

**Librarianship and Margaret Uyoyou Ugboma PhD
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Everyone is indebted to his/her profession, calling or discipline. In one way or the other, our profession has helped to define who we are. A profession is a calling requiring specialized training and knowledge. A profession requires a defined period of training, leading to the acquisition of a particular skill set or knowledge. Traditionally, a profession is known to have an accredited corpus of specialized knowledge with a recognized formal body of members.

In the light of the above, library and information science- librarianship is indeed a noble profession. Library and information service delivery comprise of human activities, technology and information systems in generating, collecting, organising, storing, retrieving and disseminating recorded knowledge. This is where the contributions of Dr Margaret Ugboma come to bear. Dr Ugboma contributed immensely to the study and practice of library and information science (LIS) in Nigeria. During her career which spanned over 3 decades, Dr Ugboma did a great deal in extending the frontiers of teaching, learning and research in LIS. She wrote several books and articles in learned LIS journals. Her contributions and significance in the LIS community and even beyond cannot be over emphasized. This is an attempt therefore to enable scholars, academics, students and stakeholders in library and information service delivery catch a glimpse of the impact revealed through her writings and endeavours in the profession.

Dr Margaret Ugboma was the founding Editor-in-Chief of Information Impact: Journal of Information and Knowledge Management ISSN 2141-4297.

Dr Mrs Ugboma was born in Samaru, Zaria in Kaduna State on 16 November, 1957 to Mr Smith and Mrs Joanna Osokpor. She graduated from Anglican Girls Grammar School, Benin City in 1974 and from the University of Lagos, with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1981. After receiving her education, Margaret as she was fondly called, did her compulsory National Youth Service at the College of Education, which was situated at Iyaro, Benin City in 1981. She was retained by the Institution as a Librarian in 1982. In a quest to satisfy her urge for a career in Library and Information Science, she proceeded to the University of Ibadan, where she obtained a Masters degree in Library Science in 1987. Following the creation of Delta State in August 27, 1991, out of the former Bendel State, Dr Mrs Ugboma moved to the newly established Delta State University, Abraka in 1992. At the Delta State University Abraka, she taught as a Lecturer (library science unit) in the Institute of Education and later rose to the position of Senior Librarian in charge of Oleh Campus Library of the University. In September, 2006, Dr Mrs Ugboma was appointed as the 1st Substantive Polytechnic Librarian of the Delta State Polytechnic Ozoro. In all these years, she was

diligent in her practice and committed to the profession. She later obtained a PhD in Library and Information Science from Delta State University in 2007.

Aside from being a Librarian, Dr Margaret Ugboma was also a published author, editor and a counsellor. As a published writer, she had over 30 publications in library and information science. Her book “literature and library services for children” is widely used by students and scholars researching in the area of school library. The book has had major impact on teaching “library services to children” in library schools in Nigeria.

She was the Pioneer Editor-in-Chief of Delta Library Journal (publication of Nigerian Library Association, Delta State Chapter) from 1998-2000 and also the pioneer Editor-in-Chief, FRONTIERS: A Multidisciplinary Journal of Knowledge, published by Delta State Polytechnic, Ozoro.

She was a devout Christian and an Evangelist of the gospel of Jesus Christ, who dedicated her life to winning converts to Christ and community service by way of women empowerment. She was the President and founder of Love and Peace Outreach; a ministry, through which she organized yearly women and youth conferences and carried out humanitarian acts by providing welfare materials and medical outreaches to neighbouring communities.

She was married to Dr Eddy Ugboma, a Political Scientist. She had 5 children (4 boys and a girl), 3 daughters-in-law and 4 grandchildren. Before her death, she was appointed the University Librarian, Delta State University, Abraka.

Ugboma’s contribution to library and information science may be grouped into the following categories:

- As a library manager
- As an advocate of continuous professional development
- As a published writer and editor

Margaret as Library Manager

For more than 14 years as a library manager, Dr Mrs Ugboma, employed management techniques effectively in directing, planning, organising, staffing, coordinating, budgeting and evaluating the library’s operations. Her knowledge of the philosophy and techniques of library service was not in doubt. While she was in charge of the Delsu, Oleh Campus Library and at the Delta State Polytechnic Library, Ozoro, she motivated, established and maintained effective working relationships with associates, subordinates, and the general academic community. She encouraged creativity and initiatives aimed at meeting and serving the library’s user community. She was very friendly as head of library, without compromising standards. Her leadership style will continue to inspire many librarians who had worked with her.

Margaret as an advocate of Continuous Professional Development

The concept of professional development to Margaret was very germane in improving professional knowledge, competence, skills and effectiveness. To her, professional development in librarianship encompasses the following:

- Furthering education in a specific subject area.
- Training or mentoring in specialised area.
- Earning a certification in a particular program or software.
- Professional learning communities (working with colleagues), collaboratively creating new course or themes.
- Acquiring leadership skills.
- Workshop, conferences and seminars

She encouraged associates and subordinates to attend workshop and conferences. She personally took them along with her to local conferences and workshops. She believed that this helps to build and maintain morale of staff members.

Margaret as a Writer and Editor

Dr Mrs Ugboma loved writing. Research and writing formed a holistic part of Margaret's personality. As a writer, she published several articles in local and international journals on major themes in librarianship, ranging from:

- Bridging the digital divide
- Use of libraries
- Access to information
- Public libraries
- Use of mobile phones in library services
- Use of e-mail in library and information service delivery
- Information provision and utilization
- Library funding
- Indigenous knowledge
- Literacy skills

Dr Mrs Ugboma had published 2 books in librarianship -“Literature and Library Services for Children 1st and 2nd ed.” and “Building Library Collections”. The philosophy behind all of her writing and publishing activities was that “everyone, no matter what they do, or where they come from, should be able to benefit from the power of the written word”.

As an Editor, Ugboma paid attention to details. She was meticulous and courageous in taking editorial decisions as Editor-in-Chief of Information Impact: Journal of Information and Knowledge Management (IIJKM). She concentrated on the focus, development and organization of every article. It was her dream to position IIJKM as a vehicle for reporting and reviewing the latest research, ongoing developments and case studies in the sciences of information and knowledge management in Africa. It is in this light, that this edition (Vol.7.No.1, June 2016) is dedicated to her memories. Like the previous issues, we have

brought together high quality empirical findings and essays on developmental issues in information and knowledge management.

In his paper that focuses on risk management strategies in university libraries in northern Nigeria, Lawal Umar, contextualizes the way university libraries monitor and manage risk. The role of libraries in development is also central to another article which draws our attention to attitudes and solutions to the problem of plagiarism among university students. Aliyu and Camble's study focuses on the manner of collaboration on research and teaching activities of academics in North East, Nigeria and the impact and opportunities, collaboration offers. The application of e-learning system in higher education and the opportunities it provides were highlighted in Joseph, Obille, John and Shuaibu's proposal for the development of e-learning system for the Department of Library and Information Science, Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola. This plan offers details for the design and implementation of e-learning system in tertiary institutions. An examination of the effect of user education on undergraduates' use of an academic library was carried out by Uwakwe, Onyeneke and Njoku. This study offers a glimpse on the relationship between information literacy and use of the library resources and services.

The application of the principles of information management to the acquisition, organization and dissemination and use of information in organizations is at the core of Arua and Ukwuaba's essay on effective information management in academic libraries in Nigeria. The need for university libraries in Nigeria to fully embrace marketing in order to achieve its primary objective of serving the needs of users is the focus of Ifijeh, Adebayo, Ilogho, Asaolu and Onuoha's paper. This paper highlights the use of social media platforms as well as staff training as key drivers behind marketing library products and services. The importance of quality control and the perils of examination inadequacies in tertiary institutions in Nigeria motivated Aboyade and Aboyade to highlight relevant steps germane to good examination. This paper discusses the imperative to focus on the right steps towards achieving excellence in measurement and evaluation of students in Nigerian institutions of learning.

Ojowhoh's study of staff development and library services focuses on the manner by which staff training and continuous professional development are impacting academic libraries with a focus on job efficiency and satisfaction. The effective use of instructional materials is at the core to understanding performance of students. Through a survey of 28 public secondary schools in Lagos State, Nigeria, Okhakhu, Oladiran and Omoike provide a broad view of available instructional materials as well as access to them, towards achievement of high academic performance. The following article measures autonomy, competence and relatedness of users' needs satisfaction on use of reference sources and services by undergraduates in 3 selected universities in Nigeria. Rabi, Ojukwu and Oladele's work centre on the availability and use of e-books in Nigeria libraries.

On the whole, this feature represents a view of the manner by which the LIS community in Nigeria is increasingly tied together professionally. As we continue to explore several current and emerging themes in LIS, further research, broader concepts and new methodologies are required.