

Lifelong Learning and Professional Development

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Abstract- Learning that occurs throughout a person's life, sometimes referred to as "lifelong learning," is an issue that has to be addressed, and here is where lifelong learning comes into play. This is because students have the opportunity to improve both their abilities and their knowledge by participating in ongoing educational opportunities. The purpose of this research is to investigate the available literature on the benefits of instilling in undergraduate engineering students mental habits that will serve them well not just during their time in school but also after they graduate and enter the workforce. In order to conduct an analysis of the data gathered from this qualitative research of content, content analysis is utilised. In particular, it achieves this goal through synthesising and analysing pertinent resources in order to assist students in the development of lifetime skills that are required for professional success. During the process of assessing the data for the current study, the researchers make use of a method called thematic coding to assist them in determining the topics that are pertinent to this investigation. Upon doing an analysis of the data, it was found that there were three (3) overarching themes that emerged from the review of the articles. The analysis of the data made this point very evident. These include projects like "Encouraging Intrapersonal Communication among Engineering Students," "Improving Key Competencies for Future Undertaking," in addition to "Development of Creativity and Innovation Among Engineering Students." These three subjects are all interconnected in some way with the education of engineers. The study also looks into what could happen in the future in light of the data that has been acquired.

Indexed Terms- Lifelong learning, Creativity, Critical Curiosity, Collaborative learning experience, Resilience

I. INTRODUCTION

Getting an education is one of the most important things you can do for yourself and the people around you; as a consequence, you'll develop a wide range of intellectual and cultural traits that set you apart from the rest of the population.[1] The study's overarching goal is to demonstrate, via the participants' own words, the significance of lifelong learning to the professional growth of university teaching staff in terms of field-specific pedagogical competence. This was achieved by asking professors from a range of colleges in Romania and Spain a multiple-choice question that was selected from a questionnaire that was provided to those teachers. We found that the vast majority of respondents support lifelong learning.[2]

In today's world, education is crucial because it paves the way for people to build prosperous and fulfilling lives for themselves financially and professionally. It is also generally accepted that education is a vital concept that not only paves the way but also facilitates the development of all elements of society. The most general and basic definition of education is that it is "the process of changing behaviour," although there are many more definitions of education that can be found in scholarly literature. According to Uzunboylu and elik (2011) and Latagan and Jedlikowska (2014), education is the sum of all the social processes that effectively lead to the acquisition of a society's norms, beliefs, and ways of life, as well as the sum of all the social processes that lead to the development of a person's talent, attitude, and other valuable behavioural patterns. Learning allows one to adopt the norms, values, and practises of their community. The evolution of the globe, together with all the many innovations and alterations that have taken place to it, has resulted in the need for escalating the level of education for all people in society.[3] That is to say, lifelong learning is essential for individuals to continue developing professionally and intellectually,

enhancing their own skills in a range of areas, and keeping up with the rapid pace of societal and technological shifts. Because of its centrality to contemporary culture, the notion of lifelong learning has emerged as a research topic deserving of in-depth examination. The major goal of this study was to use the most up-to-date academic literature as a basis for an in-depth examination of the lifelong learning approach from a number of different vantage points.

The concept of "lifelong learning" and the imperative that people continue to study throughout their lives are not novel ideas. This is because, regardless of age or social status, the desire to learn and grow is one of humankind's most fundamental needs. Learning throughout one's life allows one the chance to both enhance their existing knowledge and actively engage in the process of learning new information. Given the current demands, the most crucial component in determining an individual's degree of productivity is the ability to learn new knowledge and develop new skills. Educational success should not be limited to elites or those within a specific age group, such as children or teens, as stated by Paul Lengrand (1970) in a UNESCO report titled "Learning to Be." Instead, it should be woven into the fabric of the community as a whole and into the daily routines of each individual member. Meanwhile, many individuals think it's important to keep learning throughout life for at least three main reasons: professional development, personal growth, and intellectual stimulation.[4] When individuals in Japan realise how important it is to keep learning throughout their lives, a phenomenon known as "Employability Fever" emerges. When this happens, people in the society feel pressured to specialise their skill sets in order to increase their employment prospects. Purpose of the Course: To promote critical thinking and problem solving in the context of the engineering profession and its many applications in society.[5]

- *The Attributes of Lifelong Learning Skills*

Learning throughout one's life is more than simply amassing a collection of information and data; rather, it entails providing individuals with the resources they require to bring about the changes in their lives that will make them superior students and citizens. According to Longworth and Davies, "lifelong learning attributes are distinct from other graduate

attributes." This is because the qualities of learner According to Longworth and Davies, those who engage in lifelong learning possess characteristics that differentiate them from other types of graduates.[6] The characteristics of lifelong learning skills provide a foundation for undergraduate education, and help to foster effective learning skills such as communication, social, interpersonal, and intrapersonal abilities, as well as creativity and inventive thinking in the context of being able to enjoy one's working environment.

They have a hypothesis that students' perspectives will improve if they are taught to assess the profile of a lifelong learner in relation to their very own social and cultural origins.[7] The concept of lifelong learning encompasses a wide range of transferable abilities that are essential for students to acquire, particularly those who are thinking about pursuing a career in engineering. Talents that are easily transferable include adaptability, critical thinking, leadership, communication, problem solving, creative thinking, information management, curiosity, and self-reflection, to name a few.

If India is going to meet its goal of being a developed nation by the year 2020, the nation's government has mandated that the concept of learning that continues throughout one's life be at the focus of every student's and teacher's development. She continues by adding that growing one's capacity for lifelong learning may help raise one's confidence in one's ability to study on one's own and that this can help one become more self-sufficient. Producing a student who is free, powerful, and independent within the community, who is confident in presenting all he or she has done, and who is relatively nimble in overcoming any obstacles faced in future undertakings is a necessary component of this process. In addition, having such abilities helps in the development of a progressive democratic society that is built on discussion and consensus, and which may model its achievements after those of other nations that are expanding their economies.[8] The author of the study also states that students need to be willing to utilise their knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the organisation as well as the public good. Additionally, students need to be able to adjust proactively to change and make a constructive contribution to the requirements of the business.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1) To Research The State Of Professional Development Programmes And Lifetime Learning Skills.
- 2) To Establish A Connection Between Lifelong Learning And Professional Development In The Field Of Education

III. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS CONCEPT

In contrast, "professional development" encompasses all "natural learning experiences" and "those conscious and planned activities" that aim to benefit the individual, group, or school in some way, and thus contribute, via these, to the quality of education provided while students are actually present in the classroom. Definition (for purposes of this article): [9] The process through which educators (alone or in groups) assess, renew, and deepen their dedication as change agents to education's ethical ideals. The process through which educators continue their education throughout their careers in order to acquire new knowledge, strengthen their existing abilities, and develop their emotional intelligence to the level required for successful professional thinking, planning, and practise with children, youth, and colleagues. It is the strategy that allows teachers to update and broaden their knowledge. If you want to make progress in your professional life, you will need to have a broad viewpoint. It is important to note that the term "learning," much like the term "education," brings with it a number of substantial connotations when addressing professional growth through lifelong learning.[10] The idea of education that continues throughout one's life is a good illustration of this point. As a result of this, the concepts of education, training, and learning are frequently confused with one another in contemporary discussions on education.

This is the case despite the fact that there are many different ways in which these ideas may be distinguished from one another. On the other hand, things weren't always like this.[11] It is crucial to recognise the significance of professional development, which encompasses activities such as education and training, since it enables individuals to develop in meaningful ways and enhances their level

of expertise and capability in areas that are desired. The Professional Association for Research Networks (PARN) offers the following explanation for the term "Professional Development": Continuing Professional Development, or CPD, is something that members of professional associations do in order to stay up with developments in their professions and to obtain the knowledge and the "soft skills" that they'll need in order to be successful in their jobs (PARN, 2000).[12] The ideas of personal growth and professional advancement are distinct in their own right, but the concept of professional growth helps to bring the two together. There are occasions when people spontaneously progress to the next level without the need for any kind of official instruction or schooling at all.[13] The most thoughtful and organised approach to education is mirrored within the framework of the professional development. By advancing through a series of levels to achieve a more superior degree of expertise and knowledge, we each play a significant role in the process of bringing about development and the complete actualization of potential.[14]

- *Cooperative effort Between Specialized Groups and Individual Instructors*

Educators, throughout their jobs and their lives, should make learning a priority. A teacher's personal development begins the moment he is chosen to enter the teaching profession and continues long after his final day of teaching. In a perfect world, CPD programmes and those that train future teachers would cater for the wide variety of ways in which teachers may grow professionally.[15] While the federal government is responsible for laying out the broad policies and regulatory framework for teacher education, much of the day-to-day implementation of programmes and schemes falls on the shoulders of individual states due to the country's decentralised structure. To achieve the ultimate aim of raising students' academic performance in school, it is necessary to take two complementary approaches: (a) preparing teachers for the school system via pre-service training, and (b) developing the abilities of existing school teachers through in-service training. You need to employ both tactics if you want to succeed.[16] The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) is a statutory institution charged with overseeing teacher preparation in the United States. The Federal Government has designated you

for this function. This duty is intrinsically linked to the process of getting ready for work.

As part of its mission to position itself as the authoritative voice in the field of teacher education, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has prepared a set of basic requirements for a wide range of courses. Furthermore, it includes a framework to manage and monitor the quality of their operations and standards, and it gives credit to organisations (government, government-aided, and self-financing) that are keen to take part in such attempts. Funding for public and publicly supported educational institutions that are responsible for teacher preparation comes from a number of different state governments.[17] More than six hundred and fifty schools get funding from the Central Government as part of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education. This term covers all of these schools, from DIETs to CTEs to IASEs. The federal government is responsible for providing in-service training to the country's school teachers through a nationwide system of government-owned and -operated teacher training institutions (TTIs). All around the nation, this is completed. These TTIs can, under the right conditions, expand both vertically and laterally.[18] The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) collaborates with its six Regional Institutes of Education (REIs) to develop and distribute a wide range of modules that may be used in a number of contexts in teacher education programmes across the country. When it comes to institutional level aid, the National University of Education, Planning, and Administration (NUEPA) can also step in. The National Centre for Education Statistics and the National Urban Environmental Policy Act are two examples of autonomous national-level agencies. [19]

The State Councils of Educational Research and Training, or SCERTs for short, are responsible for both the development of training modules and the provision of specific courses for teacher educators and school teachers. Middle and high school teachers, as well as those whose role it is to train teachers, have access to CPD opportunities through CTEs and IASEs. DIETs (District Institutes of Education and Training) are organisations at the level of local school districts that are responsible for providing in-service training for educators.[22] Training for current teachers is

provided through organisations at the base of the organisational chart called Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs). The United States military helps educate and train soldiers from other countries and from other branches of the military in the United States. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the major vehicle for implementing the requirements of the Right to Education Act (RTE Act), is the largest source of money for in-service training that is supplied by the Central Government.[20] The Social Security Administration (SSA) only provides 30 days of orientation for newly qualified teachers and 60 days of refresher training for teachers who are already on staff. Twenty professional development days are provided by the SSA for educators. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education (Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education) provides financial support to colleges, universities, and district institutes of education and training that provide professional development opportunities for practising educators. In addition, several state governments provide funds for continuing education and training programmes already in progress.[21] In-service training is one of the many initiatives that get funding from a wide range of NGOs and multilateral organisations. A wide range of additional pursuits also benefit from this assistance.

IV. THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION TO THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL

The idea of continuous professional development is inextricably tied to the phrase "lifelong learning," which has gained widespread acceptance in the educational community in recent years. This concept emphasises the significance of learning that is structured, rational, and applicable to one's life throughout its whole. Learning over one's entire life is referred to as "lifetime learning," and one element that makes up continuous learning is professional development. Successful professionals understand the significance of continuing their education throughout their careers, be it formally or informally.[23] To a significant extent, the quality and vitality of any particular profession may be measured by how effectively it controls the three periods of the growth of its members: initial training, official admittance, and continued education. The best approach to ensure

that individuals are effectively prepared for the occupations that they have chosen is through a mix of formal education in the subject matter, field experience, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. This is the greatest way to ensure that individuals are appropriately prepared. The next step is a deliberate and progressive introduction, which is supported by mentorship, internships, shadowing, team work, and other activities of a similar nature. These activities are designed to assist new professionals in becoming self-sufficient and productive as quickly as possible.

The term "continuous professional development" (CPD) refers to the process through which professionals can continue their education and growth over the course of their careers. Regular events based on a particular requirement; short-term and long-term courses; professional associations and networks; increased connections between research and practise via dissemination networks; individual study and research; regular experimentation and sharing in the form of journals, publications, workshops, or conferences; and so on. This viewpoint is new to teaching in a sense since professional development can take the shape of both planned experiences and unstructured conversations. For a considerable amount of time, educators who were interested in progressing their careers had little choice except to pursue either in-service or staff development training.[24] This education was often provided to teachers in the form of workshops or seminars lasting anything from one day to an entire week, and each of these was intended to refresh instructors on a particular facet of their job. There has never been a time in the history of the working world when so few individuals had so little training for such a wide variety of jobs as there is today. Only in more recent times has it been acknowledged that the professional development of teachers is a process that takes place over an extended period of time. In this manner, regular planning and organisation are done in order to provide opportunities and experiences that enhance professional growth. [25]

This transformation has been so revolutionary that other names have been given to it, including a new paradigm of professional development, a new model of teacher education, and a new image of teacher learning. All of these names reflect how significant the

shift is. These characterizations are the result of the paradigm shift, which has resulted in a new notion of teacher education as well as a different method of visualising the education that is provided to teachers. In recent years, there has been a discernible increase in the amount of attention and resources that have been dedicated to assisting educators all over the world enhance their careers.[26] This trend can be seen in both developed and developing countries. This recurring pattern has a significant likelihood of continuing in the future. The following provides a few examples of evidence that support this claim.

- 1) There is a wealth of information about professional development models and practises available in the form of publications, articles, and research reports.
- 2) Donor organisations on both the international and national levels have seen the value of investing in teachers' professional growth and have commissioned research to better understand how to facilitate this process.
- 3) Teacher professional development is a major part of most current educational reforms, whether they are still in the planning stages or now in full swing of implementation.
- 4) The measures to enhance educators' expertise have received widespread support from both domestic and foreign groups.

V. OVERVIEW OF MODELS OF PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

The contributions made by teachers to the educational system result in considerable improvements to that system. It is general known, and it is constantly highlighted, that in order for instructors to be successful in their employment, they should conduct themselves in a professional way and work towards being more professional.[27] When teachers are given the opportunity to learn about issues such as the philosophy of teacher education, its reforms, its administration, and its purposes, it may all help to the advancement of their professional careers. The concept of professionalism may be summed up in two words: constructivism and the construction of synergistic processes. It gets clearer when one has more experience and comprehension of the subject. There is room for variation within this, but ultimately, it must converge. However, in order to complement and coordinate this training, instructors will need to

equip themselves with approaches and abilities that are relevant across a variety of contexts on their own. Professional training has the potential to improve a teacher's learning levels, and it will provide insight into the challenges of delivering successful instruction. This connection is built by one's commitment to lifelong learning throughout their whole journey. It is of the utmost importance that teachers have access to a diverse selection of ongoing professional development opportunities. The training that is provided to teachers to assist their growth in a particular area (such as technology, reading instruction, subject mastery, and so on) is referred to as TPD (also known as "in service" or "teacher education"). This training helps teachers grow in areas such as technology, reading instruction, topic mastery, and so on. Professional growth for educators is also sometimes referred to by the acronym TPD.[28] The process of professional growth and development can be approached from a variety of angles. The standard training seminars for technical practises are only one example of the many different formats that are available for professional development. There is a far wider range of options available. The TPD models may be broken down into three basic categories, and each of these categories has both advantages and drawbacks that are unique to itself.

- 1) Programmes administered by the TPD that are standardised The rapid transmission of certain abilities and content should be prioritised, generally by employing a "cascade" or "train-the-trainer" approach. This will allow for the most efficient transfer of knowledge.
- 2) TPD that is oriented on educational institutions The focus should be on change processes that occur over a longer period of time, often through activities that are supported on the local level and that develop communities of practising on-site.
- 3) Individualised or self-directed TPD is referred to here. You should put more of an emphasis on TPD that is either customised or self-directed and does not have any kind of formal framework or support. These TPD models can all be used effectively in contexts when there are just a very limited number of resources available.

ICT may be used to assist all of these endeavours, whether that means utilising radio or television to broadcast courses, providing on-site videotaping of

instructors and classrooms, or growing a local community of practise through email and the Internet.[29] All of these endeavours can be supported by ICT. In addition, Sparks and Loucks-Horsley (1989) provide five models that might be helpful in achieving the objectives of staff development. These models are as follows:

- *Individually Tailored Education and Training:* Learning activities are often planned out by the instructor. This model makes the premise that people are more likely to be motivated to learn when they are permitted to choose their own learning objectives and the ways by which they will achieve those goals. The idea that self-directed learning gives educators the ability to solve their own challenges and, in doing so, fosters a feeling of professionalism is one of the beliefs that serves as the foundation for this concept.

Instructional practises may be enhanced through the use of observation and evaluation. If a colleague or another individual observes a teacher in the classroom and gives feedback, instructional practises can be improved. The presence of another individual in the classroom who is able to observe instruction and give feedback or reflection is another effective method for influencing classroom behaviour. Observers pick up new knowledge even while they watch their fellow workers perform. 3. Participation in a Procedure for the Development or Improvement of Something: Processes for the systemic reform of schools often entail doing an analysis of the practises already in place and identifying a challenge whose resolution would lead to improved student outcomes. Altering classroom procedures, creating new educational programmes, or inventing new curriculum might all be potential solutions. It's possible that you'll need to acquire new information or abilities, both of which may be acquired by activities such as reading, having conversations, observing, training, and experimenting. As a result, participation in the process of improvement might result in the development of a great deal of new abilities, attitudes, and behaviours.

Training: An experienced presenter is a required component of a training design. This presenter is responsible for selecting the training's goals, learning activities, and results. Typically, the goals include the growth of awareness, knowledge, or skills; however,

shifts in attitude, transfer of training, and "executive control" need to also be addressed. It is essential that every training programme include as one of its primary goals the enhancement of the instructors' level of critical thinking. Exploration of theory, demonstrations of practise, supervised practise of new abilities with feedback on performance, and coaching while the trainee is performing their job are all essential components of the most successful training programmes.

Inquiry requires educators to pose questions concerning their own professional practises and then look for solutions to those issues. An inquiry begins with the definition of a problem, continues with the collecting of data (both from the research literature and from the classroom), continues with an analysis of the data, and then concludes with the implementation of practise modifications and the collection of new data. The inquiry can be conducted singly or in smaller groups of no more than three people. The foundation of this paradigm is the idea that the ability to engage in "reflective action" is what distinguishes an amateur from a professional educator.[30]

CONCLUSION

When educators obtain further training in areas such as leadership, administration, and remedial instruction, new benchmarks for what constitutes a high-quality education in our country will be set. Learning is something that should be pursued for one's whole life because it not only adds to a person's personal development but also to the individual's occupational information in terms of core traits and practise areas. Learning should be pursued throughout one's entire life. It has become increasingly important for individuals to continue their education throughout their life as a direct result of the rapid pace at which knowledge and technology throughout the world are advancing. In light of this understanding, activities such as seminars, conferences, panels, and the like should be conducted in order to further develop awareness of the lifelong learning strategy, which will be the emphasis of these events. These events should be organised in order to further raise awareness of the lifelong learning strategy. In addition, new programmes for learning that continues throughout one's life should be developed as a collaborative effort

between various institutions and the Ministry of Education. These projects ought to make a contribution to the expansion and improvement of society as a whole.

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