A Roadmap to Implement Rapid Transition as a Proposal of e-Learning Model

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ABSTRACT

Digital age (information/computer age) offers many opportunities. Many transforms and changes have been made in public and private sectors. It is clear to say that education is one of the most important areas that has been trying to use IT tools. Today, e-learning is an important way of removing time and place constraints between students and instructors. In addition, it is the best way to make education sustainable in every organization. Many organizations can face problems during their e-learning experience. Having enough knowledge about e-learning is not a must for every organization in every sector. Therefore, in this study, the authors aim to provide a rapid transition for organizations that wants to set up an e-learning system. This paper gives some hints related to transition process. Therefore, theoretical framework of an e-learning system, selection of learning management system (LMS) and content management system (CMS), designing of a virtual classroom, online course implementation, controlling the project are explained, future works related to the framework are discussed.

Keywords: Distance Learning, e-Learning System, Education, Future Learning, Proposal of e-Learning Model

1. INTRODUCTION

The term distance learning and distance education are explained as skill and an activity within the ability of learning at a distance respectively; also these definitions are still seen limited by the differences in time and place (Volery & Lord, 2000; Moore, Dickson-Deane, & Galyen, 2011). The main principles of distance learning can be summarized as: interactivity with the learning objects

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and the other learners involved, learning by doing, dynamism, modularity, flexibility, multimedia, re-use of learning objects, traceability with the learning management system (or platform) allowing to follow the student’s interaction and human interaction (S. Severino, 2008; Sergio Severino, Aiello, Cascio, Ficarra, & Messina, 2011). Web based technology is advantageous in distance learning (quick adoption) and typical web-based learning environments include course content delivery tools, synchronous and asynchronous conferencing systems, polling and quiz modules, virtual workspaces for sharing resources, white boards, grade reporting systems, logbooks, assignment submission components, etc. (Işık & Güler, 2012). Harper, Chen, & Yen (2004) has summarized characteristics of distance learning by year (Figure 1). If universities around the world (Oxford University, Berkeley University, Yale University, Harvard University, and Stanford University etc.) are examined, we can easily see how they give importance to distance learning.

Turkey has more young population when we compare it with The European Union. On one hand, it means that the number of competitors is increasing to be placed in an institution of higher education. Every year, students make application to undergraduate degree, associate degree or open education programmes. They can be senior class level, graduated but not appointed before, graduated from tertiary education and appointed before. On the other hand, most of students cannot achieve success at Student Selection and Placement

Figure 1. The characteristics of distance learning by year (Harper et al., 2004)
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