The Importance, Challenges and Issues of Infopreneurship Training for Library and Information Science Students:

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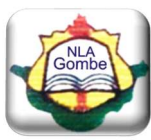
.**Abstract:**

This study emphasis on some professional chances that library and information science students can venture into as entrepreneurs in the present-day society. It concentrated on information-based businesses possessed by Library and Information Science graduates, it also highlight some skills needed for Library and information science students to becoming an infopreneurs and also features of infopreneurship as indicated in one of the Ranganathan's laws of library which says "library is an growing organism" The study suggest that LIS graduates should acquire entrepreneurial philosophy and attitude and also acquire certain ICT skills in order to take advantage of the opportunities in the profession, that would make them realized independent and remain relevant in their profession. It briefly explains the concept of infopreneurship, and its various features that are related to library and information sciences and entrepreneur skill in the modern era. This study confirms that infopreneurship is important and relevant for library and information science development, as an alternative job opportunity for graduates, for that reason it should be incorporated in the provision for library science education and training.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Infopreneurship, Library Science, Students, Training.

Introduction

The educational system of Nigeria is not well suitable enough to accommodate the need of the growing population of the youth graduating from higher institutions, and the country are yet to prepared for its workforce for the challenge of constant changing global economy, the educational system depends solely on paper qualification other than skill/entrepreneur skill acquisition. Thus, library and information science are witnessing a tremendous change and has effect on the background of library and information service. In the present society, where information is the bedrock of any economic growth revolving and the library and information science cannot be ignored. the programmed of the discipline library and information science was mainly established to trained students of library science, how to select, process and organized information based on their types and format in the library set up.it also, prepared them for job opportunity in their profession as well as other sectors. Therefore, one needs to be relevance in this information age and one cannot attaint to this without acquiring entrepreneurial skills with which to apply in his profession, Anyanwu, Oduagwu, Ossai-Onah, (2013)

Entrepreneurship is the process of managing business that involved taking risks to attained success. Some studies have tried to define the concept of entrepreneurship as indicated in the study "Entrepreneur can be defined as "the one who recognizes and manages only enterprises specially involving high risks" Madhurima & Shikha (2010). As a good planner, there is need to planned well to avoid getting loss in every venture an entrepreneur set up but to

increase the hope of succeed, according to the statement above it does not indicated opportunity to attained success rather high risk, which might lead to drawback from the aspiring entrepreneur. They, highlighted some definition by various specialist based on their viewpoint of entrepreneurship.

1. . An Economist defines an entrepreneur as one who brings resources, labor, material and other assets into combinations that makes their value greater than before and also one who introduces changes, innovations and a new order.
2. A psychologist defines an entrepreneur as a person who is typically driven by some force which create a desire to obtain or attain something.
3. A sociologist define entrepreneur as a person whose action would determine his social status and who contributes to the development of the society.

Entrepreneurship Education

The Entrepreneurship education provides a framework for the development of knowledge; skills and attitude for success in business and at the same time a key to self-reliance. According to Francis & Toyo, (2015). The imbalance between LIS graduates and employment opportunities is so wide; as a result, there are high unemployment problems, which have resulted into many social vices in the country Entrepreneurship according to Abiola & Daniel, (2018) refer to "an individual's ability to turn ideas into action. It includes creativity, sense of initiation, innovation and risk-taking, as well as the ability to plan and manage project in order to achieve objectives".

Morrison (2008) view entrepreneurships as "the willingness and ability of a person or persons to acquire education skills to explore and exploit investment opportunities, establish and manage a successful business enterprise". Similarly, (Ekoja & Alice, (2016) argues that "Entrepreneurship can be viewed as the activities and/or areas of study, which enable the recipient to be self-employed at the first level, and at other levels, to be an employer of labor". furthermore, Entrepreneurships aimed at equipping students with entrepreneurial skills, attitudes expertise in order to be job providers and not job seekers,

Oduwaiye (2014) cited in (Ekoja & Alice,2016). While the futuristic advised encouraged the turning of the challenges into opportunities, and the main answer was the inclusion of infopreneurship programmed into Library science education curriculum, development of business plan/strategies, government support, and business stability. From the above definitions it briefly explained the concept of infopreneurship, it was a set of programmed aims to equipped individuals with a specific knowledge that will prepared him/her to become self-employed and also make him or her to be capable of transforming the process of employments that will help both the entrepreneur and the society at large. An infopreneur is an individual or library graduate who acquired skilled in the use of available resources to create something new and which can sustain the individual or provide him a means of employment.

Infopreneuarship

The concept of infopreneurship was derive from two discipline that is information and entrepreneur, according to Ramogondo, (2010) as cited by El-kalash, Mohammed and Yusuf Aniki (2016) that, "the term infopreneur is considered to be neologism portmanteau and is derived from the words information and entrepreneur. Actually, the concept refers to any person whose primary duty is to collect and sell information and services via a niched i.e., electronically through social media such as blogs, wikis, YouTube, social media platform,
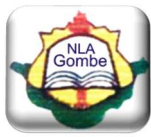
database etc. Although, this new practice is an emerging new way of transacting model in the domain of information, it was carried out for the purpose of generating profit through selling collected and developed information online to the users.

The infopreneurship was developed and coined by Harold f. Weitzen as a registered trade mark for infopreneur. Robert & Charles (2010) expresses that, before the advent of internet, infopreneurship was in practices by some individuals who uses various medium to carry the information they package into product such as, printed reports, usually delivered by mail, however, by that time it has no named assigned to it.

Review of related literature

Importance of infopreneurship training

The purpose of the Library and information science program was aims to train middleclass personnel who are expected to serve at various organization for information enhancement. Institutions are graduating students every year who step into the labor environment where there is no enough place to absorb them all. Unemployment has become an economic problem in our current society. There is urgent need to find solution to this problem with has become a norm in the society. The graduate of library and information science needs to be equip with a special skills and vocational training.it is important for library and information student to acquired various vocational/entrepreneurship training education that are related to their profession, so that at graduation they become self-employed rather than waiting for public to employed them (Anyanwu, Oduagwu and Ossai-Onah, 2013).As the name implies, infopreneurship as inquisitive, supporters, who have the courageous and driving urge to undertake intelligent searches on wide ranging information resources and to be evaluated, repackage and determine the significance, relevance and value of information and information services which they sell using internet tools to facilitated and enhance their business It was emphasized that," an infopreneur is an entrepreneur who identified opportunities for creating enterprising information-based business by identifying knowledge deficiency situations and selling target-based information product and services, usually though internet" (El-kalash, Mohammed and Aniki (2016)..

Meanwhile, Khumalo and Nkalla (2015) have express that, infopreneurship training will makes a graduate to become dynamic who can adapt a change and demands in the market place. Furthermore, in this modern day our economic problem is lack of job opportunities in the society. Thus, an infopreneur means anybody who has the vision and passion for creating, generating or developing, packaging and dissemination of information to those interested clients for a fee, usually through the used of internet. The infopreneur have taken the place of previous mail delivery information which is costly, inaccurate, inefficient and time consuming, Similarly, (El-kalash, Mohammed and Aniki, 2016) notes that "due to the haste in search for priorities and self-esteem by the people of this era, where technology have make us to make quick decision to respond to our transformation priorities. Meanwhile, the society's needs fast information but lacks the skills or knowledge to access them from internet this brought about the emergent of infopreneur, who can search the information and packaged them ready for used by potential buyer. Abdullahi, F. (2016) states that "many people and ventures are continuously to concur the significance of information and knowledge for their livelihood and they dedicated vast transaction in acquiring information as a product and services, in this regards, packaging and marketing information product to earning rewards was well accepted in the area of library and information sciences discipline.
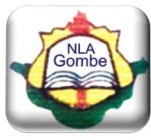
After engaging in an in-depth scholarly survey on infopreneurship for relevant literatures, most of the search from the search database such as Google, ProQuest, Science direct etc., have not provide much due to little or no literature on the concept. As indicated by Ivwure (2015) it is still relatively unknown, yet found increasingly suitable for categorizing and describing people engaged in information-based business. Similar, according to Ochalla (2016) indicated that, search from the following database, scupos, Google scholar, LISTA, Thompson Reuter Wos, does not reveals enough literature on infopreneurship concept. it indicated that the discipline lacks literatures or the literature is so small, and also, all the online database that were expected to retrieved the information on infopreneurship fail to display anything about infopreneurship. There are few journals found to have conducted a study on the subject after in-depth literature review.

Basis of the paper

The basis of written this paper is to highlight the importance, challenge and issues on infopreneurship training for library science student here in Nigeria, recommendation on the issues were proffer for the successful adoption of the infopreneurship in Nigerian institution of library sciences.

Characteristics of infopreneurs.

In every sphered of live one has his own success and failure, and the key element of success depend on the individual talent to pick up an idea and process it through various methods that suite him which at the end developed it into valuable product or services. According to Elonye & Uzuegbu, (2013) stress that, to be an entrepreneur must endeavor to possess the applicable skills in order to succeed in any business venture. They highlighted the following characteristic of an entrepreneur such as. Self-Motivation, Passion, taking risk, know how to network, understand what you offer, Be Flexible and Know the skill and knowledge of how to manage money. Meanwhile, (frank et al 2001) as cited by (Ramogondo, 2010) have identified some ways too that will motivate student to venture into infopreneur business, which consist of interdisciplinary research which emphasized familiarity with many fields. Similarly, they stated that information is not static, therefore individual can operate his business anywhere and at any time through the virtual enabling space, as increase dependency on internet make the infopreneur business possible.

For an individual to become infopreneur according to Elkalash, Mohammed and Aniki (2016) stated that, there is need to have the following features that would individuals to become more successful in the business.

1. He must be a good planner through possessing products that are in the form of ideas for selling;
2. He must be self-confident by generates or collating others people's ideas or information and packaged it in order to control;
3. He must be reliable and have the courage, skills and ability to response or answer user needs via online platform, i.e. he must possess the website for his business;
4. He must be convincing and unrelenting in search of information
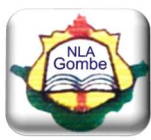
Some other infopreneurs product are in the form of selling ideas, selling peoples ideas by packaging it, as well as responding to people need via online platform.

1. Selling Ideas

As an individual's human being varied, everyone has his own wisdom in developing their own ideas and market those ideas, while others use different models for creating website links that the user might likely click on the advert and make purchase which makes them get a commission for advertising that product on their website. A lot of information visited in a blog earned the owner a commission with is called "Passive" income according to Robert and Charles, (2011). Similarly, El-kalash, Mohammed and Aniki (2016) indicated that, "to create your own information product requires a lot of hard work, it could be of your own interest, it need investing and also search for a recent issue that generate huge follower's.
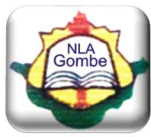
1. Selling Other People's Ideas or Product

Some information scientist has resolve to established their own database instate of creating their own information, they rather, collaborate or buy information direct from the authors and market it in their domain, that domain serve as a genuine website which allowed to get authentic, accurate and up-to-date information called firsthand information. Due to the nature of the information product or services the values determined the authentication and reliability makes the information brokers to package that information so that, the potential client will buy, rather than, wasting time to thinks and create ideas that will take time to earned the rewards(El-kalash, Mohammed and Aniki 2016).Robert & Charles (2011) citing (Miliot, 2010; & O'Hara, 2008) which expressed in their studies that, "Entrepreneurial firms like Lulu.com have emerged to serve authors who want to be published. In March 2010, Lulu.com issued a prospectus related to their initial Public Offering revealing that the number of units sold over the past three years rose 47% to 2.6 million (of which 2.3 million were printed books). The company generates its revenue from charging authors for its fees and services ($100 to $16,000 per title), plus it takes a percentage as commission for each title sold. Since its inception, Lulu has had more than one million titles for sale on its site and adds 20,000 titles per month".

The search in the entrepreneurial executive volume 16, 2011 have revealed that "the majority of the outcome from the wider searches tends to be typically associated with features of normal publishing". According to Robert and Charles, (2011) the mainstream publishing industry and studies about that industry revealed to us an apparent disconnect between entrepreneurial information selling (infopreneur ship) and traditional publishing. They further, cited (Agnese,2010, e-Publishing, ecommerce merge,2000) indicated that, all those blogs and websites roaming on the internet were not been published as well or established in the way that they can be known.

2. Responding to Users Needs Via Online Platform

There are great deals in respecting users time because time is valuable in this era. Therefore, as an infopreneur answering and responding to customer's request or inquiry on time is paramount, since the invention has brought us the innovative that ease information the study established that the concept of infopreneurship is largely unknown by infopreneurs. Searches on popular research databases such as ProQuest, ResearchGate, Google Thompson Reuters WoS, LISTA, and Google Scholar (GS) also confirmed that infopreneurship is not a popular concept when searched together with information brokerage or information consultancy.

However, that does not mean that information business does not exist. This lack of understanding of the concept is likely to cause problems in mapping and auditing information related businesses, which is why it is important to find and promote a popular concept for research and development of the sector through worldwide web (www), which enable us to carry out thing that at the previous time was not available or impossible. Prior to invention of internet, the flexibility to retrieved information within a shortest time is impossible.at that time nothing exists like chat/messenger services, online banking services, online transaction services. Therefore, it become imperative to make critical survey on various webs and search engine so that you get the best to offers to the customer their desired needs or requirement.

Some of the infopreneurs activities include,

According to (Ochall,1999 and David &Dube, 2013) indicated the followings as the activities carryout by infopreneurs'**.**

- Freelance writing
- Proof reading
- Project publishing consultancy,
- Record survey,
- Web design services.
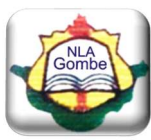- Marketing of company information product.
- Knowledge management consult

Paid blogging services. and all the packaging product or services should be in the e-book, CD, Tape YouTube channels formats etc.

Importance of infopreneurship to the society.

 Despite the fact that the concept of infopreneurship is somehow not known by scholars and Searches on known databases such as Google, Google Scholar, Science direct, Scopus, ResearchGate, confirmed that infopreneurship is not a popular concept when searched together with information brokerage or information consultancy. However, that does not mean that information businesses do not exist. This lack of understanding of the concept is likely to cause problems in mapping and auditing information related businesses which is why it is important to find and promote a popular concept for research and development of the sector The words growth refers to positive development from a scratch to the highest levels, it also has to do with the development of potentiality.

Cost and Time saving: To access information one needs to visits either library, internet or consult periodical such as magazine, journals, or Newspapers with is costly and time consuming, but with aids of infopreneur professionals, individuals time and energy will be saved. Ramogondo (2010)

1. **Reliability:** Kobia and Sikalieh (2010) have found out that, the needs to survive drives individuals to engaged in entrepreneurial activity, which brought about the concept entrepreneurship, by doing so, they keep a good reputation amount the society jend they become well noticeable to their potential's customers. This assertion by the authors justified by one of the five-principle law of Ranganathan, that is, "Right book for the right person and at the Right time.
2. **Valuable Information:** Ramogondo, (2010) stated that, the amount of information provided by infopreneur has value for acquiring, because no one would charge for a

fee for providing products or services, unless that product or services is of great value to the one in need of it.

The benefits of infopreneurs in Economic growth.

Greater standard proceeds. This empowers customers to appreciate more goods and services and possess better means of livelihood. The Economic growth during the Twentieth Century was a major aspect in decreasing outright points of poverty and supporting a rise in life hope. Reduce redundancy. Economic growth according to Investopedia (2018) refers to" increase in the capacity of a budget to produce goods and services, compared from one period of time to another". It can be measured in an insignificant or real term, the latter of which is adjusted for inflation. Similarly, (El-kalash, Mohammed and Aniki 2016) state that, "Economic growth refers to the increase in the value of the goods and services produced by an economy. It is conventionally measured as the percent rate of increase in real gross domestic product, or GDP (Jones, 2012). According to chu, kara, and benzing (2010) indicated that small enterprise is the leading force in the development of African economy and are essential for economic growth in many developing countries, with higher output and positive economic growth, organizations have a tendency to engage more recruits making more employment. Government reduce the rate of having loan. Economic growth brings higher tax incomes, and there are no demands for exhausting money on remunerations such as unemployment allowances. Therefore, economic growth helps to cut down management having loan. Economic growth also plays a role in reducing debt to GDP ratios Tejvan P, (2017). Therefore, infopreneur's can be a vital tools factors towards economic growth, balanced regional development as well as creating job amongst graduated in Nigeria.

Challenge of Inforpreneurship

There are certain factors that tend to be constraints for library and information science student to engage into infopreneur business. According to Ugwu and Ezeani (2012) Molaro (2013) and Farkas (2006) as in the study of Uzuegbu, C (2013) highlight them as follows,

Lack of entrepreneurship inclination, majority of the students including the professional lack the movement to generate a viable business that can make them relevant in the knowledge society. Similarly challenge associated with infopreneurship according to Ocholla, David and Dube (2013) indicated that, there is difficulties in developing business proposal, budgeting, sourcing of business fund, legal requirement and compliance and lack of adequate planning. Furthermore,It was also found in the study of (Ocholla and Ivwurie 2016) who stated that challenges can be divided into three main categories, with include, Political, Economic, Social and technological challenge, as for Political challenge refers to Legal, policy, and business licensing activities, Economical challenge has to do with finance, infrastructure, business space and power supply, for Social challenge it comprise customer care and relation, education and training, and ethical issues, as cited in (Ponelis, 2014). Then, Technological challenge with refers to proper access and usage of appropriate technology. Similarly (Ibrahim 2004:24) as cited by Ivwure (2015) who stated that the frequent power interruption restricts effective business operation of infopreneur's. Therefore, the solution is to change this challenge into opportunities, this can be achieved through adopting or inclusion of infopreneurship education under entrepreneurship course in library and information science curriculum. Development of government support under SMEs.
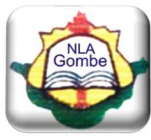
Conclusion

Entrepreneurship spins about desire, invention / resourcefulness, knowhow, Loss and incentives, confidence and containment. This paper presents the importance of infopreneur education to library and information science student, its emphasis on the creation of new ideas, or innovation that would be profit driven tools for the LIS graduate. Transformation is dictated by the need to kept up to date or kept abreast with the changing in the information sector. Library science should encompass the entrepreneurship programmed into the LIS curriculum so as to training the student the required skilled on how to be self-employed during graduation without waiting for the government jobs opportunities.

Recommendation

Government and all stakeholder should put their hands-on deck so as to assist the youth after graduation with start-up capital to be on their own. Thus, as a library and information science graduates are expected to have acquired necessary skills which will make them relevance and meet the demands of the society they belong.

It is therefore, imperative to be certain of infopreneurship training will support them to be capable and serve as an avenue for job creation and self-reliance. government should streamline the educational system by putting more priority on skill oriented programmed that would equip students and make them self-employed which later lead to meaningful development of the country's economy. The syllabus and the method employed in institutions that trained library and information science in the country should upgrade their curriculum content into skill oriented to meet global trend,

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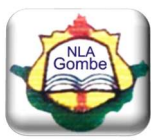
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