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A Literature Review: Readiness Factors to measuring e-Learning Readiness in Higher Education

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Abstract

E-Readiness is recognizing as one the most critical aspect for achieving successfully implementation of E-learning programs in higher education. Understand the role of this factor could help university management to implement effective and efficient E-learning project. The Purpose of the study is to discuss the theory of E-learning Readiness Factors and investigate the readiness factors that have been found by previous researchers for measure e-readiness at higher education. This study applies literature review and meta-analysis as research methodology. Literature review conducts by review the relevant articles with topic “e-learning readiness”. The study found that skills and attitudes are the most significant factors influences E-learning readiness.

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1. Introduction

Fast growing of information technology development has brought a lot of positive impact to the human live. Information technology was impact is most every aspect of human live such as business, government, manufacture and also education. One example of information technology use in education is E-learning. E-learning in education may bought much benefits for education institution¹. One example of the advantages of E-learning , e-learning enables a physician to be able to add insight and new skills for professional development, without traveling to the venue or waiting for the schedule of classes².

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On the other hand institution who interested in e-learning implementation came from different culture and condition also from different countries that off course have different resources, capability and perspective in providing a response to their e-learning needs³. This situation is require institution to understand their condition, they need to answer the question about “are we ready to implement this technology? And to answer that question they need to measure them self. Prior to implementing e-learning in an organization necessary to measure needs , to answer whether e-learning can be done ? If it can be done , how it will do it ? What were the results and how to measure it ?⁴.

Adopting e-learning technology without preceded by good planning can spend a lot of costs , e -learning products that are not attractive and lead to failure . Therefore, the adoption of e-learning can be initiated by measuring the readiness of e-learning⁵. In measuring the level of e-learning readiness there are factors that can be used. These factors need to be considered seriously in order to avoid the occurrence of failure in the implementation of e-learning⁶.

As is well known that there has been a lot of research on e-learning in particular the adoption of e-learning technology such as research related to the adoption of e-learning models⁷. However, not much research study literature that specifically discusses the factors of e-learning readiness. Therefore, the aims of this study is to identify factors that need to be considered in assessing the readiness of e-learning. In this paper the authors first describe the background of the study, followed by exposure to study literature . After it presented the methodology used in the research and ends with the conclusion of the study.

2. Theory

E-learning was defined with diverse meanings of previous researchers. As Mayer states “We define e-learning as instruction delivered on a digital device such as a computer or mobile device that is intended to support learning”⁵. An almost similar statement delivered by Ong “instructional content or learning experience delivered or enabled by electronic technologies”⁸. Another argument states that with the implementation of e-learning is expected to improve the quality of education. In order to compete universities must be able to adapt and adopt e-learning⁹. This is the same with Gotthardt states that the use of technology in learning can create a competitive environment, students and teachers to be more creative and innovative¹⁰.

E-learning as a form of utilization of information technology in education has been adopted by various institutions of higher education and become an important part in providing a learning experience¹¹. Many benefits can be gained through e-learning. E-learning to provide the right environment and task-based learning tools, up to date and to support lifelong learning¹. With e-learning that everyone can access resources without having limited knowledge of distance, space and time.

As suggested by previous researchers down to the implementation of e-learning can succeed, then the implementation of e-learning can be preceded by measures the level of readiness of e-learning⁵. Measurement of e-learning readiness enables institutions to design a system to fit the measurement results in order to be successful implementation¹². Readiness of learners in the use of e-learning technology is influenced by many factors between ability and willingness to use ICT¹³.

On the other hand, in general, e-learning readiness is defined as an institution's readiness in adopting e-learning. Which means mentally and physically ready to implement e-learning⁶. Based on previous studies, the measurement of e-learning readiness factors commonly used is the technical, content, human and financial resources.

3. Methodology

This study is a literature review using meta-analysis. Meta-analysis is a review of research results systematic, especially on the results of research empirically related to e-learning readiness. First of all, the authors collected papers relating to e-learning readiness study using google scholar, EBSCO and Proquest. Search papers narrowed using the keyword "e-learning readiness ". Based on the results obtained 25 articles. Step two authors examine the abstract of each paper and found 7 articles that met the criteria. Criteria used the papers that discuss the

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