

Insights on the Effectiveness of Library Benchmarking Adoption among Academic Libraries

Mohd Razilan Abdul Kadir, Nor Aliah Abdullah, Norhayati Hussin

To Link this Article: http://dx.doi.org/10.6007/IJARBSS/v8-i9/4592 DOI: 10.6007/IJARBSS/v8-i9/4592

Received: 29 July 2018, Revised: 21 August 2018, Accepted: 25 Sept 2018

Published Online: 13 October 2018

In-Text Citation: (Kadir, Abdullah, & Hussin, 2018)

To Cite this Article: Kadir, M. R. A., Abdullah, N. A., & Hussin, N. (2018). Insights on the Effectiveness of Library Benchmarking Adoption among Academic Libraries. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 8(9), 298–313.

Copyright: © 2018 The Author(s)

Published by Human Resource Management Academic Research Society (www.hrmars.com) This article is published under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0) license. Anyone may reproduce, distribute, translate and create derivative works of this article (for both commercial and non-commercial purposes), subject to full attribution to the original publication and authors. The full terms of this license may be seen at: http://creativecommons.org/licences/by/4.0/legalcode

Vol. 8, No. 9, September 2018, Pg. 298 - 313

http://hrmars.com/index.php/pages/detail/IJARBSS

JOURNAL HOMEPAGE

Full Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at http://hrmars.com/index.php/pages/detail/publication-ethics



Insights on the Effectiveness of Library Benchmarking Adoption among Academic Libraries

Mohd Razilan Abdul Kadir, Nor Aliah Abdullah, Norhayati Hussin Faculty of Information Management, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Puncak Perdana Campus, UiTM Selangor, Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia. Email: mrazilan@salam.uitm.edu.my, nraliahabdullah@gmail.com

Abstract

Library is one of the information centers that provides information services to its users. Throughout the rapid changing in technologies, the library also gets affected from it where their collections, services, facilities, interior design and others components need to improvise to meet the user needs and attract users to come to the library. The effectiveness of the library benchmarking adoption, as improvement tool, in academic library of public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia is studied in this paper. Benchmarking measurement tool however has been widely implemented in some developing countries but its adoption is not widely applied in Malaysia. Hence this study attempts to identify the effectiveness of the library benchmarking adoption based on Malaysia's library eco-system. Survey method is opted where a set of questionnaire was distributed to six (6) academic library in public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia comprises of a total of 142 randomly selected respondents (from the academic librarians). The findings of the study indicated that top management commitment, internal assessment, employee participation, the role of quality department, and customer orientation are positively correlated with effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption. However, benchmarking limitation was not significantly correlated with the effectiveness of the library benchmarking adoption.

Keywords: Academic Library, Benchmarking, Benchmarking Adoption, Library Benchmarking, Measurement Tools

Introduction

Library is one of the information centers that provides information services to its users. Throughout the rapid changing in technologies, the library also gets affected from it where their collections, services, facilities, interior design and others components need to improvise to meet the user needs and attract users to come to the library. Commonly, traditional library services been provided in-house while in 21st century era, the services have changed from physical interaction to virtual interaction.

Most of these academic libraries have established for more than 30 years in providing the information services. To change from traditional to modern technology based services might take a

lot of things to be considered and the performance of the library might be affected as well (Madhusudhan and Nagabhushanam, 2012). In order to measure the library performance, benchmarking is one of the effective measuring tools to be used that improves the library performance (Yean, Suhaiza and Keng, 2006). The study details the findings of the effectiveness of the library benchmarking among academic library in public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia as their measurement tools.

Library is also one of the information centers that provide relevant and reliable information in a variety of materials to the users. In this 21st century era of technology, nature of the library has changed from traditional to the modern library where the services not only focus on the core business such as provides physical materials but also build up the electronic resources, online communication paradigms, and others along with the role of the librarians (Madhusudhan and Nagabhushanam, 2012). John Abdul Kargbo (2008) stated that role of the librarians also need to be re-orientate in order to fulfill user needs either in-house or in electronic based.

This study focuses on the effectiveness of the library benchmarking adoption at an academic library in public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia. The study is important to the libraries as it capable of helping to identify the strength and weaknesses of the organizations and as well to perform better in the future. The study is also expected to support libraries in terms of provisioning the best services as an information center in their universities and consistently evaluating their performance. Overall, the findings can be used as a guideline to academic libraries to improve their organizations' service and to improve users' experience via the services provided.

Review of the Previous Literature

Benchmarking is one of the best practices in order to improve the performance or the organization. He also added that benchmarking focus on compare the future performance and analyzing forward-looking. Benchmarking also can be defined as a structured process where the process had been developing in step by step process and give common guideline (Spendolini, 1992). Sarkins (2001) stated that benchmarking has been defined as ongoing, systematic process of evaluating the services or certain fields that they want to benchmark.

Zairi and Ahmed (1999) said that benchmarking adoption commonly hard to be implemented because it needs major changes in the organizations. This is because the changes of the benchmarking consist of analysis and comparison through strategies, functions, processes, product or services, performance, etc. of the organizations to improve the performance (Anand and Kodali, 2008). Implementation of benchmarking has been used in a variety of fields or industry and one of it is higher education. Unfortunately, not all higher education knows well the concept of the benchmarking itself and leads to ineffective results (Meek and van der Lee, 2005). Benchmarking was defined as an exploration of new ways to manage the institution more efficient by using new approach (Elder and Massam, 2016). In other ways benchmarking play a role to continually improve and stayed reasonable in the industry (Tasopoulou and Tsiotras, 2017). They also said that benchmarking is one of the instrument that successful for assessment and improvement in the organizations as long as the top management give the commitment in implemented it.

In 1997, Malaysian Benchmarking Services (MBS) had been set up by National Productivity Corporation (NPC) to provide training and expertise and be the reference center in providing the information of the benchmarking (Lee, Suhaiza, and Soh, 2006). This organization can be used by the library in order to get a better vision of benchmarking adoption as their performance evaluation. This would be very helpful to the library in implementing the benchmarking process in effective and

efficient continuous ways (Elmuti and Kathawala, 1997). In other perspective, benchmarking adoption is made by learning from other organizations that had been selected to benchmark. This is one of the easy ways to benchmark where the library improvement is started by comparing and measuring the processes, tools, and techniques. Through this way, the library can build up the networking with other library in order to collaborate for better practice, performance and provide a guideline to improved (Jackson, 2001). The library can do benchmarking activities by selecting several activities or fields to be used in analyzing with the other libraries (Schofield, 1998). In other words, the library performs a comparison of performance and process which similar to each other to get a better understanding of evaluation of the performance (Simon and Howard, 2014).

The followings provide some elaborations on six dimensions of construct posited to influence the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption.

Top Management Commitment

Top management commitment is the major factor for benchmarking adoption where they are the one that making sure the successfulness of the application (Chen, 1997; Thiagarajan and Zairi, 1998; Agus, 2001; Sureshchandar et al., 2001; Sharma and Gadenne, 2001; Antony *et al.*, 2002; Sohail and Teo, 2003; Lee *et al.*, 2006). In addition, top management is the one who approves the implemention of benchmarking and their support is very much important (Fong, Shen and Cheng, 2001).

Internal Assessment

For internal assessment, it focuses on the evaluation of culture, training, and communication in the organizational itself (Lee *et al.*, 2006). Furthermore, the contribution of internal assessment gives high benefits towards benchmarking adoption (Brah *et al.*, 2000). Internal assessment is important in recognizing the current library performance and its quality in order to achieve the objectives and goals (Dale, 1996; Jones, 2000; Lee *et al.*, 2004). Besides that, through internal assessment, it would lead to a better understanding of their operations of the organization before they get the benefits from benchmarking adoption (Sweeney, 1994; Brah *et al.*, 2000; Lee *et al.*, 2004).

Employee Participation

Employee participation in this study related to the commitment of employee in gaining a better performance in benchmarking adoption (Arthur, 1994; Lee *et al.*, 2006). Benchmarking adoption needs continuous improvement not only the management, services but also the employee performance this leads to improvement of the productivity of the employee itself (Cooke, 1994; Daniels and Burns, 1997; Pun *et al.*, 2001).

Benchmarking limitation

For benchmarking limitation, it relates to the lack of understanding of the benchmarking concept which leads to poor results (Brah *et al.*, 2000; Lee *et al.*, 2006). This eventually leads to confusion on the usefulness of the technique and doubt rises (Adebanjo *et al.* 2010).

Role of Quality Department

The role of quality department commonly relates to performance evaluation of specific services or products. This department supposed to play a vital role in managing the measurement technique in order to ensure the organization gets the benefits of it (Lee *et al.*, 2006). The quality department has

been defined as one of the major factors of the effectiveness for benchmarking adoption (Antony *et al.,* 2002).

Customer Orientation

Basically, customer orientation focuses on the level of customer satisfaction that can be found in benchmarking adoption. Agus *et al.* (2000) claimed that customer satisfaction could be enhanced by the benchmarking adoption and will improve the organization performance.

The proposed study theoretical framework is as given in Figure 1.

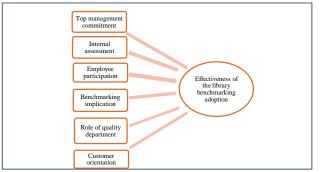


Figure 1. Theoretical framework

Based on the study framework as given in Figure 1, the following hypotheses are drawn:

H1: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the top management.

H2: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the internal assessment of the library.

H3: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the employee participation.

H4: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the benchmarking limitation.

H5: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the role of the quality department.

H6: Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the customer orientation of the library.

Research Methodology

Data Collection

This study opts quantitative method research via survey. Quantitative method research is a type of method that explaining the study by collecting numerical data based on survey instrument selected. This approach uses a structured questionnaire designated to collect data from the respondent of this study where the questionnaires are distributed manually by hand.

Population and Sample

The population of this study comprises of all academic library in public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia which consist of six (6) universities. The analysis sample targeted in this study is 142

respondents. The respondents for this study are targeted to be librarian or top management of the library in the academic libraries as they are expected to have the knowledge and as well authority towards library benchmarking adoption. Raosoft software is used to assist researcher in estimating the appropriate total number of sample size for the study. Raosoft provides sample size calculator that can be used to calculate the sample size of the respondent from a total population of this study. This calculator consists of an acceptable margin of error, confidence level, response distribution and size of the defined population proposed for this study. Following the conventional use, the margin of error applied is 5% and with a confidence level of 90%. Thus, the total sample size needed for this study is 142 respondents, as being reckoned by Raosoft sample size calculator application.

Variables and Measurement

Top management commitment is measured by five elements for i) quality improvement, ii) understand the improvement objectives and benefits, iii) takes action towards executing the quality improvement policies, iv) willing to commit time and resources to improve, and v) consideration in integrate quality improvement into strategic planning.

Internal assessment is measured by seven elements: i) openness of employees towards changes, ii) truly know and understand their own operations, iii) awareness of learning portfolio in the organization, iv) culture difficulties, v) understanding of benchmarking method, vi) good communication among employees, and vii) quality training availability.

Employee participation is measured by three elements: i) employee understanding of the project's objectives and benefits, ii) commitment to quality improvement, and iii) availability of the system for employees to suggest improvement.

Benchmarking limitation is measured by five elements: i) the organization perceive that benchmarking is too costly, ii) too time-consuming, iii) difficult to identify benchmarking partners, iv) difficult to obtain useful information about competitors, and v) difficult to quantify areas that involve skills.

The role of the quality department is measured by six elements: i) the ability to access to top management, ii) its autonomy to run any project regarding quality improvement, iii) utilization of its quality staff professionals, iv) the effectiveness of improving quality, v) comprehensiveness of the quality program, and vi) visibility of the quality department in the company.

Customer orientation is measured by five elements: i) the organization commitment to the customer, ii) comparing customer satisfaction with competitors and internal indicators, iii) development of strategies for customer satisfaction; iv) utilizing customer satisfaction as part of their performance, and v) responsiveness to a customer complaint.

Analysis and Findings

All of the data gathered from the survey opted in the study is analysed using SPSS version 20, a statistical tool to analyze the quantitative data that is widely used in social science. SPSS is one of the powerful analytic tools that employs technique and statistical features to assist researchers in extracting findings of the data analytics There are several steps of analyses performed in this study

i.e. Factor analysis for data reduction purpose which includes Common Method Bias, reliability analysis, frequency analysis, descriptive analysis, and correlation analysis.

Common Method Bias (CMB)

CMB is a measurement error (r (Podsakoff, MacKenzie, Lee, & Podsakoff, 2003; Podsakoff, MacKenzie, & Podsakoff, 2012)) and is a condition where there are variations of response from the respondent which caused by the instrument rather than what the respondent's answer in the survey. In other words, the instrument caused a bias in research where the responses may not portray the actual situation due to the biasedness. Consequently, the results will be contaminated by the 'noise' stemming from the biased instruments. The statistical approaches also play another objective role to control for the common method bias influence. Statistical controls against the common method bias used in the study is via Harman's single factor test. The results from the test as given in Table 1 show that the single factor explained only 33.3% of the total variance (<50% as suggested by Podsakoff et al., 2003), hence suggesting that the collected data is free from the threats of common methods bias. In other words, the study instrument is free from significant common method bias effects.

Table 1: Total variance explained of the research response as extracted using running unrotated, a single factor constraint of factor analysis Extraction Sums of Squared

[]						Squared	
Componen	nponen Initial Eigenvalues			Extract	ion Sums of Loadings	Squared	
t		% of	Cumulative		% of	Cumulative	
	Total	Variance	%	Total	Variance		
1	13.250	33.126	33.126	13.250	33.126	[%] <u><50%</u> , 33.126 that the	shows
2	3.949	9.873	42.999			varia	e 33%
3	3.541	8.854	51.852			explain	
4	2.512	6.281	58.133			single	
5	1.819	4.547	62.681			indicat	
6	1.787	4.467	67.148			common	
7	1.271	3.178	70.326			bias is	
8	1.066	2.666	72.992			major co this s	
9	1.011	2.526	75.518			unss	luuy
10	.868	2.171	77.689				
11	.717	1.793	79.482				
12	.665	1.663	81.145				
13	.590	1.474	82.619				
14	.568	1.419	84.037				
15	.516	1.290	85.328				
16	.480	1.200	86.527				
17	.450	1.126	87.653				
18	.420	1.050	88.703				
19	.395	.988	89.691				
20	.347	.869	90.559				
21	.341	.854	91.413				
22	.323	.807	92.220				
23	.308	.770	92.989				
24	.271	.678	93.667				
25	.264	.660	94.327				
26	.249	.623	94.950				
27	.240	.601	95.550				
28	.223	.558	96.108				
29	.208	.521	96.629				
30	.193	.482	97.111				
31	.177	.442	97.552				
32	.169	.424	97.976				
33	.150	.376	98.352				
34	.134	.334	98.686				
35	.118	.296	98.982				
36	.109	.271	99.254				
37	.091	.228	99.481				
38	.086	.215	99.696				
39	.064	.159	99.855				
40	.058	.145	100.000				

Reliability

Reliability was checked based on Cronbach's alpha value. It is a test of the ability of measure to produce consistent results when the same entities are measured under different conditions (Hair et al., 2006). As indicated by Sekaran (2003), the Cronbach's alpha coefficient is ranging $0.0 < \alpha < 1.0$ and $\alpha < 0.6$ is considered to be poor. In Table 2, the reliability test results are all > 0.80, which indicates good internal consistency reliability. For the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption, the α =0.927, which shows high internal consistency reliability.

	Total	Cronbach's
Construct	Items	Alpha
Top management		
commitment	5	0.937
Internal assessment	8	0.882
Employee participation	3	0.866
Benchmarking limitation	5	0.896
Role of quality department	7	0.895
Customer orientation	5	0.872
Effectiveness of library		
benchmarking	6	0.927

Table 2: Reliability results of internal consistency of the scales used in the survey

Factor Analysis

Factor analysis was conducted to reduce the number of variables and detect structure in the relationship between variables. For the test, the dependent variable will be tested as it is the only question that meets the requirements for the test. Factor analysis was applied to 39-item scale designed to measure the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption (1=Strongly Disagree 2=Disagree 3=Neutral 4=Agree 5=Strongly Agree). In order to ensure the data are correlated, KMO and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity is conducted and the results as displayed in Table 3. The test variable is inter-correlated which indicated by KMO index of .870 which shows that the data is suitable. Meanwhile, Bartlett's Test of Sphericity result indicates the significance of p < 0.05. The minimum acceptable value for commonalities was set at 0.5. Whereas in Table 4, the commonalities of the data are shown in such way that the values > 0.5 indicates that the variables have a lot in common with the other variables taken as a group.

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkir Adequacy.	n Measure of Sampling	³ 0.870
Bartlett's Test of	Approx. Chi-Square	3566.34 3
Sphericity	Df	528
	Sig.	0.000

Table 3: KMO and Bartlett's Test

Items	Initial	Extraction
Top management dedicated to quality improvement	.821	.711
Top management understand the improvement objectives	.867	.840
Top management takes action towards the quality mprovement policies	.862	.785
Top management willing to commit time to improve	.886	.837
Top management consider the quality intergration improvement into strategic planning	.740	.687
Openness of employee towards changes	.648	.553
Truly know and understand the operations of the library	.697	.575
Awareness of learning portfolio in the organization	.669	.615
culture difficulties	.486	.497
understanding of benchmarking method	.680	.708
good communications among employee	.761	.685
quality training availability	.705	.605
Openness of employee towards new ideas	.710	.662
Understanding of the benchmarking's objectives	.713	.759
Commitment to quality improvement	.742	.794
Availability of system for employees to suggest improvement	.656	.599
Benchmarking is too costly	.708	.552
too time consuming	.777	.664
Difficult to identify benchmarking partners	.699	.688
difficult to obtain useful information about competitors	.789	.762
Difficult to quantity areas that involves skills	.766	.675
Ability to access to top management	.641	.533
Autonomy to run any project for quality improvement	.672	.546
Utilization of its quality staff professionals	.719	.747
Effectiveness of improving quality	.723	.696
Comprehensiveness of the quality program	.712	.698
Visibility of the quality department	.722	.682
Effectiveness of boost awareness of their employees	.551	.480
Commitment to customer	.538	.524
Comparing customer satisfaction with competitors	.677	.634
Development of strategies for customer satisfaction	.722	.719
utilizing customer satisfaction as part of the performance	.715	.744
Responsiveness to customer complaint	.650	.642

Table 4: Rotated Component Matrix

Distribution of demographic profiles

Frequency analysis was conducted for extracting the distribution of respondents' demographic profile of this study. Since this research is conducted for librarians of public University, it is clearly seen that majority of the librarian's age is more than 30 years (72.5%) as shown in the Table 5, but the least is shown by the respondent age of 21 -25 years (4.2%). In terms of respondent's institution, the majority of the respondent tabulated for the study comes from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) with 23.9% while the least is from Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia (UPNM) with 12.7%. Moreover, the result is also showing that more than 80% of the respondents are having working experience of 10 years and below.

Profiles	Category	Frequency	%
	21-25 years old	6	4.2
Age	26-30 years old	33	23.2
	More than 30 years old	103	72.5
	University of Malaya	23	16.2
	University Putra Malaysia	26	18.3
	National University of	18	12.7
University	Malaysia	10	12.7
	International Islamic	23.2	
	University Malaysia	33	23.2
	Universiti Teknologi MARA	34	23.9
	Universiti Pertahanan Nasional	8	5.6
	Malaysia	0	5.0
	5 years and less	71	50
Years of working	6 to 10 years	50	35.2
	11 to 15 years	9	6.3
	16 to 20 years	5	3.5
	More than 20 years	7	4.9

Table 5: Distribution of respondent's demographic profiles

Summary Statistics

Descriptive analysis was conducted to summarize and describe all data that measures of the six independent variables proposed in the study. Table 6 tabulates the results consisting of ALL_TM (Top Management Commitment), ALL_IA (Internal Assessment), ALL_EP (Employee Participation), ALL_BL (Benchmarking Limitation), ALL_RQD (Role of Quality Department), ALL_CO (Customer Satisfaction) and ALL_EFF (Effectiveness of Library Benchmarking Adoption). The results show the followings. The overall means show moderately high agreement (approaching 4.0) which showing most of the respondents have tendency supporting toward the library benchmarking adoption. Findings are also showing that all of the items' mean are all skewed towards high agreement, with means approaching 4.0 except ALL_BL (mean = 3.5). The overall mean is 3.82 with s.d.= 0.5313. It is clearly seen that all of the items' standard deviations are small, showing that majority of the responses converging towards agreement to the value of the means (less dispersion of opinions).

Items	Ν	Mean	Std. Deviation
ALL_TM	142	3.96	.59186
ALL_IA	142	3.81	.46408
ALL_EP	142	3.92	.49959
ALL_BL	142	3.50	.68655
ALL_RQD	142	3.82	.46879
ALL_CO	142	3.94	.47710
Overall		3.82	0.53133

Table 6: Summary statistics of the independent variables of the study

Correlation

Correlation analysis is a test where the relationship between variables will be established. In addition, correlation merely establishing the knowledge of bivariate relationships and not on cause and effect. The strength and magnitude of the relationships are measured by the correlation coefficient, ranging from $-1.0 < \rho < +1.0$ (for population) or -1.0 < r < +1.0 (for sample).

In justifying back the hypotheses generated for the study, Table 7 below exhibits the results on correlation between dependent and each of the independent variable. ALL_TM (Top Management Commitment), ALL_IA (Internal Assessment), ALL_EP (Employee Participation), ALL_BL (Benchmarking Limitation), ALL_RQD (Role of Quality Department) and ALL_CO (Customer Satisfaction) are all tested against ALL_EFF (Effectiveness of Library Benchmarking Adoption). Moderately strong positive correlation exists significantly between the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption and employee participation. The same significant results is also exhibited by the correlation of dependent with the rests of the independents (but with only weak positive correlation) except benchmarking limitation which is not significant at 90% of significant level.

Table 7: Correlation results between ALL_EFF (dependent) and each independent variables

		ALL_TM	ALL_IA	ALL_EP	ALL_BL	ALL_RQD	ALL_CO
	r	0.376**	0.363**	0.502**	0.057	0.300**	0.336**
** 0	01						

** p < 0.01

Summary of hypotheses test

The correlation tests performed have shown some evidence with respect to bivariate relationships between the dependent and independent variables. Initial findings from correlation results are capable of providing useful insight on the hypothesized relationships. The summary of the findings are as given below:

	Hypothesis	Result
H1	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the top	Supported
	management	
H2	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the	Supported
	internal assessment of the library	
H3	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the	Supported
	employee participation	
H4	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the	Not
	benchmarking limitation	Supported
H5	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the	Supported
	role of the quality department	
H6	Benchmarking effectiveness is influenced by the	Supported
	customer orientation of the library	

Table 8: Summary of hypothesis results

Discussion

The research aims to examine the relationships between six posited library benchmarking elements with its effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption among academic libraries of public universities in Klang Valley, Malaysia. The elements are top management commitment, internal assessment, employee participation, benchmarking limitation, role of quality department and customer satisfaction. A correlational study was performed on the survey data among randomized selected academic librarians. Findings have shown evidence of significant correlation between dependent and independent variables except one element i.e. *benchmarking limitation*. Early insight drawn from the finding is that academic librarian have tendency to agreeable on the effectiveness of library benchmarking adopted in their varsities. Be it from the top management to employees, they are supportive to the initiative of benchmarking held at their academic libraries.

Significant positive relationships shown by the five elements witnessed the strongest correlation being between the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption and *employee participation* with r = 0.502. This shows that library staff are giving their support in achieving effective benchmarking and are as well giving their commitment toward improving the quality of library services. In terms of top management commitment, the correlation r=0.376 may imply to their influence or authority in orchestrating or supporting the library benchmarking adoption. Nevertheless, to what extent the commitment is beyond the scope of this study. Early insight that can be drawn their dedication to quality improvement cannot be doubted that might have positive impact in their library moving forward plans.

Correlation between effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption and *internal assessment* indicates weak positive relationship, with r=0.363. This results exhibits the existence of such relationships but it is weak though. Internal assessment can be considered as one approach to identify the openness of employee towards changes / improvement in the library, as well as to make ensure the participation of the employee in the benchmarking adoption. From the internal assessment, it leads to a better understanding on the operations / services that require improvement.

Moreover, it allows awareness of learning portfolio in the library of it components and to get better understanding of its portfolio. Culture difficulties may be treated as one of the internal assessment elements due to reason that most of the employees have been working at the library for more than 5 years quite a long time and commonly have their own working culture.

The study also shows that *quality department* of a library has a significant relationship with effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption (r = 0.30). The main reason of the positively correlated relationship is the department would have an ability to access to top management and autonomy to run an project where they can have direct contact with top management who is highly anchored for decision making. Moreover, quality department also can fully utilize professional staff and thus is likely to grab the opportunity to improve the effectiveness of improving the quality of the library. In addition, quality department can assist to inspire awareness among staff with regards to achieving the effectiveness of library benchmarking adoption.

The element of *customer satisfaction* also exhibits positive correlation with effectiveness for library benchmarking adoption but with weak relationship, r = 0.336. Customer satisfaction can be considered as one of the valuable impact for the benchmarking adoption as customer experience would be embraced through their journey in the adoption process, whether it would be successful or not. Therefore, the customer satisfactory must be prioritized first prior to comparing customer satisfaction with the competitors.

Other than that, library staff also must think of strategies that will achieve the customer orientation. In addition, librarian should utilizing customer satisfaction as part of the performance indicator from their job and increase their responsiveness from customers regarding their complaints or enquiry.

However, insignificant relationship is found between effectiveness for library benchmarking adoption and benchmarking limitation. It could be due to reason that items asked in the questionnaire benchmarking is too costly, too time consuming and difficult to identify benchmarking partners may not be non-critical or trivia with respect to the benchmarking process. For example, difficulties to obtain partners regarding benchmarking process may be catered or solved among higher level management prior to the benchmarking exercise taken place.

Conclusion

A study to examine the elements impacting the effectiveness for library benchmarking adoption of academic library is presented in the paper. The findings discussed indicate that the academic libraries in majority prone towards agreement on adopting the benchmarking so that the quality of library can be further improved from time to time. Moreover, user experience plays important point to be tracked so that library services/products can meet with their requirements. Besides challenges foreseen ahead, academic library should be ready and prepare their quality improvement road map so that the benchmarking process can be implemented as planned.

References

Adebanjo, D., Abbas, A., & Mann, R. (2010). An investigation of the adoption and implementation of benchmarking. *International Journal of Operations & Production Management*, *30*(11), 1140-1169. doi:10.1108/01443571011087369

- Adewunmi, Y. A., Koleoso, H., & Omirin, M. (2016). A qualitative investigation of benchmarking barriers in Nigeria. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, 23(7), 1677-1696. doi:10.1108/bij-06-2014-0055
- Balagué, N., & Saarti, J. (2009). Benchmarking quality systems in two European academic libraries. *Library Management*, *30*(4/5), 227-239. doi:10.1108/01435120910957896
- Carpinetti, L. C., & De Melo, A. M. (2002). What to benchmark? *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *9*(3), 244-255. doi:10.1108/14635770210429009
- Castro, V. F., & Frazzon, E. M. (2017). Benchmarking of best practices: an overview of the academic literature. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *24*(3), 750-774. doi:10.1108/bij-03-2016-0031
- Camp, R.C. (1989), Benchmarking –The Search for Industry Best Practices that Lead to Superior Performance.
- Camp, R.C. (1992), "Learning from the best leads to superior performance", Journal of Business Strategy, Vol. 13 No. 3, pp. 3-6.
- Camp, R.C. (1995), Business Process Benchmarking: Finding and Implementing Best Practices, ASQC Quality Press, Milwaukee, WI.
- Dale, B.G., Sheppard, L. and Armitage, H. (1995), "The setting up and development of the Trafford Park performance and quality forum", The TQM Magazine, Vol. 7 No. 5, pp. 32-7.
- Davis, P. (1998), "The burgeoning of benchmarking in British local government", Benchmarking for Quality Management & Technology, Vol. 5 No. 4, pp. 260-70.
- Favret, L. (2000). Benchmarking, annual library plans and best value: the implications for public libraries. *Library Management*, *21*(7), 340-348. doi:10.1108/01435120010338766
- Freytag, P. V., & Hollensen, S. (2001). The process of benchmarking, benchlearning and benchaction. *The TQM Magazine*, *13*(1), 25-34. doi:10.1108/09544780110360624
- Harris, S. (2017). 2016 top trends and issues in Jamaican academic libraries. *Information and Learning Science*, *118*(1/2), 17-47. doi:10.1108/ils-10-2016-0069
- Hart, S., & Amos, H. (2014). The development of performance measures through an activity based benchmarking project across an international network of academic libraries. *Performance Measurement and Metrics*, *15*(1/2), 58-66. doi:10.1108/pmm-03-2014-0010
- Jackson, N. (2001), "Benchmarking in UK HE: an overview", Quality Assurance in Education, Vol. 9 No. 4, pp. 218-35.
- Laeven, H., & Smit, A. (2003). A project to benchmark university libraries in The Netherlands. *Library Management*, 24(6/7), 291-304. doi:10.1108/01435120310486002
- Maire, J., Bronet, V., & Pillet, M. (2005). A typology of "best practices" for a benchmarking process. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *12*(1), 45-60. doi:10.1108/14635770510582907
- Pin Lee, Y. (2004). Determinant of benchmarking adoption.
- Podsakoff, P. M., MacKenzie, S. B., Lee, J.-Y., & Podsakoff, N. P. (2003). Common method biases in behavioral research: A critical review of the literature and recommended remedies. *Journal* of Applied Psychology, 88(5), 879-903. doi: 10.1037/0021-9010.88.5.879.
- Podsakoff, P. M., MacKenzie, S. B., & Podsakoff, N. P. (2012). Sources of Method Bias in Social Science Research and Recommendations on How to Control It. *Annual Review of Psychology, 63(1)*, 539-569. doi: doi:10.1146/annurev-psych-120710-100452

- Pin Lee, Y., Zailani, S., & Lin Soh, K. (2006). Understanding factors for benchmarking adoption. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *13*(5), 548-565. doi:10.1108/14635770610690401
- Saunders, M., Mann, R., & Smith, R. (2007). Benchmarking strategy deployment practices. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, 14(5), 609-623. doi:10.1108/14635770710819281
- Sik-wah Fong, P., Shen, Q., & Cheng, E. W. (2001). A framework for benchmarking the value management process. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, 8(4), 306-316. doi:10.1108/14635770110403800
- Simon, C. (2011). An examination of best practices and benchmarking in corporate libraries. *Journal* of Management Development, 30(1), 134-141. doi:10.1108/02621711111098433
- Tasopoulou, K., & Tsiotras, G. (2017). Benchmarking towards excellence in higher education. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, 24(3), 617-634. doi:10.1108/bij-03-2016-0036
- Tee, K. F. (2016). Suitability of performance indicators and benchmarking practices in UK universities. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, 23(3), 584-600. doi:10.1108/bij-07-2014-0069
- Van der Wiele, T., Dale, B., & Williams, R. (2000). Business improvement through quality management systems. *Management Decision*, *38*(1), 19-23. doi:10.1108/00251740010311799
- Watson, G.H. (1993), Strategic Benchmarking: How to Rate your Company's Performance Against the World's Best.
- Zairi, M. & Ahmed, P.Z. (1999), ``Benchmarking maturity as we approach the millennium?'', Total Quality Management, No. 4/5, July, pp. 810-16.
- Zeinalnezhad, M., Mukhtar, M., & Sahran, S. (2014). An investigation of lead benchmarking implementation. *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *21*(1), 121-145.doi:10.1108/bij-09-2011-0074