Importance of E-Research in Education

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Abstract: *E-Research (Electronic Research) encompasses the use of information and communication technology to facilitate research. Such type of research makes use of internet-based tools and techniques. Internet-based research has made it possible for researchers to study topics that could not be researched, using traditional methods. It also allows researchers to gather information from a wide population at a lower cost; for example, by using online surveys, questionnaires, interviews, etc.., however, e-research does have a few drawbacks. It would be difficult for researchers to verify or identity online participants of a study, and control the research environment as subject access, the internet-based research from various settings across the globe, collecting an unbiased sample that represents all segments of the population, but sometimes it would be difficult since everyone may not have access to the internet. E-Research has gained significant amount of attraction and it serves as the backbone for undertaking collaborative research. Computers and related electronic resources have come to play a central role in education. Electronic information sources are becoming more and more important and useful for the academic community. University academics are a unique population and rely on recent and timely information. Electronic resources are now used more often than print resources.*

Keywords: E-Research, Education system, Computer, Population, Electronic information, Educational Institutions

1. Introduction

E- Research plays an important role for all students; it helps filling gaps in knowledge and develops new products while improving organizational efficiency and growth. E-learning makes the content available for students digitally. Students can learn easily online from anywhere and anytime, instead of physical copies of books, e-learning uses visual content. During the courses most of the students face the problem of not getting their questions answered in class or having no idea about the topic being taught or wishing to explore new opportunities. E-learning can make the difference. The main purpose of e-research is to provide information instantly; engineers use e-research method to contribute in development in different fields to get instant results. Today e-research is giving this opportunity to all the specializations to contribute effectively in their fields and bring tremendous change in the society. Advances in computer applications during the past few decades have brought radical changes in the way information is gathered, store, organized, accessed, and consumed.

2. Objectives

The main objective of this study is to analyze dependency of the teachers and research scholars on e-resources, the impact of the e-resources on their academic efficiency and problems faced by them while using the e-resources. This survey was particularly conducted to assess the benefits of the e-resources over conventional sources of information. Some of the major objectives are to:
- Know the different types of electronic resources and services available in the library;
- Study the different types of electronic resources used by teachers and research scholars;
- Study the purpose and frequency of using the electronic resources and services available in the library;
- Study the impact of electronic resources and services on the academic work of the teachers and research scholars;
- Know the productivity and quality of information retrieved through e-resources.

E- Learning in Educational Institutions:
Web-based learning is used nowadays as another option to face to face education. This has made educators exert a lot of effort to help the learners to get interactive content that is full of multimedia as it has been proven that it has a significant effect on the process of learning. E-learning has been introduced as a tool in the learning process. The increased use of e-learning among educational institutions has led to a change in higher education. According to findings, there has been a rise of about 16-20 percent annually in enrolment for online learning over a five year period: 2014-2019. One of the main reasons for this is it gives students' greater access to education in comparison to traditional methods of teaching as students can undertake their study from anywhere and at any time as well as being given the option to study part-time or full-time. E-learning has transformed the educational sector by enabling students to share information and data in a relatively easy way.

The e-learning term and tools do exist for over a decade, the educational research field has not given enough attention to the study of student motivation under the effect of e-learning. E-learning has grown in significance as an educational tool just like technology has developed and progressed over the years. Incorporating technology in the learning process does not necessarily guarantee motivated students. In fact, online instruction has resulted in the student teacher relationship becoming less personal. Teachers are required to turn the classroom into an online environment.

The e-learning or e-research is very beneficial for students in all aspects. It serves as a teacher to students from where student can ask everything and it will answer. The e-learning can be used to get information and knowledge for all subject, field, education, institution, etc.

3. Findings

Many studies have shown that effective use of e-learning could help increase student motivation engagement, and

attendance. It should also increase student class participation, and improved behavior and performance on core subjects. The Integration of information and communication technologies with the learning process depends on the participants' personal motivation. In order to enable students to maximize the e- learning process, students need to be supported with their digital enhanced learning. However, many studies have shown that non IT students need to increase the level of their technological and communication skills to be able to benefit significantly from the opportunities offered by e-learning. The lack of confidence and experience in using technology might be extra obstacle for other students. In e-learning process, students work independently and some students might find it difficult to understand their contents, due to the lack face-to-face contact with instructors and other fellow students. All these factors indicate that these students will not be able to participate effectively and succeed in the e-learning process. Consequently, in order to appropriately progress and successfully use all e-learning tools to effectively access online information, some students need the necessary hardware and some specific skills. Certainly, E-Learning would increase the motivation and engagement of students for learning and help them to become self-directed independent learners. On the one hand, teachers need to develop and restructure their courses in a way that suits online requirements. It is very clear that such activities require more time and increase the workload. On the other hand, instructors and faculty members must honor, possess and master all technical achievements and new advancements offered by E-Learning. In order to maintain the quality of the courses offered via E-learning, faculty members and instructors must review and modify the teaching approaches used in traditional courses. Moreover, new educational approaches must be adopted. Unfortunately, some teachers still remain unconvinced about the integration of technology into their learning process and are also reluctant to change their work patterns and teaching style. To help instructors during the transition period will require management support together with resources and sufficient time allocation. It is evident that E-Learning success in higher education depends on effectiveness of delivery and adequate training of instructors in the adoption of E-Learning initiatives.

4. Conclusion

This study has reported some important findings about online education; instructors need to understand their student motivations when teaching online classes. However, it can be difficult to assess student motivations for online learning due to the lack of personal contact between the students and instructor. A teacher can identify a number of strategies to engage the students and keep them motivated. Most importantly, it should be noted that more technology does not necessarily lead to better learning outcomes. Instructors who taught the participants of the study should be interviewed to get feedback in order to evaluate e-learning from a teacher's perspective. The interview questions should focus on evaluating e-learning and the implications for enhancing the quality of learning and teaching through e-learning. Moreover, it is expected that technology would most influence the delivery of online learning. It is planned to use other Multimedia tools of the e-learning in future studies.

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