Preparing for National University Commission (NUC) Accreditation Exercise: The Experience of Kaduna State University Library, Kaduna Nigeria

by

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Abstract:

- *The paper reviewed and made analysis of past accreditation exercises conducted by National University Commission (NUC) on different academic programmed in Kaduna State University. The paper specifically discussed the centrality of the University library to accreditation exercise and NUC observations on the university library. In preparation for the third accreditation exercise, the library adopted new strategies such as formation of Permanent University Library Accreditation Committee (ULAC), aside the University Central Accreditation Committee (CAC), new acquisition procedures, Mock accreditation and other very important factors contributed greatly in making KASU library "getting it right this time around".*

Introduction:

Keeping 2 standards by watch every institution

- Universities as ivory towers and epitome of scholarship

Nigerian University System has in the last few years expanded in Numbers, programme and student enrollment

- **140 universities made up of 40 federal, 40 state and 60 private universities**

- NUC is a regulatory agency for university system in Nigeria
- Supported by Nigeria Law 2004

Intro……

- NUC developed Minimum Academic Standard (MAS) = BMAS
- Objectives

Ensure that the provision of BMAS documents are attained, maintained and enhanced

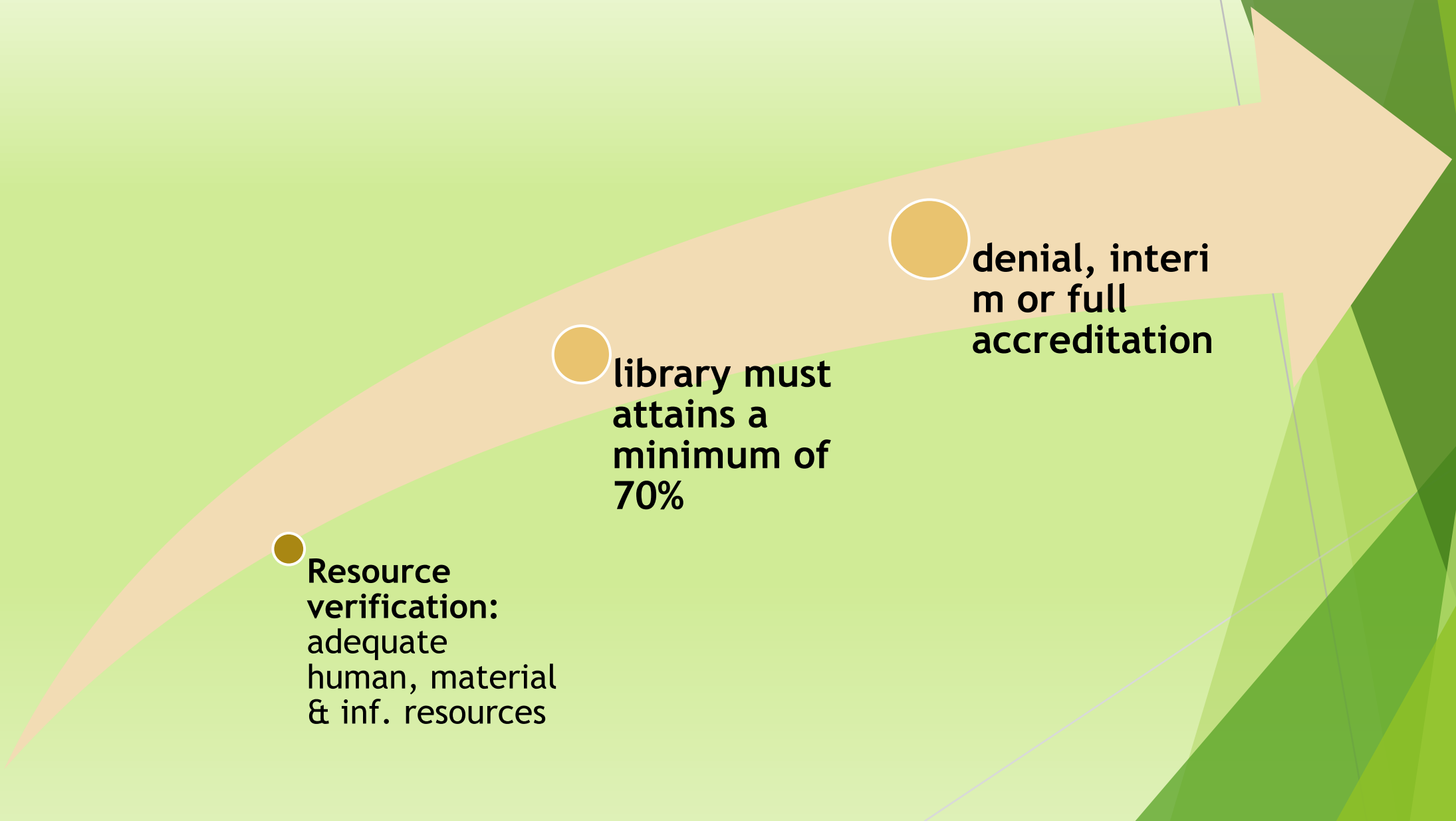
- Ensure that Nigerian graduates have attained an acceptable level of competency in their areas of specialization

Ensure that accreditation covers all undergraduate existing and new programmes.

Certify international communities that programmes offered in Nigerian universities are of high standard

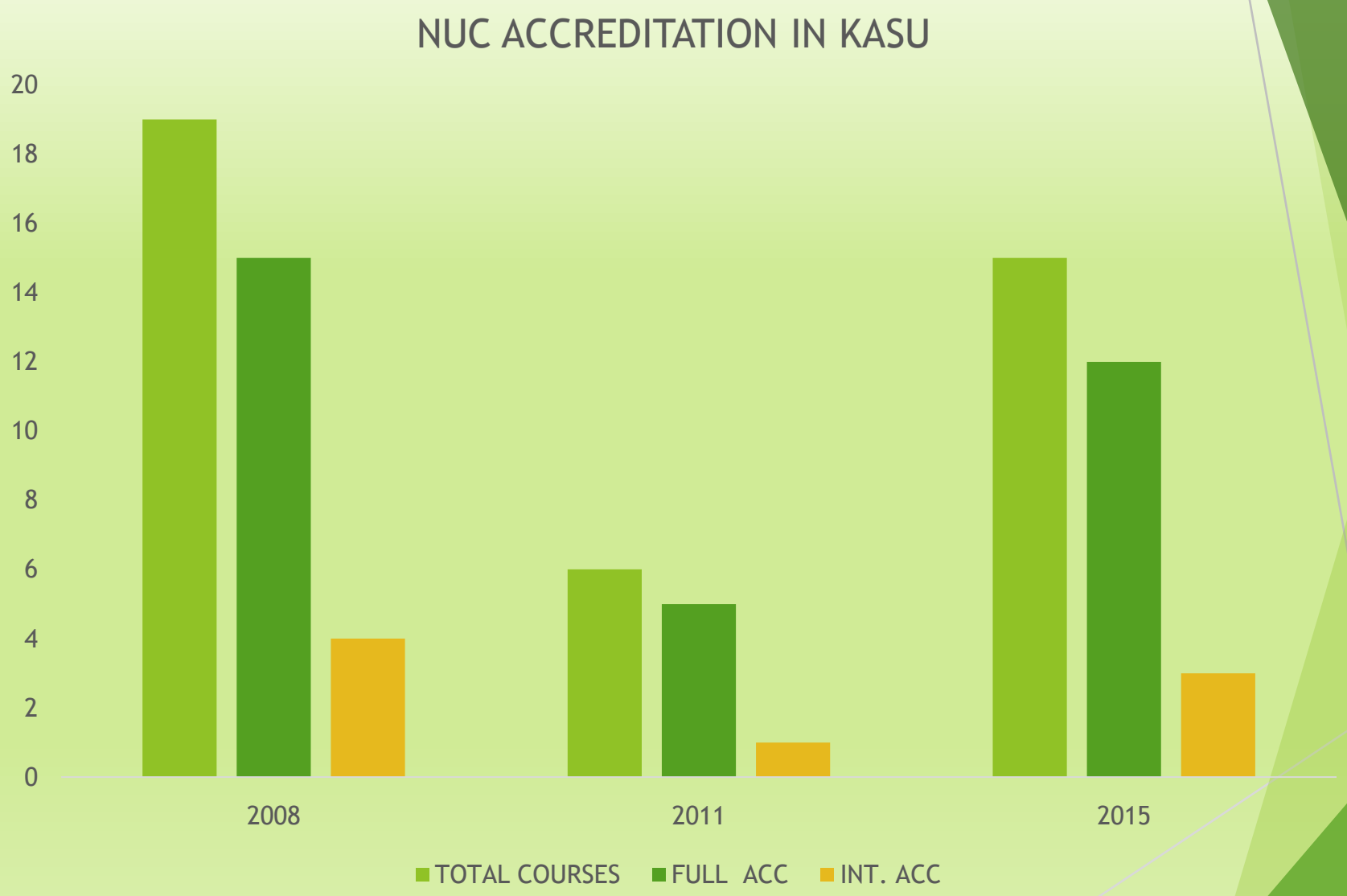
and products are adequate for employment and further studies nationally and internationally.

The University Library in Accreditation



Aim of the Paper

- to share with university communities,
- University Libraries
- Professional Librarian
- The Experience of KASU in the last exercise


NUC ACCREDITATION IN KASU
20
18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
2008
2011
2015
TOTAL COURSES
FULL ACC
INT. ACC

Kaduna State University Library Preparation for NUC Accreditation

- Accreditation exercise has become part and parcel of Universities in Nigeria.
- It's a continuous exercise from time to time
- New courses go through the same process.
- Having this in mind, efforts be made to avoid mistakes,
- KASU library embarked on a long term preparations
- Adopted practical and sustainable strategies for successful accreditation as follows:

Step One

Formation of a Permanent University Library Accreditation Committee (ULAC)

- Chairman, the UL & member of CAC of the University
- Library faculty representatives
- Heads of faculty libraries and divisional heads
- Admin officer of the library as the secretary.

Step Two: creating Awareness

- general meetings
- Committees
- sectional and unit
- Notices

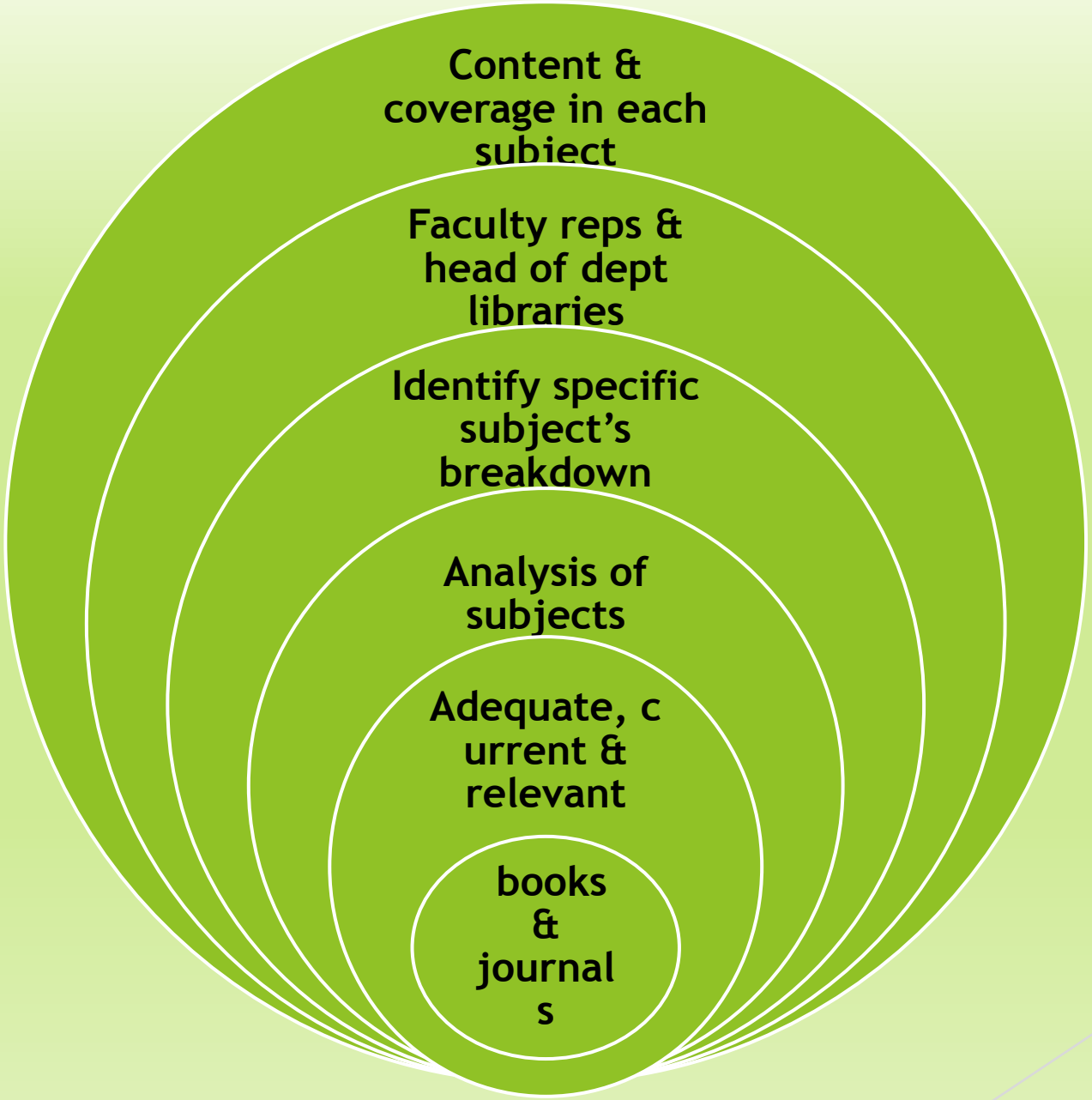
Step Three: Handling of Self-Study Form (SSF)



Step Four: Reviewing Previous Accreditation Reports

- Studied & analysed
- Y library not secure 70%
- lack resources in some core areas
- discovery served as an eye opener
- need to treat all course subjects critically

Step Five: creating a balance collection



Step Six: Creation of Departmental Libraries

- NUC insist on having libraries in each department.
- KASU has created libs. in all the depts in the university.
- A hybrid library consisting of conventional and e-library
- Each library has at least 6 networked computers + internet facilities.
- Deployed databases from the main e-library, offline information
- Resources were deployed to the dept. libraries by subjects.
- Facilities, furniture & staff were made available to the libs.
- Constant visits were made by the University Librarian and ULAC team.

Step Seven: New Acquisition Strategy

- A three man committee for each department involved in the accreditation exercise.
- The committee made up of the head of department, library faculty rep and bursary staff

- Direct purchase from bookshops and book vendors identified by the library.
- An opportunity to pick a substitute copy once it treat the same content.

- The method saved time to enable lib process the books
- Two titles of each book 1 for department and main library respectively

Step Eight: Information Resource Organization

- Information organization is a cardinal principle of librarianship
- translates into sequential and systematic arrangement of information resources on shelves, drawers and other storage facilities.
- ULAC tried to address frequently shelving and shelve reading challenges to avoid mistakes and miss-shelving,
- the sectional staff were shared and allocated shelves to supervise.
- The whole shelves were revisited and shelve reading was done critically
- The exercise was also carried in the serial and reference sections.

Step Nine: Provision and Organization of E-resources

- Electronic information resources in this information age cannot be overemphasized.
- Current and up-to-date & in millions and varied varieties.
- Made available in the main e-library and in the departmental libraries

1. internet information resources in form of online subscribed databases, such as AGORA, Science Direct, Scopus, Proquest, HINARI and
2. other free online library portals, educational online directories and
3. more than 2,000,000 downloaded e-books and journals.
4. These e-books and journals were made into folders, arranged by subjects.

- the good innovation that attracted commendation from the accreditation team

Step Ten: General Administrative Procedures

The university lib. was equally very keen in correcting admin. lapses

Records of library staff

letters of appointments, confirmation, promotion & posting

Safety equipment such as sand buckets, fire extinguishers, emergency exit doors,

Likewise cleanliness of the library environments.

Step Eleven: Mock Accreditations

- In order to ascertain level of preparedness
- the ULAC conducted a mock accreditation for the main & dept library.
- It studied the SSF already submitted online for correction & modifications
- The various units in the library were visited and resources to ensure adequacy, currency & level of usage.
- The CAC also conducted mock accreditation exercise
- Observations pointed out by the team were immediately corrected.

Conclusion

- **The paper concludes that**
- **Early preparations and adoption of permanents and sustainable strategies are key to successful accreditation exercise.**
- **Reviewing previous accreditation reports, Creating a balance collection**
- **First understanding programmes, subjects and courses structure and content**
- **These are very essentials for libraries is to develop robust collection that will lead universities to attaining full accreditation.**

10q 4 Ur Attention & God Bless