Impediment to Acquisition of Library Resources in Academic Library in Developing Nations: Issues and Prospects

Ezeh, Rose Uloma

Nigerian institute of Advanced Legal Studies,
University of Lagos, Akoka Campus.
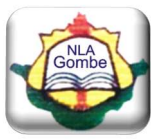(E-mail: ezehrose@yahoo.com)

Abstract
Acquisition of materials is an act which requires a basic knowledge of broad subject areas, familiarity with standard bibliographies, reviews the present development of the collection and have an understanding of the needs of the academic community. Hence, the paper examines the constraints that affect acquisition of library resources in academic library in development countries. The paper defines acquisitions and highlights its importance to information service delivery. It examines various topical issues as they relate to library acquisitions, these include funding/financial allocation, acquisition policy, economic dislocation and procedure for acquisition of resources, which include direct purchase, gift/donation, exchange/inter-institutional cooperation, bequeath, consortia, legal deposit and outsourcing. Due process and its roles in procurement are also highlighted. Also various challenges affecting acquisition of material was also discussed. The study concluded that financial increase is required to move acquisitions of resources forward. The study also recommended that university, national university commission, ministry of educations both state and federal must come together to find a lasting solutions to acquisition of resources.

Keywords: Library Resources, Acquisition, Academic Library, Impediment, Economic *Recession, Developing Nation.*
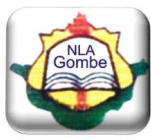
Introduction
Acquisition of information resources otherwise known as Collection Development is a core activity of libraries the world over. In the academic library, the acquisition section performs the variety of function and it is the chief link to the other section of the library. The acquisition section of the academic library is one of the vital sections which deal with the collection development in a significant away that controls all the activities of the library. It is referred to as the heart bite of every library be it E- Library or the traditional library. The notion that innovation in information technology (e-library) in information palace will affect traditional methods of acquisitions has not come to play. Libraries still acquire and maintain massive book collections while managing other information formats (Adesanya & Agyen, 2015). Despite prophecies of vanishing print collections and the emergence of the digital format, printed resources (books, etc) still have a central role in library acquisition (Carr, 2011). The term acquisition is commonly used to denote several processes of acquisition that focus on the techniques of acquiring library materials. Acquisition of library materials operates within the constraints of certain conditions that vary from one place. The present economic dislocation that is ravaging the entire world is also affecting the academic libraries in developing countries, According to Plockey, Appiah and Ofori (2018) the key challenges affecting the acquisitions of materials in academic libraries include: inadequate funding, economic dislocations, dearth of current books, due process, lack of current acquisition tools. Agyen-Gyasi et al. (2010) further indicate that academic libraries in Ghana face several challenges including increasing costs of materials and limited budget (that reduces the amount of materials to be acquired). Ameen (2014) stated that, his experience as university librarian, as faculty member, and a review of literature establishes that university libraries in Pakistan face serious problems in the

acquisition of books and journals due to budget cuts. Adesanya and Agyen (2015) lamented that, academic libraries in Nigeria face many challenges which include budgets cut, due process and the problem of knowing which format to select owing to the rising costs of library materials.

 Nampombe Mnkeni-Saurombe (2010) discussing the challenges facing the following University libraries in South Africa thus, Northern Cape , North West, Free State and KwaZulu-Natal academic libraries pointed out that the quantities of library resources purchased were reduced due to price hikes and fluctuating exchange rates for foreign currency. In addition, availability of library resources was further affected as a result of a number of publishers and agencies being forced out of business by economic recession. As libraries rely on suppliers and vice versa, the downfall of one is likely to affect the others. The truth is that the battle for unavailability of resources which has just begun in academic palace as a result of economic recession has adverse effect on acquisitions due to budget cut. Guarria and Wang (2011) examined the recent recessions impact on United State of American (USA) academic libraries, opined that majority of the libraries have experienced flat or reduced budgets and many expect additional budget cuts in the immediate future due to economic recession. While library budgets are decreasing in tough economic times, services are increasing due to the rise in enrolment numbers in third level education as people seek retraining through education. Academic libraries face greater external uncertainty within a complex and constantly shifting environment, at a time when successful operation will become even more challenging. In line to the above, Dada (2010) posit that persisting economic problems in Nigeria have adversely affected quasi-governmental bodies including educational and other social institutions. The universities and research institutes in Nigeria have born the heavy brunt of economic dislocations and libraries' collections have been hard hit by unending scarcity of funding that affects books and other related materials. Olayemi (2017) posit that economic recession is more than just a word, it is real and calamitous when it affects a nation that is mono-economy dependent like Nigeria. Such a nation according to him is prone and vulnerable to sudden economic crisis that can collapse existing fiscal stable structures. There is no doubt, that all sectors of the Nigerian economy faced the veracity of the recent recession, although much attention was given to consumable goods as worst hit by the recession. It is equally imperative to pay attention to other areas that are being affected by this problem; hence tertiary institutions (libraries) are not exempted. As the budget of universities and research institution were reduced significantly, there was tremendous cut in the library funding, which has impacted negatively on acquisitions of library resources (Aboyade, Ajayi and Madu ,2017).
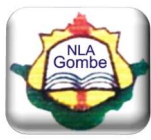
Charles, Guarria and Zhonghong (2011) in their research of New Library World titled "The economic crisis and its effect on libraries" stated that majority of libraries have experienced flat or reduced budgets and many expect additional budget cuts in the immediate future. Key areas affected include, according to them, collections development, professional development, supplies/equipment and foreign publication. They concluded that unstable and sudden rise of exchange rate has seriously affected the cost of importation of materials for book production, causing a surge in the price of books and reading materials. In line with the above, Lance, Hofcohire and Daisey (2011) lamented the decrease in revenue experienced by Colorado academic libraries, between 2007 and 2009, 25 of the state's 114 public libraries (22%) experienced reductions in total revenue and another 19 (17%) saw no or negligible (i.e., less than 5%) revenue increases. That means that 44 public libraries in Colorado-39 percent, or two out of five are in some degree of financial distress as a result of economic dislocation. So in 1933, Carl Milam, secretary of the American Library Association, along with Ora Wildermuth, an attorney in Indiana, and H.L. Woolhiser, a city manager in Illinois, held a radio broadcast

called "How to Reduce the Library Budget." The transcript is (available from the *National Municipal Review*, 1933, vol. 22, no. 8) unpacks a revealing conversation about the pressures on libraries during the Great Depression and the corresponding aims of the American Library Association. The result of that broadcast of 1933 is not different from what libraries are experiencing in this digital age especially in the developing nations. Acquisition of resources is probably the most challenging as well as frustrating aspect of African university librarianship. In a brilliant summary, Riddick (1993) noted that "without money and with little hope the practice of collection development presently means trying to do more with less". Although the submission of Riddick of 1993 is old but still relevance in present day economic recessions. Also commenting on the challenges of acquisition in a Third World University Library, Lundu and Lungu (2014) posit that the initial problem affecting acquisition of scientific literature in Zambia is lack of fund due to economic meltdown. This also imparted on collection development policies which could not be implemented. Libraries are most often the target while swimming in the dilemma of having to manage the little budget made available by their parent organizations. In trying to survive, the libraries are forced to cut down cost by reducing the number of resources acquired, activities embarked upon, these actions however, largely mitigate the full realization of the libraries set objectives.

The aim, purpose, and objectives behind the establishment of libraries are to satisfy the desires of its patrons by providing informative materials through acquisition, organization and storage/preservation of those materials. Horava (2010) stated that acquisition can be described as the ways of building up and improving upon a library's information resources. Lamb (2014) maintained that the major benefit of good library collection is that it helps the libraries to review the strength and the weakness of its collection. Jegede (2009) states that acquisition of library materials is an important aspect of library organization in that it is one of the means by which materials needed by the library for services to patrons are brought into the systems. So acquisition ensures the provision of such essential materials that will assist the librarians in information service deliveries. Acquisition is generally defined as "the process of obtaining books and other documents for a library, documentation centre or archive" (Prytherch, 2011). Oliver (2012) defined acquisition as the process of obtaining books and other resources for the library. However, the concept is increasingly becoming a very complex process as a result of the massive proliferation of printed and non-printed materials and it would also be valuable to note that "acquisition is one of the most important functions of any library system" (Ali, 2011). Harding (2014) nothing the improper methods applied in resources acquisition lamented thus: "it is paradox to note that the initial problem relating to acquisition of library materials is the lack of clearly stated collection development policies which are recommended for university libraries the world over". The non compliance to the policy has adversely impaired on the nature of materials brought and housed in library.

Harava (2010) added that while these core activities of acquisition remain integral to librarianship, their scope has been altered significantly due to other factors such as shrinking of acquisition budget, evolution and proliferation of IT, changes in publishing trends, information explosions, financial constraint, economic dislocations and lack of selection tools etc. Anunobi (2012) lamenting the issues of serials acquisition confirmed that the challenge is hinged on continual financial commitment. She concludes that once subscription is opened for a title, the library continues it thereby investing heavily on the titles. As a result, librarians find it difficult to maintain subscription to all the journals that their scholars want to have access to. Lawal (2012) identified other factors generally affecting acquisition from the Nigerian book market include: lack of bibliographic control, lack of promotional activities for published titles, insufficient distribution outlets and difficult payment terms on the part of publishers and book
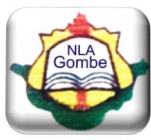
vendors. Edem and Okwilagwe (2012) discussing the issues with reference to libraries in Nigeria, stressed that in recent times, serious concern are being expressed about the acute shortage of essential textbooks in University libraries. They opined that with the present gross under-funding, most libraries do not seem capable of meeting the approved minimum standards with respect to physical and library facilities. They concluded by stating that because of scourge of inadequate funding for library, acquisitions of resources continues to pose serious challenges to information disseminations. Thus, journals, current/ basic textbooks, IT facilities and other reading materials are inadequate and outdated. In reality, most libraries especially those in tertiary institutions do not seem capable of meeting the approved minimum standards set up by NUC with respect to physical and library facilities. The aforementioned impediments informed this paper. Also it will not be out of context to state here that underfunding of libraries and poor financial allocation to universities has contributed to libraries and librarians in-ability to acquire proper and relevant resources such as current textbooks, journals, IT facilities etc for patrons' use.

Acquisitions of materials are essential if library is to exist and continue to meet the needs of its users. Ifidon (2012) observed that the intake of overseas publications, at one time, estimated to be around 90 per cent of a Nigerian library's purchases, has shrunk to almost nothing at all. He concluded that with the country's present stage of economy, the gap cannot easily be filled by Nigerian publishers who are still comparatively few and do not adequately cover all the subjects taught in institutions of higher learning. In times like these when economic dislocation has become a world-wide 'plague', cost-saving has become the watch-word of many library administrators. Librarians in Nigeria, according to Dada (2010) are still hoping and looking towards a time when universities would be able to follow the policy that was set by NUC and allocate not less than five percent of their budget to the procurement of books which will improve library resources and aids acquisitions policy.

Acquisition Policy in Library

Oxford English and Spanish Dictionary (2020) define policy as a plans, strategy, proposed action, blueprint, scheme, programme, schedule, code, system, guidelines, etc**.** This emphasizes that an organization be it public or privet that wishes to move with standard should have a written policy statement. In order to achieve a balanced collection on information resources in all areas of the library's specialization, a written collection development policy is designed to guide the selection of materials (Haider ,2011**).** He concluded thus: "no-one can minimise the importance of a policy of the selection and management of books, periodicals, pamphlets, and maps government publications, reports and non-books materials" for the University of Sierra Leone (Haider, 2011, p. 89). If the library is to fulfill its educational objectives, (teaching, research and self-development) and build a good collection, materials selected and acquired must be properly managed. Such a policy, whether written or unwritten, is necessary, since in the absence of such a document incorporating principles for the selection and retention of materials, consistency in book purchases cannot be maintained for long. Library policy is a set of rules and regulations that are followed when library wish to acquire new materials into the library. To successfully implement these policies a library committee is often in place to interpret the policy and act accordingly. The policy usually put into consideration some or all of the factors enumerated bellow:-

- The purpose of the library.
- The needs of the user community.
- The number of copies per title of a material to be acquired.

- The form in which a material is presented to be considered for its purchase e.g. hard or soft cover.
- The cost of the individual material item to be acquired.
- The durability of the material.
- If the material has an alternative.
- The present collection of the library in given areas.
- The vendor or supplier.
- The edition/year of publication.
- More importantly, the financial position of the library (Lundu and Lungu, 2014).

It is imperative to note that noncompliance to the above will affect the quality of materials brought into the library. Commenting on the problems of acquisition policy in Zambia University Library, Lundu and Lungu (2014, p.16) argued that "the initial problem relating to the acquisition of scientific literature in Zambia is the lack of clearly stated collection development policies", while stressing on the importance of acquisition policy in acquiring library resources.
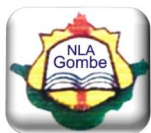
Linking library policy to library development, Taib (2011) opined that the general policies of the library include:

➢ To acquire suitable materials for teaching, learning and research,
➢ To build up a collection in preparation for the introduction of new courses
➢ To update the collection with new editions and new titles in specific areas of study,
➢ To acquire materials of archival interest to the institution and
➢ To acquire materials for leisure reading.

He maintained that an acquisition policy is probably the most challenging as well as frustrating aspect of librarianship due to inconsistency in its application especially during economic short fall.

Processes of Acquiring Library Resources
Acquisition and collection development complement each other. It is paradox to note that the initial challenges relating to acquisition of library materials is the lack of clearly stated collection development policies which are recommended for libraries. Selection of material which involves weeding of less important items, storage off-site, and preservation in various formats are best understood in the context of acquisition policy implementations and changing information landscape. This includes firstly, transformation in scholarly communications practices, secondly, the broad impact of information technologies and communication devices on the use of the collection and thirdly, new forms of information-seeking behavior and learning styles, and the explosion of online resources for obtaining, using, and sharing knowledge and research. Taken together, these changes and impediment present a challenge to our time-honored concepts of acquisitions practices. Acquisition involves obtaining books and other materials for a library, documentation centre or archive. Collection development, on the other hand, refers to the process of planning a stock acquisition program to build a relevant collection to meet the objectives of information services deliveries (Ali,2011). Scott-Emmakpor (2011) relates acquisition methods to the various ways by which a Library build up its collection. It is concerned with due process that is involved in selection and acquisition of materials for an expanding collection and the decisions on the materials to be included in that collection. Basically, these are methods by which libraries can acquire materials:

❖ Purchase
❖ Gift/Donation
❖ Exchange/Inter-Institutional Cooperation
❖ Bequeath
❖ Legal Deposit and
❖ Consortia

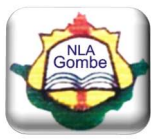## Issue of Due Process in Acquisitions of Library Resources

Due Process could be conceptualized simply as a "Mechanism for ensuring strict compliance with the openness, competition and cost accuracy rules and procedures that should guide contract award within the Federal Government of Nigeria" (BMPIU, 2005). It has become the popularly adopted short form for the Budget Monitoring and Price Intelligence Unit (BMPIU), which is the unit tasked with implementing the program. The BMPIU was established by President Olusegun Obasanjo in 2001 in fulfillment of his tenacious commitment to ensuring transparency and accountability in the management of our public resources. In 2007 Public Procurement Act was made with the view to bring to openness to transactions of the government as it requires honesty, fairness and accountability. Section 14 of the 2009 Public Procurement Act states viz: "To establish the national council on public procurement and the bureau of public procurement as the regulatory authorities responsible for the monitoring and oversight of public procurement, harmonizing the existing government practices by regulating, setting standards and developing the legal framework and professional capacity for public procurement in Nigeria and for related matters." Due process policies are those prescribed procedures expected to be adhered to in transactions especially in matters effecting federal, state and LGA and public in general. Nimfa (n.d.) started that the mission of The Budget Monitoring and Price Intelligence Unit (BMPIU) is "To use Due Process Mechanism to establish Transparent, Competitive and Fair Procurement System which is integrity driven, encourages spending within budget and ensures speedy delivery of projects, while achieving value for money without sacrificing quality and standards for the Federal government of Nigeria."(Chika, 2012, p.18)'

Challenges of Acquisition of Resources

There are several factors that limit acquisition of library resources which include: inadequate funding, lack of required materials locally, government over protection of its documents, poor resource allocation and utilization as well as lack of clearly defined acquisition policy. These challenges lie in how to balance libraries' finite resources of money, time, and energy against these several directions of collection focus. No single approach will suffice because each will be important for addressing the library community's diverse information needs and educational goals. Viewed together, they challenge the traditional collection-building assumptions of permanence to information

❖ **Inadequate Financial Allocation**

In discussing the pitiable state of libraries in developing nations, Obiagwu (2010) asserted that West African libraries are facing unending currency problems and the attendant gross inadequacy of learning materials. He noted that Nigeria economic depressions, inadequate remunerations by government to tertiary institutions and unavailability of foreign exchange for the acquisition of library materials in Nigeria are not a recent phenomenon. The situation is more critical now than ever as a result of the inadequacy of book votes for the purchase of locally available materials that is caused by poor economy. Ola-Roberts (2013) reviewed the effects of the devaluation of currency in West Africa libraries and noted that the considerable drop in the value of the Sierra Leonean currency is adversely imparting on acquisition of

libraries resources. It should be noted that the economic problem which underlies library acquisitions in Sierra Leone prevails in other countries in West Africa though at varying degrees of intensity. Massive depreciation of local currency, coupled with the increasing cost of periodicals and the dwindling revenues in the book fund, leave the university library in a helpless and hopeless state as far as acquisition of materials is concerned.

Nwafor (2010) used the Nigerian experience to illustrate the devastating effects of the economies of third world Countries on their educational systems and university libraries. According to him University education is being rendered meaningless as a result of irrelevant text books and the astronomically high cost of the few available ones. Universities still get the same vote they used to get years back. This situation must not continue in the 21st century information age, referred to, as age of information overflow. Although most of the illustrations were made from the Nigerian experience, it is far from surprising that the pinch is felt all over West Africa. Inflationary pressures, the reduced book vote and the astronomically devalued local currency all conspire to frustrate the aims of the academic library. This is because the parent institution is under-funded by the appropriate authority. Secondly, the stipulated percentage of the recurrent annual budget which academic library is entitled to is not adhered to. In summary, academic libraries have always suffered cut-backs in book votes which had adverse effect on acquisition process and its policy.
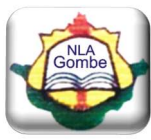
❖ **Shrinking Acquisitions Resources**
Many academic libraries in developing countries have experienced shrinkage in acquisitions resources in recent years as stated in this paper above. The fact is that for some decades, the price of books, journals etc continuations (and the related cost of supplementation) has risen, and always at a rate higher than the overall inflation rate in the world economy as stated by (IFLA, 2011). The impact of shrinking acquisition resources budget on academic libraries in developing nations has been an erosion of purchasing power for acquisitions of resources. Anunobi (2012) referring to academic libraries in Nigeria stated that while price inflation has continued unabated, library operational and acquisitions funds have become scarce due to budget cuts. These adversely affects library. The situation compels libraries to respond to increase in supplementation costs by evaluating what materials are particularly necessary to keep up to date and by discontinuing those titles that are not in high demand**.**

❖ **Changes in Publishing Information Resources.**
 Publishing companies of today reflect the results of a decade of consolidations, mergers, and acquisitions. These business restructurings have brought several profound changes in the publishing industry, changes that, in turn, affect the library services and its community.

 Banou (2017) in his wisdom maintained that information technologies have transformed the publishing industry through not only innovative tools but also through the systemization and standardization of both new and older practices in publishing. Yun (2019, p. 22). commenting on the value of "Digital Publishing "said that in order to understand the development and value of digital publishing industry, we need to consider at least the following factors thus: the content, functionality and the production cost, digital distribution, devices, and the customers. Scholarly journal publishing, with favorable conditions in relation to these factors, was the first sector that underwent digital transformation in China's publishing industry. Scholarly journals are crucial for scientific and technological research, and the additional functionality provided by digital publishing is particularly suitable for journal publishing.
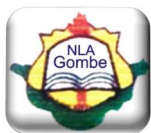
❖ **Outsourcing**

Jack-Montgomery (n.d.). discussed outsourcing as another challenge facing acquisitions librarians. Outsourcing simply means contracting out a portion of a library's operation to a commercial entity to realize a cost savings or other benefit that won't occur if the operation is performed in-house.

Gifts/Donations

Gifts/donations were mentioned earlier in the context of this paper but a few more issues regarding gifts/donations should be noted. Gifts and donations represent an important component of the collection-building activities of libraries Cassell et al (2015). According to Johnson (2013), most supports for academic libraries" in America collections come from gifts of books or donations in the United States. Donations are "two sharp edges", even though they have contributed in the development of libraries; they have also resulted in a "cast off collections" in some libraries. However, libraries welcome gratis materials from individuals, government, and private organizations and departments to enhance the collection. In the same vein, any materials which are not relevant to the subject profiles or found to be below the accepted minimum academic level will not be added to the collection. Also, library regards mutually beneficial exchange agreements as an appropriate method of acquiring important materials which fall within the context of its subject profiles. First, what is acceptable gifts/donations? A library probably should not accept gifts/donations when almost certainly 90 percent of a particular gift would duplicate present holdings. The acceptance of gifts/donations should be linked to a clear understanding of the role of the donated materials within the library's stated mission and collection development policy. Gifts/donations can be either books or cash specifically meant to be spent on Library books. The initial book collection with which the University of Ibadan started off comprised several donations. Collection building by gifts/donations has its own limitations against which the astute librarian should guard. The first is the possibility of 'dead woods 'especially in Science and Technology. Therefore, careful selection has to be made of only relevant titles while irrelevant ones and or the outdated editions are discarded or rejected, and at other times suggestions will be made for such donations to be sent to other institutions that may find then useful. Today however, information and communication technology has made it easy to send compiled list of titles via e-mail etc to donor philanthropist and organizations that wish to donate materials to the library or make physical cash available for the acquisition of library materials. Detailed profile and information material needs of the library are to be sent to donor in addition to the above while letters of acknowledgement and appreciation will be necessary as a sine qua non after receiving the donation via listserv.

❖ **Due Process**

Ocheni and Nwankwo (2012) opined that Due Process Compliance (DPC) instrument, is an instrument designed to enforce compliance with due process in budgeting, procurement and expenditure by all federal spending units and, by extension, universities (Libraries). Iwundu (2011) in his contribution maintained that to achieve the above objectives for ministries, parastatal etc in Nigeria, and to ensure that judicious use of the funds provided for the services of these governmental establishment are observed, funds are disbursed to them monthly to help actualize their goal in their institutions . And to ensure that the funds disbursed to such institutions are properly managed, the federal government employed a "Due Process" policy, which is a mechanism for strict compliance with the openness, competition and cost accuracy, rules and procedures that should guide spending of public funds and contracts award within the Federal Government of Nigerian (FRN,2009). In the past before the introduction of due process, Federal ministries, State Government and other governmental parastatal including
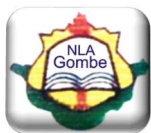
universities managers used to enter into financial expenditure, award contracts, procure materials and commit much of the government's funds without reference to any rule or committee consultations. This according to Nweke (2018). "led to misappropriation of huge sums of money in many institutions both private and public including the universities". Library has been victims of this kind of misappropriation through the executive directions by the parent bodies on fund remitted for library acquisitions. The process in which the fund is utilized is actually given some serious concerns as the parent body use the funds to settle other issues leaving the libraries unable to live up to its mandate of information services deliveries. The due process constrains stands against inhuman treatment, intoxication and abuse of powers, out-laws and excesses. Transparency is the central characteristic of a sound and efficient public procurement system. On this, Afemikhe (2016) believes is achieved by well defined regulations and procedures open to public scrutiny; Clear and standardized tender documents; bidding and tender documents containing complete information, equal opportunity for all in the bidding process guaranteed by open competitive tendering (OCT). The due process therefore, is the application of bureaucratic rules and regulations to the management of economic resource to a given institution. Bureaucracy means "a system of official rules and ways of doing things that a government or an organization has, especially, when these seem to be too complicated."

The Way Forward
Despite prophecies of vanishing print collections and emergence of the digital paradigm, printed books still have a central role in library collections and published industry (Kanwal 2005; Carr 2007)**.** Traditional approaches to budget allocation, collection development policies, acquisition workflow, and preservation honed over several decades will need to be realigned in relation to these intertwined collections strategies.

➢ **Resource sharing**
Walden (2013) defines resource sharing as "a term used to describe organized attempt by libraries to share materials and services cooperatively so as to provide one another with resources that might otherwise not be available to an individual institution. It represents an attempt to expand the availability of specialized, expensive, or just plain not-owned resources beyond the bounds of a single institution". Also, the Provincial Resource Sharing Network Policy for Alberta Public Library Boards (2009) defined resource sharing as "the common use by two or more libraries of each other's assets, whether they are equipment, staff, knowledge and expertise, materials facilities, and/or information resources". There are needs for resource sharing which include explosion in published output, increase in bibliographic access of literature through internet and off-line databases on CDs, and in many cases decreasing library budgets along with high cost of published output had made it virtually impossible for libraries and documentation/information centers to fulfill information needs of their primary clientele. Under such squeezing situation the best option left with the libraries is to optimize their resources through extensive sharing (Tanvire, 2014). Ali, Owoeye and Anasi (2016). augured that traditional concept of ownership in collection development is gradually being replaced by access to information and knowledge without regard to location and format. Resource sharing among libraries has become the common desire and practice. Increase in the volume of library materials and information, the increasing costs of acquiring and processing them, the need for trained personnel, storage space, and the increasing demands by users are motivating factors for libraries to share books, journals, preprints, catalogues, list of publications, recent additions, newsletters, policy decisions, current events, news flash, etc. Rath and Rath (2014). said that resource sharing is a sort of implied agreement among participating libraries, wherein each participating library is willing to spare its resources to other members and in turns privileged to share the resources of its partners as and when the need arises. The objectives of

resource sharing can be achieved through networking of libraries and information centers using interactive computer systems and telecommunication facility for the explicit purpose of resource sharing. Presently, this has become possible through (DELNET) Developing Library Network, useful links and availability of library database in Web-OPAC and Union OPAC.

➢ **Information and Communication Technology:**

Today, emerging technologies offer libraries new and efficient methods for performing traditional collection development task. In fact, electronic publishing is fast changing the role of librarians in building and acquiring library resources as well as providing access to such resources. The Internet, the World Wide Web have expanded and made available resources that were unimagined in earlier years to be accessible in these present days without any problem. Computers have had a great impact on acquisition processes in libraries of developed countries of Europe and America. Books-in-print are now available not only on microfiche but also online. Similarly, many Publishers' Catalogues and Bibliographies can be accessed through online i.e. through the use of CD-ROM and internet. Despite the gradual adoption of information and communication technologies, academic libraries in developing countries still find it hard to acquire current books through vendors or direct purchase, which makes it difficult to meet clients' needs quickly, efficiently, and economically.
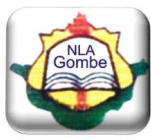
➢ **Selection of Resources**

Traditional Sources used for the selection of print and non-print resources are now available in electronic formats. For example the Library Journal Digital is an online edition of Library Journal. It highlights acquisition methods for librarians while book reviews cover all formats-books, audio, video, CD ROM, web and magazine.

➢ **Library co-operation with vendors:**

Rath and Rath (2014, p. 5) discussing library co-operation with vendors stated thus**:"** The vendors include the registered members of (FPBAI) Federation of Publishers, Booksellers Association of India. According to them, the associations set certain rules and regulations and abide by the framed rules for the benefit library and the entire public. This creates a healthy atmosphere for distribution of library materials. The librarians require the vendor's registration number, copy of the PAN card, latest income tax clearance certificate and sales tax/VAT registration certificate to validate the authenticity of the vendor status. Usually the libraries and vendors follow all the rules of (GOC) Good Offices Committee except conversion rate for foreign currencies. It is an established fact that vendors have played significant roles in acquisitions of resources. So the argument that acquisition and ultimately collection development efforts can be enriched by co-operation with vendors as libraries often lack either the time or automated systems to effectively and efficiently carry out collection development activities is as old as library profession. The wide range of selection services can be of tremendous advantage to the academic librarians but they must be informed customers who not only investigate options but actively participate in designing and using the services.

➢ **Exchange/Inter institutional Cooperation**

With the application of information and communication Technology materials in cooperating library can be exchanged using online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) and myriad of other information resources available through network connections. This indicates that the participating academic libraries must have their materials on the internet which can be viewed and shared by other libraries. Exchange of academic library materials can also be done perfectly through teleconferencing. Teleconferencing involves an Internet Service whereby different techniques such as Zoom, Go To Meeting and Go To Webinar are used to allow people to

discuss topics of mutual interest without being physically present in the same location (as a conventional meeting).

Recommendation

There is no denying the fact that acquisition of resources in libraries in this present dispensation is experiencing a lot of problems. This has in turn affected the services render to the institutions community and beyond. This is as frustrating to the libraries as it is to the library patrons.
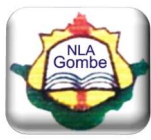
- As the acquisition of resources in academic libraries in developing nations are seriously affected by economic dislocation. The paper advised that the parent body (University) should come to the rescue of library through the budget increase.

- As the outcome of economic recession persist, libraries need to look beyond budget cut and explore other alternatives as mentioned in this work for it to still be relevance.This can be done through cooperate acquisition, institutional repositories, consortia, library co-operation with vendors, inter-library loans etc.

- Gifts/donations can be either books or cash specifically meant to be spent on Library resources. Building collections through gifts/donations has its own limitations against which the astute Librarian should guard. The first is the possibility of 'dead woods, careful selection has to be made of only relevant titles while irrelevant ones and or the outdated editions are discarded or rejected.

- Government in developing countries must realize the importance of academic library in educational institutions and come up with measures to alleviate trends of poor budget allocations to universities.

- Also, there is need for the institutional body, National University Commissions (NUC), Ministry of Education both State and Federal to come up with a strong solution that will end financial challenges in the universities, so that university can take care of there libraries.

- Also the idea of unwritten acquisition policy should be discarded because it is not standard and unprofessional.
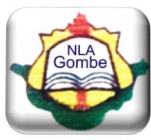
Conclusion

Budget cuts among other constraint has caused a serious decline in the overall of collection development in academic libraries in developing countries. Books and other library facilities price have skyrocketed above the reach of library. Because the budget of host institution (university) has reduced significantly, there is tremendous cut in the library budget; hence acquisitions of library resources are reduced. There is need for the government to adequately fund universities in order for them to increase the funding of their library to acquire relevant and current materials. Government should also assist university libraries in the acquisition of resources by either organizing for pulling of acquisition, providing adequate resources or making available low exchange rate for such acquisition. Also time has come for the librarians, university authorities, national university commissions, ministry of educations and the friends of the library to come together to find a permanent solution that will move library forward and bring a new hope. Also, acquisition of resources can be enriched through those concepts mentioned in the way forwards.
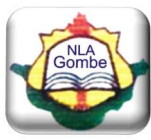
Reference

Aboyemi, M. A., Ajayi, S. A. & Madu, U. W. (2017) "Redeeming the Nigerian Economy from Recession: Librarians as Rescue Partners". Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal). 1594. Available at h8p://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/1594
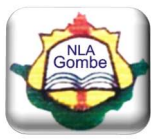
Adesanya, O.O. & Agyen-Gyasi, (2015). Acquisition in Academic Libraries : A case study of Michael Otedola College of Primary Education, Noforija Epe Lagos State. International Journal of Library and Information Science. Avialable at http://wwwacademicjournals.org/IJLIS

Afemikhe, S. (2016). The Due Process Mechanism and the Management of Public Resources – Private Sector Perspective". A Paper Delivered at The National Training Workshop on Economic Reforms and The Management of Public Resources from August 29 – September 1, 2015.

Agyen-Gyasi, et al (2019) Information Acquisition Mechanism of Universities Libraries: An Empirical Study of Public Universities Libraries in Ghana. *International Journal of Library and Information Science* 11(1): 1-6. Available at DOI 10.5897/IJLIS2018.0860

Ali, H., Owoeye, J.E. & Anasi, S.N.I. (2010) Resource Sharing among Law Libraries: An Imperative for Legal Research and the Administration of Justice in Nigeria Library Philosophy and Practice 2010. Available at http./unlib.edu/LPP/ipp2010htm

Ali, S.N. (2011). "Acquisition of Scientific Literature in Developing Countries: Arab-Gulf Countries". Information Development. 5(2).

Ameen, K. & Carr, (2018)"Issues of Book Acquisition in University Libraries: A Case Study of Pakistan". Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal). Available at https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/198

Anunobi, C. V. (2012). Serials Acquisition Problems in Nigerian Federal University Libraries International Journal of Library and Information Science Vol. 2(7). Available at http://www.academicjournals.org/ijlis

Asante, E. (2014)"The Effects of Budgetary Constraints on the Operation of Academic Libraries in Ghana" (2014). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 1138.Available at http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/1138

Banou, C. (2017) Re-Discussing the Publishing Chain as Information Value Chain-Circle *in Re-Inventing the Book, 2017*

BMPIU (2005) A Manual on Public Procurement Reform Programme in Nigeria, State House, Abuja, Nigeria, 2005.

Carr, R. (2011). The Academic Research Library in a Decade of Change. Oxford: Chandos Publishing.

Cassell, K. (2015) A World of Difference: The Peace Corps Story. *American Libraries, 30*(7).

Chika, O. (2012). Due Process and Procurement in the Nigerian Public Sector.

Charles I. Guarria & Zhonghong Wang (2011). "The Economic Crisis and Its Effect on Libraries", New Library World, Vol. 112 No. 5/6, pp. 199-214 Available at :https://doi.org/10.1108/03074801111136248

Claessens, S. & Kose, A. (2009). What is a Recession? Finance & Development, 46(1), 52-53.

Dada, T.O. (2010). Organizing Law Libraries: Policy Management and Funding for Maximum Effect. Legal Education for Twenty-First Century Nigeria.

Dedzoe-Dzokotoe , F. P., Appiah, D.K., & Ofori, R. A., (2019). Information acquisition mechanism of universities libraries: An empirical study of public university libraries in Ghana *International Journal of Library and Information Science.* Vol. 11(1), pp. 1-6, January 2019 Available at http://www.academicjournals.org/IJLIS

Edem, M. B. & Okwilagwe, A. O. (2012). Acquisition and Use of Locally Published Law Textbooks as Correlates of Textbook Publishing in Nigeria Library Philosophy and Practice 2012. Available at   http://unllib.unl.edu/LPP/

FGN, (2009). Due Process Handbook and Public Procurement Act 2009. Abuja: Government Press .

Gorman, M. (n.d.) ."Collection Development in Interesting Times: A Summary,"," Library Collections, Acquisitions, & Technical Services. 27, no. 4.

Guarria, C. I. & Wang, Z. (2011). The Economic Crisis and Its Effect on Libraries. *New Library World*, 112 (5/6), pp. 199-214. Available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/03074801111136248.

Haider, S.J. (2011). "Acquisition and Scientific Literature in Developing Countries: Pakistan". Information Development. 5(2).

Harding, O. L. T. (2014). Acquisition and Collection Development in University Libraries. available   at http://www.thefreelibrary.com/oliver+Louis+theophilus+harding/contributed-217468.

Hite, M. T. (2016) Traditional Book Donation to Sub-Saharan Africa: An Inquiry into Policy, Practice and Appropriate Information Provision. A Masters Paper for the M.S. in L.S. Degree. 46 pages. Advisor: David Carr

Horava, T. (2010). Challenges and Possibilities for Collection Management in a Digital Age. Available at thorava@uottawa.ca

Ifidon, B.I. (2012). "The Book Scarcity in Nigeria: Causes and Solutions". African Journal of Library Archive and Information Science, 4.

IFLA. (2011). Key Issues for e-Resources Collection Development: A Guide for Libraries. Available at   http://www.ifla.org/files/acquisiton-collection development/publications/ key%20Issues%20for%

Iwundu, I. E. (2012). Due Process and Executive Decisions in Local   Government System in Nigeria. Ikenga International Journal of Institute of African Studies UNN vol. 14, nos 1&2 sept. 2012

Jack–Montgomery, G. ((2009). Dealing with Generosity: Some Thoughts on Gift Management, Against the Grain.

Jegede, O.R. (2010). Principles and Practice of Library Studies: A text for Students in Tertiary Institutions in Lagos: Nudex Int. Company International Journal of Library and Information Science Vol. 2(7) October 2010. Available online http://www.academicjournals.org/ijlis

Johnson, P. (2013). Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management, 2nd ed. American Library Association

Lamb, N. O. (2014). The Complete Guide to Acquisition Management. Westport C T: Libraries Unlimited.

Lundu, M.C. and Lungu, C.M.B. (2014). "Acquisition of Scientific Literature in Developing Dountries: Zambia". Information Development. 5(2).

Mason, M. K. (2011). Academic Research, Scholarly Publishing and Serials Crisis. Available at www.mayak.com/papers/journal_crisis.html.

Nanpombe, M. (2010). Impact of the 2009 Economic Recession on Public/Community Library Services in South Africa: Perceptions of Librarians from the Metropolitan Municipality of Tshwane. Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/242335204

Nimfa, D. T.(n.d.). Due Process and Procurement Implementation in Selected Public Nigerian University. Department of Business Administration Faculty of Management Sciences University of Jos. Available at nimfad@unijos.edu.ng

Nwafor, B. (2010). "Funding Third World University Libraries". In D.J. Membrey (ed). Nothing to Read: Crisis of Document Provision in the Third World. Birmingham International and Comparative Librarianship of the Library Association. 13-18.

Nweke, S. (2018). Due Process Management. London: Price and Barley.

Obiagwu, M.C. (2010). "Foreign Exchange and Library Collection in Nigeria". Information Development. 3(3). 154-160.

Ocheni, S. & Nwankwo, B. C. (2012). Assessment of Application of Due-Process Policy in Public Procurement and Contracts Under Obasanjo Administration in Nigeria, 2003-2007. International Business and Management, 5 (1), 93-98. Available at URL: http://www.cscanada. net/index.php/ibm/article/view/j.ibm.1923842820120501.1193 DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.3968/j.ibm.1923842820120501.1193

Ola-Roberts, N. & Olayemi, O.M. (2017). Economic Recession: Does It Affect Our Libraries Too? Leadership Newspaper, November 11, 2017

Oliver, H. (2012) Acquisition of Library Materials, A Review of Some Related Literature. Available at EzineArticle.

Oxford English and Spanish Dictionary, Thesaurus, and Spanish to English Translator (2020) Lexco.com

Plockey, F. & Appiah, D. K. (2019) Information Acquisition Mechanism of Universities Libraries: An Empirical Study of Public University Libraries in Ghana. International

Journal of Library and Information Science Available at http://www.academicjournals.org/IJLIS

Provincial Resources Sharing Network Policy for Alberta Public Library Boards (2009)

Prytherch, R. (2011). Harrod's Librarians' Glossary of Terms Used in Librarianship, Documentation and the Book Craft and Reference Book. Alder Shot: Gower Publishing Company Ltd

Rath, M. S. & Rath, P. (n.d.) Collection Development in Libraries: Challenges and Solutions for Library Professionals Available at murtimati.rath@gmail.com OR pravakarrath@gmail.com

Scott-Emmakpor, (2011). Impact of Information Technology on Information Dissemination Information Science and Technology for Library School in Africa.-Ibadan: Evi-Coleman Publications.

Taib, R. (2011). "Acquisition of Scientific Material in Developing Countries: Malaysia". Information Development. 5(2).

Tanvir, A. (2014). Need for Resource Sharing and Networking of Libraries. Available at http://www.Parc.gov.pk/articles/resource_sharing.html

Walden, B.L. (2013) Resource Sharing among North American libraries, past, present and future: A model for experts? Available at http://www.stub.uni.frankfurt.de/messe/proceedings/Walden.htm

Yun, Q. (2019). Mapping Book Publishing in China. China's Publishing Industry. New York: Information Science Reference