

Exploring Editors' Assessment of the Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes of Journalism Trainees in Newspaper Organisations in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explored newspaper editors' assessment of journalism trainees on media attachment in their organisations. Adopting the metrics in the 2013 Poynter's *State of Journalism* survey, a 23-item questionnaire was administered to 30 newspaper editors who were selected through a multi-stage sampling process. Findings from the study showed that journalism trainees in the assessment of the editors, performed averagely in terms of knowledge and skills. However, in terms of their general attitude and personal attributes, the trainees are above average in their performances with over 60% of the editors agreeing that the trainees are willing to learn. Thus, it was recommended that journalism/mass communication training institutions should provide avenue for more practical application through mini newspapers and magazine productions with an effective supervision so that the students can hone their skills. In addition, journalism schools should make special arrangements with professional journalists to periodically deliver special lectures and interact with the students so they can share their practical experiences with the students.

Keywords: Editors, Assessment, Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes, Journalism Trainees, Newspapers, Media internship, Nigeria.