

## Contemporary Issues on Entrepreneurship in Information Science and Business Education Professions: Implications to Education of Nigeria Tertiary Institutions

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### Abstract

The article is on contemporary issues of entrepreneurship in information science and business education professions: Implications to education of Nigeria tertiary institutions. Entrepreneurs are persons, who create some new events, organise factors of production, undertake risk and handle economic uncertainty involved in new venture. Entrepreneurship education is one of the most paramount in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, because of employment crisis, financial crisis, social crisis, political crisis, insurgent and others social vices in Nigeria society and other parts of the world. Graduates are no longer regarded as of 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s graduates where jobs are already waiting for them before graduation. Therefore, the needs of self –employment teaching courses should be the alternative in any course of study in Nigeria tertiary institutions. The paper unveiled current trends in entrepreneurship, some available self- employ business; soft skills needed to create wealth/ employment or small business opportunities for graduates in library and information science and business education professions in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Entrepreneurship, Business Education, LIS- Graduate, Soft skills insurgency and unemployment.

### Introduction

The issues of unemployment, insurgent and social vices among graduates and youths in Nigeria and other countries in the world are no longer news. It has done more harm than good in our society. One can hazard that those universities, polytechnics and colleges of education in Nigeria graduating over fifteen(15) thousand graduates yearly, without guaranteed employment opportunities is one of the causes of insurgency, militates, and social vices in the country today. In line with the above view, Issa, Uzuegbu and Nwosu (2014) stated that “today, no discipline or field of study in the nation’s institutions of higher learning is insulated from this unfortunate trend of graduate unemployment”- Library and information science and Business education graduates are inclusive. The aims of the researchers to unveiled contemporary trends in entrepreneurship, some self- employment business; soft skills needed to create wealth/ employment; small business opportunities for graduates in information science and business education professions. According to Choudhry(2014) opined that 21<sup>st</sup> century began with a boom in all the fields whether it is technology or academia. Technology remains flourishing till now and new researches keep on inventing every single day in our Information and communications technologies driven world, the e-generation entrepreneurs invest in the following new industries such as:

- Personal computers,
- PC software,
- Biotechnology,
- Wireless communications/handheld devices,
- Healthy living products,
- Cellar phones services,
- CD- ROM,
- Internet publishing,
- Internet shopping; and
- Virtual imaging.

The concept of entrepreneurship have been defined by different authorities in field of studies, but it seem as if there is no universally acceptable definition of the term yet, especially this moved of digital age were everybody( youths and graduates) want to use all means to get rich. Nwosu(2014) sees entrepreneurship as a

process of actions of an entrepreneur who is a person always in search of something new and exploits such ideas into gainful opportunities by accepting the risk and uncertainty with the enterprise. Entrepreneurship is the process of using initiative to transform business concept to new venture, diversify existing venture or enterprise to high growing venture potentials (United Nations industrial development Organisation, 1999).

From the foregoing definitions the researchers simply refers to entrepreneurship as a processes of seeking for information or means of discover ways to change your social and economic living with tangible income from individual establishment. Another definition is risk-taking businessperson or somebody who initiates or finances new commercial enterprises Therefore, anybody that can provide services or sell goods which bring money to his/her way is an entrepreneur. As earlier stated by the researchers, the focus of this paper unveiled current trends in entrepreneurship, some self-employment business; soft skills needed to create wealth/employment; small business opportunities for graduates in library and information science and business education professions

### **Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Information Science Graduates.**

Adomi(2009) opined that career opportunities for librarians are endless. Nearly every human endeavour uses information and librarians are masters of information. The tasks for a librarian who wants to work in a setting other than a traditional library is to identify an area and then convince somebody that they(their organization) need a librarian- an information professional. Today libraries are shifting their role from the custodian of traditional information resources and services to digital. These have affect careers and skills needed from newly library and information science LIS graduates in Nigeria (Lucky and Ifeka, 2014). Entrepreneurial opportunity exists where there is a need, want, problem or challenges in librarianship that can be addressed, solved and or satisfied in an innovative way it is about recognition or discovery of new ways of provision of library and information services and allied or information related services(Akanwa, Anyanwu & Ossai-onah, 2014). They went further for comprehensive list of entrepreneurial opportunities available for LIS graduates as follows- Library equipment business, publishing and printing business, information brokerage business, courier services business, library consultancy business, rural information provision business, stationary business, reprographic business, art gallery business, vendor business freelance information business etc. Other entrepreneurial opportunities for LIS graduates include:

- He/she can become Internet search service to co-worker especially in academic environment
- He/she can become computer programmer
- He/she can become cyber cafe operator/manager
- Working in telecom companies- GLO, Airtel, MTN, and others
- Documentary services
- Internet service provider
- Abstracting and indexing services to publishers
- Advert agency
- Marketing of LIS
- Public relations officer/services to company
- Writing articles, conference papers and organising workshops in area of LIS.
- He/she can be train for designer of websites or software developer, web administrator, content management, and information repackaging, digitalisation of library materials as well as book reviewing etc

Each of the entrepreneurial opportunities required LIS graduates to develop professional's knowledge and skills to provide the above services to people effectively and efficiently in the society. They should also have a large scope of the aforementioned areas of self-employ for LIS graduate. The next area researchers will focus on is entrepreneurship beyond library and information science graduates.

### **Entrepreneurial Opportunities for business education Graduates.**

The general objectives of entrepreneurship in business education clearly show that it is concerned with the development and survival of both the individual and society. In fact, it is a tool through which social, economic and political development could be achieved. If it is properly planned, funded and implemented. The objectives of entrepreneurship education are spelt out by Osuala (2010) as

1. To provide meaningful education for youth which could make them self-reliance and subsequently encourage them to drive profit and be self independent
2. To provide graduate with the training and support necessary to help them establish a career in small and medium size business.
3. To provide graduates with training skills that will make them meet the manpower needs of the society.
4. To provide graduates with enough training in risk management to make uncertainty bearing possible and easy.

5. To stimulate industrial and economic growth of rural and less developed area.
6. To provide graduate enough training leer will make them creative and innovative in identifying new business opportunities.
7. To provide small and medium sized companies with the opportunity to recruit qualified graduates who will receive training and tutoring in the skills relevant to management of the business centre.

To achieve the above objectives, business education graduates must have the basic knowledge and skills, because entrepreneurship serves as suppliers to other enterprises and bigger organization, factories or industries. These may include farm produce such as; cocoa for food and beverage manufacturing industries, rubber for plastic and applied product industries, cassava and yam for chips, flour and other allied products industries etc(Anho, 2014). The supply of such products to bigger factories and organization brings economic power to the entrepreneur, self fulfillment, it nurtures indigenous raw materials, it helps in resources utilization, it leads to creation of empowerment, reduces unemployment and eradicates poverty. Thus, entrepreneurial education enable recipients live a meaningful and fulfilling life and contribute to national development (Gibb, 2002, Agweda and Abumere, (2008). Entrepreneurship education aids the acquisition of team-building skills critical for both small-scale business and large-scale business.

Entrepreneurship for business education graduates is useful for national security by creating career opportunities as identified by Okekeani (2008) cited in Anho(2014):

- Agriculture crop production
- Animal husbandry
- Barbing
- Beauty care
- Coal production and sales
- Clothes dyeing and tire
- Driving career (cars, keke & okada)
- Iron and steel production
- Money collection (daily/monthly ususu)
- Paper and pulp
- Petroleum/petrochemical production
- Poultry
- Tobacco production
- Soap and detergent production
- Wood treatment
- Sewing and fashion design
- Petty trading
- Car wash
- Waste Management Technology
- Information Management Technology.

In addition to the entrepreneurial opportunities identified by the foregoing educators, graduates can engage in/work as:

- Day care centres
- Tutorial classes and coaching centres
- Establishment of nursery schools for children
- Laundry and dry cleaning services
- Operating stores and supermarkets or fast food joint (commonly called “Point and Kill joint” in Nigeria).
- Indoor and outdoor catering services
- Cake baking
- Wedding designer
- Disc junky(DJ)
- Comedy films or shows
- Music writing
- Water factories for packing and repackaging (commonly called pure- water in Nigeria) etc.

### **Implications to education of Nigeria tertiary institutions**

The implication of the entrepreneurship education to Nigeria tertiary institutions is that if they fail to teach our undergraduate students this education, we will have a lot of unemployment graduates and social vices youths that double the exists ones. However, there is now a very serious attention paid to entrepreneurship education in tertiary institutions in Nigeria and the world-over. According to Sule (2014) Entrepreneurship education as part of the total educational system is the type of education that involves the acquisition of skills, ideas and

management abilities necessary for job creation. An entrepreneur promotes employment rather than seeking for an employment. Therefore, there is a need to embrace this type of education and provide all the necessary resources needed to make functional. Quality entrepreneurship education could be used as a tool for fighting the war against poverty and unemployment in Nigeria.

Education is said to be qualitative when the input such as students, teachers, finance, facilities and equipment and all these are converted through teaching and learning (theory and practical) and produce a desirable output. The output is better equipped to serve themselves and the society. The quality of input influences to a large extent the quality of output. In other words, the quality of the input of entrepreneurship education such as teachers, students and infrastructural facilities will influence greatly, the input of the output (Olorunmolu, 2010) cited by Sule (2014).

Therefore, quality entrepreneurship education will enhance job creation which will subsequently reduce unemployment, poverty and social vices in Nigeria. This will also help to improve the standard of living; hence promote social economic and political development in Nigeria which is the cardinal objective of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Also, for the recipient of entrepreneurship education to be a job creator rather than job-seeker, he might acquire essential basic skills and attitudes which will enable him to function as an entrepreneur (Sule, 2014).

However, there are some challenges militating against the production of quality entrepreneur in Nigeria. These may come from the government, parents or even from certain unpredictable environmental forces which are external. Unless these problems are looked into, the realization of the aim and objectives of quality entrepreneurship education in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Nigeria will be a mirage (Sule, 2014). Thus, in this era of explosions of intellectual outputs, coupled with fast emerging information literacy competencies, especially prospective graduates of LIS and business education should be in possession of the following soft skills:

- Time management skills
- Digital literacy skills
- Knowledge of business information sources;
- Knowledge of financial literacy;
- Knowledge of characteristics of successful business practitioners
- Knowledge of strategies for starting successful profitable business;
- Ability to identify and or create viable business opportunities in an environment;
- Knowledge of avenues for raising capital financing business;
- Knowledge of legal issues associated with business; and
- Knowledge of skills for managing business establishments and the possible challenges involved in business operations ( Issa, Igwe & Ugwuogu, 2014).

## Conclusion

In Nigeria and the whole world at large entrepreneurship is being seen as a key to economic and developmental process. When people are exposed to entrepreneurship, it is evident that they would be opened to opportunities that will enable them to become creative and productive. This will enhance job creation and improve the standard of living of an individual in the society. The paper discussed current issues related to library and information science and business education profession in Nigeria. There are some small scale entrepreneurial business graduates in our can involves to make a living. The implication of the entrepreneurship education to Nigeria tertiary institutions is that if they fail to teach our undergraduate students this education, we will have a lot of unemployment graduates and social vices youths that double the exists ones. Therefore, entrepreneurial education business must be taught to undergraduate students.

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