Information Seeking Behaviour of Law Students at Adekunle Ajasin University, Nigeria (AAUA)

By

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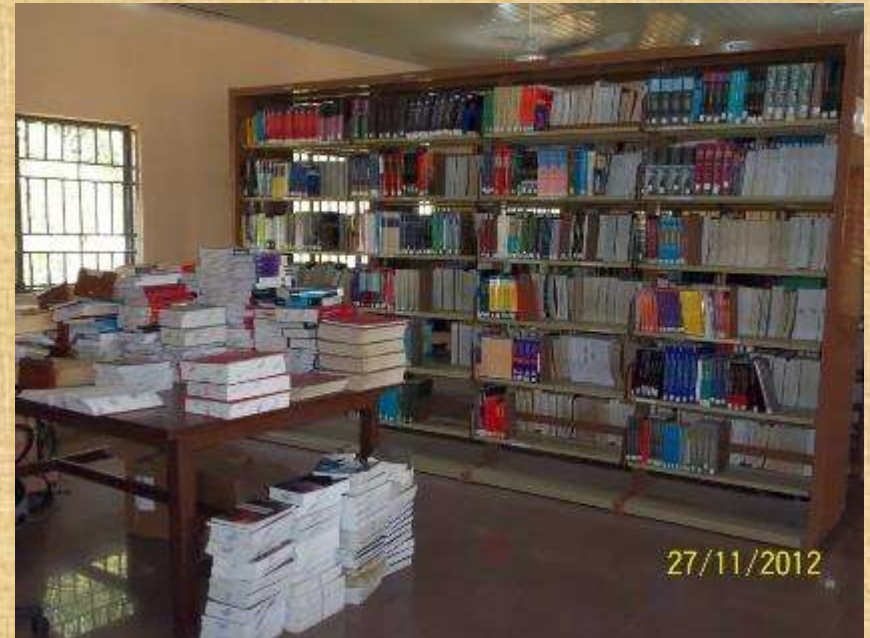University of Zululand

South Africa

Law Faculty

Library information sources

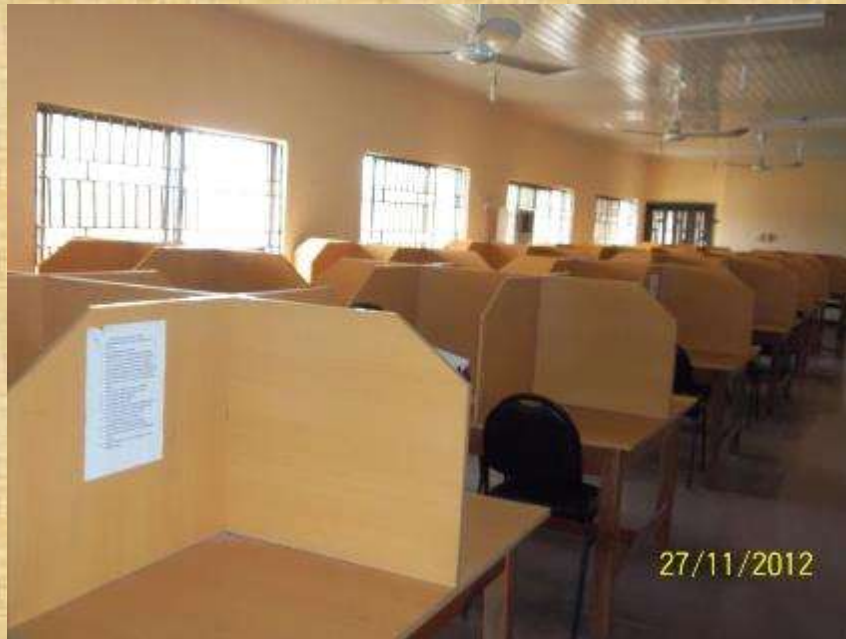## Primary information sources

Library information sources- secondary information sources

Secondary information sources

Law library

Library reading area -250 seats

E-library with 16 computers

Available information sources

Format preferences in the library

Law students reading lecture notes in law library

E-library users

Methodology

- Data gathered using a questionnaire based on the study's objectives

- Questionnaires were administered to 356 law students

- One hundred and six (106) usable questionnaires were returned

- Response rate of 30%

- Data analyzed with simple descriptive statistics

Findings: Law students' information seeking behaviour

- Law students well disposed to search information in law library (82%)
- (78%) respondents can effectively search the Internet
- Observation confirmed the claim in terms of their Internet search abilities
- 22% respondents do not have ICT skills to search the Internet.

Purpose of seeking library sources

- Further their knowledge about legal issues (79%)

- Complete assignments 71%)

- Support lecture notes (68%)

- To be update with the latest developments on the legal front   (65%)

- To study the outcomes of court cases   (55%)

- To enable participation in class discussions (52)

Ability to effectively search the Internet

- 78% respondents can effectively search the Internet
- 75% can independently search Internet
- Observation confirmed the claim in terms of their Internet search abilities
- 22% respondents do not have ICT skills to search the Internet.
- 16% search with friends' help
- 5% search with librarian's assistance while only
- 3% relied entirely on the librarian to search for them.

Challenges faced in law libraries

- Lack of current materials hampers efforts to find information
- Sources are unorganized
- Unhelpful staff who are not electronic literate
- Prohibition to access the electronic library in the law library
- The library close too early

E-library problem

- E-library is not fully functional or non-existent and can't be utilize
- Non-availability of digital information resources (43%)
- Poor network connections influence ability to use the Internet (38%)
- Electricity power interruptions (24%)
- Inadequately skills to effectively search Internet (22%)
- Lack of funds to buy airtime

Conclusions

- Law students at Adekunle Ajasin University are well prepared to use the law library

- They have ability to use available electronic information resources to retrieve information for their studies

- However, the challenges faced accessing information sources and resources in the law library prevents their patronage

Recommendations

- Provision of adequate funds to upgrade library information sources and resources
- University library to formulate collection development policies that caters for ICT in law library
- Free access to e-library is imperative
- Information literacy to be emphasised as compulsory course at all levels for law student.

Thank You