**ABU LIBRARY COMPLEX BULLETIN BULLETIN**

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**FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY MANAGEMENT**

To our professional colleagues and the entire staff of the university, we say WELCOME! WELCOME!! WELCOME TO 2017!!! With the holidays behind us and 2017 gracefully welcomed, it’s a great time to look back at 2016; an unforgettable year. In that year, we experienced some new heights with the appointment of Prof Umar Ibrahim, a seasoned administrator, as the substantive University Librarian. He quickly hit the ground running with the appointment of Mr. Tsuzom M. Ndakotsu as acting Deputy University Librarian. Next, he gave the library administration an all inclusive structure by restoring and empowering the University Library’s Advisory Management Team (ULAMAT) as the administrative arm of the complex, aside from creating various committees in an effort to ensure team work. Under his watch, the library witnessed a significant increase in the number of senators representing the library complex at the university management level (from one to three). More so, the contractors handling the Digital Commons, the E-library and the library renovation were mobilized back to site after months of inactivity. The project has since witnessed significant progress. In addition, he overhauled the Library Faculty Liaison component of the library complex with increased emphasis on constantly interfacing with departments in order to ensure fair

representation in terms of information resources, personnel and capacity building.

Together we have reached new heights with our library products and services. In advancing teaching, learning and research we are now more proactive; in embracing digital technology in services delivery we are becoming more and more responsive. The Library management is immensely proud of the work and diligence that we all put in making the library university system a one stop shop for information seekers.

While there is much work to do and there may be further challenges ahead, we end 2016 stronger and better able to serve our esteemed customers. The New Year will bring its own mix of opportunities and challenges, but our direction is clear and we know what we must do. Our job is to continue to focus intently on what we can do to improve the efficiency of our customer service delivery.

**TO OUR HIGHLY ESTEEMED LIBRARY CUSTOMERS**

At this time, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. It is in this spirit we say… “Thank You!”

The best part of our success as a library complex is remembering those who make our sacrifices meaningful and worthwhile - of our highly esteemed customers. It is therefore imperative that we pause to remember each of you and the contributions you made to our progress. All of us at the ABU library complex would like to express our sincere thanks to all of you; our highly esteemed customers for making the year 2016 a big success.

We acknowledge and appreciate immensely, your patronage, suggestions, patience and understanding. We are ever more poised to serve you better. We wish you the very best in your academic endeavor and all the love and happiness, may these follow you throughout the year 2017.

**WRITING FOR SCHOLARLY JOURNALS SERIES – AN OVERVIEW**

Academics today, experience increasing pressure to publish in scholarly journals than at any previous time. Within the academy, publications are the dominant currency of employability and promotion. There is increasing evidence that scholarly articles will remain the common currency of the academic community for the foreseeable future.

Academic Librarians, like their counterpart University researchers, whether scientists or lecturers in the arts and humanities, are judged more on their publications, and in particular on their record of publication in refereed journals, than on any other scholarly activity. This is because the core business of academics is to synthesize and disseminate knowledge, and the scholarly article is the main vehicle for claiming original knowledge on one’s discovery. Publishing in specialist academic journals are a viable platform scholars in every discipline make knowledge claims that are refereed by their peers.

However, it is worth noting that publishing an article in an academic journal can be a frustrating process that demands a substantial commitment of time and hard work. Nevertheless, establishing a record of publication is essential if librarians intend to pursue a career as an academic.

These four suggestions will help you turn the odds in your favor and make the publishing process less daunting.

1. **Use an Outline.** An outline is a “blueprint” or “plan” for your paper. It helps you to organize your thoughts and arguments.A good outline can make conducting research and then writing the paper very efficient. A good outline provides the skeleton, on which you can build your writing. It gives your writing structure so that the ideas and thoughts flow logically and build towards a strong conclusion. Without an outline, an article runs the risk of veering off in different directions.
2. **Say Something New.** Publishable academic articles do two things: they position themselves within existing scholarship (often in a ‘literature review’ section) and they subsequently *build on existing knowledge*. The common expression “stand on the shoulders of giants,” often attributed to Isaac Newton, emphasizes this strategy precisely. By using existing work as a starting point (the shoulders of giants), you stand on a vantage point that equips you to go a little further and discover new things.
3. **Edit Work Extensively.** You need to have a serious editing and revision process if you intend to publish your work, one that more often than not goes beyond your grammatical proficiency. When you edit your work, read it thoroughly over and over again. Then give it to one or two competent colleagues or a journal editor to proofread. Overall, your editing process should make up a significant portion of the work you do until you reach a final version of your paper. If you approach this process with a critical eye, the result will be an article with depth and quality.
4. **Reference Strategically**. Referencing allows you to acknowledge the contribution of other writers and researches in your work. By citing the work of a particular scholar you acknowledge and respect the intellectual property rights of that researcher. More so, referencing provides evidence to support the assertions and claims made in your work. References should always be accurate, allowing your readers to trace the sources of information you have used. The best way to make sure you reference accurately is to keep a record of all the sources you used when reading and researching for an article. Citations also make your writing more persuasive.

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