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THE EFFECT OF SELF-REGULATED AND SECURITY IN A UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT: A CASE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN SOUTH-SOUTH NIGERIA.

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ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study: *This paper showcased the effect of self-regulatory libraries and security in an university library environment: A case of the university libraries in south-South Nigeria.* ***Design/methodology/approach-*** *The paper adopted the descriptive survey design and a census technique was also adopted to select 301 academic librarians in all the university libraries in south-South Nigeria. A structured questionnaire was distributed, in which only 251 was successfully retrieved and these were used for data analysis. Personal belongings, reporting suspicious activities, compliance with university library policies and emergency preparedness were discussed as factors that regulate and secure university libraries environment in south South Nigeria.* ***Findings-*** *The study reported that the respondents strongly agreed to all the items listed under personal belongings, the respondents also strongly agreed to all the items listed under reporting of suspicious activities to appropriate authorities in the library. Compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness were also further strongly agreed on. The study further reported that the formulated null hypothesis of no significance difference on the mean rating of compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness was upheld.* ***Practical implications-*** *This paper addressed the effect of self-regulated and securing of the university library environment in South South Nigeria. It reveals the various strategies such as securing of personal belongings, paying attention suspicious activities by library users, complying with stipulated library policies and the emergency preparedness the library management need to put in place to have a balanced university library environment, for a conducive library atmosphere to users.* ***Originality –*** *The study showcase the effect of self-regulatory and securing of the university library environment in south-south Nigeria.*

Keywords: University library, self-regulatory, security, personal belongings, suspicious activities, policy compliance and emergency preparedness.

Introduction

The important connection between protecting library assets, infrastructure, and data and providing a secure environment for patrons and employees is explored in the section on security in libraries. It includes a multifaceted strategy that takes into account technological, actual-world, and political factors. In order to accomplish its objective of giving access to information and fostering learning, libraries act as repositories of knowledge. They safeguard their assets and maintain a secure environment.

Libraries currently hold a great deal of both physical and digital resources because of the recent digital revolution. According to Braun (2012), this change has created new difficulties in protecting data, intellectual property, and the anonymity of library users. Security measures represent a crucial component of library administration since theft, vandalism, and cyberattacks are additional possible hazards that libraries may encounter.

Various persons make use of the university library, these users include students, researchers, the employees, and the academic community in general, as the library focus on ensuring safety and well-being while on the property. Security procedures, emergency preparedness plans, and the installation of surveillance equipment are some of the actions performed to establish a secure workplace. The fundamental tenets of libraries are intellectual freedom and access to knowledge. To keep the trust of its patrons and the larger society, libraries must handle challenges like censorship, monitoring, and data privacy. In order to protect users' rights and privacy as well as library resources, the study shall pinpoint the best strategies for dealing with security risks. Library administrators and employees will do well by putting in place effective methods to build a secure, inclusive, and user-friendly library environment and also by comprehending the complexity of library security.

Statement of problem

Academic libraries are vital institutions that provide access to knowledge and information and happen to become the mechanisms that balance information access with responsible content management. This library strikes a careful balance between giving patrons access to many points of view and resources while making sure they don't encourage dangerous or unsuitable stuff.

Going by the numerous functions and by the instrumentality of the diverse users of the academic library, there is a need for library administrators to be security conscious at any point in time. This super consciousness is required based on the current trends of insecurity on daily bases. Knowing fully well that the library is the live wire and academic hub of any higher institution, where users move in droves can become a target point for terrorists, kidnappers, and unsuspected gunmen.

Several issues have been postulated as bedeviling the academic library regulations and security. Several attempts also have been proffered to balance the imbalance but to no avail. A lack of effective library self-regulation and security may have led to a lack of clear guidelines or an absence of robust framework which may have led to inadvertent dissemination of harmful information. They may have further led to the result of intellectual property theft, attacks on cyber-security, and patrons' safety. The continuous negligence on these pertinent issues goes a long way to further expose the academic library environment to serious threats and danger. Non-implementing comprehensive security measures can further hinder the safeguarding of both the physical and digital assets of the library in the process of ensuring the safety and privacy of its users.

It is against this background, this study is being carried out to examine the effect of self-regulated and security of university library environment in South-South geo-political zone of Nigeria.

Objective of the study

The objective of the study is to determine the effect of self-regulated library activities and security issues in the academic libraries in South South geopolitical zone of Nigeria.

Specifically, the study will determine:

1. The personal belongings items librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries' environment in South South Nigeria
2. The reporting of suspicious activities librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries' environment in South South Nigeria
3. The library compliance policies librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries environment in South South Nigeria
4. The emergency preparedness actions librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries environment in South South Nigeria.

Research Questions

1. What are the personal belongings items librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries environment in South South Nigeria?
2. What are the suspicious activities librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries' environment in South South Nigeria?
3. What are the compliance policies librarians used to self-regulate and secure the university libraries' environment in South South Nigeria?
4. What are the emergency preparedness actions librarians used to self-regulate and secure university libraries' environment in South South Nigeria?

Research hypothesis

Ho: There is no significant difference in the mean rating of compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness roles of librarians on self-regulated and security of

university library environment in south-South Nigeria.

Self-regulated and security of University Library

Self-regulated and security of a University library is a proactive strategy in which staff members and patrons of the library assume personal accountability and actively contribute to ensuring a safe and secure environment inside the library. Self-regulatory library and security policies enable individuals to contribute to the safety and well-being of the library community rather than depending entirely on external security measures and staff. Users are urged to be watchful and aware of their surroundings in a self-regulated and secured university library system, making sure they adhere to the library's rules and norms for conduct and security.

Reviewed of related literature

The literatures for this study were reviewed under subheadings. The essence of this is to accommodate the content area of the study and reveal the detail implications of self-regulated and security of the university library.

Personal Belongings: This is a situation where users are encouraged to keep track of their items and not leave them unattended to prevent theft or loss. This involves keeping track of user items and upholding a structured and secure atmosphere which are both crucial in an academic library context.

Academic libraries frequently have a large number of users, including students, researchers, and outside visitors. Because of this, people need to take care of their personal property when utilizing the library's services and facilities. According to Smith (2019), it's crucial to maintain personal property properly at the library to avoid theft, loss, or damage. Users should refrain from leaving their possessions unattended, especially pricey ones like mobile devices, computers, and wallets. Additionally, using lockers or designated storage areas provided by the library can help ensure the safety of personal items Johnson & Lee, (2016). According to Jones and Smith (2018), personal belongings in the library typically include items such as backpacks, laptops, tablets, smartphones, wallets, purses, books, notebooks, stationery, water bottles, and personal study materials. They continued by saying that these things are necessary for users to do their academic work and research efficiently in the library setting. Library staff often remind users to keep their belongings with them or utilize lockers to prevent theft or misplacement (Jones, 2020). Signs and announcements may also be displayed within the library premises to reinforce the importance of managing personal belongings responsibly.

However, the study listed and brought to bear some other items that cannot be allowed or prohibited in the library. Such items include dangerous weapons like firearms, explosives, knives, razors, box-cutters, and oversized (not exceeding 25"W x 15"H) suitcases or bags that will not fit on the x-ray conveyor. Library of Congress (2023), listed the following personal belongings items which

cannot be allowed into the library as briefcases and cases for other equipment (laptop computers), computers larger than laptop size, containers larger than 9.5" x 6.25" (includes paper bags, boxes, backpacks, shopping bags, sleeping bags, etc.), food and/or drinks (includes bottled water); food or drink containers, handbags or purses larger than 9.5" x 6.25", luggage, musical instruments and their cases, newspapers, outerwear (such as raincoats and overcoats), pets [Note: exception for service animals, i.e., any guide dog or signal dog that is trained to provide a service to a person with a disability], photocopiers larger than hand-held, scissors or other cutting implements, televisions and umbrellas

Reporting Suspicious Activities: This is another self-regulated issue for the safety and security of the university library and its users. To foster a culture of shared responsibility for security, patrons, and staff are urged to report any suspicious or odd activity they may notice at the library. Reporting suspicious activity is an essential part of safeguarding the safety and security of library patrons and employees in a university library setting. A safe and beneficial learning environment is maintained at the library by encouraging people to be watchful and proactive in reporting any strange or possibly dangerous conduct. Johnson (2017), stated that library users should be conscious of their surroundings and report any suspicious activities they observe in the library premises promptly. Individuals acting suspiciously or improperly, leaving abandoned luggage or parcels, attempting to enter prohibited locations, or participating in any other behavior that raises worries for other people's safety are all examples of suspicious activity. Staff at libraries should be instructed to respond to allegations of shady activity and take appropriate action, such as alerting security or calling the police as needed. Suspicious conduct includes someone acting strangely or inappropriately, abandoning baggage or packages, trying to access restricted areas, or engaging in any other actions that make one concerned about the safety of others.

Compliance with library policies: This refers to users adhering to the established rules and guidelines within the library environment. Library policies are put in place to safeguard resources, maintain a safe environment, and promote a positive experience for all users. When library users keep to these policies, it contributes to a safer and more efficient library experience for everyone, thereby securing the totality and usage of academic libraries peaceably. Encouraging users to adhere to these policies helps protect library materials, infrastructure, and the well-being of library patrons and staff. According to Jones & Brown, (2018), some policies expected library users to comply with includes computer and internet usage guidelines, to ensure appropriate and responsible use of resources, policies related to borrowing and returning materials, acceptable behavior within the library, food and drink restrictions, library card usage, proper handling of intellectual property and

the use of designated quiet and collaborative study areas. Compliance with these policies contributes to a harmonious and secure library environment. Johnson 2019 also listed the following as means through which policies can be communicated to library users: signage, brochures, or online platforms, and should be readily available to address any questions or concerns users may have regarding the policies. C & RL (2022), stated that Artificial Intelligence tools can be harnessed to provide more tailored search results, monitor social distancing, and integrate the library into personal assistants and it can also help academic libraries demonstrate real value to institutions if it is used judiciously to instruct library users to and how to comply with university library policies

Emergency Preparedness: This aspect of self-regulatory in the library and security practices refers to situations that involve educating users and staff about emergency procedures and evacuation plans, and also empowering them to respond appropriately in accordance to cases of emergencies. This feature of securing the use of academic libraries is a crucial aspect of ensuring the safety and well-being of library users and staff during unforeseen events or emergencies. Having well-defined emergency plans and procedures in place can help mitigate risks and effectively respond to various difficult situations, in safeguarding the library and its occupants.

Academic libraries should have comprehensive emergency response plans that outline procedures for various scenarios, such as fire, natural disasters, medical emergencies, or security threats (Jones, 2017). These plans should be communicated to all library staff and users, to ensure that everyone knows how to respond in case of an emergency. Smith and Brown, (2017) stated that there should be clear marked emergency exits and evacuation routes for guiding library users during crises. However, regular drills and training sessions can also help familiarize library users with these routes. Furthermore, Johnson, (2020) stated that efficient communication systems such as intercoms and emergency alert systems will enable library users to quickly disseminate information during emergencies. Consequently, communication channels should be established to inform library users about any potential risks and necessary actions to take.

Another area of emergency preparedness to put in place in safe guiding the library and securing the users is the provision of first aid services and emergency equipment. Items such as first aid kits, fire extinguishers, and other emergency equipment should be made readily available within the library and trained staff designed to handle them on ground, this will help to address minor incidents swiftly and prevent them from escalating. Mindapa, (2022) stated that the library management ends up spending more funds on acquiring and replacing information resources materials that are already in the library collections, as a result of a lack of emergency preparedness to checkmate theft,

mutilation, lack of proper monitoring and reporting suspicious moves of library users.

Research Method

The study adopted a survey research design, using a structured questionnaire as an instrument for data collection. A population of 302 professional librarians from all the university libraries in South South Nigeria was used. Same number of questionnaire were distributed, 252 copies of the questionnaire we duly filled and returned, this amount to 83.4% of the related population used.

The data collected were analysed using mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions and T-test to analyzed the formulated hypothesis. A five-point Likert Scale of Strongly Agreed (SA)5, Agreed (A)4, Moderately Agreed (MA)3, Disagreed (D)2, and Strongly disagreed (SD)1. The decision rule for research questions was based on the normal value and were interpreted using real limit on the numbers. Thus any item with mean (X) rating of 2-50 and above will be accepted while items with mean rating of 2.49 and below were rejected. For the formulated hypothesis, any item with t-calculated value greater than (>) the t-tabulated value, the hypothesis was rejected, if otherwise, the null hypothesis of no significance is upheld.

Table 1: Population distribution of academic librarians in universities libraries in South-South, Nigeria.

S/N	Name of Universities	Professionals Librarians
	FEDERAL UNIVERSITIES	
1	Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effunrun	14
2	Admiralty University Ibusa	6
3	University of Marine Technology, Okerenkoko	9
4	Federal University Otueke, Bayelsa	13
5	University of Benin, Benin City	29
6	University of Port-Harcourt	14
7	University of Calabar, Calabar	13
8	University of Uyo	37
	STATE UNIVERSITIES	
1	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State	8
2	Delta State University, Abraka	36
3	University of Delta, Agbor	1
4	Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba	14
5	Delta State University of Science and Technology, Ozoro	9
6	Niger Delta University Wilberforce-Island	21
7	Rivers State University of Science and Technology	6
8	Cross River University of Science and Technology	15
9	Akwa-Ibom State University, Uyo	9
10.	Ignatius Ajuru University of Education (Rivers State University of Education)	5
	PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES	
1	Michael and Cecilia Ibru University Agbara-Otor	2
2	Novena University Ogume	8

3	Western Delta University Oghara	6
4	Edwin Clark University, Kiagbodo	4
5	Benson Idahosa University, Benin City	10
6	Igbinedion University, Okada	7
7	PAMO University of Medical Science, Portharcourt,	5
	Total	**301**

SOURCE: Monthly staff returns of various university libraries.

Research Question 1: Extent to which librarians agreed on personal belongings of the library users.

Table 2: Response rate of librarians on personal belongings

S/N	Indicate your level of agreement on items on personal belongings	SA	A	MA	D	SD	X	STD	REM
1.	Library users are allowed to bring their personal laptops, tablets and smartphones to the library	78	59	60	32	23	3.42	1.31	A
2.	Library users are allowed to bring their personal textbooks and notebooks to the library	94	77	55	16	10	3.91	1.10	A
3.	Library users are allowed to bring into the library their wallets, purses and money	88	88	50	13	13	3.89	0.99	A
4.	Library users are allowed to bring into the library, water, flasks and other food items	42	30	10	111	59	2.54	1.39	A
5.	Library users are allowed to bring into the library their lighting system in case of power failure	75	92	69	11	5	3.88	0.95	A
	Total						**3.53**	**1.15**	

Keys: SA (Strongly Agreed), A (Agreed), MA (Moderately Agreed), D (Disagreed), SD (Strongly Disagreed), X (Mean), STD (Standard Deviation), REM (Remark).

The result presented in Table 2 above shows the mean and standard deviation response of the professional librarians on their level of agreement on items of personal belongings. The result reveals that respondents strongly agreed that library patrons should be allowed to bring their textbooks and notebooks into the library. These items recorded the highest mean (X) score of 3.91 and a corresponding standard deviation of 1.31. This was closely followed by the item that allow library users to come to the library with wallets, purses, and money. Next to this item is the bringing of personal lighting systems to the library, and also the allowing of personal laptops, tablets and smartphones. These items have mean scores (X) and standard deviation of 3.89 (0.99), 3.88 (0.95) and 3.42 (1.31) respectively. The items with the least mean (x) score of 2.54 (1.39) is the item stating that library users should be allowed to bring water bottles, flask, and other edible items into the library.

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Research Question 2: Extent to which librarians agreed on suspicious activities of the library users.

Table 3: Response rate of librarians on reporting of suspicious activities

S/N	Indicate your level of agreement on items on suspicious activities of library users	SA	A	MA	D	SD	X	STD	REM
1.	Reporting suspicious movements to appropriate authorities	100	81	59	5	7	4.03	0.98	A
2.	Encourage library users to be vigilant and be security conscious.	105	70	44	20	13	3.93	1.17	A
3.	Reporting any attempt to enter prohibited locations	70	99	40	20	23	3.69	1.21	A
4.	Maintain safety and conducive academic environment for users	101	77	51	19	4	4.00	1.02	A
	Total						**3.91**	**0.95**	

Keys: SA (Strongly Agreed), A (Agreed), MA (Moderately Agreed), D (Disagreed), SD (Strongly Disagreed), X (Mean), STD (Standard Deviation), REM (Remark).

Results from Table 3 revealed the respondent rating on the items of reporting suspicious activities of library users. The respondents strongly agreed that suspicious movements engaged in by library users should be reported to the appropriate authorities. This item recorded a mean (X) score of 4.04 and a standard deviation of 0.98. Next to this item is the agreement of maintaining of safe and conducive academic environment for library users. This item has a mean(X) score of 4.00 and a standard deviation of 1.02. The encouragement of library users to be vigilant and be security conscious and reporting of any attempt to enter prohibited locations by library users got means (X) scores and standard deviations of 3.93 (1.17) and 3.69 (1.21) respectively.

Research Question 3: Extent to which librarians agreed on compliance to library policies to library users.

Table 4: Response rate of librarians on compliance to library policies

S/N	Indicate your level of agreement on items on compliance to library policies	SA	A	MA	D	SD	X	STD	REM
1.	Adhering to borrowing and returning of library materials to library users	121	90	23	12	6	4.22	0.96	A
2.	Library users should abide by the rules that relate to acceptable behavior within the library	80	86	70	10	6	4.09	0.32	A
3.	Refraining from engaging in disruptive activities in the library	94	63	55	31	9	3.80	1.17	A
4.	Respecting the rights of other library users in the library	104	91	30	17	10	4.04	1.07	A
5.	Complying with rules of using of ICT facilities guidelines	64	99	63	20	6	3.77	0.99	A
6.	Complying with policies related to the use of designated study areas	131	68	44	7	2	4.27	0.90	A
	Total						**4.03**	**0.90**	

Keys: SA (Strongly Agreed), A (Agreed), MA (Moderately Agreed), D (Disagreed), SD (Strongly Disagreed), X (Mean), STD (Standard Deviation), REM (Remark).

Reports presented from Table 4 reveals the extent of agreement on the level of compliance to library policies by library users in the academic environment. All the items listed were all accepted. This is because they all have the mean (X) scores of 2.50 and above. The item of library users complying with policies related to the use of designated areas have the highest mean score (X) of 4.27 and a standard deviation of 0.90. This was closely followed by the item, adhering to borrowing and returning of library materials policies with mean score (X) of 4.22 and standard deviation of 0.96. Abiding to rules related to acceptable behavior by library users, resptecting the rights of other library users, refraining from engaging in disruptive activitiesi in the library and complying with rules of using of ICT facilities guidelines have mean scores (X), and standard deviations of 4.09 (0.32), 4.04 (1.07), 3.80 (1.17), and 3.77 (0.99) respectively.

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Research Question 4: Extent to which librarians agreed on emergency preparedness in securing the academic library.

Table 5: Response rate of librarians on emergency preparedness

S/N	Indicate your level of agreement on items on the items of emergency preparedness in securing the library	SA	A	MA	D	SD	X	STD	REM
1.	Smart emergency response to plans such as fire, natural disaster, medical attention or security threat	84	101	52	11	4	3.99	0.92	A
2.	Clearly marked emergency exits and evaluation routes	94	77	51	17	13	3.88	1.14	A
3.	Communication system such as intercoms or emergency alert system	99	99	24	16	14	4.00	1.12	A
4.	First aid and emergency equipment availability	74	89	60	21	8	3.79	1.05	A
5.	Collaborating with local emergency services	70	74	70	20	18	3.63	1.18	A
6.	Staff training and preparedness	97	80	51	15	9	3.96	1.09	A
7.	Protection of intellectual property theft and books mutilation	90	76	49	22	15	3.80	1.18	A
8.	Protection of Cyber-security attack on online information resources	88	101	43	14	6	4.00	0.98	A
	Total						**3.88**	**1.08**	

Keys: SA (Strongly Agreed), A (Agreed), MA (Moderately Agreed), D (Disagreed), SD (Strongly Disagreed), X (Mean), STD (Standard Deviation), REM (Remark).

Results from table 5 above shows that smart emergency responses to plans (such as fire, natural disasters, medical attention), clearly marked exits and evacuation routes, communication systems (such as intercoms or emergency alert systems), first aid and emergency equipment, collaborations with local emergency services, staff training and preparedness, protection ofintellectual property theft (books) and mutilations and protection of cyber-security attack on online resources are all accepted as items that needed to be prepared for in case of any emergencies. These items have mean scores (X) and standard deviation of 3.99 (0.92), 3.88 (1.14), 4.00 (1.12), 3.79 (1.05), 3.63 (1.18), 3.96 (1.09), 3.80 (1.18) and 4.00 (0.98) respectively.

Research hypothesis

There is no significance difference in the mean rating of compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness roles of librarians on self-regulated and security of university library environment in South-South Nigeria.

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Table 6: Summery of T-test analysis of compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness on self-regulated and security of university library environment in South-South Nigeria.

Self-regulated and Security of university library environment	N	X	S	t-cal	α	df	t-crit	Rem
Compliance to library policies	252	4.03	0.90	0.031	0.05	250	1.960	Not significant
Emergency preparedness by library management	252	3.88	1.08					

The summary t-test analysis table above shows the t-test analysis responses of librarians on compliance to library policies and emergency preparedness on self-regulated and security of university library environment in South-South Nigeria with mean scores of 4.03 and 3.88 respectively. The t-test calculated value of 0.031 is less than the t-critical value of 1.960 at 250 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis was upheld, which indicate that compliances to library policies and emergency preparedness do not differ significantly in their mean rating on self-regulated and security of university library environment in South-South Nigeria.

Discussion

Results from the study show that personal belongings of the library users are vital items that the librarians of the academic environment should give serious attention. This was based on the total acceptability of the items that constituted personal belongings in the research instruments. This was corroborated by Smith (2019) when he stated that it is crucial to maintain personal property properly to avoid theft, loss and damage. The response acceptance rate was highly indicated for, as most of the mean score (X) were rated 2.50 and above. From this findings, librarians should continue to give heed to the personal belongings of the library users, in other to have self-regulated and secure academic library environment.

With regards to reporting of suspicious activities, of the library users, the respondents indicated total acceptance on all the items stated. By these implcations, the librarians are saying that to have effective self-regulated and secure academic library environment, any act of suspicious movement by library users, should be reported immediately. They further stated that library users should be encouraged to be very vigilant, report any attempt by users to enter any prohibited locations and maintain safety and conducive atmosphere for the library users. This crucial action was highly

emphasized by Johnson (2017) when he stated that library users should be very conscious of their environment and should immediately report any suspicious to to the appropriate authority.

To continue to enjoy and maintain an effective self-regulated and secured university library environment, the respondents stated that there should be total compliance to stipulated library policies. These were indicated in their mean scores (X) response by accepting all the items that constitute compliances to stipulated library policies. Items such as adhering to borrowing and returning of library materials, policies related to the use of designated areas, among others, recorded very high mean score (X) rating., thereby indicating that self-regulated and secured university library environment, can be achieved with the compliance to stipulated library policies.

Extant rules of 'safety first' plays dominant roles in any organization. The emergency preparedness for any eventuality is of parmount importance to self-regulated and secured academic library environment. This item was well spelt out by the total acceptance of all the items that constituted emergency preparedness for academic libray environment. The librarians accepted that emergency exit and evacuation routes, intercom alert systems, first aid and other euipment that can provide the academic library environment instant rescue in times of emergency should be well provided for. Promise, Izuaegbe, Mole and Ekwueme (2018) in their study titled 'Measuring disaster preparedness and response practices in university libraries in Nigeria' supported this view when they stated that there should be adequate availability rate of fire extinguishers, sand buckets, emergency exit doors, anti-virus software and thunder arrestors.

Conclusion

The study have been able to reveal the impact of self-regulatory and security of the university library environment in an academic setting, which has brought to public the big impact on protecting the health and safety of library patrons and employees while fostering a favorable atmosphere for studying and research. Empowering patrons and employees to actively contribute to preserving a safe and civil environment in the library is a key component of self-regulatory security and library practices.

In an academic setting such as the university library, self-regulated and security of the library can lead to increased awareness and vigilance among library users. When individuals take responsibility for their personal belongings and observe library rules, it can reduce the likelihood of theft and property damage (Chowdhury, 2013). Self-regulatory and security in the university library procedures may result in improved adherence to internet and computer usage policies, guaranteeing the responsible and effective use of academic resources. This was supported by Makri & Blandford, (2012)when they state that it will foster cooperative culture of care and respect when

library patrons and staff work together to maintain a safe and secure environment. A deeper feeling of community and improved communication inside the library may result from this shared duty.

Additionally, self-regulated and secure university library environment can enhance patrons' overall library experiences. People are more likely to engage in academic activities, use library resources, and take advantage of learning opportunities when they feel comfortable and secure in the library (Dennison, 2015). Higher levels of academic accomplishment and student happiness may result from this in turn.

To promote self-regulated and security of university library environment practices, academic institutions can implement educational programs and training initiatives. These initiatives may increase knowledge of security threats, offer advice on proper conduct inside the library, and encourage patrons and employees to actively contribute to security upkeep (Duncan, 2014). With the integration of self-checkout systems, surveillance awareness, and access control measures, technology may also contribute to self-regulated and security of the university library.

Self-regulated and security of university library policies in an academic setting can enhance user and staff satisfaction with the library's overall experience, safety, and feeling of the community. Academic institutions may provide a safe and welcoming learning environment that supports the academic pursuits of their community by developing a culture of accountability and awareness.

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