

Comparative Analysis of Publication Output of Librarians in Public University, Polytechnic and College of Education in Ogun State

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Abstract: This study provided a comparative analysis of publication output of academic librarians in three selected tertiary educational institutions in Ogun State. The institutions are Olabisi Onabanjo University (OOU); Federal Polytechnic Ilaro (FPI) and; Federal College of Education (FCE). The study examined the demography of the respondents, their publication output and outlets; and obstacles to their publication output. These are done with intention to suggest improvement measures and encouragement to librarians in the state. The descriptive survey research was adopted and questionnaire was used to gather data for the study. A total of 43 librarians in the three educational institutions took part in the study. The study revealed low publication output especially from polytechnic and college of education compared to university. It was discovered that librarians at university published more articles in local and foreign journals than librarians in both colleges of education and polytechnics. It also revealed that academic librarians were cognizant of the importance of publishing as an important aspect of their academic activities without which they could be stagnated on their career progression. In order to solve the problem of low publication output of academic librarians in polytechnic and college of education, it was recommended that the management of various institutions increase their training opportunities available for academic librarians and make funds available for research activities. The academic librarians at the college of education and polytechnic should be allowed as much as possible time for research as university staff.

Keywords: Academic librarians, Academic libraries-Ogun state, publication output of librarians, Journal article publishing.

1. INTRODUCTION

Academic libraries are so called because they are attached to institutions that are professionally concerned with education. These are libraries of universities, polytechnics, and colleges of education. The objective of academic libraries is to serve the staff and students in the institutions to which they are attached. However, academic libraries differ from each other in their coverage and services. Academic institutions are post-secondary libraries established to cater for the advance learning and research of students. They are institutions where different types of information professionals or an informal training like continuing education, workshops and training courses. Academic institutions comprise universities, polytechnics, colleges of educations and a host of others concerned mostly with researches and publications. Bosanquet (2008) described academic libraries as large business units within higher institutions of learning that is materially significant as a percentage of the institution budget. Reitz (2004) affirmed that they are significant with considerable space, housing a variety of materials including maps, books, audio-visuals and large member of staff, many of whom are both intelligent and well qualified.

Academic libraries are integral part of a college, university and other institutions of postsecondary education, administered to meet the information and research needs of their serve. They perform functions directly related to the

mission of each institution. Academic librarians are professionally trained personnel responsible for the care of a library in higher institutions of learning and its contents, including the selection, processing and organization of materials and the delivery of information, instruction and loan services to meet the needs of its users. In an on-line environment, the role of the academic librarians is to manage access to information that may exist only in electronic form. Scholarly publication is an activity which involves the communication of knowledge generated through research opinion and evaluation of past knowledge or emerging ones. The need to extend the frontier of knowledge in the field of library and information studies professionals makes it imperative that (LIS) professionals carry out research and publish in professional journals. This was corroborated by Aina (2004) when he posits that for any discipline to grow, research must constantly be carried out as this will extend the frontier on the discipline.

Oduwole (2006) asserted that having been accorded academic status, librarians in Nigerian higher institutions need to publish so as to justify and earn their status as academicians. As part of research activities, academic librarians spend a considerable amount of time working with electronic resources and are increasingly involved with database management and web page development. Besides the issue of research and publication by academic librarians, there are other activities which include provision of support to members of the academic community, such as students, staff and the researchers. They are also involved in facilitating and supporting learning by teaching information retrieval skills to students and staff. As earlier stated librarians are the core of academic activities in any institutional setting because they are professionally qualified to answer reference queries from the users, conduct research and make it known to the larger professional communities. Academic librarians are the professional teachers and mentors for the users of academic libraries who are major students and researchers.

The fact that librarians in the academic institutions are generally regarded as academics is no longer a doubt. What is not certain is their ability to demonstrate and convince the academic communities in which they operate about the justification for the academic status so accorded them by the way of research and publication. The fruits of research and scholarship are new knowledge or facts, and these are disseminated to academic community through publications, seminars, conferences among others. Academic librarians have long been recognized as the nucleus of their educational institutions. To fulfill their mission of supporting the educational objectives of their parent bodies which include teaching, learning, research and cultural development, the libraries and librarians have to develop and maintain standard through books, journals and non-print collections and services and publication of research findings.

Publication output is the result of research works or findings such as articles in journals, books, monographs that are made available to the public for enlightenment, growth, education, and development. While publishing is publicly documenting, making known or sharing some important information with wider audience and testing those ideas or findings by making them open to peer scrutiny both in the refereeing process and in the wider reading of the journals. Research results could be used to affect change, inform an opinion or belief. Through journals or research results researchers' access important information about recent developments in their field. Journal publications are also used to access the productivity and contribution of academics and practitioners.

Joswick (1999), noted that library and information (LIS) journals remain the primary outlet for the communication of research findings among academic librarians in Illinois and by generalization in the United States. However, it is a common cause that researchers need to boost research productivity and improve methods of communicating research results to their intended audiences. This study attempted a comparative analysis of the publication output of academic librarians in three types of tertiary institutions, university, polytechnic and College of Education. It is hoped that through this work, the factors promoting and militating against academic librarians publication output will be highlighted and solutions suggested.

Objectives of the study

This study sought to determine or ascertain the research and publication output of academic librarians in a university, polytechnic and college of education in Ogun State.

It is specifically designed to:

- i. identify the demographic variables of the respondents
- ii. determine the frequency the academic librarians in the three institutions publish.

- iii. find out the publication output of librarians in the three institutions in the last 5 years between (2013-2016).
- iv. Identify obstacles to publication output of the librarians in the three institutions

Research questions

The following research questions guided the study:

- i. What is demographic distribution of librarians in the three institutions?
- ii. What is the frequency of journal article publication of librarians in the three institutions?
- iii. What are the outlets of the findings or publications of librarians in the three institutions?
- iv. What are the obstacles to publication output of the librarians in the three institutions?

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The importance of research and publication cannot be over emphasized. Most importantly is place in skills development and problem solving given dynamism in educational operation and services, resulting from the changing time and environment. Powell and Mika (2002) confirmed the importance of research publication to library and information (US) practitioners and the professions by writing, that is. it is needed to improve problem solving and decision making in the workplace and to make professional practitioners critical consumers of the research literature. Aina (2004) noted that research and publication are needed for the expansion of (LIS) frontiers of knowledge and for finding solutions to problems emanating from its practices. Zhuo (2008) submitted that through involvement in campus learning and research opportunities, the academic librarians can learn of the latest development and keep up with new subject and knowledge in various academic fields. Their engagement will help to build up their knowledge bases and at the same time strengthen ties with the campus community so that they can better understand their needs for information services. Ogunshola (2004) in the study on faculty status for professional librarians accepted the need for publishing by librarians in order to be accepted as true academics.

Research activity has also been considered to be relevant in enhancing the daily services provided to users by the librarians, Professional development or continuing education has therefore become a necessity for academic librarians to adopt and perform so as to meet the challenges of today in academic environments. Agboola and Oduwole (2005) reported that scholarly opportunities for professional development or continuing education do exist around academic environments. These opportunities range from research-oriented, educational cultural and technological oriented activities. They are integral part of academic institutions and learning environment. Through involvement and participation in these activities, academic librarians can keep current with happenings in various subject fields and as a result of that benefits their professional work and association. Oduwole and Ikhizama (2007) considered publication output as an important criterion in measuring success of librarians. In many academic libraries today, research output has formed the major criterion in promotion of their librarians.

Research activity has also been considered to be relevant in enhancing the daily services provided to users. This is the view of Black and Leysen as cited by Oduwole and Ikhizama (2007), when they assert that research often sharpens skills and broadens perspective for the daily services provided. Generally, Agboola and Oduwole (2000) are of the view that presenting papers at staff seminars has been of tremendous help to librarians in presenting acceptable manuscripts for publication in professional journals. In addition, Oduwole and Ikhizama (2007), observed that, in the area of librarians' assessment, emphasis was placed on journal articles though other papers like conference papers and proceedings are considered. Journal article publications constitute major source of current research. This is in tune with the findings of Ekoja and Oji (1999), and Agboola and Oduwole (2000), who submitted that journals constituted the major channel of the dissemination of librarians' research output. Hart (1999) submitted that the increase in refereed journal articles, in terms of both the total number of articles and their proportion of total publications serves as evidence not only of increasing publication demands. But also of an improvement in the quality of the respondents' publications output overtime.

Research output is very important as it encourages research and the result could be applied to library management. It also enhances the prestige of librarians in academic circle.

Zhuo (2008) opined that librarians need to take advantage of all kinds of professional development and scholarly opportunities on campus to answer today's challenges. The learning opportunities can include participation in student's

presentation and degree defenses, campus and departmental in-service workshops, visiting scholar presentations and campus research activities such as research showcases. Only when partnered with faculty members, students, and campus related entities and involved with campus scholarly activities, will the academic librarians be much better positioned, motivated to do research and publish, and support their institutions teaching, learning and research mission. So also are the individual librarians' will powers to succeed and the determination not to perish in the academic high seas. Hence, the realization of the importance of research in the academic environment should itself motivating factor to publish. Availability of publications that contain the needed languages for publication is another motivating factor to scholarly publishing by LIS professionals.

3. METHODOLOGY

This study adopted descriptive survey method. The study populations are all academic librarians in tertiary institutions in Ogun State, Nigeria. There are sixty-four academic librarians in public tertiary institutions in the State. It is from these populations that forty-six respondents from the three institutions were selected. The three selected institutions are the representatives of tertiary institutions in the state. Institutions selected for the study are Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye; Federal College of Education FCE, Osiele, Abeokuta and; The Federal Polytechnic (FPI) Ilaro.

A self-developed questionnaire was used to gather data from the respondents. The questionnaire is divided into three sections. Section A was designed to obtain personal data such as name of institution, sex, age, cadre and years of experience or the respondents. Section B focused on publication outlets. Section C is on publication media. The instrument was pre-tested on academic librarians at the Nimbe Adedipe Library, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta. This is an academic library outside the sample population. Cronbach Alpha was used to determine the reliability coefficient. A value of 0.75 was obtained. Hence, the instrument was accepted as appropriate and suitable for the study. Copies of the questionnaire were administered personally by the researchers and were collected back immediately after completion. The data collected from the respondents was subjected to simple descriptive statistical analysis.

A total number of 46 academic librarians were sampled for the study comprising male and female librarians from the three institutions. Forty-three (43) of them responded to the copies of the questionnaire administered from the three educational institution used for the study.

Table 1: Distribution of surveyed respondents by institution and job status

Institutions	Categories of Librarian	Number
OOU	University Librarian	01
	Deputy University Librarian	00
	Principal Librarian	02
	Senior Librarian	07
	Librarian I	06
	Librarian II	04
	Assistant Librarian	00
FPI	Polytechnic Librarian	1
	Chief Librarian	3
	Principal Librarian	1
	Librarian I	3
	Librarian II	2
FCE	College Librarian	1
	Chief Librarian	5
	Principal Librarian	2
	Senior Librarian	5
	Librarian I	2
	Librarian II	1
	Total	46

Data Analysis and findings of the study

Table 2 revealed the numbers of male and female respondents from the three educational institutions by gender. It showed that the female respondents outnumbered the male respondents a bit; OOU has 08 (17%) male and 12 female (27%) respondents. FPI had 05 respondents for both sexes. FCE had 05(13%) male and 08(17%) female respondents. It can be deduced from the total respondents that male respondents were 18 (42%) and female respondent. 25 (58%) indicating that female are now competing favourably with their male colleagues in the field of librarianship.

Table 2: Gender of the respondents

Institutions	Respondents		
	Sex	Frequency	Percentage
OOU	Male	08	17
	Female	12	27
FPI	Male	05	13
	Female	05	13
FCE	Male	05	13
	Female	08	17
Total	Total	43	100

The age distribution of the respondents, as analysed in Table 3, indicated that a respondent from OOU were between the ages of 30-35; 2 respondents (05%) were of 36-40 years old while 10 respondents (23%) were of 41-45 years; 4 respondents (09%) were between 46-50 years. From the polytechnic 3 respondents (07%) each were between the ages of 41-45 and 46-50 years respectively. while 1 (02%) respondent was of between the ages or 56-60 and 60-65 years respectively. 4 respondents (09%) from college of education were of 41-45 years; and 3 respondents (07%) were between the age of 56-60 years. These findings show that there were more middle age people among the respondents. This implies that a good number of young librarians that are active, agile and who can contribute positively to knowledge through researches and publications are coming up in the profession.

Table 3: Age range of the respondents

Institutions	Age range	Frequency	Percentage	
OOU	30- 35 years	01	02	
	36 -40 years	02	05	
	41- 45 years	10	23	
	46 – 50 years	04	09	
	51 – 55 years	01	02	
	56 - 60 years	02	05	
	61 – 65 years	00	20	00
FPI	30- 35 years	00	00	
	36 -40 years	00	00	
	41- 45 years	03	07	
	46 – 50 years	03	07	
	51 – 55 years	01	02	
	56 - 60 years	01	02	
	61 – 65 years	02	10	05
FCE	30- 35 years	01	02	
	36 -40 years	02	05	
	41- 45 years	04	09	
	46 – 50 years	01	02	
	51 – 55 years	02	05	
	56 - 60 years	03	07	
	61 – 65 years	00	13	00
Total		43	43	100

In every one of the institutions studied, master degree was the qualification of the most of the respondents. At (OOU) has 19 respondents (44%) are holders of Master's degrees, and only one respondent had PhD. FPI had 08 master degree holders (17%).FCE had 6 respondents (14%) with MLS, and three PhD holders. These findings reflect that PhD holders were still not sufficient in the institutions studied, even at the university where the minimum entry qualification now for academic staff is PhD degree. Hence, there is need for more skillful and academic development by the respondents. Though, the findings showed that highly educated were the librarians, who have brighter future for publications in their professional career.

Table 4: Educational qualification of respondents

Institutions	Respondents		
		Frequency	Percentage
OOU	PhD	01	02
	MLS	19	44
	BLS	00	00
FPI	PhD	00	00
	MLS	08	17
	BLS	03	07
	PGD	00	00
FCE	PhD	03	07
	MLS	06	14
	BLS	03	07
	PGD	01	02
	Total	43	100

Large percentage of the respondents is still young professionals who have not spent many years in service. This is presented in Table 5. For example 12(28%) respondents from OOU had spent between 10-25 years in service and 08(19%) had spent between 25-30 years. At FPI 05respondents (12%) indicated they had spent between 05-20 years; and the rest had been on the job for 25- 30 years. At theFCE 10 respondents (23%) had their years of experience between 05- 25 years and the remainder 03(7%) had spent between 25-30 years on the job.This implied that appreciable number of the respondents is young professionals who have ample opportunities to reach the pinnacle of their academic career at the university, polytechnic and the college of education.

Table 5: Working experience of the respondents

Institutions	Respondents		
	Years	Frequency	Percentage
OOU	5-10	02	00
	10-15	05	12
	15-20	05	12
	20-25	08	19
	25-30	00	00
	30-35	00	00
FPI	5-10	02	05
	10-15	01	02
	15-20	03	07
	20-25	02	05
	25-30	02	05
	30-35	00	00
FCE	5-10	00	00

	10-15	02	05
	15-20	05	12
	20-25	03	07
	25-30	03	07
	30-35	00	00
Total		43	100

The respondents' job status indicated that majority of the respondents are between Librarian II and Principal Librarians at OOU; from Librarian II and chief librarian in the FPI; and from Assistant Librarian to chief librarian at the FCE. See their distribution in Table 6.

Table 6: Designation of the correspondents

Institutions	Categories of Librarian	Number
OOU	Deputy University Librarian	00
	Principal Librarian	02
	Senior Librarian	07
	Librarian I	06
	Librarian II	01
	Assistant Librarian	00
FPI	Polytechnic Librarian	00
	Chief Librarian	03
	Principal Librarian	01
	Librarian I	03
	Librarian II	02
FCE	College Librarian	00
	Chief Librarian	03
	Principal Librarian	02
	Senior Librarian	05
	Librarian I	02
	Librarian II	01
	Total	43

Distribution of respondents by frequency of publication

It could be deduced from Table 7 that majority of the respondents were not publishing as expected. In the case of the university studied a greater percentage, 21% of the respondents disseminated their research results at every two years. At the polytechnic, the story was not different as 1(2.3%), 2(4.7%) and 1(2.3%) respondents, each published at every 2 years, every 3 years and once in 5 years respectively. Similarly, at the college of education 1(2.3%), 6(13.9%) and 1(2.3%) respondent published at every 2 years, at every 3 years and at once in 5 years. This shows that majority of the respondents from polytechnic and colleges of education did not publish as respondents from the university. It can also be observed that the respondents from OOU, FCE, and FPI could not give the interval in which they had published. To worsen the matter, there was no single respondent who could boast of publishing articles(s) on yearly basis to support the versatility of the academic librarians in the higher institutions.

Table 7: Publication intervals of the respondents

Institutions	Intervals	Frequency	Percentage
OOU	2 years	09	21
	3 years	03	07
	4 years	01	02
	5 years	00	-
	6 years	00	00

	As at when research is completed	00	00
	Not indicated	07	16
FPI	2 years	02	05
	3 years	03	07
	4 years	-	00
	5 years	02	05
	As at when research is completed	02	05
	Not indicated	01	02
FCE	2 years	01	02
	3 years	06	14
	4 years	01	02
	As at when research is completed	00	00
	Not indicated	05	12
		Total	43

Publication outlets

Analysis of the responses on the outlet that the respondents disseminate their research efforts showed that journals were the highest publication outlets used by the academic librarians for their article publications. In OOU, 13(30%) of the respondents published their articles in journals, 5(12%) used journals and conference proceedings as their publication outlets. 1(2%) published in conference proceeding only while 1(2.3%) did not indicate any publication outlet. In FPI, the analysis showed that 3(7%) respondents used conference proceedings only to publish their articles, 2(4.7%) respondents used journals and conference proceedings, while 1(2.3%) respondent each published their research findings in journals, conference proceedings and seminar proceedings and 1(2.3%) did not indicate the outlet. Analysis from the college of education, indicated that 4(9.3%) respondents published their articles in journals. 7(16%) disseminated their articles through conference proceedings and journals. and 1 (02%) respondent published in conferences proceeding; and only 1(2.3%) did not indicate the outlet or his or her research articles. The implication of this is that academic librarians in the university, polytechnic and college of education published their research articles mostly in journals, followed by conference and seminar proceedings.

Table 8: Publication outlets

Institutions	Publication outlets	Frequency	Percentage
OOU	Journals	13	30
	Conference proceedings	01	02
	Journals and conference proceedings	05	12
	Not indicated	01	02
FPI	Journals	1	02
	Conference proceedings	3	07
	Journals and conference proceedings	2	05
	Journals, conference proceedings and seminar proceedings	1	02
	Not indicated	03	07
FCE	Journals	07	16
	Conference proceedings	1	02
	Journals and conference proceedings	2	05
	Not indicated	03	07
Total		43	100

Furthermore, efforts were made to find out if the respondents published their articles in journals in their field only (LIS) or they featured in other academic/professional journals.

Analysis of data obtained from OOU indicated that 8(19%) respondents published in other journals outside LIS; 12respondents (28%) published in LIS journals only. This revealed that the respondents from the OOU featured both in LIS and other journals outside their field.The finding is the same with respondents from FPI. The analysis from the institution showed that 3(7%) of the respondents published in LIS journals only which 7(16%) published in journals outside LIS. However, academic librarians from the College of education published more in journals outside LIS because 8(19%) published in journals outside LIS which 3(07%) published in LIS journal only, and 2(4%) respondents did not respond.Some library and information science journals listed by the respondents are Journals of Library and Information Science (.JOLIS), Lagos Journal of Library and Information Science (LJLIS), Gateway Library Journal (GLJ), African Journal of Library Archives and Information Science (AJLAIS). Journals outside LIS listed are West African Journals of education, Social Science and educational journal, Journal of Scientific Education, International Journal of Educational Development using ICT (IJEDICT), Women in Technical Education Journal WITED and Educational Journal respectively as where they published outside LIS journals.

Publication output of Librarians in local and foreign journals in the last 5 years (2012-2016)

The respondents' publication outputs in local journals in the last five years show that 16 respondents (37%) from the OOU from one to five articles in local journals. While 5(12%) of them had published fromsix to ten articles. At the FPI, 6 respondents (15%) published from one to five articles in local journals while the remaining four respondents did not. From the FCE, 3 respondents (7.0%) published between six and ten articles in local journals; and six respondents had between one and five articles. It could be inferred from this analysis that the respondents (academic librarians) were publishing or featuring favourably in their publications in local journals. Although there were more publications from the University because, it is a bigger and larger establishment compared to the Polytechnic and College of Education studied. See the Table 9.

Tables 9: Publications in local and foreign journals in the last 5 years (2012-2016)

Institutions	Local journals	Frequency	%	Foreign journals	Frequency	%
OOU	1-5 publications	16	37	1-5 publications	04	09
	6-10 publications	05	12	6-10 publications	01	02
	11-15 publications	00	00	11-15 publications	00	00
	Not indicated	00	00	Not indicated	15	35
F PI	1-5 publications	06	15	1-5 publications	00	00
	6-10 publications	00	00	6-10 publications	00	00
	Not indicated	04	09	Not indicated	10	23
FCE	1-5 publications	06	15	1-5 publications	00	00
	6-10 publications	03	07	6-10 publications	00	00
	11-15 publications	00	00	11-15 publications	00	00
	Not indicated	02	05	Not indicated	13	31
Total		43	100		43	100

Table 9 further reveals that only five respondents from OOU had published in foreign journals. 4 of the respondents (09%) had from one to five articles while only one had featured from six to ten times. Other respondents from OOU, FPI, and FCE had yet to publish in foreign journals. Some foreign journals feature in are Library Herald, International Library Movement, Library Philosophy and Practice, Library Hi-tech News, The Electronic Library, and International Journal of Education using ICT (IJEDICT). It can be observed that academic librarians in the university did well with the foreign publication while the respondents at the polytechnic and college of education were not in foreign publications.

Obstacles to publication output of the respondents

On the issue of obstacles to the academic librarians publication output, 12 respondents representing 28% from the OOU conceded to having problems in publishing their researches due to busy schedule of work and financial constraints. 3(7%) did not indicate any problems in publishing their articles. At the FPI, a total of 08 respondents (18%) indicate that they had issue with their publication output while 2(05%) respondents were silent on this point. At the FCE, 11 respondents (25%) had problems, and 2(05%) respondents did not indicate whether they had problem in publishing their research results or not. To conclude with majority of the respondents from all the institutions studied had problems in publishing their research articles. On further analysis, Table 10 showed that, the major obstacles to the respondents' publication output were busy schedule of work, and financial constraints. From the university studied, there were 12(28%) respondents, who gave busy schedule of work and financial constraints as the obstacles they were facing; 3(07%) respondents and 2(05%) respondents gave busy schedule of work with inadequate literature. Busy schedule of work and financial constraints were also attributed to by 6(13%) respondents at the FPI; busy schedule of work with inadequate literature were given by 2(05%) respondents. Similarly, busy schedule of work and financial constraints were again attributed to inadequate publication output by seven respondents representing 16% from FCE. Another 4(09%) respondents gave financial constraints only as the obstacle to their publication of research results.

Table 10: Obstacles to publications output

Institutions	Obstacles	Frequency	Percentage
OOU	• Busy schedule of work and financial constraints	12	28
	• Busy schedule of work with inadequate literature	03	07
	• Financial constraints only	02	05
	• Not indicated	00	00
		03	07
FPI	• Busy schedule of work and financial constraints	06	13
	• Busy schedule of work and inadequate literature	02	05
	• Not indicated	02	05
FCE	• Busy schedule of work and financial constraints	07	16
	• Financial constraints only	04	09
	• Not indicated	02	05
	Total	43	100

4. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

- i. It was found out that journal articles were published by most of the respondents in the three institutions (OOU, FPI, and FCE) studied. Though the journal articles were not frequently published by the respondents.
- ii. Majority of the academic librarians published their research articles mostly in journals and conference proceedings. The respondents published both in LIS journals and journals in other professional fields though not as expected of academic librarians. Hence, the respondents especially from the Polytechnic and College of education were not publishing at all in electronic journals.
- iii. Majority of the respondents were not publishing adequately. It was confirmed from the study that no respondent could boast of an article published on yearly basis. Some published every 2 years, 3 years, 4 years and once in 5 years. However, from empirical study, the respondent declined that good research work took longer periods to be completed as the reason for their inability to publish yearly.
- iv. On the inhibitors to publication output of academic librarians, it was found out from majority of the respondents gave busy schedule of work and financial constraints are the problems militating against their adequate publication of articles in journals. This is because librarians are service oriented people who work round the clock. It was found out from empirical study that combining administrative with academic activities did not give them enough time for research work. They further claimed that librarians do not go on holidays even when students they serve are on break.

5. CONCLUSION

From the findings of this study it can be concluded that academic librarians in the selected tertiary institutions in Ogun State fare well in their research and publication output, especially those in university. However, the respondents need to maximize their time to serve the users whom they were employed for and also to be up and doing in publication which is also an important aspect of their professional career.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

In the light of the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

- i. There is need for improvement as no single respondent could boast of publishing every year and could not give number of publication per annum. This should be given serious thought and consideration.
- ii. There is also the need for the respondents to publish in reputable journals than the mushroom journals that the management of their institutions could be skeptical about.
- iii. There should be improvement on the article publications of academic librarians most especially in foreign and electronic journals in order to gain international visibility and recognition.
- iv. The Management of the various institutions under study should motivate their librarians more by sponsoring many of them for higher degrees, and; make funds available for their research works.
- v. Various institutions should also organize conferences and seminars to update their academic staff as they are the tripod on which all the academic activities or any institution rest.
- vi. The respondents should try to purchase the relevant copy or the journal they wish to publish in so as to know about the editorial policies of the journal and all that is needed to know about the journal so that there would not be need for manuscripts being rejected for publication.
- vii. Academic librarians should explore all available opportunities for career development and promotion to make input to the development of their personal innovations. The respondents should also publish for knowledge sharing among each other, because it is a good source of information for academic advancement.

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