

ASSESSMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S (BED) LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

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Abstract

The school library is part of teaching and learning environment. It provides resources and services that support students, faculties and staff to gain new knowledge and skills for learning and personnel development. According to International Federation of Library Association's (IFLA) Manifesto that the school library provides information and ideas that are fundamental to functioning successfully in today's information and knowledge based society. The school library equips students with lifelong learning skills and develops the imagination, enabling them to live as responsible students.

The title of the research was "Assessment of Library Resources and Services of LCUP BED Library Based on PAASCU Standard and recommendations: An Action Research. Specifically, it aimed to answer the following: (1) The utilization of school library resources and services described in terms of (a) print resources (b) non print resources (c) library services, (2) what are the exiting collection, (3) does the resources and services comply in the PAASCU level 3 standard and recommendation.

The research employed a quantitative method. This study used a locally structured questionnaire using a 5 points Likert scale. The questionnaire measured the utilization of the library resources and services on the student's academic achievements. The survey has questions about how often students visit the library. It also has a question about how they would rate the existing resources and services that the BED Library offered. For the last part it explains the customer's opinions or comments about the resources and services and what to be improved. In order to analyze and interpret the data gathered, the mean was used as the statistical measure. This study also used the Pearson Correlation as the statistical treatment. This was analyzed and interpreted.

Keywords: Basic Education, Library.

Introduction

School library plays an important role in the life of students by serving as the store house of knowledge. Alabi and Sani (2018) in their definition of a library, assumes it to be an instrument of self-education, a means of knowledge and factual information delivery, a center of intellectual recreations and a beacon of enlightenment that provides accumulated preserved knowledge of civilization which consequently enriches one's mental vision. However, this paper sees a library as learned institution equipped with treasures of knowledge, organized and managed by trained personnel with the responsibility of educating children, students, men and women and further assisting them to develop the ability of solving their information problems.

School libraries should have a collection of instructional materials that conform to expressed and anticipated requirements of the teaching – learning process and the LCUP mission/goal of the school. The collection should include materials with cultural and recreational values to stimulate teachers' and pupils' interest and develop reading and inquiry as natural habits of life. Reading as an indispensable tool not only help children learn to read but learn and comprehend. The LCUP library is a library attached to an academic institution. As Adeniran (2011) had stated, libraries were established to serve teaching and the research needs of the students and faculty.

He further stated that school libraries serve two purposes that are complementary in nature. These are: (a) support the university curriculum; and, (b) support the research of the faculty and students.

Trends

There are many resources like books that provided by the school for the Junior High School students. The use of libraries such as reading books, magazines, and other library resources is one of the most important factors that can influence the educational performances of every student. The effects of school libraries on student academic achievement have been extensively studied for so many years. It can be a central point for

engagement with all kinds of reading, cultural activities, access to information, knowledge building, deep thinking and lively discussion that can help students such as improved reading test scores, higher academic achievement and positive attitudes towards learning.

Issues

According to Subair (2018), “Students with poor study habits should be encouraged into library use from a young age in order for them to develop appropriate and effective study habits that will go a long way with them to university level”. This paper discusses reasons that school librarians and the library are essential components of a school building, and how they have a positive impact on student success. Though many students forgotten about using the library because many libraries now offer their collections online and many of them also forgoing the library in favor of heading to their computers.

Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

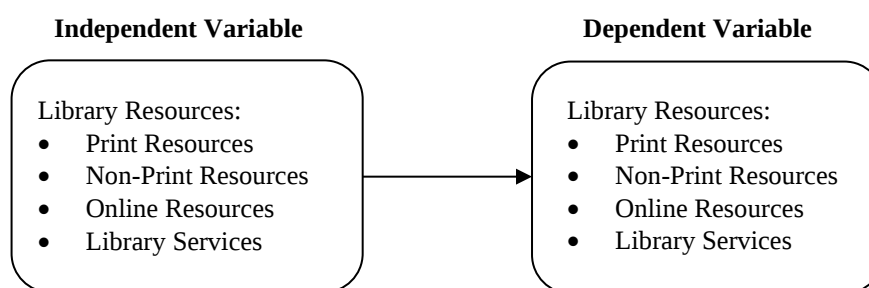


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of The Study

Figure 1 shows the conceptual framework of the study. The researcher made use of the Independent Variable, Dependent Variable (IVDV) framework. The Independent Variable box contains library resources which are the following: printed, non-printed resources, online resources and the library services on which will be gathered through a questionnaire. The dependent variable is the compliance to PAASCU Level 3 Standards and Recommendations.

Through the use of the evaluation survey, the results and findings of the study will then show how the school library resources and services impact the library compliance to the PAASCU Standard.

Statement of the Problems

This study aimed to determine the impact of the resources and services rendered by the LCUP Basic Education Library. Specifically, it aimed to answer the following:

What are the resources and services offered by the LCUP Basic Education Library?

Lev Vygotsky concept of "Zone of Proximal Development" (ZPD) stated on his theory that the ZPD refers to the difference between what a learner can do without help and what he or she can achieve with guidance and encouragement from a skilled partner. Thus, the term “proximal” refers those skills that the learner is “close” to mastering. Vygotsky believed that when a student is in the ZPD for a particular task, providing the appropriate assistance will give the student enough of a "boost" to achieve the task. School library has an essential role in the learning of the students in terms of the resources and services that offer to them.

As Siram, B and Rajev, M.K.G. (2014) stated that school libraries must motivate the customers (faculty and students) to use the library by providing various services and facilities. The provision of excellent services and ambient facilities promote positive user satisfaction of the school libraries. Through these, the users are more prone to go to the library and avail of its services and facilities which help them find the information they need for their research.

How the BED library resources and services comply the level 3 PAASCU Standard and recommendation?

How the library can improve the library resources and services?

Significance of the Study

This study will be significant to the following: the students, librarians, library staff, faculty, administrators and accreditors, and researchers.

To the students. This study will help the students to be familiarize to the BED library resources and services.

To the Librarians. This study is significant to the librarians in order to improve the resources and services.

To the faculty. The outcome of this study will help the faculty to identify which library resources and services are needed by the students. They should

collaborate with the librarians to recommend what kinds of learning materials and books are needed by their students.

To the library staffs. For them to be aware of technicalities and to be guided on every resource and service needed by the clientele.

To the Administrators. They will be able to immediately know what the library needs in terms of acquisition, improvement of facilities, and improvement of services rendered by the library staff.

To the Researchers. This study will provide additional insights for other researchers who would like to undertake similar studies in the future. The researchers hope to encourage other researchers to conduct further studies about the impact of school library resources and services.'

Definition of Terms

Facilities. These refer to the library building or part of a building where the library and its equipment are housed.

Instructional materials. These are materials used for the purpose of instruction in a learning situation that is purposive and controlled.

Library Users. Are students, faculty members, and visitors who avail of the library services.

Library Programs. These refer to the following: orientation in the library, its resources and services; instruction; and operation.

Library collection. It refers to the total accumulation of materials provided by a library for its target group. It is synonymous to library and library resources.

Library resources. This is used to designate any and all the materials, function, and services which constitute a modern library system

Library Services. provided by the library to online students can include instruction on how to access and use library materials; reference services to provide quick and in-depth answers to student questions; and materials delivery services that provide students with access to library materials online or items delivered to students' homes.

Online Resources. These are internet based research resources. An example of an online resource is EBSCO.

Online public access catalog (OPAC). It is a computer-based and supported library catalog (bibliographic database) designed to be accessed via

terminal so that library users may directly and effectively search for the retrieve bibliographic records without the assistance via a human intermediary such as a specially trained member of the library staff.

Perception. This refers to the way a person agrees and feels about a particular condition or situation. In this study perception specifically, pertains to the way the student respondents view the quality and extent services delivered by the BED library.

Printed resources/materials. As used in this policy, the term "printed materials" means any publication, document, or record including, but not limited to, the following: newspapers, magazines, books, photographs, drawings, prerecorded magnetic audio tape.

Research. This is the systematic, exhaustive and intensive investigation and study usually through hypothesis and experiment to discover new knowledge, facts, theories, and laws.

School Library. A school library (or a school library media center) is a library within a school where students, staff, and often, parents of a public or private school have access to a variety of resources. The goal of the school library media center is to ensure that all members of the school community have equitable access "to books and reading, to information, and to information technology

School Learning Resources. The strong connection between learning resources and method, and passing away supporting and cultural general role of school libraries into essential, accurately planned, role to achieve the method and its purposes. The book and printed material become not the only information resource.

User. This refers to someone who goes to the library in order to seek the required information or knowledge for their studies or researches.

Method and Techniques of the Study

Quantitative descriptive method will employed in the study because it sought to determine the utilization of school library resources and services satisfaction in compliance to PAASCU Level 3 Standards of the BED Library Department up to. The researchers utilized a structured questionnaire as a primary data gathering tool. The researchers used a survey questionnaire that design primarily to determine the profile of the respondents and to assess their perception on the Utilization of BED Library Resources and Services in compliance to PAASCU Level 3 Standard and recommendation. This action research systematically looks into the details of resources and services that the LCUP Library Information Center offers Basic Education

Library. Permission to conduct the study sought from the s principal of Basic Education Department.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Respondents of The Study

Grade Level	Population
Grade 7	40
Grade 8	50
Grade 9	50
Grade 10	120
Grade 11	100
Grade 12	100
Total	560

Table 1 shows the total population of the target respondents and the corresponding sample for each group. From the population of a sample size of 100 was obtained using the Slovin's formula given by $N/(1+N_e^2)$ with a 5% margin of error. The sample for each group was determined using stratified random sampling.

Table 2: Likert Scale

Rating Scale	Range	Descriptive Equivalent
5	4.50-5.0	Excellent
4	3.50-4.49	Good
3	2.50-3.49	Fair
2	1.50-2.49	Poor
1	1.00-1.49	Don't know/Not Applicable

Table 3: Print resources – Library Resources (Books, Magazine, Journal, Newspaper)

Grade Level	Average Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Grade 7	4.40	Good
Grade 8	4.32	Good
Grade 9	4.48	Good
Grade 10	4.04	Good
Grade 11	4.49	Good
Grade 12	4.48	Good

Table 3 showed the rating given by the respondents on the print resources/Library resources (books, magazine, journal, newspaper). The respondent groups were in agreement when they rated the print resources as good. The Junior high school grade 11 students gave the highest rating at 4.49 while the Grade 8 students gave the lowest rating at 4.04.

Based on the above results, it could be inferred that the Grade 11 students were more satisfied on the resources at the BED Library. The Grade 8 students, on the other hand, though they rated it as good, wanted the print resources at the BED library to be further improved.

Table 4: Non-Print Resources - Online Services (OPAC, EBSCO, etc.)

Department	Average Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Grade 7	4.40	Good
Grade 8	4.45	Good
Grade 9	4.48	Good
Grade 10	4.44	Good
Grade 11	4.49	Good
Grade 12	4.48	Good

Table 4 shows that the respondents are satisfied with the Online Services rendered by the LCUP-BED Library. The Grade 9 gave the highest rating of 4.48 followed by the Grade 7, 4.40 and Grade 8 with a rating of 4.45. However, the Grade 10 gave the lowest rating of Grade 10. As a whole, the respondents are satisfied with the online resources provided by the BED Library with an overall average of 4.44.

There is however a need to look deeper into the low rating given by the Grade 10 students. Though their rating was good, the Grade 10 students must have encountered glitches in the online resources of the library.

Table 5: Internet Access (Computers with Internet, WiFi)

Department	Average Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Grade 7	4.40	Good
Grade 8	4.45	Good
Grade 9	4.48	Good
Grade 10	4.44	Good
Grade 11	4.49	Good
Grade 12	4.48	Good

Table 5 showed the rating given by the respondents on the internet access (Computers with Internet, Wifi). The respondents rated it as good as the overall. The Grade 11 gave the highest rating at 4.49 while the Grade 10 gave the lowest rating at 4.44.

Table 6: Programs (Library Instructions, Orientations)

Department	Average Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Grade 7	4.28	Good
Grade 8	4.16	Good
Grade 9	4.48	Good
Grade 10	4.12	Good
Grade 11	4.26	Good
Grade 12	4.48	Good

One area that the respondents were asked to rate was the Library Programs such as library orientations and instructions. The perceived level of satisfaction of the respondents was good of the respondents. The Grade 12 gave the highest rating at 4.48, followed by Grade 7 at 4.28, Grade 8, 4.16 at 4.16. The Grade

10 respondents once again gave the lowest rating with an average mean of 4.12. Analyzing the data, the level of satisfaction among Grade 10 respondents showed that they had least level of satisfaction. They may be satisfied but they seemed to be seeking for more. This means that the programs are not enough for the Grade 10 students.

Table 7: Library Areas /facilities

Department	Average Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Grade 7	4.16	Good
Grade 8	4.16	Good
Grade 9	4.46	Good
Grade 10	4.20	Good
Grade 11	4.27	Good
Grade 12	4.30	Good

Table 7 shows the perceived level of satisfaction of the respondents of the linkages of the LCUP BED Library with other areas and facilities. The respondent groups were in agreement through the interpretation of good that they gave to the overall rate to the BED library and AVR Center.

Implications to Further Improve the Resources and Services of LCUP Basic Education Department

A school library is a place for knowledge and thoughts, and play fundamental part in supporting and developing pleasure of reading and multiple illiteracies. So, without school library the educational program may not runs effectively.

However, the library cannot fulfill the above if the users cannot find or avail its services as is the case with the internet connection. Knowledge information is now available through the worldwide web. Thus, users of the library expect fast connectivity so that they can finish their research assignments. In view of this, it would be nice if the LCUP administration improve the internet connectivity of the LCUP Basic Education Department Library.

Conclusion

1. Overall, the LCUP BED Library operation, resources and services were rated very good of the clientele.
2. The LCUP BED Library, Facilities, and audio visual rooms are adequate, accessible, safe and up-to-date based on PAASCU library standard.
3. The Library and other resources are fully maximized in support to non- academic activities of the department.
4. The library clientele was satisfied in the collection, facilities, operation and services.
5. Recommendations

6. Review the previous recommendations of PAASCU Level 3 accreditation way back October 2019.
7. Implement the PAASCU recommendations of the collection, facilities, operation and services of the BED Library.
8. Incorporate innovation in the new normal standards and compliance of the PAASCU standard of 2024.
9. Provision of the activities, operation and services of the library to support to the flexible, blended and online learning modalities.
10. Acquisition of hybrid collection updated equipment for technology based instruction and e-learning activities.

Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest between the authors in this manuscript.

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