

DEVELOPMENT OF A BOOK LENDING/BORROWING SYSTEM

Abstract : The key role of library is to provide structured access to information with the increasing reliance on ICT. [Libraries](#) are playing a significant role in implementing and moderating a country's information society agenda. Library is the focal point of learning and research activities in academic institutions due to its information acquisition, organization, storage, retrieval and dissemination functions to the community. The achievement of the goals of the university is paramount to the establishment of the university library. Librarians are at the threshold of these activities and are now faced with the emergence of information technology in the scene of information exchange. This brought new tools and techniques of acquiring and handling information. To effectively serve the academic community in the ICT environment, the librarians need to move along with the new development. Librarians are those who have the care of library and its content; the work includes selection of stock, its arrangement and exploitation in the widest sense, and the provision of a range of services in the best interest of all groups of users (Prytherch, 1995). They are also involved in the coordination of activities, setting of priorities, evaluation and other managerial tasks and their involvement in the community they serve. In the present age, apart from using the new tool to fulfill the traditional roles of the library, it evolved some new practices in the profession. Some of the new developments include digital environment for information acquisition, processing and dissemination. Information is now mostly in electronic format. [Library](#) services are also affected by the new format. Oppenheim and Smithson (1999) described digital library as an information service in which all the information resources are available in computer processable form. This requires new managerial skills for the administration of the new environment (digital library). Therefore, the new era librarians that can operate in the digital or ICT environment are indispensable. Librarians are compelled to be content creators of information, web page planners and designers and internet navigators. As a result of the digital technology inroad into the profession, such nomenclatures as internet librarians, digital librarians, cyberians or weberians were attributed to the emerging librarians. These are librarians that have acquired the new literacy skills in the manipulation of the ICT tools for information service delivery to the clientele.