

**MANAGEMENT OF
LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION CENTRES
IN THE ERA OF GLOBAL
INSECURITY**



*A Festschrift in Honour of
Prof. (Sir) Matthew Idowu
Ajibero (KSM)*

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INFORMATION CENTRES IN THE ERA OF
GLOBAL INSECURITY**

A Festschrift in Honour of
PROFESSOR MATTHEW IDOWU AJIBERO

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LIBRARY INFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE ERA OF GLOBAL INSECURITY

By

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ABSTRACT

Securing library information resources and facilities in the era of global insecurity is germane in building confidence and a sense of security among stakeholders and prevent theft by unscrupulous and criminally minded individuals. As a result of this, the paper explores the concept of information resources, discusses the broad categorization of information resources as well as explain the features, approaches and strategies for securing library information resources. The paper identifies the challenges confronting the use of electronic security systems in libraries in Nigeria to include inadequate funding of library, power failure, hardware and software failure, inadequate skilled manpower among others. It is recommended that consistent disbursement of funds for library projects, promotion of library education among librarians and other para-professionals, constant power supply to the library as well as training of IT professionals in core areas of library management to provide tailor-made technological supports for optimal operations of the library services would help to effectively manage library information resources in the era of global insecurity.

Keywords: Electronic, Information resources, Insecurity, Library, Print

INTRODUCTION

Over time, information has been described as a significant factor for planning, decision making and forecasting. Therefore, to obtain quality information that will enable a librarian to accomplish the aforementioned functions, understanding the nature of information resources available becomes of utmost importance. The most successful man in life according to Mchombu (2000) cited in Mabuku (2015:18) is the man with the best information. Information positions a person with the ability to pick and to act in a knowledgeable way (Balman 2015). However, information is stored and packaged in different formats representing information resources or sources. Hence, data assets can be characterized as stages or media on which data is recorded with the aim of preserving, managing, storing, retrieving, disseminating and utilising it.

Discourse on securing library staff and facilities is important and highly beneficial. It helps in building confidence and a sense of security among stakeholders and prevent theft by unscrupulous and criminally minded individuals. The use of electronic security systems promotes flexibility and remote monitoring by allowing library management to carry out a

continuous check of library activities. This chapter, therefore, explores the concept of information resources, discusses the broad categorization of information resources as well as explain the features, approaches and strategies for securing library information resources.

CONCEPT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

Hertzum, Andersen, Andersen and Hansen (2002) defined information resources as oral or written, human or virtual that are easily accessible. Adomi (2012) noted that information resources are media from which an individual or a group of people receive concepts, messages and directions that enable them to accomplish a given task such as taking a vital decision, as well as solving a problem. Information resources, according to Zaid (2011), are taken to be tangible and organised collections of such information, whether in print, microfilm or held on some computer storage media such as CD or digital versatile disc (DVD), media-print and non-media print. Information resource is a form of long-term storage; which is used for replicating and conveying meanings expressed in human-readable and machine-readable characters. Information resource is purposefully designed for use as an instrument for a certain activity, used for strongly pronounced consumer values, and which often permit product to be regarded as a commodity in information market (Berestova, 2016).

Omosokejimi, Ijiekhuamhen and Ojeme (2015) revealed that information resources have been hindered by economic and as well as lack of good infrastructure for contact with poor based information sources. These authors further observed that inadequate infrastructure has obstructed the academic librarians from accessing information resources that could boost their research activities. From the foregoing, the description and analysis of the nature of information resources were to put into proper perspective the type of information sources that academic librarians make use in the course of carrying out their daily activities. The use of these information sources is to facilitate better performance in the era of global insecurity. It was further noted in the reviewed literature that there are barriers inhibiting information resources that affect information sources used.

CATEGORIZATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

Kawatra (2011) categorised information sources into two: print/document sources and non-print/non-document sources/electronic information resources (EIRs).

Print/Document Sources: Kawatra (2011), defined document/print information sources as information that is contained in documents and has been recorded in printed form. Rao (2000), opined that documented sources enable the transfer of information from one generation to another which contributes positively to the technological, religious, cultural, social, political and economic advancement of human beings. Printed resources are categorized as tertiary, secondary and primary sources (Rao 2000). Kawatra (2011) and Rao (2000:3-4) in their studies found that if properly used information resources could enhance job performance

Primary Sources of Information: Primary sources are original information materials from which other information sources are derived. Kumar (2010) defined primary sources of information as the principal printed record of unique innovative work or portrayal of new

use of an old subject or thought. This type of information sources could likewise show up in an electronic organization.

Omah and Urhiewhu (2016) conducted a study on a strategy for the effective utilisation of information resources. Their findings revealed that textbooks, charts, pictures, chalkboards, graphs, transparencies, display boards, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, globes and atlases were utilised to a significant extent, while televisions and computers were minimally utilised. This low level of utilisation was attributed to inadequate resources and insecurity. In Africa Nwatela (2013) revealed that utilisation of information resources is still dismally low. The author noted that there is still a gap in the information exchange process in Africa. For instance, in South Africa, Jiyane and Ocholla (2004) observed that there are adequate information resources, but that academic librarians are overworked and so have no time to seek or locate appropriate information. This is not the case in Nigeria where most of the information resources are not relevant because they are obsolete.

Chimah and Nwokocha (2013) explain that academia has been confronted with inadequate information resources in the era of global insecurity. The authors presented a discourse on various concepts of information resources, characteristics, material resource, utilisation and web-based information. Adomi (2012) and Nnadozie (2014) agreed with Kumar (2010) and identified primary information resources/sources as autobiographies, periodicals, theses, memoirs, interviews, lecture notes, personal letters, diaries, grey literature among others as first-hand information providers. Moreover, there are other forms of primary sources that are referred to as unpublished sources. These types of primary sources include audio and visual recording, artefacts, photographs, internet communication portraits, sets of data such as census statistics among others. From the sources mentioned above, those that fall under this class - (unpublished sources) are the information sources not packaged and made available in the conventional published formats they are considered due to their usefulness, authenticity, archival and historical relevance and the conveyance of vital information. These primary information resources are discussed in detail below.

Reitz (2020) defined a periodical as a serial publication which contains distinct title, poems, editorials, a mix of articles, short stories, reviews, columns, or other short works written by more than one contributor. It is issued in softcover periodically such as monthly, quarterly, bi-annually and annually without prior decision as to when the final issue will appear. The content of periodical is usually controlled by an editor or editorial board. Periodical publications include but not limited to newspapers, electronic magazines journals and annuals (reports, yearbooks). The terms periodicals and serials are commonly used interchangeably. According to Ogbonna (2009), they are publications that appear with distinguishing titles and issued in sequential part bearing numerical or chronological description and intended to continue indefinitely. Otazu (n.d) further stated that they are times bound, and materials published at ordinary interims, for example, day by day, week by week, month to month or yearly. Since they are published so often, they tend to include the most recent information. These include journals, magazine, newspapers, annuals, reports, memoirs, proceedings, monographic series, bulletins and so on.

Journals are periodicals devoted to disseminating research and discourse on current developments in a specific discipline, sub-discipline, or field usually published on a month to month, quarterly or annual basis (Reitz, 2020). The examples of journal articles include the output of the research carried out by a person, group on a particular subject matter usually sold by subscription. Ogbonna (2009) described journals as publications issued periodically bearing numerical or sequential depiction and planned to proceed uncertainly. They include the accompanying sorts: academic diaries (learned society diaries), house diaries, learned diaries business and exchange journals (Otazu n.d).

Magazines are publications of popular interest which contain articles on a variety of topics, written by various authors in a non-scholarly style (Reitz, 2020). Most magazines are heavily illustrated, contain advertising, and are printed on glossy papers. The author further noted that articles in magazines are usually short (less than five pages long), frequently unsigned, and do not include a bibliography or list of references for further reading. Most magazines are issued monthly or weekly for sale at newsstands, bookstores and through subscription. Magazines can also be described as periodic publications containing pictures, articles and stories of interest to those who purchase or subscribe to them and are published weekly or monthly or at the other defined regular interval (Lawal & Oni, 2008). Magazines articles are about recent developments, lifestyle, news and culture. They are otherwise called well-known magazines, whose audience is the overall population; the content is written by journalists, correspondents and interested contributors. Examples are Time, Tell, Newsweek and Newswatch and so forth (Otazu n.d).

Newspapers are serial publications, that are usually in printed or newsprint forms and they are issued daily about events of previous days of the week, or weekly. Newspapers may contain editorial comments, news, regular columns, advertising letters to the editor, cartoons and other items of local and international interests (Reitz, 2020). Newspaper articles are written by journalists and serve as a good source of news and current events for effective information dissemination and contain editorials, entertainment information, classified advertisements, sports and other information (Otazu n.d). Lawal and Oni (2008) noted that a newspaper is a daily or weekly publication on the folded sheet containing articles, news and advertisement on current happenings within an environment. Examples include the Punch, Guardian, Vanguard, This Day, Tribune, The Sun, The Nation New York Times, Daily Graphic, Tabloid.

They are printed or electronic publications of the activities of a company, bodies and other corporate entities that are published monthly, quarterly or annually. A report, which is usually detailed, is an archive that presents information in an organized format for a precise audience (such as; board of directors, other governing body or current and prospective shareholders) and other purpose. Although summaries of reports may be delivered orally however, complete reports are always delivered in the form of written documents in softcover. It describes the firm's activities during the current financial position and preceding fiscal year Reitz (2020). They are technical because they generally give the results of research and developments or projects usually in unpublished or semi-published literature since they are not available through the conventional book platforms (Otazu n.d).

It can also be said to be a publication published annually and contains information about events that occurred in the year of coverage (Ogbonna, 2009).

Spronken-Smith, Cameron and Quigg (2018) noted that the terms 'dissertation' and 'thesis' are used interchangeably to refer to a research submitted to get an advanced degree. They are submitted as a requirement for fulfilling a master or doctorate degree. To be specific, the students submit a dissertation to obtain a master degree while obtaining Ph.D. entails the students to submit a thesis. It was further noted that dissertations submitted at universities in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and other European countries are indexed and abstracted in Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI), available in print, on CD-ROM, and online from ProQuest. On the other hand, a thesis is a proposition advanced and defended in a formal disputation, especially by a candidate in partial fulfilment of university requirements for a master's degree (Spronken-Smith *et al.*, 2018).

Theses/dissertations are used interchangeably in Nigeria. Theses are academic and research work usually submitted by students of higher institutions to earn academic degrees such as Master and Doctoral degrees which are found in the collection of academic libraries (Ogbonna, 2009). According to Otazu (n.d), a thesis can be seen as a dissertation advising an original viewpoint as a result of research, especially, on the side of a candidate for a scholarly qualification usually a doctorate. Theses/dissertations constitute a good source of primary information because they are expected to be a result of purely academic work or original research, conducted in a new or uncharted environment to discover new knowledge or expand the frontiers of existing knowledge in a particular specialty. From such findings, journal articles and textbooks may be published to further bring to the fore the result of such original work. Reitz (2020) noted that conference proceedings are printed records of a gathering, symposium, congress, or different assemblies supported by a general public or affiliation, usually but not necessarily including abstracts or reports of papers presented by the members. Proceedings are a collection of academic papers that are published usually in the context of an academic conference, congresses, seminars or workshops (Otazu, n.d). Proceedings are likewise an important primary source of information since they serve as the media through which results of scientific research are disseminated.

Secondary Sources of Information: They are sources that either refer to or compiled from sources of information. According to Musa (2017), the original information must have been nonchalantly modified, reorganized or selected to fill a specific need for the assemblage of users. Such sources contain information sorted and arranged on the bases of some positive arrangement. These contain organized repackaged information that contradicted to new information. According to Thomas, Nelson and Silverman (2015), a secondary source interprets, analyzes and may also criticize primary sources. Otazu (n.d) further noted that secondary sources analyse, comment on, describe, discuss, evaluate, and interpret the evidence provided by primary sources or documents. Secondary sources cite primary sources of information as well as enable the user to locate a primary source of information. The dissimilarity in definition has a lot to do with context, discipline and how a source is used for example, bibliographies, treatises, monographs, indexes, textbooks and some reference materials are examples of secondary information sources (Otazu n.d). These

secondary information resources are discussed in detail below.

Reitz (2020) defined bibliography as an orderly list of composed works by a particular author on a given subject. Bibliographies are a compilation of works, titles that offer at least one regular qualities (language, structure, period, a spot of publishing, and so forth). A list of sources might be thorough or particular which might be published sequentially or in book form (Reitz, 2020). According to Sababa (2012), the word bibliography is derived from two Greek words *biblio* and *graphy* meaning books and writing. Therefore, bibliography connotes the writing of books of books or in its most general sense; it is the study and description of books (Sababa, 2012). Ogbonna (2009) noted that this is a reference work that contains a compilation or list of information on recorded sources of information that provides sources of information and not the information itself. A bibliography is a list of source materials used in the process of preparing a piece of work, or that are referred to in the text. A treatise is a book or long conventional paper, usually on a complex or abstruse subject, particularly a systematic well-documented presentation of actualities, proof, standards or conclusions drawn from such project (Reitz, 2020). Treatise can further be explained as a written discourse on a certain subject, which is generally longer, greater depth treatment of the subject matter, and more concerned with investigating, exploring, and exposing the principles of the subject under discussion.

An index is an arrangement of the list of headings alphabetically, which involves individual names, places, and subjects treated in a composed archive, with page numbers serving as pointers for further reference of the potential reader. An index serves as the pointer to the page (s) where information or source is referred to in the main text (Reitz, 2020). An index can also be described as a pointer to the holdings of books which enables easy retrieval of information and is usually found at the back of the book which gives the user easy location of words in the book and arranged alphabetically (Sababa, 2012). It is a list of words or phrases that carries associated pointer or locator as to direct a user to where useful materials relating to that phrase or heading can be found in a given document. The pointers, in this case, can be the page numbers, paragraph numbers or section numbers; while the words can be authors' name, titles, places, events or other items considered relevant and of interest to a possible reader of the book (Browne & Jerney, 2007).

Reitz (2020) described a textbook as a comprehensive compilation of edition of a book in a branch of study explicitly proposed for the utilization of learners and instructors who are enrolled in a course of study, planning for assessments regarding a matter or in a scholarly order, as distinct from the exchange version of a similar title. Textbooks are sometimes published in conjunction with an exercise manual, lab manuals, and educator's manual. They may likewise be referred to as the standard work used for a particular course of study, regardless of whether published in special edition or not. Also, a textbook is a publication used especially in the study of a subject and used for teaching and learning with a single or joint author(s) who are usually conversant in the subject(s) of the book, most times experts are professionals in their subject field (Ogbonna, 2009). According to Otazu (n.d), a textbook is a book used as a standard source of information on a particular subject. It is a book used in the investigation of a subject as one containing a presentation of the

standards of a subject; or an abstract work relevant to the investigation of a subject.

Obichere, Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2012) described reference materials as any publication from which authoritative information can be found. They are usually not meant to be read from cover to cover. Reference materials include but not limited to dictionaries, encyclopaedias, catalogue records, printed indexes and abstracting services, bibliographic databases and so on. Similarly, reference sources are books designed to be consulted or referred to for specific bits of information (Obichere *et al.*, 2012). Otazu (n.d) noted that, a good reference information resources have the quality of ease-of-use or user-friendly nature in its entries and they are not designed to be read from page to page like textbooks but mainly for consultations within the reference section of the library such as dictionaries, encyclopaedias, directories, yearbooks, almanac, handbooks/manuals, biographical sources, abstracts. Despite the important role of information resources in enhancing security for academic librarians, scholars such as Jiyane and Ocholla (2004) found that, the use of reference sources is fraught with problems. They asserted that many academic librarians do not know where to begin their search and most of them have little or no idea of how to use the online catalogue or perform searches in databases hence, hinder their performance. It, therefore, believes that there is a need for libraries in Nigeria to stand as vanguards for the reception of innovation exchange emanating from the developed economies.

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES (EIRS)

EIRs are a digital representation of data, ideas and information that are prepared to facilitate unrestricted access to information resources that are not directly owned by the user or the institution. Electronic Information resources comprise information and computer program(s) encoded for perusing and manipulating by a computer, by the use of a fringe gadget directly connected to the computer, for example, a CD-ROM drive, or remotely through a computer, for example, the Internet. The category includes electronic texts, bibliographic databases, software applications, web sites, e-books, institutional repositories, collections of e-journals and so on. In a related development, Dadize (2005) posited that electronic resources remain an invaluable research tools that can be used to complement the print-based resources in a traditional library thus supporting the argument that librarians preferred different kinds of database depending on their needs. This confirms the revelation from (Ollé & Borrego, 2010). According to these authors, the study revealed that the amount of journal reading among information users as a result of increase in electronic journals availability enhanced their job performance.

The following can be deduced from the above definitions. First, computer access plays a pivotal role in the utilisation of electronic resources. Different kinds of computer such as personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile devices can be utilized. Second, electronic resources can be in different forms such as e-journal, e-book, e-thesis, full-text database, online database, CD-ROM, among others. Third, e-resources can be in numerical, graphical or time-based forms that can be marketed and made available commercially to target audience or users. EIRs require licensing and authentication, they are not publicly available free of charge. The significance of EIRs is being recognized at various libraries (such as academic, research, public). However, the EIRs consume much of library budgets,

even to the detriment of monographic acquisitions (Gakibayo, Ikoja-Odongo & Okello-Obura, 2013). As concluded by these authors, ICTs have brought a positive impact on the nature, boundaries and structure of information. These electronic information resources are discussed in detail below.

E-book: An e-book is a digital version of a traditional print book designed to be read on a personal computer or e-book reader (Reitz, 2020). Some libraries offer access to electronic books through the online catalogue. Johnson, Evensen, Gelgand, Lammers, Sipe and Zilper (2012) viewed an e-book as a book that is given in a computerized organization to checkout or used through an Internet program, a computer, or another electronic gadget like a digital book reader. Similarly, Dinkelman and Stacy-Bates (2007) defined digital book as any bit of electronic content regardless of size or composition (an advanced item), excluding journal/diary productions, made accessible electronically (or optically) for any gadget (mobile or handheld) that incorporates a screen. The advantages of e-books include space-saving, accessibility, speedy publications as well as low costs (Ashcroft & Watt, 2004). In contrast, Minčić-Obradović (2011) highlighted the demerits of e-books to include difficulties with reading on a screen as it strains eyes; technical necessities; and compatibility with citation software.

E-journal: An e-journal is a computerized version of a print journal/diary or a journal/diary-like electronic publication with no print version made accessible through the Web, email, or different methods of Internet access (Reitz, 2020). Some online electronic journals/diaries are graphically demonstrated on the print version. With the development of the Internet, librarians and information professionals have acknowledged the capabilities of ICT as a means of resource sharing and to identified challenges encountered in intellectual property rights from the author to the publisher (Correia & de Castro, 2006). As indicated by Johnson *et al.* (2012), e-journals/diaries are provided in a digital format for access through Internet program, a computer or other electronic gadgets. Lee (2002) defined e-journal/journal/diary as an electronic asset published as a sequential, often duplicating a journal that already exists in the print structure, yet besides being born digital. The major objective of subscribing to e-resources in academic libraries is to facilitate wider and easy access to information resources that are not owned directly by the libraries but that are on the World Wide Web. Lee (2002)'s study established that all the parameters enhanced the effective utilisation of e-resources for job performance by academic librarians. E-journals are interactive which makes it more friendly than print resources, and e-journal does not require shelf spaces, rather they only require a computer with internet facilities (Mahure, 2020).

Online Newspapers: They are serial publications of news items that are issued on daily basis about events of previous days of the week, or weekly and information on instant happenings so long there is Internet connectivity (Reitz, 2020). The news/information on online newspapers may be accessed remotely through the use of mainframe computers, laptops, telephone and other mobile technologies. According to Koundal and Mishra (2018) e-newspaper is the kind of online service which provides information about the important national and international affairs, stories as well as financial issues. Furthermore, they

provide news in multimedia form through the use of photographs, charts, graphs, video and audio clips. However, the services provided by this outlet, are geared towards providing information to readers. Similarly, there is a collection of sites that serve as search engines; an example of this includes, the pathfinder (www.pathfinder.com) which serves as both search engine strategy and web sites collection.

Full-text Database: Full-text database as defined by Reitz (2020) is an e-resource that offers text of a single work entirely. Full-text database includes articles published in one or more journals, magazines and/or newspapers. For examples, a bibliographic database that offers the whole text of a significant proportion of the works indexed, in addition to the bibliographic citation and an abstract of the content such as JSTOR, *Britannica Online* and other e-databases. Full-text databases provide the full-text of a document instead of just a citation or abstract; full-text documents from electronic databases are typically available in PDF or HTML (Johnson *et al.*, 2012). Odero and Mutula (2017) stated that one of the legacies of the growth of the Internet and the Web is that individuals are no longer contented with computer services which only direct them to information but rather they want computer services to provide indexing and abstracting of resources as well as the full content.

Reference Database: A reference database is a large catalogue which can be searched for information on a particular subject (Stevenson & Collin, 2006). Among the merit of searching the electronic source of information on the Web is that the information on this platform is readily available, fast and mostly free (Rao, 2000). The web allows individuals or groups of individuals to search for different information sources at a given time. This web contains similar information materials as can be found in the library. Information can be sourced/searched through the use of almanac, dictionary, abbreviations, charts acronyms, table, among others.

Compact Disc-Read Only Memory (CD-ROM) Databases: Compact Disc-Read Only Memory (pronounced "see dee rahm"), is a small plastic optical disk similar to an audio compact disc, measuring 4.72 inches (12 centimeters) in diameter, used as a publishing medium and for storing information in digital format (Johnson *et al.* 2012). The disc is read by a small laser beam inside a device called a CD-ROM drive. The author revealed that data encoded on a CD-ROM can be searched and displayed on a computer screen that cannot be changed or erased. The author further stated that each disc can store 650 megabytes of data, the equivalent of 250,000 to 300,000 pages of text or approximately 1,000 books of average length.

SECURITY OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

Information resources security play a critical role in supporting library services by driving innovation and opportunities for the development of competitive advantage within the library settings. As such, preservation of the confidentiality, integrity and availability of these information resources is a significant imperative for libraries, as is the need for a viable information security strategy in any academic or research libraries to facilitate information security transfer. Theft, mutilation and vandalism are the major security challenges face by most libraries in Nigeria. Akor (2013) described security of information resources as a process designed to protect library collections against unauthorized removal

or loss.

The safety and security of library resources is germane. This is because library resources are rapidly changing as more electronic materials are available to users. As explained by Venter and Eloff (2003), information security involves protecting information and information-bearing materials to minimize the risk of information exposure to unlawful users. Similarly, Pipkin (2000) described information security as the protection of the intellectual property of an organisation. Data integrity as noted by Cai and Zhu (2015) is core to information security. Data integrity involves maintaining and guaranteeing data accuracy and consistency over its entire life cycle. This promotes difficulty (impossibility) of information modification by unauthorized parties in an undetectable manner (Omosekejimi *et al.*, 2015).

Despite the benefits inherent in the use of electronic security system is still bedevilled in Nigeria by a number of challenges such as inadequate funding of library, power failure, hardware and software failure, inadequate skilled manpower among others. These challenges can be effectively addressed through consistent disbursement of funds for library projects, promote library education among librarians and other para-professionals, constant power supply to the library as well as training IT professionals in core areas of library management to provide tailor-made technological supports for optimal operations of the library services.

Information security systems promote data confidentiality and message integrity. Availability and authenticity are two core features of any information security. As explained by Spagnoletti and Resca (2008), the purpose of information-bearing materials is to make such materials available when needed. This implies that physical materials such as books and journals that contain information and computer systems used for storing and processing information should be properly protected in a way that facilitates easy access and functionality. Availability of information-bearing materials guarantee constant access to information, prevents disruptions orchestrated by power and hardware failures and prevention of messages that can forcefully shut down the system. Authenticity as a feature of information security entails validation of claims made by parties involved in information sharing and exchange. This can be attained by using a digital signature as a proof of the genuineness of message data sent by a party with an authentic signing key.

APPROACHES TO LIBRARY INFORMATION SECURITY

Information security in the library can be examined in different ways such as security of physical assets and security using telecommunication and electronic gadgets.

Physical Security of Library Assets: This includes the architectural designs and the use of security personnel. The architectural design of the library should ensure proper lighting both within and outside (vehicular and pedestrian entrances). The design of circulation areas should facilitate proper surveillance. The design should also assist easy monitoring of library staff, visitors, service vehicles and pedestrians as well as concealing sensitive areas of the library from being accessed by unauthorized individuals. The design also should be done in a way that prevents unwanted entry and concealing of criminal elements from being detected by security personnel and detective mechanisms. Doors and windows of the

library building should be functional and properly protected using different devices such as cylindrical locks, deadbolts, mortise locks, guards, bars, screens and films among others. Concerning security personnel, the library should be safeguarded by well trained and motivated security team. The security personnel should be on the ground during working hours as well as when the library is closed. The security personnel are expected to carry out routine checks of the facilities and ensure constant operations of any security gadgets put in place to facilitate their work.

Library Security using Telecommunication and Electronic Gadgets: This involves protecting information systems from being accessed, damaged, stolen or destroyed by unauthorized individuals. This can be achieved using burglary protection, collection security, electronic access control, video and camera surveillance.

Burglary Protection: This involves the use of sensor systems that can be active or passive. Active sensors help in transmitting different types of energy and detecting changes in received energy created by the presence of motion of the intruders while sensors help in detecting energy emitted by an intruder or change of some natural field of energy caused by the intruder.

Collection Security: This entails putting mechanisms in place to checkmate the movement of materials without proper authorization. It prevents an illegal movement of materials outside the library. It involves fixing some security or monitoring devices such as electromagnetic and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) on the materials (books, journals, magazines, CDs and DVD, audio and video cassettes and so on).

Electronic Access Control: This is used for monitoring access to library building facilities, resources and room. For instance, authorized individuals can be granted access to a controlled area of the library using automatic door unlocking devices, plastic access cards, or screening using well-programmed software such as biometrics entry systems that use fingerprint recognition, palm recognition, and scanning systems. Electronic access control facilitates effective protection and security of valuable library access.

Camera and Video Surveillance They are potent tools for monitoring and recording movements of library resources and users to reduce crime and promote safety. For instance, closed-circuit television (CCTV) can be used to scrutinize library staff and visitors, scrutinize work environment, prevent stealing as well as observe and record misconducts by library users and employees.

STRATEGIES FOR SECURING INFORMATION RESOURCES

The adoption of the following strategies can help in promoting effective information security in the library:

- i. Well trained personnel should be assigned to different areas of information security risk management.
- ii. Library information security personnel should be up to date in seeking and utilizing information relating to their duties. This can be achieved by subscribing to security-related outlets and constant training. Regular intra-library information security discussion sessions will go a long way in keeping personnel abreast of current issues in the area.

- iii. Access level hierarchy should be developed and used by personnel. Access to highly sensitive information and systems should be restricted to few tested and trusted professionals.
- iv. Regular and comprehensive audits of computer hard and soft wares should be conducted to identify and manage possible loopholes.
- v. Library information systems should be configured to give automatic notification in situations where there is network outage or serious break-in attempt.

CONCLUSION

This chapter concludes that in this era of global insecurity, effective management of library information resources is critical. That irrespective of the categorization of information resources – print or electronic, securing them against loss and theft is considered to be important in managing libraries. The use of different information sources is to facilitate better performance of users in the era of global insecurity. To achieve optimum results in using information resources, librarians and other para-professionals should be up to date in seeking and utilizing information relating to their duties by subscribing to security-related outlets, constant training and information sharing to keep them abreast of current issues in the profession.

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