WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: THE PERCEPTIONS OF STUDENTS CONCERNING THE WIRELESS LAPTOPS INITIATIVE

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to examine students' perceptions and acceptance of the usage of laptop, 83 students from the faculty of Information Technology were taken as the sample.The finding shows that the usage of laptop is related to the acceptance of laptop. By understanding what factors are of main concern to students, the usage and acceptance of a laptop can be made more useful to students and universities. This study provides a tested survey based upon the widely accepted technology acceptance model with an added factor pertinent to the exploration of technology acceptance within the university environment.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0   Background of Study

In most universities, laptop computers have become a requirement for new students to acquire for their studies, and later for their career. Employers value extensive experience with information technology and are expecting their potential employees to be computer literate. Previous researchers have shown that laptop computers in the classroom can lead to positive educational outcomes (Greenfield, 2002).

Students' use of laptop computers is becoming more prevalent in today's universities. This more ubiquitous use of technology has caused several universities to uncover and manage new perceptual issues in addition to some of the more familiar issues from the era of computers found only in university labs. Some universities have made it compulsory for students to buy laptops.

Higher education laptop initiatives are still in the early stages of development. Several universities are still reluctant to implement such initiatives (Greefield, 2002). To successfully implement the use of laptop, it is essential that university students, as a whole, willingly support such a program. Defining the acceptance factors necessary to successfully implement a laptop initiative becomes a critical need towards the success of such a program.

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The contents of the thesis is for internal user only

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