

ABSTRACT

This study investigated e-learning in institutions of higher learning, and adults' perceptions on e-learning as a method for further studies. The purpose of the study was to find out the institutions' views on e-learning, particularly on adult learners' participation. It also aimed to examine what the adults' thought of e-learning and whether they were willing to consider this learning method for further studies. The instruments used to gather data were interviews with instructors from two local universities and a survey to assess the perceptions of the adults. The sample for the survey was chosen based on snowball distribution method where adults from diverse background participated either through completing a printed questionnaire or an online survey. The data collected was then subjected to statistical analyses. The findings indicated that institutions interviewed were satisfied with their involvement in e-learning, especially in creating a flexible learning environment for adult learners. The respondents perceived positively the e-learning features tested, particularly time flexibility and cost effectiveness. However, they disagreed that e-learning provides high quality education and strengthens communication with instructors and peers. Their perceptions on these aspects also served as motivations or obstacles for them to participate in e-learning. A majority of respondents felt that e-learning provides equally good education as traditional classroom methods and they were optimistic of its replacement in future. Generally, the respondents were willing to consider e-learning when they plan for further studies. The two main criteria for choosing an e-learning program were its program contents and web page accessibility.