NEW EDUCATIONAL POLICY-GOALS AND OBJECTIVES ROLE OF ICT IN EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT:

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate the importance of recent developments of Information Technologies in Education (ITE), particularly in higher education, to answer students and teacher's needs, according to the real time rapidity characteristics of the process of learning and teaching. The internet, mobile computing, social networks and many other advances in human communications have become essential to promote and boost education, technology and industry . In this sense, the learning and the teaching process have to take such developments into account. As a consequence the teaching profession is evolving from an emphasis on delivering information to an emphasis on creating learning environments .Indeed, the new challenges related with the integration of ITE into all aspects of the learning process require revising the traditional educational paradigms that have been prevailed for last years. Thus, on the one hand, the theoretical framework of this paper is based on literature about information technologies, in general, and information technologies in higher education, in particular.. The results of the paper show that the Higher Education Institutions (HEI) are facing new challenges, not only to promote an adequate education in each field of study to the students, but, also, to develop them with skills and knowledge required to leverage information technology effectively to the workplace on firms.

I. INTRODUCTION

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) combines science and technology, including the full range of computer hardware and software, telecommunication and cell phones, the Internet and Web, wired and wireless networks, digital still and video cameras and robotics [3]. Effectively, ICT is fundamental to endorse and to assessment each course of any higher degree, then it is a relevant help to teachers, not only to communicate with students, parents, teachers and firm directors. Also, it is elementary to adapt to new environments. Thus, ICT provides a number of services to learning, for teachers and for their students, which view technology as having a largely positive impact on their campuses, acknowledging several challenges. For example, in this process the HEIs must include exchange of knowledge between teachers, students and staffs that are specialize in this field of knowledge.

Information Technology in Education

INTRODUCTION Information Technology in Education, effects of the continuing developments in information technology (IT) on education.

The pace of change brought about by new technologies has had a significant effect on the way people live, work, and play worldwide. New and emerging technologies challenge the traditional process of teaching and learning, and the way education is managed. Information technology, while an important area of study in its own right, is having a major impact across all curriculum areas. Easy worldwide communication provides instant access to a vast array of data, challenging assimilation and assessment skills. Rapid communication, plus increased access to IT in the home, at work, and in educational establishments, could mean that learning becomes a truly lifelong activity—an activity in which the pace of technological change forces constant evaluation of the learning process itself.

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Significance of IT in education

- Immediacy to information
- Any time learning
- Collaborative learning
- Multimedia approach to education
- Authentic and up to date information
- Online library
- Distance learning
- Better accesses to children with disabilities

A society which is becoming increasingly dependent on information and the processing of knowledge, great demands are therefore made that the individual should have a solid and broad educational foundation on which to build. Educational policy in the information society must ensure that:

1. IT qualifications are developed by means of their integration in all activities in the education sector and
2. The individual citizen must have an active and critical attitude to developments and not passively allow technological development to set the pace.

IT educational policy must ensure:

- Up-to-date qualifications in the information society
- Up-to-date qualifications gained against the background of a high general level of education in the population will be decisive if Denmark is to maintain competitiveness and its share of the global labour market in the information society. IT skills and IT understanding are thus central prerequisites for the individual, both now and especially in the future.

The advantage of using information technology is that time-consuming work routines can increasingly be performed by means of this technology and time can thus be devoted instead to communicating and informing, to the processing of information and the production of knowledge.

List of the Advantages of Technology in Education

1. Promotes independent learning in students

The internet is a treasure trove of information. Practically anything you need to know can be found online. Although there is a question of the credibility of the source and the data provided, it can still serve as an educational resource for students

2. Prepares students for the future

From the way technological advancements are going, it is obvious that the future will be digital and technology-focused. If students are well-versed on using technology to collaborate and communicate as early as now, they will not have trouble fitting in, competing and finding jobs in the future.

3. Has the potential to lower textbook and tuition prices

With resources more accessible and in great abundance, the cost of textbooks is likely to decrease. It is also possible that students may no longer need to buy a textbook, if it is converted into digital format.

4. Allows teachers to create an exciting way to educate students

Gone are the days when the only tools for teaching are limited to books, a blackboard or whiteboard, and a chalk or markers. With technology integrated to education, teachers can now incorporate images, videos and other graphics when delivering lessons

5. Encourages development of new teaching methods

Rather than spend an hour or so talking while the students listen, or have them read an entire chapter in silence, teachers and professors now have the option to use advanced teaching methods, such as podcasts, blogs and social media.

List of Disadvantages of Technology in Education

1. Results in a lack of interest in studying

Because everything is now accessible online or through data saved in a computer or mobile devices, students are likely to develop poor studying habits and a lazy attitude towards education. Some of them may even think they can skip school because they can find answers and lessons online. Who needs teachers when you have internet and Google, right?

2. Makes students vulnerable to potential pitfalls

While computers prove to be an invaluable educational tool, it can also be a source of problems. This is especially true for students who lack the skills needed to maximize a device's functionalities. Technical problems and computer malfunctions can cause loss of assignments and other materials, resulting in high levels of stress that students would rather not experience.

3. Negative views on technology

Consumerism has taught us that technologies, from computers to mobile devices, are widely viewed as tools to entertain rather than educate. Textbooks, on the other hand, are seen as tools for learning. So, between a tablet and a textbook, students are likely to gravitate towards learning when reading a book, while they are likely to use a tablet to play games or spend time on social media.

4. Raise instructional challenges

For professors and teachers to stay abreast with technology, they may need to be retrained. Those who have been teaching all their lives using traditional methods may not be very susceptible to the changes being applied.

5. Can diminish overall value of in-person education

Although research on online learning did not establish a direct link to how personal interaction affects a student's performance, data gathered did show that those who enrolled in online courses have higher chances of failing, dropping out of classes, and are less likely to benefit from them.

Important Facts About Technology In Education

 As much as 60 percent of schools in America, issue laptops or tablets to their students.

 41% of students are in favor of taking virtual classes.

 50% of students in middle and high school use the internet to complete work 3 times a week.

 The students that study on computers, phones, or tablets, study for an average of 40 minutes more per week than those who do not.

Findings:

- The importance of ICTs for training teachers. Much of this takes the form of basic computer literacy instead of how to integrate computers into teaching methods, but the emphasis on building capacity is important.
- Secondly, providing and sustaining ICT infrastructure in schools, especially through public-private partnerships, is essential.
- Thirdly, while ICT is an important part of formal educational institutions, it can be just as powerful in non-formal education settings, creating the opportunity for life-long learning.
- Finally, several countries have very strong Open and Distance Learning initiatives that seek to provide mass education and overcome geographic or financial barriers.

CONCLUSION

Integrating technology in education has its advantages and disadvantages, but proper implementation might help keep the drawbacks to a minimum. Better planning is necessary.**New**ICTs can offer real opportunities to improve the quality of community life. It is also important to deepen our level of reflection on community dynamics and on the constraints encountered when introducing and using ICTs for development. A healthy information society is concerned with getting reliable and timely information to its members. Making people aware of the benefits derivable from the use of ICTs will help to make the society a healthy one.

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