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Exploring the perceptions of fellow students in the current technology trends

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Abstract

This study uses a descriptive qualitative research method to reveal the views and perceptions of fellow students towards technological developments. The research subjects consisted of 66 students from 5 study programs. The data analysis techniques used include frequency analysis techniques and theme analysis. The data found in the narrative responses were arranged and organized to provide a more systematic and structured interpretation. The survey results show that the majority of students have a positive view of the benefits of technology in daily life, learning process, communication, as well as its influence on work, career, and quality of education. However, the survey also revealed that some students feel pressure to keep up with the latest technological developments. Some of the negative aspects and challenges that arise are over-dependence on technology, distraction, social isolation, and the spread of inaccurate information. To overcome these challenges, this study suggests that educational institutions and students raise awareness of the wise use of technology, and improve digital and information literacy. This is important to create a healthy balance between technology and face-to-face social interaction.

Keywords: perception, technology, digital, trend, university

Introduction

Today the latest technological developments are essential and necessary for businesses, industries, researchers and individuals to stay competitive, as well as utilizing the most advanced tools and solutions available. It often plays a vital role in driving progress, improving efficiency and addressing societal challenges. The term "emerging technologies" often connotes the latest and most advanced innovations, discoveries, or developments in various fields of science and engineering. The term encompasses a wide range of cutting-edge tools, techniques, and products that represent the current state of the art in their respective industries.

Current technological developments have also specifically brought many benefits to students in various aspects of education (Handoko & Waskito, 2018) ^[2]. By utilizing technology effectively, students can gain valuable skills and knowledge that will prepare them for a more successful world in an effort to create a generation of young people who are more reliable and able to face all the challenges of the times (Rifiyanti & Hardianti, 2023) ^[6]. Advances in technology have revolutionized the learning experience for students across Indonesia today. With easy access to vast information through the internet, personalized learning experiences, interactive tools and educational games, students can understand complex concepts more effectively (Wardhani & Romas, 2022) ^[7]. Technological advances in online learning platforms and apps offer flexibility, while collaboration and communication tools enhance teamwork skills. Technology also opens up global learning opportunities, preparing all Indonesian students for the job market of the future. Overall, the integration of technology in education enriches the learning process, making it more engaging, accessible and effective for students from all backgrounds.

The use of technology in learning brings many benefits, such as increasing student engagement, facilitating comprehension of material, improving memory, and enabling a more interesting and enjoyable learning experience. With the continuous development of technology, further innovations and developments in improving the effectiveness of classroom learning are expected (Herlina, 2015) ^[3]. The development of technology during the online age, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been significant. Online or distance learning has become a major alternative for delivering education and other activities when in-person interactions are limited or restricted (Rifiyanti & Dewi, 2022) ^[5].

A guide that incorporates the latest information, particularly in areas of network design and internet security, which continues to evolve with reference to the latest industry practices, emerging technologies, and security trends, is much needed by the students and they find it relevant and useful. so that they find the guide relevant and useful (Hidayat *et al.*, 2023) ^[4].

Current technological developments also bring some challenges that require careful consideration. Privacy and data security issues arise as technology handles vast amounts of personal data, while the digital divide creates inequalities in access to technology and the internet (Gstrein & Beaulieu, 2022) ^[1]. Cybersecurity threats, ethical dilemmas and the spread of misinformation on digital platforms are additional challenges. The development of Artificial Intelligence may disrupt the labor market. Environmental impacts, regulations, technology dependency, health concerns, and intellectual property rights also demand attention. Addressing these challenges requires collaborative efforts from government, business, academia and civil society to foster the responsible development and use of technology, ensuring that the benefits of technology outweigh the drawbacks.

Based on the background and problems mentioned above, the author conducted research to gain insight into how fellow students perceive and understand the progress and impact of current technology. This study aims to explore the attitudes,

beliefs, and opinions of fellow students towards various technological developments and innovations. By examining the perceptions of fellow students, this study can provide valuable information for educators, policy makers, and technology developers, so as to help align educational practices and technological advancements with better needs and expectations in the future.

Methodology

In conducting this research, the author used descriptive qualitative research methods. The subjects in this study were fellow students from 5 study programs, i.e. informatics engineering, information systems, accounting, communication science and management study programs, totaling 66 students. The research instrument used in this research is a questionnaire with the nature of open and closed questions. The data analysis technique used in the research is frequency analysis and theme analysis. Data interpretation is done by compiling and organizing information found in narrative responses to provide a more systematic and structured interpretation.

Results and Discussion

The results of the study begin by presenting the results of the questionnaire regarding the percentage of respondents who filled out the questionnaire.

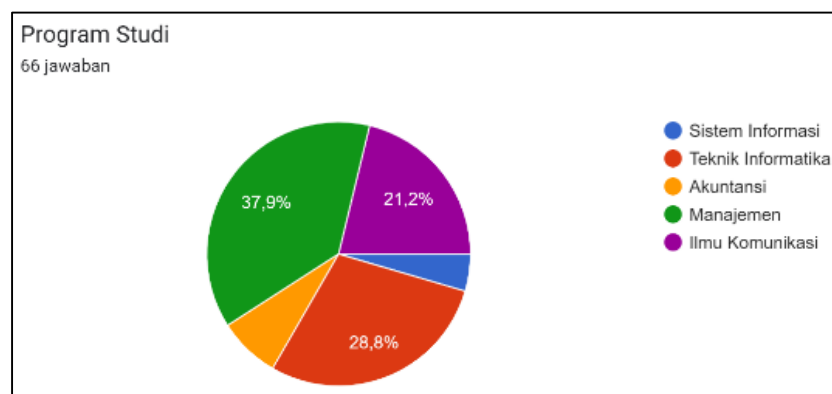


Fig 1: Study programs that completed the questionnaire

In Figure 1, it is explained that the most respondents who filled out this questionnaire came from the management study program, namely 37.9%, followed by the informatics

engineering study program as much as 28.8% and the rest followed from other study programs.

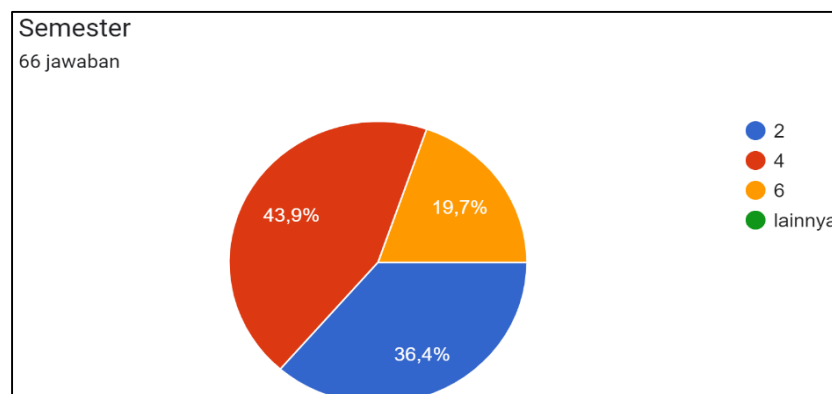


Fig 2: Semester origin of students who filled out the questionnaire

Figure 2 explains that the most students who filled out the

questionnaire came from semester 4 students; 43.9%.



Fig 3: Questionnaire on the ease of use of technology

Figure 3 explains the answer to the question whether you feel technology provides convenience in everyday life. And all 66 respondents said yes.



Fig 4: Question whether you think that the introduction of technology increases efficiency in the learning process

Figure 4 explains the answer to the question whether you think that the introduction of technology increases efficiency in the learning process. A total of 95.5% of fellow students said yes, and the remaining 4.5 answered maybe, none of the students said no.



Fig 5: Questionnaire on how technology has changed the way we communicate

The answers to the question in figure 5 show that 87.9% of students believe that technology has changed the way they communicate with each other, while 10% said it might and the rest said it has not.



Fig 6: Questionnaire about technological developments in influencing future jobs and careers

The most common answer to the question in questionnaire 6 was 86.4% of fellow students agreed or yes that technological developments affect jobs and careers in the future, 10.6% said maybe and the rest answered no.



Fig 7: Questionnaire about the pressure to keep up with technological developments

Based on the answers to the questionnaire in Figure 7, it can be seen that 43.9% of fellow students do not feel pressure to keep up with the latest technological developments, while

28.8% said yes, the remaining answers from fellow students stated maybe.

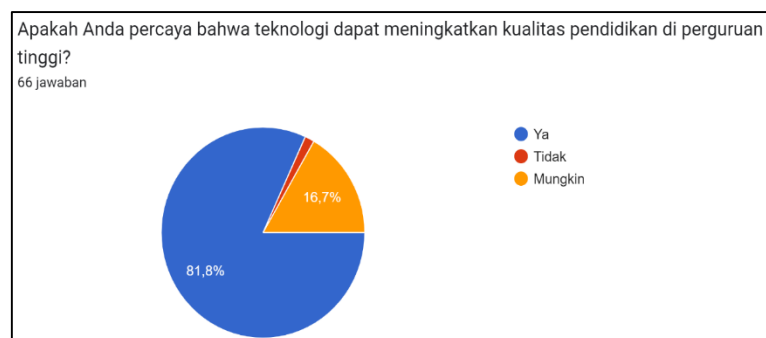


Fig 8: Questionnaire on responses that technology can improve the quality of education in tertiary institutions

Figure 8 shows that 81.8% stated that technology can improve the quality of education in higher education, while 16.7% responded that technology might be able to improve

the quality of education in higher education, and the rest answered no. The questionnaire responds that technology can improve the quality of education in higher education.



Fig 9: Questionnaire on the positive impact of technology on social relationships among students

According to 59.1% of fellow students in Figure 9, technology has a positive impact on social relationships among students, 33.3% said it might and the rest responded

that technology does not have a positive impact on social relationships among students.



Fig 10: Questionnaire about technology providing opportunities to develop creativity

Nearly 89.4% of fellow students believe that technology provides opportunities to develop student creativity, while

the rest say maybe shown in Figure 10.

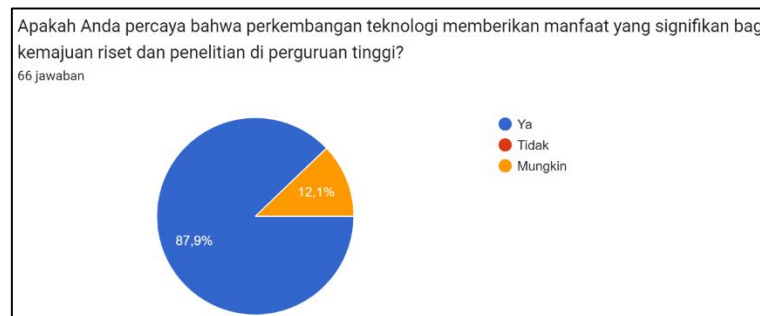


Fig 11: Questionnaire on significant benefits of technological development

The answers from the questionnaire in Figure 11 conclude that 87.9% of fellow students stated that technology provides significant benefits to the advancement of research and

scholarship in higher education, while the rest stated that it might.



Fig 12: Questionnaire on responses to whether students who do not master technology will find it difficult to face future challenges

A total of 66.7% of fellow students responded agreeing that students who do not master technology will find it difficult to face future challenges, while 25.8% said maybe is the answer in the questionnaire in figure 12.

The response to the last question about whether there are negative aspects or challenges that arise along with technological developments in the campus environment? What are they and how to overcome them. The conclusion from all the answers given by the respondents is as follows that technological developments on campus bring many benefits, but also present various challenges and negative aspects. Students are faced with the task of filtering information wisely, maintaining communication ethics, and managing the healthy use of technology. Some of the challenges faced are over-dependence on technology, distraction, spread of false information, social isolation, and lack of awareness of digital ethics.

To overcome these challenges, educational institutions need to provide education and awareness about the wise use of technology. Policies and rules regarding the use of technology on campus also need to be implemented. In addition, it is important to educate students about academic ethics, digital literacy, and critical skills in managing information. The message implied by these answers is the importance of students to always improve technological literacy and adapt to existing technological developments. Students must be wise in using technology so that they are not trapped in addiction and can utilize it positively in the learning and communication process. In addition, there are concerns about the impact of technology on social interaction and awareness of the importance of building social

relationships directly. Students also need to be more careful in responding to information spread in the digital world, because the spread of incorrect information can confuse the truth and cause confusion.

In conclusion, the development of technology brings great benefits, but also brings challenges that students must face wisely. With awareness and the right approach, technology can be utilized positively and help improve the quality of education and student life.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis and discussion in this study, some conclusions are drawn that the majority of fellow students have a positive view of technological development. They realize the benefits of technology in daily life, the learning process, communication, future career, and the quality of education in higher education. They also recognize the importance of mastering technology to face a challenging future. However, the survey also shows that there is pressure to keep up with the latest technological developments. While the benefits of technology are significant, there are some negative aspects and challenges that arise in the campus environment. Some of these include over-reliance on technology, distraction, social isolation, and the spread of inaccurate information.

To overcome these challenges, awareness of the wise use of technology is important. Educational institutions and students need to improve digital and information literacy, and create a healthy balance between technology use and face-to-face social interaction. Overall, this research provides a comprehensive picture of young people's views on

technology, as well as the challenges that must be overcome in the face of an increasingly technological era.

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