

ABSTRACT

Title Of Research Paper : Teachers' Capability to Use Computers : A Case Study of
Schools Under the Formal Education Office in
Samutsongkram Province

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Degree : Master of Arts (Social Development)

Year : 2001

The study was aimed at finding out the teachers' ability to use computers and the factors related to their ability. The data were collected by distributing questionnaires to 207 secondary school teachers in Samutsongkram Province. Percentage, mean, standard deviation and t-test were employed to analyze the data.

The findings were summed up as follows:

1. More than half of the respondents were female teachers aged 40-49. Their working years were in the range of 21-30. The majority had a Bachelor's degree and teach a foreign language. Most of them used computers for less than 5 years.

2. As a whole, their capability in using computers was found to be at a low level. In fact, they used computers and technology to help teach at a low level, too.

3. However, the teachers' attitude toward acknowledgement of technology and application of computers to daily life was found to be at a high level.

4. Support from the school on computer use was found to be at a low level. In contrast, self-training on computer use of the sample group was found to be at a high level.

5. When the relationship between the teachers' attitude toward computer technology and their ability to use computers was considered, it was found that the teachers who had a "highly" positive attitude toward acknowledgement of technology and application of computers to daily life were found to have a higher ability to use computers than their counterparts.

6. The teachers who received support from the school would have a higher ability to use computers than those who didn't. Also, the teachers who received training on computer use at a high level would have a higher ability to use computers than those who didn't.

Recommendations

1. All teachers should be given a knowledge of both computer hardware and software, especially those software that are directly related to teaching.

2. All teachers should learn how to use computers to acquire more knowledge, which will bring about effectiveness in modern teaching and learning.

3. The department should set a policy to seriously improve the teachers' ability to use computers' Research on new teaching methods that use computers as a teaching aid should be conducted. All the curriculums and courses should appropriately include computer use. Also, teachers should be developed to have enough skill in applying computers in teaching.

4. The school administrators should set a policy to have all teachers be able to use computers, especially in teaching. Teachers should be trained on computer application to teaching. They should build a good attitude toward using computers in teaching. The administrators should allocate enough budget to buy computers at least one computer for one teacher. They should adequately supply appropriate modern computer programs as well as textbooks on computers.