FEATURE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Exploring Transformation in an Entrepreneurial Academic Library

Fredrick Otike and Peter Kiszl

abstract: Academic libraries are experiencing drastic changes due to unprecedented advancements in technology. This advancement has caused changes in users' information-seeking behavior, increased information competitors, and easy access and availability to free information on the internet. It is unfortunate that all this is happening amidst the dwindling financial support libraries receive from their parent organization. These variations, such as the digital shift and remote access, changing user expectations, open access movement, the need for data management and preservation models are causing havoc and disruption to academic libraries; therefore, academic libraries need to justify their position and relevancy. This paper discusses the conundrum academic libraries face and suggests why and how they should adopt entrepreneurial practices.

Introduction

echnological advancement is changing the world; as such, there is a need for transformation and the establishment of adaptable and long-lasting solutions to these changes. For the longest time, universities have been known to be involved in teaching, learning, and conducting research. They have been a force in training professionals, conducting research and knowledge creation, teaching, and scholarship. However, with the new technological dispensation, dwindling financial support from funders, and ever-increasing societal expectations, universities are leading in becoming