

**EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COLLECTION MANAGEMENT
STRATEGIES AND RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY OF LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SCIENCE POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN BENUE STATE
UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI**

BY

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Abstract

This study evaluated the effectiveness of collection management strategies in enhancing the research productivity of Library and Information Science (LIS) postgraduate students at Benue State University, Makurdi. Using a descriptive survey design, data were collected from 82 postgraduate students through a structured questionnaire. Descriptive statistical tools, including mean and standard deviation, were used for analysis. Findings reveal that ICT integration, online database subscriptions, and research support services are effective collection management strategies, while user-centered collection development and interlibrary loan remain less effective. Library resources such as journals and databases moderately meet postgraduate research needs, whereas e-books and reference materials are underutilized. The study identifies key challenges, including inadequate funding, outdated materials, and a lack of skilled personnel, which hinder effective collection management. To address these issues and improve research productivity, strategies such as increased funding allocation, expanded access to electronic resources, and improved cataloging systems are recommended. The study underscores the need for proactive collection development and enhanced digital resource access to support postgraduate research effectively.

Keywords: Collection Management, Research Productivity, Library Resources, Postgraduate Students,

Introduction

Libraries play a crucial role in academic institutions by ensuring that students, researchers, and faculty members have access to relevant and up-to-date resources. One of the core functions of libraries is collection management, which involves selecting, acquiring,

organizing, maintaining, and evaluating library materials to meet the needs of users. Scholars have provided various definitions to explain the concept of collection management. According Awojobi and Uthman (2022) collection management is “the systematic evaluation, selection, acquisition, organization, and maintenance of library materials to meet the information needs of users in a cost-effective manner.” This definition highlights the importance of ensuring that library collections are relevant, well-organized, and accessible to support research and academic work. Similarly, Awojobi and Uthman (2022) defines collection management as “a strategic process that involves planning, developing, and evaluating library collections to ensure they align with the institution’s mission and users’ needs.” This emphasizes the need for continuous assessment and alignment of library collections with academic goals and user demands.

In academic institutions, especially at the postgraduate level, research productivity is a key measure of academic success. Research productivity refers to the ability of scholars to generate, publish, and disseminate new knowledge through various academic outputs, including journal articles, conference presentations, books, and dissertations. Ilo, Igbashal and Agoh (2019) define research productivity as the extent to which an individual, institution, or academic unit produces published work in peer-reviewed outlets or contributes significantly to the body of knowledge in a given discipline. This definition underscores the role of academic libraries in facilitating knowledge creation by providing access to high-quality research materials. Without well-managed library collections, researchers may struggle to find relevant sources, which can hinder the progress and impact of their work.

To ensure effective collection management, Ameyaw (2020) opined that libraries should implement various strategies that optimize the accessibility, relevance, and sustainability of their

collections. One important strategy as noted by Frempong-Kore (2021) is conducting a needs assessment and engaging users to determine the specific research materials that students and faculty require. This helps in making informed decisions regarding acquisitions and subscriptions. Another key approach is developing a balanced acquisition policy that includes a mix of print and electronic resources, as well as open-access materials and subscription-based journals. This ensures that researchers have access to a diverse range of materials to support their studies.

Regular weeding and evaluation of library collections are also essential to maintaining a high-quality research environment. Removing outdated, irrelevant, or damaged materials as observed by Jan and Ganiae (2019) helps to ensure that the collection remains current and useful. Additionally, integrating digital and electronic resources into library services enhances accessibility and convenience for researchers. With the increasing reliance on digital platforms for academic work, Mwilongo, Luambano and Lwehabura (2020) opined that libraries must invest in electronic journals, e-books, and digital repositories. Collaborative resource sharing is another effective strategy, where libraries partner with other institutions to provide access to a wider range of materials through interlibrary loans and consortia agreements. This approach expands the scope of available resources without the financial burden of acquiring every material individually.

At Benue State University, Makurdi, the effectiveness of these collection management strategies plays a significant role in shaping the research productivity of postgraduate students in the Department of Library and Information Science. If the library's collection is well-managed, students can easily access the materials they need, leading to more efficient research and

increased academic output. However, if collection management strategies are ineffective, students may encounter difficulties in accessing relevant resources, which can negatively impact their research progress.

Evaluating the effectiveness of collection management in supporting research productivity is therefore essential in identifying gaps and proposing improvements. This study will provide valuable insights into how library collections contribute to the research output of postgraduate students and will offer recommendations for enhancing collection management practices. By ensuring that the library collection aligns with the research needs of students, the findings from this study will benefit library administrators, academic policymakers, and researchers who seek to improve academic library services. Ultimately, strengthening collection management strategies will contribute to the overall growth of research productivity and academic excellence at Benue State University, Makurdi.

Statement of the Problem

University libraries play a crucial role in supporting research and academic productivity by ensuring access to well-managed collections that align with users' needs. Effective collection management strategies, including acquisition policies, cataloging systems, weeding practices, and digital resource integration, are essential in optimizing library services and facilitating scholarly work. However, at Benue State University, Makurdi, there is growing concern about the effectiveness of collection management strategies in supporting the research productivity of postgraduate students in the Department of Library and Information Science.

Despite the increasing demand for high-quality research output, postgraduate students often face challenges in accessing relevant, current, and well-organized library resources. Factors

such as outdated materials, ineffective acquisition policies, limited access to digital resources, and inadequate evaluation of user needs may hinder research productivity. These issues can result in difficulties in retrieving information, delays in research progress, and reduced academic contributions by postgraduate students.

Furthermore, the absence of a well-structured collection management system may limit the university library's ability to support evolving academic and technological trends. As research expectations continue to rise, the need for an optimized and responsive library collection becomes even more critical. If these challenges persist, postgraduate students may struggle to produce high-impact research, ultimately affecting the university's academic reputation and research output.

This study seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of collection management strategies in enhancing the research productivity of postgraduate students in Library and Information Science at Benue State University, Makurdi. By identifying the strengths and weaknesses of current practices, this research aims to provide actionable recommendations for improving collection management. Enhancing these strategies will ensure that the library remains a vital resource for academic excellence, supporting the university's mission of fostering research, innovation, and knowledge dissemination.

Research Questions

1. How effective are the collection management strategies employed by the Benue State University library in supporting postgraduate research in the Department of Library and Information Science?

2. To what extent do library resources meet the research needs of postgraduate students in Library and Information Science?
3. What challenges affect the implementation of effective collection management strategies in the university library?
4. What strategies can be adopted to improve collection management practices to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students?

Literature Review

Conceptual Framework

Collection management is the process of selecting, acquiring, organizing, maintaining, and evaluating library resources to ensure they meet the informational and research needs of users. Jan and Ganiae (2019) opined that collection management involves strategic decision-making to develop a well-balanced and accessible collection that supports academic and research activities. While on the hand, Frempong-Kore (2021) stated that collection management also encompasses weeding out outdated or irrelevant materials, ensuring that library holdings remain current and useful for researchers. In academic settings, an effective collection management strategy enhances research productivity by providing students and faculty with essential resources for scholarly work.

Research productivity refers to the measurable output of scholarly work, including journal articles, books, conference presentations, and patents. According to Batool and Chi (2018) it is a key indicator of academic performance and institutional success. Handayani, Kusmaningtyas and Riyadi (2019) observed that several factors influence research productivity, including access to high-quality information resources, research funding, collaboration

opportunities, and institutional support. University libraries play a crucial role in enhancing research productivity by providing access to digital and print resources, research databases, and support services that facilitate knowledge creation and dissemination.

Postgraduates are students who have completed a bachelor's degree and are pursuing advanced academic studies at the master's or doctoral level. Alzahrani, 2021 noted that Postgraduates engage in specialized coursework, independent research, or professional training to develop expertise in their chosen fields. On the other hand, Adeyi, Annune and Tsegba (2024) stated that success of postgraduate students often depends on the availability of quality research resources and institutional support, particularly through well-managed academic libraries. Postgraduates rely heavily on library collections, digital repositories, and research assistance to produce high-quality scholarly work, making effective collection management essential to their academic progress.

Theoretical framework

The Collection Management Model, developed by G. Edward Evans in 1979, provides a structured approach to developing and maintaining library collections to meet users' needs effectively. It focuses on key processes such as selection, acquisition, organization, evaluation, and deselection of materials to ensure that library resources remain relevant, balanced, and accessible.

At Benue State University, Makurdi, this model helps explain how well-managed collection strategies can enhance research productivity among postgraduate students in Library and Information Science. By ensuring that resources are carefully selected, regularly updated,

and properly organized, the model supports easy information retrieval, fosters academic engagement, and facilitates quality research output. A well-maintained collection aligns with students' evolving research needs, reducing gaps in access to critical materials. This study applies the Collection Management Model to assess the effectiveness of current collection management strategies at the university. By identifying strengths and areas for improvement, the research aims to provide insights into how enhanced collection management can contribute to postgraduate research productivity and overall academic success.

Empirical Review

Emojorho, Urhiewhu and Emezaivwakpor (2022) studied research productivity of academic staff in federal colleges of education in Nigeria: The way forward. The survey research design was adopted for the study while the Expectancy and Institutional theories provided the framework. The multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select 724 as the sample size for the study. Findings from the study revealed an average level of research productivity among academic staff in Nigerian Colleges. Environmental factors as well as adequate motivational factors for research productivity of academic staff in Nigerian Colleges were found to be favourable. On the other hand, funding for research activities was found to be inadequate. Institutional factors were established to be positively correlated with research productivity of academic staff in Nigerian Colleges. Organizational culture and funding which are the most important factors were found to be dominant institutional factors that contributed significantly to the level of research productivity of academic staff in the selected Nigerian Colleges

Both studies focus on research productivity but differ in scope and population. The previous study examined academic staff in Nigerian colleges of education, while the present

study focuses on LIS postgraduates at Benue State University, Makurdi. Both use survey designs and statistical analysis, but the previous study had a larger sample and explored institutional and environmental factors, whereas the present study examines library collection management. The key gap addressed is the role of library resources in enhancing postgraduate research productivity, providing insights into improving collection management strategies.

Frempong-Kore (2021) conducted study to determine the relevance of collection development policies in some private academic libraries in Ghana with Maranatha University College and Ghana Christian University College as the case study. The study adopted a case study design and used a qualitative method in its examinations. A self-designed interview schedule was used to solicit information from the staff in the two libraries. The study participants included two (2) head librarians who are all professionals and four (4) para-professional librarians. The face-to-face interview method was employed as a data collection instrument for this study– content analysis was used to analyse the data. The interviews were audio -taped and then transcribed based on the major themes.

The findings indicated that even though both GCUC and MUC have CDPs, the policies have not been reviewed since their inception. Findings also revealed that even though CDPs exist in these libraries it did not feature so much when it comes to acquisition. It was recommended that both MUC and GCUC should make a conscious effort to use the policy to guide acquisitions. It was also recommended that management of the libraries should review the policy on regular basis to keep up with current trends in collection development.

Both studies focus on collection management in academic libraries, but they differ in scope, methodology, and target population. The previous study examined collection development policies in two private academic libraries in Ghana using a qualitative case study design and interviews with a small group of library staff. In contrast, the present study evaluates the effectiveness of collection management strategies in supporting the research productivity of LIS postgraduates at Benue State University, Nigeria, using a descriptive survey design and quantitative analysis. While the previous study assessed policy relevance and its role in acquisitions, the present study explores the adequacy of library resources, challenges in implementation, and potential improvements. The key gap addressed by the present study is the direct link between collection management strategies and research productivity, providing data-driven insights to enhance postgraduate research support.

Amenga, Annune and Agoh (2024) investigated the acquisition and management of serials for utilization by postgraduate students in university libraries in Benue State, Nigeria. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design. The population for this study comprises 78 professional librarians in universities in Benue State. The instruments for data collection were a checklist and a self-developed structured questionnaire. The Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics of Mean and Standard Deviation to answer the research questions. Findings of the study revealed that postgraduate students utilize a variety of serials, including newspapers, newsletters, almanacs, professional journals, reports, yearbooks, gazettes, and indexes and abstracts. It was also revealed that the serials are acquired through diverse methods such as purchasing, gifting, donations, direct ordering, exchange, legal deposits, online subscriptions, and institutional memberships in associations. More so, the study found that the management of

these serials involves preservation techniques, computerization, provision of current issues, binding, weeding, air conditioning, indexing and abstracting, and maintaining usage statistics. The study concluded that Benue State university libraries employ a comprehensive approach to acquiring and managing serials for postgraduate students.

Both studies focus on collection management in university libraries and employ a descriptive survey design with quantitative analysis. However, the previous study specifically examined the acquisition and management of serials for postgraduate students in university libraries in Benue State, while the present study evaluates the overall effectiveness of collection management strategies in supporting LIS postgraduates' research productivity at Benue State University. The previous study targeted 78 professional librarians and used checklists and questionnaires, whereas the present study focuses on 83 LIS postgraduate students and relies solely on structured questionnaires. While the previous study explored various serial acquisition methods and management techniques, it did not assess how these practices impact postgraduate research productivity. The key gap addressed by the present study is the direct evaluation of collection management strategies in relation to research productivity, providing insights into how library resources can be optimized to better support postgraduate research.

Upev, Ilo and Orga (2016) studied the acquisition and preservation of Serial Resources in Francis Sulemanu Idachaba Library University of Agriculture, Makurdi Nigeria. The population for this study comprised of all library staff of Francis Sulemanu Idachaba Library University of Agriculture, Makurdi and College of Advanced and Professional Studies (CAPS) Makurdi. The sample size for the study was 150. Data was collected and analysed using descriptive statistics. Major findings for the study revealed that there are problems affecting acquisition and

preservation of serial resources in libraries. The common types of serial resources used in libraries in the study area were: journals, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, abstracts and indexes, almanac and year books and annuals and reviews. The study also revealed strategies that could be used to be used to solve the problems affecting acquisition and preservation of serial resources in libraries. The study concluded that sources and methods of acquisition of library materials in Francis Sulemanu Idachaba and College of Advanced and Professional Studies have become quite necessary if the institutions actually intent to make progress in library activities

Both studies focus on collection management in academic libraries and employ a descriptive survey design with quantitative analysis. However, while the previous study by Upev, Ilo, and Orga (2016) examined the acquisition and preservation of serial resources in the Francis Sulemanu Idachaba Library and the College of Advanced and Professional Studies, the present study evaluates the effectiveness of collection management strategies in supporting the research productivity of LIS postgraduates at Benue State University. The previous study targeted library staff with a sample size of 150, whereas the present study focuses on 83 postgraduate students, assessing their research needs and library resource utilization. Additionally, the previous study primarily explored challenges and strategies related to serial acquisition and preservation, whereas the present study takes a broader approach, examining the overall adequacy of library resources and their direct impact on postgraduate research productivity. The key gap addressed by the present study is the relationship between collection management strategies and research productivity, providing insights into how library resources can be optimized to enhance postgraduate research.

Ilo, Igbashal and Agoh (2019) investigated the influence of Library Information Resources and Services on Research Productivity of Agricultural Scientists in Agricultural Institutions in Benue State. The study used a survey research design to examine the influence of library resources on the research productivity of 151 Agricultural Scientists in Benue State. Data was collected through a validated questionnaire with a high reliability index (0.86) and analyzed using statistical methods, including Chi-Square tests. Findings revealed that while library resources were available and highly utilized, research productivity among Agricultural Scientists remained low. The study concluded that despite access to resources, research output was still inadequate.

Both studies examine the relationship between library resources and research productivity using a descriptive survey design. However, the previous study focused on Agricultural Scientists in agricultural institutions, while the present study targets LIS postgraduates at Benue State University. The previous study found high resource utilization but low research productivity, whereas the present study evaluates the effectiveness of collection management strategies in supporting postgraduate research. The key gap addressed is how collection management strategies can be optimized to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students.

Alegbeleye, G. O., Madukoma, E., & Dahunsi, F. T. (2020) investigated the influence of library collection quality on library patronage among academics in South-West Nigerian universities. Data were collected using questionnaires and observation checklists, and analyzed with descriptive statistics and regression analysis. Findings showed a high availability of quality collections, with relevancy, authoritativeness, accessibility, and currency rated positively.

However, factors hindering patronage included inadequate facilities, poor network coverage, strict library rules, low service quality, and unstable power supply. The study found a significant positive relationship between library collection quality and patronage, concluding that enhancing collection quality would improve academic library usage.

Both studies focus on library collections and their impact, with the present study examining collection management strategies and research productivity of LIS postgraduates, while the previous study investigated the influence of library collection quality on patronage among academics. Both employ a descriptive survey design and use structured questionnaires for data collection, analyzing data with descriptive statistics. However, the previous study emphasized the quality and accessibility of library collections, whereas the present study assesses collection management strategies and their effect on postgraduate research productivity. A key gap addressed by the present study is the evaluation of how collection management practices influence postgraduate students' research outcomes, rather than just library usage, providing insights into ways to enhance research support through effective collection management strategies.

Research Methodology

This study adopted a descriptive survey design to evaluate the effectiveness of collection management strategies and research productivity of Library and Information Science (LIS) postgraduates at Benue State University, Makurdi. This design was chosen due to its ability to efficiently collect data from the respondents while capturing various perspectives on collection management strategies and their impact on research productivity. The study was conducted at Benue State University, Makurdi, a renowned institution in Nigeria with a vibrant academic

environment and a well-established library system that supports postgraduate research activities. The target population consisted of 82 postgraduate students in the LIS program that served as respondents during the research. By including the entire population, the study ensured comprehensive data collection, aligning with research best practices for relatively small study groups.

A structured questionnaire titled "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Collection Management Strategies and Research Productivity of Library and Information Science Postgraduates in Benue State University, Makurdi" was used for data collection. The study aimed to assess the effectiveness of collection management strategies employed by the Benue State University library in supporting postgraduate research in the Department of Library and Information Science. It also sought to determine the extent to which library resources meet the research needs of postgraduate students in Library and Information Science. Additionally, the study identified challenges affecting the implementation of effective collection management strategies in the university library and proposed strategies for improving collection management practices to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students.

The study employed accidental sampling, selecting only available and accessible LIS postgraduate students during the data collection period. Descriptive statistical tools, including frequency, mean, and standard deviation, were used to analyze the data. Real limits of numbers were used in making decisions for all the research questions with 3.50-4.00, 2.50-3.49, 1.50-2.49, and 1.49 and below for higher and lower limits respectively.

Results

This section presents the result of data analysis and interpretation of results in line with the research questions that guided the study.

Effective of collection management strategies employed by the Benue State University library in supporting postgraduate research

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of respondents on how effective are the collection management strategies employed by the Benue State University library in supporting postgraduate research

S/N	Item Statement	HE	E	LE	NE	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
1	Adequate acquisition policies,	8	24	43	7	2.40	0.78	LE
2	Subscription to online databases,	40	41	1	0	3.48	0.53	E
3	Search query analysis,	7	31	33	11	2.41	0.83	LE
4	Digitization and institutional repositories,	30	47	5	0	3.30	0.58	E
5	User-centered collection development	6	23	43	10	2.30	0.78	LE
6	Efficient cataloging and classification	41	40	1	0	3.49	0.53	E
7	Interlibrary loan and resource sharing	4	33	32	13	2.34	0.81	LE
8	Open access initiatives	8	18	45	11	2.28	0.82	LE
9	Integration of information and communication technology (ICT)	44	38	0	0	3.54	0.50	E
10	Research support services	39	43	0	0	3.48	0.50	E
	Cluster Mean					2.90	0.24	E

Key: \bar{x} = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, E = Effective, LE = Less Effective, Dec. = Decision.

Result presented in Table 1 shows that the most effective collection management strategies employed by the Benue State University Library in supporting postgraduate research include integration of information and communication technology (ICT) (\bar{x} = 3.54, SD = 0.50), efficient cataloging and classification (\bar{x} = 3.49, SD = 0.53), subscription to online databases (\bar{x} = 3.48, SD = 0.53), and research support services (\bar{x} = 3.48, SD = 0.50). On the other hand, strategies such as user-centered collection development (\bar{x} = 2.30, SD = 0.78) and open access initiatives (\bar{x} = 2.28, SD = 0.82) are rated as less effective. This implies that while some strategies are effectively employed in supporting postgraduate research, others may need improvement to enhance their impact.

Extent to which library resources meet the research needs of postgraduate students in Library and Information Science

Table 2: Mean and standard deviation of respondents on which library resources meet the research needs of postgraduate students in Library and Information Science

S/N	Item Statement	HE	E	LE	NE	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
1	Books,	8	36	33	5	2.57	0.75	HE
2	Journals	20	49	13	0	3.09	0.63	HE
3	Databases,	7	43	29	3	2.66	0.69	HE
4	E-books,	0	21	48	13	2.10	0.64	LE
5	Theses and dissertations,	11	45	21	5	2.76	0.76	HE
6	Newspapers and magazines,	0	8	52	22	1.83	0.58	LE
7	Reference materials,	1	20	43	18	2.05	0.72	LE
8	Audiovisual materials,	0	18	48	16	2.02	0.65	LE
9	Institutional repositories,	6	45	31	0	2.70	0.60	HE
10	Government publications.	0	21	41	20	2.01	0.71	LE
Cluster Mean						2.38	0.24	LE

Key: \bar{x} = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, HE = High Extent, LE = Low Extent, Dec. = Decision.

Result presented in Table 2 shows that journals ($\bar{x} = 3.09$, SD = 0.63), theses and dissertations ($\bar{x} = 2.76$, SD = 0.76), institutional repositories ($\bar{x} = 2.70$, SD = 0.60), databases ($\bar{x} = 2.66$, SD = 0.69), and books ($\bar{x} = 2.57$, SD = 0.75) are the key library resources that significantly support postgraduate research in Library and Information Science. Among these, journals have the highest mean rating, indicating their critical role in meeting postgraduate research needs. On the other hand, resources such as newspapers and magazines ($\bar{x} = 1.83$, SD = 0.58) have the lowest mean rating, suggesting they contribute minimally to research support. Overall, while certain resources are effectively utilized, others may require improvements to enhance their relevance to postgraduate research.

Challenges affecting the implementation of effective collection management strategies in the university library

Table 3: Mean and standard deviation of respondents on the challenges affecting the implementation of effective collection management strategies in the university library

S/N	Item Statement	SA	A	D	SD	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
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1	Inadequate funding	47	35	0	0	3.57	0.50	SA
2	Limited access to electronic resources	36	46	0	0	3.44	0.50	A
3	Outdated and obsolete materials	43	39	0	0	3.52	0.51	SA
4	Poor infrastructure and ICT facilities	36	46	0	0	3.44	0.52	A
5	Inefficient cataloging and classification systems	39	43	0	0	3.48	0.52	A
6	Lack of skilled personnel	45	37	0	0	3.55	0.51	SA
7	Poor collaboration and resource-sharing networks	34	48	0	0	3.41	0.49	A
8	Challenges in digitization and preservation	40	42	0	0	3.49	0.50	A
9	Low user awareness and engagement	42	40	0	0	3.51	0.53	SA
10	Inconsistent acquisition policies	44	38	0	0	3.54	0.52	SA
Cluster Mean						3.50	0.30	SA

Key: \bar{x} = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, SA = Strongly Agree, A = Agree, Dec. = Decision.

Result presented in Table 3 shows that the most significant challenges affecting the implementation of effective collection management strategies in the university library include inadequate funding (\bar{x} = 3.57, SD = 0.50), lack of skilled personnel (\bar{x} = 3.55, SD = 0.51), inconsistent acquisition policies (\bar{x} = 3.54, SD = 0.52), outdated and obsolete materials (\bar{x} = 3.52, SD = 0.51), and low user awareness and engagement (\bar{x} = 3.51, SD = 0.53). Among these, inadequate funding is the most prevalent challenge, followed by a lack of skilled personnel. These findings highlight key barriers to effective collection management, emphasizing the need for strategic interventions to improve library services.

Strategies to improve collection management practices to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students

Table 4: Mean and standard deviation of respondents on the strategies to improve collection management practices to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students

S/N	Item Statement	SA	A	D	SD	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
1	Increase funding allocation	52	30	0	0	3.63	0.49	SA
2	Expand access to electronic resources	46	36	0	0	3.56	0.49	SA
3	Regular collection evaluation and updating	39	43	0	0	3.48	0.50	A
4	Enhance infrastructure and ICT facilities	35	47	0	0	3.43	0.49	A
5	Improve cataloging and classification	44	38	0	0	3.54	0.50	SA

	systems							
6	Invest in staff training and development	42	40	0	0	3.51	0.53	SA
7	Strengthen collaboration and resource-sharing networks	40	42	0	0	3.49	0.50	A
8	Implement robust digitization and preservation strategies	45	37	0	0	3.55	0.51	SA
9	Increase user awareness and engagement	43	39	0	0	3.52	0.52	SA
10	Develop a consistent and needs-based acquisition policy	41	41	0	0	3.50	0.50	SA
Cluster Mean						3.52	0.31	SA

Key: \bar{x} = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, SA = Strongly Agree, A = Agree, Dec. = Decision.

Result presented in Table 4 shows that the most effective strategies for improving collection management practices to enhance research productivity among postgraduate students include increasing funding allocation ($\bar{x} = 3.63$, SD = 0.49), expanding access to electronic resources ($\bar{x} = 3.56$, SD = 0.49), and improving cataloging and classification systems ($\bar{x} = 3.54$, SD = 0.50). Other key strategies identified are strengthening collaboration and resource-sharing networks ($\bar{x} = 3.49$, SD = 0.50) and regular collection evaluation and updating ($\bar{x} = 3.48$, SD = 0.50). Among these, increased funding allocation is considered the most impactful strategy, followed by expanding access to electronic resources. Overall, these findings highlight essential measures to enhance collection management and support postgraduate research productivity.

Recommendations

1. **User-centered collection development:** University library should improve less effective collection management strategies, particularly user-centered collection development by actively engaging postgraduate students and faculty in collection development decisions

2. **E-books and reference materials:** It is recommended that Benue State University library enhance access to e-books and reference materials to better support postgraduate research.
3. **Increased funding:** It is also recommended that Benue State University library prioritize securing increased funding to address challenges affecting effective collection management.
4. **Funding allocation:** It is recommended that Benue State University library increase funding allocation as a priority strategy to improve collection management practices.
5. **Expand access to electronic resources:** This can be done by subscribing to more academic databases, developing institutional repositories, and promoting open-access initiatives.

Conclusion:

The findings indicated that while certain collection management strategies, such as ICT integration, subscription to online databases, and research support services, are effective in supporting postgraduate research at Benue State University library, other strategies like user-centered collection development and interlibrary loan remain less effective. Additionally, library resources such as journals and databases moderately meet postgraduate research needs, whereas e-books and reference materials are less utilized. Key challenges, including inadequate funding, outdated materials, and lack of skilled personnel, hinder effective collection management. To address these issues and enhance research productivity, strategies such as increased funding allocation, expanded access to electronic resources, and improved cataloging systems should be prioritized.

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