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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USE AND STUDENTS' LEARNING ACTIVITIES OF NIGERIAN MASTERS STUDENTS AT ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the relationship between internet use and learning activities of Nigerian Masters students at the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) Mbale Main Campus. The research was built on the following research hypotheses: There is no statistically significant relationship between internet usage and research work productivity of Nigeria master students. There is no statistically significant relationship between internet usage and collaborative learning of Nigerian master students. There is no statistically significant relationship between internet usage and learner activity engagement among Nigerian master students in IUIU. The Correlational research design was adopted. The study used 80 respondents from the population of 251 that was selected using both Simple and stratified sampling techniques. The data that was collected using Internet Use and Learning Activities Questionnaires (IULAQ) was analyzed with the use of descriptive statistics, Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient for all the hypotheses of the study. The findings revealed that there was a low positive correlation between internet use and research work productivity of Nigeria master students in IUIU (r = .24, p < .05). The study also found a positive modest correlation between internet use and collaborative learning of Nigerian master students in IUIU (r = .50, p < .05). The study found that there was a low positive correlation between internet use and learners-activity engagement among Nigerian master students in IUIU with (r =. 36, p<.05). The researcher recommends that IUIU Department of ICT should ensure reliable and stable Internet access to students in order to enhance their research work productivity. The Department should encourage the postgraduate students to use Internet SNS such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, and Skype that encourage collaborative learning with peers and mentors. IUIU lecturers should ensure that while teaching the Masters students, encourage them to use online platforms that allow them to get more committed to their work, complete tasks on time as well as becoming more responsible and independent learners,