

**EFFECT OF COMPUTERISATION OF LIBRARY ON STUDENT'S ACADEMY
PERFORMANCE**



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ABSTRACT

The library is an organisation that is expanding at a rapid rate; consequently, the traditional practises for its upkeep are no longer dynamic and efficient for expeditions, retrieval and dissemination of information, and improved service for the students. Instead, the implementation of contemporary practises has become an absolute necessity. A library that has been adequately digitised will be able to provide its patrons with services that are both rapid and timely. In an automated or electronic

library, often known as a digital library, tasks such as accessing, sharing, and storing resources are carried out with the assistance of computers. The concept of "digital" refers to having a grasp of how electronic circuits are designed and developed. It encompasses methods such as word processing, micrographic, reprographic, and video-based information systems, as well as methods of message delivery such as faxing, voice mail, electronic mail, and the internet (Encyclopedia, 2013).

Keyword: automated, information systems, micrographic,

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INTRODUCTION

The internet is a worldwide network of computers that are connected to one another across great physical distances (Brown, 2008). It was initially developed as a method of communication by the United States Military in the 1950s and has been in existence ever since. However, it wasn't until the middle of the 1980s that business companies and educational institutions became the primary users of the internet. The reason for this was the high prices. The swift advancement of technology has resulted in both an improvement in communication linkages and a reduction in associated expenditures.

The upshot of this is that more individuals now have access to the internet since it is more readily available. Due to the fact that the internet is now accessible to a sizable portion of the populace in western nations, several educational institutions have begun to capitalise on the educational possibilities that it presents. Students who are seeking for inspiration for their school projects and assignments might find a wealth of useful material on the internet. Because there are more than 50 million websites on the Internet, there is a good probability that any piece of information, no matter how obscure, may be located. Patience and a respectable search engine are the only resources other from those two that are necessary to locate this information (Ehrmann, 2008).

The collections of these digital libraries are not restricted to surrogate development but expand beyond to digital artefacts that cannot be represented or distributed in printed media. This is because libraries cannot exist as a single entity and technology is required to link their resources. The introduction of digital libraries marked a transition from physical to electronic material. As a result, libraries are now able to use an expanding spectrum of information technology to the administration of their print information collections.

The development of the World Wide Web, with all of its uses for academic communication, the rise of computational research, and the creation of a new function for databases, is possibly the most significant emblem of this transformation.

The concept of a "e-library" refers to information that may be accessed over the World Wide Web. E-library, in contrast to conventional libraries, are not restricted by either place or time. Because of the development and widespread use of information technology, libraries have undergone transformations. They have taken on the role of educators, instructing patrons on

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how to locate, assess, and make use of information both within the library and through computer networks. Users are required to gain information literacy skills as the use of e-libraries continues to increase at an unprecedented rate. Julien (2002) notes that users who possess these abilities will be able to make more effective and efficient use of the information sources available to them. Because of this, being literate in information is becoming increasingly crucial (especially amongst students).

Information literacy is "the ability to locate, manage, critically evaluate, and use information for problem solving, research, and decision making," and academic libraries in Nigeria have been responding to the call of ICT (information and communication technology) by providing instruction in information literacy. This ability is described as "the ability to use information for problem solving, research, and decision making" (Orr, Appleton, and Wallin, 2001). However, in developing nations such as Nigeria, both information technology and the utilisation of the e-library are still in the infantile stage. Because of the restrictions imposed by traditional libraries as well as the rising need for information technology, the number of people using online libraries has been constantly expanding.

Even if individuals do not have to physically go to a place in order to access some types of information, they still require assistance in order to get the information that they require. The library at the university has resources that are both dynamic in nature and form. These resources are designed to accommodate changes in the medium of packaging, the number and type of users served, as well as dynamic programme areas. In consideration of the fact that the Library provides its services to a University of Technology Community with an emphasis on Engineering, Science, Agriculture, Technology, Management Sciences, and Health/Environmental Technology, resources are accumulated to meet the academic, recreational, and all-around developmental needs of the University's undergraduates, postgraduates, faculty, and non-teaching staff. Therefore, books, periodicals, newspapers/magazines, maps, technical reports, patents, documents, and so on could be acquired in both electronic and print forms through purchases, gifts, donations, exchanges, and deposits of all publications emanating from the University community. These forms of media include both print and electronic versions.

There is no evidence beyond the experimental stage of the existence of digital libraries; however, there is evidence of the existence of databases, online library catalogues, and

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electronic journals in a variety of organisations, including academic institutions, professional organisations, and international organisations. The term "digital library" will be used to refer to libraries that are significantly aided by networks, have access to electronic databases and an online public access catalogue, provide users with email and internet services to some extent, and have at least some portion of their information resources available in electronic format. Digital libraries will be defined as these libraries.

Electronic technology is contributing to the modernization of commercial operations in the world today, which is imparting and radically changing the foundation upon which our lives are built. Organizations have embraced the use of the internet, and in particular the adoption of digital libraries, in order to take part in the growth of the world and to be able to enjoy everything that is available in the modern world. Cooperate on initiatives in order to prevent duplicating efforts and to bring access to areas that are geographically isolated or otherwise disadvantaged. This may be done through the exchange of information and resources.

E-libraries "generally follow particular rules for the selection of information in order to maintain a consistent collection of data" since they act as a "quality guide" (Virtual Library 2007). When choosing the items to include in their collections, organising them, and making them accessible to users, they follow a set of protocols. According to Waters (2008), "digital libraries are organisations that provide the resources, including the specialised staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to the Internet, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works." This is done to make sure that these collections of digital works are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities. The Kentuckiana Digital library (2005) highlights the academic significance of the e-library, recognising the use of appropriate technology and defining it as "an organised collection of selected digital resources created to support scholarship, research, and teaching." This definition highlights the academic significance of the e-library. It goes on to claim that e-libraries making use of relevant technology standards will make permanent access to digital content easier to achieve. A collection of digital materials chosen according to specified criteria and made accessible for retrieval across computer networks is at the most fundamental level and at the core of the definitions.

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Recent research on library systems in the states of Alaska, Colorado, Oregon, and Pennsylvania has come to the conclusion that the presence of school library media experts who have received professional training and credentials has a beneficial impact on the academic performance of students. Also helpful personnel was considered to be vital if library media specialists are to fully influence student progress. According to the findings of the study, socioeconomic factors are the most accurate indicators of future academic achievement for students. According to the author, schools that are seen to do better academically are believed to have fewer pupils living in high poverty compared to schools that perform less well. There is still a significant gap, both in terms of quality and availability, between high-poverty and low-poverty schools, as well as between high-performing and low-performing schools, when it comes to library resources.

Haycock (1995) demonstrated how beneficial a school library may be to the academic performance of its students. According to Haycock's research (quoted above), schools that have access to quality libraries and other resources tend to have students who are much more capable of comprehending what they read and successfully expressing their thoughts in relation to those readings. According to the findings of the study, it is necessary to conduct more research into the specifics that surround the atmosphere of utilising library services among students in secondary schools located within the Mtwara/Mikindani Municipality in order to evaluate the performance of students.

REVIEW LITERATURE

The role of the academic library as a provider of information has grown to become crucial and indispensable. Many information providers and users are having difficulty obtaining the most up-to-date information from libraries as a result of the rapid growth and fast changing environment in the field of technology. This situation is caused by the combination of two factors: As a result of the fact that the Library serves as a hub for the storage, generation, retrieval, and dissemination of information in order to satisfy the requirements of the students. Adeniran (2011) conducted research to investigate the level of user satisfaction with academic library services from the perspectives of academic staff and students.

The result of this research indicates that the level of contentment experienced by library patrons is directly proportional to the calibre of both the library's personnel and the services it

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provides. According to the findings of the study, there was also a correlation between the provision of relevant information materials, access point, and an environment that was conducive to learning, teaching, and research and an increase in library use. According to Afebende and Ebaje (2008), the success of the library is not solely dependent on the collection and facilities that are provided by the library, but also on the effective exploitation and use of the resources that are made available by the users. While it is the responsibility of the librarian to educate users on the collection and organisation of information materials, this responsibility also falls on the users themselves.

According to Fidzani (1998), the assistance provided by library staff is essential for making effective use of the library's services and resources, which in turn enables students to satisfy their information requirements. He arrived at the conclusion that the faculty members make use of the library's resources for both individual research and instruction in the classroom. They check out the majority of these materials so that they can use them outside of the library. In addition, faculty members utilise the library's media centre in order to gain access to resources that are located on the internet. However, the majority of faculties assert that they are not aware of all of the library resources and services that are available. They also mentioned that they were unable to access the electronic data bases and the materials that were on the shelves as problems that prevented them from using the library.

Students who make effective use of library resources are more likely to achieve high levels of academic success. Kaur and Verma (2006) carried out a study with the goal of discovering how the reasons people use libraries differ from person to person. The vast majority of patrons go to the library to check out and return books, followed by research in periodicals and journals, and then many go for photocopying work. Norliya (2009) conducted a study and found that the majority of respondents were fairly satisfied with the collection of the library's infrastructure, space, place, and library services. She also found that university libraries need to adopt the direction of the vital planning in creation and delivery of service according to the satisfaction of the users, which plays an important role.

The research conducted by Larson and Owusu (2012) was based on a sampling technique that involved distributing questionnaires to consumers. According to the findings of the survey, the vast majority of library patrons are pleased with the services provided by the library, suggesting that funding for libraries be raised. The conclusions of the research advised to the

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users that the Library's operating hours should be extended, and that Xerox facilities should be made available to the users. In their research, Pandey and Singh (2014) discovered that the majority of respondents were pleased with the library's resources and services. They also discovered that books are the most frequently utilised resource, and the circulation service is the most preferred service utilised by library patrons.

The respondents have provided ideas that can make the library's resources and services more

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this chapter, the research methodology and design, the area of the study, the population, the sample size and the processes for sampling, as well as the research methodologies, and the analysis of the data are presented.

DATA ANALYSIS

4.2 OCIO – DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

This section was designed to identify the respondents' demographics, which included their age, gender, level of education and occupation.

Table 4. 1 Percentage Distribution of Age of the Respondents

Age of respondents		Frequency	Percent
	15-19	43	43
	20-29	26	26
	30-39	27	27
	40+	4	4
	Total	100	100

Source: Survey data August (2015)

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As shown in Table 4.1, 43% of respondents were within the age of 15 - 19 followed by the category of 30 – 39 years which for 27%. 26% samples were under the age category of 20 – 29 years and 4% are within 40+ years.

Table 4. 2 Percentage Distribution of the Gender of the Respondents

Gender of Respondents		Frequency	Percent
	Male	45	45
	Female	55	55
	Total	100	100

Source: Field Study (2015)

As it can be seen from table 4.2 above that for about 55% of the respondents were female and male were only 45%

Table 4. 3 Percentage Distribution of the Respondents by Level of Education

Level of education		Frequency	Percent
	Secondary level	72	72
	Diploma	10	10
	Degree	13	13
	Masters	5	5
	Total	100	100

Source: Survey Data, (2015)

Educational level of the respondents is clearly seen in Table 4.3 above as 72% were secondary level students, 13% were degree level, 10% were diploma and 5% were in masters' level.

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Table 4. 4 Percentage Distribution of the Respondents Occupation

Occupations		Frequency	Percent
	Students	72	72
	Librarians	10	10
	Teachers	16	16
	D.E.O	1	1
	R.E.O	1	1
	Total	100	100

Source: Survey Data, (2015)

The majority of the respondents (72%) in Table 4.4 were the students. Moreover, teachers were 16%, librarians were 10%, D.E.O and R.E.O who were 1% each respectively.

4.3 INFLUENCE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES TO STUDENT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

The researcher sought to know if secondary schools had libraries. Different questions were asked to direct the collection of data intended from the field.

Table 4. 5 Secondary Schools Have Libraries To Assist Student Learning

Options		Frequency	Percent
	Agree	33	33
	Disagree	66	66
	Not sure	1	1

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	Total	100	100
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Source: Field Study, (2015)

According to the data shown in Table 4.5, just one percent of respondents were unsure as to whether or not secondary schools in Mtwara Mikindani Municipality had libraries. On the other hand, sixty-six percent of participants were against the idea that secondary schools having libraries.

When asked to comment on the availability of libraries in secondary schools, an interviewee from one of the secondary schools in the Mtwara mikindani Municipality provided the following response: "A fully equipped library helps the students to broaden their knowledge and, as a result, to do better in their examinations." He went on to emphasise that "students are accountable for their own studies wherever there is a library." And this boosts morale and helps build a culture of studying in the library since tasks are provided to complete in the library.

Another respondent who was interviewed about the availability of libraries in secondary schools in the Mtwara Mikindani Municipality said the following: "Our school does not have library, but most of our students are always do ask the Head master to have a library, they like to study in library during private study periods but we luck library."

4.4 SUFFICIENT READING BOOKS

The researcher wanted to know if there were enough reading books in secondary school libraries for students to read.

Table 4. 6 Libraries In Secondary Schools Have Enough Reading Books

Options	Frequency	Percent
Agree	16	16.0
Disagree	77	77.0
Not sure	7	7.0

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	Total	100	100.0
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Source: Field Study, (2015)

According to the findings presented in Table 4.6, only 16 percent of respondents in Mtwara Mikindani Municipality agreed that there were sufficient reading books in secondary school libraries, while 77 percent disagreed with this statement and 7 percent were unsure whether or not there were sufficient reading books in secondary school libraries. One of the respondents from one of the secondary schools that was visited expressed this viewpoint throughout the course of the interview. They stated, "Materials found in the library are irrelevant, which reduces morale for students to utilise the library." But in addition to this, there is no culture of reading at the library, and this culture does not exist for either the professors or the pupils.

Other individuals who were interviewed at one of the secondary schools presented the following argument: "We do not have libraries, but our kids do borrow certain books we have in our shop, but other books found in store are not up to date."

CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the results, along with a number of different perspectives on what those results mean. The demographic statistics shed light on a variety of the qualities that were shared by the participants. The ages, marital statuses, educational backgrounds, occupations, professions, income levels, and education levels of the participants were some of the variables that were taken into consideration. It was provided in such a way as to be of aid to the researcher in measuring the amount of comprehension that the respondents possessed in addition to their level of expertise in the subject matter. It is also feasible to make this decision based on a person's level of maturity when it comes to the type of information that they supply.

It is possible for the researcher and even the readers of this report to evaluate the validity and trustworthiness of the information contained inside by first gaining a grasp of the social and demographical aspects of the population. This is something that should be done before evaluating the validity and trustworthiness of the information contained inside. This is something that has to be done in order to determine whether or not the information that is

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included therein is true and trustworthy. In addition, the socio-demographic aspect lends a helping hand to the researcher in the process of constructing a picture of understanding. For example, how various people understand the significance of libraries in fostering higher levels of performance is something that can be uncovered with the help of the socio-demographic aspect.

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