

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE AWARENESS AND USAGE OF ELECTRONIC
INFORMATION RESOURCES BY ACADEMIC STAFF AT THE MIDLANDS
STATE UNIVERSITY'S ELECTRONIC LIBRARY**

BY

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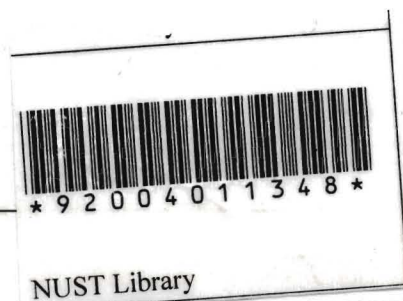
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The pace of technology innovation in University Libraries has steadily accelerated over the past decade. Initially, technology tools were being applied to the same fundamental library service paradigms to make the work more efficient, but now library work itself is beginning to change, with technological innovation leading to design of new services for users. As a result, new roles for librarians have also emerged in facilitating access to, and navigation of electronic collections and other sources. Observations had been made to the effect that faculty at Midlands State University seemed not to effectively exploit electronic information resources offered by the University Library. The vast majority of the research on electronic access to resources and usage by faculty was confined mainly to western libraries and a few developing nations such as Ghana. In the absence of a systematic investigation of awareness and usage of electronic resources in Zimbabwe, the study sought to investigate:

- (a) The use of electronic information resources by faculty at Midlands State University;
- (b) The extent to which online databases as well as other electronic information resources are utilized by faculty at Midlands State University;
- (c) The type of electronic information resources accessed;
- (d) The effectiveness of the Library's communication tools for electronic information research; and,
- (e) The relationship between the Library's communication tools and the underutilization of electronic information resources.