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The State – of the – Art of Library Resource Sharing Activities of the Rizal Technological University

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the emergence and integration of information technology, it is rarely possible for a library or information center to have enough resources to fulfill the needs of its clients. What is being delivered is only a portion of what their clients actually need (Ramos & Mohd Ali, 2005). Library Cooperation is recognized as the best way for libraries to cope with the ever increasing challenges: volume of information resources; nature and quality of information; user needs and expectations; information and communication technology competencies and infrastructure; inflated cost of information resources; and staffing needs.

The terms “library cooperation”, “library networking”, “library linkages”, “library collaboration”, “library consortia”, “interlibrary loan”, “document supply”, “document delivery”, “access services”, are used interchangeably to describe formal and informal cooperation, partnership and resource sharing activities in libraries.

Walden (1999) defines resource sharing as “a term used to describe organized attempt by libraries to share materials and services cooperatively so as to provide one another with resources that might otherwise not be available to an individual institution. It represents an attempt to expand the availability of specialized, expensive, or just plain not-owned resources beyond the bounds of a single institution”. Also the Provincial Resource Sharing Network Policy for Alberta Public Library Boards (2009) defined resource sharing as “the common use by two or more libraries of each other's assets, whether they are equipment, staff, knowledge and expertise, materials facilities, and/or information resources”.

In the late 19th century, academic libraries have been expanding upon resource sharing wherein the library journal published articles, collection development, bibliographic services, and exchange publications practicing resource sharing among the libraries. Today, Consortium or resource sharing is considered the popular mode that brings together the librarians and libraries for activities and objectives that cannot be as effectively undertaken individually. It may be regarded as a “network,” an “association,” or a “virtual Library”.

The Centre for Research Libraries was built in Chicago in the 1960s. This centre was to coordinate cooperation among 162 institutions to acquire; store and preserve less frequently used but very expensive research materials for the institutions need. In the 1970s costs of library materials began to go up while library budgets remained almost stagnant. As a result, in 1974 the Columbia, Harvard, and Yale research libraries and those of the New York Public Library founded the Research Libraries Group (RLG). This was born out of the belief that no library can be self-sufficient to satisfy the information needs of all its patrons materially and service-wise. RLG provided databases of library holding created cooperatively by member libraries (Martey 2002).

Canada has the Information Network for Ontario (INFO). Nearly 300 public libraries are connected between South Ontario library service and Ontario library service, using a choice of access by Internet, standalone PC. or CD-ROM. In 1996 the University of Pittsburgh Library System and the University of China exchanged digital full text journal articles over the Internet (Edwards, 1999). Ikpahindi (2006) quoted Oladapo (2005) categorizing resource sharing into three main categories thus: Self-standing, Functional collaboration, Partnership. If the three categories are compared, the differences, according to Ikpahindi (2006), will essentially be related to factors such as: Ownership, Branding and Financing. In the first category, all of the three factors above belong to one organization or library. In the second, the costs may be shared and the branding may indicate this. Ownership is equally with the lead organization/library. In the third case, the cooperating organizations/libraries share the ownership; contribute resources and ‘co-brand’ the resulting product or service. It is important that no library serves as a coordinating centre. As much as possible, it should be decentralized, but there is a need for a monitoring committee. The committee will consist of at least one member from each of the participating libraries. The task of this committee is to ensure that the project is effective; hence there will be a need for the committee to meet regularly. The committee will determine the broad guidelines for operating resource sharing among users in the consortium.

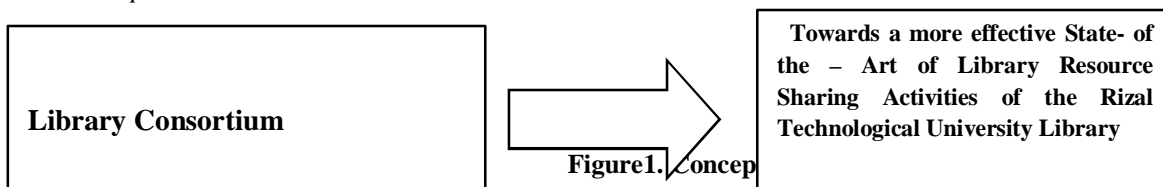
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The Resource Sharing also plays an important role in Rizal Technological University library and reading centers, it has been seized upon as a way of sustaining information services needs of the clients. The institution has a resource sharing network since 2004 until present among government agencies and universities such as in Ortigas Center Library Consortium (OCLC), Philippine Association of Academic & Research Library (PAARL), Inc, Department of Science and Technology, National Economic Development Authority, National Statistics Office (NSO), Baliwag University, UST, Ateneo Library, San Beda College, Adamson University, and University of the East.

Furthermore, the library units who offered services among the clients in Rizal Technological University are the following, namely: College of Business and Entrepreneurial Technology (CBET), College of Engineering and Industrial Technology (CEIT), College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), College of Education (CED), and College of Nursing (CON), Institute of Physical Education (IPERS), and Astronomy. Wherein the Mission of the Department of Libraries is to provide access to information sources and services through a highly motivated team of staff guided by their in- depth knowledge of patron's information needs.

Thus, the researcher endeavored to analyze the effectiveness of resource sharing in the delivery of library services in RTU Library and reading centers among the library users.

A. Conceptual Framework



Resource Sharing is a collaborative arrangement between libraries and information providers in which enhance, develop the common good and making information available to all potential users which is more extensive or more valuable to the user and/or is of lower cost to the collaborating providers. The researcher used critical analysis on the documentary records gathered in which Rizal Technological University Library in resource sharing network among government agencies and universities. In addition, it also used Quantitative analysis through survey questionnaire based on the delivery of services in resource sharing of RTU library and reading centers among the library users.

Hence, the study would be the assessment on the effectiveness of resource sharing network of RTU library among library users. Consequently, the results of the analyses can serve as the bases for recommended measures for the improvement of RTU library services for resource sharing network among library users.

B. Statement of the Problem

This study intended to understand the state- of the – art of Library resource sharing activities of the Rizal Technological University as of school year 2015- 2016.

Specifically, the study was guided by the following research questions.

- 1) What are the schools agencies where the university forged library resource sharing agreements?
- 2) What are the areas of resource sharing with member libraries?
- 3) What are the medium used to locate documents in member libraries?
- 4) What are the problems faced by the library staff while providing resource sharing services?
- 5) What training programs have been implemented on resource sharing for library staff?
- 6) What are the kinds of electronic resources that are accessed in the member libraries?
- 7) What is the satisfaction level of the users regarding availability of resources in the resource sharing libraries?
- 8) What are the suggestions of the library users to improve resource sharing activities of the University library?

C. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The research focused on the effectiveness of RTU library in the delivery of services through resource sharing for the SY 2015- 2016. In this study, library users were included as participants in the assessment of effectiveness in the delivery of services of RTU library and reading centers through resource sharing among government agencies and universities.

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D. Significance of the Study

Resource Sharing is a collaborative effort among and between the libraries. It is often called a “network” or a “virtual library”. In a library consortium enable the members to provide quality and to maximize resources sharing and delivery of library information services from the member libraries.

A consortium provides opportunities for staff to develop new skills, share knowledge and develop library staff to meet the challenges of a rapidly emerging trends in information and technology.

In addition, through smart negotiations and joint purchasing agreements, library consortia can significantly reduce the costs of commercial e-resources and achieve better terms and conditions of use and maximizing value for money. Likewise, to strengthen library cooperation among members for the improvement of library services and resources.

Finally, the findings of this study will provide an insight to improve and develop the library services of Rizal Technological University.

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND STUDIES

This chapter presents a review of related literature and thematic outline adopted for this study. These were derived through extensive research from books, journals, theses and other published and unpublished papers which cover the library consortium as a tool in the effective delivery of library services in Rizal Library.

A. Defining Resource Sharing

Sharing of resources assumes that there is 'idle or spare capacity' of the resource i.e., availability of excess than required. Shift systems followed in case of colleges, plants, capital intensive equipment and library reading room are some examples. Maintaining an army for 100 days to be used for an hour is a typical case where enormous spare capacity exists for resource sharing.

Resource sharing assumes that resources are not uniformly distributed and there is wide disparity between resources available to individuals by reasons of geographic location or socio-economic position. Resource sharing stresses on equality and caring for under privileged and under served users who often suffer from resource constraints. As regards intellectual resource is concerned, it is divide up work and share results is the motto. Resource constraints include in them inflation, budgetary cuts and reduction in buying power (cost saving appears to be the main factor).

Resource sharing assumes underutilization of resources and intends to maximize use of scarce resources. It looks for possibilities of stretching limited resources to achieve judicious utilization of available resources to optimize cost to benefit ratio. It is widely known from 80/20 Rule that a small segment of resources meet a large part of requirements. As a corollary, resource sharing assumes the Resource sharing: need for bridging gap knowledge of cost and use of resources in question. Resource sharing assumes that needs of users is increasingly diverse, interdisciplinary and ever expanding and hence improved or enhanced access to needed information and to greater range of materials and/or better depth in a subject area (not necessarily mean faster service) is a necessity.

Need for avoiding unnecessary duplication of resources and difficulty in achieving self sufficiency by any library in the era of information explosion/ exponential growth of literature is yet another assumption of resource sharing. Resource sharing also assumes that there is economy in cooperative common operations and procedures and there is a need to avoid unnecessary duplication of work. Proposing cooperative system as an alternative to centralized system, expects improvement in working relations between cooperating libraries and enable library to have better knowledge of its collection. It is also assumed by resource sharing philosophy that new technologies open up new avenues for cooperation and resource sharing and offer greater staff specialization, better overall performance, better or additional service and greater user satisfaction.

Resource sharing assumes that accurate, exhaustive and up-to-date bibliographical information about holdings of member libraries as well as who has what in terms of specific subject fields are known. It also assumes that tools like 'RLG Conspectus' help making more informed decisions regarding acquisitions, collection development, fund allocations, budget requests, grants and preservation.

The concept of resource sharing has been used in the developed countries as a means to alleviate the resource inadequacies of individual libraries. In Africa, there were several ways to provide information services. Rosenberg (2001) in her paper “The sustainability of libraries and resource centers in Africa” quoted a Kenyan librarian who concluded that “there is no doubt that resource sharing programs have a significant role to play in developing countries, given the problem of scarce resources” and “if libraries are to continue to meet the demands of other users, increased cooperation and resource sharing are vital”. Even though the universities have little to share, it may help future sharing of acquisitions in the most demanding subject areas.

In an article by Edward Shreeves (2010), the concept of “resource sharing” is based largely on three functions, namely,

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bibliographic access, interlibrary lending services, and cooperative The purpose of cooperation among the libraries are the following: to know what is available for sharing from other libraries through union catalogs, bibliographic listings, OPACS, indexes and other bibliographic utilities; to avail of expedited interlibrary loans and document; Delivery services; and, to build complementary collections of materials on which to draw.

B. The Value of Library Consortium

In this digital age, academic libraries are struggling to keep their place as the major source of inquiry of every library users. It has revolutionized not only on the way information is packaged, processed, stored, and disseminated, but also how users seek and access information. Today, Academic libraries no longer restrict because of the extended efforts in the computer software, hardware and other technologies to print services such as collection development, cataloguing and classification, circulation and reference services, current awareness, selective dissemination, and other bibliographic services (Anunobi, 2008).

As observe by Campbell (2006), numerous creative and useful services have evolved within academic libraries in the digital age: providing quality learning spaces, creating metadata, offering virtual reference services, teaching formation literacy, choosing resources and managing resource licenses, collecting and digitizing archival materials, and maintaining digital repositories". Academic libraries presently are faced with not only the decision on what books and journals to acquire to satisfy faculty and students but also how to remain relevant in the digital era, mindful of low budgets and resentment on the part of institutional administrators. There is also the issue of library users opting for alternate, more convenient, and "qualitative" sources of information (the internet). As Lombardi (2000) notes, users will prefer more computer content, more and more computer indices, digitized finding aids, digital repositories of articles, online access to newspapers, etc. Libraries also struggle with when, how, who, and where to begin digitization efforts, while keeping in mind that hesitation in the digitization of institutional archives will result in relinquishing the function to another institutional repository host. The consequence is repositioning of academic libraries resources, operations, services and skills. Resources today occur in hybridized form: print and electronic, and therefore, services provided and skills possessed by professionals in these libraries should reflect that trend. Libraries have always served as access points for information. Services have evolved from the days of closed stacks, through shelf browsing and card catalogues, punch cards, and OPCS, to the concept of open access and institutional repositories (Cisse 2004). This historic migration has tried to satisfying the changing needs of library users including ease of access, interaction richness, low interaction and low cost. Eisenberg (1990) remarks that access is more important than ownership. The underlying issue becomes the provision of information resources in offices, hostels, classrooms, homes, etc., regardless of where the information is found.

Dr. Chinwe V. Anunobi ICT Librarian in Nigeria stated that "recognizing the importance of a new mode of information access, academic libraries took responsibility for automation. Funding bodies such as the Federal Ministry of Education in Nigeria introduced the Virtual Library Project, which pulls together resources electronically, connecting all the academic libraries in Nigeria, with the hub at the National Universities Commission (Federal Ministry of Education 2000). The participating libraries become access points to the universal information resources. Whether through a consortium or by independent subscription, academic libraries acquire and disseminate electronic portals and databases. The Consortium of Nigerian University (NULIB) has subscribed to EBSCOhost. Internet portals include Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA), Health Internetwork Access to Research Initiatives (HINARI), Online Access to Research in the Environment (OARE), Database of African Theses and Dissertation (DATAD), and many offline databases including MEDLINE. These are global information resources which could be accessed through academic library gateways.

Crow (2002) describes as institutional repositories as, "digital collections capturing and preserving the intellectual output of a single or multi- university community." an institutional repository is a way of reducing the cost of scholarly publication and increasing visibility and access of scholarly research from faculty and students of academic institutions by hosting them in the institution's, professional societies, or third- party provider's website. The institutional repository is a sort of mirror image of print institutional archives, and in some academic institution is being maintained by the institution's library. While academic libraries were at the center providing access to print archives, the institutional repository has given them the responsibility of providing access and also interoperability functions (standardizing metadata formats and metadata harvesting). For the improvement of quality and information services through the systematic acquisition organization and dissemination of knowledge, various library associations have been set up at national and state level. They annually organized conferences, seminars and training programs to trained and update library professionals with latest development in LIS. Recently libraries and research organizations realize the importance of digital libraries and they started the work of digitization of important documents.

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According to DOST-ESEP Consortium to achieve the above consortial goals, and to succeed, certain ingredients were required: a shared vision and philosophy; a well-focused organization, perceived cost-effectiveness; accessibility of the network's resources; staff skills, attitudes and commitment; the quality of response provided; the depth and range of resources available; network visibility and the image

As Thompson (2004) reported, most libraries justify consortial membership costs by arguing that they realize savings through consortial deals for journal packages or databases. Several other good articles have analyzed the benefits of consortial participation with a focus on savings that resulted from cooperative collection development efforts. Bosch, Lyons, Munroe, Perrault, and Sugnet (2003) identified performance measures and data points to determine if cooperative collection development activities were successful, especially in reducing costs. Kohl and Sanville (2006) argued that libraries ought to focus on long-term strategies for improving cost effectiveness rather than responding to short-term goals to reach necessary budget reductions. They demonstrated how this focus can have impact on "four rather different areas of library service agendas" and "can improve the cost-benefit ratio of library expenditures: sharing printed books, storing print materials, providing access to the journal literature electronically, and providing access to electronic versions of library special collections, faculty publications, or university projects through a consortial institutional repository" (Kohl & Sanville, 2006, pp. 394–395). Even in the arena of collection development and database licensing, however, much of the focus on cost effectiveness is actually more about cost avoidance rather than on true costs savings. Multiple websites of academic library consortia scrutinized by the author provide this type of cost evidence to demonstrate the financial benefits that consortia provide to members and/or to stakeholders.

Specifically, Barnes, Blake, and Pinder (2009) argued that "a value proposition statement is a clear, compelling and credible expression of the experience that a customer will receive from a supplier's measurably value-creating offering, where Value = Benefits minus Cost. The capability or what you can do for a customer and the impact of how that will help the customer To succeed; the cost is what the customer must pay for the privilege" (2009, p. 28). On the other hand, Oakleaf (2010) discussed on financial value of library consortium, which is similar to the termed financial value, cost/benefit analysis, return-on-investment, or value for money, is based upon the following formula: Library value = perceived benefits/perceived costs" (p. 20). He also discuss the success of library consortia services is contribute from the library users/ stakeholders such as student enrollment, student retention and graduation rates, student achievement, faculty research productivity.

Kohl and Sanville (2006) argued that libraries ought to focus on long-term strategies for improving cost effectiveness rather than responding to short-term goals to reach necessary budget reductions. They demonstrated how this focus can have impact on "four rather different areas of library service agendas" and "can improve the cost-benefit ratio of library expenditures: sharing printed books, storing print materials, providing access to the journal literature electronically, and providing access to electronic versions of library special collections, faculty publications, or university projects through a consortial institutional repository.

Through smart negotiations and joint purchasing agreements, library consortia can significantly reduce the costs of commercial e-resources and achieve better terms and conditions of use, thereby maximizing value for money. Sharing human resources provides opportunities for staff to develop new skills and to engage in joint advocacy, marketing, service development, technology deployment and fundraising efforts. In summary, the benefits include: Reduction in the costs of e-resources; Ability to negotiate favourable terms and conditions of uses; Expansion of services and resources; Sharing of staff skills and expertise to strengthen library leadership; increased effectiveness of advocacy for policy change; Promotes cost effective, customer driven services.

Moreover, the benefits of library consortia from the perspective of shared purchasing of electronic resources and collection development along with resource sharing (circulation and interlibrary loan) and networked systems. McKee (2005) talked about the benefits to develop the consortial partners to influence their power as a group not just for pricing but for other licensing rights (cancellation, "blow up" clauses, interlibrary loan, etc.). While, Kinner and Crosetto (2009) also pointed out a number of benefits that come from libraries that collaborate for collection development purposes. In addition to leveraged buying power, Guzzy's (2010) review reported several positive attributes of academic library consortia such as: there is a strong sense of community and commitment; professional development components and helpful and knowledgeable consortia staff members.

On the other hand, Lugg and Fischer (2010) expounded on the benefits related to network-level services as well as the benefits accrued when meeting the demands for managing print collections. In their examination of the successful implementation of OCLC's VDX software to create a shared interlibrary loan system for the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), they found out the benefit of new knowledge that individuals as well as participating institutions acquire from collaborative activities.

C. Barriers to Cooperation and Resource Sharing

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Local self-sufficiency goals and 'ownership paradigm': It is believed that 'ownership' continued to be the most effective means of accomplishing the job of bringing the patron and information together. Two corollaries of this paradigm are: (i) 'more is better' i.e., "the more information owned, the better the chance a library has of resource sharing : need for bridging gap bringing the user and the information together" and (ii) "the less important a subject is to a library's own patrons, the more likely it will agree to rely upon others to collect in their areas". Technological advancements provide opportunities to pursue local self-sufficiency goals and centralization. Competitiveness of Institutions and covert move for centralization: Autonomy of actions desired by librarians: Such desire may be due to (i) distrusting others, (ii) uncertainty of fiscal features, (iii) lack of knowledge of needs of users, (iv) librarians doubt their own ability to keep agreements, and they expect the same behavior of their resource sharing partners. Size and status consciousness of established libraries, Difficulties in arriving at mutually agreeable collecting responsibilities without adversely affecting the growth rate of participating libraries. Urgency of user requirements: Both real and artificial urgency i.e., McDonald's mentality of wanting material fast and immediately have to be understood and distinguished. Psychological and egoistic barriers from users, librarians and staff: Psychological and egoistic barriers are covert in nature and they may arise due to inertia, indifference or unwillingness to change or by viewing resource sharing as a threat to status and job security or personal needs taking priority over system needs or personality differences or strong and dominant personalities and their strong authority drive in the group.

Resource sharing: need for bridging gap interestingly, passive resistance is more difficult to overcome than active opposition and more the number of people involved in decision making, the more difficult it becomes to achieve agreement. As a case study, reproduced below is an extract of a letter received from a librarian of an esteemed library in response to an invitation for a meeting to discuss resource sharing among special libraries in Bangalore: "Right now the information centre is concentrating on a vital project of networking of Bangalore-based libraries with the ICA as a nodal point". Since we are busy in this new direction, our concentration has been more on matter connected with the activities. We are alive to the need for resource sharing among the S&T libraries. We are already discharging our obligation. "These activities necessarily take our time and attention, and as a result, we are unable to participate in your proposed inter library cooperation meeting. Kindly ... forgive us". Discouragement from past experiences: Such discouragement could be due to changing interests of members, lack of adequate communication of modifications to members, lack of adequate data and costing of the system, etc. Farmington plan is often cited as an example. One of the libraries while responding to an invitation to form Bangalore Special Libraries Group (BSLG) has said that similar exercise has already been done by them and issues concerning resource sharing have been analyzed thread bare. Traditional / Institutional barriers: These barriers include idiosyncratic rules, procedures, regulations and decisions of institutions, inability to satisfy local needs, special rules, institutional competitions, funding problems, etc.

Physical and geographical barriers: (i) inadequate space, physical distance, etc. (ii) Procedure may not allow reciprocal borrowing rights (eg. defense establishments) (iii) Telephone, local transport, courier, etc. cost time and money (iv) Lack of up-to-date union catalogues and other access tools (v) Non-print materials are not allowed outside one's library 4.11 Legal, political and administrative barriers: including copyright, jurisdictions, and initial dual

D. *Inherent Limitations Of Resource Sharing Philosophy*

Resource sharing should take into account why and how users seek, collect and use information and tolerable delay in supplying information. In other words, one has to understand that the process and success of matching a need with a source of information is subjected to cost- efficiency, errors of matching, ignorance of user about a source, strength, urgency, clarity and certainty of need, initiative, drive, self-motivation, objectivity, habits, styles, idiosyncrasies, past experience, cultural and social settings and user expertise, alternatives like relying on memory, skirting around the issue, accepting incomplete, vague or relatively unsatisfactory information, abandoning the need / search, availability and knowledge of existence of a source, physical proximity, accessibility, ease of use, and perceived utility of the source.

1) *Loss of Browsability*: 'Current approach' (Voigt) or keeping abreast with latest developments or staying competent and up-to-date in the profession is the most predominant purpose of using information sources which in turn emphasizes extensive 'brows ability' of information sources and CAS for both accidental acquisition of information as well as for deliberate hunt. As such maximum time is spent by end user in browsing information resources. Resource sharing affects 'current approach' and loss of brows ability is a serious drawback of resource sharing. Union lists are not substitutes for browsing the material. Further, users depend more on recommendations of colleagues and experts, citations in current reading materials, chance acquisition, browsing and searching on library shelves than searching surrogates like library catalogues, secondary journals and other access

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tools. The accidental acquisition of information (i.e., coming to know of a source of information or information itself by chance in an unplanned and unintentional way in unfocused browsing and scanning of literature) which is highly valued by scientists and engineers can be increased by increased browsing activity.

- 2) Inevitable Delay in Supply of Information Generally, engineers and technologists have tended to ignore information found late i.e., after their designs were 'frozen'. Delay in supply of information for 'everyday approach' and 'current approach' is not tolerable whereas for information for 'exhaustive approach' has flexible and liberal time frame. Average delivery time for material obtained from elsewhere is always more than that needed for delivery of item from one's own library. Inter Library Loan delays are inevitable and more the standardization prescribed in the network more time and efforts are required in following the protocols or filling the forms.

E. Resource Sharing through Network is not always Cost Efficient

Inter library loan costs should be less than the cost of the material. Moreover, users tend to select from what is available on the shelf and most of them do not really need or want the material enough to pay the price libraries place on its delivery. In other words, the process of matching a need for information with a source of information will not be meeting the conditions of cost-efficiency in many cases due to cost involved in terms of subscription to networks, development of tools, movement of materials, etc. Duplication of resources is very much necessary and it is a direct implication of duplication or overlapping interests, activities, work and efforts between institutions. If there are three research institutions in a city with the same area of interest subscribing to three copies of a journal in that discipline is obvious. Any amount of crying about rationalization of periodical acquisition with statements like 'there is 30% duplicate among libraries of close clusters' and accusing by theoreticians by saying that 'institutions which don't have a problem of funds, don't also bother to find out what their neighbors have been acquiring; they are also less keen to make their massive holdings available for outside users' will not solve the problems. The ivory tower suggestions like exchange of notes among institutions with major holdings need to be compared with RLG Conspectus and collection assessment process to know how theoretical these suggestions are. It is interesting to note that the amount of duplication of effects in terms of user meets, seminars and workshops on networking as well as software like CDS/ISIS is stupendous. Surprisingly, in a recent issue of Nature some body wishfully states that no two libraries in India will import the same periodical and all journals will be pooled. Non-availability of Up-to-date Access Tools: Accurate, exhaustive and up-to-date bibliographical information about holdings of member libraries is not so easy to create and maintain; who has what in terms of specific subject fields is also not known. Local Non-availability of an Item being shared: Any item shared with a cooperative library will normally be not available for its primary members for the period of loan including renewal period and either way transit time. As such no library should try to get benefit of resource sharing at the cost of the other. Lending Material Shortens its Life through the Physical Wear on the Material: Even though materials worth preserving lose much of their value to scholarship if they are not shared wear and tear on frequent movement of material as well as transit damages could be fatal to material. Social Loafing: The social loafing is based on the phenomenon that the whole is often less than the sum of its individual parts. It is well known that the combined efficiency of libraries A and B has to be equal or less than that of either of them. Pulling rope in a tug-of-war is often cited as an illustration to cite the social loafing phenomenon. In such a situation sharing the load or the social facilitation depends on (i) presence of observer (ii) identifiably (iii) approval or acknowledgement of job well done (iv) responsibility (sharing) (v) criteria for membership in the group and (vi) nature and reliability of the group. Interestingly, even in interpersonal information sharing, semantic, physical and personal barriers exist and information sharing depends on content, context and persons. Something for Nothing Syndrome: A corollary of social loafing is the something for nothing syndrome which means each participant covertly assumes that they will have some benefit of the cooperative system without sacrificing anything. Placing emphasis on ease of access and speed of delivery participants ignore costs of such systems. As mentioned earlier, ILL services have to be charged to know their costs. These are trade offs. One gets nothing for nothing. Good service costs time and money and there are no magic formulae for gaining extra time or services.

All these reviewed literature such as Edward Shreeves (2010), Lugg and Fischer (2010) Kinner and Crosetto (2009), Ackermann (2007), Covey (2002), Rosenberg (2001) and studies serve as the indicators in the present study. Based on the above discussion, through resource sharing, it improve the cost-benefit ratio of library expenditures: sharing printed books, storing print materials, providing access to the journal literature electronically, and providing access to electronic versions of library special collections, faculty publications, or university projects.

III. METHODOLOGY

The topics discussed in this chapter include the method of research or research design, sampling procedure techniques and

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instruments used, and the statistical treatment of data.

A. Research Method Used

The researcher used the descriptive method. According to Calderon and Gonzales (1993), descriptive research is a fact-finding study with adequate and accurate interpretation of findings. It describes with emphasis what actually exists, such as current conditions, practices, solutions and other phenomena. Descriptive research satisfies the requirements of the present investigation since it assess the effectiveness of RTU library and reading centers in the delivery of services through resource sharing for the SY 2015- 2016. The researchers used sampling technique which consists of two – staged approaches. The first stage was the stratified random sampling and after stratifying the respondents into four specific groups namely: CBET, CED, CEIT, and CAS another sampling techniques was used called the systematic random sampling. In this technique, was a kth score was determined for each group. The selection of participants is the library users among respective colleges. Further, the documents includes the data generated generated from the RTU library and reading centers. In addition, the quantitative approach is also used for the distribution of survey questionnaire among the library users to assess the extent of effectiveness of the RTU library services through resource sharing.

Table 1
Distribution of Respondents by Gender, Age and per Course

Profile Variable	CAS (121)		CBET (142)		CEIT (128)		CED (58)		Total Group N=449	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
<u>Gender</u>										
Male	44	36.4	43	30.28	119	92.96	8	13.79	214	47.66
Female	67	55.4	89	62.67	9	7.031	50	86.21	215	47.88
No response	10	8.3	10	7.042	0	0	0	0	20	4.54
<u>Age</u>										
16 to 25	110	90.9	123	86.62	52	40.6	58	100	343	76.40
26 to 35	11	9.09	19	13.38	46	35.94	0	0	76	16.92
36 to 45	0	0	0	0	30	23.44	0	0	30	6.68
No response	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1 reveals that of the 449 respondents, wherein are female which constitute 47.48 percent while the males which constitute 47.66 percent. Some respondents did not indicate their gender (4.54%). Closer scrutiny of the data presented in the Table would reveal that the sector with a big number of female in every colleges with 47.88 out of 449 respondents.

Table 2
Library Users Assessment on the Book Donation

Indicators	CED		CBET		CEIT		CAS		TOTAL	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
Hardcover and paperback books in good condition.	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.00	E
Commercially published media (e.g., CDs, DVDs, videos)	4.00	E	2.50	ME	4.00	E	4.45	E	3.73	E
Magazine donated are educational/ informative / useful.	3.50	E	3.50	E	3.50	E	2.50	ME	3.25	ME
The book donated is Recent editions and current	3.50	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	3.87	E
The book / magazine donated are outdated.	1.50	SV	1.50	NE	1.50	NE	1.50	SV	1.50	SV
The books donated are related in the course.	3.50	E	3.50	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	3.75	E
OVER ALL RATING	3.33	ME	2.71	ME	3.0	ME	3.40	ME	3.11	ME

Legend: Verbal Interpretation (VI) Scale of the computed mean:

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4.50-5.00= Very Effective (VE)

1.50- 2.49= Slightly Effective (SV)

3.50-4.49= Effective (E)

1.00-1.49= Not Effective (NE)

2.50-3.49= Moderately Effective (ME)

The respondent's assessment in which the overall mean is 3.11 with the verbal interpretation moderately effective. In other words, the library encourages improving the services for book donation and linkages in other universities/ government offices.

Table 3

Library Users Assessment on Gift Exchange Publication

Indicators	CED		CBET		CEIT		CAS		TOTAL	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
The book donated are in good/ physical condition (falling apart, missing pages, have yellowed paper) or heavily annotated	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.10	E	4.20	E	4.08	E
The book is Contains mold, mildew, pests or stains	4.00	E	4.30	E	4.25	E	4.35	E	4.23	E
The textbooks donated are current and updated.	4.00	E	4.43	E	4.50	VE	4.45	E	4.34	E
The books is not Extremely brittle materials	4.00	E	4.30	E	4.45	E	4.30	E	4.26	E
The books donated are appropriate for the library collection or fit in current collecting goals.	4.50	VE	4.20	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.17	E
The book donated is not Photocopies or loose-leaf publications	4.00	E	4.35	E	4.30	E	4.00	E	4.16	E
OVER ALL RATING	4.08	E	4.26	E	4.26	E	4.21	E	4.20	E

Legend: Verbal Interpretation (VI) Scale of the computed mean:

4.50-5.00= Very Effective (VE)

1.50- 2.49= Slightly Effective (SV)

3.50-4.49= Effective (E)

1.00-1.49= Not Effective (NE)

2.50-3.49= Moderately Effective (ME)

The respondent's assessment in which the overall means is 4.20 with the verbal interpretation of "Effective". In other words, the library need further linkages in gift/ exchange donation to provide an excellence services among the library users.

Table 4

Library Users Assessment on Reference and Information Service

Indicators	CED		CBET		CEIT		CAS		TOTAL	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
Reference and information service points should be easy to locate.	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.10	E	4.20	E	4.08	E
Reference and information services are evaluated periodically.	4.00	E	4.30	E	4.25	E	4.35	E	4.23	E

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It also provides reference service to many non-university users when giving routine reference and information services.	4.00	E	4.43	E	4.50	VE	4.45	E	4.34	E
Reference and information services are publicized utilizing all appropriate forms of communication media.	4.00	E	4.30	E	4.45	E	4.30	E	4.26	E
Bibliographic verification of materials is provided.	4.50	VE	4.20	E	4.00	E	4.00	E	4.17	E
The needs of library users are taken seriously and treated with respect	4.00	E	4.35	E	4.30	E	4.00	E	4.16	E
OVER ALL RATING	4.08	E	4.26	E	4.26	E	4.21	E	4.20	E

Legend: Verbal Interpretation (VI) Scale of the computed mean:

4.50-5.00= Very Effective (VE)

1.50- 2.49= Slightly Effective (SV)

3.50-4.49= Effective (E)

1.00-1.49= Not Effective (NE)

2.50-3.49= Moderately Effective (ME)

The respondent's assessment in which the overall means is 4.20 with the verbal interpretation of "Effective". In other words, the library need improve the reference and information service to provide excellent services among library users.

IV. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. Based on the results and discussion, the following summary of findings is drawn.

- 1) The school's agencies where the university forged library resource sharing agreements. The institution has a resource sharing network since 2004 until present among government agencies and universities such as in Ortigas Center Library Consortium (OCLC), Philippine Association of Academic & Research Library (PAARL), Inc, Department of Science and Technology, National Economic Development Authority, National Statistics Office (NSO), Baliwag University, UST, Ateneo Library, San Beda College, Adamson University, and University of the East.
- 2) The areas of resource sharing with member libraries. The areas of resource sharing of RTU libraries and reading centers are the following: Book donation and gift exchange publication and Reference and Information Service.
- 3) The medium used to locate documents in member libraries. The medium used to locate in member libraries is through on- line public access and catalogue.
- 4) The problems faced by the library staff while providing resource sharing services. Due to lack of budget RTU library is not been connected to E- Library data based which is connected to the several library consortium and lack of staff to digitized the library collection.
- 5) Training programs have been implemented on resource sharing for library staff. The training programs have been implemented of the university library on resource sharing for library staff is the seminars, library tour, extension services in the community, attending international book fair.
- 6) The kinds of electronic resources that are accessed in the member libraries. The electronic resources that are accessed in the libraries are data pacific and DOST.
- 7) The satisfaction level of the users regarding availability of resources in the resource sharing libraries. The satisfaction level of the users in the availability of resources in the resource sharing of libraries is effective in terms of book donation, gift exchange publication and Reference and Information service.
- 8) The suggestions of the library users to improve resource sharing activities of the University library. The administration should allocate budget for the university library, encouraging seminars to enhance the capability of the library staff, new acquisition of books as part of collection development program of the university library.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the conclusions are the following:

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- A. The RTU library has several resources sharing since 2004 until present.
- B. The areas of resource sharing of RTU libraries and reading centers are the following: Book donation and gift exchange publication and Reference and Information Service.
- C. The medium used to locate in member libraries are through on- line public access and catalogue.
- D. The problems faced by the library staff in resource sharing services is budget provided by the administration.
- E. There was several training programs have been implemented on resource sharing for library staff.
- F. There were electronic resources that are accessed in the libraries.
- G. The satisfaction level of the users regarding availability of resources in the resource sharing libraries is effective.
- H. The major suggestions of the library users to improve resource sharing activities of the University library are allocation of budget.
- I. *Recommendations*
 - 1) The RTU Library and reading center should continue the resource sharing among other libraries and public and private agencies.
 - 2) The RTU library and reading center should improve the resource sharing services among other member libraries.
 - 3) The member libraries should continue and improve to locate in medium used through on- line public access and catalogue.
 - 4) The administration should allocate budget for the problems faced by the library staff in resource sharing services.
 - 5) The library staff should continue the several training programs on resource sharing to provide excellent library services.
 - 6) There should improve the electronic resources that are accessed in the libraries.
 - 7) The satisfaction level of the users in availability of resources in the resource sharing libraries must be improved to provide excellent library resources.
 - 8) The administration must allocate budget to improve resource sharing activities of the University library to satisfy the library users.

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