among Knowledge Managers (Libraries)
-by Isaac Olubisi Ajibola

A

**MODERN LIBRARY AND THE CHANGING ROLE OF
LIBRARIANS IN A CHALLENGING DYNAMIC WEB
ENVIRONMENT.**

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Science and Science Education, Federal University of
Technology Minna.**

**(A paper presented at a National Workshop on internet
and personal productivity software application to library
technical service by the National Library of Nigeria Abuja
27-30 August 2012).**

Abstract:

This study examined the modern trends in library work, especially as it affects the use of new techniques in information acquisition, processing and service provision. The paper discussed the main characteristics of the Information Society with regard to changed perception of the importance of the role of information, the growth in the amount of information now available, the wide variety of information formats, the size and continued growth of the information sector in modern economics and the rate of technological change. This is the road map in which the modern librarian and other information professional must find relevance. The study identified the challenges faced by librarians and information professionals in order to meet up with the demands of the information society which clearly define the modern library environment in which we operate today. The new roles for the librarian as a consultant to client, information agent, advocate for users to database vendors and software designers etc were highlighted. This paper concluded by emphasizing on the need for training and re-training of librarians and other information professionals especially in the areas of search techniques, search engines, digital information resources, on-line information service etc in order to cope with modern trends in library operations.

KEY WORDS: Library, librarian, web, environment, challenges, modern environment.

INTRODUCTION:

In the knowledge society, library and information science profession remains one of the most challenging Professions in the world today. Information and communication technology is increasingly becoming important in the contemporary environment of rapidly technological change and proliferated information resources. Because of the increasing complexity of the information environment, librarians face complex challenges especially in the use of new technologies in service provision. As a result of this complexity the library profession has become more dynamic and challenging in the modern world ruled by web environment.

Naturally therefore, this paper dwelt on such issues such as;

- i. An over view of the library
- ii. New challenges for library and information science professionals
- iii. Professional skill and technological competence for librarians
- iv. Modern library environment today
- v. Benefits of the use of ICT in library operation
- vi. New role for the librarian in the face of the new challenges.

An overview of the Library

A library is an organized collection of resources made accessible to a defined community for reference or borrowing. It provides physical or digital access to materials and may be a physical building or room or a virtual space or both. Collection can include books, periodicals, manuscripts, films, maps, microform, CDs, Cassettes,

video tape etc. Wikipecha (2008). A library is organised for use and maintained by a public body, an institution, a corporation or a private individual.

In addition to providing materials, libraries also provide services, by librarians who are experts at finding and organizing information and at interpreting information needs. (Madu, 2005). Modern libraries are increasingly being redefined as places to get unrestricted access to information in many formats and from many sources. Modern libraries now extend service beyond the physical wall of a building by providing material accessible by electronic means.

New challenges for library and information science profession

According to Ramana, (2006), the main characteristics of the Information Society have been:-

- a. Changed perceptions of the importance of the role of information.
- b. The growth in the amount of information now available
- c. the wide variety of information formats.
- d. The size and continued growth of the information sector in the modern economies.
- e. The rate of technological change.

The above characteristics of the Information Society clearly defines the modern library environment in which we operate today. It is the road map in which the modern librarian and information professional must find relevance.

The library challenges the old idea of what a library should be the library demand from its users absolute silence which she argued make for concentration. There is a change from the old order which changed the educational institutions libraries from quiet contrived places to playful and free places helping bring libraries into the modern era and instill a love for book.

The modern library is also being challenged by the way it generally views target users it aims to serve in this respect the normative target public of the modern library has always been a heterogeneous or amorphous group, a relatively undifferentiated mass of people.

Funding of Modern Library

Another important aspect of the modern library being challenged by the growth of new contemporary roots is the way the modern library is funded. The norm for the library is that it should or must be funded by the government. This also underscores library's philosophy of free service. However, with inadequate budgetary provision, modern libraries now look inwardly. Information brokering is now used in modern library to argue their budgetary allocations.

Information brokering is a service rendered by an organization, in the case of librarians or institution who on demand from information seeker or users try to answer questions using all sources available for a fee (Minitz, 1984). Ford (1988), articulated the services provided by information broker as follows:-

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- a. Research service
- b. Abstracting
- c. Bibliographic compilation
- d. Current awareness services
- e. Directory completion
- f. Publishing
- g. Translation etc.

The benefit of the use of information and communication technology ICT in modern libraries operations.

Where ever technology intervenes in human activities the essential feature is how to bridge time and space, to minimize cost and efforts, as well as the maximization of quality, efficiency and effectiveness (Alabi, 2003).

The use of ICT according to Rowley cited in Abdullahi and Haruna (2008) promotes the growth and development of libraries in a number of way. There include.

- a. Effective dissemination of services to users
- b. Provision of the possibilities of networking as information stored in one computer can be transmitted to another computer regardless of the distance.
- c. Simplifying many difficult or time consuming tasks to an extraordinary degree.
- d. Provision of efficient ways to manage large amount of information and

e. Easy access to bibliographic records and source materials.

The use of internet in library operations has clearly defined the information age and modernized library operations. According to Madu, (2005) internet has many advantages in information work. One of the advantages of internet in information works is that it is easier and faster to communicate with. A librarian who proceed to acquire materials for his library will find it easier and faster to use the resources available on the internet.

An order can be placed through a facsimile (fax), e-mail, or telephone depending on the availability of any of these technologies in both the library placing the order and the supplier of the product (Agbaje, 2002:31).

Secondly, the staff of the library or information centre can also source and find much useful information on the internet. Since library has to do mainly with information acquisition, organization and dissemination, the use of internet will assist the library staff to effectively perform his role of answering queries on information. Since internet is spontaneous, it is possible for a user information problem to be solved within a small time, sourcing of information which is the main trust of library and information centers is made easy with the use of resources available on the net. Internet can also provide. Link to remote information and connection to information resources around the world library, staff can identify hot lists

and book mart file of frequently used resources for support in answering frequently asked questions Ibegwam, 2002:54.

The third advantage of the use of internet in libraries and information centres is it's economic value. In most cases, the internet provides an extra source of income to what is available to the library or internet centre. The students and users pay some money to log on to the internet and browse the internet. The researchers also use the internet to visit the websites of libraries, academic and research institute with the aim of getting needed and current information in their areas of research. Libraries and information centre carry out these functions on commercial bases.

Fourthly, information centers can through internet market their products. Some libraries and information services engage in information brokerage. This is the activities of producing and carrying out information services include: indexing, abstracting, bibliographies, directory current awareness services etc for a free. This has led to the need for the library to provide necessary information about its activities to a large number of library users especially researchers on their new products and services. This is with the hope of soliciting for patronage. The internet can effectively do this through some of its available resources. Also some libraries and information centers publish some of their products, and ask users or researchers to download, at a fee, its publication needed from the internet.

Fifthly, internet is used by millions of people, the library or information centre can use it to enjoy world wide library cooperation or resource sharing.

Library cooperation now takes the form of library technology consortia in the new information technology era. Libraries now operate turnkey integrated library system through which they share facilities and resources. This has increased reliance on interblending supported by improved electronic communication and delivery (Agbaje, 2002:330).

The cooperating libraries or information centers can also visit the websites of members. This can also enhance their efficiency in collection development. With the use of On-line system, it is possible for users to access the websites of cooperating members from long distance. This can be in form of global information network. Before the advent of internet, library cooperation or on line library system could be done between some library or by connecting some system to enhance effective communication. With internet on-line system as it affect library services has assumed a global dimension.

Internet can also be used to answer research questions. For instance a user who approaches a librarian to find out when a particular university overseas was established, can find internet very helpful. The librarian can easily visit the website of the university and all the information available on the university will be accessed.

Summary of the advantages of Internet for Information users.

1. The use of internet helps the library and information center and the users to develop I.T. fluency.

2. The use of the resources available on the internet like e-mail, usenet or users' network telnet etc. help to reduce the physical distance between library and information centers and their users.
3. The use of internet makes available to the users of library and information centre the innumerable learning resources available on the world wide web (www).
4. The use of internet helps to improve communication between learners and their teachers, and as well as among students.
5. With internet there is the possibility of enriching teaching-learning resources, through the creation of web-sites and data bases on different areas of knowledge the use of teleconferencing mail lists etc subscribe to and share knowledge as much as possible.
6. Internet use makes it possible to improve flexibility of teaching and learning modalities as it will afford users increased access to print and digital source. A teacher – librarian takes advantage of the internet to improve the quality of teaching and learning in his school by making the resources needed for teaching and learning available.

Modern Library Environment: Implication for Librarians and users Librarians.

With the drive for more user control over system design and application, librarians must also develop a clear sense of themselves. In view of changing information media and technology, what is our role in information or computer literacy, what exactly, are our instructional obligations and mandate in the information age.

Consultant to client

When we picture exactly how a library patron or a remote information user, might need to use information technology to find answers, our role with the information seeker becomes more like a consultant to a client than a librarian to a patron. The information seeker needs guidance, he/she needs help formulating her questions and search strategy and to a lesser extent, she needs help with individual system protocol.

Information Agent

The second model for the new role of the librarian is that of an information agent, an agent that guides the user through complex information gathering and decision making. The new librarian will have to become an agent who helps increasingly sophisticated knowledge worker accomplish more complex tasks" (Murr and Williams, 1987). In other words the librarians will "carry" information from the information provider or database vendor to the user, explaining to the user, how the information is constructed and how it could be used.

Advocate for users to Database vendors and software designers

Another important function that the modern librarian can play in the face of rapidly emerging new technology is as an advocate for user's need to database vendors and software designers. Because of our training and experience in information management and retrieval, librarians are poised to be instrumental in the development of new information and instruction

technology, we can now assess our readers' needs and advocate for them in the market place, we can also work with database produces and vendors to create better product the address users' need.

Educators and guide

Perhaps the most important role for the new librarians remains, however, as teachers, educators and guide. In the face of emerging new interactive multi-media technologies, our focus is still t show and educate, to teach and encourage. It is important to remember that while information technology may demand new instructional approaches and a re-examination of our instruction goals, we are still concerned with instructing people on how to find answers to questions.

Implication to library user

As an in-house patron to remote information user, the nature of the library user is transforming from an in-house user looking for answers in printed source to a remote information user looking for answers in a variety of computerized sources offered directly to him/her by a wide range of information providers including libraries. This is correct when one considers the emergency of virtual libraries which involves a simulated situation controlled electronically.

With the new technologies in modern libraries library users can now learn at their own pace. Websites can be dedicated for the learning of a particular course or courses. The students are advised to browse this site

for their study. This is used mostly by students where involved in distance learning programmes.

Equipping the librarians for the tasks

For the librarian to be properly equipped, there are important items of new technologies on which the libraries and information professionals need to seriously think about improving their competencies for their effective utilization to deliver need based high quality information services to the user community. According to Ramang (2006), there new technologies include:

- a. ICT trends
- b. Web technology
- c. Search technology including search engines
- d. Digital information resources
- e. E-learning (on line learning)
- f. On line information services et cp 172

To reposition the librarian and the information professional, to meet the challenges of working in a web driven information system environment of modern libraries, Omekwu cited in Omekwu, (2002), suggested a nine-point agenda for library and information professionals who will set the pace in the knowledge age. They include:-

1. Computer and internet literacy skills acquisition
2. Expansion in information sources
3. Web strategy knowledge
4. Improved service

5. System use
6. System Administration
7. System Maintenance
8. System Networking
9. System development.

CONCLUSION

The need for libraries in Nigeria to modernized has become more imperative now. With the vast out put of new information and over-increasing degree of specialization in all area of human knowledge, heavy demands are being made on library information storage and retrieval system, these demands can scarcely be met by the traditional methods Adesanye (2002).

Technologies have provided immense opportunities in almost all aspects of library operation. With on line acquisition process, on line library catalogues which facilitation cataloging process for bibliographic benefect etc. modern libraries have benefits that and library that fails to exploit would become increasingly irrelevant.

However to maximize the potentials of this in-tech information system, the libraries and library use is must be trained and retrained to equip them with the necessary skills for achieving the main objectives of the library.

MODERN LIBRARY

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