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Education Management Information System, and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study investigated the interrelationship between Management Information System and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria. Three research questions with corresponding hypotheses guided the study. The study was anchored on Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) by Davis, F. D. (1989) and supported by, Adaptive Structuration Theory (AST) by DeSanctis and Poole, (1994) and System Theory by Bertalanffy (1956). Correlational survey research design was adopted for the study. 5,455 (seven Vice-chancellors and 5,448 lecturers) obtained from all the seven Federal Universities in the North Central Geo-Political Zone of Nigeria. The sample size of the study consisted of 1,740 respondents (seven Vice-Chancellors and 1733 lecturers). The study used 'Educational Management Information System, Lecturers' Job Performance and Administration of Universities (EMISLJPAU)' for data collection. The instrument yielded 0.74 as the validity index. The instruments produced 0.78 as the reliability index. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while **Pearson's** Product Moment Correlation was employed to test the hypotheses. The findings of the study indicated that there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria, there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial

management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria, there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria, there is a significant relationship between and administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria, there is a significant interrelationship between Education Management Information System lecturers' job performance and administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria. The study recommended that the management of federal Universities in the North Central Geo-Political Zone of Nigeria should mandate Heads of Departments to appoint external examiners to vet their final years' examination questions, answer sheets and access the students' projects to enhance effective management of academic programmes of the Federal Universities It was recommended among others that all Federal Universities in the North Central Geopolitical zone of Nigeria should ensure that all the activities related to students' registration are done electronically to avoid delay and long queue by students as a result of manual process of registration.

Keywords: EMIS, Administration, Students registration, Financial management and Staff management.

Introduction

The success of university education in the 21st century would not only be determined based on the number of employees, available funds, school facilities, equipment, research activities and instructional materials available at the disposal of the school managers but paramount among the factors that may facilitate the successful administration of the university system is the nature of information management (Bello, 2019). The complex nature of the university system as a result of regular expansion in terms of introduction of additional academic programmes has brought about the increment in high level of enrolment and staff employment. As such, the operations o university system become complex and require proper management of information of system to enhance effective financial management, planning, decision-making, control and monitoring of students and staff activities. Effective decision-making is one of the major responsibilities of all the administrators in universities, as a result, they require relevant and timely information to assist in making decisions that would make universities to be well-organized and coordinated because accurate and relevant information may reduce uncertainty especially when it is

used rightly for the intended purpose (Nakpodia, 2018).

The goals of University education in Nigeria according the Federal Republic of Nigeria (FRN, 2013) are as follows:

1. Intensifying and diversifying its programmes for the development of high level manpower within the context of the needs of the nation;
2. Making professional course contents to reflect the national requirements;
3. To make all students to be part of the general programme of all-round improvement in university education;
4. To offer general study courses such as history of ideas, philosophy of knowledge, nationalism and Information Technology (IT); and
5. To make entrepreneurial skills acquisition a requirement for all Nigerian universities' students.

The above goals of university education may be difficult to achieve in the face of continuous use of traditional information system which is dominated with paper and pen communication, face-to-face dissemination of information, manual storage of records, processing, retrieval, transmision and exchange of information which sometimes lead to delay in having access to accurate and reliable data for effective university administration by Vice-Chancellors and other management team of the university system (Fasasi, 2014). In this situation, EMIS has been integrated into the administrative affairs of universities in order to provide information for proper planning and coordination of activities such as financial records, staff and students' records to enable the public have easy access to the services and activities of universities irrespective of where they are resided. The advent of information and communication technology has produced a significant impact on the implementation and development of the use of information system that is capable of transforming raw data into useful information through the input, process and output activities to be used for effective management purposes (Oluwuo, 2019).

Education Education Management Information System (EMIS) is concerned with the process of collecting, processing, storing and transmitting relevant information to support the management operations in any organizations (Ajayi & Omirin & Fadekemi 2017). Thus, the success of planning and decision-making which constitutes the heart of administrative process in universities depends on the available information. Without information obtained through a reliable source, there are no alternatives to compare and without a comparison of alternatives, the choice of a particular course of action is unlikely to yield the desired result because a well-managed information may enhance effective planning, organizing, directing, budgeting and controlling which are the key functions of administration. Adebayo (2017) highlights some of the characteristics of EMIS to include: an information focus, designed for managers in an organization;

structured information flow; an integration of data processing; and an inquiry and report generation.

Education Education Management Information System (EMIS) is aimed at generating information through the processing of data to enhance effective administration of universities through proper coordination and organization of both the academic and non-academic activities and that of students successfully. Marriot (2011) looked at EMIS as a system that generates accurate, reliable, timely and organizes information so that educational managers and other users could make decisions, solve problems, supervise activities, monitor staff and evaluate progress in an educational institution. It provides information needed to be used by universities' staff to undertake the responsibilities assigned to them with minimal stress. The essence of EMIS is to design a computerized system that would provide useful information to help administrators of Universities to plan and make decisions that would enhance the attainment of the goals of university education. Several data that could be obtained for the purpose of universities' administration are further processed, analyzed, published and disseminated successfully through EMIS to those who require information for the purpose of education.

Education Management Information System (EMIS) is an integral part of university administration because several activities need to be controlled and monitored effectively through the use of modules such as personnel module, students' module, academic affairs module, quality assurance module and so on. Categorizing the affairs of the university system into different forms would enable educational managers to easily identify the weaknesses and strengths of their institutions for the purpose of making decision that may lead to the overall success and effectiveness in the management of their institutions (Oluwuo, 2019).

Administration is the coordination of human, information, material and financial resources to achieve educational goals. It is the arrangement of tasks required to control the operations and activities of a stated plan to achieve the objectives of an institution. It is the responsibilities of universities' managers to plan, organize and coordinate the activities of their various universities in a manner that would facilitate the goal attainment of their institutions. The responsibilities of monitoring the activities of staff, assign responsibilities to staff, monitor staff conduct and students could be done successfully when reliable and accurate information is available to managers of universities. Universities' managers are responsible for planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, budgeting and evaluating all resources which include material, human and financial resources. The activities that are involved in the administration of universities are cumbersome, as such, EMIS would be applied for accurate arrangement and interaction of the various components of the university system (Yusuf, 2020). The staff cadre that constitute the management team of every

university in Nigeria are the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellors (administration and academic), Registrar, the Bursar, Chief Librarian, the Deans, Directors of institutes and Departmental Heads. The above principal officers of every university ensure that the activities of their institutions are properly coordinated through the use of accurate and reliable information that could be generated through standard information system.

A well-managed information system would bring several innovations in the administrative process of universities because it is an effective tool for improving the capacity of the administrators to handle the affairs of their universities successfully since tasks could be designed and performed effectively and efficiently in an electronic form. Registration process in universities is usually a tedious job but the integration of Education Education Management Information System through the use of internet and intranet, registration activities may be conducted easily so that students would undertake their registration exercises successfully irrespective of the number of students that are admitted by a given university (Marire, 2018). EMIS is useful as it assists students to undertake e-registration in payment of school fees, printing of school fees receipts, printing of course registration forms, printing of examination cards and so on. Performing the above job electronically through EMIS would enable universities to have accurate data about each of the students and their registration status. However, it seems the administrators of Federal Universities in North Central do not utilize the e-registration process in the administration of the university system as students are still mandated to submit files which is part of the traditional form of school administration. In some cases, students who registered electronically without submitting their files seem to find it difficult during their graduation as they are normally mandated to search for the files or submit new ones for easy processing of their results. Such traditional approach is not necessary since the universities are required to upgrade the activities of the universities into the e-formats.

EMIS would help administrators to monitor and control the financial activities of universities successfully and in transparent manners. It may be used to forecast and analyze the financial reports, keeping inventory, payment of salary, sales forecasting and to determine the total number and amount of fees paid by students (Oluyemisi, 2018).

The application of EMIS in keeping the financial transactions made by an institution may help to maintain transparency in the management of finances. The emphasis on transparency in financial management by every institution as advocated by the World Bank is one of the major consideration for integrating EMIS into the administration of the university system. The administrators of universities may utilize well-managed information in paying the salaries of staff and keep all expenditures incur by an institution for easy retrieval. Emah (2014) ascertained that the application of Education Management Information System into the administration of the university system may

help institutions to take advantage of electronic banking which is a useful instrument for minimizing misappropriation of funds. In university setting, EMIS could be applied in different ways for financial management through accounting software and spreadsheets like MS Excel.

EMIS is useful for effective staff management in the university system as it could be used for storing records of academic and non-academic staff. Keeping the bio-data of every staff through an effective Education Management Information System could enable the human resource managers to conduct personnel activities through adequate employment, performance evaluation, training, development, promotion, retirement and preparation to replace the prospective retired staff promptly. Staff could be made to sign in online as they resume daily for their various duties. Advancements in digital technology has produced webcams which is another technological means of monitoring staff conduct and keeping them under closed watch. Unlike the traditional closed circuit camera technology, webcams are cameras connected to a network or internet through a computer. As a result, it is a reliable educational tool which assists administrators to monitor the activities of every staff and students from their offices without moving round the school environment (Olumoye, 2018). It seems some Federal Universities in North Central are yet to fully integrate EMIS into the administration of the university system as staff members still go through the laborious exercise of manually registration of students in order to keep accurate students' records, the bursary staff perform the task of financial management through manual keeping of documents, manual payment of bills, printing reports and drawing of architectural designs are still conducted in traditional manners in the 21st century when information is expected to be managed, properly secured and retrieved without delays. The above situations could reduce the level of effectiveness and efficiency in administration of the university system. The dominant traditional system of management which ignores the integration of EMIS into all aspects of the University administrationis worrisome because it may not help the institutions to present accurate and reliable information to the government and NUC especially during accreditation exercises. Worrying by the above situations, the researchers intention is to investigate the relationship between Management Information System, and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Due to the continuous quest for admission into Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria on yearly basis, the process of managing universities is becoming complex, as such, the use of traditional administrative methods that are characterized by paper documents, face-to-face interactions and dissemination of information, manual storage of records, processing, retrieval, transmision and

exchange of information may not be suitable as it would easily influence wastage of resource and ineffectiveness in university administration. Despite the effort of the management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria coordinate and control the activities of their institutions through EMIS, the researcher observed that manual record keeping still dominate the affairs of the universities and this could make it difficult for accurate information to be easily retrieved on time to aid decisions making that would enhance effective administration.

In certain situations, the administrators of universities experience setbacks in terms of delay in handling urgent matters of their institutions as a result of paper-based administrative activities such as circulation of memos for authorization, directives and instructions. Sometimes, such memos may get to the affected staff very late and this is capable of influencing inefficiency in the administration of the university system. It is disheartening to note that the academic activities of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria are still dominated by traditional manual methods which expose students to undue stress as they struggle to submit files and undergo screening as fresh students and in their final years. Some students' names are sometimes omitted from graduation lists as a result of the manual records system. There is poor staff management as they are not provided with modern information management gadgets to enable them undertake their job successfully. Lecturers teach in over-crowded classrooms which necessitate them to shout very loud instead of using EMIS support tools such as electronic bulletin boards or at least e-learning platforms that would help to facilitate effective teaching and learning. Students' results are still computed manually and the consequence of such manual computation could lead to a mistake that may affect some students' grades through admision of certain courses which the students must have already passed. The above problems prompted the researcher to investigated the interrelationship between Management Information System, and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria.

Research Questions

The following research questions were generated for the purpose of this study:

1. What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?
2. What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?
3. What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?

Objective of the Study

The purpose of this study was to investigate the interrelationship between Management Information System, and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria. The following were the specific objectives of the study:

1. To determine the relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.
2. To ascertain the relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.
3. To examine the relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Statement of Hypotheses

The following research hypotheses were generated for the purpose of this study:

HO_1. There is no significant relationship between EMIS and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

HO_2. There is no significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

HO_3. Significant relationship does not exist between Education Management Informatio System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria**.**

Methodology

The study investigated the interrelationship between Management Information System and Administration of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone, Nigeria. Three research questions with corresponding hypotheses guided the study. The study was anchored on Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) by Davis, F. D. (1989) and supported by, Adaptive Structuration Theory (AST) by DeSanctis and Poole, (1994) and System Theory by Bertalanffy (1956). Correlational survey research design was adopted for the study. 5,455 (seven Vice-chancellors and 5,448 lecturers) obtained from all the seven Federal Universities in the North Central Geo-Political Zone of Nigeria. The sample size of the study consisted of 1,740 respondents (seven Vice-Chancellors and 1733 lecturers). The study used 'Educational Management Information System, Lecturers' Job Performance and Administration of Universities (EMISLJPAU)' for data collection. The instrument yielded 0.74 as the validity index.

The instruments produced 0.78 as the reliability index. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while **Pearson's** Product Moment Correlation was employed to test the hypotheses.

Data Presentation And Analysis

Descriptive statistics of the mean (x) and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions. Three research questions were generated and answered in the current study. The scale mean that was used for the classification of each item into agreed or disagreed was 2.50. The results are presented in tables 1 to 3 below:

Research Question One: What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?

Table 1: Mean and Standard Deviation Analysis Showing Education Management Information System and Students' Registration Process in Federal Universities

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	$\bar{X}$	Std.	Decision
1.	Students do not waste time to register their courses as the processes are done easily online using the e-campus system.	660	655	250	175	2.60	0.79	Agreed
2.	The registration of students electronically using EMIS would enable the management of the University to have accurate data about every student and their registration status.	490	815	165	270	2.58	0.78	Agreed
3.	EMIS could be easily used to identify students with fake admission status.	625	790	100	225	2.55	0.87	Agreed
4.	Students are still mandated to register	635	780	175	150	2.68	0.70	Agreed

	manually using files despite the presence of EMIS facilities in the University.							
5.	E-registration using EMIS ease the computation of results and quick accessibility of such results by students.	495	820	200	225	2.67	0.76	Agreed
6.	Registration officers still prefer the traditional form of registration as they subject students to queue and register their courses every semester because of their knowledge of the online registration system.	205	520	390	625	2.49	0.79	Disagreed
7.	Students bio-data submitted during registration are saved in the cloud and easily accessed.	540	670	280	250	2.60	0.77	Agreed
Cluster Mean						**2.59**	**0.78**	Agreed

Scale Mean 2.50

Table 1 shows that item 1 has the mean score of 2.60 and standard deviation of 0.79, item 2 has the mean score of 2.58 and standard deviation of 0.78, item 3 has the mean score of 2.55 and standard deviation of 0.87, item 4 has the mean score of 2.68 and standard deviation of 0.70, item 5 has the mean score of 2.67 and standard deviation of 0.76, item 6 has the mean score of 2.49 and standard deviation of 0.79 while item 7 has the mean score of 2.60 and standard deviation of 0.77. The details of the analysis showed that the cluster mean of 2.56 is above the scale mean of 2.50, as such, the respondents agreed that Education Management Information System enahnces

students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Research Question Two: What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?

Table 2: Mean and Standard Deviation Showing Responses on Education Management Information System and the Financial Management of Federal Universities

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	$\bar{x}$	Std.	Decision
8.	Ms-Excel is used by the University for a proper financial transaction to avoid misappropriation of funds.	770	505	270	195	2.58	0.70	Agreed
9.	The budget is well-prepared using IT facilities to ensure accurate projection of yearly financial usage by the institution.	550	725	165	280	2.56	0.85	Agreed
10.	Financial records are safely kept to provide up-to-date information, especially when auditing the institution's financial status.	645	740	120	235	2.68	0.75	Agreed
11.	The university pays staff salary electronically to avoid ghost workers in the institution.	545	840	185	160	2.60	0.73	Agreed
12.	The University undertakes its major transactions manually against the use of e-transactional services.	755	530	210	235	2.76	0.76	Agreed
13.	The university administration easily ascertains the total amount of school fees paid by students since it is done through the remittal system.	650	635	215	230	2.70	0.77	Agreed

14.	Financial fraud is highly reduced in the university due the application of e-transactions.	705	535	260	260	2.66	0.76	Agreed
Cluster Mean						**2.64**	**0.76**	**Agreed**

Scale Mean 2.50

Table 2 shows that item 8 has the mean score of 2.58 and standard deviation of 0.70, item 9 has the mean score of 2.56 and standard deviation of 0.85, item 10 has the mean score of 2.68 and standard deviation of 0.75, item 11 has the mean score of 2.60 and standard deviation of 0.73, item 12 has the mean score of 2.76 and standard deviation of 0.76, item 13 has the mean score of 2.70 and standard deviation of 0.77 while item 14 has the mean score of 2.66 and standard deviation of 0.76. The details of the analysis indicted that the cluster mean of 2.64 is above the scale mean of 2.50, as such, the respondents agreed that Education Management Information System promote the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Research Question Three: What is the relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria?

Table 3: Mean and Standard Deviation Analysis Showing the Responses of Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	$\bar{X}$	Std.	Decision
15.	The bio-data of staff are kept electronically to avoid a further change of certain information by some workers in the future.	780	515	240	205	2.66	0.69	Agreed
16.	There is provision for staff members to sign in online as they resume daily for their	460	836	185	259	2.51	0.75	Agreed

	duties to minimize absenteeism among staff.							
17.	The activities of staff are not monitored electronically.	855	510	130	245	2.50	0.77	Agreed
18.	EMIS makes school managers communicate easily with staff.	615	760	195	170	2.58	0.71	Agreed
19.	The use of EMIS helps to reduce the workloads of staff.	565	700	220	255	2.55	0.72	Agreed
20.	EMIS ease the process of staff training and development in the University system.	660	645	235	200	2.65	0.70	Agreed
21	There is CCTV to monitor staff to minimize negligence of duties.	569	736	185	250	2.60	0.73	Agreed
Cluster Mean						**2.57**	**0.72**	**Agreed**

Scale Mean 2.50

Table 3 shows that item 15 has the mean score of 2.66 and standard deviation of 0.69, item 16 has the mean score of 2.51 and standard deviation of 0.75, item 17 has the mean score of 2.50 and standard deviation of 0.77, item 18 has the mean score of 2.58 and standard deviation of 0.71, item 19 has the mean score of 2.55 and standard deviation of 0.72, item 20 has the mean score of 2.65 and standard deviation of 0.70, while item 20 has the mean score of 2.60 and standard deviation of 0.73. The details of the analysis showed that the cluster mean of 2.57 is higher than the scale mean of 2.50, as such, the respondents agreed that Education Management Information System enhances staff management of Federal Universities.

Testing of Hypotheses

All the hypotheses were tested using Pearson's product moment correlation at 0.05 level of significance. The details of the analyses are presented on Table 4 to 6 below:

Hypothesis One: There is no significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Table 4: Correlation Coefficient Analysis Showing the Relationship between EMIS and Students' Registration Process in Federal Universities

Variable	N	Df	$\bar{X}$	r_{-cal}	r_{-tab}	Level of Sig	Decision
Education Management Information System							
	1740	1738	2.25	0.55	0.16	0.05	Rejected
Students' Registration Process							

Table 4 indicates the correlation coefficient of significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The details of the analysis of the hypothesis one revealed that the r-calculated value is 0.55 while the r-table value is 0.016 at significant level of 0.05 and 1738 as degree of freedom. Since the calculated value of 0.65 is above the table value of 0.16, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected implying that there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Table 5: Correlation Coefficient Analysis Showing the Relationship between Education Management Information System and the Financial Management of Federal Universities

Variable	N	Df	$\bar{X}$	r_{-cal}	r_{-tab}	Level of Sig	Decision
Education Management Information System							
	1740	1738	2.30	0.63	0.16	0.05	Rejected
Financial Management							

Table 5 indicates the correlation coefficient of significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The details of the analysis of the hypothesis two demonstrated that the r-calculated value is 0.63 while the r-table value is 0.16 at significant level of 0.05 and 1738 as degree of freedom. Since the calculated value of 0.63 is above the table value of 0.16, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected which means that there is a significant relationship between Education

Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Hypothesis Three: Significant relationship does not exist between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Table 6: Correlation Coefficient Analysis Showing the Relationship between Education Management Information System and Staff Management of Federal Universities

Variable	N	Df	$\bar{X}$	r_{-cal}	r_{-tab}	Level of Sig	Decision
Education Management Information System							
	1740	1738	2.20	0.58	0.16	0.05	Rejected
Staff Management							

Table 6 indicates the correlation coefficient of significant relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The details of the analysis of hypothesis three shows that the r-calculated value is 0.58 while the r-table value is 0.16 at significant level of 0.05 and 1738 as degree of freedom. Since the calculated value of 0.58 is above the table value of 0.16, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected which signifies that there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Summary of Major Findings

The following are the summary of the major findings of the study:

1. There is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.
2. There is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.
3. There is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

The findings of the study are discussed as follows:

The findings of the study revealed that there is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The findings of

the study agreed with Matovi (2019) who ound that there is a significant relationship between Information and Communication Technology in the Management of Students' registration and general academic affairs in Makerere University, Uganda. Education Management Information System through the use of internet and intranet, registration activities may be conducted easily so that students would undertake their registration exercises successfully irrespective of the number of students that are admitted by a given university (Marire, 2018). EMIS is useful as it assists students to undertake e-registration in payment of school fees, printing of school fees receipts, printing of course registration forms, printing of examination cards and so on. Performing the above job electronically through EMIS would enable universities to have accurate data about each of the students and their registration status. However, it seems the administrators of Federal Universities in North Central do not utilize the e-registration process in the administration of the university system as students are still mandated to submit files which is part of the traditional form of school administration. In some cases, students who registered electronically without submitting their files seem to find it difficult during their graduation as they are normally mandated to search for the files or submit new ones for easy processing of their results. Such traditional approach is not necessary since the universities are required to upgrade the activities of the universities into the e-formats. EMIS would allow effective management of exams and registration and accessibility by the registration officers, staff and students respectively. EMIS facilitates the registration process and other general aspects of school management in a way that data could be easily stored, retrieved and disseminated online. Administrators and staff could easily `login' irrespective of their locations to access information regarding a given student and to students can log in to access the registration forms and register online after processing their admission.

There is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and the financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The findings of the disagreed with Mue (2014) who concluded that the use of EMIS does not influence effective financial administration in public secondary schools in Lang'ata Division, Nairobi County, Kenya. EMIS would help administrators to monitor and control the financial activities of universities successfully and in transparent manners. It may be used to forecast and analyze the financial reports, keeping inventory, payment of salary, sales forecasting and to determine the total number and amount of fees paid by students. The application of EMIS in keeping the financial transactions made by an institution may help to maintain transparency in the management of finances. The emphasis on transparency in financial management by every institution as advocated by the World Bank is one of the major consideration for integrating EMIS into the administration of the university system. The administrators of universities may utilize well-managed information in paying the salaries of staff and keep all expenditures incur by an institution for easy retrieval. The application of Education Management Information System into the administration of the university system may help institutions to take advantage of electronic banking which is a useful instrument for minimizing misappropriation of

funds. In university setting, EMIS could be applied in different ways for financial management through accounting software and spreadsheets like MS Excel.

There is a significant relationship between Education Management Information System and staff management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria. The findings of the study disagreed with Thompson (2019) who concluded that personnel management activities are ot properly conducted using EMIS tools in Enugu Education Zone. The findings of the study also disagreed with Nwankwo (2020) who maintained that that principals of secondary schools in South-East of Nigeria did not implement EMIS in staff personnel management to high extent. EMIS is useful for effective staff management in the university system as it could be used for storing records of academic and non-academic staff. Keeping the bio-data of every staff through an effective Education Management Information System could enable the human resource managers to conduct personnel activities through adequate employment, performance evaluation, training, development, promotion, retirement and preparation to replace the prospective retired staff promptly. Staff could be made to sign in online as they resume daily for their various duties. Advancements in digital technology has produced webcams which is another technological means of monitoring staff conduct and keeping them under closed watch. Unlike the traditional closed circuit camera technology, webcams are cameras connected to a network or internet through a computer. As a result, it is a reliable educational tool which assists administrators to monitor the activities of every staff and students from their offices without moving round the school environment. It seems some Federal Universities in North Central are yet to fully integrate EMIS into the administration of the university system as staff members still go through the laborious exercise of manually registration of students in order to keep accurate students' records, the bursary staff perform the task of financial management through manual keeping of documents, manual payment of bills, printing reports and drawing of architectural designs are still conducted in traditional manners in the 21st century when information is expected to be managed, properly secured and retrieved without delays. The above situations could reduce the level of effectiveness and efficiency in administration of the university system. The dominant traditional system of management which ignores the integration of EMIS into all aspects of the University administrationis worrisome because it may not help the institutions to present accurate and reliable information to the government and NUC especially during accreditation exercises.

Conclusion

The following conclusions were drawn based on the findings of the study:

The study conluded that Education Management Information System enhances effective students' registration process in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Th study further concluded that Education Management Information System aids financial management of Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

It was also concluded that EMIS facilitate proper management of staff in Federal Universities in North Central Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of this study:

1. All Federal Universities in the North Central Geopolitical zone of Nigeria should ensure that all the activities related to students' registration are done electronically to avoid dealy and long queue by students as a result of manual process of registration.
2. An application of e-transactional system into the management of the financial activities by every Federal University need to be made compulsory by the National Universities Commission (NUC) to enhance prudential utilization of financial resources that are at the disposal of every University.
3. Every Federal University in the North Central Geopolitical Zone should designed a personnel unit within the EMIS to ensure that all records of staff are electronically designed and controlled to ensure that staff records are properly managed.

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