

PERCEIVED IMPACT OF ADVOCACY ON POSTGRADUATES STUDENTS USE
OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITIES IN SOUTH-WEST
NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study focus on the perceived impact of advocacy on use of library services by postgraduate students in two federal universities in Nigeria. The research design adopted for the study was descriptive research design of the correlational type. Data was collected from three hundred and nine (309) masters' degree students and eighty eight (88) library personnel at the University of Ibadan and University of Ilorin, Nigeria. The findings of this study revealed that library service advocacy was practiced to a great extent as the methods adopted by the library personnel include: library website, university/library bulletin, lecturers, notice board, newspaper, text message (SMS), among others. Finding also revealed there is a significant relationship between library advocacy and use of library services by the postgraduate students and finally, that there is significant relationship between methods of library advocacy and postgraduates' students' use of library services. Recommendations that was made include: adopting new methods to advocate for the library and coopting beneficiaries which may include undergraduates, postgraduates and lecturers of the universities to be part of the library advocacy group

Key Words: Library advocacy, library services, postgraduate students, library personnel

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Introduction

The history of universities libraries development in Nigeria dates back to pre-independence time when the university of Ibadan and its library were established in 1948 (Ogunsola and Okusaga, 2008). Since independence in 1960, there has been unrelenting upsurge in the establishment of educational institutions at all levels especially university education. Nigerian governments past and present have continued to invest strongly in education. It must be noted that University libraries, being integral academic parts of the universities generally emerged simultaneously with their parent institutions. Hence, there are as many university libraries as there are universities. The proliferation of universities, despite the economic recession in the country since the 1980s, has increased the problems of the universities and their libraries so much that now their future seems uncertain. Added to these problems, are the problems of ICTs in Nigerian universities as related to library development.

“Universities now have additional functions to include: pursuit, promotion, and dissemination of knowledge, provision of intellectual leadership, manpower development, promotion of social and economic modernization, and promotion of intra- and inter-continental and international understanding. University library is committed to providing equitable access to library materials, programs, and services to all students, lecturers and other researchers. University libraries continue to develop resources to meet current standards to ensure equal access to information for patrons including people with disabilities. Staff working in university areas will make good faith efforts to accommodate reasonable requests from library users whose disabilities limit their use of the Library’s facilities and resources” (Lawal, 2007).

The dwindling economic situation has affected the budget allocation of funds to university libraries and this is greatly affecting the provision of services in the library, out of all the types of libraries available in Nigeria, only university libraries have a clearly defined policy of funding, because they are allocated 10% of the recurrent annual budget of their parent institutions. However, it is regrettable that such monies are not forthcoming as most university administrators tend to flout that decision (Okoye, 2005; Yetunde, 2008; Esan and Adeyemi 2022). The situation in private universities seems to be the same as the board of trustees and management determines the funds that should be allocated to the library, Yetunde, 2008. This paucity in funding will most likely affect the quality of services rendered by librarians in University libraries in Nigeria.

Esan and Adeyemi (2022) further recommended that the library personnel should try and improve in their methods of marketing to facilitate effective use of library services. Thus it is believed that once there is improvement in marketing library services users will have good knowledge of the various types of services available in the libraries and thus make good use of the services. University Libraries (UL) seek to develop an increasingly excellent staff by hiring highly qualified, motivated, dedicated, and creative librarians who are holders of either Masters or Ph.D. Degree in librarianship or its equivalent discipline. Professional librarian positions are designed to work together with existing staff, and they reflect the library's mission, strategic goals, and current needs. Professional Librarians provide vital services to maintain academic, scientific and medical library facilities that are unsurpassed by public institutions of higher learning (Lawal, 2007). "Professional librarians are a unique group of employees on a college or university campus. They are prominently involved in the educative mission of their institution but there is often a "disconnect" between their involvement in that mission and that of their teaching and research faculty colleagues" (Christiansen, Stomblor, and Thaxton, 2004). Fleck and Bawden (1995) made a study designed to provide information on the perception of the library and information professional. Results show that LIS was highly regarded by its users but seen as fulfilling very much a service oriented and reactive function rather than a dynamic or proactive function. LIS professionals are regarded as being efficient, intelligent and helpful, possessing specialized knowledge, and undertaking a range of tasks beyond the routine and traditional.

Abdulkarim (2010) avers that libraries are expected to play an indispensable role in the life of the community they serve, among which is the promotion of reading culture in the society/community of its parent institution. In the same vein, university libraries are expected to provide good information and reference services for different categories of users including the faculty members, students and other researchers within and from outside the university through the building of collections that relates to users' local and international interest and needs. This collection could be book and non-book materials and should be properly organised, integrated and preserved. University library is expected to offer other kinds of services to users, these includes: extension, audiovisual and training services.

The need for public support of university libraries never diminishes. In critical times, advocacy moves right to the top of the priority list of support activities for university libraries. Having a solid advocacy programme is essential to any library (Drake, 2003). Library advocacy is support given to a library for its financial and philosophical goals or needs. A growth in library advocacy is a natural response, and this in turn creates pressing questions about value, and in particular about how different stakeholders potentially perceive value differently. Most often this takes the form of monetary or material donations or campaigning to the institutions which oversee the library. Originally, library advocacy was centered on the library itself, but current trends show libraries positioning themselves to demonstrate they provide "economic value to the community." Letter writing technique for academic library advocacy is chiefly intended to inform law makers, library officials, and

members of the university about the ramifications of decisions regarding university libraries and to promote library-related causes. Letter writing has been a valuable form of communication among university library advocates. A well-timed and hand-crafted email or strategically sent letter can be a potent mechanism used to sway the decisions of government officials, university principal officers, lecturers and the library users. Letters are practical because they can be distributed to many individuals and can serve as representation for university library advocates who cannot attend crucial meetings or rallies.

There are various forms of library advocacy. One of the famous forms is grassroots advocacy. Grassroots advocacy involve people who participate in movements or campaigns to promote or support libraries that are frequently led by library staff or members of the local community. These groups are not necessarily part of the university library like Friends of Libraries and are often run independently (Miller, 2009). Friends of the library are non-profit organizations whose members have banded together with the common goal of helping a specific library. They often volunteer their time or resources on behalf of that library. Friends groups are very diverse, including Friends of university libraries, departmental libraries in the university, library systems, Students' Association friends, and professional librarian friend's foundations (American Library Association, 2010). Activities of the university library grassroots advocates can include: demonstrations; promotion through letter-writing, email, or word-of-mouth; fund-raising; and social networking. Various resources are available for those who want to lobby for support of their university library. Elsevier Training Desk provides a lobbying grassroots checklist and the American Library Association offers help with framing a message to use when advocating for the library, among other resources. Another tool in grassroots advocacy is save libraries. "Save Libraries is a grassroots effort to compile information and advocacy resources for libraries that are facing devastating budget cuts" and offers resources, tools, and information regarding library advocacy (Reed and Braum, 2010).

Statement of the problem

One of the major challenges faced by libraries in developing countries is the issue of funding and University libraries is not left out, despite having a clear description of allocation of funds for purchase of library materials and management of the library, university library administrators and management in Nigeria are not complying with this sharing. This coupled with the emergence of Information and communication technologies especially the advent of the internet where users believe they can get any information they need at the click of a button has led to poor service delivery, understaffing and ultimately reduction in library patronage.

If libraries are not properly funded, there will not be obvious development in term of collection and facilities; and users will not patronize library anymore because of its unattractive state. There is therefore, the need for advocacy to seek support for the libraries in the universities.

In the era of digital technology and its impact on library services and patronage, the pertinent issue of library advocacy have become important. The question is, can the use of library resources and services be enhanced by advocacy? It has also been observed by librarians in university libraries that postgraduate students rarely visit the library and therefore it is often difficult to assess if the library is meeting their needs as the aim of any good library is to satisfy all its users and thereby justify its existence. In addition, university libraries invest a huge amount on collection development, processing and storage of information resources. These resources, which are so expensive, often remain unutilised resulting in wastage of money, time, energy and space. What could be responsible for this trend remains unknown yet. Could it be due to lack of advocacy to improve the library standard? In view of these, this study is set to investigate the perceived impact of advocacy

on use of library services by postgraduate students in federal universities in south-west Nigeria.

Objectives of the study

The main objective of this study is to examine the perceived impact of advocacy on use of library services by postgraduate students in federal universities in south-west Nigeria. The specific objectives are to:

- i. find out the extent of library advocacy done by librarians in the federal universities;
- ii. identify the methods of advocacy adopted for adequate use of library services by postgraduate students in the federal universities;
- iii. find out the influence of advocacy on library services provision to the postgraduate students;
- iv. find out the influence of methods of advocacy on use of library services by the postgraduate students;

Research questions

The following are the research questions to be used for the study:

1. What is the extent of library advocacy done by librarians in the federal universities?
2. What are the methods of advocacy adopted by librarians to encourage adequate use of library services by postgraduate students in the federal universities?

Research hypotheses

This study seeks to test the following hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance:

Ho₁: There is no significant relationship between advocacy done by librarians and library services provision in two federal universities Nigeria.

Ho₂: There is no significant relationship between methods of library advocacy and use of library services by the postgraduate students.

Scope of the study

The study focuses on the influence of advocacy on use of library services by postgraduate students in federal universities in south-west Nigeria. The study was carried out in two federal universities offering postgraduate courses. The universities include; University of Ibadan, Ibadan, and University of Ilorin. The categories of postgraduate students that constitute the respondents of interest to the study include Master's Degree students in both Universities. The library services to be studied include: photocopying, literature search, current awareness services, circulation of periodical contents, selective dissemination of information, reference service, among others.

Review of Related Literature

Advocacy is a means rather than an end. It is the strategies, tactics and activities that take place between the advocate and the target, typically in order to influence a particular outcome. Indeed, current thinking in effective board governance no longer focuses on advocacy as a task for boards, rather on boards being responsible for developing sufficient and sustainable resources to accomplish the organisation's mission; advocacy is thus but one tool for achieving this end (The Source, 2005). Advocacy and investigation into "what works" need not be limited to support for university libraries but should apply to all types of libraries seeking support. Within the university libraries, advocates work up and down the ladder, with those in positions (for example, the university librarian with other principal officers), those in superior positions (for example, the librarian with the vice chancellor) and those in positions reporting to the librarian (for example, the university librarian working with his or her department heads to embrace a specific change). Advocacy then is prevalent

within many organisations and with decision-makers outside the organizations as well as in the political environment (Haycock, 2011).

Advocacy is defined as a deliberate, planned, and sustained effort to develop understanding and support incrementally over time (Haycock, 2006). Advocacy is not solely publicity and communications, which tend to focus on librarians (this is who librarians are, what they have, where they are located, and when they are available). These efforts are often the “spray and pray” model of advocacy, providing multiple documents or messages and hoping that some of them “stick”. It is also not public relations, where librarians engage with others to place stories and reports of successes, although this partnership, as with the media, is also important. Similarly advocacy is not marketing, although this gets closer to the definition, as marketing involves understanding deeply the intended audiences, their needs, interests and desires, and how best to address them. In that sense, one could argue that advocacy is the marketing of an issue. Advocacy is not solely lobbying, although again one could argue here that lobbying is legislative advocacy (Haycock, 2006).

The best advocacy is of course being “at the table”, not only when solutions are proposed but when problems are identified. In current parlance, this is becoming a player. This is where we need to be, in our cities, in our universities and colleges, in our schools and in our larger organisations, at the table when community issues are raised and analyzed and solutions worthy of support are proposed. This is where the library’s resources and services are leveraged to improve the quality of life and experiences in our communities. Advocacy is influenced by power in its many manifestations, by context, by the tactics we employ, and by the effects of observation. Advocacy is also influenced by library image and how it is managed, by availability of services and by motivation to use the services (Tversky and Kahneman, 1982).

Many of library advocacy efforts target changes in users’ attitude, yet this is to some extent a fool’s game. Attitudes are not behavior. Librarians tend to measure positive attitudes rather than concrete behaviors that provide measureable support. For instance, in OCLC’s 2008 study *From Awareness to Funding* (DeRosa and Johnson, 2008) and its later supplement *Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community* (De Rosa, Cantrell, Carlson, Gallagher, Hawk, Sturtz, Gauder, Cellentani, Dalrymple, and Olszewski, 2011), it is clear that support is there, but not commitment, that there are many people who don’t know about libraries, and that support is only marginally related to use. So, don’t focus on the user. Focus on changing behaviors, not just attitudes. Perceptions of the librarian are highly relevant, as “passionate librarians” who are involved in the community make a positive difference to ongoing support. This points to the importance of hiring for attitude as well as aptitude. This is a positive finding with the ongoing restructuring of reference and information services underway to embed librarians in the community through partnerships with business and neighborhood organisations. The study continues to note that the library occupies a clear position as a provider of practical answers and information, but this is a crowded space. We need to reposition. For example, belief that the library is a transformational force in people’s lives is directly related to their level of funding support.

The common focus on the “digital divide” might be a losing proposition as more users have Internet access at home, and the “divide” is less about equipment (physical access to information), than effective use (intellectual access). Aligning library mission and importance with welfare, as important as that may be, is too narrow a focus, and opens information service professionals to the “compassion fatigue” being experienced by university library users and funders (Haycock, 2011). Enabling society and each individual to access and use information effectively can transcend class and workplace. A few other findings: increasing support may not necessarily mean a trade-off with financial support for university libraries; elected officials are supportive but not committed to increased funding; and engaging super supporters and probable supporters is critical. This means that both

librarians and university library users have to identify and cultivate them. Sadly, library leaders are seen positively, but not perceived to work with politicians or other university community leaders for university community development or betterment (Haycock, 2006).

A reasonable proposition resulting from this and similar perception studies would be that the library is very in the business of information provision so much than in the business of community development. Librarians and their leaders including friends of the library and library users would engender improved support if they focused on: information not transformation; institution not simply critical community infrastructure; the future rather than the past; and, demonstrating a return on investment for the individual rather than general altruism for others (McClure, Feldman and Ryan, 2007). A good library advocate always look to connect agendas with decision-makers (supporting proposal will help to advance the agenda of library advocates); remember that people do things for their reasons, not one's personal reason; advocacy is always about respect, if for no other reason than that the decision-maker holds the power (The Source, 2005). Advocacy in library system is also much like banking: you can't make withdrawals if you have never made a deposit, in other words, appearing only at budget time is like making a withdrawal if there has been no effort to develop understanding and support, the context for "the ask", over time (Haycock, 2011). However, library services may not be properly utilised if the users are not aware of the existence of the services.

Methodology

The research design employed for this study is the descriptive survey method. This design was chosen owing to spread and population of the postgraduate students. The population of this study consists of master's students and library personnel of the University of Ibadan, Ibadan and University of Ilorin, Ilorin. The multi stage sampling technique was used for the study. The first stage involved the breakdown of the population of study into different faculties in the universities under study, and this forms the primary sampling units. At the second stage four faculties were purposively selected based on their being common in both Universities. They are Arts, Education, Social Sciences and Engineering and Technology. The third stage was the selection of the sample size from the Faculties. Probability proportionate to size (PPS) of 5.0% was used to draw the sample size. According to Yamane (1976) the sampling fraction for sampling selection in a survey research must be at least up to 60.0% before generalizations could be done on the population of study except in a situation where population is too large and resources available could not cater for the sample fraction of 60.0%, then the sampling fraction could be less so long the sample size will be a true representation of the study population. Therefore, the sample size gives a total of 326 (table 3.3). However, total enumeration sampling technique was adopted for the library personnel. This was done to eliminate any tendency of being bias in the treatment of the data since the total population is small and manageable to a great extent. Here, the sample size is 122 i.e. all the 58 academic librarians and 64 library officers in the university libraries under study.

The data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire, with different copies for both library personnel and postgraduate students. The researchers and three research assistants administered a total number of three hundred and twenty-six (326) questionnaires on the respondents in the selected universities (University of Ibadan, Ibadan, and University of Ilorin). The distribution was done at the University of Ibadan and University of Ilorin students' academic departments and the University Libraries. The study was based on the number of questionnaire completed by the students. The IBM-Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for the analysis. Descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentages and mean distribution was used to analyse research questions while multiple

regression and Pearson's product moment correlation were used to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Extent of library advocacy by library personnel

S/N	Library service advocacy		Not Crea ted	Lo w ext ent	Mode rate Exten t	Gre at Ext ent	Me an	Std. Dev.
1	The practice of word of- mouth (WoM) marketing by telling users about the library and its needs and informing them to tell their friends as well	F %	45 51.1	11 12. 5	25 28.4	7 8.0	1. 93	1.05 9
2	Organizing local advocacy campaigns	F %	34 38.6	22 25. 0	12 13.6	20 22.7	2. 20	1.18 6
3	Staying current with all the legislation impacting libraries	F %	25 28.4	15 17. 0	26 29.5	22 25.0	2. 51	1.15 5
4	Creation of fliers, web pages, and podcasts advocating for libraries	F %	25 28.4	28 31. 8	3 3.4	32 36.4	2. 48	1.25 0
5	Putting up a display about "how libraries change lives" during national library week	F %	23 26.1	9 10. 2	27 30.7	29 33.0	2. 70	1.18 6
6	Consistent use of clear and memorable message (e.g. our community deserves a 21st century library) in publicity materials and presentations until people "get it" and act	F %	12 13.6	32 36. 4	6 6.8	38 43.2	2. 80	1.14 6
7	Providing training that explains the importance of advocacy to staff and users to show them how simple advocacy can be	F %	10 11.4	25 28. 4	39 44.3	14 15.9	2. 65	.885
8	Finding important figure in the community who is approachable, a 'people person' who supports the library	F %	16 18.2	12 13. 6	51 58.0	9 10.2	2. 60	.904
9	Creating a slogan contest for staff for them to come up with creative slogans that advocate for libraries	F %	16 18.2	17 19. 3	48 54.5	7 8.0	2. 52	.884
10	Speak enthusiastically and passionately about 21st century library jobs in general when people ask about your job as a librarian	F %	7 8.0	7 8.0	67 76.1	7 8.0	2. 84	.676
11	Using the library's website and community television stations to create "rolling" facts about the library	F %	14 15.9	28 31. 8	26 29.5	20 22.7	2. 59	1.01 3
12	Requesting assistance from a foreign	F	21	23	27	17	2.	1.06

	government	%	23.9	26.1	30.7	19.3	45	0
13	Requesting assistance from a local government	F %	26 29.5	47 53.4	7 8.0	8 9.1	1. 97	.864
14	Requesting assistance from non-governmental organizations	F %	19 21.6	45 51.1	15 17.0	9 10.2	2. 16	.883
15	Requesting assistance from international organizations	F %	21 23.9	36 40.9	18 20.5	13 14.8	2. 26	.988

Most of the respondents indicated that they speak enthusiastically and passionately about 21st century library jobs in general when people ask about their job as a librarian (mean = 2.84; td. = .676). Similarly, respondents indicated that they engaged in consistent use of clear and memorable message (e.g. our community deserves a 21st century library) in publicity materials and presentations until people “get it” and act (mean = 2.80; std. = 1.146). In addition, respondents affirmed that they put up a display about “how libraries change lives” during national library week (mean = 2.70; std. = 1.186). However, respondents indicated that they do not practice word of- mouth (WoM) marketing by telling users about the library and its needs and informing them to tell their friends as well (mean = 1.93; std. = 1.059). In the same vein, respondents affirmed that they do not request assistance from a local government (mean = 1.97; std. = .864). Likewise, respondents indicated that they do not request assistance from non-governmental organisations (mean = 2.16; std. = .883).

Therefore, it could be inferred that speaking about 21st century library jobs; Consistent use of clear and memorable message; Putting up a display about “how libraries change lives”; Providing training that explains the importance of advocacy to staff and users; Finding important figure in the community who is approachable, a ‘people person’ who supports the library, among others were the types of library advocacy done by library personnel in the federal universities. In order to establish the extent of library advocacy done by library personnel in the federal universities, a test of norm was conducted. Results showed that the scale between 1 – 20 is low, 21 – 30 is moderate while, 31 – 60 is high. Since the overall mean for library advocacy by the library personnel yielded “36.66” which falls between the scale “31 – 60”, it could be concluded that the librarians practice library advocacy to a great extent.

Table 2: Media used to carry out advocacy by library personnel

S/N	Media of library service promotion		Not used	Rarely used	Fairly Used	Highly used	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Demonstration	F	24	11	23	30	2.67	1.210
		%	27.3	12.5	26.1	34.1		
2	Radio	F	33	11	11	33	2.50	1.330
		%	37.5	12.5	12.5	37.5		
3	Television	F	27	17	23	21	2.43	1.163
		%	30.7	19.3	26.1	23.9		
4	Newspaper	F	24	9	11	44	2.85	1.300
		%	27.3	10.2	12.5	50.0		
5	University/library bulletin	F	26	16	25	21	2.47	1.154
		%	29.5	18.2	28.4	23.9		
6	Notice board	F	18	11	14	45	2.98	1.213
		%	20.5	12.5	15.9	51.1		

7	Text message (SMS)	F	24	13	9	42	2.78	1.299
		%	27.3	14.8	10.2	47.7		
8	E-mail	F	26	9	9	44	2.81	1.329
		%	29.5	10.2	10.2	50.0		
9	Social media platform	F	37	16	9	26	2.27	1.284
		%	42.0	18.2	10.2	29.5		
10	Letter writing to politicians and other educational stakeholders	F	35	18	18	17	2.19	1.163
		%	39.8	20.5	20.5	19.32		

Most of the respondents in Table 2 indicated that they used notice board (mean = 2.98; std. = 1.213), newspaper (mean = 2.85; std. = 1.300), e-mail (mean = 2.81; std. = 1.329), text message (SMS) (mean = 2.78; std. = 1.299), and demonstration (mean = 2.67; std. = 1.210) for library advocacy. Hence, the least used methods include: letter writing to politicians and other educational stakeholders (mean = 2.19; std. = 1.163), social media platform (mean = 2.27; std. = 1.284) and Television (mean = 2.43; std. = 1.163). Thus it could be inferred from Table 2 that library personnel in the federal university libraries used the following methods of advocacy: notice board, newspaper, e-mail, text message (SMS), demonstration, and radio to encourage adequate use of library services by postgraduate students in the federal universities.

Test of Hypotheses

Table 3: Correlation matrix table showing the inter relationship between advocacy and use of library services provision by the postgraduate students

S/N	Variable List	Mean	Std.	1	2
1	Library services advocacy	36.67	11.32	1	
2	Library services provision	44.56	10.08	.579**	1
				.000	

N = 88

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

b. There is a significant relationship ($r = .579^{**}$; $p < 0.05$) between advocacy and library services provision in two federal universities in Nigeria (Table 3). Hence, the null hypothesis 2 is rejected.

Table 4: Correlation matrix table showing the relationship between methods of advocacy and use of library services by the postgraduate students

S/N	Variable List	Mean	Std.	1	2
1	Library services advocacy	19.72	9.903	1	
2	Use of library services	34.55	8.978	.424**	1
				.000	

N = 309

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

d). There is a significant relationship ($r = .424^{**}$; $p < 0.05$) between methods of library advocacy and use of library services by the postgraduate students (Table 4). This implies that improvement in library advocacy will also bring improvement to the use of library services by the postgraduate students. Hence, the null hypothesis 5 is rejected

Discussion of the Findings

Findings on the extent of library advocacy done by librarians in the federal universities, the study showed that speaking about 21st century library jobs; Consistent use of clear and memorable message; Putting up a display about “how libraries change lives”; Providing training that explains the importance of advocacy to staff and users; Finding important figure in the community who is approachable, a ‘people person’ who supports the

library, among others were the types of library advocacy done by library personnel in the federal universities. Hence, the librarians practice library advocacy to a great extent. In other words, the library personnel could be regarded as good library advocates. This is in line with the statement made by in The Source (2005) that a good library advocate always look to connect agendas with decision-makers (supporting proposal will help to advance the agenda of library advocates); remember that people do things for their reasons, not one's personal reason; advocacy is always about respect, if for no other reason than that the decision-maker holds the power.

Findings on the method of advocacy adopted for adequate use of the library services showed that library personnel in the federal university libraries used the following methods of advocacy: notice board, newspaper, e-mail, text message (SMS), demonstration, and radio to encourage adequate use of library services by postgraduate students in the federal universities. This is in full support of McClure, Feldman and Ryan (2007) who submitted that methods of library advocacy include news conference, doing a media interview in newspapers / radio / television, lobbying a politician, or dressing up as a bookworm and entering a parade or demonstration.

Findings showed that there is a significant relationship between library advocacy and use of library services by the postgraduate students. This is in line with Anyanwu, Obichere, and Ossai-Onah (2013) who maintained that advocacy is a sustained effort by librarians and lobbying association to keep libraries and the work they do in the minds of the people who make decisions that enhance effective use of library services.

Findings on relationship between methods of library advocacy and use of library services by postgraduate students revealed that there is significant relationship between methods of library advocacy and postgraduates' students' use of library services. This supports Popoola (2008) who submitted that library services awareness can be meaningful and enhance proper use of the library services if marketing and advocacy are put into consideration

Conclusion

In the sampled federal university libraries, advocacy have been really embraced as to a great extent. It is therefore concluded that advocacy has influence on use of library services by postgraduate students.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made following the findings of this study:

1. Librarians should intensify effort and adopt new methods in advocating for the library because their effort is currently yielding positive results.
2. The best advocate are the beneficiaries of a system, the users of the library should be coopted and use to advocate so that they can continue to enjoy improved library services at all time. In this case, students both undergraduate and post-graduates and their lecturers should be part of the library advocacy group.

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