



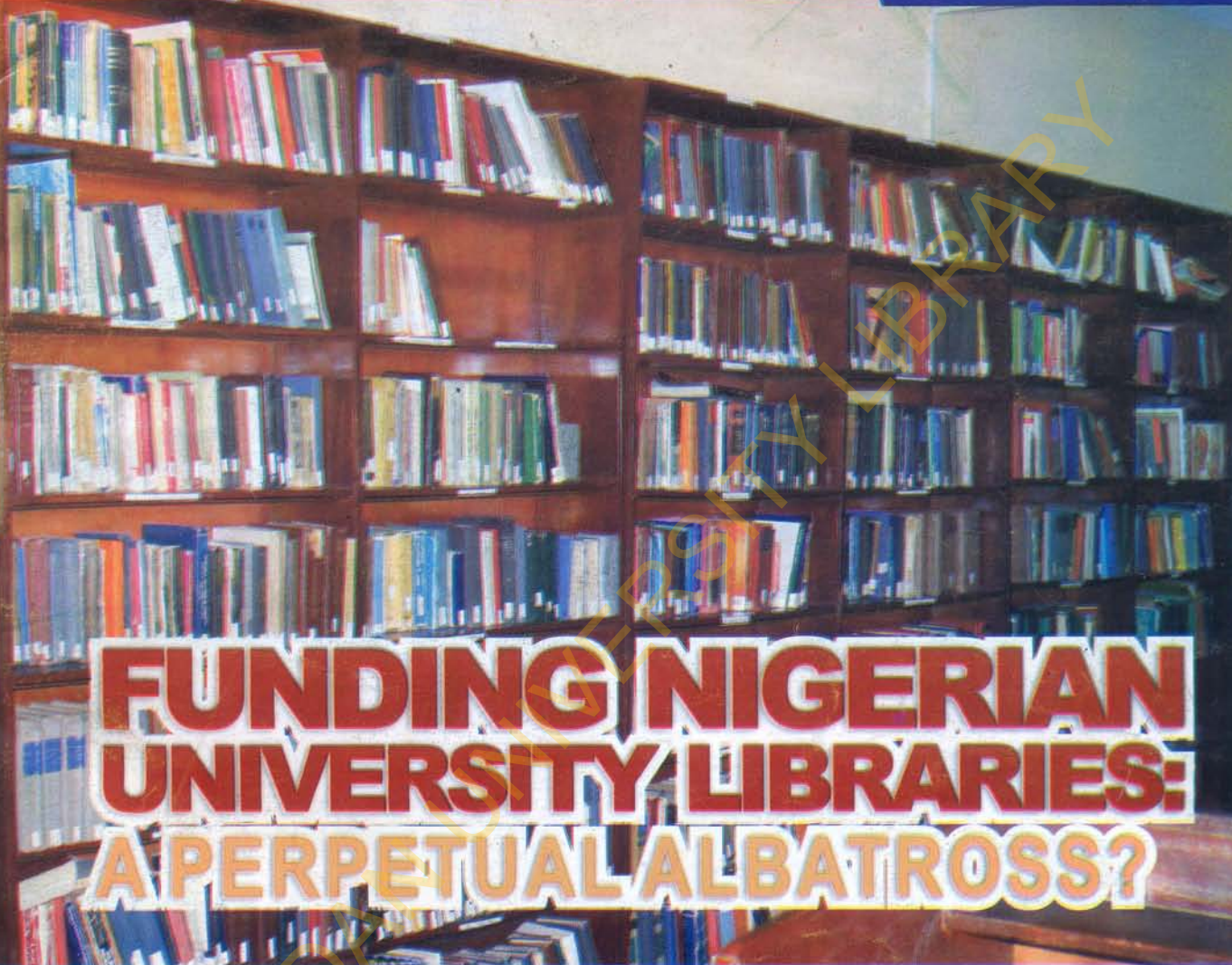
# KIDL

# NEWS



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## FUNDING NIGERIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES: A PERPETUAL ALBATROSS?

**DR. OLADELE AGAIN:  
UI CHOSE THE REFORMIST  
LIBRARIAN**

**FEATURING FACULTY LIBRARIES:  
ADEOLA ODUTOLA  
LAW LIBRARY**

### INTERVIEW WITH THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The 11th Vice-Chancellor of  
the Nigerian Premier University  
(The University of Ibadan)

**Professor Isaac  
Folorunsho Adewole**



# EDITORIAL

In the previous edition, we focused on "Ethics in Librarianship"; an interview session was held with the immediate past Vice Chancellor, Prof. O. A. Bamiro, by the representatives of the Training and Research Committee of Kenneth Dike Library; we also featured the Faculty of The Social Sciences Library. In this edition, we present to you another down to earth interaction with Professor I. F. Adewole, the current Vice-Chancellor of this great university, the University of Ibadan (Nigeria's Premier University). The interview is incisive and educative. It is an interesting piece and you will enjoy it.

The lead article is written by Mr. C.O. Ola – The Reference Librarian, Kenneth Dike Library, University of Ibadan. His article titled 'FUNDING NIGERIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES: A PERPETUAL ALBATROSS?' focuses on issues like: why fund university libraries? Sources of funds for University libraries; Academic Staff Union of Universities' concern; special concerns on University libraries; the paradox of clients' expectation of the library's responsibility; etc. The article addresses the funding problems affecting libraries in Nigeria's ivory towers, with particular reference to the public universities.

From the outset, we had decided to feature a specific library in each edition and preference is given to Adeola Odutola Law Library in this edition. The library which

is well stocked with law materials that are current and up-to-date. You will also find this section interesting as you read.

Do you know that the Internet is the world's biggest library? In fact it is a chaotic repository for the collective output of the e-resources of the society. Mrs. A. A. Oyelude, a Principal Librarian as well as the Chief Cataloguer in Kenneth Dike Library presents "Library and the Internet for Excellent Academic Performance". The section is informative.

Other pieces in this edition include "An X-ray of the Documents Section in Kenneth Dike Library" by Alhaji O.T. Ogunremi; "The Relevance of Communication in Library Customer Services" by Mr. O. A. Idowu; "Reference Sources and Services in Academic Libraries" by Miss. Adeleke, J.B. The Social Diary is compiled by Mrs. C.O.B. Adewumi & Mrs. Kayode-Edebor while the KDLN Sport Desk anchored by Mr. A. I. Jimoh presents "Therapeutic Aspect of Jogging".

Wishing you a nice time as you read.

**Dr. (Mrs) Josephine U. Igbeka**  
Chief Editor.

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### EDITORIAL TEAM

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| ■ Mrs. G.A. Ajuwon                         | ■ Mr. A.I. Jimoh | ■ Mrs. C.O.B. Adewumi |                |

# LIBRARY AND THE INTERNET FOR EXCELLENT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

**Adetoun A. Oyelude, CLN**  
Principal Librarian, University of Ibadan



**T**he library as an academic unit has the major function of providing books, journals and other resources needed by the community it serves. The materials put together by the body that set it up and the library administration constitute the collection of the library and become the tool for all users of the library to achieve their individual specific goals. The library is the heartbeat, the engine room of the community and for a university community, curriculum and the library of the university constitute its life bloodstream, the library being the blood cells (Cox-George, 1992:53).

Most library collections are in book format but academic libraries have much more in non-book formats especially on the internet in this age of technological revolution. The internet is a network of computers that communicate with each other, often over telephone lines. It enables companies, organizations, individuals, schools and governments to share information across the world. The internet includes the World Wide Web (www) which is popularly called [www.combymany.itis](http://www.combymany.itis) used to retrieve and send information, to communicate and conduct business globally and to link with a huge array of services and resources online.

The library and the internet therefore become partners in the information business, with one making use of the other. In the academic environment, Teaching, Learning and Research (TLR), the basic activities are complemented by the library which provides the support needed by staff, students and other stakeholders. Academic performance of library patrons especially in schools or tertiary institutions can be greatly enhanced by using the Internet.

**The Internet as a tool for information sharing therefore offers scholars multiple avenues for attaining academic excellence. Some of these functions are described below.**

## **Services on the Internet**

Many services are offered on the Internet which help tremendously in research work and in the academia.

**E-mail:** This is an internet application that allows sending of messages which are received almost instantly if the targeted audience is simultaneously online. Many use their e-mail boxes not realizing its research and academic potential. Journal articles could be subscribed to and get/delivered through e-mail. Lots of information, data, ..., news, lecture notes, and even tutorials can be sent via e-mail.

Libraries are increasingly using e-mail to contact their clients, sending overdue notices and performing selective dissemination of information (SDI) services once their client's e-mail address is known. They thereby use e-mail to contact their users and pass essential library information.

Not too many people realize the full use of their e-mail boxes. Do you know? - that you can search through your archived mail by entering in keywords in the "search" mail box and all mail that have such word(s) will be called up?

**Do you know it is possible to sort mails into different folders and label them by topic? 'Academic work' folders can be differentiated from that of general mails for instance.**

**World Wide Web:** The World Wide Web makes information exchange easy linking hypertext media with all kinds of features like text images, sounds, graphics, tables and so on. As such, raw data can be downloaded from the web for use in research, to enrich ones work. Thus for instance, ~ accessing a website like the University of Ibadan website on <http://www.ui.edu.ng>. you have access to the University bulletin, University pictures, and links to other websites, UI.webmail, tables and graphs on webometrics ranking research by UI staff and so on.

The technologies being used on the World Wide Web are graduating in terms of sophistication and variety of formats. Sound, text, graphic information can be readily got by students for their work. Social media like Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Dspace, LinkedIn, Peek, Flixster, Netlog

and other such are being used for serious academic work nowadays. Discussions of an academic nature go on minute by minute and it is not surprising that the results of research are openly circulated on the web. Statistics on almost any topic can be got from the website <http://www.worldstats.com>. Blogs and wikis are also useful to library staff who are now using web technologies like Web 2.0 to solve library routine problems or technical problems by asking for contributions to giving answers to their questions online (Chen, 2009).

**Newsgroups:** The internet provides news services. USENET News is an example of a discussion group system distributed and replicated. It is composed of thousands of newsgroups organized by topic (e.g. hobbies, professional, politics, etc). These newsgroups send out news to thousands of news servers who replicate and spread the word. Students and researchers can make use of newsgroups for academic work as very current news gets shared immediately. The news is passed from one newsgroup to another.

**File Transfer Protocol (FTP):** This service on the internet is the one used for copying files from one computer to another. It is used to distribute software, graphics and other electronic documents around the Internet. When online, it is this FTP that accesses millions of other files on host computers worldwide.

**Electronic Databases:** These are databases that can be accessed electronically through the Internet. They contain information packaged for specific audiences for easy reach. Examples are: the Journal Storage (JSTOR) archive which can be accessed at <http://www.jstor.org> and it is an archive of journal articles; the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) accessed at <http://www.doaj.com> provides access to open Access journals and allowing full text downloads free. The Health Information Network Access to Research Initiative (HINARI) allows access to health information. Ebscohost, Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) and others are electronic databases that are invaluable in the academia.

**Virtual Libraries:** These are Libraries that can be accessed online through the Internet. The holdings or catalogues of some organizations are put on the internet for access. The access could be free, or could require passwords or other log in requirements. Examples are the Library of Congress online - <http://eatalog.loc.gov> the Public Library of Science - [www.plos.org](http://www.plos.org), WorldCat, the Online Computer library Centre (OCIC) catalogue found online at <http://www.oclc.org> and many others. The National Open University (NOUN) website has a virtual library which opens the library or holdings of very many libraries and web-based electronic databases. This site is found at [www.noun.edu.ng](http://www.noun.edu.ng)

**E-books:** These are any contents that are recognizably

'book-like', regardless of size, origin or composition but excluding journal publications made available electronically for reference or reading on any device (handheld or desk-bound) that includes a screen" (Armstrong, 2006). Books that have been published electronically or converted from print form to electronic form and are made accessible through the Internet. They can be freely downloaded in some cases or purchased. They can be easily read from the screen of the computer accessing the book or a special hand-held device called the e-book reader. An example of a site for free download of e-books is [www.ebooksgo.org](http://www.ebooksgo.org). Another site where e-books can be found is <http://www.visagesoft.com>. Full textbooks can be downloaded. Many science books, story books and other books that have been in print are gradually being put in electronic format and could benefit scholars who need them to attain success in their studies.

**Research tools:** The Internet provides many opportunities for researchers to have access to research tools. An example is the use of SurveyMonkey, an online tool for administering questionnaires and analyzing the data collected. The questionnaire is designed online and administered through individuals' e-mail and the respondent fills in options by mouse-clicking on the preferred options. The questionnaire is automatically sent and the person who designed it can call it up after the desired period and analyze the data, thus concluding the research. This tool can be accessed at <http://surveymonkey.com>.

## Conclusion

The Internet is a very useful tool to the library and library users. It is perceived as a future competitor to libraries, and though it has an overlap with libraries in some areas, and search engines like Google, Ask Jeeves, ExCite, base their business on discovery tools which the library uses as well, libraries specialize in delivery (until lately, physical delivery)

Cox-George, O. (1992). African Universities and Development. Ohio: Pan-African Publishing Company. Pg. 53.

<http://eatalog.loc.gov>-Site of the Library of Congress catalogue

<http://surveymonkey.com> - Site of an online research tool for administering questionnaires

<http://www.doaj.com>-Site of the open access journal

<http://www.jstor.org> - Site of an online journal storage archive

<http://www.oclc.org> - Site of an online computer library

<http://www.visagesoft.com> - Site for getting electronic books

[www.ebooksgo.org](http://www.ebooksgo.org)- Site for getting electronic books