SCHOOL OF LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION STUDIES

(SLADS- BAGAMOYO)

RESEARCH REPORT

AN ASSESSMENT ON STRATEGIES OF PROTECTING COPYRIGHTED INFORMATION MATERIAL IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES: A CASE STUDY OF MARIAN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

BY

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A research report to be submitted at the School of Library, Archives and Documentation Studies (SLADS) seeking approval to undertake a study as a Partial Fulfillment of requirements for the Award of Diploma in Library and Information Management

2026

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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certify that he has read and hereby recommended for acceptance by the School of Library, Archives and Documentation Studies Research report entitled ***"An assessment on the strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries " a***s a Partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Ordinary Diploma in Library and Information Management

Signature

.....

Supervisor

MADAM VICTORIA KESSY

Date

.....

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DECLADATION AND COPYRIGHT

I ASANATH SEFU RASHID declare that this report is my own original work and that it has not been presented and not will be presented to any other Ordinary Diploma or any other award.

Signature

.....

Date

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Also, I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the School of Library, Archives and Documentation Studies (**SLADS**), Administration for making sure that I conduct this study well.

Special thanks and honor go to my research report supervisor Madam Victoria Kessy for using his time to lead guide and supervise and orient me in the writing report.

May the Almighty GOD bless them All.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research work to my parents and relatives who gave me financial and psychological support.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DRM - Digital Rights Management

ICT - Information and Communication Technology

IFLA - International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

MARUCO - Marian University College

OPAC - Online Public Access Catalogue

SLADS - School of Library, Archives and Documentation Studies

TCU - Tanzania Commission for Universities

TRIPS - Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization

WTO - World Trade Organization

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ABSTRACT

This study assessed the strategies used in protecting copyrighted information materials in academic libraries, with specific reference to Marian University College. The study was guided by four specific objectives: to examine the laws guiding the use of copyrighted information materials, to establish the level of awareness among library staff and users regarding copyrighted information materials, to identify challenges faced by academic libraries in protecting copyrighted information materials, and to suggest measures for improving copyright protection in academic libraries.

The study employed a descriptive research design and a mixed research approach involving both qualitative and quantitative methods. A sample of 50 respondents was selected from a population of 500 library users and staff members. Data were collected through questionnaires and interviews. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, while qualitative data were analyzed through content analysis.

The findings revealed that the majority of respondents were aware of copyright laws and recognized their importance in protecting intellectual property rights. The study further established that awareness of copyrighted information materials among library staff and users was generally satisfactory. However, several challenges were identified, including inadequate awareness among some users, digital piracy, insufficient copyright training, weak enforcement mechanisms, and limited resources for copyright management. The study also found that continuous training, awareness programs, strengthening copyright policies, adoption of technological protection measures, and regular monitoring were effective strategies for improving copyright protection in academic libraries.

The study concludes that although Marian University College has made efforts to protect copyrighted information materials, more institutional commitment is needed to address existing challenges. The study recommends enhancing copyright awareness programs,

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.0 Introduction

This part of the research report presents the background of the problem, statement of the problem, general and specific objectives, significance of the study, scope of the study, limitation of the study as well as definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Copyrighted materials are original works of authorship, including text, music, art, software, and films that are automatically protected by law the moment they are created in a tangible form. They represent protected expressions of ideas rather than the ideas themselves. Examples include books, articles, photographs, videos, and sound recordings. Copyrighted material it used in different ways, Educational Use, showing a film in a face-to-face classroom, or using portions of a book for teaching, often covered by fair use. Licensing, Purchasing, renting, or obtaining permission from the creator to use their work. Creative Commons, using materials that have been licensed by the creator for specific, free, or limited use, such as blog posts or stock photos, as noted on this Creative Commons site.

Globally, Copyright protection in academic libraries has become increasingly important in the digital age, where information is produced and shared faster than ever before.(WIPO,2023) The core role of academic libraries to provide access to information for research, teaching, and learning , must be balanced with respecting the legal rights of creators under international copyright frameworks such as the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, which most countries have ratified. This treaty ensures creators automatically receive rights to control how their works are used in other countries.

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Scholars argue that copyright laws significantly affect how academic libraries manage collections, especially when digitizing, sharing, or lending copyrighted content. Without careful compliance, libraries risk legal issues or violating authors' rights. Research from universities around the world has shown that while copyright awareness exists among library professionals, proper interpretation and practical application of copyright laws often lag behind institutional needs, particularly around permitted uses such as educational copying and access for users.

At the same time, many academic institutions in developed and developing contexts respond by adopting copyright compliance policies, training staff, and establishing licensing agreements with publishers to lawfully provide electronic materials to students and faculty. These measures aim to strike a balance between intellectual property protection and access to knowledge.

around the world has shown that while copyright awareness exists among library professionals, proper interpretation and practical application of copyright laws often lag behind institutional needs, particularly around permitted uses such as educational copying and access for users.

In Africa, academic libraries face complex challenges in protecting copyrighted materials while promoting access. Many countries have adopted copyright laws that govern how information materials can be copied, shared, or digitized, but awareness and implementation of these laws vary widely among librarians and library users. (TCU,2022)

Studies in Southern Africa reveal that copyright knowledge among library staff and students is uneven, with some university communities showing limited understanding of what constitutes fair use, copyright limitations, and compliance requirements, a critical issue because legal literacy affects how libraries protect copyrighted information and inform their users.

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In several African workplaces, collaborative efforts have emerged to support “fair copyright” environments. For example, initiatives in East Africa such as capacity building and engagement with national copyright boards aim to reform laws to better support libraries, research, education, and fair access to knowledge.

copyright exceptions and limitations, legal provisions that allow certain uses of copyrighted materials without permission. Research in Kenya, Ghana, and Uganda shows that although exceptions exist to support educational access, they are often inadequate or misunderstood, affecting how libraries serve users and protect rights.

The digital environment also brings new challenges, such as balancing authors’ rights with the public’s right to information and navigating complex licensing agreements for electronic resources. These dynamics shape how academic libraries across Africa design copyright policies and train staff in copyright compliance and digital ethics.

In Tanzania, the legal framework for copyright is defined by the Copyright and Neighboring Rights Act, which provides protections for creators and defines what constitutes infringement.

Academic libraries in Tanzanian universities must operate within this legal environment while also ensuring access to educational resources for students and faculty. However, recent legal developments such as the Copyright (Licensing of Reproduction and Rental Rights) Regulations of 2014 have introduced new requirements that educational institutions may pay fees for using published materials, even for academic purposes. This has led to debate among educators and librarians about striking a balance between protecting authors’ rights and fulfilling the right to education. (TCU,2022).

Tanzanian studies also document broader challenges facing academic libraries including policy gaps, limited digital copyright strategies, and the need for clearer institutional guidance on copyright compliance and fair use. Librarians in Tanzania may be familiar with copyright principles, but effective administration and ope rationalization especially

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in digital collections or institutional repositories, still need strengthening through policy development and professional training.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

academic libraries are expected to protect copyrighted information materials while simultaneously facilitating equitable access for teaching, learning, and research. International frameworks such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) emphasize that copyright protection should balance the rights of creators with public access to knowledge (WIPO, 2023). the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions advocates for responsible copyright compliance in libraries through proper licensing, fair use/fair dealing practices, digital rights management, and user awareness programs (IFLA, 2023).

academic libraries, particularly in developing countries including Tanzania, indicates persistent challenges in protecting copyrighted materials. Due to the rapid digitization, increased electronic resource subscriptions, institutional repositories, and online learning platforms have complicated copyright management (WIPO, 2023).

1.3 Objective

1.3.1 General objective

To assess strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries.

1.3.2 Specific objectives

I)To examine the existence laws which guide the use of copyrighted information material

ii) To establish the level of awareness on copyrighted information material among library staff and user

iii) To identify the challenges faced by academic library in protecting copyrighted information material.

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iv) To suggest measures taken to improve the protection of copyrighted information material in academic libraries.

1.4 Research question

i. what is law's guide the use of copyrighted information material during service delivery?

ii. what are the levels of awareness and understanding on protection of copyrighted information material?

iii. what are challenges facing academic libraries in protecting copyrighted information material?

iv. what are the measures taken to improve the protection of copyrighted information material in academic libraries?

1.5 Significance of the study

i. This study will increase awareness to the librarian and library user on how copyrighted information material has been protected.

ii. The findings of this study will be a reference in other studies for researchers who conducting the further studies.

iii. The study will also add knowledge for librarian and library user.

iv. knowledge raised from this study will help to provide awareness to librarian and library user on the benefits of protecting copyrighted information material.

1.6 Scope of the study

The research will be conducted at Marian university which is located at bagamoyo district, the main purpose of selecting this area is belief will be a good place for obtaining relevant information easily from the respondents but also a place can be easier reachable by the researcher so as to collect data and ready at timely and at lower cost.

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1.7 Limitations of the Study

The researcher anticipated to be faced with various limitation which are as follows

1.7.1 Inadequate of fund

Budget allocated for this study not enough to cover all the necessary cost. In order to overcome this researcher will use sustainable budget to accomplish the study.

1.7.2 Limitation of time

The study will be conducted during the proceeding of the subject; the time might not be enough to complete successful of preparing research according schedule time Which is introduced by SLADS management.

1.7.3 Lack of experience

Experience is considered as a limitation because a researcher had no enough experience because it's first time to conduct a research study. therefore, research will expect to get assistance from a supervisor and other people who are experienced in research.

1.7.4 Lack of cooperation

In order to have good information so as to fulfill the study, cooperation between researcher and his or her respondents is very important. sometimes some of respondents do not provide their full support to the researcher, hence make it difficult to the researcher to have the right feedback from the respondents.

1.8 Definition of key terms

1.8.1Copyrighted information material: are original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium such as books, digital files, images, music, and videos that are automatically protected by law from unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or adaptation. (University of Sunderland,2025)

1.8.2 Information materials: are any recorded, tangible, or digital mediums such as books, reports, databases, and multimedia designed to convey knowledge, facts, or data

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for learning, research, or decision making. They are widely used for educational purposes, professional research, and public information dissemination.

1.8.3 Academic library: is a library that is attached to a higher education institution which is support the curriculum and the research of the University faculty and students.

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CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

literature review summarizes, analyzes, and compares previous studies, books, and articles related to the research problem. By doing this, the researcher can show how their study is connected to earlier work and why their research is important. A well-written literature review does not only describe past studies but also evaluates them, highlighting their strengths, weaknesses, and main findings. This process helps build a strong theoretical background for the research and guides the development of research questions or hypotheses. Therefore, the literature review plays an important role in ensuring that new research is based on reliable knowledge and contributes to the existing body of academic work (Creswell & Creswell, 2018; Hart, 2018)

2.1 Laws Guiding the Use of Copyrighted Information Materials

Copyright laws provide legal protection to creators of original works such as books, articles, music, films, and digital content. These laws give authors the exclusive right to reproduce, publish, distribute, and display their works. According to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, 2023), copyright ensures that creators receive recognition and economic benefits from their work. International agreements such as the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works provide minimum standards of copyright protection among member countries. This convention ensures that works created in one country are also protected in other countries that are members of the agreement. Another important international agreement is the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement, which requires countries to enforce copyright protection and provide legal measures against copyright infringement (World Trade Organization, 2023).

At the national level, many countries have copyright laws that regulate how information materials can be used in academic libraries. For example, the Copyright Act of 1976 in

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the United States provides authors with exclusive rights over their works but also includes limitations such as the principle of fair use. Fair use allows limited copying of materials for purposes such as teaching, research, criticism, and private study (U.S. Copyright Office, 2022). Similarly, in many Commonwealth countries the concept of fair dealing allows limited use of copyrighted materials for educational purposes (Bently & Sherman, 2014). These legal exceptions are very important for academic libraries because they allow students and researchers to access information while still respecting the rights of authors.

Tanzania the modern digital environment copyright laws have expanded to include electronic resources. Laws such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) protect digital materials and regulate online distribution of copyrighted works. Academic libraries now provide access to electronic books, online journals, and databases, which must also be used according to copyright rules. Therefore, copyright laws guide how libraries reproduce, share, and provide access to both print and digital materials. These laws ensure that information is used legally while still supporting academic learning and research.

2.2 Level of Awareness of Copyrighted information material Among Library Staff and Users

Awareness of copyright law is very important in academic libraries because both library staff and users interact with copyrighted materials every day. Library staff are responsible for managing information resources, assisting users, and ensuring that materials are used legally. If library staff have limited knowledge of copyright laws, they may unintentionally allow users to violate copyright regulations. Studies have shown that many librarians have general knowledge of copyright law but sometimes lack detailed understanding, especially about digital copyright issues (Okiy, 2015). This can affect how they manage photocopying services, scanning of materials, and sharing of electronic resources.

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Students and other library users also need to understand copyright laws. However, research shows that many students have limited awareness of copyright rules and may unknowingly misuse copyrighted materials. For example, some students photocopy entire books, download pirated academic materials from the internet, or share copyrighted files with others without permission (WIPO, 2023). Such practices can lead to copyright infringement and may affect the reputation of the institution.

The level of copyright awareness often depends on the training and guidance provided by the institution. Institutions that organize copyright workshops, seminars, and orientation programs tend to have higher levels of awareness among both staff and students (IFLA, 2018). When users are educated about copyright law, they are more likely to respect intellectual property rights and use information resources responsibly. Therefore, improving copyright awareness is an important step in protecting copyrighted materials in academic libraries.

2.3 Challenges Facing Academic Libraries in Protecting Copyrighted Information Materials

Academic libraries face several challenges when trying to protect copyrighted information materials. One major challenge is the rapid growth of digital technology. Digital resources such as electronic books, online journals, and databases can easily be copied and shared through email, flash drives, and social media platforms. Because digital information can be reproduced quickly and distributed widely, it becomes difficult for libraries to control how these materials are used by students and researchers. This rapid technological development increases the risk of unauthorized copying and distribution of copyrighted materials in academic environments (Lessig, 2018).

Another challenge is the low level of copyright awareness among some users and library staff. When students and researchers do not clearly understand copyright laws, they may copy, scan, or share materials without realizing that they are violating legal regulations. In many institutions, copyright education is not strongly emphasized during library

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orientation or training programs. As a result, users may unintentionally misuse library resources, which creates difficulties for libraries trying to enforce copyright rules (Lipinski, 2016).

Academic libraries also face challenges related to the lack of clear copyright policies within their institutions. When universities do not have clear guidelines regarding photocopying, scanning, and digital sharing of materials, library staff may find it difficult to regulate the use of copyrighted resources. Clear policies help both staff and users understand the limits of copying and distribution. Without such policies, there may be confusion about what is permitted and what is not allowed under copyright law (Samuelson, 2016).

Financial limitations are another major challenge affecting copyright protection in academic libraries. Subscribing to electronic databases, purchasing licensed digital materials, and acquiring multiple copies of textbooks often require significant financial resources. Many academic libraries operate with limited budgets, which restricts their ability to provide adequate access to information materials. When libraries cannot supply enough copies of required materials, students may resort to excessive photocopying or unauthorized sharing of digital resources (Suber, 2012).

Finally, weak enforcement of copyright rules can also create problems in academic libraries. Even when copyright laws and institutional policies exist, they may not be effectively implemented due to limited monitoring systems or lack of administrative support. Without proper enforcement mechanisms, it becomes difficult for libraries to ensure that users follow copyright regulations. These challenges make it difficult for academic libraries to fully protect copyrighted information materials while still providing access to knowledge for teaching and research (Vaidhyanathan, 2017).

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2.4 Measures to Improve the Protection of Copyrighted Information Materials in Academic Libraries

Several measures can help improve the protection of copyrighted information materials in academic libraries. One important measure is providing copyright education and training to both library staff and users. Libraries can organize workshops, seminars, and orientation programs to educate users about copyright laws and the responsible use of information resources. When students and researchers understand copyright regulations, they are less likely to misuse library materials or violate copyright rules. Education and awareness programs therefore play a key role in promoting ethical use of information resources in academic institutions (Crews, 2020).

Another important measure is the development of clear copyright policies within academic institutions. These policies should clearly explain how much material can be copied, when permission from copyright holders is required, and how digital resources should be used. When academic libraries establish clear guidelines, both staff and users can easily understand the legal limits of using copyrighted materials. Such policies help institutions avoid copyright infringement and encourage responsible information use (Gasaway, 2019).

The use of technology is also an effective way to protect copyrighted materials in academic libraries. Libraries can implement technological systems such as Digital Rights Management (DRM) to control downloading, copying, printing, and sharing of electronic resources. These systems help reduce unauthorized access and protect the intellectual property rights of authors and publishers. Technology therefore plays an important role in managing digital information resources in modern academic libraries (Armstrong, 2017).

Academic libraries can also collaborate with publishers and database providers through licensing agreements. These agreements allow libraries to legally provide access to

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electronic books, journals, and databases for students and researchers. Licensing agreements usually specify the conditions for using digital resources, including restrictions on copying and distribution. In addition, libraries should monitor photocopying services, computer laboratories, and digital platforms to ensure that copyright rules are followed. Promoting the use of open access resources is another useful strategy because such materials are freely available and reduce legal restrictions on information access. Encouraging the use of open access resources supports teaching, learning, and research while still respecting copyright laws (Suber, P. 2017).

2.5 Research gap

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO ,2013) highlight that effective copyright protection requires strong institutional policies, awareness programs, and technological control measures in libraries. However, most of these studies focus on developed countries where copyright management systems and digital rights infrastructure are more advanced.

Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU, 2022) shows that although academic institutions recognize copyright regulations, there is still inadequate understanding of fair use, licensing agreements, and legal limitations for copying educational materials.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA 2019) emphasizes the need for training programs and copyright literacy to ensure responsible use of information resources in libraries.

Therefore, this study seeks to fill these gaps by assessing the laws guiding the use of copyrighted information material in academic libraries.

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CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

Research methodology is the structured plan a researcher follows to conduct a study. It includes the strategies, techniques, and tools used to gather and analyze data. The purpose of a research methodology is to ensure that the study is systematic, valid, and reliable. (IJOAEAR,2025). This section was present and discuss the methodologies that used in carrying out this study. It describes the way collected and what technique used to collect data. It presents the study design that adopted for the study. It describes the area and the population and sampling strategies. It explains data collection method and instrument that applied in the data collection analysis and presentation. The section also explains ethical considerations that followed in gathering data.

3.1 Research Design

This study use descriptive design. Also study design is needed because it facilitates the smooth sailing of the various research operation there by making research as efficient as possible yield maximal information with expenditure of effort time and money.

3.2 Research approach

Taherdoost (2022) state that there are three approaches, which are quantitative, qualitative and mixed approach, in conducting this study used both qualitative and quantitative approach.

3.3 Study Area

The study will be conducted at Marian university college, located at Bagamoyo district in Tanzania. The reason of selecting Marian university college was among of college which having an academic library which having high possibility of challenge on protection of Intellectually property rights in academic activities and easily accessible by the researcher and data collection was obtained easier.

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3.4 Study population

Refers to the entire group or set of individuals, objects, or events that possess specific characteristics and are of interest to the researcher (Thomas, 2023). In this context, the population of the study will involve 500 people. This population selected because of the nature of study and presence of library activities.

3.5 Sample size and sampling technique

3.5.1 Sample size

Is the number of individuals you should include in your sample depends on various factors, including the size and variability of the population and your research design (Combes,2019) The study will involve 50 respondents which was 40 respondents will be a library user and 10 Library staff? In regards ,40 questionnaires were distributed to user and 10 library staff were interviewed.

3.5.2 Sampling technique

Are statistical methods for selecting a sample representative of the whole population to study the population's characteristics. There are two most common sampling technique which is purposive sampling and simple random sampling was adopted on this study.

3.5.3 Purposive sampling

Purposive sampling, is the type of nonscientific sampling which is based on selecting the individuals as sample according to the purpose of the researcher as his controls (kothar,2004). Purposive sampling technique used to select 10 library staff

3.5.4 Simple random sampling

This study uses simple random sampling to select sample where it gives each member of the targeted population equal chance of participating. Simple random sampling used selected is 40 library users.

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3.6 Data collection instrument

(Kothar,2004) define data collection instrument as the means which researcher uses to collect relevant information". It divided into three categories which are; primary data, secondary data, and tertiary data. The study uses both primary and secondary data. The researcher collects primary data from library staff and library user, where secondary data were collected from published and unpublished material. These methods preferred by the researcher because are very much reliable in collection and provide relevant information.

3.7 Primary data collection

According to kothari (2004) primary data, are the data from original source which the researcher directly collect data that have not been previously collected by interacting with people. Primary data from this study were collected through questionnaire both open and closed, interview and observation.

3.7.1 Questionnaire

This method used to collect data from respondents with the help of set of questions. Respondent normally fill in answers written form and researcher collect the form with the complete information (Aina,2003). A total of 40 questionnaires will be distributed to library users. however, the questionnaires will include open question which allowed respondents to respond to the question on their own words and closed ended questions which allowed respondents to choose between number of alternatives.

3.7.2 Interview

(Kothar, 2004) explained interview as primary method of data collection which involves the presentation of verbal stimuli and reply in terms of oral verbal respond. In this study 10 library staff were interviewed.

3.8 Data analysis technique

Mugenda, 2003) data obtained from the Field in raw form is difficult to interpret. Such data must be cleaned, coded, keyed and punched into a computer and analyzed. For this

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research once the questionnaires have administered and collected as well as interviews conducted, The raw data was systematically organized to facilitate analysis in order to analyze data collected from this study, quantitative data analysis techniques were used

3.9 Ethical considerations

Ethical issues go beyond the design of the study. Any piece of research that involves human subjects must endeavor to protect the rights, dignity, physical, and psychological welfare of the participants (kothar,2004). It is important to consider ethical issues in any study; in this study ethical issues were considered by ensuring respondents confidentiality and that findings were for academic purpose and not otherwise.

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CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents data analysis, presentation and discussion of the study on an assessment on strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries: The analysis of the finding is based on the data collection through questionnaire and interviews.

4.1: Response Rate

4.1.1: Questionnaires distributed to and received from respondents

A researcher distributed a total of 60 questionnaires: 50 (83.3%) Library staff and library users and 10 (16.7%). The result is shown in the table 4.1 below:

Table 4.1: Responses from the Distributed Questionnaires

No of Questionnaires	No of Returned Questionnaires	Percentage	No of Unreturned Questionnaires	Percentage
60	50	83.3%	10	16.7%

Source: Field Data (2019)

The findings of the study show that 50 (83.3%) of the distributed questionnaires were dully filled in and returned were as 10 (13.7%) were not returned. The researcher was satisfied with the response rate because the returned questionnaires were above 80.

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4.2: Demographic Information of Respondents

4.2.1: Respondent Distribution by Gender

Respondents were asked to indicate their gender. This was considered vital information to determine availability of gender. A researcher wanted to reach both genders so as to avoid gender inequality in this study. The result is shown in the table 4.2 below

Table 4.2: Gender of Respondents

Types of Respondents	Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Marian University college library users (N=40)	Male	37	92.5
	Female	3	7.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
Marian University college library Staff (N=10)	Male	8	80
	Female	2	20
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Data (2026)

The finding shows that 37 (92.5%) library users were males and 3 (7.5%) were female while library staff were 8 (80%) were male and 2 (20%) were female. The findings of the study indicate that majority of library users and library staff at Marian University Collage are males.

4.2.3: Age Distribution of Respondents

Respondents were asked to verify their age set. A researcher considers age set in this study because age determines the maturity and wisdom of someone when it comes to access to information. The result is shown in the table 4.3 below:

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Table 4.3: Age Distribution of Respondents

Types of Respondents	Age Range	Frequency	Percentage
Marian University college library users (N=40)	20 - 29	21	52.5
	30 - 39	14	35
	40 - 49	5	12.5
	50 - 59	-	-
	60 and above	-	-
Total		**40**	**100%**
Marian University college library staff (N=10)	20 - 29	2	20
	30 - 39	6	60
	40 - 49	2	20
	49 - 50	-	-
	60 and above	-	-
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Data (2026)

The finding shows that 21 (52.5%) of users were aged between 20-29, 14 (35%) were aged between 30-39, and 5 (12.5%) were aged between 40-49 while on the side of Marian University Collage staff 2 (20%) were aged between 20-29, 6 (60%) were aged between 30-39 and 2 (20%) was aged 40 - 49. The finding implies that majority of Marian University Collage users were aged between 20-29 and on the part of Marian University Collage staff's majority were aged between 30-39.

4.2.4 Education Level of Respondents

The respondent states their education level. This was considered necessary because is believed that level of education effect on the strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries. The result is shown in the table 4.4 below:

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Table 4.4: Respondents Education Level

Types of Respondents	Education Levels	Frequency	Percentage
Marian University college library users **(N**=40)		-	-
		-	-
	Certificate	5	12.5
	Diploma	12	30
	First Degree	23	57.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
Marian University college library Staff (**N**=10)		-	-
		-	-
	Certificate	2	20
	Diploma	2	20
	First Degree	6	60
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Data (2019)

The findings revealed 5 (12.5%) of library users had Certificate education, 12 (30%) had Diploma education,23 (57.5%) had first Degree education. To the side of Marian University college library Staff

2 (20%) had Certificate education, 2 (20%) had Diploma education and 6 (60%) had first Degree.

The findings of the study indicated that, the majority of library staff, have bachelor degree level of education as showed in table above. The findings of the study revealed that, education is very important aspect in handling, managing strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries. This is due to the fact that when

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respondents have specific level of education can professionally store, manage the strategies of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries, this can help to handling not only strategies of protecting copyrighted information in terms of Electronic System but also in physical ways within the libraries.

4.2.5 Copyright Laws Guiding the Use of Copyrighted Information Materials

Respondents were asked whether they were aware of copyright laws guiding the use of copyrighted information materials. The result is shown in the table 4.5 below:

Table 4.5: Distribution of Respondents by level of awareness of copyright laws

Types of Respondents	Response	Frequency	Percentage
library users (N=40)	Yes	3	7.5
	No	37	92.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
library Staff (N=10)	Yes	10	100
	No	-	-
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Study (2026)

The finding on the table above shows that 3 (7.5%) of library users were aware of copyright laws guiding the use of copyrighted information materials but 37 (92.5) were not aware while on the side of library Staff 10 (100%) were aware in the copyright laws guiding the use of copyrighted information materials. The findings suggest that the majority of library Staff have adequate knowledge of copyright laws governing the use of information materials while library users were not all should have understood the strategies of copyright laws governing the use information materials.

This indicates that library staff has made efforts to promote awareness of copyright regulations among library users. Awareness of copyright laws helps in reducing copyright infringement and promotes ethical use of information resources.

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4.2.7 Level of Awareness on Copyrighted Information Materials at Marian University Collage.

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of awareness regarding copyrighted information materials. The result is shown in the table 4.8 below:

Table 4.8: Distribution of Respondents by Level of Awareness on Copyrighted Information Materials at Marian University Collage.

Type of Respondents	**Response**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
library users **(N**=40)	High	1	2.5
	Moderate	1	2.5
	Low	1	2.5
	Very Low	37	92.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
library Staff **(N**=10)	High	8	80
	Moderate	2	20
	Low	**-**	-
	Very Low	**-**	-
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Study (2026)

The finding reveals that 1 (2.5%) library users indicated “high”, 1 (2.5%) indicate “moderate”, 1 (2.5%) “low” and 37 (92.5%) indicate very “low” while library staff 8 (80%) indicate “high”, 2 (20%) indicate “moderate”. The findings reveal that most library staff possess sufficient knowledge regarding copyrighted information materials while library users where low awareness demonstrates the need for continuous training and sensitization programs. The adequate of awareness among library staff is essential because they play a critical role in guiding users on the proper use of copyrighted materials.

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During interview with respondent was indicate that the level of awareness among library staff was generally satisfactory. Nevertheless, some gaps still exist and require intervention through training and awareness programs to ensure all staff and users were understand copyright requirements.

4.2.8 Challenges Faced by Academic Libraries in Protecting Copyrighted Information Materials

Respondents were asked to identify challenges affecting the protection of copyrighted information materials. The result is shown in the table 4.9 below:

Table 4.9: Distribution of Respondents by Challenges Faced in Protecting Copyrighted Information Materials

Type of Respondents	Response	Frequency	Percentage
library users (**N**=40)	Lack of awareness among users	18	45
	Inadequate copyright training	12	30
	Digital piracy	5	12.5
	Weak enforcement mechanisms	2	5
	Limited resources	3	7.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
library Staff (**N**=10)	Lack of awareness among users	5	**10**
	Inadequate copyright training	2	4
	Digital piracy	1	2
	Weak enforcement mechanisms	1	2
	Limited resources	1	2
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Study (2026)

The findings reveal that 18 (45%) of library users indicate Lack of awareness among users, 12 (30%) indicate Inadequate copyright training 5 (12.5%) indicate Digital piracy,

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2 (5%) indicate Weak enforcement mechanisms and 3 (7.5%) indicate Limited resources while library Staff 5 (10%) indicate Lack of awareness among users, followed by 2 (4%) Inadequate copyright training and 1 (2%) Digital piracy and 1 (2%) indicate limited resources. The finding shows that majority of library users 18 (45%) were Faced with the challenges in Protecting Copyrighted Information Materials. During interview with respondents were indicates that user-related factors and inadequate institutional support remain major barriers to the protection of copyrighted information materials. Without proper awareness and enforcement mechanisms, copyright violations are likely to continue within academic libraries.

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4.2.9 Measures for Improving the Protection of Copyrighted Information Materials

Respondents were asked to suggest measures that could improve the protection of copyrighted information materials. The result is shown in the table 4.10 below

Table 4.10: Distribution of Respondents by Measures for Improving Copyright Protection

Type of Respondents	Response	Frequency	Percentage
library users (**N**=40)	Staff and user training	18	45
	Strengthening copyright policies	12	30
	Digital rights management systems	5	12.5
	Awareness campaigns	2	5
	Regular monitoring and evaluation	3	7.5
Total		**40**	**100%**
library Staff (**N**=10)	Staff and user training	5	**10**
	Strengthening copyright policies	2	4
	Digital rights management systems	1	2
	Awareness campaigns	1	2
	Regular monitoring and evaluation	1	2
Total		**10**	**100%**

Source: Field Study (2026)

The findings indicate that 18 (40%) library users suggested staff and user training while 5 (10%) library staff suggested staff and user training. The findings show as the most effective measure for improving the protection of copyrighted information materials. The findings demonstrate that training and awareness creation are considered the most effective approaches to reducing copyright infringement. Respondents also emphasized the importance of strengthening institutional policies, adopting technological protection

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measures, and conducting regular monitoring to ensure compliance with copyright regulations.

During interview with respondents indicate that improving awareness, strengthening policies, and embracing technological solutions can significantly enhance the protection of copyrighted information materials

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CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary of the Findings

5.1.1 Respondent Distribution by Gender

The study revealed that the majority of library users were male. Similarly, the majority of library staff were also male.

5.1.2 Age Distribution of Respondents

The study found that the majority of library users were aged between 20 and 29 years, while the majority of library staff were aged between 30 and 39 years.

5.1.3 Respondent Education Level

The study revealed that the majority of both library users and library staff had attained a first degree (Bachelor's degree).

5.2 Copyright Laws Guiding the Use of Copyrighted Information Materials

The study found that library staff were generally aware of the copyright laws guiding the use of copyrighted information materials.

5.3 Level of Awareness of Copyrighted Information Materials

The findings revealed that library staff had a higher level of awareness of copyrighted information materials.

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5.4 Challenges Faced by Academic Libraries in Protecting Copyrighted Information Materials

The study identifies the most challenges were Lack of awareness among user and Inadequate copyright training.

5.5 Measures for Improving the Protection of Copyrighted Information Materials

The study established that training and awareness creation are among the most effective measures for improving the protection of copyrighted information material

5.6 Conclusion

The protection of copyrighted information material in the academic library help to protects creators' rights. Prevent unauthorized use, maintain the quality and integrity of work and promote ethical behavior.

5.7 Recommendations of the Study

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proposed:

5.7.1 Enhance Copyright Awareness Programmers

The library management should organize regular seminars, workshops, and awareness campaigns to educate library staff and users on copyright laws and the ethical use of copyrighted information materials.

5.7.2 Provide Continuous Training for Library Staff

Library staff should receive regular training on copyright management, intellectual property rights, and emerging copyright issues to strengthen their capacity to guide library users.

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5.7.3 Strengthen Copyright Policies and Guidelines

Marian University College should develop, review, and effectively implement copyright policies and guidelines that clearly define the acceptable use of copyrighted information materials.

5.7.4 Adopt Technological Protection Measures

The institution should invest in technological tools such as Digital Rights Management (DRM), access control systems, and plagiarism detection software to prevent unauthorized copying and distribution of copyrighted materials.

5.7.5 Improve Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms

The library should establish effective monitoring systems and enforce copyright policies to ensure compliance by all library users.

5.7.6 Promote Collaboration with Copyright Authorities

Marian University College should collaborate with relevant copyright authorities and professional organizations to obtain guidance, training opportunities, and updated information on copyright issues affecting academic libraries.

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5.8 Areas for Further Study

Based on the findings of this study, the following areas are recommended for further research:

5.8.1 Assessment of the effectiveness of copyright awareness programs in academic libraries in Tanzania.

5.8.2 The role of digital technologies in enhancing the protection of copyrighted information materials in higher learning institutions.

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APPENDIX I

RESEARCH BUDGET

DETAILS	PRICE PER EACH ITEMS	TSHS
Transport expenses	From to (go and return 1500) times three days	Subtotal 45,000
Subscience allowance	Meal per day 4000, times 30 days	Subtotal 120,000
Stationary	Ream paper 9000 Writing pad 2000 Collection fluid pen and files, 5000	Subtotal 1,6000
Typing, printing, binding, and photocopy charges	Typing and printing 30 pages @ 3000 25 photocopy pages @ 2,500 Bindings @ 4000	Subtotal 9,500
	TOTAL	**209,000Tshs**

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APPENDIXII

TIME SCHEDULE

ACTIVITIES	1st **MONTH**	2nd **MONTH**	3rd **MONTH**	4th **MONTH**	5th **MONTH**	6th **MONTH**
Report at the study area and get familiarization						
Distribution of questionnaire and interviewing respondents						
Observation the situation and collecting questionnaire and data analysis						
Data interpretation and report writing.						

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APPENDIX III

QUESTIONNAIRE GUIDE FOR RESPONDENTS

Dear respondent

Kindly be informed that I am Asanath Sefu Rashid, pursuing an ordinary Diploma at School of Library, Archive and Documentation Studies (SLADS).

Dear respondent please you are requested to respond the questionnaire by filling in the appropriate information according to your knowledge. Be free because the information you provided will be used for academic purpose Only. Please indicate the correct response by making in the given bracket or fill in the blankets provided in this form.

1) what is your gender

a) female ( )

b) male (.)

2) what is your age

a) 18 - 24 years (.)

b) 25 - 34 years (.)

c) 45+ years (.)

3) what is your education levels

a) NTA level 4. ( )

b) NTA level 5 (.)

c) NTA level 6. (.)

4) do you have any knowledge about protection of copyrighted information material in library

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a) Yes (.)

b) No (.)

5) do you have any law which guide the use of copyrighted information material in your library?

a) yes. (.)

b) No (.)

6)If yes mention at least three laws which guide the use of copyrighted information material in your library

……
……
……

7) do you think the presence and uses of copyrighted laws and regulations in academic library can affect library user?

a) yes (.)

b) No. (.)

c) Both. (.)

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APPENDIX IV

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LIBRARY STAFF

1. Do you have any copyright laws which guide the protection of copyrighted information material?

2. Do you have any security tools which used to protect copyrighted information material?

3. What is the cause which leads plagiarism and breaking down for the laws and regulations of protecting copyrighted information material in academic libraries?

4. What are challenges facing when implementing copyrighted laws in academic libraries?

5. Suggest possible measures to overcome specific challenge mentioned above?

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RESEARCH LETTER OF COLLECT DATA

Marian University College

Deputy Principal for Administration and Finance

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REF: MAR/DC/VOL.1/8

25 FEBRUARY, 2026

Mr. Ponsian Lyimo
Ag. Academic Officer
SLADS
P.O. Box 227
BAGAMOYO

Dear Sir,

RE: STUDENTS INTRODUCTION FOR RESEARCH WORK

Reference is made to the heading above and to your letter dated 24th February, 2026.

Marian University College received your request that six (6) of your students currently pursuing an Ordinary Diploma in Library and Information Management be granted permission to collect data at Marian University College and write research report as part of the academic requirement for the award of the Diploma.

The permission is hereby granted as requested for the six (6) students as follows:

1. **Ms. Yasintha Peri Msanga** on "An Assessment of Students Awareness on Library Services in Academic Libraries: A Case Study at MARUCo" from 21st to 25th April 2026;
2. **Mr. Elisha Ernest Mhagama** on "An Assessment on Effective Use of Copyright Law in Protecting of Library Collection: A Case Study of Marian University College" from 21st to 25th April 2026;
3. **Ms. Neema Manyonyi** on "An Assessment on Library Staff Support to Effective Access to Services in Academic Library: A Case Study Marian College" from 21st to 26th April 2026;
4. **Ms. Ester Nelson Mwisolwa** on "An Assessment on the Role of User Feedback in Optimizing Book Acquisition Processes in Academic Libraries" from 13th to 17th April 2026;
5. **Ms Samila Abdul Salulumu** on "An Assessment on the Usage of E-Resources in Supporting Research Writing to Undergraduate Students" from 20th to 24th April 2026; and

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6. **Ms Asanath Sefu Rashid** on "An Assessment on the Practices of Protecting Copy Righted Information Materials in Academic Library" from 20th to 24th April 2026.

On their arrival they will need to contact the Head of Marian University College Library for more assistance.

Yours,

Fr. Casti Mushi, C.S.Sp
For the Deputy Principal Administration and Finance

cc: Principal - MARUCo
DPAA - MARUCo
Head - MARUCo MARUCo

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION STUDIES
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