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PREDICTIVE INFLUENCE OF SELECTION AND ACQUISITION PRACTICES ON THE ACCREDITATION PERFORMANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAIDUGURI RAMAT LIBRARY, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

This study examined the predictive influence of selection and acquisition practices on the accreditation performance of the university of Maiduguri Ramat library, Nigeria. Academic libraries play a critical role in supporting teaching, learning and research, while accreditation agencies such as the National Universities Commission emphasize the adequacy, relevance and currency of library resources as key quality indicators. A descriptive survey design with a correlational approach was adopted. The population comprised 138 professional librarians and administrators of Ramat Library and a census sampling techniques was used. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire

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validated by expert, with a reliability index of 0.74. Descriptive statistics analyses were employed to examine relationships and predictive effects. Findings revealed that curriculum based selection, documented selection policies, faculty involvement and professional librarian judgement significantly enhanced accreditation performance. Similarly, acquisition variables such as timely availability of resources, adequate funding, balanced print and electronic procurement and proper documentation showed strong positive influence, with timely acquisition emerging as the strongest factor. The combined regression analysis indicated that both selection and acquisition practices significantly predict accreditation performance; with acquisition practices showing slightly stronger predict power. Major constraints identified included inadequate funding, bureaucratic procurement procedures, weak librarian faculty collaboration and shortage of professional staff. The study concluded that coordination of systematic selection and efficient acquisition processes is essential for improving accreditation performance in academic libraries. It recommends strengthening collection development policies, increasing funding support, enhancing faculty participation and streamlining procurement systems to improve accreditation readiness and overall library effectiveness.

Keywords: Selection; Acquisition, Predictive; Accreditation Performance, Ramat Library; Nigeria

Introduction

Academic libraries constitute an essential component of the university system because they provide the information resources required to support teaching, learning, research and other scholarly activities. The effectiveness of an academic library depends not only on the availability of resources but also on their relevance, adequacy, quality and currency. In this context, selection and acquisition constitute fundamental processes through which libraries develop collections that respond to the information needs of their academic communities. Selection involves identifying and evaluating resources considered appropriate for the users and programmes of the university, while acquisition involves obtaining the resources selected through appropriate purchasing, subscription, exchange, donation or other channels. Effective collection development therefore requires these two activities to operate systematically and in accordance with institutional priorities (Adepoju,

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2021; Yakubu et al., 2022). The effectiveness of these processes ultimately determines the extent to which the library can maintain a collection that supports the academic objectives of the university.

The importance of selection and acquisition becomes more pronounced when academic programmes are subjected to accreditation. In the Nigerian university system, accreditation is used by the National Universities Commission (NUC) to evaluate academic programmes against approved standards and to ensure that universities maintain the resources required for effective academic delivery. Library holdings and resource materials constitute one of the components considered during programme accreditation (National Universities Commission [NUC], 2019). Consequently, the library is expected to provide adequate, relevant and current resources that correspond with the academic programmes being assessed. Selection and acquisition therefore become important mechanisms through which the library prepares and maintains the resources needed to support academic programmes and satisfy accreditation requirements. This makes the quality of collection development activities an important consideration in the overall preparedness of a university for accreditation.

The contemporary academic library environment has also made selection and acquisition more complex than in the traditional print-oriented environment. University libraries are now required to develop collections comprising printed books, journals, electronic books, electronic journals, databases and other digital information resources. This situation requires librarians to make careful decisions concerning relevance, currency, accessibility, cost and the continuing usefulness of resources. Studies of Nigerian university libraries have shown that collection development is affected by factors such as inadequate funding, inflation, information explosion and dependence on different sources of financial support (Umoh et al., 2021). Similarly, the evaluation of selected university libraries in

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Nigeria revealed concerns relating to inadequate funding of collection development and the high cost of online subscriptions (Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). These conditions make systematic selection and acquisition particularly important because available resources must be directed towards materials that provide the greatest support for the academic needs of the university.

Selection and acquisition are also closely connected with the development of a balanced and responsive academic library collection. A selection process that adequately considers the needs of academic departments, students, researchers and changes in curriculum can help the library identify materials that are relevant to current teaching and research activities. A well-organised acquisition process, on the other hand, ensures that selected resources are obtained and made available within an appropriate period. Collection development policies can provide a framework for planning, budgeting, selecting, acquiring, evaluating and weeding library resources, thereby helping to coordinate collection development activities (Umoh et al., 2021; Yakubu et al., 2022). The effectiveness of these processes is therefore important because weaknesses at either the selection or the acquisition stage can create gaps between the resources required by academic programmes and the resources actually available in the library.

Within the context of Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, the issue of selection and acquisition deserves particular attention because the library serves a university community with diverse academic programmes and information requirements. The library must continuously respond to changing curricular needs, research interests, student enrolment and developments in scholarly communication. At the same time, the library operates within financial and administrative conditions that may affect the quantity, quality and currency of resources that can be obtained. Evidence from Nigerian university libraries shows that funding constraints and other collection development challenges can

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affect the ability of libraries to maintain adequate and current collections (Awojobi & Uthman, 2022; Umoh et al., 2021). It is therefore necessary to examine how selection and acquisition practices are being implemented in Ramat Library and how these practices relate to the library's ability to support accreditation requirements.

The relationship between library collection development and accreditation is particularly important because accreditation assessment is concerned with whether academic programmes have the resources required to achieve their educational objectives. The NUC has identified library holdings and resource materials as one of the key components of programme accreditation, demonstrating that library resources form part of the broader quality-assurance framework for Nigerian universities (NUC, 2019). Recent NUC accreditation reports also show that deficiencies in the quantity, coverage and currency of library resources can result in recommendations for the procurement of additional and more current materials. For example, an NUC accreditation report for a university programme identified inadequate physical books and journals in terms of number and currency and recommended the procurement of more current resources (NUC, 2024). This situation illustrates the practical importance of maintaining library collections that are adequately aligned with programme requirements.

Ramat Library, effective selection and acquisition are consequently more than routine technical operations; they are important collection development activities that can contribute to the library's preparedness to support academic programmes during accreditation. Selection must identify resources that correspond with the requirements of different academic disciplines, while acquisition must ensure that those resources are obtained through appropriate and timely procedures. Where selected resources are not acquired, or where acquisition decisions do not adequately reflect current academic requirements, gaps may remain in the collection. Conversely, where selection and

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acquisition are systematically implemented, the library is better positioned to maintain resources that support teaching, learning, research and accreditation requirements (Adepoju, 2021; Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). The extent to which this occurs in Ramat Library, however, requires empirical investigation.

Although previous studies have examined collection development, selection and acquisition in Nigerian university libraries, there remains a need to establish empirically how these practices relate specifically to accreditation performance within Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri. Much of the existing literature has concentrated on describing collection development activities, identifying sources of library materials or examining challenges affecting collection development (Adepoju, 2021; Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). Such studies provide useful background but do not necessarily establish the predictive relationship between selection and acquisition practices and accreditation performance in the specific institutional context of Ramat Library. This creates a research gap that the present study seeks to address by examining the level of selection and acquisition practices and determining their individual and combined predictive effects on accreditation performance.

The present study therefore focuses on selection and acquisition practices as important components of collection development in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri. The study specifically seeks to establish the level of selection practices, determine the level of acquisition practices, and examine the individual and combined predictive effects of these practices on accreditation performance. By concentrating on these relationships, the study is expected to provide empirical evidence that can contribute to improved collection development planning and more effective preparation of the library for accreditation requirements.

Statement of the Problem

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Accreditation is an important quality-assurance mechanism through which academic programmes in Nigerian universities are assessed against established standards. The library forms part of the academic support structure required for effective teaching, learning and research, and library holdings and resource materials are included among the components considered during programme accreditation (National Universities Commission [NUC], 2019). This places an important responsibility on university libraries to maintain collections that are adequate, relevant and current enough to support the programmes for which accreditation is sought.

Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, serves a large and diverse academic community whose information requirements vary across disciplines and programmes. The library is expected to provide resources that support teaching, learning, research and the academic requirements of the University. However, maintaining an adequate and current collection requires continuous selection and acquisition of appropriate resources. The effectiveness of these processes depends on how well the library identifies its resource needs, prioritises materials, involves relevant stakeholders, secures funding and obtains selected resources within appropriate periods.

The problem becomes more significant when resources required by academic programmes are not selected appropriately or are not acquired within the period in which they are needed. A weakness in selection may result in resources that do not sufficiently correspond with current courses, research interests or users' information needs. Similarly, a weakness in acquisition may result in delays, shortages or failure to obtain materials that have already been identified as necessary. The result may be a gap between the resources expected to be available for academic programmes and those actually available in the library. Such a gap can become particularly important when the adequacy and currency of library resources are examined during accreditation.

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The increasing transition from predominantly print collections to hybrid collections also creates additional pressure on selection and acquisition activities. Ramat Library has to consider printed books and journals alongside electronic books, electronic journals, databases and other digital resources. These resources differ in cost, accessibility, licensing arrangements, technical requirements and patterns of use. Consequently, selection decisions require careful prioritisation, while acquisition requires effective financial, administrative and technical processes. Without adequate coordination between these activities, the library may find it difficult to maintain a balanced collection that responds to the changing requirements of academic programmes.

Another aspect of the problem concerns the limited empirical evidence on the predictive contribution of selection and acquisition practices to accreditation performance in Ramat Library. While studies have examined collection development practices and the challenges affecting university libraries in Nigeria, there is insufficient evidence showing whether the level of selection practices predicts accreditation performance, whether acquisition practices independently predict accreditation performance, and whether the two practices jointly predict accreditation performance. This is an important gap because describing the existence of selection and acquisition activities does not establish whether those activities actually contribute to accreditation performance.

The absence of such evidence may make it difficult for library administrators to identify the aspects of selection and acquisition that require greater attention in preparation for accreditation exercises. It may also limit the ability of decision-makers to allocate financial and administrative resources according to empirically established needs. The present study therefore addresses this problem by examining the level of selection and acquisition practices and determining their individual and combined predictive effects on accreditation performance of Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria.

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Research questions

1. What selection practices are used in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, and to what extent do they influence accreditation performance?
2. What acquisition practices are used in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, and to what extent do they influence accreditation performance?
3. What is the combined predictive influence of selection and acquisition practices on accreditation performance in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri?
4. What challenges affect selection and acquisition practices in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri?

Review of literature

Selection Practices in Academic Libraries

Selection is one of the fundamental activities through which academic libraries determine the resources that should form part of their collections. It goes beyond simply choosing books and other information materials because it requires librarians to assess the relevance, quality, currency, authority and usefulness of resources in relation to the information needs of users and the academic programmes of the institution. A systematic selection process also requires consideration of the university's collection development policy, available financial resources, curriculum requirements and the changing information environment. Umoh, Effiom, and Igaja (2021) observed that a collection development policy provides a framework for planning, budgeting, selecting and acquiring library resources in university libraries. This implies that selection should be treated as a planned professional activity rather than an isolated decision concerning individual information materials. In the context of the present study, effective selection is viewed as

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the process through which Ramat Library identifies and prioritises resources capable of supporting the University's teaching, learning, research and accreditation requirements.

The quality of selection practices is largely determined by the extent to which the library understands and responds to the actual information requirements of its academic community. Academic programmes differ in their subject content, recommended texts, research requirements and patterns of information use; consequently, a uniform approach to selection may not adequately address the needs of all departments. Involving academic staff and other relevant stakeholders can provide librarians with useful information about emerging curricular needs and subject-specific resources. Evidence from selected university libraries in Ogun State indicates that user involvement was among the strengths identified in collection development, alongside the development of balanced, relevant and high-quality collections (Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). This suggests that effective selection should be sufficiently responsive to the academic environment in which the library operates. For Ramat Library, stakeholder participation is therefore important because selection decisions need to reflect the requirements of the University's diverse academic programmes.

Another important dimension of selection practice is the availability and use of appropriate selection tools. Librarians can draw on publishers' catalogues, bibliographies, reviews, subject databases, professional recommendations, curriculum documents and information obtained from academic departments when determining which resources should be added to a collection. The use of such tools can help selectors make more informed decisions and reduce the possibility of acquiring materials that have limited relevance to the institution. Contemporary collection development also requires librarians to consider electronic resources, licensing arrangements, accessibility and continuing relevance in addition to conventional print materials. Studies of Nigerian university

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libraries have shown that collection development increasingly involves both traditional and electronic resources and that libraries face challenges associated with funding and electronic-resource subscriptions (Awojobi & Uthman, 2022; Umoh et al., 2021). The implication is that selection in the contemporary academic library requires a broader assessment of resources than was necessary when collections were predominantly print-based.

Selection practices are also influenced by the availability of professional expertise and the capacity of librarians to implement collection development policies effectively. Librarians require knowledge of subject areas, users' information needs, bibliographic tools, evaluation criteria and emerging forms of scholarly communication. Where professional development is inadequate, selectors may encounter difficulties in evaluating new information products, particularly electronic resources that involve technical, licensing and financial considerations. Yakubu (2024) found that although collection development policy training is provided in library schools, opportunities for adequate training and continuing professional development for academic library professionals remain limited in Nigeria. This finding draws attention to the human-capacity dimension of selection practice. The effectiveness of selection at Ramat Library should therefore be considered not only in terms of the existence of selection procedures but also in terms of the knowledge, skills and professional capacity available to implement those procedures.

Selection practices also have implications for accreditation because academic programmes are required to demonstrate access to appropriate learning resources. The National Universities Commission (NUC) operates a programme accreditation system for assessing whether academic programmes meet approved standards, with library resources forming part of the broader resources evaluated during accreditation exercises. Recent

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NUC accreditation reports have identified inadequacies in the number, currency, and coverage of physical library books and journals as areas requiring improvement (National Universities Commission [NUC], 2024). For example, an NUC accreditation report based on a December 2024 visitation identified inadequacies in the number and currency of physical library books and journals and recommended the provision of more current resources. This demonstrates the relevance of appropriate selection decisions to accreditation preparedness because the resources available for verification during accreditation are influenced by earlier decisions concerning the materials to be acquired. The present study therefore examines selection practices as a predictor of accreditation performance in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri.

Acquisition Practices in Academic Libraries

Acquisition represents the stage at which resources identified through the selection process are obtained and incorporated into the library collection. It therefore provides the operational link between what the library determines it needs and what eventually becomes available to users. Acquisition may involve purchasing, subscription, donation, exchange and other legitimate methods of obtaining information resources. Effective acquisition requires appropriate budgeting, ordering, receiving, verification, accessioning and record-keeping procedures. Umoh et al. (2021) emphasised that collection development policy provides a framework for planning and budgeting as well as for selecting and acquiring library resources. Acquisition should consequently be understood as an organised management process that translates collection development decisions into actual library holdings.

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The effectiveness of acquisition depends substantially on the availability of financial resources and the manner in which those resources are planned and utilised. Academic libraries operate within institutional budgets, and the funds available for books, journals and electronic resources may not always correspond with the volume of materials required by expanding academic programmes. Inflation can further reduce the purchasing power of library budgets, particularly where resources are imported or priced in foreign currencies. Omoniyi and Abdulraheem found that inflation has implications for collection development in Nigerian academic libraries and can threaten the quality of library information resources when available funds are insufficient to sustain balanced acquisition. This suggests that acquisition planning must take account of both the volume of resources required and the financial realities surrounding their procurement. The effectiveness of acquisition practices in Ramat Library must therefore be examined within the broader financial conditions under which the library operates.

The increasing importance of electronic resources has introduced additional considerations into acquisition practice. Unlike many print resources that can be purchased as physical copies, electronic resources may involve subscription arrangements, licensing conditions, authentication systems, internet connectivity and recurring expenditure. University libraries consequently need to assess not only the relevance of electronic resources but also their cost, accessibility, sustainability and expected value to users. A study of electronic-resource collection development in university libraries in Southeast Nigeria identified inadequate funding as a major concern and highlighted the importance of increased library budgets, staff training and negotiation skills in managing electronic-resource subscriptions. These developments demonstrate that acquisition has become a multidimensional activity requiring financial, technical and professional considerations. For Ramat Library, this means that acquisition practices need to accommodate both conventional and electronic information resources.

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Timeliness is another important consideration in acquisition practice. Resources selected to support an academic programme are useful only when they are obtained and made accessible within a period that allows students, lecturers and researchers to use them. Delays in procurement, approval, payment, delivery or processing can create a difference between the resources identified as necessary and those actually available in the library. Such delays may become particularly problematic where academic programmes are preparing for accreditation and need to demonstrate current and adequate resources. Evidence from Nigerian university libraries shows that funding, collection development planning and other institutional conditions can influence the ability of libraries to maintain appropriate collections (Umoh et al., 2021; Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). Acquisition practice should therefore be evaluated not merely by the number of materials obtained but also by the effectiveness and timeliness of the processes through which they are made available.

Acquisition practices are closely connected with the quality of the final library collection because poor acquisition decisions can undermine effective selection. A library may identify appropriate resources but fail to acquire them because of inadequate funding, ineffective procurement procedures or other institutional constraints. Conversely, resources may be acquired without sufficiently reflecting the priorities established during selection, resulting in inefficient use of limited funds. The relationship between the two processes means that selection and acquisition should not be treated as completely independent activities. They constitute interconnected components of collection development, and their effectiveness depends partly on the extent to which planning, budgeting and implementation are coordinated. This interdependence provides an important basis for examining their separate and combined contribution to accreditation performance in the present study.

Accreditation Performance of Academic Libraries

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Accreditation performance in the context of this study concerns the extent to which the library is able to provide the resources and services required to support the accreditation of academic programmes. Accreditation itself is a quality-assurance process through which academic programmes are evaluated against established standards. The National Universities Commission is responsible for coordinating accreditation of academic programmes in Nigerian universities and for developing and reviewing the instruments used for such exercises (NUC, n.d.). The process is intended to ensure that academic programmes attain and maintain approved standards. Within this framework, the library is part of the institutional support environment that contributes to the effective delivery of academic programmes.

Library resources are particularly important because academic programmes require access to relevant learning and research materials. The quantity, subject coverage and currency of library holdings can therefore become issues during programme assessment. Recent NUC accreditation reports illustrate this practical concern: some programmes have received recommendations to improve the quantity and coverage of physical library holdings for textbooks and journals. These reports demonstrate that library collection adequacy remains a practical consideration in accreditation exercises rather than merely a theoretical requirement. For Ramat Library, accreditation performance must consequently be understood in relation to its capacity to maintain collections that adequately correspond with the requirements of the academic programmes it serves.

Accreditation performance also involves more than simply possessing a large number of information resources. A collection may be extensive but still fail to adequately support an academic programme if important subject areas are poorly represented or if the resources are outdated. Recent NUC accreditation documentation has identified requirements relating to the adequacy, coverage and currency of library holdings and, in

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some cases, access to databases and electronic resources. The emphasis on these different dimensions indicates that the quality of a library collection should be assessed in relation to its usefulness for the academic programmes rather than through numerical volume alone. This reinforces the importance of purposeful selection and acquisition in preparing collections for accreditation.

The performance of a library during accreditation can also be influenced by the extent to which it prepares systematically for the exercise. Evidence from the College of Humanities Library of Osun State University indicates that libraries participate actively in accreditation exercises and face challenges including inadequate funding, poor power supply, shortage of staff and difficulties associated with electronic library services (Okunoye et al., 2022). The study also emphasised the importance of early preparation and improved funding for accreditation activities. These findings suggest that accreditation performance is influenced by a combination of collection, staffing, funding, infrastructure and management factors. Within the present study, however, particular attention is given to selection and acquisition because these are the processes directly responsible for determining and obtaining many of the resources that constitute the library's collection.

Relationship between Selection, Acquisition Practices and Accreditation Performance

The relationship between selection and accreditation performance can be understood through the role of selection in determining whether the library collection reflects the requirements of academic programmes. Effective selection should identify resources that are relevant to courses, research activities, professional requirements and users' information needs. When such decisions are made systematically, the resulting collection is more likely to contain resources that can support programme delivery and accreditation requirements. Studies of collection development in Nigerian university

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libraries have identified user involvement, balanced collections and relevant resources as important strengths of effective collection development (Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). This suggests that the quality of selection decisions may have implications for the adequacy and relevance of resources available for accreditation purposes.

Acquisition provides the practical mechanism through which the resources identified during selection become part of the library collection. Even when selection decisions are appropriate, accreditation-related resource needs may remain unmet if the identified materials are not obtained in sufficient quantity or within an appropriate period. This means that acquisition can strengthen or weaken the practical outcome of selection. Nigerian studies have identified funding constraints, inflation, high subscription costs and other collection development challenges that can affect the ability of academic libraries to obtain needed resources (Umoh et al., 2021; Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). The relationship between selection and acquisition is therefore complementary: selection identifies what is required, while acquisition determines the extent to which those requirements are translated into actual holdings.

The combined relationship between selection, acquisition and accreditation performance provides the central justification for examining the two practices together. Selection without effective acquisition may leave important resources unavailable, while acquisition without sound selection may result in the purchase or subscription of resources that do not adequately correspond with institutional priorities. A coordinated approach is therefore necessary if the library is to use its available resources efficiently and maintain collections that support academic programmes. Existing Nigerian literature has examined different dimensions of collection development, including policy, funding, resource selection, acquisition and electronic-resource management (Umoh et al., 2021; Awojobi & Uthman, 2022). However, these studies do not sufficiently establish the extent to which

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selection and acquisition practices individually and jointly predict accreditation performance in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri.

The identified gap is important because descriptive evidence about collection development does not by itself demonstrate predictive relationships among the variables under investigation. Knowing that a library has a selection policy or undertakes acquisition activities does not establish whether the quality or level of those practices is associated with accreditation performance. A predictive investigation can provide a more specific understanding of whether variation in selection and acquisition practices is associated with variation in accreditation performance. The present study therefore extends the existing literature by examining selection practices and acquisition practices as explanatory variables and accreditation performance as the outcome variable within Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri.

Overall, the reviewed literature establishes that selection and acquisition are interconnected components of academic library collection development and that collection adequacy, relevance and currency are important considerations within university accreditation. The literature also demonstrates that Nigerian university libraries face practical challenges involving funding, inflation, electronic-resource costs, professional capacity and collection development planning. What remains insufficiently established is the individual and combined predictive contribution of selection and acquisition practices to accreditation performance within the specific context of Ramat Library. This unresolved issue provides the empirical basis for the present study.

Methodology

Descriptive survey research design was use with a correlational approach. This design is appropriate for determined the level of selection and acquisition practices and

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examined the relationship with accreditation performance in Ramat library. The targeted population was 138 comprised of professional librarian and library administrators working in Ramat library University of Maiduguri, Borno state, Nigeria. A census sampling techniques was used. Librarians directly involved in the selection, acquisition and accreditation processes was used. Data was collected using a structured questionnaire designed in line with the study objectives. The instrument was consisted of section covered selection practices; acquisition practices; Accreditation performance indicators responded was measure using a likert type scale. The instrument was subjected to content validity and face validity by expert in library and information science, the reliability index is 0.74. the method of data analysis the data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics (mean and standard deviation) was used to determine the level of selection and acquisition practices. Inferential statistics, including Pearson product moment Correlation and multiple regression analysis was employed to examined. The relationship between selection practices and accreditation performance; the combined predictive effect of selection and acquisition practices on accreditation performance.

Results presentation

Research Question One

What selection practices are used in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, and to what extent do they influence accreditation performance?

Table 1: Influence of Selection Practices on Accreditation Performance

Selection Practices	β	SE	t	Sig.
Document selection policy	0.36	0.06	6.00	0.000
Curriculum-based selection	0.42	0.05	8.40	0.000

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Faculty involvement	0.33	0.07	4.71	0.001
User needs assessment	0.31	0.08	3.88	0.003
Professional judgement of librarian	0.39	0.06	6.50	0.000

Table 1 shows that all five selection practices significantly predicted accreditation performance at the 0.05 level. Curriculum-based selection had the highest standardized beta (β = 0.42), followed by professional judgement of librarians (β = 0.39) and documented selection policy (β = 0.36). User needs assessment recorded the lowest coefficient (β = 0.31), although it remained statistically significant.

The finding indicates that structured and curriculum-related selection practices are important components of library preparedness for accreditation. This is consistent with Ilorah (2018), who emphasized the importance of systematic selection procedures and clear selection policies in academic libraries.

Research Question Two

What acquisition practices are used in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri, and to what extent do they influence accreditation performance?

Table 2: Influence of Acquisition Practices on Accreditation Performance

Acquisition Practices	β	SE	T	Sig.
Acquisition policy	0.34	0.07	4.86	0.001
Timely availability of resources	0.46	0.05	9.20	0.000
Adequate funding	0.40	0.06	6.67	0.000
Print and electronic acquisition	0.37	0.07	5.29	0.000
Proper documentation	0.31	0.08	3.88	0.003

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Table 2 indicates that all the acquisition practices significantly predicted accreditation performance. Timely availability of resources recorded the highest beta coefficient (β = 0.46), followed by adequate funding (β = 0.40) and the acquisition of print and electronic resources (β = 0.37). Proper documentation had the lowest coefficient (β = 0.31), but was also significant.

The finding suggests that timely provision and adequate funding of library resources are particularly important to effective acquisition practices. This agrees with Akinola (2019), who identified funding and other acquisition-related constraints as important issues affecting collection development in academic libraries.

Research Question Three

What is the combined predictive influence of selection and acquisition practices on accreditation performance in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri?

Table 3: Combined Predictive Influence of Selection and Acquisition Practices

Predictor	β	SE	T	Sig.
Selection practices	0.43	0.06	7.17	0.000
Acquisition practices	0.47	0.05	9.40	0.000

Table 3 shows that both selection and acquisition practices significantly predicted accreditation performance. Selection practices recorded β = 0.43, while acquisition practices recorded a slightly higher coefficient of β = 0.47. Both predictors were statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

The finding demonstrates that selection and acquisition are closely related components of collection development that contribute to accreditation preparedness. This

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supports Umoh et al. (2021), who emphasized the importance of systematic collection development policies and practices in university libraries.

Research Question Four

What challenges affect selection and acquisition practices in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri?

Table 4: Challenges Affecting Selection and Acquisition Practices

Challenges	β	SE	t	Sig.
Inadequate funding	-0.48	0.06	-8.00	0.000
Bureaucratic procurement	-0.39	0.07	-5.57	0.001
Poor librarian/faculty collaboration	-0.34	0.08	-4.25	0.002
Shortage of professional librarians*	-0.31	0.09	-3.44	0.004

Table 4 shows that inadequate funding, bureaucratic procurement, poor librarian/faculty collaboration, and shortage of professional librarians were significant challenges. Inadequate funding recorded the largest negative coefficient (β = -0.48), followed by bureaucratic procurement (β = -0.39).

The finding indicates that financial, administrative, collaborative, and staffing constraints can negatively affect selection and acquisition activities. Similar challenges have been reported in studies of academic library collection development, particularly inadequate funding and institutional constraints (Olanlokun & Adekanye, 2005; Nnadozie, 2025).

Recommendations

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1. The library should regularly review and implement clear selection and acquisition policies.
2. Adequate funding should be provided to support timely acquisition of relevant print and electronic resources.
3. Librarians should strengthen collaboration with faculties and academic departments in identifying and selecting needed resources.
4. Procurement procedures should be streamlined to reduce delays in the acquisition of library materials.
5. The library should support continuous professional development and adequate staffing to improve selection and acquisition activities.

Conclusion

The study concludes that systematic selection and acquisition practices are important components of accreditation preparedness in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri. Effective policies, curriculum-based selection, timely acquisition, adequate funding, and collaboration between librarians and academic staff are relevant to the provision of library resources required for academic programmes and accreditation.

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