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COMPUTER LAB UTILIZATION SKILLS AMONG COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS AT HIGHER SECONDARY LEVEL

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ABSTRACT:

Now-a-days computers are playing a very important role in transforming the mode of imparting education, and are increasingly becoming common in the classrooms. The technological literacy is basic computer skills to acquire, control and communicate the essential to familiarize with new technologies and their use. The educational development depends on education is facing a significant change in preparing students for the future knowledge-based society, because most teachers are not prepared to use computer and the majority of the educational institutions are not equipped to integrate the new technologies. The aims of the present study to analyzes the computer lab utilization skills among computer science students. The researcher used (USCL) Using Skill of Computer Lab for data collection. The findings show that high level of utilization skill of computer lab was revealed among computer science students at higher secondary level.

Key Words: transforming, technological literacy, familiarize, integrate.

INTRODUCTION

Teaching and learning science subjects whether in developed or not requires the use of various teaching aids. In most areas of science education, use of technology is quite acceptable and highly recommended to enhance learning. The capabilities of computers to improve students scientific knowledge and computer based technology gives science teachers access to a prosperous multiplicity of textual materials and graphic information. This includes complicated laboratory and imitation tools. Up till now many science teachers shy away from incorporate technology into their teaching and learning process will be assessment of the practical use of laboratories and practical classes for computing courses within the constraint of restricted resources, with an emphasis on identifying the prosperous diversity of approaches that are available. The need for the laboratory experiments and a repository for maintaining them group versus individual efforts integration of topics with the delivery of the course content, pedagogy and the use of technology. The computer in the class room to any can be used to enhance the experience by providing the teaching possibility for teacher get good feedback in our students.

RELATED STUDIES

Ahiatrogah and Adane M. (2011) examined a study on high school student's perception of computer laboratory learning environments in Ghana. This study focused on senior high school students' perception of their computer laboratory learning environment and the ways to use computer that affects their learning in urban and

community senior high schools. The findings revealed that students general perception of their computer laboratory environments in both school types were positive but significantly different in favour of those in urban schools. The study suggested that efforts to improve the material environment, particularly, in community schools.

Jomy Johnson (2009) examined a study on use of computer among higher secondary students as related with their achievement in computer science. The result revealed that there was no significant relationship between the uses of the compiler with achievement in computer science of higher secondary students. The use of computer and achievement in computer science among students needed to be improved.

NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Computer is the only innovative that works superior to teaching and others. Its influences in school scores higher, So computer is essential for every student to achieve knowledge through computer. Hence, computer laboratory in school paves a dominant part in increasing student's accuracy, intelligent and skill. The computer lab also enhances pupil's practical efficiency and creative thinking and skill's. In the present era, computer is a part; everyone should know to operate to be availed in every school.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

✦ To find out the level of using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level
✦ To find out the significant difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to the following demographic variables
•Gender (Boys/Girls)
•Locality of the school (Rural/Urban)
•Standard (11th/12th)
•Medium of Instruction (Tamil/English)

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

✦ The level of using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level is high.
✦ There is no significance difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to the following demographic variables
• Gender (Boys/Girls)
• Locality of the school (Rural/Urban)
• Standard (11th/12th)
• Medium of Instruction (Tamil/English)

Methodology, Sample and Statistical techniques

The investigator had using normative survey method. The sample of present study was consisted of 500 computer students in Salem district of Tamil Nadu. The researcher self made questionnaire used namely was USCL (Using Skill of Computer Lab).

Hypothesis testing

✦ From the table 1, it is inferred that the mean, S.D value is maximum. Hence the using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level is high.
✦ From the table 2, it is inferred that the Mean, S.D and 't' value score of using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to their demographic variables is more sufficient for resulting.

Gender

From the table 2, it is inferred that the calculated 't' value 3.14 is greater than the tabulated value at 0.05

level, so null hypothesis is rejected. It can be concluded that there is significant difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to the gender.

Locality of the school

From the table 2, it is inferred that the calculated 't' value 1.02 is less than the tabulated value at 0.05 level, so null hypothesis is accepted. It can be concluded that there is no significant difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to the Locality of the school.

Standard

From the table 2, it is inferred that the calculated 't' value 3.73 is greater than the tabulated value at 0.05 level, so null hypothesis is rejected. It can be concluded that there is significant difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to standard.

Medium of Instruction

From the table 2, it is inferred that the calculated 't' value 5.18 is greater than the tabulated value at 0.05 level, so null hypothesis is rejected. It can be concluded that there is significant difference in using skill of computer lab between computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to the Medium of Instruction.

Educational implications of the study
- It promotes students skills in computer lab to follow innovative laboratory method in learning process
- It promotes them well equipped with computer lab skills and facilitates to educational institutions
- It can develop and improve the self learning among students
- Students gain more and more knowledge through the technology utilized learning.
- Students should know the ways of proper handling of computer in computer lab.

CONCLUSION

In this study, there is a high level using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level. The using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to their demographic variables are significant excepted Locality of the school.

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Table - 1
Table showing mean scores of demographic variables of using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level

Maximum score = 148

Variables		Sample	Mean	S.D
Gender	Boys	211	113.8	11.5
	Girls	289	117.3	12.4
Locality of the school	Rural	250	116.4	13.3
	Urban	250	115.3	10.8
Standard	11th	186	113.2	10.7
	12th	314	117.4	12.6
Medium of instruction	Tamil	261	118.4	11.81
	English	239	112.9	11.87
Total			**115.5**	**11.87**

Table - 2
Table showing mean score of using skill of computer lab among computer science students at higher secondary level with respect to their demographic variables.

Variables		Sample	Mean	S.D	't' value	result @ 0.05 level
Gender	Boys	211	113.8	11.5	3.14	Significant
	Girls	289	117.3	12.4		
Locality of the school	Rural	250	116.4	13.3	1.02	Not Significant
	Urban	250	115.3	10.8		
Standard	11th	186	113.2	10.7	3.73	Significant
	12th	314	117.4	12.6		
Medium of instruction	Tamil	261	118.4	11.81	5.18	Significant
	English	239	112.9	11.87		

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