

02

The Impact of Learning Management Systems in the Teaching & Learning Process of Undergraduates (A study on University of Kelaniya)

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Abstract

At the end of 20th century, with the revolutionary development of technology the world stepping into a new era through adapting new technology. Every aspect of education has changed with the development of technology including class rooms, subjects, teaching methods, classroom equipment etc. Teachers have changed the way of teaching by using new technological equipment, instead of traditional teaching methods. The objectives of this study were to identify the contribution of Learning Management Systems to the education process of the undergraduates of the university, awareness on Learning Management Systems, Identify the usage of Learning Management Systems specific to each faculty of the university and identify the problems faced by undergraduates, when using Learning Management Systems. The study was conducted using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Using stratified sampling

method 200 undergraduates from the Faculty of Social Sciences, Humanities, Commerce and Management Studies, Computing and Technology, Medicine and Science from University of Kelaniya were identified as the sample for the study. The data collected from questionnaire-based survey was analyzed using SPSS software and the qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis method. The results of the data analysis concluded that, undergraduates from Medical, Science, Management and Computing and Technology faculties, use LMS more than students from the Faculty of Humanities. The knowledge of undergraduates from Humanities, Social Science about LMS is less comparatively lower than the other faculties. It has been identified that the usage of LMS contributes to the education process. According to the conclusions suggested, awareness about LMS should be increased among undergraduates and lecturers. The study concludes that with the development of communication technologies, the infrastructure and facilities should be developed to increase the usage of technical methods among students.

Key Words: Education, New Technology, Teaching Methods,
LMS