



# L R C N *Bulletin*

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## Librarians Discuss Copyright Laws at LRCN Forum



Group photograph of participants after the Forum

The 6th edition of Librarians' Forum held on 13th July, 2016 at the Conference room of the Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN). The forum discussed Copyright laws in the Digital age.

The Registrar/CEO of LRCN, Dr. Victoria Okojie, in her welcome address reiterated that the forum was quarterly event of the Council that provides a platform for stakeholders in the library and information science sector to discuss topical issues for improved service delivery.

She said the discussants are drawn from reputable organizations to make presentations on issues of the discussion and that comments would be taken from participants after the presentation. The Registrar also stressed that adopting the International Federation of Library Association and Institutions (IFLA) perspective on global copyright issues, LRCN and Copyright Commission has the capacity to synergise to find better ways of dealing with copyright challenges in Nigeria.



Registration of participants



Dr. Victoria Okojie making a comment during the forum

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One of the discussants, Mr. Bitrus Dauda, Director Nigerian Copyrights Commission said that libraries have been not accorded required attention to issues relating to copyright.



Mrs. Margaret Ameh a representative of the US Embassy making her presentation



Cross section of dignitaries at the forum

He therefore informed the participants that the challenge to enact copyright laws on digital resources because of their versatility have been addressed. A new document has been drafted where libraries, archives and museums are captured for copyright laws in the digital era. The document, according to him, is with the National Assembly (NASS) going through legislative process.

Also, Head, Law Library, University of Abuja, Barrister Afegbue Isa Saliu noted that copyright laws can be applied to documents throughout their lifespan. He said copyright laws are meant to encourage creativity and to promote earnings. He stated that websites and databases are not libraries because their resources are not organized and their copyright law is limited to disclaimer only.

There was also a presentation from the representative United State Embassy Information Resource Centre.



Director, Professional Services Department LRCN speaking at the forum



Cross section of participants during the forum

The representatives of the embassy Mrs. Margaret Ameh and Mr. Ahmed Sagir informed the participants that the enormous resources available in the centre are opened for use by the public especially Librarians. They hinted that the centre also promote access to authoritative information on American culture, values and all about the US essentially, for research purposes.

Questions and answers session was taken where participants asked various questions and responses were given accordingly.

Dr Okojie rounded off the forum and also advised the participants to share the knowledge acquired with colleagues in their organizations for improved information service delivery. She also appealed to Librarians to be up-to-date with current trends in librarianship. On the other hand, the former Director (PSD), Mr. Dele Omotoso appreciated the presenters, guests and Council Staff for participating in the Forum. A total of 85 participants attended the event.



Cross section of dignitaries



Cross section of participants

## LRCN Holds Send Forth for Pioneer Director, Others



Pioneer Director,  
Mr Dele Omotoso

The Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria held a send forth ceremony for its retirees and other members of Staff that have left the Council. The ceremony held on 25th July, 2016 at the LRCN conference room. The former staff include the pioneer Director, Professional Services Department (PSD), Mr. Dele Omotoso; Chief Librarian, Dr. Justina Ogbonna and Mr. Seriki Abdulmujeeb (Librarian I). Others are Mrs. Franca Aideloje (Legal officer I) and Mrs. Blessing Ugo-Amadi (Admin. Officer I) who



Former Chief Librarian,  
Dr Justina Ogbonna

resigned their appointments with the Council.

In her opening speech, the Registrar/CEO LRCN, Dr. Victoria Okojie, commended the Council's staff of the spirit of excellence they exhibit in carrying out their official duties.



Dr Okojie making comments at the ceremony



Cross section of LRCN staff during the event

She again noted that the gathering was convened to celebrate people who have left foot prints in the sand of time in librarianship. She poured encomiums on Mr. Dele Omotoso saying he was popular in the profession for his ICT skills. He participated in the development of the first library software and also in the training of Librarians on the software and contributed alot towards the achievement of LRCN mandate according to the Registrar/CEO.



Mr Omotoso receiving a package from Registrar LRCN



Dr Ogbonna receiving a package from Registrar LRCN



Retirees cut their retirement cake supported by friends and former colleagues



Director, Library Services, Federal Ministry of Education, Mr Lawrence Ogundana speaking at the ceremony



LRCN Staff



Dr Okojie with the retirees and friends

For Dr. Ogbonna, Dr. Okojie said her dedication was unparalleled as she was one of the Council's dedicated, honest, reliable Staff who made her marks in meeting targets and deadlines. Her honesty was obvious to all when she served as the National Financial Secretary of the Nigeria Library Association (NLA), according to the CEO. Guests and Council Staff at the occasion showered accolades on the retirees and wished them a successful retirement life.

Responding the retirees thanked the Council and especially, the Registrar for giving them the opportunity to work in a conducive environment. They also appreciated the management for putting together a ceremony in their honour. They advised the Staff to be diligent, loyal and trustworthy in carrying out their duties to earn the confidence of their superiors. They encouraged Staff to uphold and improve on the LRCN values.

Highlights of the ceremony were the presentation of farewell songs, drama on the retirees, gift items, luncheon, dances and a photo session.



Retirees with PSD Staff



Cross section of LRCN management



Dr Okojie with the retirees