

**MANAGERIAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE PRESERVATION OF
INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR LEARNING IN KOGI STATE COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION LIBRARY, ANKPA, NIGERIA**

¹Udemba, Esther Chinenye, ^{1*}Shaibu, Leonard and ²Sunday, Emmanuel

¹Department of Educational Management and Business Education, Faculty of Education, Federal University
Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

²Primary Education Department, Kogi State College of Education, Ankpa, Nigeria

*Corresponding Author. E-mail: leonard.shaibu@fuoye.edu.ng

ABSTRACT

The study investigated strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning in the Kogi state college of education library, Ankpa. Two research questions guided the study. A descriptive survey was adopted. The sample consisted of 18 staff of the college library made up of 8 professional staff and 10 Para-professional staff purposively selected. Managerial Strategies for Preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library (MSPIRLKSCEL) served as an instrument for data collection. Analysis of data was done by mean and standard deviation and revealed problems encountered by library staff in the preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa is inadequate to finance, inadequate equipment for preservation, the problem of infrastructural facilities, unfavourable government economic policies, tropic climatic condition and lack of competent manpower. It also revealed vigilance, funding, taking precautions against theft, inventory control, marks of ownership, guarding against mutilation and vandalism, protecting materials in book drops and controlling entrances and exits to be managerial strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa in Kogi State. The study discovered that the preservation of information resources such as reference resources, serial resources, electronic resources, and books amongst others have become a driving force in new service platforms of the libraries' effectiveness hence the urgent need for functional managerial strategies to actualize these targets in Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa. Some recommendations such as Regular cleaning programmes, patrolling of the reading room, and adequate funding amongst others were recommended.

Key Words: Information Resources, Preservation, Library, College of Education:

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Preservation of information resources in the academic library like colleges of education is very important to the existence of a library and the learning process. It becomes imperative that academic librarians should inculcate preservation skills as one of their programmes to preserve and sustain these information resources for effective service delivery and learning in our academic libraries.

Academic libraries ideally should be living organs that are fully responsive to the needs of the patrons. Academic libraries are defined by Oyedun (2015) to mean those libraries that are mainly found in tertiary institutions. Contextually, an academic library is a library of higher education that deals with the Preservation of information resources for learning in the College library. Academic libraries are a vital part of every higher institution of learning as they provide information materials to support the teaching, learning and research endeavours of their parent institutions (Juliet and Okee, 2020).

Academic libraries do not just specialize in the provision of information resources but also preserve those resources for elongating their life-span and wellness of those resources. Academic libraries are established to support learning, teaching and research processes. Examples of academic libraries are libraries situated in Universities, Polytechnics, Agriculture, Aviation and Colleges of Education.

Information resources are materials that users consult in making decisions and also for problem-solving. These resources are described by Chimah and Nwokocha (2013) to include print and non-print materials. The print materials are materials in form of books; examples are reference materials, periodicals, pamphlets, government publications, and textbooks among others. While non-print materials comprise of teaching and learning materials that make the experience worthwhile and interesting. These materials include Audio materials, visual materials, and audiovisual materials. In addition to the aforementioned, Campbell (2016) Opines

that the attainment of the library goals has functional relation with the resources available at its disposal. Such library resources according to Campbell (2016) include the calibre of staff and their information handling skills, adequate finance, materials and availability of equipment for information acquisition, processing, storage and dissemination.

Library resources are therefore critical to academic work. Feather (2014) defines information resources as materials consulted for knowledge about a topic, a theme, an event, a date, a number, a place or even a word. Some information sources lend themselves to quick and easy use and are called reference sources (Aina, 2004). Other types of information sources are; Journals, official publications and statistics, theses and dissertations, internet sources, non-book material like cartographic materials, sound recordings, and motion pictures. All these information sources are stored in the library to provide the information that the users need.

Information resources can be in print or in electronic versions, and they are vital and delicate. The way they are handled can affect the life span of the records contained in them. These records must be preserved and secured for future purposes. Information sources in our college libraries should be preserved and secured because of the importance of the information contained in them.

2.0 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

On the importance of preserving information resources, Mozeh, Moses and Ubwa, (2017) pointed out that written documents within or outside the library help us to conduct financial transactions, build bridges and skyscrapers, send greetings and express love, and run factories and corporations. He asserted that our documents are agents helping us to make and maintain a meaningful workable culture, for this purpose, they need to be preserved. Campbell (2016) opines that the preservation of information materials ensures a continued supply of information essential for documenting the history of a nation and also aiding research in the college library.

Furthermore, he went on to state that certain materials and information contents are termed 'rare' and 'unique.' Such materials are hard to come by even when the finances are available; hence the need to guard them carefully and jealously. Information materials are sources of reference, research illustrations, effects etc. Their re-recording may be impossible as certain actions and events cannot be re-enacted, the dramatic personnel involved may die, particular material may be the only one available in a given geographical area and the cost of preservation may be "peanuts" compared to the cost of replacement.

Man, the creator of recorded information is mortal. Similarly, the deterioration of information materials is inevitable. All that is intended in conservation is to delay the inevitable so as to satisfy the information needs of users. The condition or state of information materials is crucial to quality service delivery in the College Library. In view of this, information resources should be preserved in the college library for learning using appropriate security methods.

Information managers especially librarians are currently facing the problem of effective preservation of information material in their libraries. Mnjama and Wamukoya (2014) pointed out that the absence of organizational plans for managing records, low awareness of the role of records management in support of organizational efficiency and accountability, lack of stewardship and coordination in handling records, absence of legislation, policies and procedures to guide in management of records, absence of core competencies in records and archives management, absence of budgets dedicated for records management, the poor security and confidentiality controls, lack of records retention and disposed of policies and absence of migration strategies for records are some of the problem facing information managers.

Njeze (2012) discovered lack of comprehensive preservation policy, untrained manpower, and inadequate funding are the major challenges of preservation policy; Luckey and Umeji (2014) in

their own study discovered that inadequate funding to carry out preservation activities in library yearly; there is no preservation and conservation policy in our library; lack of infrastructure facilities for preservation of resources, harsh/high environment condition are the factors militating against preservation.

The results of Oluwaniyi's (2015) study also showed that lack of funds and inadequate infrastructure on the aspects of preservation of information resources were the major confrontations. Lack of manpower and other infrastructure are some of the challenges facing the effective preservation of information resources in developing countries. Ngulube (2015) observed that for any preservation and conservation programme to succeed in libraries and archives there must be adequate and well-trained manpower.

This is because the preservation and conservation of information resources is a specialized field of knowledge that requires information professionals who understand the physical and chemical nature of the materials in their library and archive holdings. Popular (2013) advocates the need to expose librarians and archivists to conservation and restoration practices during their training. He suggests that such a training programme should include, operating environmental control, storage and housing, operating environmental systems, designing new buildings or renovating buildings.

ESARBICA (2012) opined that lack of suitable or inadequate equipment and materials contributes significantly to the present poor status of preservation and conservation of information materials in African libraries, archives and information centres. Some of the essential materials and equipment required for setting up functional conservation and restoration laboratories in African libraries and archives are not available locally.

It was by Oluwaniyi (2015) that the prominent inhibitors to the effective and efficient preservation of information materials in African libraries, archives and record centres include the following:

a. Inadequate Finance: Almost all African libraries, archives and information centres do not allocate adequate funds in their annual budget for the preservation of information resources in their holdings. This has really caused the low priority or lack of desired attention given to the preservation of information resources by the management of such libraries.

b. Inadequate of Equipments/Materials: Lack of suitable or inadequate equipment and materials contributes significantly to the present poor status of the preservation of information resources in African libraries, archives and information centres. Some of the essential materials and equipment required for setting up functional conservation and restoration laboratories in African libraries and archives are not available locally (ESARBICA, 2012).

c. Problem of Infrastructural Facilities: Preservation in African countries is facing the problem of infrastructural facilities such as inappropriate library buildings, erratic power supply, and lack of good sites to establish libraries. Many libraries in Africa especially College libraries are not adequately reliable for the protection of information resources. Some of these libraries could not provide for any sudden disaster, loss, decay and unforeseen circumstances of excessive temperature, humidity, light, theft, fire or even war.

c. Unfavourable Government Economic policies: The economic policies of most African governments do not favour library and archival services, so preservation activities are not given the priority attention they deserve. Such economic policies include those concerning high duties and tariffs charged on imports of preservation equipment.

d. Tropic Climatic Condition: The effects of a tropical climate of excessive temperature, high relative humidity, dust and rodents that feed on paper-based resources cause rapid deterioration and decay of information resources in African libraries and archives. These agents of rapid deterioration and decay of information materials add more to the costs associated with the

preservation and restoration of information resources in African libraries (UNESCO, 2012). Popoola (2013) opined that while stressing the great need for well-established document repair and preservation units in Africa, observed that with the exception of air, fungi, insect and pest are more pronounced in the continent than elsewhere.

e. Quality of paper and Ink: The low quality of paper and ink used in the production of information materials especially library books and other paper-based information resources in libraries pose serious danger to the preservation of information resources in African countries (Popoola, 2013).

f. Lack of preservation knowledge: Akussah (2006) asserted that “until the preservation field researches the point at which most people know what ought to be done, the lack of money to do it on a scale appropriate to the need is not terribly significant”. This submission attests to the fact that knowledge plays a key role in preservation practices. In the same vein, Ngulube (2015) is of the opinion that the real impediment to having viable preservation programmes is not entirely resources-based, but a lack of preservation knowledge.

g. Lack of commitment of librarians: Among the problems confronting preservation is a lack of commitment by the available human resources, particularly, educating librarians about preservation is now widely recognized as an essential element of any plan to address the preservation problems. According to Harvey (2013), preservation education courses for library professionals are typically in one of three formats: as a part of compulsory courses such as library administration in a first professional qualification; an optional course of about one semester; or a separate qualification, for example, one or two-year courses in preservation administration.

Other constraints against the effective preservation of information resources include a lack of preservation and conservation policy and unfavourable government economic policies. The economic policies of most African

governments do not favour library and archival services, so preservation and conservation activities are not given the priority attention they deserve. Such economic policies include those concerning high duties and tariffs charged on imports of preservation and conservation equipment. Olatokun (2018) noted that most African countries do not have a national information policy which makes the formulation of preservation policies in the libraries and information centres out of the question.

With reference to strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning, Libraries must have safety and security plans in place to ensure that staffs are prepared to respond to fire, water emergencies, and other large-scale threats to collections. According to Oluwaniyi (2015), it is necessary to protect what has been painfully acquired by the college library over the years. While Olatokun (2018) on his own part stresses that effective protective procedures and systems are a necessary evil in modern libraries.

He argued that librarians are guardians and gatekeepers protecting and providing access to library material. Therefore, for the librarian to be able to provide access, a librarian must make certain that the materials remain safe in their custody. Ngulube (2015) listed the following required urgent steps to be taken to improve the preservation of information resources:

a. formation of national preservation agencies: The body should be responsible centrally for the acquisition, and management of all newspapers in Nigeria in a national repository. The body shall make available to all subscribing academic, research, public and corporate libraries microfilmed copies of newspapers and provision online services to subscribers.

b. Improved Finance: Alternative sources of funding could be sought other than depending solely on federal government subvention.

c. Emergency and disaster planning in the library is essential: A library or archives emergency or disaster plan is but one element in

a larger safety and security strategy to guide the entire institution's policies and procedures during such events as wars, terrorist actions, criminal acts, natural disasters, structural fires, serious medical emergencies, or releases of dangerous fumes and gases.

Developing a manual of procedures to anticipate all these threats to the entire institution is a process in which librarians must participate. History has shown the wisdom of taking precautions before events that no one wants to happen or can imagine happening whether war or any other catastrophe likely to affect the entire structure of an institution and the security of its collections. Advance planning can significantly reduce the loss of rare materials.

d. Taking precautions against theft: Protecting the collection should include ensuring good security to prevent theft. This is especially a concern when libraries and archives must provide remote storage for overflow materials or special cold storage facilities for vulnerable materials such as microfilm, motion picture film, and film and colour negatives.

e. Inventory control: The essence of theft prevention is inventory control and vigilance. If a library is uncertain about the types and quantities of materials it has in its possession, determining whether and when a theft has been committed will be almost impossible. If library materials are not clearly identified and described, proof of ownership will be difficult to establish even if stolen materials are discovered in someone's possession.

If possible, inventories can help determine the state of completeness of the collection. If the collection is too large for a full inventory, parts of the collection can be inventoried on a rotating schedule, with special collections of rare and unique materials being checked on a regular basis.

f. Marks of ownership: All library and archive materials should be clearly identified with a mark of ownership. This ownership mark not only identifies materials as the property of the library but also discourages theft, especially if the mark is not readily removable. Indelible

marks are especially important since staff commit most thefts from rare books and manuscript collections.

g. Accessibility and use: Access to secure storage areas must be carefully monitored. Cleaning, maintenance, and janitorial staff should always be admitted in the company of a staff member, and unauthorized visitors should never be left alone in storage areas. Allowing a potential thief unsupervised access to library materials is potentially encouraging theft. In general, the more knowledgeable the visitor, the greater the risks to the collection.

Ideally, user areas should be separated from secure collection areas by a locked door that can be opened only by an electronic keypad or a magnetized card. Readers using rare or unique materials should be closely supervised at all times to ensure that works or portions of works are not stolen or damaged, intentionally or accidentally.

h. Guarding against mutilation and vandalism: Whether a library uses open stacks (allowing readers a direct access to the bookshelves) or closed stacks (requiring readers to locate a book in the catalogue and rely on staff to retrieve it), staff need to observe readers from time to time to discourage deliberate mutilation or vandalism of library materials. Mutilation often takes the form of cutting out book leaves or illustrations.

i. Protecting materials in book drops: Some libraries, especially those serving the general public, use book drops so that readers may return books when the library is closed.

j. Protecting materials on exhibit: Materials on exhibit are especially vulnerable to theft and mutilation. Exhibits featuring rare or other special materials can attract thieves or vandals. Exhibit cases should be within a controlled area so that they are under surveillance and safely secured when the control point is closed. The cases should be securely locked and constructed from materials difficult to dismantle or damage. For example, rather than ordinary glass, which

can be easily broken, a sturdy plastic sheet should be used.

j. Controlling entrances and exits: Ideally, all bags and coats should be checked at the entrance to libraries, which should ensure that there are safe areas for storing them. And while it is acceptable for readers to bring laptop computers into a research area, all readers should understand that their computer case must be checked when they leave the area.

k. Controlling entrances and exits: Image If possible, libraries should use an electronic detection system at the exit to prevent the unauthorized removal of books tagged with magnetized strips. If that is not possible, libraries should have some system for examining the status of books removed for circulation. Libraries operating with open windows should ensure that the window openings are secured with tightly fitting insect screens to prevent thieves from tossing books outside.

The essence of the resources in the library is majorly for the learners. Librarians' help students learn the best ways to access and use quality information resources. But before students can utilize these information resources for learning, there is a need for proper preservation of those resources (Harvey, 2013). Preservation of information sources is very important to the learning of students. This is why the college library should have a comprehensive and functional collection, well preserved to serve the information needs of the learners. College libraries are social institutions created to conserve knowledge, preserve cultural heritage, provide information, aid education and research and recreation for the learners (Aguolu and Aguolu 2012).

But the library staff are limited in carrying out their services partly due to the observed problems such as inadequate finance, inadequate equipment for preservation, the inadequacy of infrastructural facilities, unfavourable government economic policies, tropic climatic conditions and lack of competent manpower supply amongst others. School management tends to put some strategies such as vigilance, funding, taking precautions against theft,

inventory control, marks of ownership, and guarding against mutilation and vandalism for effective attainment of educational goals in school but it is yet to be known empirically whether these strategies will bring about effective preservation of information resources in Kogi state college of education, Ankpa.

However, this study is set to address managerial strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi state college of education library, Ankpa, Nigeria

2.1 Statement of the Problem

The importance of the preservation of information resources in the library cannot be disputed. Preservation of library resources aids better services in terms of learning, and so it is deemed necessary considering the future generation of users. Preservation of library materials is a vital task in college libraries for the learners to get effective service delivery from the librarians.

However, In spite of the value attached to the preservation of information resources, it appears that the college libraries that house these resources are always dirty and dusty and do not have the knowledge of the security methods for the preservation of those resources for effective learning to take place. Apart from having foreknowledge in the preservation of the resources, college libraries may still be backward in the security methods they adopt in protecting their information resources. Poor security cannot cope with incessant pressure on the library by students who either steal or mutilate books/journals without regard for laid down library regulations.

With this current situation in the college libraries, there is a need to find timely solutions to bring to an end this ugly trend in order for those information resources to be secured for posterity. If this ugly situation is not attacked, the consequences would be that several valuable resources will be lost into the thin air and cannot be found any longer. These, therefore, call for the appraisal of managerial strategies for the

preservation of information resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa.

2.2 Purpose of the Study

The general purpose of the study was to determine strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning in the Kogi state college of education library, Ankpa. Specifically, the study sought to:

- i. Examine the problems encountered in the preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa
- ii. Examine the strategies for effective preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa

2.3 Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

- i. What are the problems encountered in the preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa?
- ii. What are the strategies for the effective preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa?

3.0 METHODOLOGY

A descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. A descriptive survey according to Emaikwu (2013) involves a systematic and comprehensive collection of information about the opinions, attitudes, feelings, beliefs and behaviours of people through observation, interviewing and administering of questionnaires to a relatively large and representative sample of the population of interest. This method was used because the design is most appropriate for the study.

The area of the study is Kogi State College of Education, Ankpa Library. Kogi State College of Education library came to be in 1981, at the inception of advanced Teachers' College, Ankpa

in the then Benue state which later metamorphosed into College of Education, Ankpa and much later Kogi State College of Education, Ankpa at the creation of Kogi State in 1991. The main objective of the college was to provide services to support the academic activities of the parent institution. It has two libraries, the old and the ultra-modern library.

At present, the College library has about 15, 000 copies of textbooks and other resources. It has an electronic library with internet and ICT facilities which provides free internet services to their staff and student users. This study area is chosen because the college library has several information resources both print and non-print for learning and preservation.

The population of the study is 18 staff. This included 8 Professional and 10 Para-professional staff working in the library. This group was chosen because it constituted staff that provides direct library services to the learners and they are also the people directly involved in the preservation of information resources. According to the staff record available in the college under study, a total of 18 people work in the libraries.

No sampling technique was carried out because the population is not too large and is manageable; the eighteen (18) professional and Para-professional staff of the colleges of education libraries were studied.

The instrument that was used for data collection for this study is a structured questionnaire titled “Security Methods for the preservation of information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library (SMPIRLKSCSEL). The questionnaire items were generated by the researchers based on the objectives and research questions as well as the information gathered from a review of related literature. The questionnaire was divided into sections A and B. Section A covered the respondents’ background information as gender and qualification. Section B was divided into clusters.

The questionnaire used in this research work was validated by two experts in the Department of Library and Information Science, Kogi State College of Education, Ankpa and a lecturer in the Measurement and Evaluation of Education unit at Kogi State College of Education, Ankpa. This was aimed to ensure that all issues and questions were relevant and properly addressed in the research topic.

The questionnaires were administered by the researchers to the respondents (Library staff) in the college library in Kogi state College of Education Library, Ankpa. This is to enable the researcher to get first-hand information from the respondents on the subject. The researcher visited the college library at Kogi state College of Education and administered the questionnaires which were used to obtain accurate information from respondents.

In analyzing the data collected, the researchers made use of mean and standard deviation. The cut-off point was put at 2.50. Any item with a mean of 2.50 above was accepted as agreed while an item with a mean score less than 2.50 was regarded as disagreeing

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Research Question 1:

What are the problems encountered in the preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa?

MANAGERIAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR
LEARNING IN KOGI STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LIBRARY, ANKPA, NIGERIA

Table 1 Means Responses on the Problems Encountered In the Preservation of Information Resources For Learning In Kogi State College Of Education Library, Ankpa, Nigeria

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std	Decision
1	Inadequate finance	8	6	1	3	3.05	1.74	Accepted
2	Inadequate Equipment for preservation	7	11	-	0	3.38	1.83	Accepted
3	Problem of infrastructural Facilities	9	7	1	1	3.33	1.82	Accepted
4	Unfavourable Government Economic policies	6	7	5	-	3.05	1.74	Accepted
5	Tropic Climatic Condition	10	6	-	2	3.33	1.82	Accepted
6	Low quality of paper and ink	10	4	1	3	3.16	1.77	Accepted
7	Power failure	7	6	3	2	3.55	1.88	Accepted
8	Lack of competent manpower	5	9	4	1	3.11	1.76	Accepted
	Total mean					3.25	1.80	Significant

Source: Field Survey 2022

SA= Strongly Agree; A= Agree; D= Disagree; SD= Strongly Disagree

Table 1 shows the mean responses of respondents on problems encountered in the preservation of information resources for learning in the Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa. Table 1 shows that inadequate finance, Inadequate Equipment for preservation, shortage of infrastructural facilities, unfavourable government economic policies, tropic climatic conditions, low quality of paper and ink, power failure and lack of competent manpower were rated as 3.05, 3.38, 3.33, 3.05, 3.33, 3.16, 3.55 and 3.11 with their corresponding standard deviation of 1.74, 1.83, 1.82, 1.74, 1.82, 1.1.77, 1.88 and 1.76 are the problems encountered in the preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State

College of Education library, Ankpa. The result from the table shows that all the items have a mean above 2.50 which is an indication that the respondents agreed with those items. The overall mean of 3.25 with a corresponding deviation of 1.80 was also significant which indicated those problems are actually encountered by library staff in the preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa

Research Question 5: what are the strategies for effective preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa

Table 2: Means Responses on the strategies for effective preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std	Decision
9	Vigilance	9	7	1	1	3.33	1.82	Accepted
10	Funding	16	2	0	0	3.88	1.96	Accepted
11	Taking precautions against theft	13	3	2	-	3.61	1.90	Accepted
12	Inventory control	9	5	1	3	3.11	1.76	Accepted
13	Marks of ownership	7	5	4	2	2.94	1.71	Accepted
14	Guarding against mutilation and vandalism	8	8	2	0-	3.33	1.82	Accepted
15	Protecting materials in book drops	10	6	-	2	3.33	1.82	Accepted
16	Controlling entrances and exits	13	3	2	0	3.61	1.90	Accepted
	Ovetall mean					3.39	1.84	Significant

Source: Field Survey 2021

Table 2 shows the analysis of mean responses on the strategies for the effective preservation of information resources for learning. From the analyzed data, the respondents supported all the items ranging from 9-16 as strategies for improving the preservation and security of information resources.

The supported strategies and their mean score are 3.33, 3.88, 3.57, 3.11, 2.94, 3.33, 3.33 and 3.61 with corresponding standard deviations being 1.82, 1.96, 1.90, 1.76, 1.71, 1.82, 1.82 and 1.90 respectively. The mean scores of these items are above the criterion mean of 2.50 which was an indication that the respondents agreed with those items such as vigilance, funding, precaution against theft, inventory control, marks of ownership, guarding against mutilation and vandalism, protecting materials in book drops and controlling entrances and exits to be strategies for effective preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi state college of education, Ankpa.

The overall mean of 3.39 with a corresponding standard deviation of 1.84 was also significant showing that items were effective strategies for the preservation of information resources for

learning in Kogi state college of education, Ankpa.

4.1 Discussion of findings

The first finding revealed that the problems encountered in the preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa is: inadequate finance, inadequate equipment for preservation, the problem of infrastructural facilities, unfavourable government economic policies, tropical climatic conditions and lack of competent manpower.

This shows that these problems should be addressed for the effective preservation and securing of information sources. In contrast to these findings, Ngulube (2015) observed that for any preservation programme to succeed in libraries and archives there must be adequate and well-trained manpower, adequate finance, adequate equipment and other factors. This is because the preservation of information resources is a specialized field of knowledge that requires information professionals who understand the physical and chemical nature of the materials in their library holdings. Popoola (2013) advocates the need to expose librarians to preservation and restoration practices during their training. He suggests that such a training programme should

MANAGERIAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR LEARNING IN KOGI STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LIBRARY, ANKPA, NIGERIA

include, operating environmental control, storage and housing, operating environmental systems, designing new buildings or renovating buildings.

Strategies for effective preservation of Information Resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa are vigilance, funding, taking precautions against theft, inventory control, marks of ownership, guarding against mutilation and vandalism, protecting materials in book drops and controlling entrances and exits.

This finding is in line with the findings of Fadehan (2009) found that these strategies, if applied to libraries could help in reducing or eliminating the problems of preservation and security of information sources. This is also in agreement with Olatukun (2018) who encouraged libraries to have skilled staff in the libraries for preservation and conservation programmes because of the specialized activities involved.

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The study shows that preservation of information resources such as reference resources, serial resources, electronic resources, and books amongst others have become a driving force in the new service platform of the libraries but are not properly preserved according to the requisite rules in the Kogi State College of Education library, Ankpa. This study, therefore, concluded that the problems encountered by library staff in the preservation of information resources for Learning in Kogi State College of Education Library, Ankpa are: inadequate finance, inadequate equipment for preservation, the problem of infrastructural facilities, unfavourable government economic policies, tropic climatic condition and shortage of competent manpower supply.

Some managerial strategies such as vigilance, funding, taking precautions against theft, inventory control, marks of ownership, guarding against mutilation and vandalism, protecting materials in book drops and controlling entrances and exits are discovered to be suitable for the effective preservation of information resources for learning in Kogi State College of Education

Library, Ankpa. Although, these strategies are not presently in vogue in the unit.

Based on the findings, the following recommendations are made:

1. Regular cleaning programmes should be designed for libraries, for effective management of library books.
2. Librarians should patrol the reading rooms to ensure that users do not mutilate or rough handle books.
3. College libraries should be adequately funded. It is when libraries are given priority in terms of funds that will trigger the librarian preserve their information resources from deterioration and sudden disasters. Therefore, governments at all levels are urged to provide enough funds for the preservation of information resources at primary and post-primary school libraries.

REFERENCES

- Aina, L.O. (2004). Library and Information Science Technology Text for Africa. Third World Information Service Lyd, Ibadan.
- Akussah, H. (2006). The state of document deterioration in the national archives of Ghana. *African of Library, Archives and Information Science* 16(1), 45-56.
- Campbell, J. D. (2016). Changing a cultural icon: The academic library as a virtual destination. *Educause Review*, 41, (1): 16-31.
- Chima J. N. & Nwokocha U., (2015). Categories, availability and awareness of electronic information resources by postgraduate library users in South East Nigeria Federal Universities. *International Journal of Library Science* .4(1): 7-10
- Emaikwu, S.O. (2013). *Fundamentals of Educational Research Methods and Statistics*, Kaduna: Deray Prints Ltd.
- ESARBICA. (2012). Minutes of the ESARBICA executive board meeting held at the

MANAGERIAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR
LEARNING IN KOGI STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LIBRARY, ANKPA, NIGERIA

- mountain lun. Mbabane, Swaziland.
March 11-13.
- Fadehan, O. (2009). Preservation and conservation of newspapers in Nigeria University libraries. Paper presented at workshop on national policy on preservation of national documentary heritage, Abuja, march; 24-27.
- Feather, J. (2000). *Preservation and Management of Library Collection*, 2nd ed. Library Association London.
- Harvey, R. (2013). *Preservation in libraries: Principles, strategies and practices for libraries*. London: Bowkers -Sauri.
- Juliet C. A. & Okee M. O. (2020). Preservation and Conservation of Library Resources as Correlates of Service Delivery Effectiveness in Universities in South-South, Nigeria. *Library and Information Science Digest*. Vol 13: 45-57.
- Luckey, L. & Umeji, C. (2014). Maintenance culture of information resources among librarians in two selected private higher institutions in Anambra State of Nigeria. *Online Journal*, 4(6), 34-43.
- Mnjama, N. & Wamukoya (2014). E-government and e-records management. Paper presented at the SADC workshop on e-government; Gabarone, Botswana. April 14 – 16.
- Mozeh, Moses K & Ubwa, Gabriel K (2017). Challenges of utilizing university library resources by undergraduate students of Benue State University, Makurdi. *Glory land journal of library and information science*, 1 (1): 6-8
- Ngulube, P. C. (2015). Environmental monitoring and control at national archives and libraries in Eastern and Southern Africa. *Libri*55, 154-168.
- Njeze, M. E. (2012) Preservation and conservation issues in selected private universities in South-West, Nigeria. *Library Philosophy and Practice*, <http://unllib.unl.edu/LPP/>
- Olatokun, W. M. (2018). Survey of preservation and conservation practices and techniques in Nigerian university libraries. *LIBRE Library and Information Science Research*, Vol.18, issue 2
- Oluwaniyi, S. A. (2015) Preservation of information resources in selected school libraries in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. *Library Philosophy and Practice* (ejournal).1220. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/1220>.
- Oyedun, G. (2015). Internet use in the library of Federal University of Technology, Minna. *Gateway library journal*10(1) 23-26.
- Popoola, S.O. (2013). *Preservation and conservation of information resources*. Ibadan: Distance Learning Centre.