

PART-TIME JOB EXPERIENCE AT THE TMU LIBRARY

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My name is **Alasan Colley**. I am 32 years of age and a Gambian by Nationality. I originate from Bwiam Village which is located in the West Coast Region of The Gambia.

My dream of becoming a health care worker was realized when I gain admission into the School of Nursing and Midwifery from the year 2000 to 2002. I was awarded the State Registered Nurse Certificate after a successful three year training course. I was later employed by the Ministry of Health and posted to the Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital in Banjul, where I served for three years. I served in various units namely the Pediatric Unit, Intensive Care Unit and the Accident and Emergency Unit respectively.

In the quest for knowledge and skills needed the modern and current trend of health care, I was awarded a government scholarship to pursue a Bachelors degree in nursing from year 2005 to 2008 after which I served as lecturer at the School of Nursing and Midwifery in Banjul from June 2009 to September 2010.

It is indeed a great privilege and honor to be awarded a scholarship and admission into Taipei Medical University to pursue a Masters degree in Nursing. I am indeed proud to be part of the TMU family, which I will describe as an ultra modern university with adequate learning facilities. For this reason, I am quite optimistic that I will notice remarkable changes in my professional ability after my stay at this noble institution.

One of the most fun and exciting aspects of graduate school is taking advantage of the opportunities to get experience in various fields. As I sit to write this essay, I have to admit to everyone that, it's actually been really wonderful because I've gotten great experiences through my part-time job in the TMU library. Part-time jobs can be hard to manage, but they can be a wonderful way to gain experience.

Libraries are about books, access to Internet encyclopedias and literacy in all manner of ways, including how to use a library and traditional research skills. The TMU library is a wonderful university library with an abundance of resources and personnel committed to helping students learn how to find the information they are looking for. The TMU librarians are experts who do more than shelve books and keep track of research materials. The library has up-to-date media resources and use advanced technology, incorporated into the curricula of the school, to develop and enhance the information literacy; to assist in information retrieval; and to develop critical thinking skills of students.



It facilitates Internet links and other resource-sharing networks among universities, university library media centers, and public and academic libraries, where possible. Additionally, the library also provides students with access to libraries during non-school hours, including the hours before and after school, during weekends, and during summer vacation periods.

The library is staffed by wonderful librarians, who lead and manage the delivery of library and information services. They make information accessible by selecting, purchasing, organizing,

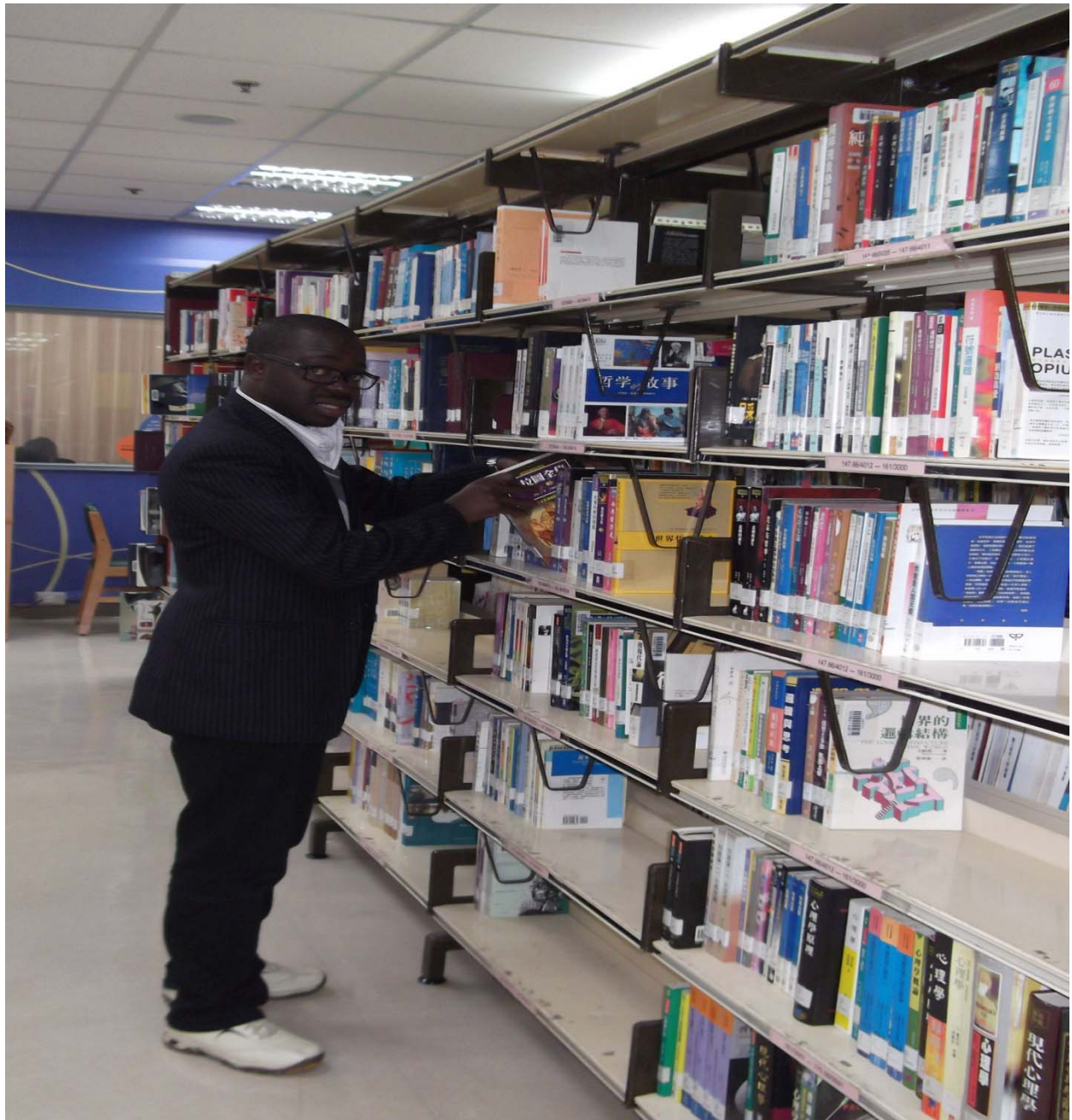
maintaining and retrieving a wide variety of materials: books, newspapers, periodicals, films, audiovisual resources, on-line databases and electronic information resources. This involves the development and use of classification and information management systems to organize, house and display materials in such a way that desired resources can be readily located, obtained and used. It also involves teaching others how to use information resources and providing related advice. The staffs are indeed passionate about their job and try hard to go beyond the "mediocre" and "adequate".



This part time job is making me acquainted with different people in person. So I do not just talk with them in the classrooms or campus, I actually meet them in person. Another experience connected with this job that can be considerably productive in future, is forming taste and being close to creative activity.

Therefore, it does a little bit change the general world perception. It also makes my brain to look for new ideas, in other words it makes it really work. My work history is not very long but in my case, but I think quality is way more important than quantity and it is only the matter of time. I try to get everything I can from this job experience to become a very valuable employee not only in my specialty, but in any job. And as an addition to all of these, I get a unique personal experience that obviously will influence me as a future professional in a very good manner.

On this note, I believe that it worth for one to take every opportunity, even while one is still in school, to gain pertinent experience because it is one thing that speaks a volume about a one's potential as well as enable one to develop the attitude of exclusively serving the needs of a public. I have learnt how to create a welcoming and respectful climate in library and to provide for diverse student needs in resources and instruction in order to enable them to use the library for class-related research, individual investigation, independent reading, and personal inquiry. I was also involved in colleting and organizing books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and other materials related to a certain field. Furthermore, I learnt how to help customers locate information and using it proficiently for personal and professional objectives.



In conclusion, the TMU library is resource-rich library with credentialed librarians who play key roles in promoting both information literacy and reading for information and inspiration. It is staffed by qualified professionals trained to collaborate with lectures and engage students meaningfully with information that matters in the real world. It is a sophisticated 21st-century learning environment that offers equal opportunities for achievement to all students, regardless of their nationalities.