

**ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY IN TEACHING,
RESEARCH AND
INSTITUTIONAL RANKING**

Dr. Ugwunwa Chinyere Esse

Outline

❖ Introduction

❖ Teaching

❖ Research

➤ Publish Or Perish

➤ Predatory Journal Publishing

➤ Characteristics Of Predatory Journals

➤ How To Identify Predatory Journals

➤ Criteria To Look at For When Selecting a Journal Outlet

➤ Open Access Publishing

➤ Collaboration

➤ Tips On Increasing Your Publication Output

➤ Creating An Academic Presence

➤ Times Higher Education (THE) World University Ranking

Conclusion

Introduction

- Libraries are gateways to information
- Libraries to support learning and teaching
- Libraries are not just about support: it's also about collaboration in research and this is where there is a need for user (Faculty, staff and students) needs to change their perceptions about the library. The library is a hub of information and the librarian has an encompassed subject knowledge and research knowledge.
- Libraries support research primarily through building collections of relevant materials and providing specialist support in their use.

Teaching : The integral Role of the university Library

Librarians provide the pedagogic aspect by:

- **Information Literacy Instruction:** Librarians teach students how to effectively search for, evaluate, and use information resources
- **Curriculum Support:** Librarians work with faculty members to integrate information literacy skills into the curriculum. Faculty members create assignments that promote research skills and guide students in exploring a wide range of information sources, thereby making them come to the library to make use of the books.
- **Reference Services:** Librarians offer reference services to help users find information for their assignments, projects, or research needs. They are experts in locating and accessing a wide range of resources, including books, journals, databases, and multimedia materials.

Teaching : The Integral Role of the University Library

- **Collection Development:** Librarians curate and maintain library collections that support the teaching and research needs of their academic community. They select and acquire materials that align with the curriculum and research interests of faculty and students.
- **Information Technology Support:** Librarians assist users in navigating digital resources, online databases, and research tools that enhance access to information and improve research outcomes.
- **Scholarly Communication:** Librarians support the dissemination of academic research by promoting open access publishing, digital scholarship, etc. They educate researchers on copyright issues, author rights, and scholarly publishing best practices

Teaching : The integral Role of the university Library

It is important for faculty members to help develop library usage skills in their students, the way to do this is by:

- Giving assignments that will bring them to the library
- Create a reading list from the books in the library as part of your course content and give students assignments such that they come to the library to consult those books.
- Give research project that will stimulate their critical thinking and problem-solving skills

This promotes collaborations between faculty members and the library, such that the faculty member, who is the expert in the field, provides the academic content and the library provides the pedagogic aspect.

Research

The essence of research and the creative thinking of a researcher is aimed at contributing new knowledge and understanding, and this has remained basically unaltered throughout the centuries.

- Research is premised on the need for the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge
- Solving societal problems culminating in progress and advancement of society

Research : The Integral Role of the University Library

❖ Supporting Academic Research

- University library assist researchers in locating relevant literature, managing citations, and navigating resource databases.
- offer access to a vast array of print and electronic resources, preserve scholarly outputs, and facilitate research collaboration and interdisciplinary engagement.

❖ Promoting Lifelong Learning and Critical Inquiry

- University library foster a culture of lifelong learning, critical inquiry, and intellectual exploration among students, faculty, and researchers.
- promote information literacy skills, critical thinking, and research ethics to empower individuals in navigating the world of information responsibly.

Research : The Integral Role of the University Library

❖ Adapting to Digital Transformations

- university library is expanding electronic resources (curated and subscribed), digitizing collections, and embracing innovative technologies.
- Virtual library services, and remote access to digital resources ensure seamless engagement with library resources anytime, anywhere. (www.library.elizadeuniversity.edu.ng)

❖ Enhancing Research Outcomes with Technology

- University library intends to incorporate technologies such as data visualization tools to enhance research outcomes and promote digital scholarship.
- Technology training programs and digital literacy initiatives in other to equip users with the skills needed to navigate the digital landscape effectively.

Research : Why write and publish research paper?

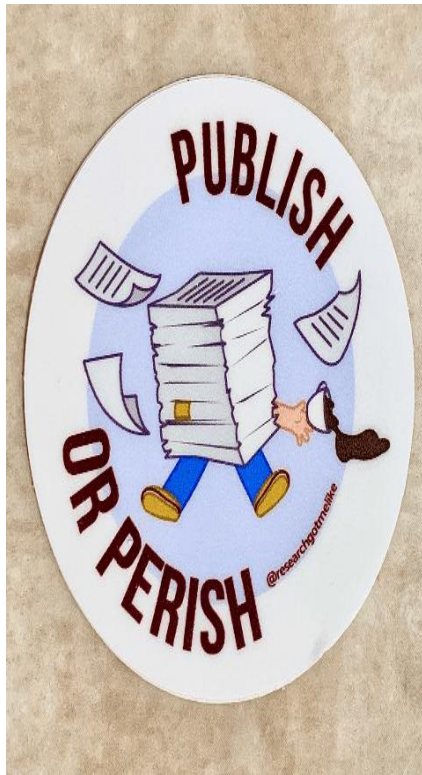
Ideally:

- To share research findings and discoveries with the hope of improving knowledge base

Practically:

- To get funding
- To get promoted (Promotion criteria)
- To get recognition
- For knowledge sharing and achievement

Research : Publish or Perish



The concept of "publish or perish" in academia refers to the pressure on researchers and academics to continuously publish their work in reputable journals or academic platforms in order to secure funding, promotions, and tenure.

This phenomenon is prevalent in many academic institutions around the world, where the quantity and quality of publications often serve as key metrics for assessing a researcher's productivity and impact in their field.

The fear of not publishing enough or not publishing in prestigious outlets can have significant consequences on one's career advancement and professional standing within the academic community.

Researchers may feel compelled to prioritize quantity over quality, leading to rushed or fragmented work that may not contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge in their field.

Research : Publish or Perish

To navigate the challenges posed by the "publish or perish" culture in academia and avoid its negative effects, researchers can adopt a few strategies:



Research : Predatory Journal Publishing

In 2008, Jeffrey Beall, an academic librarian and researcher at the University of Colorado, Denver, USA coined the term: Predatory journals and publishers, predatory journals /publishers are:

- Those that unprofessionally exploit the open–access model through deception to solicit and publish articles for the sole purpose of making money
- Standalone : do not have official publisher behind the work.
- Hijacked : Online hackers and cybercriminals have built fake or counterfeit websites for journals that actually mimick reputable journals

Research : Predatory Journal Publishing

Some of the Characteristics of Predatory Journals / Publishers are:

- Using non-institutional mail addresses
- Providing ambiguous and misleading information of location and editorial boards.
- Promote themselves as being western while in fact they are located in developing countries or in the next state
- Accepting articles quickly with little or no peer review or quality control
- Fake reviewer profiles
- Reporting fake impact –factor
- Publishing in all fields and sub-fields

Research : Predatory Journal Publishing

How to identify predatory journals/ publishers:

- Evaluate publisher practices against international scholarly publishing standards (as exemplified by reputable journals)
- Check Beall's list for predatory journals and publishers
- Check NUC lists of Illegitimate/predatory journals
- Ask a Librarian for help

List of journals outlets a research is published will directly or indirectly affect the career

- **Shotgun** : mass publication without journal quality
- **Snipper** : less publication n good reputed journals

Research : Criteria to look at for when selecting a journal outlet

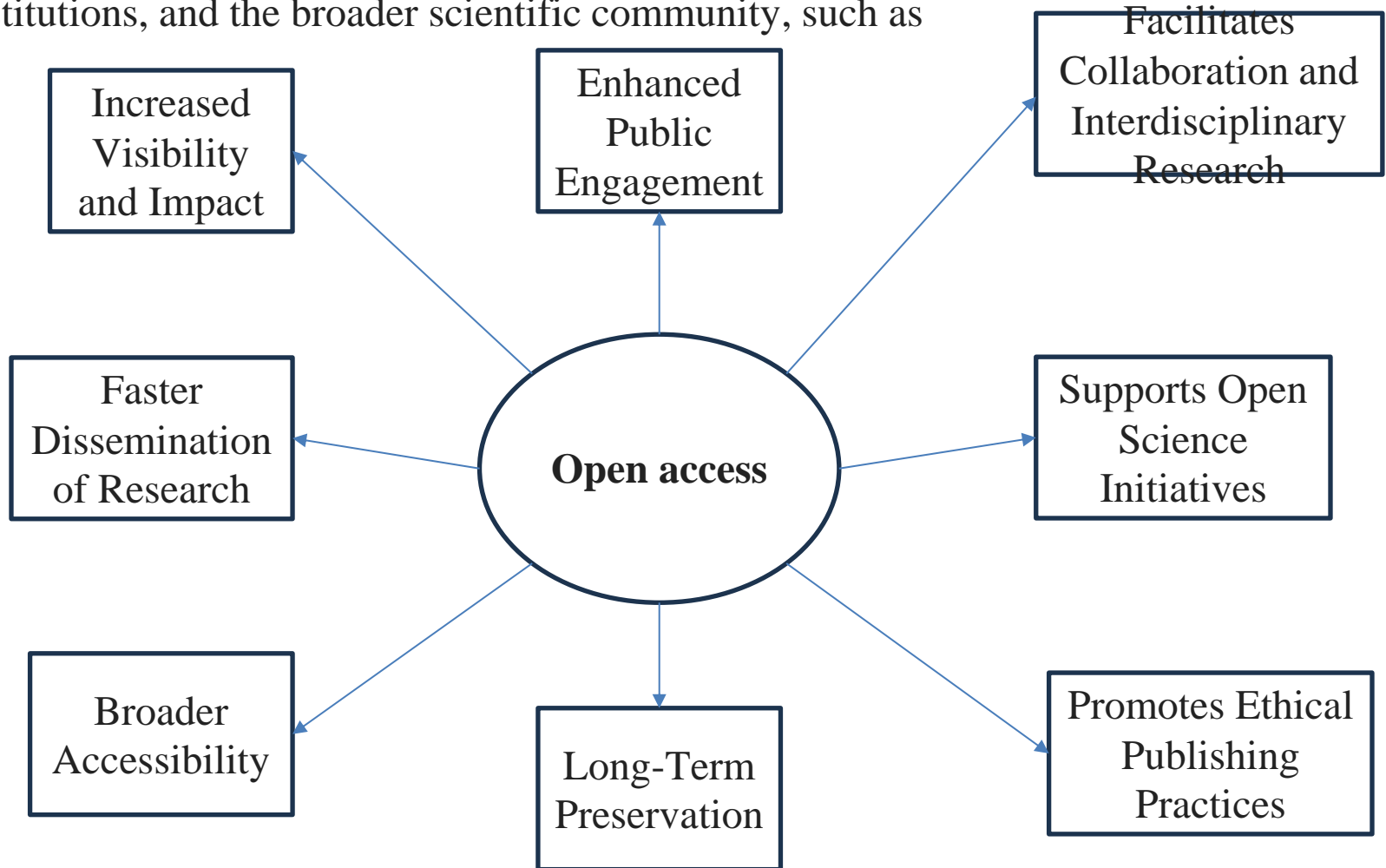
- Is there a match between the subject of your article and the journal's aim and scope?
- What is the readership and target audience? Specificity of audience
- Is the journal highly visible?
 - Is the journal included in electronic database ? (eg Web of Science, DOJA, Scopus, subject-specific databases in your field etc)
 - Is the journal online? (Publishing in journals that are only circulated in print can seriously limit the number of people coming across or reading your work)
- What is the “CV value of publication”?
 - Editorial board members
 - What is journal’s impact factor?
 - Talk to senior, established colleagues

- What is the journal’s turnaround time? (Frequency of publication)
- Is there publication charges or it is open access?
- Run your journal outlets through <https://beallslist.net/> to be sure it isn’t a predatory journal.

NEED HELP IN SELECTING JOURNAL OUTLETS, ASK A LIBRARIAN

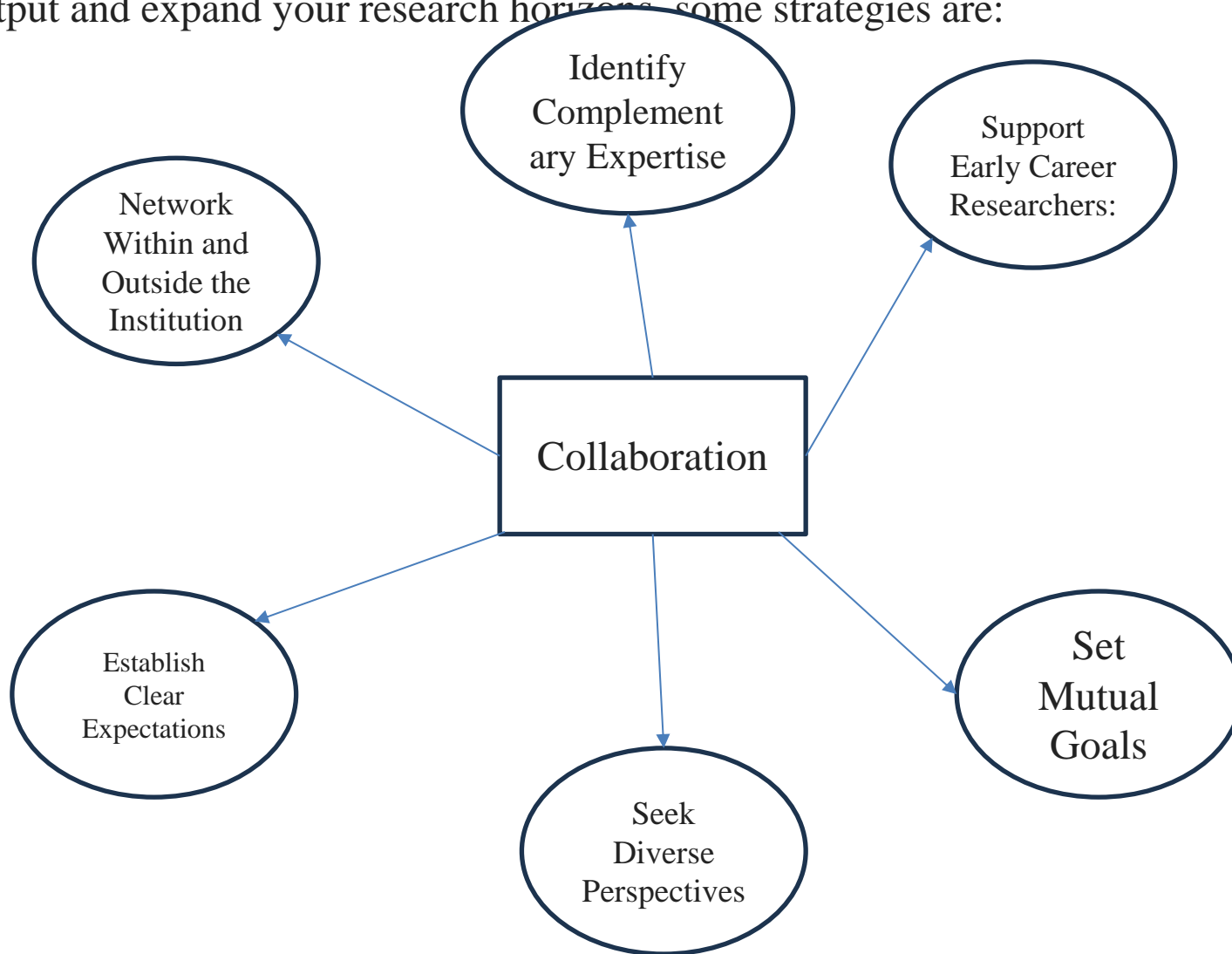
Research : Open access Publishing

Publishing in open access journals offers several advantages for researchers, institutions, and the broader scientific community, such as



Research : Collaboration

- Collaborating with other researchers is a valuable way to enhance your publication output and expand your research horizons. Some strategies are:



Research : How to increase your research output

Here are some tips on how to increase your publication output in academia:

- Set Clear Goals
- Create a Publication Schedule
- Prioritize Projects
- Collaborate with Peers
- Write Regularly
- Attend Workshops and Conferences
- Stay Organized
- Stay Informed: Stay informed about the publishing trends.
- Consider Open Access
- Prioritize Professional Development: Invest in your professional development by attending writing workshops, seeking mentorship, and honing your research and writing skills. Continuous learning and improvement can enhance the quality of your publications.

By incorporating these tips into your academic practice, you can increase your publication output, expand your research impact, and advance your career in academia. Remember that quality should always be a top priority, so strive to produce research of significance and relevance to your field while maintaining a balance between productivity and excellence

Research :Creating an Academic Presence

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE PUBLICATION !!!

Researchers need to be able to discover, re-use, cite and be credited for a wider range of outputs. In order to have an online presence you need to share your research.

Talking about your research is proven to increase the impact of your research

It's helpful to do so in a way that enables you to track the effect of social communication on key metrics such as views, downloads, mentions, citations, etc.

You can do this through the following ways :

- Use of Slideshare or Figshare : (**You can create slides or snippet of your published research and upload**)
- LinkedIn, Google +, Academia edu, ResearchGate, Facebook, twitter, etc
- Deposit a copy of your work in a repository (EU Repository – Through a librarian)
- Make your data accessible by depositing it in a repository
- Create an ORCID ID and Google scholar account
- Create a web page

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

THE World Rankings is one of the three main ranking systems available today which provide a detailed yearly analysis of how well the top universities in the world performed.

THE evaluates world universities based on 5 key metrics , and the essence of this ranking is point students who are searching for an international study programme, to what they should look out for as a student, as a future researcher, or how to get a head-start in certain industries.

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

THE divides their performance indicators into five groups in order to better reflect the qualities of universities. This is what they assess:

- ❖ **Teaching: How efficient are university classes and staff?** (the learning environment)
- ❖ **Research: Is research performed here considered relevant?** (volume, income and reputation)
- ❖ **Citations: How often are authors from here cited in books or articles?** (research influence)
- ❖ **International outlook: Is the university relevant to the international community?** (staff, students and research)
- ❖ **Industry income: Do businesses give credit to the university?** (knowledge transfer).

THE Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings

The *Times Higher Education* Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings were developed specifically to address the challenges faced by higher education institutions in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

The SSA University ranking follows a hybrid methodology to account for the diverse strengths of the sector; unlike the other rankings, which tend to focus on one mission, the SSA covers elements of **teaching, impact** and **research**.

THE Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings

The overall SSA ranking explores five key areas, which they call pillars:

- ❖ **Resources and finance:** which shows whether the institution has the money to effectively deliver teaching, measures how well distributed the funding system of the institution is (and how resilient it might be to sudden drought from any source), look at how students rate the quality of the **facilities** and whether institutions offer (and require) **continuous professional development** to/from their teaching staff.
- ❖ **Access and fairness:** account for the openness of institutions to students of all backgrounds, and how institutions ensure that all can succeed.

THE Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings

- ❖ **Student engagement** : measure the skills-building that institutions provide, and their ability to equip students with the required tools to enter and be successful in the world of work.
- ❖ **Ethical leadership** : need for higher education institutions to train the leaders of tomorrow that the region needs, with an emphasis on ethical values, such as activities that build their *leadership skills*, encourage them to be *innovative* and equip them with an *entrepreneurial* mindset and skills.

THE Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings

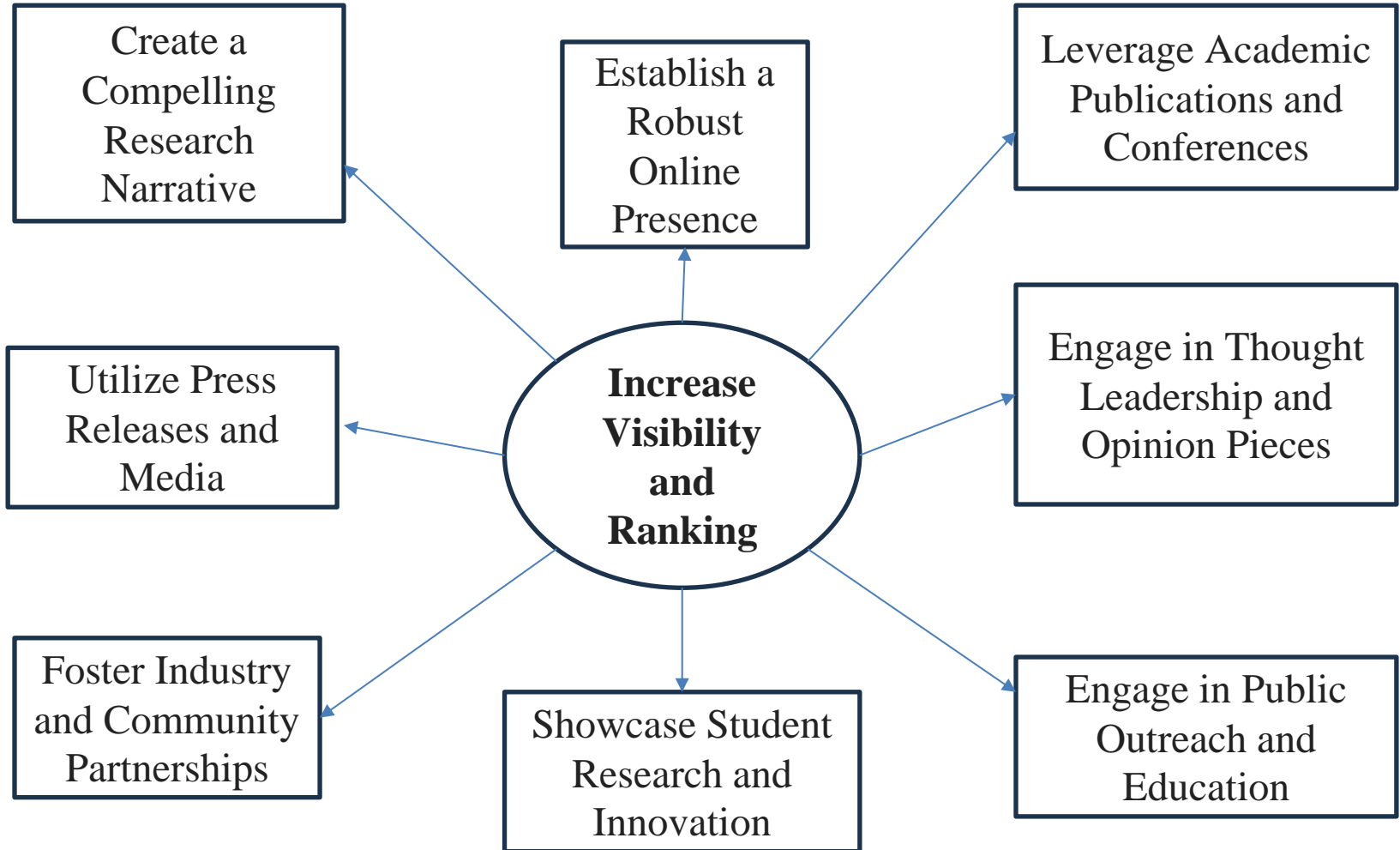
- **Africa impact** : is concerned with the ways in which higher education can be a force for good in the region and can help to build a rich collaborative network. The research produced by institutions in Africa, is this research used by other researchers in Africa? This where **citation** and **co-authorship within Africa comes in.**

HOW TO INCREASE VISIBILITY IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH AT ELIZADE UNIVERSITY AND IMPROVE OUR RANKING

Increasing the visibility and **improving our Institutional ranking** is critical to attracting top talent, securing funding, and making meaningful contributions to academic and industry discourse.

Here are some strategies to consider at increasing the visibility of our university in the aspect of research:

ROLE OF ELIZADE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY



Conclusion

In conclusion, the library plays a vital and indispensable role in supporting teaching and research in the University. From providing access to vast resources and research materials to offering specialized services and expertise, the library serves as invaluable hubs of knowledge and dissemination and support innovative research endeavours.

By leveraging the diverse offerings of the library, faculty members, staff and students can enhance their work, foster academic excellence, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields.

As we continue to embrace digital technologies and evolving educational paradigms, the library remains a cornerstone of academic success, serving as a dynamic space where learning, collaboration, and discovery intersect.

Let us recognize and celebrate the enduring significance of the library in shaping the scholarly landscape and empowering individuals to excel in their educational and research pursuits.



THANK
YOU