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Title : MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION PRACTICES IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS STRATEGIC PLANNING

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Measurement and evaluation is one of the most important elements of the library management. Measurement and evaluation practices at the library are needed in fulfilling users' satisfactions by providing good library facilities and services to the users. All libraries aim to ensure that excellent services are provided to meet users' needs and expectations. Nevertheless, to ensure the needs of users are fulfilled is not an easy job and can't be taken lightly too. A big batch of things should be remarked that the purpose and objective of the library to supply the best service to users can be employed. This work is centred on the measurement and evaluation at the academic libraries in Malaysia. The purpose of this study is to find the actual situation of measurement and evaluation practices in eight Malaysian Academic Libraries and the contributions in the library strategic planning. The findings generated from this survey provide the measurement and evaluation scenario of how academic libraries are trying to satisfy the demands and satisfactions of their users. The study which focuses on the measurement and evaluation practices of users' needs and expectations in Malaysian academic libraries highlights how libraries establish their measurement and evaluation exercises. This study, which includes the perspectives of librarians who are directly involved in the measurement and evaluation activities in the academic library may serve as a baseline in a general sense for academic libraries

of all sizes as to how academic libraries could leverage the ideas of fulfilling the needs and expectations of the users. This study will be a significant endeavor in promoting better library services to the users of the academic libraries. For the policy makers, the study will be a reference for them to come out with a better policy/guidelines/standards/ strategic planning regarding the measurement and evaluation practices in academic libraries. This study will also be beneficial to the library managers/chief librarians. The findings may help library personnel to strategize their process in fulfilling users' needs. Therefore, they will find the way on how to improve the services provided to the users. For the library executives/librarians, they will know and be informed of the good measurement and evaluation instruments in measuring the services provided to the users. On the other hand, for researchers, future studies may be conducted specifically ones related to measurement and evaluation of library services in fulfilling users' needs and expectations. This study may also contribute to the body of knowledge, especially in Malaysia where the strategies in the area of library measurement and evaluation are very much needed.