

ISSN: 34280-009



(596)

# Global Review of Library & Information Science



Vol.12, 2016

# GLOBAL REVIEW OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (GRLIS)

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA

## CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Global Review of Library and Information Science is a high quality peer-review journal that is published by the Department of Library And Information science University of Nigeria, Nsukka

The journal editorial Board welcomes and acknowledges well high quality researched and scholarly articles on relevant, contemporary issues in all areas of library and Information Science and related areas from LIS professional, practitioner, researchers, students, and academicians.

## GUIDELINE FOR CONTRIBUTORS

1. The Global Review of Library and Information Science (GRELIS) is a scholarly publication, therefore, all manuscripts and materials for publication must be useful to all, both scholars and professionals in library and information science.
2. Manuscripts must be typed double-spaced on A4 size paper and should not be more than 12 pages or 1750 words including reference and abstracts.
3. Articles already submitted for publication elsewhere or whose substantial part has been, or will be published elsewhere should not be submitted for this journal. Such articles must remain the copyright of the Global Review of Library and Information Science
4. Manuscripts must be prepared according to the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style (6<sup>th</sup> Edition) on form and style.

5. The first page should be used to indicate the title of the paper, author's name, institutional affiliation, status, and contact address (including telephone number(s), and e-mail address.
6. The second page should contain only the title of the paper and an abstract of not more than 150 words.
7. Literature should be current (outdated references may make your work unpublishable)
8. Three hard copies and a CD copy of the paper should be submitted.
9. Alternatively, manuscripts can be forwarded online at the address below.
10. Each paper must be accompanied with a review fee of three thousand naira (N3,000.00) only.
11. Upon receipt of the manuscripts and the review fee, copies of the manuscript shall be sent out for review.
12. All accepted articles for publication must be sent back within one month of acceptance with a corrected copy, a CD copy and a publication fee of N17,000.00 only.

All manuscripts and correspondence, or inquiries should be sent to:

Asso. Prof. A. J. C. Mole  
Department of Library and Information Science  
University of Nigeria, Nsukka  
Phone: 08063276347  
E-mail: austin.mole@unn.edu.ng

*List of Contributors*

25. **Musa, Aminu Umar**, Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
26. **Nneka Evans Egbe-Nwiyi, MLS (CLN)**: Enugu State Library Board
27. **Igbokwe, Josephine MLS (CLN)**: Igbokwe Josephine, Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
28. **Dika, Sunday Ikhimeakhu**: The Library, Sheda Science and Technology Complex Sheda, Kwali, Abuja, Nigeria
29. **Sani, Onekutu Job**: Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State
30. **Ezeh, Emmanuel**: Federal College of Education, Eha-Amufu, Enugu State
31. **Abdulsalami Lucky PhD**: Federal University Library, Lafia, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.
32. **Isaac Mamo Umar PhD. (College Librarian)**: Nasarawa State College of Agriculture, Lafia, Nigeria.
33. **Dr. Jibril Attahiru Alhassan**: Department of Library and Information Technology, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria
34. **Confidence Nnenanya**: University Library Services, Federal University of Technology, Minna
35. **Dr. Abubakar N. Usman (CLN, MNLA)**: University Library, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University Lapai, Niger State.
36. **Okwor, Roseline Ngozi**: Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
37. **Dr. E. C. Ihekwoaba**: Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
38. **Nnadi Caroline Uchenna**: Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

## Table of Contents

1. Editorial Comments.....	ix
2. Strategies for Controlling the Effect of Climate Change on Library Resources in Academic Libraries in Lafia by ABOH, Samuel Otsonu and Omame, Isaiah Michael.....	1
3. Application of Blogging Technology for Effective Library Service Delivery in University Libraries By Musa, Baba Adamu and Ali Hussaini .....	10
4. Students on Industrial Training towards Cataloguing and Classification in ATBU and (RAMAT) University of Maiduguri Libraries By Ishaku A. Adamu (CLN), Aishatu H. U Miringa, Hauwa M. Yunusa ( CLN), Adamu Hassan (CLN), & Ibrahim Usman (CLN .....	18
5. Issues in Marketing Information Services for Effective Utilization of Information Resources in Libraries. By Tor-Akwer, Helen Famaren .....	26
6. Investigating and Addressing the Challenge of Non/Low Usage of Resources and Services of Academic Libraries in Nigeria: Views of Library Professionals. By Echezona, Ifeoma R., Ibegbulam, Ijeoma J. and Nwegbu, Alice .....	31
7. Libraries and Librarians as Facilitators of Teacher Education in Nigeria By Abubakar, Abidina, Attahir, Isa Sidi and Emmanuel, Helen .....	41
8. Knowledge Dissemination Strategies and Practices in Nigerian Agricultural Research Institutes. By Dr Kabiru Dahiru Abbas .....	50
9. Promoting Preservation and Management of Cultural Heritage in Nigerian Libraries: Challenges and Enhancement Strategies By Sandra Mwuese Igyuve and Manasseh Tyungu Sambe .....	58
10. Occupational Variables as Determinants of Job Satisfaction among Non-Professional Staff in Federal University Libraries in North East, Nigeria By Suleiman Abdullahi, Adamu Hassan, Samuel Ejembi Orji, and Prof. F. C. Ekere .....	66

Table of Contents

11. Reserve Collection Management for Undergraduate Studies in University Libraries In North Central, Nigeria  
By Musa, Abdulmalik, Abu Yusufu, And Musa, Aminu Umar .....77

12. Strategies for Promoting User Satisfaction in Public Library Services in Enugu State Library Board  
By Nneka Evans Egbe-Nwiyi, MLS (CLN) and Igbokwe, Josephine MLS (CLN) .....86

13. Best Practices in the Use of Social Media for Promoting Reference Services in Academic Libraries  
By Dika, Sunday Ikenna, Sani, Onekututu Job and Ezech, Emmanuel.....95

14. Relevance of Information Resources and Services in Divisional College of Agriculture Library, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria  
By Abdulsalami T. Lucky Ph.D. And Isaac Mamo Umar Ph.D. ....103

15. Awareness and Utilization of Online Databases by University Lecturers in Federal University of Technology, Minna  
By Adamu Baba Musa, Dr. Jibril Attahiru Alhassan, and Confidence Nnenanya .....111

16. Good Working Environment for Efficient Service Delivery among Librarians in Selected Special Libraries in Minna, Niger State.  
By Dr. Abubakar N. Usman (CLN, MNLA) .....120

17. The QR Code in Library Service Delivery: Implications and Challenges  
By Okwor, Roseline Ngozi, Dr E. C. Ihekwoaba, Igbokwe Josephine and Nnadi Caroline Uchenna .....127

# Application of Blogging Technology for Effective Library Service Delivery in University Libraries

Musa, Baba Adamu  
and  
Ali Hussaini

## Abstract

Blogs emerged in the late 1990s. It then grown to take care of specific areas of study and research. This study present: history of blog, background and some free software that the library can lay its hands on and the area of application to library services such as reference services, current awareness services and selective dissemination of information. This practice quickly became a new way to communicate ideas, opinions, resources and news. This study makes a case for librarians to familiarizes themselves with blogs. This is because Library and information professionals will feel the benefits of blogs in the area of current awareness services, publication records, annual progress report of the library, sending messages to the new students, and many other messages, purposes and audiences and then attracting new users to the library

## Introduction

University libraries are referred to as academic libraries which play a vital role in execution of academic activities in the universities; they are saddled with the responsibility of providing information resources and services for teaching, learning and research; in line with the objectives of their parent institutions. In view of this, Uzuegbu (2012) notes that the critical functions of the university libraries are the provision of information to their clientele which are made up of faculty, students and researchers. The introduction of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in libraries has given rise to improved library services; popular among these is the electronic library (e-library) services.

In today's dynamic environment, librarians can no longer be information custodians or the keepers of knowledge. Rapid technological changes and the use of electronic storage and retrieval systems have changed the way academics, students and researchers access, retrieve and use information resources through the Internet. This implies that librarians can no longer wait for students to ask for assistance in finding information.

The new innovation makes it imperative for librarians to provide services and instructions regardless of place, time or format. Obadare (2004) assert that "a librarian or information professional must be able to participate actively in the educational process rather than gathering and disseminating information to the public through workshops, orientations, training etc. They must ensure that there is effective and efficient flow of information from the generators to users of information in the digital environment.

Social Network tools especially blogs have become very important and have improved the library profession tremendously in Nigeria. According to Suraweera et al (2011), social networking refers to a process of relationship building among a group with a common interest. Social Networking and online tools have emerged as powerful tools for higher education and individual institutions, such as universities polytechnics and colleges of education for the purposes of collaborative work and communication, and they impacted many disciplines and fields. There are many studies discussing the potential of various social networking tools such as blogs in all education sectors for transforming education (e.g., Downes, 2004; Thompson, 2007; Brown & Adler, 2008; Collis & Moonen, 2008; Richardson, 2009; Salim and Muhammed, 2017). It is in the light of the above that this study is designed to examine the application of blogging technology for effective library service delivery in university libraries;

### *Meaning and origin of blogs*

A blog is short for a web log. In very simple terms, a blog, is a Web site resembling a personal journal that is updated with individual entries or postings. The entries are dated, and in many cases, assigned category headings and keywords. Blogs often appear as a two or three column Web page, with one or more columns featuring lists of links to other sites of related or common interest. Essentially, a blog is the online equivalent of a paper diary, reading list, newspaper, and address book all rolled into one.

A distinguishing feature of blogging software is the facility to automatically archive entries, allowing stories and postings to be searched, browsed, and reviewed at any time. As with all online content, the utility of a weblog's archive is only as good as is the lifespan of the Web site. Nevertheless, this archiving function is a timely and useful feature now that major search engines are indexing blogs. The intellectual content of blogs ranges from the very personal to the very practical, from tales of shopping adventures to detailed logging of corporate projects. Blog entries can contain news items, photographs, information, and links of interest based on the subject coverage. Personal blogs are often used as a means to share opinions and editorials covering events of interest to the writer. Subject-specific blogs can focus on a single topic, or on broader discipline divisions in which issues of interest to those

working in that area are posted. An example of the former includes blogs devoted to the periodic table (Dupuis, 2014).

Blog was started in 1997 when the term "weblog" was coined by Jorn Barger. The short form, "blog," was coined in 1999 by Peter Merholz, who shortened the word *weblog* into blog. This term eventually became known as both a noun and verb. Blogging rapidly gained in popularity in the early 1990s. The site Xanga, which was started in 1996-1997 with about 100 diaries, grew to over 20 million by 2005. Since 2002, blogs have gained increasing notice for their role in shaping and spinning news stories. Trent Lott, Iraq war, 2004 Tsunami and Katrina. In 2004, the role of blogs became increasingly mainstream with use by: Candidates, Political consultants and new services

Gartner Group forecasts that blogging will peak in 2007, leveling off when the number of writers who maintain a personal website reaches 100 million. This firm also estimates that there are now approximately 200 million former bloggers who have stopped maintaining their online diaries which in turn has created a huge rise in the amount of dotsam and netsam (unwanted data) on the Web. An **edublog** is a blog written by someone within the educational community usually teachers. The collection of these blogs is called the edublogosphere

Major edu bloggers are: Stephen Downes <http://www.downes.ca> Michael Feldstein <http://mfeldstein.com> Will Richardson <http://www.weblogg-ed.com/book>

### ***Blogging Software***

The popularity of blogging is due, in great part, to the development of many simple, out of the box products that allow for the uncomplicated creation and maintenance of a blog. A quick Web search for "blogging software" reveals a wide spectrum of choices, from free hosted packages, requiring nothing more than an e-mail address and a witty blog name, to robust packages offering hardy content management systems, news aggregation, and other advanced features worthy of a sophisticated enterprise package.

In general, blogging software provides the author with an easy to use graphical interface for posting to the weblog. Most interfaces resemble the screen of a basic word processor; complete with familiar one-click formatting commands to change the look of one's text or to insert a hyperlink into a sentence. Once the content of the post has been typed or copied, it is often one more click "to post," at which time the posting (or entry) is automatically added to both the Web page and archive. The customization of blogging software allows for one author or many authors to post, often with permission settings that can restrict the editing, creating, or deleting powers of blog members. The same can be said for the "comment" feature, which many blog authors enable to allow readers of postings to add their reactions and



commentary

**How Blogging Technology can be applied for Effective Library Service Delivery**  
Blogging software is a very useful tool for assisting teams to collaborate, focus, and communicate tasks and responsibilities that come with working together on projects. *Blogs* are among the most often employed applications in academic libraries. Many blogs contain current scholarly opinions and are becoming a valid source of information used by lecturers and researchers to get the latest ideas, for example, about particular subjects and research interests (Alexander, 2008). Libraries can therefore create blogs for specific subjects to keep users updated on their areas of interest and also provide information on new Internet sources. Blogs are also used to disseminate library news, informing the clients of library activities, and even publishing the library newsletter (Chua and Goh, 2010; Harinarayana and Raju, 2010). Academic libraries also use blogs to promote and market their services (Mahmood and Richardson, 2011).

As reported by Clyde (2004), aspect where libraries use blogs include: provision of news or information to library users, provision of links to recommended internet resources, book reviews, provision of entertainment and amusement to users and research tips for communication among librarians. In order to comprehend the nature and types of library patrons' needs, it becomes pertinent to communication information based on librarians' knowledge, ownership and use of blogs ( Fasola, Oso and Alonge, 2015).

Reichardt and Harder (2005) also revealed that librarians in the field of science and technology, and other areas of librarianship, can use blogs in project and team management as well as reference desk training and scheduling. Similarly, Adeleke and Habila (2012), asserted that availability of blogging software has motivated the use of blogs which makes publishing content online feasible. It is easy and convenient to publish to the web without any special knowledge of the web design or hypertext markup language (HTML) coding.

**Challenges Associated with the Application of Blogging Technology in libraries**  
Social media such as blogs adaptation by libraries pose some challenges related to content creation. Ax-Fultz (2015) and Winter (2008) reported that it is not always easy for libraries to come up with good content and strategies to use in their blogs in order to reach the targeted users. It is possible that some targeted users might not use blogs at all or not the same ones that libraries are using. In this situation, libraries are faced with financial and associated impacts of ineffective social media implementation (Winter, 2008)

McLaughlin (2015) points out difficulties related to librarians' professional rules and codes of ethics when it comes to the unauthorized practice of law. During reference services, librarians are allowed to teach users how to find information, but are not permitted to give legal advice. If librarians engage in the unauthorized practice of law, they can face criminal charges and claims for damages from library users (malpractice). This scenario applies to librarians who hold a law license. It has to be a totally lawyer-client professional setting or relationship. Therefore, it is necessary that librarian's social media posts must not go over the limit of authorized practice of law.

### **Recommendation**

1. The reference team of any library must regularly communicate all sorts of items: schedules, shift reports, breakdowns, changes to information resources, and other items of day-to-day library life.
2. Reference and public services librarians who choose to encourage students to set up their own blogs need to be familiar with this software, or others of a similar nature. There are two reasons to do so: to help students create their first blogs, and to be a resource for questions in the future.
3. One of the features of Blogger's editing screen is a Knowledge Base. This requires that there should be good instructions on posting, making links to other sites, editing, deleting, and more. The librarian can monitor the blog(s), and provide input, information, or assistance if needed, and the occasional appropriate posting. Such activity could suggest a new, perhaps emerging model for a different kind of reference service, one in which the librarian responds to queries by regularly checking users' weblogs. Of course, having to check more than a handful would quickly become unmanageable and overwhelming. The librarian should, therefore, make use of the blogs' RSS feeds to very quickly and unobtrusively survey how the students are progressing

### **Conclusion**

Blogging is an emerging initiative that is facilitated by advancement in technology. While the use of blog cuts across different age groups and professions in every society, it is of particular important benefit to librarians because our work as information professionals demands the use of information technologies and tools, importance of these technologies to information dissemination, and adapting these technologies and tools to effective and efficient information services delivery. In today digital world, librarians need to familiarize themselves with blogs. Library and information professionals need to feel the benefits of blogs for obvious reasons: these include current awareness services, publication records, annual progress report of the library, sending messages to the new students, and many other messages,

purposes, and audiences. With blogs, there are opportunities of attracting new users to the library.

### References

- Akinniyi, A. A. & Habila, J. (2012) Awareness, ownership and use of weblogs by Librarians in Nigeria, *The Electronic Library*, 30(4), 507-515
- Alexander, B. (2008). Social networking in higher education. In: R.N. Katz (ed), *The Tower and the Cloud: Higher Education in the Age of Cloud Computing*. Boulder, CO.: Educause 197-201.
- Brown, J. S., & Adler, R. P. (2008). Open education, the long tail, and learning 2.0, *Educause Review*, 43(1), 16-20.
- Chua, A. & Goh, D. (2010). A study of Web 2.0 applications in library websites. *Library and Information Science Research* 32(3), 203-11.
- Clyde, L. (2004). Library Weblogs, *Library Management*, 25 (5), 183-189
- Collis, B., & Moonen, J. (2008), Web 2.0 tools and processes in higher education: Quality perspectives, *Educational Media International*, 45(2), 93-106.
- Downes, S. (2004), Educational blogging, *Educause Review*, 39(5), 1421.
- Dupuis, J. (2014). Confessions of a science librarian. Available at: <<http://www.jdupuis.blogspot.com/>> (accessed June 15,2017).
- Fasola, O. S., Oso, O. O. & Alonge, A. J. (2015). **Blogging: an Emerging Initiative Amongst Librarians in Oyo: *E-Journal of Library and Information Science*** (retrieved 5th August, 2017)
- Harinarayana, N. S. & Raju, N. V. (2010). Web 2.0 features in university library web sites. *Electronic Library* 28(1), 69 – 88.
- Jordon Steele & Ed Greenlee (2011). Thinking, Writing, Sharing, Blogging: Lessons Learned from Implementing a Law Library Blog 103:1

Jinchi, G. & Jie, H. (2013). Making Microblog an Efficient Tool for Library Services: A Case Study 63:2

Laura J. Ax-Fultz (2015). Igniting the Conversation: Embracing Legal Literacy as the Heart of the profession 107:3

Mahmood, K. & Richardson, J. V. Jr. (2011). Adoption of Web 2.0 in US academic libraries: a survey of ARL library websites. *Program: Electronic Library and Information Systems* 45(4), 365–375.

**Obadare O. S. (2004). The Changing Role of Librarians in the Digital Age: Hezekiah Oluwasanmi Library Obafemi Awolowo University Ile Ife, Nigeria. [www.codesria.org/IMG/pdf/Obadare\\_S\\_O.pdf](http://www.codesria.org/IMG/pdf/Obadare_S_O.pdf)**

Paul Jerome McLaughlin (2015). Wanting to Do More but Bound to Do Less: A Law Librarian's Dilemma.

Reichardt, R. and Harder G. (2005), Weblogs: their use and applications in science and technology libraries, *Science & Technology Libraries*, 25 (3), 105-116.

Richardson, W. (2009), Becoming network wise: Schools can do a far better job of Preparing students for their connected futures online, *Educational Leadership*, 66(6), 26-31.

**Salim, S.A., & Mohammed, N. A., (2017). Utilizing Blogs within Library and Information Science Curriculum: A Case Study of the Department of Information Studies, Oman”, *Journal of Library & Information Science*.7(1), 21-46**

Stephanie Davidson & Scott Matheson (2008). Innovations in Providing Access to Research and Knowledge: Directions for Systems Improvement in the Law Library

Stephen Weiter (2008). Who's Really Computer Savvy? *Web 2.0 Technologies and Your Library* 8(4) 270.

Suraweera N. (2011). Value of Social Networking in Libraries and Information

Musa, Baba Adamu and Ali Hussaini

---

Organizations in Asia and Oceania: <http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla76> .  
(Retrieved 5th August, 2017)

Uzuegbu, C. P. (2012). The Role of University Libraries in Enhancing Local Content Availability in the Nigerian Community, *Library philosophy and Practice (e-Journal)* , Retrieved From :  
<http://www.digetalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/733/>... On: 15/07/16.