# ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH

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#### Introduction

- Libraries are gateways to information
- Libraries to support learning and teaching
- Libraries are not just about support: it's also about collaboration in research and this is where there is a need for user (Faculty, staff and students) needs to change their perceptions about the library. The library is a hub of information and the librarian has an encompassed subject knowledge and research knowledge.
- Libraries support research primarily through building collections of relevant materials and providing specialist support in their use.

## Teaching: The integral Role of the university Library

Librarians provide the pedagogic aspect by:

- **Information Literacy Instruction:** Librarians teach students how to effectively search for, evaluate, and use information resources
- Curriculum Support: Librarians work with faculty members to integrate information literacy skills into the curriculum. Faculty members create assignments that promote research skills and guide students in exploring a wide range of information sources, thereby making them come to the library to make use of the books.
- **Reference Services:** Librarians offer reference services to help users find information for their assignments, projects, or research needs. They are experts in locating and accessing a wide range of resources, including books, journals, databases, and multimedia materials.

## Teaching: The Integral Role of the University Library

- Collection Development: Librarians curate and maintain library collections that support the teaching and research needs of their academic community. They select and acquire materials that align with the curriculum and research interests of faculty and students.
- Information Technology Support: Librarians assist users in navigating digital resources, online databases, and research tools that enhance access to information and improve research outcomes.
- Scholarly Communication: Librarians support the dissemination of academic research by promoting open access publishing, digital scholarship, etc. They educate researchers on copyright issues, author rights, and scholarly publishing best practices

## Teaching: The integral Role of the university Library

It is important for faculty members to help develop library usage skills in their students, the way to do this is by:

- Giving assignments that will bring them to the library
- Create a reading list from the books in the library as part of your course content and give students assignments such that they come to the library to consult those books.
- Give research project that will stimulate their critical thinking and problemsolving skills

This promotes collaborations between faculty members and the library, such that the faculty member, who is the expert in the field, provides the academic content and the library provides the pedagogic aspect.

## Research

The essence of research and the creative thinking of a researcher is aimed at contributing new knowledge and understanding, and this has remained basically unaltered throughout the centuries.

- Research is premised on the need for the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge
- Solving societal problems culminating in progress and advancement of society

## Research: The Integral Role of the University Library

#### **Supporting Academic Research**

- University library assist researchers in locating relevant literature, managing citations, and navigating resource databases.
- offer access to a vast array of print and electronic resources, preserve scholarly outputs, and facilitate research collaboration and interdisciplinary engagement.

#### **❖**Promoting Lifelong Learning and Critical Inquiry

- University library foster a culture of lifelong learning, critical inquiry, and intellectual exploration among students, faculty, and researchers.
- promote information literacy skills, critical thinking, and research ethics to empower individuals in navigating the world of information responsibly.

## Research: The Integral Role of the University Library

#### **Adapting to Digital Transformations**

- university library is expanding electronic resources (curated and subscribed), digitizing collections, and embracing innovative technologies.
- Virtual library services, and remote access to digital resources ensure seamless engagement with library resources anytime, anywhere. (www.library.elizadeuniversity.edu.ng)

#### **Enhancing Research Outcomes with Technology**

- University library intends to incorporate technologies such as data visualization tools to enhance research outcomes and promote digital scholarship.
- Technology training programs and digital literacy initiatives in other to equip users with the skills needed to navigate the digital landscape effectively.

## Research: Why write and publish research paper?

#### **Ideally:**

• To share research findings and discoveries with the hope of improving knowledge base

#### **Practically:**

- To get funding
- To get promoted
- To get recognition
- For knowledge sharing and achievement

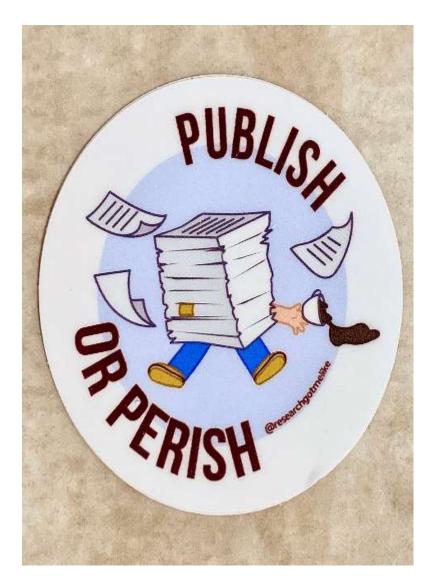
## Research: Why write and publish research paper?

The outcome of research carried out by faculty members:

- The publications form part of permanent records of knowledge
- Serve as existing literature for research
- form part of learning resources for teaching
- form a critical criterion for academic promotion and career progression

"You are rated by what you produce not by what you attempt"

#### Research: Publish or Perish



The concept of "publish or perish" in academia refers to the pressure on researchers and academics to continuously publish their work in reputable journals or academic platforms in order to secure funding, promotions, and tenure.

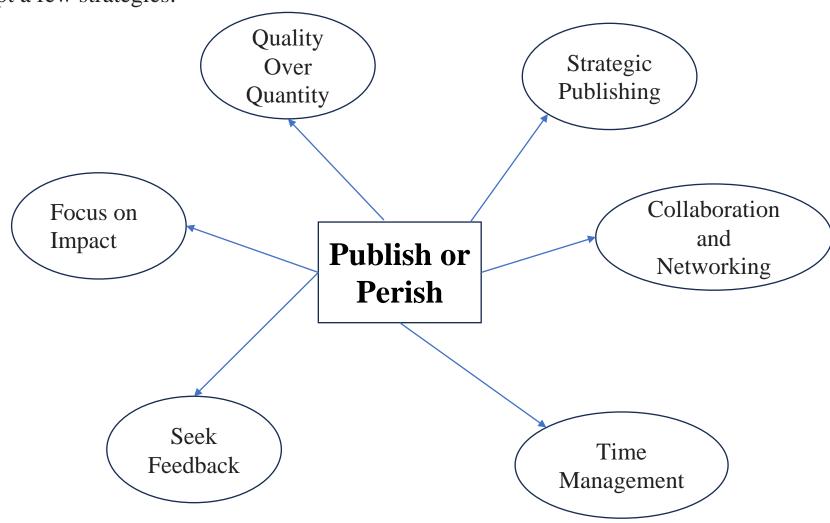
This phenomenon is prevalent in many academic institutions around the world, where the quantity and quality of publications often serve as key metrics for assessing a researcher's productivity and impact in their field.

The fear of not publishing enough or not publishing in prestigious outlets can have significant consequences on one's career advancement and professional standing within the academic community.

Researchers may feel compelled to prioritize quantity over quality, leading to rushed or fragmented work that may not contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge in their field.

#### Research: Publish or Perish

To navigate the challenges posed by the "publish or perish" culture in academia and avoid its negative effects, researchers can adopt a few strategies:



## Research: Plagiarism

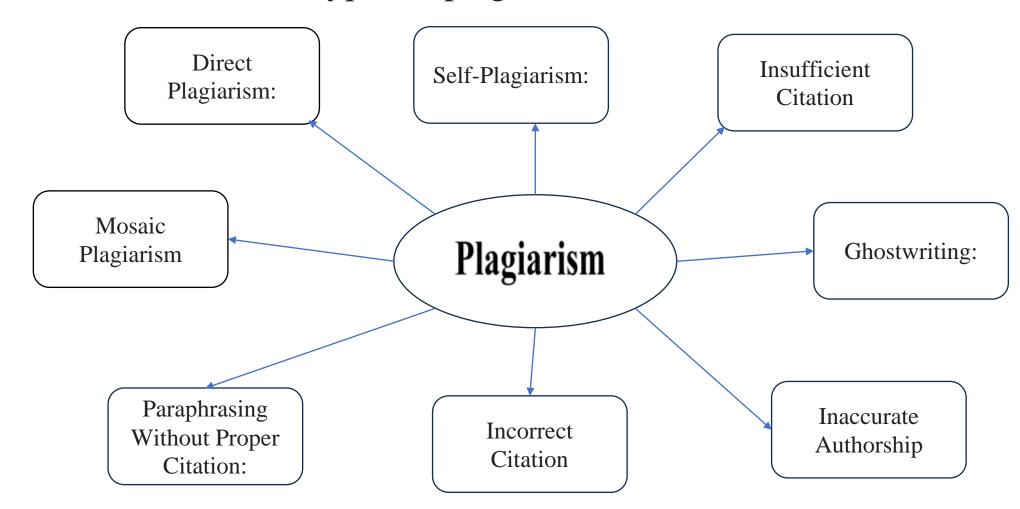


Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words, ideas, or work without giving proper credit to the original source.

It can take many forms and is considered unethical and illegal in academic and professional settings.

# Research: Plagiarism

• Here are some common types of plagiarism:



# Research: Plagiarism

Plagiarism can have serious consequences, including academic penalties, reputational damage, and legal repercussions. It is best to always cite your sources and use proper referencing techniques to avoid plagiarism.

## Research: Predatory Journal Publishing

In 2008, Jeffrey Beall, an academic librarian and researcher at the University of Colorado, Denver, USA coined the term: Predatory journals and publishers, predatory journals /publishers are:

- Those that unprofessionally exploit the open–access model through deception to solicit and publish articles for the sole purpose of making money
- >Standalone: do not have official publisher behind the work.
- ➤ Hijacked: Online hackers and cybercriminals have built fake or counterfeit websites for journals that actually mimick reputable journals

# Research: Predatory Journal Publishing

Some of the Characteristics of Predatory Journals / Publishers are:

- Using non-institutional mail addresses
- Providing ambiguous and misleading information of location and editorial boards.
- Promote themselves as being western while in fact they are located in developing countries or in the next state
- Accepting articles quickly with little or no peer review or quality control
- Fake reviewer profiles
- Reporting fake impact –factor
- Publishing in all fields and sub-fields

# Research: Predatory Journal Publishing

#### How to identify predatory journals/ publishers:

- Evaluate publisher practices against international scholarly publishing standards (as exemplified by reputable journals)
- Check Beall's list for predatory journals and publishers
- Check NUC lists of Illegitimate/predatory journals
- Ask a Librarian for help

List of journals outlets a research is published will directly or indirectly affect the career

- Shotgun: mass publication without journal quality
- **Snipper**: less publication n good reputed journals

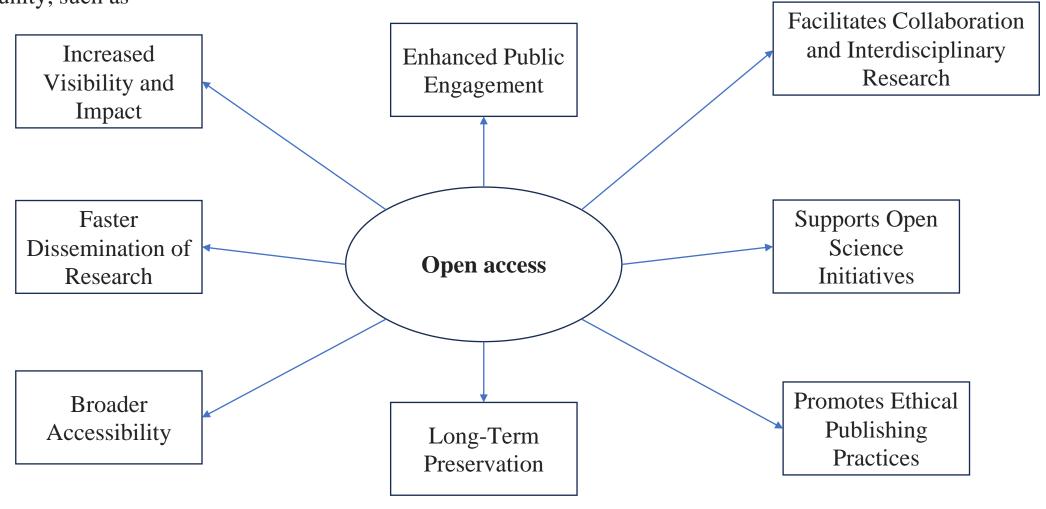
#### Research: Criteria to look at for when selecting a journal outlet

- ➤ Is there a match between the subject of your article and the journal's aim and scope?
- ➤ What is the readership and target audience? Specificity of audience
- ➤ Is the journal highly visible?
  - Is the journal included in electronic database? (eg Web of Science, DOJA, Scopus, subject-specific databases in your field etc
  - Is the journal online? (Publishing in journals that are only circulated in print can seriously limit the number of people coming across or reading your work.
- ➤ What is the "CV value of publication"?
  - Editorial board members
  - What is journal's impact factor?
  - Talk to senior, established colleagues
- ➤ What is the journal's turnaround time? (Frequency of publication
- ➤ Is there publication charges or it is open access?

NEED HELP IN SELECTING JOURNAL OUTLETS, ASK A LIBRARIAN

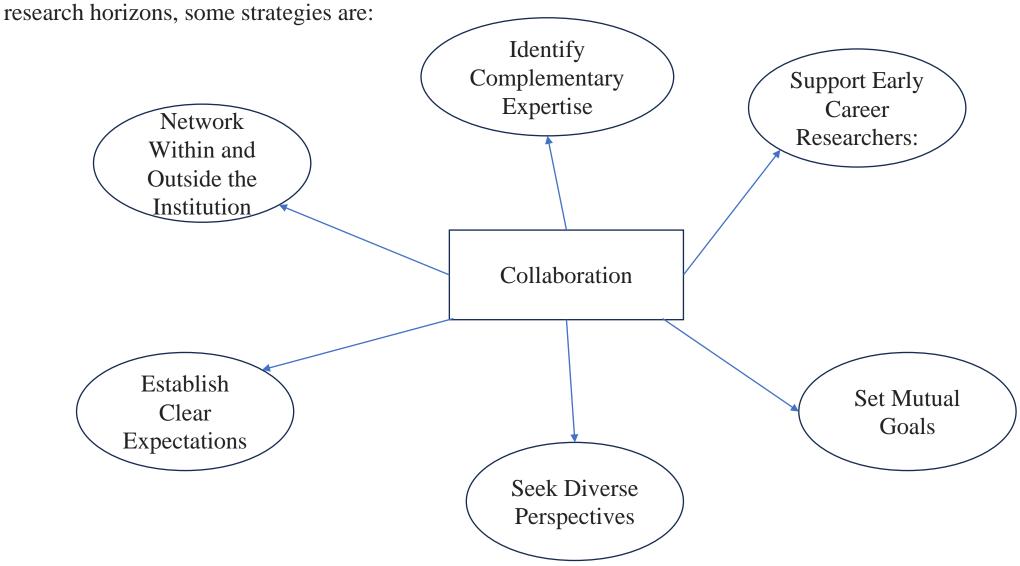
# Research: Open access Publishing

Publishing in open access journals offers several advantages for researchers, institutions, and the broader scientific community, such as



#### **Research: Collaboration**

• Collaborating with other researchers is a valuable way to enhance your publication output and expand your research horizons, some strategies are:



## Research: How to increase your research output

Here are some tips on how to increase your publication output in academia:

- Set Clear Goals
- Create a Publication Schedule
- Prioritize Projects
- Collaborate with Peers
- Write Regularly
- Attend Workshops and Conferences
- Stay Organized
- Stay Informed: Stay informed about the publishing trends.
- Consider Open Access
- Prioritize Professional Development: Invest in your professional development by attending writing workshops, seeking mentorship, and honing your research and writing skills. Continuous learning and improvement can enhance the quality of your publications.

By incorporating these tips into your academic practice, you can increase your publication output, expand your research impact, and advance your career in academia. Remember that quality should always be a top priority, so strive to produce research of significance and relevance to your field while maintaining a balance between productivity and excellence

## Research: Creating an Academic Presence

#### IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE PUBLICATION !!!

Researchers need to be able to discover, re-use, cite and be credited for a wider range of outputs. In order to have an online presence you need to share your research (Make noise about it)

#### Talking about your research is proven to increase the impact of your research

It's helpful to do so in a way that enables you to track the effect of social communication on key metrics such as views, downloads, mentions, citations, etc.

You can do this through the following ways:

- Use of Slideshare or Figshare: (You can create slides or snippet of your published research and upload)
- LinkedIn, Google +, Academia edu, ResearchGate, Facebook, twitter, etc
- Deposit a copy of your work in a repository (EU Repository Through a librarian)
- Make your data accessible by depositing it in a repository
- Create an ORCID ID and Google scholar account
- Create a web page

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the library plays an integral role in supporting teaching and research endeavors in the University. From providing access to vast resources and research materials to offering specialized services and expertise, the library serves as invaluable hubs of knowledge and innovation.

By leveraging the diverse offerings of the library, faculty members, staff and students can enhance their work, foster academic excellence, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields.

As we continue to embrace digital technologies and evolving educational paradigms, the library remains a cornerstone of academic success, serving as a dynamic space where learning, collaboration, and discovery intersect. University libraries are indispensable partners in academic excellence, knowledge dissemination, and scholarly inquiry. As key pillars of academic institutions, university libraries empower individuals to engage in rigorous academic pursuits, advance knowledge in their disciplines, and contribute to the scholarly community.

Let us recognize and celebrate the enduring significance of the library in shaping the scholarly landscape and empowering individuals to excel in their educational and research pursuits.

