

Original Article

THE INFLUENCE OF SCHOOL LIBRARY AND INTERNET USAGE ON ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The main purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of school library utilization and internet usages on academic achievement of students in the University of Calabar, Nigeria. To achieve the purpose of this study, one research question and one null hypothesis were generated to direct the study. Ex-post facto research design was adopted for the study. A sample of one hundred and twenty (120) respondents were selected for the study, drawing from five departments. The selection was done through purposive sampling technique. In each department, 24 students were selected from five departments totally (120) respondents. The questionnaire titled: School Library and Internet Usage on Academic Achievement of Students Questionnaire (SLIUAASQ) was used for data collection. The face and content validity were established by three experts, one from the Department of Measurement and Evaluation and two from the department of Social Science Education in Faculty of Education, University of Calabar. Cronbach alpha reliability method coefficient ranges from .69 to .75. mean and standard deviation was adopted to test the hypothesis. The hypothesis was tested at .05 level of significance. The result of the analysis revealed that provision, access to and utilization of school libraries and internet services is a positive catalyst in higher institutions especially in University of Calabar. Based on the result, it was recommended among others that government should provide adequate library material for all higher institutions of learning to be used in teaching and learning process.

Keywords: School, Library, Internet Usage, Academic, Achievement, Students

INTRODUCTION

The school library and internet usage plays crucial roles in shaping the academic achievement of

students. In today's digital age, access to both traditional library resources and online information is essential for students learning and research

endeavours. The introduction could save into the significance of these resources in facilitating knowledge acquisition, critical thinking, information literacy skills among students. It could also explore how the integration of both physical and digital resources enhances students' academic performance by providing diverse sources for study.

In several fields worldwide, information and communication technology (ICT) has been a vehicle for creativity and quality academic enhancement. From both outside and within the classrooms in the education sector. School library and internet usage has been an integral part of the teaching and learning process especially in the University of Calabar. The internet is on worldwide network system that connects a diverse set of commercial public, business academic and government networks to enable global communication and access to data resources. The term 'internet' is a worldwide networking system that connects a diverse set of commercial public, business academic and government Network to enable global communication and access to data resources. The term 'internet' is a worldwide web that are frequently used interchangeable, although they are not synonymous, which the internet refer to one of the service provided the internet (Techopedia 2020). Interest usage explain the use of the worldwide web to enhance academic work. The internet is the most important and information communication technology that has caused a global shift in information quality (Siria Slama, Hsason, Jin Roslam and Othoman 2015).

School libraries are set-up in the higher institution to cater for teaching and learning interest of students to enhance academic performance and achievement school library enable students in the University of Calabar, Calabar to acquire books and other information materials so as to bounding the idea and stimulated their devices for knowledge of the school library. It is also exist to prepare the students to work independently and to aid students in making

reasonable use of their leisure time. The school library provides for both students and teacher the materials beyond textbook for further information for teaching activities and updating of their knowledge and for continuing education of professional roles. School libraries provide the following services to the students as it help in academic achievement; (1) Provision of vocational information which enables student choose suitable career. (2) Assisting in the developing of the reading skills and interest in reading. (3) Provision of essential up-to-date educational materials that keep students and teachers abreast of developments in the field of knowledge. (4) Provision of materials for guidance purposes.

Statement of the Problem

The problem statement address the impact of both school library and internet usage on student's academic achievement in the University of Calabar, Calabar – this involves examining how access to traditional resources like libraries and modern tools like the internet influences students learning outcome. Factors such as resources availability, technology literacy and information access might play significant roles in shaping academic success.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of school library usage and internet usage on academic achievement among students in University of Calabar. This research aims to understand how access traditional library resource and online resources affects student academic performance.

Research Question

What influence does school library and internet usage have on the academic achievement of students in University of Calabar?

Hypothesis

Students who utilize both the school library resources and the internet for academic purpose will demonstrate higher academic achievement compared to those who rely solely on one source or the other.

Review Literature

The use of the internet drew user's eyes to the world vastness around them. The internet gather various types of data that college students and senior high student use (Akin-Adaeamila, 2014; Yebowaah 2018). Internet will continue to grow it users are no longer denied accessibility (Olatokun,2003) people ability to access data site such as social networking sites, online sports, and cybersex, according to recent data, is made possible by the internet (Yebowaah,2008) most students have internet on their mobile phones because of the internet accessibility, according to research conducted by Elore (2014) on the effect of internet usage on academic success and face-to-face conversation. Students will expand their intellectual horizons it to this (Akin-Adaeamola, 2012; Yebowaah,2018). Laptop use and online resources accessibility are crucial for learners (Akande & Bamise.2017).

A peep into history has revealed that the National policy on Education (1977,1983) highlighted the provision of libraries in schools as an integral compliment of quality education and stated that each school library services in Nigerian schools (Elaturoti,2000). In an attempt to show the importance school library to quality education, Obi (1994) listed seven contributions a good school library can make to qualify education. The point canter on the promotion of reading skills, contribution to academic achievement increasing student's chance of success in institutions of higher learning and providing students with vocational information. Others include helping them to discover and develop special gifts and talents, training students to the greatest challenges of education. Das and Mahapatra (1994) have identified some reasons for such reason; lack of time for time for teachers to read due to multifarious their personal live and non-exposure of teacher to good library services, the absence of library knowledge among teachers regarding good school library programme, lack of reading culture habit. The authors further noted that

the main objective of school library 'should be to train pupils in using the library, in finding out facts for themselves through books' also inferior schools needs excellent libraries too to overcome the omissions of the curriculum to compensate for the poor instruction programme.

Methodology

In order to get enough appropriate information for the research of this study, the survey design was adopted. The study was confined to selected departments in the faculty of Arts and Social Science Education in University of Calabar, Calabar. A total of five departments were randomly selected. They are: Social Science Education, Arts Education, Educational Management, Environmental Education, Educational foundation. From the above department selected, one hundred and twenty (120) undergraduate students were selected. Twenty four students were selected from each department used for the study.

The main research instrument in this study was the department record of examination taken by the selected students till the time of the study. Special attention was paid to student's achievement scores in English Language, a subject considered to have a lot to do with functional school libraries and internet usage. Instrument used to obtain the scores extracted from department records were assured to be well constructed within the limit of the respective subject teacher's competence and professional training. The instruments were also assured to be valid for the purpose for which they were constructed. Within the limitation of this study, the instrument resulting in the extracted achievement score were assured to be reliable, having been successfully administered, guided, reported and interpreted by their authors. The researcher personally visited the selected departments and grouped them into two namely those with functional libraries and those with either without any libraries and internet services at all or with non-functional libraries. Student's achievement scores in English Language were extracted in the

same line, following the permission obtained by the researcher from the respective Head of Instrument. Data generated during the study were analysed using t-test at 0.05 level of significant.

Presentation of results

The null hypothesis verified in the study was; Ho. Provision and utilization of school library and internet usage have significant effect on student's

Table 1: Students Mean Achievement scores in English Language (N=120)

Group	N	Mean	SD
With Functional libraries / internet services	48	61.8	10.2
Without functional libraries/internet services	72	57.3	8.9
Total	120	58.6	11.3

From Table 1 above reveal a higher mean achievement scores for sample from the departments with functional libraries and internet services. This implies that the students were aware of the importance of school library and internet services and fully utilized the facilities and opportunities of their disposal for improved learning outcomes. On the other hand, those from departments where libraries and internet services are either non-functional or completely absent still used their potentially to obtain a mean achievement scores that was above the theoretical average (of 50%)

Findings

This work focused on the impact of school library and internet usage academic achievement of student in university of Calabar, Calabar. The work aimed at establishing the specific way by which school library and internet usage has been able to further complement the department objectives in the area of teaching and learning. The need for the study was underscore by the fact that the school library and internet usage more than it laboratories, remain the principal workroom for the fullest realization of the goal and objective of the department. It was found that library and internet services positively impact on academic achievement of student in University of Calabar, Calabar.

Conclusion

From the finding above, one can conclude that provision, access to and utilization of school libraries and internet services is a positive catalyst in higher

academic achievement in the University of Calabar, Calabar.

One to its close association with the utilization of functional libraries and internets service, students score in English Language were used as evidence of students' achievement. The score in extracted were subjected to descriptive statistics resulting in the table below.

institutions especially in University of Calabar. However, the library and internet services could have a greater impact and role on the academic achievement of students in University of Calabar, Calabar more than it presently does, as a room exist for improvement. In that regard, sufficient funds especially for non-books collections should be provided on a permanent basis. Not just that, the library authorities should put in place an arrangement, which help to preserve especially textbooks and other important and essential information materials in the library so that library patrons main gain unhindered access to materials whenever the need arise.

Recommendations

Sequel to the findings the following recommendations are made:

1. Government should provide adequate library material for all higher institutions of learning to be used in teaching and learning process.
2. Heads of institutions should liaise with other stakeholders and supporting management to provide internet facilities – this is significant because internet facilities in schools are crucial in supporting academic performance.
3. The school ICT laboratories should be well equip with internet facilities to assist student research and study.

4. Students should be taught how to search for academic information or materials online.
5. There should be effective supervision of students on internet use by teachers and parents so that students do not rely solely on social media.
6. Government at all level should provide sufficient funds for schools to enable them purchase library materials in print and electronics.
7. Good arrangement should be made by the ministry of education at all level of government to enforce the use of library material which are available in school libraries in all higher institutions.

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