

THE EDUCATIONAL ESSENTIALS OF TECHNOLOGY EMPOWERMENT

by:

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With technology at the center, we cannot deny the downtrodden side of technological advances. Technological advances “disrupted” established industries while directing their impact on educational institutions. This matter was stirred to look for opportunities to provide such an adaptive approach to technology, especially in the growth of students in the academe. Educators are highly encouraged to revise their instructional way of teaching with maximizing the use of technology.

Moreover, aside from the fact that digitalization works so well with the students of today, trends and innovative ways to create a holistic promotion of education using technology were voiced out. Evidently, technological advances aid in bridging the distance between practice and program. It also contributes to collaborative teaching and learning especially in Asian higher education. As a final point, technology makes provision for opening digital opportunities in different areas of teaching and learning.

Everyone seems to be aware that technological innovations are having a significant impact on educational systems. For me, online courses, teaching aids, educational software, even social networking tools are just some of the emerging technologies I can grasp and utilize to achieve the best of my teaching instruction. However, it can also impose a critical point upon encounter, and observation from these advances: It’s the need to develop strategies and techniques to manage and use technology in education.

The world, specifically the field of education, is rapidly transforming from the traditional classroom setting to empowering digital technologies. According to Budhwar

(2017), applying modern technology means improving the quality of education. And with this, I realized how it is needed to create a set of standards in using technology to enhance its capabilities and full potential in assistance as well. I think now is the time for people (educators, students, organizations, etc.) to be more creative in leveraging these resources but we still have to be careful because if we're not, we might discover the darkest side and eventually destroy humanity once and for all. Promising technological advancements are already mainstream and I can only wait or imagine how it can revolutionize or, let's hope not, terminate the very fabric/existence of learning.

As one of the changemakers, here is my fair share of strategic recommendations to the academe – teachers, students, administration, parents, and other stakeholders:

- Usage of technology/number of online classes in a course shall be modestly and fairly divided between a semester or academic year;
- A policy that addresses privacy and usage of those who access Information Technology Resources (e.g. different web portals, student applications, etc.);
- Personal use and privacy for faculty and staff in using such technologies inside the campus. Legal and ethical restrictions should also be applied;
- Creation of more convenient and strategic accessing IT resources for students. Restrictions to information (data classification) may be applied as well; and
- Distribution and saving of electronic files must be exactly shared or provided following an approval process.

References:

Budhwar, K. (2017). The Role of Technology in Education. Retrieved from <https://www.ijeast.com/papers/55-57,TESMA208,IJEAST.pdf>