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Researcher

ABSTRACT

The Law Libraries in Iloilo City: Proposed Resource Sharing Guidelines. Espina, Rhea L. MSLIS. University of San Carlos (Cebu City, Philippines), 2014, 344 pp.

The study aimed to describe the format, recency, scope, and size of the computer-based, print, non-print and non-electronic law library collections of Central Philippine University, University of Iloilo-PHINMA Education Network, and University of San Agustin in Iloilo City in preparation for drawing up resource sharing guidelines.

It used the quantitative and qualitative approaches through collection mapping, examination of library records, focus group discussion, and interview.

The findings proved that print forms in a common scope of subjects in the law curricula dominated the collections in all three libraries. In terms of recency, and size, Library A had the highest number of titles with copyright dates from 1930-2013 and a bigger total collection compared with Library B and Library C. Despite the disparity in size and recency, a computerized union list can be created because two universities used the Destiny Follett System while the third used Athena Library System and these universities have an existing consortium.

The resource sharing guidelines could address the problems which the users met in relation to collection, services, and library networking in a manner that could lead to shared vision and philosophy for law libraries in Iloilo City.

CHAPTER 1
THE PROBLEM AND ITS SCOPE
INTRODUCTION

Rationale of the Study

It is an established fact that no library is complete and can give everything to its clients. The reasons behind this include the continuously rising costs of library resources and services, information explosion, and advances in technology, among others.

Law libraries are also greatly affected by this experience. The law library, which is an essential fraction of the legal profession, is the clearinghouse of the information in which the field revolves. Thus, a lot is expected from the legal information professionals. Law librarians would have to attend simultaneously to the ever-increasing amount of legal information and demands from the clients, the constantly-changing technology, rising costs, plus the complexity of legal materials. They have to seek for means by which they can go along with the fast pace of the evolution of the legal profession. At the same time, these new means should also go along with the budget allocation that gets tighter each year (Jaafar, 2012).

According to Manjunatha & Shivalingaiah (2003), the tradition of cooperative collection development and resource sharing among libraries stays alive as means to alleviate problems of space and costly duplication, in particular for little used materials. The needs for resource sharing stems from the explosive growth of all forms of literature, increasing reliance or demands on information, inflation in the cost of materials, increasing cost of information, reduced or