

DIGITIZATION OF ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN ENUGU STATE NIGERIA: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

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Abstract

Academic libraries all over the world are established to support their parent institutions in actualizing their objectives of teaching, learning and research in different formats, but rapid advances in information technologies have revolutionized their roles. As a result, academic libraries face new challenges, competitors, demands, and expectations. They are redesigning services and information products to add value to their services and to satisfy the changing information needs of the user community. However, most academic libraries in Enugu State are still handling largely printed materials that are expensive and bulky. Information seekers are no longer satisfied with only printed materials. They want to supplement the printed information with more dynamic electronic resources. Hence, it is pertinent to digitize academic libraries in Enugu State Nigeria, considering its challenges and prospects. This paper explores digitization of academic libraries in Enugu State Nigeria. It converse digital library, objective of digital library, academic library and academic libraries in Enugu State. It also discusses the challenges and prospects of digitization of academic libraries in Enugu State. The methodology of this paper is based on the information obtained from the secondary sources. This paper recommends that committees of university librarians, and their counterparts in polytechnics and colleges should sensitize their respective institution's administrators on the central role of digitalized academic libraries in teaching, learning and research activities in academic communities.

Keywords: digitization, digital library, academic library, challenge, prospect.