

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

AN EVALUATION OF THE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION METHODS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF ZIMBABWE

BY

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ABSTRACT

The study sought to evaluate the information dissemination methods employed by the National Archives of Zimbabwe. The study was conceived against a background of irregularities observed by the researcher on the methods employed by the institution to disseminate information to the public. The passiveness of NAZ on information dissemination resulted in most citizens lacking awareness of the existence, functions and information they could get from the institution. The case study research design was chosen as the research methodology. Questionnaires, interviews and observations were the data collection tools used. The population of the study was the professional staff of the NAZ and potential users. Purposive sampling was used to select 20 NAZ staff respondents and 100 users who came to visit NAZ from 1 January to 30 April 2013. The researcher established that although there were quite a number of information dissemination methods in use at NAZ, the methods were not being exploited to capacity to fulfil the needs of the users. The National Archives of Zimbabwe needed to take the archives to the people and make people access the information they have through various channels.