COMPUTER SKILLS OF GRADUATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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The age of information has brought about many changes in society. In educational institutions, curriculum content, pedagogical approaches, and strategies undergo continuous updating and change.

In the graduate school, the computer literate students always have an edge over those who do not know how to use the computer. The data they get are very recent and updated, and because of this, their participation in class discussions is rich and relevant. They exude a scholarly aura updating their classmates with the most recent happenings and while a very recent issue is discussed, they can easily enrich the discussion because of the links they get into while being connected to the internet. It is a common thing to see graduate students with their computers during their graduate classes, opening websites and web pages which contain deeper concepts and developments regarding the lesson.

It is within this premise that this survey of the computer skills of the graduate students was done in order to be able to provide the appropriate interventions to address the problem.

This study was actually a survey of the computer skills possessed by graduate students. Sampling was total enumeration using the captive sample of graduate students attending their classes. It made use of a questionnaire consisting of an inventory of computer skills which they can check if they possess it.

To supplement and counter check the ratings on the computer skills of the graduate students, informal interviews were made with some students and professors regarding their observations on the performance of the students in their respective graduate classes.

The VJSSGS students are proficient and have a working knowledge in the use of the computer. More specifically, they are very proficient in the use of the PC and the mouse and just proficient and may need the assistance of someone more adept in the other skills like windows; discs, folders and files; word processing; multi-media presentations, printing; internet; e-mail; and technical skills.

They are also wanting of trainings to hone their skills in the use of the spreadsheet, in encoding data into the spreadsheet, and in making statistical computations using the computer.