THE IMPACT OF INFORMATION LITERACY ON STUDENTS SOFT SKILLS

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Abstract
The aim of this research is to identify how well the information literacy gives an impact on the student's soft skills. This paper proposes an information literacy skill as the best program to be implemented to enhance their soft skills. This paper also discusses issues and challenges that being faced in nowadays that may cause the slow development of information literacy skills among students.
Keywords: information literacy, student soft skills, information literate, effectiveness, importance

1. Introduction

Today's students are used to find the information using an Internet, without good knowledge and skills to finds the information; they cannot find and use the information wisely. In order to be successful, students should have information literacy skills during study and after all. Information literacy (IL) is really needed for all students throughout the world. It is because information literacy gives an impact on student soft skills. In order to know what is the impact of information literacy on student soft skills, we should know what information literacy is? According to Wu (2012) "information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information". According to Kingori (2016) the term information literacy has been generated essentially to interpretation for growing electronic information. Automated information has become global, with mobile and wireless networks regularly found almost anywhere a user happens to be.

As become information literate, students should know the skills needed. Information skills are important for nurturing the mind of research. They not only enhance the experience of higher education students but also provide the foundation for lifelong learning, equipping students with the key skills to assist them in accessing, analyzing, evaluating and using information in the lives of education, professional and personal lives outside of research universities (Association of College and Research Libraries, 2001; Bingham, 2016).

In a nutshell, students need to have IL skills in order to be a good educator for their future. IL also offers self-analysis skills and thoughtful use of the key concepts of self that allows students to critically reflect on the information and transfer it to a serviceable knowledge that enables students to engage in their world completely

(Vezzosi, 2016; Bingham, 2016). Thus, without information literacy we cannot be good in accessing, analyzing, evaluating and using information.

In this paper, several issues are discussed regarding on identify how well the information literacy gives an impact on the student's soft skills. Based on our observation from the research articles, there is three (3) limitations that may occur during teaching and learning process of having literacy skills toward student which are lack of expertise on this field, whereby there is not much expertise available on this field that being placed in the university, college or any institutional education. According to Kratochvíl (2013) in the Czech Republic most university teachers consider the librarian as a person loaning books more than a specialist in IL activities. From that, it will affect the progress and development in implementing information literacy among students.

On the other hand, inadequate funding or financial crisis also which is one of the issues in implementing information literacy skill. There is inadequate funding/ financial crisis happen. For examples when there is lack of expertise on this field, a lot of expenses need to be spending to send academic staff or others staff to learn and giving them more understanding about information literacy skills or maybe to hired a new staff or instructor for that subject. Besides that, according to Ukachi (2015) peasant workers with low literacy level whose income can barely take care of their basic family needs. From that, showed not everyone can't afford pay the fees to learn the information literacy skills.

Last but not least, lack of awareness about the important of information literacy among student and society which is also the issues that happen in implementing this skill. According to Kingori (2016) there is still a lack of relevant study investigating IL training in public libraries, especially in the quality and organization of IL courses and the IL skills of public librarians. Actually by practice information skills it can equips individuals to be more self-directed and to become lifelong learners. It also can helps in decision making and solving a problem.

The aim of this study is to identify the effectiveness of information literacy for student's soft skills. In order to achieve this aim, we propose a framework based information literacy awareness to identify the effectiveness and impact of information literacy for student.

2. Literature Review

Students need to have skills to be information literate. According to Pinto, *et al.,* (2010) for more than 30 years information literacy (IL) has been an essential part of education. From this showed how important information literacy to the student nowadays. This is because, by learning information literacy they can be build up their skills on the certain aspect especially on searching the right information and become information literate person.

According to American Library Association (1989); Kractochvil, (2013) defines the information literate person as someone who "Must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information". It refers to the ability to navigate the rapidly growing information environment, which encompasses an increasing number of information suppliers as well

as the amount supplied, and includes bodies of professional literature, popular media, libraries, the Internet, and much more. Furthermore, with the rapid change of Information Technology (IT) it is very necessary and important to learn information literacy for student. This is because, it will give a positive impact in helping them recognize and identify relevant, accurate and reliable information sources that they get from internet, social media, newspapers, magazine and many others sources.

In the era of globalization, every students need to be an information literate. As we know in this era all of the sort things are used automated resources. Students need to grab a more opportunity in order to success in their studies and future. Student should know the importance and effectiveness of information literacy for themselves. Beheshti et al., (2016) stated that the goal of information literacy education normally for students to master the practice in a particular context and then transfer the skills they have acquired any life settings. For instance, as a student when we become information literate, we know how to practice it and use those skills to complete our task.

Besides that, according to Klipfel (2014) stated that if successful, the results would be greatly substantial. The study would be the first to deliver practical indication which representing the constructive influence of validity on student engagement and information literacy in academic library education. One real consequences of this study is that it would give librarians reason to use the demonstrating exercise more extensively as way to enable students' engagement with research in the libraries. Its means that, we student good in information literacy, it know only benefits for themselves but it benefits also for the libraries because student may enable students doing the research in the libraries. However, Forte (2014) stated that in order to extent literacy, students must know to what skills are mutual to literary individuals and develops methods of measuring the skills. All of the skills are involved in literate practice.

Furthermore, according to O'Connell (2016) from information literacy in the using Moodle system of log in, they can see which students have access to these resources and map it to their performance in the assessment. It also increased student engagement and improved scores. There is also a clear indication of where skills development is needed, for example in cited the reference. It shows that information literacy really benefits to students.

In a nutshell, information literacy leads student to be in good person. Lorna Dodd, (n.d.); O'Connell, (2016) described that the process of developing a framework of new information literacy at the University of Maynooth in order to support the development and evaluation of critical skills in the new student curriculum. IL skills desirable position has been recognized as important attributes of graduates' in Maynooth comes with the difficult task of delivering training in a sustainable way for students to grow promptly. Thus, IL makes student being as knowledgeable person.

2.1 The Effectiveness of Information Literacy for Student's Soft Skills

Based on our research paper which is the impact of information literacy among student's soft skills, most of the articles that related with the topic that we found were explaining about how by learning and implementing information literacy in education can help in developing and using information efficiently and effectively and find the right

materials for work or studies among students. For examples likes citing bibliographic reference, internet searching, using electronic resources, literature searching and many others.

Besides that, according to Beheshti et al., (2016) research shows many people's information literacy ability to judge the validity and reliability of information. From that it explained how information literacy actually can link and facilitate student with their work in term of searching the right information and used the information in the right way. From that also we know that how effective these information literacy modules or instruction in finding the accurate and reliable information.

On the other hand, according to Hsieh (2013) incorporating information literacy (IL) skills into speech communication course to help students to build a solid foundation of research skills for their academic work. From that statement showed that information literacy skill and its modules or instruction play an important role in completing academic research. This is because information literacy modules encompass all aspect in completing an academic research.

Moreover, without people realize actually information literacy modules also very effective in attracting more students participate to learn this. All of this can be proven in the case study that being conducted by Clarke (2012); Hsieh, (2013) whereby he was trying to explore combination of IT staff, libraries with the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) program at Stony Brook University in New York by combine information literacy with the inclusion of technology in the teaching & learning session. The result showed there was an increase in the number of EOP student participation in the post-survey. This is because, by inclusion of technology in information literacy teaching & learning session it will become more interesting and student will not feel bored. Furthermore, it more facilitate for student to understanding the content of that modules and easier for them find any information that wants or needed.

Besides that, the skills that are learnt are then transferable into any other course of study or professional situation. Means that information literacy modules are flexible whereby it suitable in any conditions with any courses or subject. From that showed that information literacy module very effective in term of the aspect easier understanding, whereby it can be easily understand by the student from different courses of study.

Moreover, it also can be transferable as being mentioned from the statement above. Means that, information literacy modules does not being develop for one courses only, but it also can be used by others courses also. From that, every universities, college or any institutions of educations can practice or implement this information literacy modules and get benefits from its.

Furthermore, information literacy modules also very effective in build-up confidence level among students. This can be proven through articles which title is "Promoting information literacy through collaborative service learning in an undergraduate research course". According to Janke (2012) areas in which students gained confidence included, using tools such as RefWorks and MeSH search strategies, APA formatting, reading, understanding, and evaluating scholarly research articles, and most importantly, learning how to apply the research to practice areas. From this, showed that by learning information literacy modules it really effectiveness

for students to gain some knowledge in term of the aspect finding information easily that can save their time, cost and energy.

2.2 The importance of information literacy that benefits to student's soft skills

Based on our research, there are many importances of information literacy skills among students especially for the universities students. Students should know the importance of IL because it gives much benefit for them. According to Ellis (2017), the author stated that by allowing information literacy in university, it brings a potential of importance to the role and perception of the university library that contribute to the promotion of knowledge about IL by UK universities. By using the information literacy towards students, university will identify the level of commitment of the university to IL. It also helps explore the extent to which refers to the model, policy and evaluation. Besides that, it shows the profiles of the information provided on the type and extent of training. Lastly, it helps in probe the relationship between information literacy promotion and student satisfaction with library services.

Besides that, approved more ideological conventional perspective and focuses on how information users experienced in go through of information literacy (Bruce,1997; Stordy, 2015). He says that students need to know-how about information literacy in the same way thinking about their experiences and apply them to the next learning situations new information. There are seven face models of information literacy has been recognized by Bruce. Information literacy is perceived as using information technology to receiving information and communication. The second ways is find information located at the source of the information to carry out the process. Then, it helps in control information and builds basic personal knowledge in a new area of awareness. Information literacy also makes students use the information wisely for the benefit of others (Bruce, 1997; Stordy, 2015). Lastly, Beheshti *et al.,* (2016) says that in Build Kuhlthau ISP, the current study investigates the importance of building basic context to support students to move from novice to advanced information literacy practices. The study focused on the participation of undergraduate students who have low skills in information technology. He pilots the use of information management applications to help students develop technology skills within the framework of larger information literacy and engage in collaborative learning tasks during thesis writing.

Moreover, information literacy gives an importance to students' skills because it gives the use for students. Jannatul (2015) said that the faculty members can play an essential role in boosting and spreading the usage of automated resources. They can inspire students to use the resources further over and over again by bring up to them in course materials. As early as the 1980s, scholars and experts have confirmed the importance of and the need for information literacy (IL) to control the attack information is rapidly increasing that an individual faced with every day (Breivik, 1985; Hubbard, 1987; Mancall et al., 1986; Foo et al., 2014). Grabinger & Dunlap (1995) & Herrington (2005); Foo et al., (2014) gave an instance that educators and educational researchers are increasingly emphasizing the importance of creating an authentic assessment, and resource-based learning approach to creative and critical thinking in the school curriculum. Foo et al., (2014) also stated that a part of this may involves free, get

information from various sources, analyze and correctly use the information obtained. The correct way to measure and evaluate IL, as well as explore pedagogy to fix it, is important in understanding the impact of education and consequently its effectiveness in providing our youth with skills ready for the future.

In a nutshell, all of the importance may bring good impacts on student soft skills for their education and their future. From all of the previous research, many researchers have point out that all students over the world must have information literacy skill. It helps them not only in education but for throughout of their life. Thus, as a student they should take note of all the important things that give advantages for them.

3. Proposed Framework

Our research is based on the impacts of information literacy on student soft skills. Based on the related articles that are selected there are two (2) aspects that being emphasized which are the effectiveness of information literacy helps in using information efficiently among students and the importance of information literacy skills helps in brightening the future among students. This analysis of review being conducted to give more understanding on this topic and each parts of this research paper. First and foremost is the effectiveness of information literacy helps in using information efficiently among students. To become one as the teaching & learning modules or educational material that being used mostly by universities, college or any institutional educations, it must be effectiveness to all student that practice this modules. This is because, if this modules or skills did not effective to student, so it will be not relevant to be practice by any universities, college, or any institutional education anymore. Another aspect that being emphasized for this research paper which is the importance of information literacy skills that can helps in brightening the future among students. Through all the articles that are selected with this aspect showed that information literacy is very essential for students nowadays. This is because, it contains all of skills that were needed most by the organization or company when they finished their study and start to work later in the future. So that, by learning this skills they can practice what have they learn when they started to work. Besides that, information literacy skills also important in decision making and problem solving. This research paper also required for farther research to get a further details on how information can give impact on student soft skills.
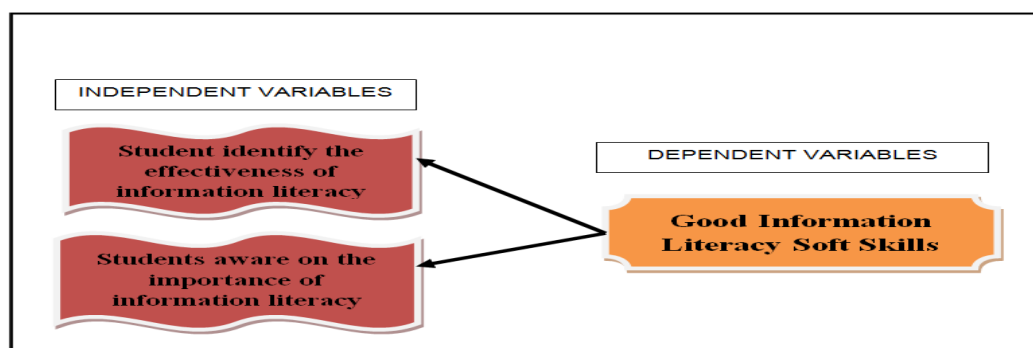

Figure 1. Proposed theoretical framework

4. Expected Outcome

The aim of this study is to determine how information literacy can give helps them more efficient using information. This study will give results how far each of every issue that was discussed in the literature review will reveal the students to realize that information literacy is very importance to them. Throughout this study, we also hope that this study especially students will practices of information literacy skills. So, by having an information literacy skills, student may know how to using information efficiently. Information literacy also helps them to be a good individual or good learner in their future. Throughout this study, we hope that our respondents show good contribution toward our questionnaire that will distribute later and give a positive response on giving deep understanding of our research topic. Besides that, through this study, we want to gain deep knowledge about our research topic which it meaningful where our objective or purposes on doing this research can accomplish well with good cooperation from any person who may involve directly and indirectly during our research process.

5. Conclusions

In a nutshell, by go through the researcher's entire article we know that information literacy give and effectiveness and importance towards students. Good information literacy skills help students in using information efficiently and help brightening their future. It is because, good in information literacy skill may bring them being good information literate in their future. They know how to access, use, evaluate and organize information. They also know to use electronic resources wisely in the right ways. As we know, these days all of works we do are using automated resources. Thus, learning process is very broad way and students must always finding methods and tools to be a knowledgeable people. Last but not least, students must find the ways to learn over and over in order to grasp an opportunity to get information literacy skills for their selves.

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