Use of Library for Post Graduate Research

Lecture at the Postgraduate School during the 2014/2015 Postgraduate Orientation Programme
Approach

• Preamble

• Sources of information for research
  – Who is sourcing
  – Where to source
  – How to source

Conclusion
Preamble

• Library is nucleus of university education

• There is evidence that universities which record success engage their students to use the library. Such students are rewarded with high academic outcome.
University Education

- Learn established body of knowledge
- Starting with the rudiments
- Achieved through reading both reference and subject driven texts;
- Learn to be information literate persons;

Postgraduate

- Engage in research to produce knowledge
- 1st learn to make knowledge through the masters training
- Then produce peer reviewed scholarly knowledge at the doctoral level
WHO

- Knowledge acquisition and production is achieved by

Define
Access
Evaluate
Manage
Integrate
Create
Communicate

Knowledge Production Circle
WHO

• Knowledge seeking student must

- Knows when information is needed
- Knows where to find what he needs
- Knows how to use it
- Knows how to communicate it in ethical manner

Seeking for Information/knowledge

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WHERE IS THE SOURCING DONE

INFORMATION/KNOWLEDGE SOURCES

Referral/Resource person
- Mentor/Lecturer
- Fellow Student
- Subject Specialist

Personal Library
- Electronic
- Print

Institutional Library
- Electronic
- Print

The Richest
Where is the sourcing done

• Format

Text  Compliment Each other  Electronic
How to source

• Print

Reference sources, bibliographies and references contained in consulted information resources

Library Catalogue: Search using

• Subject
• Author
• Title
• Keyword
• OPAC: Allows for phrase and boolean search

Indexes and Abstracts

• Indexes: contain bibliographic information developed within or published
• Indigenous indexes: newspapers, lectures, theses and dissertations
• Abstracts: contain bibliographic information as well as summary of a work

Consult a Librarian

• Knows plan of library
• Trained and have skills to source
How to source

• Electronic Format

OFFLINE RESOURCES

- OPAC of the Library
- TEEAL
- MIT Open Courseware
- Institutional Repositories: Containing indigenous resources of an institution such as theses/dissertations, lectures, addresses, journals, monographs etc. Example: Dspace at FUTO: FUTOSPACE
- CD containing text, journals, software complimenting texts

ONLINE RESOURCES: most critical source of information resources since the advent of Internet and World Wide Web.

- Subscribed: username and password provided sometime. Domain restricted: Science direct (of Elsevier), OARE, HINARI, AGORA, ARDI, NUC Virtual Library, eLibraryUSA, Proquest/ebrary
- FUTO Library site: library.futo.edu.ng (please logon and use the university library at address bar: library.futo.edu.ng)
- Partly Free: Bibliomania, Hathitrust Digital Library, PROTA
How to source

• Accessing Online Resources

Search Engines

Deep Web: You need to know the url of the site like FUTO library: library.futo.edu.ng

Meta Search Engine
How to source

Search Engines: Crawlers - In split of second search most public domains to gather answers to request made to it,
- Google (Scholar for scholarly search, images, maps, news, translate, books etc)
- Chrome
- MSN
- Yahoo
- Ask
- Others
- ???Find characteristics of each and the engine that is most appropriate for your search

Meta Search Engines: Web application which searches within the result of search engines.
- ???(Use the general search engine to find out some of the meta search engines)

Indexes: Electronic indexes developed by institutions, commercial companies or individuals to assist researchers source resources in their areas of interest as well as find highly rated journals:
- Science citation Index (http://ip-science.thomsonreuters.com/cgi-bin/jrlst/jloptions.cgi?PC=K, Scientific Journal Ranking-Scimago

Deep Web: Websites which contents may or may not be captured by search engines.
- Contents best access using their web addresses.
- May be free or fee based
- Include: library websites, databases, repositories, catalogues
- Users either type the web address or use search engines to find their home and then explore their content.
- Fee based requires subscription: log in with username and password
Tips for Effective Library Search

• Students must note that effective search for data depends on the student’s research process capability:
  – Determine your goal: State research questions; Set parameter(specifics);
  – Identify general and specific concepts related to your research
  – Choose the appropriate source(personal library, institutional library-electronic or print indexes, abstracts, databases websites etc);
  – Build your search strategy: author, title, keywords, Boolean, advance search( limiting search using date, geographical location , author etc ;.
  – Build a database of satisfactory result which can be access some other time.
Some Sites : Subscribed and Free which contain Electronic Resources

• **Directory of open access journals**
  https://doaj.org/subjects:
  – 1,879,028 articles
  – 10,441 journal,
  – 6,260 searchable articles,
  – 136 countries

• **Directory of open access books**:  
  http://www.doabooks.org/doab?func=subject&uiLanguage=en
  – Books in different subject areas
•Free Book Centre.net
http://freebookcentre.net

•BioMed Central
http://www.biomedcentral.com/

•Chemistry Central
http://www.chemistrycentral.com/

•Free Medical Journals
http://www.freemedicaljournals.com

•Africa e-journals Project
http://africa.msu.edu/AEJP/

•Internet Scientific Publications
http://www.ispub.com/

•Dentistry 2000

•plos http://www.plos.org

•PLOS Medicine
http://www.plosmedicine.org/home.action

•PLOS Biology
http://www.plosbiology.org/home.action.

•PLOS Genetics
http://www.plosgenetics.org/home.action

•PLOS Pathogens
http://www.plospathogens.org/home.action

•Nigerian Virtual Library
http://www.nigerianvirtuallibrary.com

•Bentham Open(various fields)
http://www.bentham.org/open/toasj/

•Life Sciences and Agricultural Journals

•Strategian (Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Medicine, Physics and Psychology)

•Biotechnology (Applied Biochemistry)

•American Chemical Society (Chemical Engineering, Chemistry Biochemistry
http://pubs.acs.org/?cookiesSet=1
- International Organisation of Scientific Research (IOSR) [www.isorjournals.org](http://www.isorjournals.org)
- International Institute for Science, Technology & Education (IITSTE) [www.iiste.org/Journals/](http://www.iiste.org/Journals/)
- Versita (Central European Science Publishers) [http://versita.com](http://versita.com)
- University of Delaware Library (Electronic Journals for Chemical Engineering) [http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/chee/ej.htm](http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/chee/ej.htm)
- Korean Journal Chemical Engineering [http://www.springer.com/]

**Fee-Based Electronic Resources**

- Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) [www.aginternetwork.org](http://www.aginternetwork.org)
- Health Internetwork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI) [http://www.healthinternetwork.net](http://www.healthinternetwork.net)
- Nigerian Virtual Library [http://www.nigerianvirtuallibrary.com](http://www.nigerianvirtuallibrary.com)
- Online Access to Research in the Environment (OARE) [http://oarescience.org](http://oarescience.org)
- Science Direct [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)
Conclusion

• Students must note that effective search for data depends on the student’s research process capability
• Posgraduate programme is not about waiting for lecturers to teach you but lecturers are there to guide you.
• It is usually the concept of flip classroom in a traditional setting
  – Get the course content
  – Do the search /reading using the information and knowledge sources available
Come to the class for discussions /interactions
You must know that using the library from the beginning helps develop good habit that will help you read and come out a scholar
Thank you for your Time.

Please work hard and you will smile
WHO

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