

The Uses of Blogs as an E-learning Tool in Sri Lankan Higher Education

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The aspects of the education are changing in paralleled to the innovations in technology. It is very essential for instructors benefit from the opportunities and possibilities of these innovations in order to facilitate the effective teaching and learning according to their needs. Socialization, communication and level of interactivity are the factors that directly influence the quality of online learning environments. Blogs are like online diaries published on the web that reflects personal opinions, feelings, hobbies and experiences about specific topic or theme. In addition to their growing popularity, blogs can be used in higher environments for many purposes. New technologies have an important effect on changing education. Using technology also has effect on improving learning and teaching in education and especially higher education. Now some universities and institutes use these technologies to apply virtual and distance education but there are another approaches to use them. Weblog is one of them. Weblogs can be used in conventional universities alongside the traditional classroom teaching method because of it is easy to learn and apply. Weblog provides a good opportunity for collaborative learning and communication between students even among the students. In this research my aim is to critically study about the usage of web-blogs as an e-Learning tool in Sri Lankan higher education. Both qualitative and quantitative measures were used to gather and analyse the data. The result of the study revealed that the participants favoured creating, managing their own blog page and sharing their own works through their blog pages with others.

Keywords: Blogs, e-Learning, Higher Education, Learning Methods, Technology