

Challenges of the Application of Information and Communication Technology in Teaching Difficult Content Areas in Agricultural Education in Colleges of Education in Enugu State, Nigeria

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The study was designed to identify the challenges of the Information and Communication Technology in teaching difficult contents in Agricultural Education such as in Colleges of Education in Enugu State, Nigeria. Three research questions and three null hypotheses guided the study. A structured questionnaire made up of thirty seven (37) items was used to elicit response from thirty nine (39) respondents comprising twelve (12) Computer Science Lecturers, five (5) Computer Education Lecturers, twelve (12) Agricultural Education Lecturers of Federal College of Education, Eha-Amufu and ten (10) Agricultural Education Lecturers of Enugu State College of Education (Technical), Enugu. The instrument was validated by three experts and the reliability was established using Cronbach alpha which yielded a coefficient of 0.75. The data collected were analysed using Mean to answer research questions and t-test statistic to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of probability and appropriate degrees of freedom. The findings of the study revealed the information and communication technology packages that can be applied by Agricultural Education Lecturers, problems and solutions to the application of information and communication technology in teaching difficult contents in Agricultural Education. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended among others that every Agricultural Education Lecturer of Colleges of Education should be Computer literate in order to utilize the benefits of Information and Communication Technology to make their lectures simple.

Key words: Agricultural education, colleges of education, information and communication technology, lecturers, application, difficult contents.

INTRODUCTION

Information has always played a very important role in human life. In the mid-20th century, the role of information increased immeasurably as a result of social progress and the vigorous developments in science and technology. Communication can be described as the

process of transmitting and receiving ideas, information and messages. In keeping with the complex nature and multiple applications, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) may be viewed in different ways. ICT can be seen as the utilization of computer and other digital facilities in collecting, storing, processing, outputting and transferring data from one source to the other. Igbonoba [1] stated that "ICT is the use of skill in combining information and communication process and

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