



The development and implementation of a Reading List Management system  
as a tool for facilitating educational resource discovery: A case study of the  
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# Presentation Outline

- ▶ Aims/Objectives
- ▶ Case of KNUST: Planning/ Implementation/Challenges
- ▶ Discussions

# Reading List Management systems

- ▶ Reading List Management Systems
  - ▶ What are they?
    - ▶ Software for managing the reading resources used in teaching and learning
    - ▶ Only concerned with organizing resources associated with courses/ teaching activities
    - ▶ Different from a library management system
    - ▶ Examples: TALIS Apsire, LORLS

# Case of KNUST

- ▶ The traditional model of reading resource acquisitions
  - ▶ Vendors advertise, university selects
  - ▶ No centralized/automated way of doing this
  - ▶ No faculty to allow patrons suggest/participate in resource acquisition transparently
  - ▶ Time consuming

# Case of KNUST

- ▶ Technological state:
  - ▶ University-wide internet infrastructure
  - ▶ Central Library is well equipped with ICT (Gigabit network, servers, desktop computers, etc)
  - ▶ Central Library has the capacity of start BYOD
  - ▶ Central Library has the capacity to host and disseminate services

# Reading List system: Planning

- ▶ Engagement with Library committee
- ▶ Engagement with Senior Library management groups
- ▶ Review of resource acquisitions process
- ▶ Proposal for an automated system for managing resource acquisitions

# Reading List system: Implementation

- ▶ Selecting a software system
  - ▶ Opensource or Proprietary ?
  - ▶ Free or Commercial ?
  - ▶ How widely adopted ?
  - ▶ Features:
    - ▶ can handle different resource types,
    - ▶ has delegated roles for librarians, lecturers, students
    - ▶ Allows for suggestions by patrons
    - ▶ Has statistical data reporting
    - ▶ Can integrate with learning management systems
    - ▶ Capable of a single sign-on/authentication

# Reading List system: Challenges

- ▶ Fragmented systems
  - ▶ Not enough integration between learning management system, library systems, academic records systems etc.
  - ▶ Review necessary
- ▶ Idea new to staff
  - ▶ Ignorance of staff/students of the use of reading list systems
  - ▶ Some members of management also
- ▶ Digital Literacy skills
  - ▶ Inadequate digital literacy skills of staff and students