LIS Research and Education in the Covid-19 Pandemic Time

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Abstract

The pandemic of Covid-19 has affected and caused educational institutions to close, and classrooms and laboratories, conferences, defenses, and other academic activities moved online. The shift to online classes affects how Library and Information Science (LIS) students do educational activities in Indonesia. This paper aims to find out whether students can adapt to the situation and what barriers they experience with the shift from onsite to online learning. This mixed-method study is conducted to determine how the students adapt to the new situation and how the learning process can be adjusted. The quantitative research was performed using a google-form survey, while the qualitative study was conducted by interviewing students who are doing research and studying online. The results show that for thesis consultation, doing defenses, looking for information resources, and attending classes, students sometimes experience technical difficulties such as low Internet bandwidth and other technological advancement. They sometimes also lack concentration due to the noise interfering with them. Noise mostly come from the surrounding as the students do the online work from home, and the family brings noise behind the students. This also happens when they study in the libraries or offices where they work in which the noise comes from passing-by vehicles—cars, lorries, and motorbikes. The most challenging factors affecting their online learning are fatigue, boredom, and headache. Students visit the supervisor's home for thesis consultation and enjoy their outdoor activities individually or in a small group to cope with these problems. Most students agree that combined online and onsite learning will be good for students to study and do research.

Keywords: library and information science, pandemic, covid-19, learning, research