EVALUATION OF LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CONTENTS OF SELECTED COURSES AT THE ARAB OPEN UNIVERSITY

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Abstract: Innovative delivery methods using blended learning and E-learning are being implemented in the Arab Gulf region to improve access to education. The Arab Open University is taking a leading role in implementing blended learning and E-learning. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the Learning Management System (LMS) contents of three selected courses at the Arab Open University (AOU) according to Badrul Khan’s E-learning (EL) standards. The study also identified major obstacles to maintaining high quality E-learning and made recommendations to improve the quality of the E-content of the courses. The study used a questionnaire that consisted of closed- and open-ended questions. The sample consisted of instructors and course coordinators from three courses at the AOU. Respondents were asked to provide feedback on which of Badrul Khan’s E-learning standards are being followed in the LMS content of the courses. The results revealed that seven of the eight standards are being followed. These include: Institutional, Technological, Pedagogical, Evaluation, Management, Interface Design, and Ethical. The authors suggest that AOU pursue student participation in a study to evaluate LMS content of other AOU courses according to Badrul Khan’s E-learning standards. The authors also recommend applying Merza’s Open System Model of Blended Learning either to design E-learning content for new courses or to evaluate existing content.

Key words: Arab Open University, Evaluation, E-learning, Standards