

## **Information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria**

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of the study was to examine information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria. Descriptive survey design was employed for the study. The population comprised of 109 librarians. Census sampling techniques was adopted since the population was manageable. The instrument for data collection was a rating scale entitled: "Information Entrepreneurship and Use as a Mechanism for Librarians' Self-employment (IEUMLSE)". Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics and Pearson Product Moment Correlation method at 0.05 level of significant. Findings revealed that information brokerage, freelance, repackaging and reprographic services significantly related with mechanism for librarians' self-employment. It was recommended among others that information entrepreneurship should be taught in all tertiary institutions in Rivers State and beyond; seminars and workshops' should be organized information entrepreneurship to librarians to keep them abreast on new trends in the field. Librarians should be empowered and encouraged financially to be able to venture into information entrepreneurship.

**Keywords:** Information entrepreneurship, use mechanism, librarians' self-employment, Rivers State

### **Introduction**

The role of librarian in information gathering and dissemination is continually evolving in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to meet the social, political, economic, scientific and technological needs of information seekers. The main responsibilities of modern librarians is provision and maintenance of information in many formats, including physical books, electronic resources, magazines, newspapers, audio and video recording, maps, manuscript, photographic, databases and web based and digital resources (Robin, 2010). Library professionals may also provide other information services such as computer and internet services, marketing of library and information resources and services amongst others.

Entrepreneurship is generally seen in the field of library and information science as a tool for self-employment to librarian

that has the interest to engage and be successful in information business. The generality of the populace including graduates of library and information science are faced with difficulties of employment which is compounded by the stiff competition for limited placements available in the job market and government's inability to adequately carter for extra-ordinary growth and influx in the public sector of the economy. Information entrepreneurship is considered an essential factor to the growth of every librarian. Information entrepreneurship according to Idoho and Aninabor (2011), is aimed at reducing the over dependence of civil servants on government alone. This can be achieved through learning and acquiring various skills on different components of information entrepreneurship. Libraries professionals who venture into entrepreneurship have the opportunities of becoming self-employed

and self-reliant. Entrepreneurship is generally seen in the field of librarianship as a tool for self-employment to librarians that have the interest to engaged and be successful in information business, it is advancement to business opportunities. Enikanselu (2008), perceived entrepreneurship as people who have ability to see and advance business opportunities, gather the necessary resources, take advantage of them and initiate appropriate action to ensure success. Entrepreneurship has been an integral part of the society; traces of it abound at various epoch of human evolution. This phenomenon has however, assumed a wider relevance with the attendant attention in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The decision of librarians venturing into entrepreneurship is as a result to earn a living and improve his or her living standard. Though, unemployment is an economic problem in our contemporary society that is pushing many graduates into labour market yearly.

However, libraries are concerted efforts to curb this menace through innovative and creativity. The challenges of unemployment has aroused the willingness of libraries to become creative an innovative who can identify, establish and run their business ventures instead of depending on government alone to provide for them. Entrepreneurship may be seen as a means of using initiative to transform business concept to new venture, diversify existing venture or enterprise to high growing venture potentials (UNIDO 1999).

Information entrepreneurship is the bedrock for library and information professionals who set up their private business and wealth creation, self-reliance and employers of labour. Mu'azu and Mohammed (2016), agree with the assertion and said, the high level of graduate unemployment and its associated social ills

have been traced to poor entrepreneurship education and skill development among students in tertiary institutions. This they said manifested in a number of deficiencies that these graduates exhibit in their work places such as; lack of analytical skills, lack of entrepreneurial and problem solving decision making skills and inadequate technical skills. Adesina and Agu (2010), Adeyinka and Issa (2013) found out that for librarians to be self-reliance, they must be involved in series of activities such as information brokerage, freelancing, reprographic services and information repackaging among others.

### **Statement of the problem**

Over the years, librarians have been wallowing in poverty due to over dependence on government provision of jobs. This has become a source of worry to the LIS professionals. The situation becomes critical when one calls that; one of the aims of studying information entrepreneurship in the university is to equip one with the skills and ability to be self-reliance. Nwosu and Ohia (2009), note that it is left for the librarians to avail themselves the opportunity of becoming information entrepreneur as information and library science graduates; they must develop themselves within their field of specialization. Observations by the researcher revealed that unemployment and lack of job opportunities for graduates of library and information science (librarians), the opportunities available for librarians to be self-employed having studied information entrepreneurship, and using it as a mechanism to be independent. It is based on this identified gap that this study attempts to examine whether a relationship exist between information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria.

### **Purpose of the study**

The main purpose of the study is to examine the information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for librarians self-employment in Rivers State. The specific purposes of the study are to:

1. determine the relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria;
2. ascertain the relationship between freelance information business and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians;
3. determine the relationship between repackaging and use as a mechanism among the librarian; and
4. examine the relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

### **Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses are tested in the study.

**Ho<sup>1</sup>** There is no significant relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria.

**Ho<sup>2</sup>** There is no significant relationship between freelance information business and use as a mechanism for librarian's self-employment

**Ho<sup>3</sup>** There is no significance relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Ho<sup>4</sup>** There is no significant relationship between reprographic service and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

### **Literature review**

Among the unemployed librarians abounds many waiting for opportunities. So many of them are also very resourceful, that is why they cannot wait for white collar job before making a living. They see themselves as a people who can venture into different types of entrepreneurship activities. In order make more profits, they do not look at the resources they are already controlling but venture into other lucrative areas such as:

Information brokerage as a mechanism for librarians was well captured by Anyanwu (2013) who asserted that librarians or graduate of library and information science can be involved in information brokerage and consultancy services. Information brokerage is not only about having an idea but also making sure that it sells or work. It is necessary to identify which areas of librarianship should be commercialized or turn around for entrepreneurship. Aguolu and Aguolu (2002) categorically stated six fundamental roles of librarians as knowledge, information, research, culture and entertainment, this put together forms the bedrock of duties and functions of information professionals and the basis of information professionalism. With the establishment and spread of different kinds of librarianship in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, such as academic, school, special, corporate member. Igbeka (2008) noted that librarians who want to be dependent could involve in information brokerage such as; creating databases for organizations, training other staff to effectively and cost effectively use database, preparing research reports in response to client requests on specific information, evaluating and comparing software and resources of data prior to purchase and identifying research done at other organization to avoid duplication.

There are many more areas librarians can venture into if they want to engage in information brokerage. Ocholla (2009) listed these areas to include; research analysis, information services, information management and consultancy. These are veritable ventures that can provide librarians with avenues to engage themselves in profitable business that has the potential of increasing their earnings as entrepreneurs. Librarian as a broker provides affordable and much needed services directly to their clients at home or in the office. Robert (2010), in his opinion noted that librarians who want to enter the field of information brokerage can equally engage in the following:

- Sourcing information available on a large scale and deliver it on a personalized basis.
- Assessing and creating databases for organizations to selectively provide information on specific subject or interest to a specific person
- Preparing research reports in responds to client request for specific information.
- Verifying facts for external and internal report and duplications
- Identifying reports done at other organizations to avoid unnecessary duplication.
- Evaluating and comparing information software and sources of data prior to purchase.
- Training other staff to effectively and cost effectively use databases
- Research, analysis, information service, information management and consulting services.

Similarly, as a librarian there are lots of market products which they can step into which include; information consultancy services that demands vast knowledge on

how to search or source for information, information repackaging involving how to price information i.e, the ability to present your product

Other products available to librarians are indexing and abstracting, compilation of bibliographies, literature search, independent publisher, online information delivery.

Librarians are occupied with series of activities emanating from several opportunities which freelance service is one of such numerous opportunities. According to Anadozie, Okeke and Egwim (2014), people who engage in freelance work are called freelancers or freelance specialists, freelancers according to the author make their earning by selling their work or services to different organizations rather than being employed by a particular establishment. Hornby (2010) noted that many librarians can start as a freelancer while still working in a library until they are independent, but that the work and the activities has to be kept separate. Librarians, according to Sandra (2014) have great opportunities to become self-employed as freelance online information business dealers, stressing that there is a great potentials for librarians in this direction and should be embraced and utilized by all librarians. This remark was supported by Nnadozie, (2013) who noted that library and information science professional can get themselves employed by offering his or her writing or editorial skills where needed and for a fee. They can also do this by writing children story books, dramas and plays. Librarians can also become freelance outdoor writer, freelance copy-editor, freelance publisher, freelance proof reader, freelance book reviewer and freelance real estate editor. Realizing the importance of freelancing librarians, Asuru (2008) advocated for the inclusion of

entrepreneurship education in tertiary institutions and its teaching especially to undergraduates of library and information science to enable them acquire skills that will sustain them as independent managers in the field of librarianship.

Igbeka (2008) saw information repackaging as a customized services to meet the information needs of specifically identified end users. This is a systematic approach to the design and provision of information services by rebuilding products and services to address specific needs of information seekers. Librarians have long been involved in repackaging of information for their clients. Repackaging information is viable mechanism for librarians seeking to be self-employed. Repackaging information, according to Iwhiwhu (2008), could be in the form of reforming and synthesizing raw information. This involves changing the original form or state of information to make it easier for the user to comprehend. Information repackaging may involve indexing and abstracting services which provide aids to the user by ascertaining the required contents of a document and its potential relevance and saving user's time. The primary literatures published in other languages are often interpreted, indexed and abstracted for the benefit of users. Information entrepreneurship also enables librarians to involve in compilation of bibliographies. Uwa (2014) noted that bibliography is used as a tool to guide the users in locating the right types of materials at the right time, saving users time. Researchers and other information users obtain and utilize bibliographic materials that are suitable in their areas of research as it promotes accessibility of the related primary literature needed for educational and informational purposes. Librarians can also carry out the publication of current contents. This is a vital service rendered for

the benefit of users because access to current documents such as journals, newspapers, and other periodicals are possible with the preparation of this document. Repackaging of information by librarians could also be shifted from popular prints media to oral formats. Providing training or assistance to users in accessing an information products. Iwhiwhu (2008) in pointed out that librarians could provide some form of user-education to those who seek information in the library or other information centres. This could be library orientation and other library programmes which will be of benefit to library or information users. This kind of training or assistance will be done for a fee by the independent librarians. As an independent librarian, one of the means of getting the attention of the client is providing them with quality information resources i.e., the content of such resources has to be checked to know if they will be useful to the client.

Reprographic services are one of the numerous opportunities a librarian could avail himself in becoming self-employ The aim of every librarian is to make a living, it is on this note that Uhegbu (2014) stated that if a librarian decide to be on his own, which is very much encouraging and appreciated they could also make a useful living by engaging in reprographic services. Uhegbu (2014) defined reprography as a production of graphics through mechanical or electrical means and commonly use in libraries, archives, business centres and offices. Reitze (2004) defined reprography as a general term encompassing quick-service document production or copying by any means except large scale professional printing, including photography, micro photocopy, xerography and photo duplication. There is all tendency that librarians who want to venture into reprographic business on fee base has a lot

to do. Quality is generally recognized today as the key to the achievement of competitive advantage. If one has a quality product it stands the advantage over others in that product. Mcor (2014) posit that for a reprographic business to gain and maintain a competitive advantage there must be the ability to offer unique products and services that will generate new sources of revenue should be the priority of every independent librarian.

Odia, Uhegbu and Haliso, (2001) observed that reprographic professionals perform a variety of tasks including photocopying, scanning and administrative work. The authors were of the opinion a librarian could perfectly handle some of the reprographic duties while he commissions people to handle others as he supervises their activities. Another aspect of reprography a librarian could venture into is fax business, photocopying, lamination.

Librarian as an innovative entrepreneur grabs every opportunity that comes his way and does not look down on any business. Considering the importance of bindery in the library Madu and Ezeani (2010) agreed that a librarian can partner with libraries that do not have such facilities. The authors further pointed out that bindery business creates a huge opportunity to librarians who want to be on their own, especially those in Rivers State. There are good numbers of books and newspapers which could be identified in some institutions that have been lying untouched for decades, independent librarians could reach out to these institutions to get the job done for a fee. Tuaba (2000) contended that librarians depend on binderies as a means of reducing the time and cost involved in replacing books and away from preserving irreplaceable materials, this according to him is making business to boast.

## Methods

The design adopted the descriptive survey design of the correlation type. The main purpose of the study was to examine the information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of librarians in Rivers State. The population consists of 109 librarians who are registered members of the Nigerian Library Association (including retired and unemployed librarians). The census sampling technique was employed since the population was small. The instrument for data collection was a rating scale entitled: "Information Entrepreneurship and Use as a Mechanism for Librarian Employment (IEUMLE)". The instrument adopted four point rating response of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD). The instrument was validated by three experts made up of library and information science and measurement and evaluation professionals. The reliability coefficient for the whole rating scale was 0.87 alpha. The instrument was administered to and retrieved from 109 librarians and the data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics to answer the research question, while Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

## Results

The results are presented according to the research questions and hypotheses.

**Research question 1:** What is the relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria?

This question is answered with data in Table 1.

From Table 1, the results show that the calculated  $X^2$  value (197.87) is greater than the critical  $X^2$  value (40.11). Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This implies that information brokerage has significant relationship with information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Research question 2:** What is the relationship between freelance information business and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians?

This research question is answered with data in Table 2.

Result in Table 2 shows that the calculated  $X^2$  value (1248.74) is greater than the critical  $X^2$  value (40.11). Therefore the null hypothesis is rejected.

This implies that freelance information business has significant relationship with information entrepreneurship and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria.

**Research question 3:** What is the relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians?

This research question is answered with data in Table 3.

Table 3 indicates that the calculated  $X^2$  value (1178.70) is greater than the critical

$X^2$  value (40.11). Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This implies that there significant relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Research question 4:** What is the relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians?

This question is answered with the data in Table 4.

From Table 4, the results show that the calculated  $X^2$  value (1316.33) is greater than the critical value (40.11). Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This implies that there is significant relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for library for self-employment of the librarians.

#### **Testing of hypotheses**

**Hypothesis 1:** There is no significant relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria.

This hypothesis is tested with the data in Table 5.

**Table 1: Information brokerage and use for self-employment of the librarians**

<b>Num.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>X<sup>2</sup></b>
1.	I find information entrepreneurship very enterprising	10(16.6)	63(53.5)	16(22.1)	20(178)	109	6.25
2.	I have a good knowledge of information entrepreneurship	14(16.6)	50(53.5)	21(178)	24(178)	109	3.31
3.	All universities in Rivers State teach information entrepreneurship	18(16.6)	49(53.5)	18(16.6)	24(178)	109	3.36
4.	I have no knowledge of information entrepreneurship	9(16.6)	17(53.5)	60	23(178)	109	4.87
5.	Engaging in information brokerage will enhance my financial status	18(16.6)	54(53.5)	19	18(178)	109	0.54
6.	As a librarian I want to be self-employed	8(16.6)	60(53.5)	14	27(178)	109	12.94
7.	I could be self-employed if I establish my own business	21(16.6)	49(53.5)	24	15(178)	109	2.13
8.	Librarians using content management to be independent could be considerable to some extent	16(16.6)	71(53.5)	12	10(178)	109	13.31
9.	Few job opportunities encourage me to develop interest for self-employment	12(16.6)	80(53.5)	17	10(178)	109	18.97
10.	Librarian establishing fee-based library could be a good means of becoming self-employed	40(16.6)	42(53.5)	20	7(178)	109	42.19
<b>Total</b>		<b>166</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>197.87</b>

**Table 2: Relationship between freelance information business as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Num.	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Total	X <sup>2</sup>
1.	I can successfully feet into freelance information business	40(25.4)	69(60.9)	0(16.1)	0(6.7)	109	32.26
2.	As a young librarian I desire to be a freelancer	10(25.4)	89(60.9)	10	0	109	45.68
3.	Having studied information entrepreneurship, I can do well in freelance business	8(25.4)	101(60.9)	0	0	109	48.88
4.	I do not know anything about freelancing	0(25.4)	0(60.9)	60	49	109	473..5
4.	Establishing a freelance information business can make me become an employer of labour	41(25.4)	68(60.9)	0	0	109	33.2
6.	As a librarian I want to be self-employed	30(25.4)	79(60.9)	0	0	109	29.0
7.	I could be self-employed if I establish my own business	27(25.4)	82(60.9)	0	0	109	30.21
8.	Librarians using content management to be independent could be considerable to some extent	0(25.4)	0(60.9)	91	18	109	453
9.	Few job opportunities encourage me to develop interest for self-employment	38(25.4)	71(60.9)	0	0	109	30.72
10.	Establishing fee-based library could be a good means of becoming self-employed	60(25.4)	49(60.9)	0	0	109	72.25
	<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>1248.4</b>

**Table 3: Relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Num	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Total	X <sup>2</sup>
1.	Information repackaging is a difficult business	0(26.1)	0(61.1)	89(19.0)	20(2.8)	109	444.74
2.	I can repackage information for fee	50(26.1)	59(61.1)	0(19.0)	0(19.0)	109	43.75
3.	Librarians who are employed can still engage themselves in information repackaging	29	80	0	0	109	27.96
4.	As a librarian, making more money from information repackaging is my priority	39	70	0	0	109	29.46
5.	I have been involved in information repackaging for some period of time	42	67	0	0	109	32.04
6.	As a librarian, I want to be self-employed	19	90	0	0	109	37.39
7.	I could be self-employed if I establish my business	9	100	0	0	109	57.76
8.	Librarian using content management to be independent could be considerable to some extent	0	0	101	8	109	450.74
9.	Few job opportunities encourage me to develop interest for self-employment	33	76	0	0	109	24.64
10.	Librarians establishing fee based library could be self-employed	40	69	0	0	109	30.22
	<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>1178.70</b>	

**Table 4: Relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Num.	Item	SA	A	D	SD	Total	X <sup>2</sup>
1.	Reprographic business can earn me a living without looking for public job	13	96	0	0	109	17.23
2.	3.Librarians who study information entrepreneurship stand the chance of gaining a good knowledge on reprographic business	71	38	0	0	109	164.03
3.	Reprographic business could be lucrative for librarians	29	80	0	0	109	15.02
4.	Librarians can make good money if engage in photocopying	2	107	0	0	109	37.41

5.	business I could use lamination business as a means for sel-employment	9	100	0	0	109	22.8
6.	As a librarian I want to be self-employed	11	98	0	0	109	19.76
7.	I could be self-employed if I establish my own business	16	93	0	0	109	14.37
8.	Librarian using content management to be independent could be considerable to some extent	0	0	100	9	109	981
9.	Few job opportunities encourage me to develop interest for self-employment	38	71	0	0	109	28.3
10.	Establishing fee-based library could be a good means of becoming self-employed	9	100	0	0	109	16.14
<b>Total</b>		<b>198</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>1316.33</b>

**Table 5: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient on information brokerage and use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment**

Variables	$\sum x, \sum y$	$\sum x^2, \sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	df	r-cal
Information Brokerage		540	3200		
Use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment	660	5869	6846	107	.546

Calculated  $x^2$  = .546  
 Critical (table value) = 40.11  
 Degree of freedom = 27  
 Level of significance = 0.05

Table 5 shows a correlation coefficient of 0.546 which indicates positive relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment. This implies that information brokerage provides the services of information search for seekers of knowledge, retrieval and marketing of information on a commercial basis which serves as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Hypothesis 2:** There is no significant relationship between freelance information business and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

This hypothesis is tested with the data in Table 6.

**Table 6: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient on freelance information and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Variables	$\sum x, \sum y$	$\sum x^2, \sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	df	r-cal	r-crit
Freelance information Business	460	2400				
			5632	107	.412	.138
Use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment	640	5600				

Calculated ( $x^2$ ) = .138  
 Critical (table value) = 40.11  
 Degree of freedom = 27  
 Level of significance = 0.05

Table 6 shows a correlation co-efficient of 412 which indicates a positive relationship between freelance information business and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. This implies that services and marketing of information related products have significant relationship between freelance information business use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Hypothesis 3:** There is no significant relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

This hypothesis is tested with the data in Table 7.

**Table 7: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient on information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Variables	$\sum x, \sum y$	$\sum x^2, \sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	df	r-cal	r-crit
Information repackaging	620	4100				
			3300	107	.357	.138
Use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment	510	4840				

Calculated ( $x^2$ ) = .138  
 Critical (table value) = 40.11  
 Degree of freedom = 27  
 Hypothesis 4: Level of significance = 0.05

Table 7 shows a correlation co-efficient of .357 which indicates a positive relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. This implies that information repackaging

provides an opportunity for researchers, business men, scholars and all those who depend on information for survival to read previously published works that are affordable, as in a paper edition.

**Hypothesis 4:** There is no significant relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

This hypothesis is tested with the data in Table 8.

**Table 8: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient on reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians**

Variables	$\sum x, \sum y$	$\sum x^2, \sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	df	r-cal	r-crit
Reprographic services	430	2420				
Use as a mechanism for librarians' self-employment	550	3200	2600	107	.356	.138

Calculated ( $x^2$ ) = .138  
 Critical (table value) = 40.11  
 Degree of freedom = 27  
 Level of significance = 0.05

Table 8 shows a correlation coefficient of 0.354 which indicates a positive relationship between freelance reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. This implies that the introduction of machines for quick document reproduction has significant relationship with use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians.

**Discussion**

Findings of this study revealed that there is significant relationship between information brokerage and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria. The finding is in line with Bronson (2011) who pointed out that it is not only about having an idea but also making sure that it sells or work. The author further asserts that with the business of information brokerage, it is necessary to identify which area of librarianship should be commercialized or turned around for entrepreneurship.

The study further revealed that revealed that there is significant relationship between freelance information business and

use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. The finding is supported by Agu (2005) who postulate that librarians are provided with these opportunities to be able to fend for themselves not depending on employers of labour.

The study further revealed that there is significant relationship between information repackaging and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. This result is in line with Agenda (2010) observation that information repackaging as systematic approach to the design and provision of information services, particularly in the corporate environment. The findings also collaborate with Iwhiwhu (2008) who noted that information repackaging is building of products and services to address specific need.

It is also revealed that there is significant relationship between reprographic services and use as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians. Reitz (2004) posit that reprography is a general term encompassing quick service document production or

copying by any means except large-scale professional printing, including photography, micro-photography, xerography and photo-duplication.

### Conclusion

In view of the findings it is therefore concluded that information entrepreneurship relate significantly as a mechanism for self-employment of the librarians in Rivers State, Nigeria and could be used by librarians who want to be independent, judging by the qualities and positive effect of variables adopted in the study if they are effectively implemented in the curriculum and all tertiary institutions. Information entrepreneurship has the capability of turning the fortunes of librarians around and therefore, should be given serious and urgent attention.

Based on the findings, the study therefore recommends that:

1. Information entrepreneurship should be taught in all tertiary institutions in Rivers State, Nigeria as a means of preparing individuals and creating awareness amongst students and members of the public to be self-employed.
2. Information entrepreneurship should be made compulsory and visible in the curriculum.
3. Librarians should be empowered and encouraged financially to be able to venture into information entrepreneurship.
4. Government should introduce suitable policies to encourage entrepreneurship among librarians and ensure that there is steady power supply.

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