AVAILABILITY AND USE OF SCHOLARLY JOURNALS BY STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN NIGERIA: A CASE STUDY OF AFE BABALOLA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the availability and use of scholarly journals by students in university libraries in Nigeria: a case study of Afe Babalola university library, Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State. Six research questions guided the study and the data collection instrument used was structured questionnaire, the study adopted survey research method. The findings of the study shows that majority of the respondent use scholarly journals twice monthly and by monthly basis and they purposely used it for self-examination, learning more about a subject, for assignment and coursework. The study also shows that scholarly journals are readily available and accessible to the respondents. However, most of the respondents indicated that scholarly journals helps to direct and guild them on how to carryout research and do quality research. The study revealed that majority of the respondent encountered challenges on the changes on journal frequency, numbering, titles and format and lack of scholarly journals in their course of discipline. Therefore, the study recommends that university libraries should endeavour to maintain continuous subscription of scholarly journals and make it available in all the fields of knowledge in order to encourage students' effective use.

Keywords: Availability, Use, Scholarly journals, University Libraries, Nigeria.