

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**FACTORS INFLUENCING THE ADOPTION OF OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN  
ZIMBABWE UNIVERSITIES LIBRARIES**

BY

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## ABSTRACT

The world is experiencing an upsurge in the movement of intellectual property in the form of Open Educational Resources (OER) as more and more institutions and individuals are sharing digital learning resources over the Internet openly and without cost (OECD, 2007). Considerable efforts by world bodies has gone into OER initiatives, yet the uptake of OER is slow in Zimbabwe Institutes of High Learning. Hence the question, what are the factors likely to influence the intention of ZULC member to adopt OERs. To answer the question, a study of thirteen university libraries which are members of ZULC was undertaken. Information was gathered by means of a survey questionnaire. This research used the constructs of attitude towards use, subjective norm and perceived behavioural control, based on TPB, supplemented by multiple tools used to investigate control beliefs and facilitating conditions, to identify the influence of certain factors on a user's intention to adopt OER. Some of the key findings indicate that attitude towards use, subjective norm and perceived behavioural control have a positive effect on a user's Behavioural intention to use OER. Perceived Behavioural Control has a strong influence on the actual use of OER. Additionally significant differences were found in the barriers which librarians indentified as either limiting their users in the different institution. The major determinants being age of the university, funding, administration of the university and the experience of the librarian.