COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY OF AKANU IBIAM FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY, UNWANA AFIKPO, EBONYI STATE

By

Juliana Obiageri Akidi,
Flora Ifeoma Okogwu
& Uche Victor Kelechi

Michael Okpara University of Agriculture,
Umudike, Abia State, Nigeria
Email: obyakidij@yahoo.co.uk

Ebonyi State University Library, Abakaliki
PMB 053, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, Nigeria
Email: floraokogwu@gmail.com; flora.okogwu@ebsu.edu.ng

Abstract
This study examined the collection development practices of academic libraries with particular focus on Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library Unwana, Afikpo Ebonyi State Nigeria. The study answered five research questions that were derived from the objectives of the study. Related literature were reviewed in order to explore some facets in collection development practices. The descriptive survey design was adopted for the study. The population of the study was 40 respondents consisting of 15 professional and 25 paraprofessional staff of the library. The instrument for data collection was questionnaires. However, all questionnaires were returned in usable form. The data collected from the questionnaires were analyzed using simple statistics (mean). The real limit of numbers (means range) of the nominal value assigned to the scale point was used and decision was taken by comparing results with the real limit of numbers. Major findings of the study include that the library under study adopts written and policy review in collection development. Also the major methods adopted in collection development in the library under study are through purchase, the library under study carries out selection practices in implementation of collection development. Poor management of library votes by collection development unit, non-implementation of collection development policy, poor funding, lack of equipment and facilities, unavailability of standard bibliographies were revealed as challenges of collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic library under study. Recommendations made include effective management of library votes by collection development unit, strict adherence to collection development policies, provision of necessary facilities that enhance the selection of library resources, and adequate funding of the library by the management to enable it build a balanced collection.

Key words: Collection development, Academic Libraries, Polytechnic Library, Collection development policy, Acquisition.

Introduction
Academic libraries are built to complement mainstream academic exercise and extra curricula activities of the institutions which include teaching, research and publications, conservation of...
knowledge and ideas and extension services. Academic libraries direct their activities towards the actualization of these objectives. One of such activities is the development of library collection. The development of collections is one of the most essential functions of library services. Collection development is defined by Mansur (2012), as the selection, acquisition and processing of library materials in varied formats, meant for users' current needs and their future requirements. A library’s attempts to expand its collection will be futile unless its acquisition program is efficient. In order to build a balanced collection in academic libraries, the libraries will need forward-thinking planning papers like a collection development policy, which specifies the goal and vision of the resources in institutional repositories, as well as the rules and regulations that govern users and service providers, to make this a reality.

The process of developing a collection has many facets. Its range includes policies, selection, weeding, and evaluation in addition to user assessment and acquisition (Edoka, 2000). In a similar vein, Kumar et al. (2008) characterize the constituent aspects of collection development as being the assessment of user needs, evaluation of the current collection, determination of selection procedures, coordination of selection, re-evaluation, storing sections of the collection and planning for resource sharing. Each of these collection development considerations is important because they all work together to make the library collection functionally efficient.

Since they all work together to maintain the functional effectiveness of the library collection, none of these collection development considerations are minor. However, a quick examination by the researchers indicates that many academic libraries have collection development practices that are slanted toward selection and acquisition. Therefore, this study was designed as an investigation into the process by which collection development is carried out in the Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic library, Unwana Afikpo, Ebonyi, Nigeria with a goal to exposing the shortcomings and proposing suggestions as a course of action.

Statement of the Problem
Academic libraries have struggled with a lack of suitable and obsolete resources, particularly in light of the parent institutions’ declining financial resources as a result of the economic downturn, which has affected all sectors of the economy. Providing adequate information resources to meet the information needs of the users have been challenged. The review of library resources is essential for maintaining an active collection of relevant and current information resources. This may be accomplished by continually expanding the library's collection in order to meet the information needs of library patrons. The need for academic libraries to build a balanced collection for the benefit of the users and of the libraries is of great importance. As a result, for a balanced collection development, academic libraries should embrace more proactive collection development procedures. Many studies have been conducted on university libraries collection development practices, but less has been done on Polytechnic libraries, which are a subset of academic libraries. The purpose of this study is to investigate collection development practices in academic libraries, with a particular focus on the library at Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Unwana, Afikpo, Ebonyi State.

Objectives of the Study
The objective of this study is to examine the collection development practices in academic libraries using Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo, Ebonyi State as a case study. The study has the following specific objectives:

1. Identify the type of collection development policy adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.
2. Identify the methods adopted in collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.
3. Find out the extent of implementation of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.
4. Identify the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.
5. Identify the strategies adopted to overcome the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.

Research Questions
The study is guided by the following research questions:
1. What are the types of collection development policy adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo?
2. What are the methods adopted in collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo?
3. What is the extent of implementation of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo?
4. What are the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo?
5. What are the strategies adopted to overcome the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo?

Scope of the Study
The study is on the collection development practices in academic libraries using Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo, Ebonyi State as a case study. This study looked at the collection development practices to include collection development policy, methods of developing collection, extent of implementation, challenges and strategies adopted to overcome the challenges. The respondents for this study were all the professional librarians and paraprofessionals (library officers) of the library under study.

Literature Review
Academic libraries are integral part of a college, university or institution of post-secondary education. Uwaifo (2010) defines academic libraries as those libraries established and maintained by higher/tertiary institutions of learning such as universities, polytechnics, colleges of education, etc. Nnadozie (2007) defines academic libraries as those located in institutions of higher learning such as universities, polytechnics, monotechnics, and other tertiary institutions. He went on to say that academic libraries exist to help their parent institution achieve three key goals: preserving existing knowledge, transmitting knowledge through teaching, and creating new knowledge through research. An academic library's main purpose is to support the institution's teaching, learning, and research programs by acquiring adequate library resources for the academic community's use. As a result of the necessity for an efficient and balanced collection, the phrase "collection development" has become highly common in libraries and information centers. It encompasses the entire process of purchasing resources, including resource selection, ordering, and payment. Collection development is the cornerstone for all other library services. Collection development refers to the methodical growth of a library collection that is based on pertinent information rather than personal taste. It entails determining a collection's strengths and flaws, then coming up with
a plan to solve the weaknesses and preserve the positives. The collection-building process, as seen by Kumbar and Hadagali in Igiamoh and Duro (2012), involves choosing both recent and historical resources and evaluating the collection as a whole. Ojebode (2009) defines collection development as a broad category of library activities that includes resource selection, acquisition of those items, creation of strategies for resource sharing amongst libraries, upkeep of acquired resources, weeding, and assessment. Some librarians have recently started using the term "collection management" to differentiate the upkeep of library holdings from collection creation. Collection development is described by Seetharama and Ambuja, as cited by Igiamoh and Duro (2012), as a communication tool for management, librarians, users, and other libraries; a thorough outline of collecting levels; a description of collection development responsibilities; and a budgeting tool that helps librarians decide where to place resources. Elaturoti (1995) defined collection development as the process of identifying a collection's advantages and disadvantages, then coming up with a plan to solve the disadvantages while preserving the advantages.

Mansur (2012) defined collection development as the selection, acquisition, and processing of library information in various forms for users’ current and future needs. He went on to say that the creation of coherent acquisition procedures, the selection and deselection of current and historical items, and the evaluation of collections to determine how well they satisfy user needs are all parts of the collection development process.

Collection development is a carefully thought-out activity that needs a clear policy; it is a crucial phase in the establishment and expansion of a library collection. Any library type may make use of it (Barik and Shethy in Igiamoh and Duro 2012). Rowley and Black (1996) and the International Federation of Library Association (IFLA 2010) both state that the purpose of collection development is to fulfill the mission of a library, which is to serve as a repository or gateway to information for scholars today, as well as to record the intellectual heritage of the dominant culture for the benefit of present and future scholars. According to Osburn (1993), completeness is the primary objective of collection development in the general library. The utility of the fundamental collection depends on it being substantially comprehensive and entirely reflective of humanity's main intellectual interests, even though this is impossible to attain in theory or practice. Libraries must build strong collections of organized, thorough, balanced, and current publications in order to meet the information needs of their patrons.

Developing an effective collection growth policy requires establishing a set of guidelines that will always specify how to plan, allocate funds, choose, and buy library books (Vohra, 2003). These resources provide the framework for a cooperative collection development initiative among academic libraries. Collection development policies provide lecturers, library users, and other libraries with a reference to the library's resources by describing the size and nature of the collection. The essential purpose of collection development is the selection of information resources, and regardless of the format chosen, the user's demands must always come first.

Selection, according to Cabonero and Mayrena (2012), is the core of collection development. The process of acquisition must begin with selection. Informational resources are chosen based on how valuable a set of readers estimate them to be. This is due to Carter's observation in Nwosu and Udo-Anyawu that "the level of enjoyment a reader feels in the library depends directly upon the contents the library has accessible for his usage" (2015).

Adewuyi (2005) sees acquisition as the cornerstone on which stock development is founded. The typical acquisition process starts with a stock check and finishes when the materials ordered are received and certified by the acquisition staff. According to a study by Ojebode (2009), inadequate finance for libraries is the enemy of efficient library material acquisition. Due to a lack of funding,
Between 1996 and 2006, the study's libraries received more books through gifts and contributions than through purchases. Any objective of a library is not necessarily accomplished by the mere collection of library materials. The library reviews its collection at the end of every fiscal year to see if anything needs to be replaced or deselected. A constant evaluation is done to see how well the resources that have been obtained meet the needs of the consumers. In order to do this, the librarian needs comprehensive knowledge of the procedures that researchers really follow, as well as the equipment and supplies they make use of. For collections to be successful, efficient, and useable, they must first undergo review. Collection evaluation, according to Spiller (2001), is the act of identifying the assets of a library's resources' strengths and weaknesses and attempting to correct any existing shortcomings while preserving the latter. A library's holdings are evaluated through collection assessment (print, electronic resources, and non-print items). By using the suggestions and opinions of the frequent library patrons who are being watched and observed, it can be done on a regular basis observed, Har and Mahajan (2015).

The significance of the present study lies in the hope that it will make bare, the flaws in the conduct of collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library Unwana Afikpo as well as chart a new course for improving collection development practices in the library.

Research Methodology
The descriptive survey design was adopted for the study. The population of the study was 40 respondents consisting of 15 professional and 25 paraprofessional staff of the library. The instrument for data collection was questionnaires. However, all questionnaires distributed were returned in usable form. The real limit of numbers (means range) of the nominal value assigned to the scale point was used, and a judgment was made by comparing the findings to the real limit of numbers.

Findings and Discussion
Collection Development Policy Adopted
Table 1: Responses on the type of collection development policy adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo Ebonyi State.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Mean x</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Written</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>.300</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unwritten</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>.422</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Policy review</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>.759</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td></td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keys: SA-Strongly Agree A- Agree D-Disagree SD- Strongly Disagree

The table 1 above revealed the mean ratings of the responses of the respondents on the three (3) items on the type of collection development policy adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo. Using the principle of real limit of numbers, the results of the data analysis revealed that two (2) out of the three identified items had mean values ranging from 3.23 to 3.90 which are all above the cut-off point of 2.50 on a 4-point rating scale. Only one (1) item was below the cut-off point of 2.50. This implies that written policy and policy review are the two major collection development policies adopted and unwritten policy is not adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo. However, the grand mean score of 2.99 which is higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 shows that the majority of the items were accepted as
collection development policies adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo.

Method of Collection Development
Table 2: Responses on the methods adopted in collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Exchange</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.18</td>
<td>.381</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Legal Deposit</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>.300</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gift &amp; Donation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>.381</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>De-selection/Weeding</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>.542</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Collection Evaluation</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keys: SA=Strongly Agree A=Agree D=Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree

Table 2 shows the mean ratings of the responses of the respondents on the six (6) items on the methods adopted in collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo. Using the principle of real limit of numbers, the results of the data analysis revealed that four (4) out of the six identified items had mean values ranging from 2.60 to 4.00 which are all above the cut-off point of 2.50 on a 4-point rating scale. Only two (2) items were below the cut-off point of 2.50. However, the grand mean score of 2.85 which is higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 shows that the majority of the items were accepted as collection development methods adopted in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo in collection development.

Extent of Implementation
Table 3: Responses on the extent of implementation of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>VHE</th>
<th>HE</th>
<th>LE</th>
<th>VLE</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Community needs assessment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>.600</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>.419</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>.444</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Placing orders</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>.530</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Receiving and checking</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>.435</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Adopting Collection development policy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>.581</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Weeding</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>1.034</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key: VHE=Very High Extent, HE=High Extent, LE=Low Extent, VLE=Very Low Extent

Table 3 shows the mean ratings of the responses of the respondents on the seven (7) items on the extent of implementation of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo. Using the principle of real limit of numbers, the results of
the data analysis revealed that five (5) out of the seven identified items had mean values ranging from 2.65 to 3.78 which are all above the cut-off point of 2.50 on a 4-point rating scale. Only two (2) items were below the cut-off point of 2.50. The grand mean score of 2.84 which is higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 implies that the items on the table are implemented by the library under study in collection development.

**Problems Affecting Collection Development Practice**

Table 4: Responses on the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Mean $\bar{x}$</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Poor management of library votes by collection development unit</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>.469</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Non implementation of collection development policy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>.571</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Preservation and conservation problems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>.593</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Poor funding</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>.156</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Accommodation / space</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.43</td>
<td>.499</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lack of equipment / facilities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>.506</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Unavailability of standard bibliographies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>.384</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grand Mean** 2.94 **Accepted**

**Keys: SA-Strongly Agree A- Agree D-Disagree SD- Strongly Disagree**

The data presented in table 4 shows the mean ratings of the responses of the respondents on the seven (7) items of problems facing Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo in collection development. Using the principle of real limit of numbers, the results of the data analysis revealed that six out of the seven identified items had mean values ranging from 2.50 to 3.98 which are all above the cut-off point of 2.50 on a 4-point rating scale. Only one (1) item that is accommodation / space has a mean value of 2.43 which was below the cut-off point of 2.50. Meanwhile, the grand mean score of 2.94 which is higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 shows that the respondents supported most of the items in table 4 as the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo.

**Strategies Adopted to Overcome the Problems of Collection Development**

Table 5: Responses on the strategies adopted to overcome the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana Afikpo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Mean $\bar{x}$</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Effective management of the library votes by the collection development unit</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>.501</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Strict implementation of collection development policy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>.346</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The data presented in table 5 reveals that, the mean ratings of the responses of the respondents on the seven (7) identified items on what strategies to adopt in overcoming collection development in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo had mean values ranging from 2.78 to 3.93 which are all above the cutoff point of 2.50 on a 4-point rating scale. The above findings indicated that the respondents agreed that all the seven (7) identified items in the table are strategies to adopt in overcoming collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo. Meanwhile, the grand mean score of 3.05 which is higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 shows that the respondents agreed that all the items in table 5 above are strategies to be adopted for overcoming the problems of collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana, Afikpo.

**Summary of the Findings**

The findings also revealed that Akanu Ibiam Polytechnic library Unwana Unwana adopts the use of written policy and policy review. This study is in agreement with Oseghale (2008) who revealed that written policies for library collection are easier to hold than unwritten policy which may change as a result of change in management especially in a public institution like the one under study.

The findings on the methods adopted in collection development in Akanu Ibiam Polytechnic library Unwana revealed that the library adopted purchase, gifts and donations, de-selection and weeding as well as collection evaluation. These findings also supported the works of Oseghale (2008) that revealed the major collection development methods employed by libraries owned by public institutions in development of library collection is purchase and gift, with gift at the top on the list.

The findings on collection development practices in Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Library, Unwana revealed community needs assessment, selection, evaluation, adopting collection development policy and weeding. However, the findings showed that the library under study does not use placing order as well as receiving and checking as collection development practices. This finding is in agreement with the study carried out by Adedibu (2006) that revealed the major collection development practice used by institutions for library collections are based on community needs assessment and adopting collection development policy that works well for such institution.

The findings on the problems affecting collection development on the library under study revealed that the library is faced with a lot of problems which include poor management of the library votes.
by the collection development unit, poor funding, as well as unavailability of standard bibliographies. The finding is in agreement with the works of Adedibu (2006) who identified lack of equipment and facilities and unavailability of standard bibliography as problems of collection development across public libraries in the country.

The study identified effective management of library votes by the collection development unit, provision of adequate collection development policy, application of preservation and conservation policies, provision of adequate funding, provision of facilities and equipment for collection development, provision of standard bibliographies and application of weeding policies as solution to the problems of collection development. The findings are in agreement with the works of Egwim (2006) that recommended effective management of library votes, adequate funding and provision of facilities is the major areas that can solve the collection development problems.

**Conclusion and Recommendations**

Collection development practices in academic libraries were examined using Akanu Ibiam Polytechnic Library, Unwana as a case study. The study has revealed a lot of practices ranging from the collection development policies adopted by the library, method of developing the collection, extent of implementation, problems facing collection development and solutions to the problem. In the light of the present study, the following recommendations are made:

1. Strict adherence to collection development policies.
2. Effective management of library votes by collection development unit.
3. Provision of necessary facilities to enhance the selection of library resources.
4. Adequate funding for the library by the management to enable the library build a balanced collection.

**References**


