

Library Environmental Conditions and Undergraduates' Patronage of Public University Libraries in Delta State, Nigeria

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Abstract - The university library is basically setup to make available information resources and service to their users, patronage of the library, therefore, is the major reason for the existence of the library. The study examined the association between undergraduate library use at Delta State and the characteristics of the different types of library environments. To examine the questionnaire survey was developed to collect data from 272 library users. According to the report, public university library facilities have inadequate environmental conditions. Undergraduates expressed a high level of satisfaction with the design and surroundings of their university libraries. Most respondents seldom patronise the university library's materials and services. The study equally made bare that substantial correlation exists between the kind of library environmental circumstances and undergraduates' patronage of public university libraries, patronage of library resources/services was minimal. The study concluded that the prevailing library environment conditions influenced undergraduate patronage of public university libraries in Delta States. As a result, it was advised that the library management should implement necessary strategies to establish and maintain a calm and welcoming library environment. It was equally advised to utilise all available strategies, including regular orientation and word-of-mouth marketing of library resources/services, as this can significantly encourage an increase in patronage of the university libraries.

Keywords: Library Environmental Conditions, Library Patronage, Undergraduates', State University Library

I. INTRODUCTION

University libraries, also referred to as academic libraries, are service institutions affiliated with and administered by universities. These libraries strongly emphasize the provision of services to their patrons, aiding their teaching, learning, research and recreational needs. The focus of the university library is to help people get more out of its services/resources, in addition to providing access to their collections. As such, it is intended that potential users will become habitual users. An essential sign of the efficacy/effectiveness of services delivered by libraries is the amount of intended users who patronise the library (Schoenberger, 2018). The significance of establishing a university library and the significant funding provided by the parent organisation are supported by the patronage of the library's services and frequent visits from its users. Let's just say that without clients, the library's existence would be meaningless and the significant funding the library receives

each year would not be justified (Usuka, 2017). A poll by Abdullahi (2009) In Nigeria, academic libraries have received comparatively little use from its patronage in terms of how students use the resources there. The patronage of the university library is crucial to its capacity to function, and the physical space that contains the library acts as both a focal point for information services and a resource for its users. In light of the previous, Oyedum (2012) opined that for university libraries to be utilised effectively, they should work to create a welcoming and pleasant reading environment plus providing and preserving information items for all sorts of users.

The type of environmental conditions in libraries can be considered its "strength." According to Channing (2014), the physical environment, encompasses all components capable of influencing a system's inputs and outputs. That is, it includes all of the situations, people, objects, and events that surround the library can affect the quality and productivity of its services/resources. Isiaka and Olaide (2013) affirmed the statement by describing the library setting as one that encompasses all the circumstances, people, things, and incidents nearby the library that can have an impact (positive/negative) on the library's patronage. The library's interior and exterior spaces should entice patrons to visit again to read books and use its resources. Hence, the environmental conditions should be void of noise, excessive heat, a dark interior, inadequate furniture, unpleasant odour, and an uninviting landscape to encourage consumers to patronise the library regularly.

Oyedum and Nwalo (2011) stated that an ideal learning environment is serene with all the learning enabling factors such as adequate ventilation, noise-free reading spaces, sufficient lighting, and fittings made available for positive impact and stimulation of users. Freeman (2005) observed that equivalent user behaviour is common in most academic libraries; as a result, when planning academic libraries, the design team must incorporate serene, comfortable, and adequate space for study and learning. Lending credence to this, Makinde and Oyewumi (2002) emphasised that focus should be paid more to providing a beautiful exterior, a convenient layout, and pleasing environmental conditions for users so that they will patronise the library at leisure. Physical facilities, in addition to ambient elements, were recoged by Oyedum (2012) as factors influencing students'

library patronage. The researcher further noted that university libraries are expected to supply conducive reading chairs, tables, and bright lighting systems to encourage and enhance understanding and inquiry. Lombardo and Condic (2001) emphasised the need to create a good atmosphere in the library. If this is not the case, students will choose alternate means to gather the required information. This statement stemmed from their observations of students' increasing dependence on electronic resources, in addition to students' lack of awareness that a few of the finest sources for research remain in print format. University libraries with a suitable environment are embodied with serenity and comfortability, which would attract users to patronise the library, spending several hours having a memorable experience.

Environmental considerations must be taken seriously when constructing a library because they perhaps utilised to attract customers, encourage them to regularly visit the facility, use its information resources, consult its services, and engage in other social and recreational activities. The ambiances of the library should also be lovely and in excellent condition. A comprehensive investigation is warranted to ascertain if there would be a connection connecting undergraduate library patronage at universities and the amenities, location, status, and circumstances of the library.

A. Statement of the Problem

University libraries globally are working hard to gather information resources in various formats and provide assorted services to suit users' information needs. University libraries currently provide a wide range of information resources/services to their customers thanks to the expansion of information communication technologies (ICTs). However, despite the rise in ICT usage, a low level of patronage is still apparent in university libraries, even when the library has ensured that its information resources/services are accessible. Early experiences confirm this with certain librarians at these libraries. As per the study, libraries' environment, which may not be friendly and inspiring to students, can have a big impact. University libraries may be able to entice many undergraduates who need comfort while studying if they create the right environment. Thus, the study determines the relationship between library environmental condition and undergraduate patronage of public university libraries in Delta State,

B. Research Questions

The following research questions were created to direct the study.

1. What is the prevailing environmental condition in public university library buildings?
2. What is the extent of undergraduates' satisfaction with the prevailing environmental conditions of the university libraries?
3. What are the resources and services the undergraduates' patronise in the university libraries?

4. What is the extent of undergraduates' satisfaction with the prevailing environmental conditions of the university libraries?

C. Hypothesis

In this study, the following null hypothesis was investigated at a significance level of 0.05.

1. There is no significant relationship between the environmental conditions of the library and undergraduates' patronage of public university libraries.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A library environmental condition is one of most crucial variables that might have an impact on patrons judgment, the worth of a library's services is the building's ambience. The situations, people, objects, and events that could impact on library usage, either favourably or negatively, are all included in the university-library environment (Amusa & Iyoro, 2013). The library's exterior is designed in an appealing manner, the operations/management of the library, and, more recently, ICT makes up the inside library environment. Additionally, the readers' comfort and suitable climatic conditions are also necessary for the effective operation and preservation of library contents. Adequate landscaping, full air conditioning, adequate reading space, serene, adequate social space, and a clean atmosphere are some signs of library's environmental conditions.

Indicators of environmental conditions also includes better organisation, top-notch interior designs, attractive architecture, ample daylight, better air quality, balanced temperatures, improved human relationships and interactions, better acoustics (sound quality), contemporary electronic support, upright upholstery, comfortable walkways, ample parking spaces, controlled sunlight, and adequate cross ventilation. The health/safety executive mandates that workplaces be "properly ventilated" with "unsullied, hygienic air that is "uncontaminated" and "circulated through workrooms" since ventilation is necessary for any space where people work or study (Health and Safety Executive, 2003).

Library environmental conditions encompass the physical conditions in which services are provided. Adam (2017) evaluated the Yusuf Maitama Sule University (YMSU) Library's undergraduate patrons' contentment with the library's operations. As per the research, library visitors are very happy with the clean atmosphere, the building is well-lit, the seating is comfortable, and the personnel is knowledgeable and kind when giving information services. Our library collection, internet, and photocopying services are appreciated in other places. Fiwotoafor (2018) examined patron satisfaction with the library's resources at the College of Agriculture Education, University of Education, Winneba. This finding demonstrated that,

despite the favorable environment provided by the library, reading was not encouraged because of the small space, poor quality furniture, and noise. A study was conducted by Kalpana and Komathy (2012) at the University of Jaffna to find out how happy undergraduate biology students were with the library's features and offerings. The bulk of survey participants stated pleasure with the quantity of available reading tables and chairs, the library's cleanliness, the illumination, the actual space of the library, etc. They requested a separate study area with air conditioning to avoid noise, heat, and ventilation problems.

At the Trincomalee Campus, Vijeyaluxmy (2015) examined how satisfied students were with the library's services. The non-existence of seats, desk space, and a relaxing environment for studying, the survey found that students were disgruntled with the library's environment. In Ghana's academic libraries, Tetteh and Nyantakyi-Baah (2019) investigated library value through user happiness. In line with the poll, users had a high level of contentment with the library's services, information resources, and physical surroundings. Rubasinghe and Bodhinayaka (2018) examined the fulfillment of postgraduate students with the facilities and services at the Universities of Kelaniya and Sri Jayawardenepura. The findings showed that the responders were happy with the library's illumination, peace, cleanliness, book arrangement on the shelves, and ventilation.

Users who are undergraduates frequently visit the library to use its resources/services to fulfill their informational needs. Many undergraduate users used the library's services include user education services, audio-visual services, online book reservations, online notification services, current awareness services for library resources, selective dissemination of information, telephone services, research help services, interlibrary loan services, indexing/abstracting-services, extension and outreach services, photocopying services, CD copying services, lending services, Internet browsing, online public access catalogue services (OPAC), book bank service and lots more. A study by Caroline and Adewale (2018) revealed that Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) was ranked highest amongst the libraries' offerings. Kumar (2017) examined how University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad students/research experts used the information resources/services offered at the library. The results also showed that books, theses and dissertations, handbooks, volumes from seminars and conferences, and magazines were the resources students used the most. The magazines' primarily used photocopying and lending services.

Varadaraju (2018) looked at how users of the library's resources/services at Hyderabad's Stanley College of Engineering and Technology for Women. Due to the data, 85 (92.3%) of the responders utilise a recycling service. Aladeniyi and Owokole (2018) explored how undergraduates used the library's knowledge assets at the University of Medical Science Ondo in Ondo State, Nigeria.

The conclusions revealed that participants mostly use dictionaries, the Internet, textbooks, newspapers and magazines, handbooks, and journals, among other resources. Girakaduwa (2019) researched on how UVPA (The University of Visual and Performing Arts) library users in Sri Lanka employed digital tools, and applications, and overcame challenges. The examination found that nearly all responders accessed resources from the library's, OPAC (searching and renewing service), and previous test papers websites. Second, the survey found that roughly 37.8% of participants had never used any internet resources or services.

According to Bassey (2006), library resources/services the word "patronage" unintentionally relates to how individuals feel about utilising resources/services. This is true because conduct influences how frequently people utilise the resources/services of libraries. The analysis revealed that the library staff's attitude, information seekers, and users have a significant impact on how the library is used. Ternenge, Ojobo, and Josephine (2020) looked into how graduate students utilised digital reference materials/services in university-libraries in Nigeria's Benue State, discovering that patrons make extensive use of the libraries' resources. The statistics clearly demonstrate how little postgraduate students in Benue State use the internet sources offered by universities-libraries.

Nyantakyi-Baah (2016) looked at how clients viewed the worth and caliber of academic library-services in the libraries of the Ghana Institute of Journalism and Ashesi University College. The study's findings showed that academics frequented libraries less frequently than students. The staff at both libraries felt that their services were of a satisfactory limit. Ogbuyi and Okpe's study on library patronage included four private universities from Southwest Nigeria: Babcock University, Covenant University, Lead City University, and Redemption University (2013). According to the poll, fewer people visited the four libraries than usual. In their 2013 study, Doris and Mosunmade looked at how undergraduates used the libraries at National Universities in the South-West of Nigeria. The study discovered that most of participants did use the library.

III. METHODOLOGY

This study employed a descriptive survey design of the correlational type. The study's sample included 2,727 undergraduate library patrons. The population is broken down in Table I.

272 undergraduate students make up the study's sample, which is equal to 10% of the whole population. The technique of incidental sampling was deployed in the poll. The tool utilised to obtain data was a questionnaire. For research questions 1 and 3, to evaluate the data, frequency counts were used. To analyse research questions 2 and 4, mean/standard deviation were used. The Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient was used to evaluate the hypothesis at 0.05 alpha-level.

TABLE I POPULATION OF THE STUDY

Sl. No.	Name of Library	Population (Seating Capacity)
1	Delta State University, Abraka	2,250
2	Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun	346
3	Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko	131
Total		2,727

IV. SCOPE AND DELIMITATION

The study covered six (6) Public University Libraries in Delta States, namely: Delta State University Library, Abraka, Federal University of Petroleum Resources (FUPRE) Library, Effurun, Nigerian Maritime University Library, Okerenkoko, Dennis Osadebe University Library, Asaba, Delta State University of Science and Technology Library, Ozoro, and University of Delta Library, Agbor. It was delimited to Delta State University Library, Abraka, Federal University of Petroleum Resources (FUPRE) Library, Effurun and Nigerian Maritime University Library, Okerenkoko because the other universities had yet to begin their academic session at the time of this research.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

A. Answering of the Research Questions

Research Question 1: What is the prevailing environmental condition in public university library buildings?

The findings illustrate the form of prevalent environmental conditions in university library facilities. The participants said that the library's building is consistently orderly and clean (135, 58.7%), the library restroom/convenience is hygienic and conducive (128, 55.7%), the library walkways are comfortable (125, 54.3%), there exist a moderate temperature always (122, 53%), while other nature of environmental conditions were disagreed upon with the library having no fully functional air condition facility (167, 72.6%), There is really no effective insect control scheme for the library's building (148, 64.3%), no modern electrical support facilities that abet the environment (146, 63.5%), library not situated in an easily accessible location (145, 63.0%), The library has no adequate cross ventilation (144, 62.6%). The overall vibe in the library is positive (139, 60.4%). It can be decided that the environmental conditions in public university-libraries in Delta State are unsatisfactory to the undergraduates.

TABLE II ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN STATE UNIVERSITY-LIBRARIES

Sl. No.	Environmental Conditions	Agree		Disagree	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	The air conditioning equipment in the library is working well	63	27.4	167	72.6
2	There is enough room for people to read	96	41.7	134	58.3
3	The library's environ is constantly serene and quiet	93	40.4	137	59.6
4	Users can interact in a large enough social area.	96	41.7	134	58.3
5	The library's complex is always spotless and organised	135	58.7	95	41.3
6	The temperature of the library is ideal for an indoor setting.	108	47.0	122	53.0
7	The library's building receives adequate daylight	120	52.2	110	47.8
8	The library's structure has an adequate distribution of unsullied air.	96	41.7	134	58.3
9	There is moderate temperature at all time	122	53.0	108	47.0
10	There is better human relation between staff and users	112	48.7	118	51.3
11	The acoustics in the library's building are improved (sound quality)	100	43.6	130	56.5
12	The library offers state-of-the-art electronic resources that are good for the environment	84	36.5	146	63.5
13	The library's walkways are comfortable	125	54.3	105	45.7
14	The library's parking places is enough.	92	40.0	138	60.0
15	There is sufficient window blind to control sunlight	102	44.3	128	55.7
16	There is enough cross ventilation in the library	86	37.4	144	62.6
17	The library's manager adopt good pest control method.	82	35.7	148	64.3
18	The library is adequately lit	121	52.6	109	47.4
19	The library's restroom/convenience is hygienic and conducive	128	55.7	102	44.3
20	The library's seating capacity is more than enough	100	43.6	130	56.5
21	The overall vibe in the library is positive.	91	39.6	139	60.4
22	There is enough comfortable reading-chairs and table	106	46.1	124	53.9
23	The library is in a position that is convenient for access.	85	37.0	145	63.0

Research Question 2: What is the extent of undergraduates' satisfaction with the prevailing environmental conditions of the university libraries?

The extent of undergraduates' satisfaction with the environmental conditions with an aggregate mean of 2.54

and SD = 1.07 is greater than the criterion mean of 2.50, it may be said that undergraduates are generally very contented with the physical surroundings of their university-library.

TABLE III THE EXTENT OF SATISFACTION WITH THE LIBRARY'S ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AMONG UNDERGRADUATES

Sl. No.	Satisfaction with Environmental Conditions	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	Mean	SD
1	I am pleased with the air conditioning system in the library.	69	22	63	76	2.56	0.76
2	The library's reading space is adequate.	72	72	40	46	2.37	1.22
3	The library's calm and serene atmosphere makes me happy	49	71	35	75	2.74	1.11
4	The current social space for patrons to interact is sufficient	34	67	77	52	2.41	1.15
5	The library structure is always clean and tidy.	84	65	38	43	2.36	0.99
6	The temperature of the library's indoor environment is moderate.	67	47	59	57	2.83	1.12
7	The library structure has satisfactory day light.	62	61	49	58	2.54	1.15
8	The library's building has an adequate flow of fresh air.	71	66	45	48	2.55	1.14
9	The temperature at all time is satisfactory.	35	56	87	52	2.70	1.12
10	I am pleased with how workers and customers interact with one another.	40	50	73	67	2.32	0.99
11	I feel pleased with the building's acoustics (sound quality).	35	51	88	56	2.27	1.07
12	The library has cutting-edge environmentally friendly technological support systems.	39	46	69	76	2.28	1.00
13	The library walkways are comfortable.	51	68	79	32	2.21	1.08
14	There are adequate parking spaces	72	37	75	46	2.60	0.98
15	Sufficient window blind to control sunlight is reasonable.	38	55	84	53	2.59	1.13
16	The library cross ventilation is adequate.	45	87	50	48	2.34	1.01
17	The library structure's pest control procedures are satisfactory in my estimation	43	81	63	43	2.56	1.03
18	I am content with the well-lighted library.	50	61	38	81	2.54	1.00
19	I am contented with the hygienic and conducive library restroom/convenience.	45	60	68	57	2.35	1.17
20	I'm happy with the quantity of seats.	61	87	55	27	2.40	1.06
21	I find the general ambiance of the library very conducive for learning.	77	52	74	27	2.79	0.97
22	The quantity of cozy reading chairs/tables in the library's building is ample in my opinion.	62	71	55	42	2.78	1.04
23	I will recommend other users to patronise the library	33	96	65	36	2.67	1.06
24	I will come back to patronise the library	68	62	34	66	2.55	0.92
25	I am pleased with how conveniently located the library is.	32	52	45	101	2.57	1.19
Aggregate Mean/SD						2.54/1.07	
Criterion Mean						2.50	

Research Question 3: What are the resources and services the undergraduates' patronise in the university libraries?

The resources that undergraduates' patronised in the public university libraries are: reference materials (145, 63.0%), printed textbooks (142, 61.7%), printed journals (133, 57.8%), academic software (120, 52.2%), electronic books (119, 51.7%), electronic databases (117, 50.9%), and the services undergraduates patronised in the university libraries are: Internet browsing (157, 58.3%), OPAC (145,

63.0%), CD copying (142, 61.7%), Book Bank (138, 60.0%), Audio/Visual Services (122, 53.0%) and lending services (120, 52.2%). While the less patronised resources and services include Geographical Tools (Maps, Atlases) (98, 42.6%), Arts works, Architectural Plans, Photographs and catalogues (96, 41.7%), Audio/ visual Resources (87, 37.8%), User Education (87, 37.8%), Online Book Reservation (78, 33.9%), Telephone services (69, 30.0%), Research Help Services (67, 29.1%), Extension and Outreach Services (91, 39.6%) and Photocopying (62,

27.0%). From the above result, it can be seen that the major resources and services patronised by the undergraduates include reference materials, print textbooks, print journals,

academic software, electronic books, electronic data, internet browsing, OPAC, CD copying, Book Bank, Audio/Visual Services and lending services.

TABLE IV RESOURCES/SERVICES UNDERGRADUATES' PATRONISE

Sl. No.	Resources/Services	Agree		Disagree	
	Resources	No.	%	No.	%
1	Print Textbooks (Textbooks)	142	61.7	88	38.3
2	Print Journals	133	57.8	97	42.2
3	Electronic Book	119	51.7	111	48.3
4	Electronic Journals	108	47.0	122	53.0
5	Electronic Databases (Science direct, Proquest, EBSCO host)	117	50.9	113	49.1
6	Newspapers / Online News Platforms	107	46.5	123	53.5
7	Magazines/ E-Zines	137	59.6	93	40.4
8	Reference Materials (Dictionary, Encyclopedia)	145	63.0	85	37.0
9	Geographical Tools (Maps, Atlases)	98	42.6	132	57.4
10	Arts works, Architectural Plans, Photographs and catalogues	96	41.7	134	58.3
11	Academic Software	120	52.2	110	47.8
12	Audio/visual Resources	87	37.8	143	62.2
	Services				
13	User Education	87	37.8	143	62.2
14	Audio/Visual Services	122	53.0	108	47.0
15	Online Book Reservation	78	33.9	152	66.1
16	Announcement	101	43.9	129	56.1
17	CAS for Library Resources	110	47.8	120	52.2
18	SDI	105	45.7	125	54.3
19	Telephone services	69	30.0	161	70.0
20	Research Help Services	67	29.1	163	70.9
21	Interlibrary Loan Services	104	45.2	126	54.8
22	Indexing and Abstracting services	106	46.1	124	53.9
23	Extension and Outreach Services	91	39.6	139	60.4
24	Photocopying	62	27.0	168	73.0
25	CD copying	142	61.7	88	38.3
26	Lending services	120	52.2	110	47.8
27	Internet browsing	157	68.3	73	31.7
28	OPAC	145	63.0	85	37.0
29	Book Bank	138	60.0	92	40.0

Research Question 4: To what extent do undergraduates' patronise the services and resources in their university libraries?

The extent of undergraduates' patronage of library resources/services was shown in Table V. It may be inferred that little use is made of the library resources/services at their university libraries because the aggregate mean of 2.37 and SD = 1.12 is lower than the criteria mean of 2.50.

Hypothesis: There is no significant relationship between the environmental conditions of the library and undergraduates' patronage of public university libraries.

As per the Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient r , Table VI demonstrates that there is a considerable impact (0.535). Given that there is a significant correlation between library conditions and undergraduates' usage of university libraries and that the significant value (Sig.2-tailed) is 0.000, which is less than 0.05, it may be concluded that the relationship exists.

The conclusion is that the null hypothesis cannot exist, and that the physical environment of the library had an impact on how students used it.

TABLE V EXTENT TO WHICH UNDERGRADUATES' PATRONISE LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Sl. No.	Extent of Patronage Resources	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	Mean	SD
1	I read print books (Textbooks)	84	83	24	39	2.92	1.07
2	I consult printed journals	58	51	52	69	2.43	1.16
3	I access electronic books (offline)	65	46	56	63	2.49	1.17
4	I access electronic journals (offline)	63	52	62	53	2.54	1.12
5	I consult electronic databases (Science direct, Proquest, EBSCO host)	63	28	53	86	2.30	1.23
6	I read print newspapers / Online news	52	52	60	66	2.39	1.13
7	I read Magazines/ E-Zines	60	47	62	61	2.46	1.14
8	I seek advice from reference materials (Dictionary, Encyclopedia)	66	52	35	77	2.47	1.22
9	I access geographical tools (Maps, Atlases)	47	33	43	107	2.09	1.19
10	I view arts works, architectural plans, photographs and catalogues	47	32	48	103	2.10	1.18
11	I access academic software	58	52	57	63	2.46	1.14
12	I listen to audio/video resources	24	38	79	89	1.99	0.99
Sub-Aggregate Mean/SD Services						2.39	1.15
13	I participate in user education programmes	88	63	27	52	2.81	1.17
14	I partake in audio / visual service	43	53	66	68	2.31	1.09
15	I make online book reservation	33	51	48	98	2.08	1.10
16	I receive current announcement and notifications	48	62	58	62	2.42	1.10
17	I receive current awareness services for library resources	62	33	56	79	2.34	1.21
18	I partake in selective dissemination of information	57	42	72	59	2.42	1.12
19	I use the telephone services	26	64	81	59	2.25	0.96
20	I patronise the research help services	33	23	87	87	2.01	1.03
21	I access the interlibrary loan services	29	27	103	71	2.06	0.96
22	I access the indexing and abstracting services	28	47	62	93	2.04	1.05
23	I patronise the extension and outreach services	33	67	71	59	2.32	1.01
24	I make photocopy	82	33	58	57	2.61	1.21
25	I do CD copying	58	46	58	68	2.41	1.16
26	I use the library lending service	56	57	45	72	2.42	1.17
27	I use OPAC to search for books	64	67	47	52	2.62	1.12
28	I patronise the book bank services	39	40	50	101	2.07	1.14
29	I use the library internet services for browsing	74	53	64	39	2.70	1.09
Sub-Aggregate Mean/SD						2.35	1.10
Aggregate Mean/SD						2.37	1.12
Criterion Mean							2.50

TABLE VI RELATION BETWEEN UNDERGRADUATES' PATRONAGE OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND THE PREVAILING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Particulars		Library environmental conditions	Undergraduates' patronage of university libraries
Library environmental conditions	Pearson Correlation	1	.535
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	230	230
Undergraduates' patronage of university libraries	Pearson Correlation	.535	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	230	230

VI. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This section discussed the findings in relation to the previous studies.

A. Prevailing Environmental Conditions in Public University Libraries

Table VI shows that there is a significant influence, as indicated by the Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient $r(0.535)$. Given that the significant value (Sig.2-tailed) is 0.000, which is less than 0.05, it can be said that there is a significant correlation between library conditions and undergraduates' use of university libraries. It follows that the null hypothesis cannot be true, and that the undergraduates' use of university libraries was affected by the library's physical environment. This result contradicts Isiaka and Olaide's (2013) claim that the library environment is made up of all the situations, people, things, and events that can potentially affect the patronage of the library (either positively or negatively).

B. Extent of Undergraduates' Satisfaction with the Prevailing Environmental Conditions

In accordance with the report, a large percentage of undergraduates are happy with the physical surroundings of their university libraries. This result contrasts with that of Kalpana and Komathy's (2012) study, which discovered a significant proportion of patron discontent with the library's environmental conditions, particularly its ventilation. To prevent issues with noise, heat, and ventilation, they asked for a separate study room with air conditioning. Vijeyaluxmy (2015), research also showed that the absence of desk space, seating capacity, and a conducive environment for studying left students dissatisfied with the library setting.

C. Resources and Services Undergraduates' Patronise in Public University Libraries

Although, reference materials (dictionaries, encyclopedias), print textbooks (textbooks), print journals, academic software, electronic books, electronic databases (Science Direct, Proquest, EBSCO host), Internet browsing, OPAC, CD copying, Book Bank, Audio/Visual Services, and lending services are among the resources/services that undergraduates at state university libraries use, the majority of respondents do not use them. The findings support studies by Aladeniyi and Owokole (2018) and Caroline and Adewale (2018) that demonstrate textbooks, the Internet, dictionaries, newspapers and other magazines, handbooks, and journals are among the library resources/services that are most commonly used.

D. Extent to which Undergraduates' Patronise Library Resources and Services

The study found that just a small percentage of undergraduates used the materials and services offered by

their university libraries. This result confirms the findings of Ogbuyi and Okpe's (2013) study, which found that patronage at the four libraries under investigation were below average. In contrast, a study by Doris and Mosunmade (2013) asserted that most respondents did use and patronise their library's services and resources.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The study's findings have led to the following recommendations being made.

1. The management of the library should implement the essential plans to establish and maintain calm and welcoming library atmosphere, complete with a fully functional air conditioning system, effective pest control for the library building, and sufficient modern electrical support facilities.
2. The library administrator should also be willing to exploit all possible strategies like regular orientation and marketing of library resources/services through word of mouth, this can significantly promote an increase in patronage of the university-libraries.

VIII. CONCLUSION

This study looked into the connection between library environmental conditions and student use of public university libraries. The report claims that public university library facilities at Delta State have subpar environmental conditions. The layout and environment of the university libraries were very well-liked by undergraduates. The majority of respondents don't use the resources or services of the university-library. Even though undergraduates used library resources/services infrequently, the study also found a strong association between the kinds of library environmental circumstances and undergraduates' use of university libraries. According to the study's findings, the type of library setting factors into undergraduate use of public university libraries in Delta State.

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