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BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY OF RESEARCH OUTPUT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ARTICLES FROM NIGERIA INDEXED IN PROQUEST DATABASE FROM 2010 TO 2021

Vivian Ukachi Nwaobasi
Department of Library and Information Science
Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria.
v.nwaobasi@unizik.edu.ng

&
Victoria O. Ugochukwu
Assistant Librarian
Enugu State University of Science and Technology Library
victoriaugochukwu@esut.edu.ng

ABSTRACT

The study analyzed the research publications output of library and information science articles from Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021. Three research questions guided the study. Document analysis research design was used to carry out the study. The population of the study consists of all the research output in the area of library and information science in the ProQuest database (2010-2021). The ProQuest database was used as a source of data. The findings of the study revealed that there is a consistent growth of library and information science research publications from Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021. The date also show that four authors have the highest numbers of publications in terms of library and information research published in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database, with five articles each. The findings also revealed that Baro E, E, and Asogwa B, E were the two most cited authors in library and information science research articles from Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database. Therefore, it was recommended that library and information science researchers should ensure that they collaborate more with researchers outside their institutions especially foreign authors.

Keywords: ProQuest, Bibliometric, Database, Research, Publication**.**

Introduction

Research plays an important role in the educational process as a source of latest information. The main aim of research is to find out the truth which is hidden and which has not been revealed as yet. Each research study has its purpose. In short, research can be conceptualized as diligent, protracted investigation using adequate methods to discover new knowledge or to explain relationship between ideas or events. Research has now become the very significant aspect of scholarly involving theses, dissertation, conference

proceedings, books, patent, and journals articles and others.it is important to undertake the analysis of the research output in the discipline. The analysis will beneficial and impactful especially to lecturers, students, researchers and others members of the public that seeks for information in the area of study review. Research is a systematic inquiry or assessment of a situation or event. It is an important part of a society from time immemorial. However, in recent time it has becomes the criteria to measure the development of an institution, society, or country. More quality research leads to more development of the society. Consequently, research productivity is considered as the face of an institute that determines the quality of it research is creative and systematic work undertaken to increase the stock of knowledge. It involves the collections, organizations and analysis of information to increase understanding of a topic or issue. A research project may be an expansion on past work in the field, to test the validity of instruments, procedure or experiments, research may replicate elements of prior projects or the project as a whole. The primary purpose of research is to promote development and advancement of human and the society. Approaches to research depend on the types of the research, which vary considerably both within and between humanities and sciences. Bibliometrics was coined by Alan Pritchard in 1969 to describe the application of mathematics and statistical methods to books and other media of communication. Bibliometrics studies have become essential tools for evaluating research productivity and impact (Adegbore and Owolabi, 2022, Olanrewaju and Omotayo, 2023). According to Okon and Akpinar (2022), bibliometerics analysis helps identify research trends, collaboration patterns, and area of strength and weakness in a particular field.

Bibliometric employs qualitative analysis to measure pattern of scientific publication and citations, typically focusing on journal papers. It serves as a strong means of evaluating methodologies which includes case study analysis, peer review, economic rate of return analysis and surveys and consultations. Bibliometric approaches offer important advantages over others research evaluation methods. They can be used to generate useful quantitative indicators of collaboration and measures of interdisciplinary research. As the sophistication of analytical tools improve, they are being used to develop more general indicators of varying complexity which have been developed over recent years. For the statistical analysis of data, the term bibliometric is used which is considered a branch of library science. These days bibliometric is generally used as a technique to judge research in a specific area. Bibliometric is perhaps one of the most discussed topics and has become a subject of general interest among people (Gavina-Mann, Merigo, and Pope (,2018). Bibliometric employed metrics such as publication counts, authorship patterns, institutional productivity, collaboration indices and citation analysis to reveal research trends and the dynamics of scholarly communication in a field. in the

discipline of library and information, such studies are essential understanding both national and global research contributions, informing policy and shaping future research agendas. Bibliometrice analysis utilizes both quantitative and statistical techniques to examine scholarly publications sourced from recognized databases such as web of science and Scopus (Alagumalai etal 2021).

ProQuest database is a database that provide access to content including dissertation theses, e-book, newspapers, periodicals, historical collections, government archives, cultural archives and other aggregated database. ProQuest database deliver a variety of content, serve as wide range of users, support all forms of teaching and learning and help libraries meet their goals. It is use for collection of many databases that provide access to thousands of journals, magazines, newspapers. Dissertations other publications. It provides access to wide a range of the core academic title and the science to literature and politics.

In the recent years, there has been a growing interest in the bibliometrics assessment of library and information science research originated from Nigeria, reflecting the increasing emphasis on research productivity among Nigerian librarians and academics. But according to Aina, 2020, Idegbevan-Ose et.al, 2021in the context of library and information science (LIS) research in Nigeria, studies have shown that there is a growing trends of research output, but concerns about quality, collaboration, and international visibility persist. Other bibliometrics investigations on Nigeria library and information science literature underscore similar patterns of research and subject focus. For instance, bibliometric studies of Nigerbiblios, the journals of the national library of Nigeria, demonstration variations in authorship pattern and thematic focus over discrete publication intervals (Inazu, 2025, Bulus, 2025). Additionally, bibliometric analysis of theses and dissertation from LIS departments within Nigerian universities reveals dominant subject areas and research trends at the postgraduate level, such as human resource development and journal article citation pattern (Udo-Anyanwu and Mbagwu, (2023). This study aims to contribute to the existing literature by providing insights into the research output of LIS from Nigeria, identifying the area of strength and weakness and suggesting strategies for improvement. Specifically, this study seeks to answer the following questions. What is the publication output in library and information science articles from Nigeria in ProQuest? who are the most published authors in library and information science research output in ProQuest? And who is the most cited author in library and information science.

Statement of the Problem

Bibliometric studies have been widely used by scholars in the evaluation of research and scientific literature around the world. Besides, bibliometrics has helped scholars to study evolutional trends and developments in different fields of knowledge/ discipline. Bibliometric

methods are essentially used in performance analysis, which deals with the evaluation of research and publication of scholars, institutions, discipline, and countries or region. Recently, Nigeria universities have joined the global trend in the use of bibliometrics in the appraisal of academic staff. This is so because research publication does not only advance the career of academic staff but also help to enhance the image of an institution generally. It also helps to attract research grants and other funding necessary to carry out more research especially when the articles are published in reputable international journals.

Studying bibliometrics enables one to identify growth of knowledge, core authors and most productive journals in a field. Bibliometrics can also be used to provide the trends and future directions of a discipline. Sadly, bibliometric research in Nigeria in the field of Library and Information Science is scarce; therefore, the present study aimed at filling the gap. Hence, this study sought to analyze the research output of library and Information Science articles from Nigeria indexed in ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021; it examined their research productivity, and the most cited authors, in Library and Information science Publication in the ProQuest.

Research Questions

1. What is the publication output in library and information science articles from Nigeria in ProQuest?
2. Who are the most published authors in library and information science research output in ProQuest?
3. Who is the most cited author in library and information science research in ProQuest?

Method

The document analysis research design was used to carry out the study. This is a form of qualitative research design in which documents were studied and interpreted by the researcher to give voice and meaning around an assessment topic (Bowen, 2009). The area of the study was Dame Patience Jonathan Automated Library, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt. Ignatius Ajuru University of Education (IAUE) was established in 2009 by the Rivers State Government. The population of the study consists of all the research output in the area of library and information science in the ProQuest database (2010-2021) particularly as contained in the ProQuest database of the Ignatius Ajuru University of Education library, Port Harcourt. Face and content validity of the instrument was established. This is to ensure the suitability of the language used, appropriateness of the content to which the items were collected the expected information based on the objectives of the study. The suggestions and corrections made were used to modify and restructure the instruments.

The main instrument for data collection was a checklist questionnaire. According to (Bowen, 2009) checklists are set of printed or written questions with a choice of

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answers, devised for the purposes of a survey or statistical study. The ProQuest database was accessed with a view of collecting the publication in the ProQuest database on library and information science. This was done through the use of a checklist which will contain questions that reflects around the research questions such as titles, year, dates and place of publication, authors and the most cited sources. The data collected for the study was organized and analyzed on a table using frequency counts, and simple percentages. The tables were used to show the publication output in library and information science research in ProQuest, the most published authors in library and information science indexed in ProQuest, and the most cited author in library and information science research.

Presentation of Results

Research Question 1: What is the publication output in Library and information science articles from Nigeria in ProQuest?

Table 1: Publication Outputs in Library and information science Articles from Nigeria Indexed in ProQuest

S/N	Publication Year	Number of Publications	Percentage (%)
1.	2010	422	2.4
2.	2011	613	3.4
3.	2012	785	4.43
4.	2013	946	5.34
5.	2014	1057	5.96
6.	2015	1249	7.04
7.	2016	1397	7.87
8.	2017	1550	8.74
9.	2018	1884	10.62
10.	2019	2123	11.97
11.	2020	2504	14.12
12.	2021	3202	18.05
	Total	**17, 732**	**100**

Table 1 shows the growth of library and information science publication outputs from 2010 to 2021 indexed in ProQuest. The total publication outputs for Library and information science research outputs in Nigeria from 2010 to 2021 was 17,732 articles. The year 2010 witnessed the lowest number of publications 422 (2.4%) outputs with an upward increase from 2011 to 2021. In 2011 613(3.4%) articles were published, 2012 with 785 (4.43%) articles, 2013 with 946 (5.34%) articles, 2014 with 1057 (5.96%) articles, 2015 with 1249 (7.04%) articles. In 2016 1397 (7.87%) articles were published, 2017 with 1550 (8.74%) articles, 2018 with 1884 (10.62%) articles, 2019 with 2123 (11.97%) article, 2020 with 2504 (14.12%) articles and 2021 had 3202 (18.05) articles. Consequently, there is a discernible pattern of annual publication output over the years in Library and information science research in Nigeria as shown in figure 1. This demonstrates that there isa consistent growth of Library and

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information science research publications in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021. This shows that the research culture in Library and information science in Nigeria is on the increase yearly and predictable.

Research Question 2: Who are the authors with the most number of articles in ProQuest?

Table 2: Authors with the Most Numbers of Articles

S/N	Name of Authors	Institutions	No. of Articles	Percentage (%)
1.	Popoola, S. O.	University of Ibadan	5	12.8
2.	Baro, E. E.	Federal University Otuoke	5	12.8
3.	Omeluzor, S. U.	Federal University of Petroleum Resources	5	12.8
4.	Tell, A.	University of Ilorin	5	12.8
5.	Idiegbeyan-Ose, J.	Landmark University	4	10.2
6.	Asogwa, B. E.	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	3	7.7
7.	Posigha, B. E.	Niger Delta University	3	7.7
8.	ILo, P. I.	Covenant University	3	7.7
9.	Anasi, S.	University of Lagos	3	7.7
10.	Oyovwe-Tinuoye, G. O.	Federal University of Petroleum Resources	3	7.7
	Total		**39**	**100**

Table 2 reveals the 10 authors with the most number of articles. From the results of the study, Popoola, S. O. (University of Ibadan), Baro, E. E. (Federal University Otuoke), Omeluzor, S. U (Federal University of Petroleum Resources), and Tella, A. (University of Ilorin) have the highest number of articles with each of the authors having 5 articles published in journals indexed in ProQuest. This is followed by Idiegbeyan-Ose, J. (4), Asogwa, B. E., Posigha, B. E., ILo, P. I., Anasi, S. and Oyovwe-Tinuoye, G. O. with 3 publications each. This implies that the first four authors have the highest numbers of publications in terms of Library and information science research published in the ProQuest database.

Research Question 3: Who is the most cited author in Library and Information science research in ProQuest?

Table 3: Most Cited Authors

S/N	Name of Authors	Institution/Organisation	Number of Citations	Percentage (%)
1.	Baro, E. E.	Federal University Otuoke	25	20
2.	Asogwa, B. E.	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	20	16
3.	Popoola, S. O.	University of Ibadan	17	14
4.	Gboyega, A.	Ladoke Akintola University	13	11
5.	Okiy, R. B.	University of Africa	10	8

6.	Evelyn, O. I.	University of Benin	10	8
7.	Zaccheaus, V. G.	Niger Delta University	10	8
8.	Adejunji, A. J.	Bells University of Technology	6	5
9.	ILo, P. I.	Covenant University	6	5
10.	Ifijeh, G.	Covenant University	6	5
	Total		**123**	**100**

Table 3 shows the most cited authors in Library and information science research in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database. The degree of the influence or impact of individual authors in research in their disciplines is determined by the use of citation analysis. The findings of the study as presented in table 3 have revealed that Baro, E. E. (25) and Asogwa, B. E. (20) are the two most cited authors in Library and information science research in Nigeria. They are followed by Popoola, S. O. (17), Gboyega, A. (13), Okiy, R. B., Evelyn, O. I., and Zaccheaus, V. G. with 10 citations respectively. This implies that these authors have on average published the most quality papers with tremendous impact on Library and information science research in Nigeria.

Summary of Findings

1. The study found that there is a consistent growth of Library and Information Science research publications in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021.
2. The study found that four authors have the highest numbers of publications in terms of Library and Information Science research published in the ProQuest database.
3. The study revealed that Baro, E. E., and Asogwa, B. E. are the two most cited authors in Library and Information Science research in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database.

Discussion of findings

The research examined the bibliometric study of research output of Library and Information Science articles in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010-2021. Research question one revealed that there is a consistent growth of Library and information science research publications in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021. There was an increasing and consistent growth in the yearly publications outputs of Library and information science research in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021.This shows that the research culture in Library and information science in Nigeria is on the increase yearly and predictable. This may be a result of its high rate of acceptance, fast editorial and peer review process, no publication fees, and fast publication process by the various journals, especially Library Philosophy and Practice. This finding aligned with Aina, (2020) who studies have that there is growing trends of research output but concerns about quality, collaboration, and international visibility persist.

From research question two, the study discovered that four authors have the highest numbers of publications in terms of

Library and information science research published in the ProQuest database with 5 articles each. The findings lines with the study of Naqvi (2014) confirmed that publication is an elitist phenomenon and that only a few authors published much in a particular body of literature (field) or the number of authors who are highly productive in a given field/discipline is very small.

Research question three shows that Baro and Asogwa are the two most cited authors in Library and information science research in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database. Citation analysis is a critical indicator in the evaluation of research and publication whether by author, institutions/ universities, countries, or regions. It is therefore pertinent to note that authors with more publications do not necessarily have more citations just like in the case of Asogwa, B. E. who has only three (3) publications and 20 citations.

Conclusion

The study aimed to examine the bibliometric study of research output of Library and Information Science articles in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021. The findings established that there is a consistent growth of Library and Information Science research publications in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database from 2010 to 2021, four authors have the highest numbers of publications in terms of Library and Information Science research published in ProQuest database; Baro, E. E., and Asogwa, B. E. are the two most cited authors in Library and Information Science research in Nigeria indexed in the ProQuest database.

Recommendations

Based on the results obtained from the study, the researcher recommended that:

i. Library and Information Science researchers should ensure that they collaborate more with researchers outside their institutions, especially foreign authors.
ii. Institutions should as a matter of urgency intensify efforts in funding and sponsoring research. This will help to put the individual, the institution of affiliation, and the country at large at a high pedestal in world global research community.

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